



GUILDFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR | SENIOR | SIXTH FORM

NOVEMBER 2024

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# INSPECTION

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## SUMMARY



*"(Guildford High School) fosters in pupils a love of learning and prepares them for their next steps"*

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS INSPECTORATE VISIT 2024

# Inspiring academic excellence and a lifelong love of learning



## What the inspectors have to say

**“School leaders have implemented an ambitious and broad curriculum throughout the school which fosters in pupils a love of learning and prepares them for their next steps.”**

**“The curriculum is broad, stimulating and planned to take into account the needs of pupils.”**

**“Teachers across the school use their detailed subject knowledge and understanding of how to promote learning to plan lessons that stimulate pupils’ curiosity and challenge them to gain new skills.”**

**“Pupils develop skills in critical thinking, oracy and research, giving them a particularly wide-ranging understanding of academic disciplines, and an ability to draw links across these disciplines and apply this understanding to intelligent consideration of social issues.”**

**“The school develops (pupils’) ability to frame ideas with precision and defend them effectively.”**

**“Teachers give pupils effective feedback, so pupils regard mistakes as a learning opportunity and understand what they need to do to improve.”**

**“The school stimulates pupils’ curiosity.”**

**“In the junior school, pupils study a wide range of subjects, including three different languages in Year 6, developing their linguistic skills.”**

**“Teachers use skilful questioning to probe pupils’ understanding and make them think deeply about their subjects.”**

**“Lessons frequently begin with recall of previous topics, securing pupils’ knowledge.”**

**“Leaders successfully implement a consistent approach to education across the junior and senior schools”**

# Nurturing wellbeing and respect in a supportive community



## What the inspectors have to say

**“Leaders have embedded the importance of positive relationships throughout the school. Beginning in the early years, children understand the importance of behaving well towards others.”**

**“Pupils demonstrate high levels of care and respect for their peers.”**

**“Throughout the school, leaders have developed an ethos that emphasizes building positive, trusting relationships based on mutual respect.”**

**“There is an emphasis on developing pupils’ self-esteem and self-confidence.”**

**“Pupils learn to show courtesy and consideration to teachers and their peers.”**

**“Pupils are confident in...  
managing their relationships  
safely and appropriately both in  
person and online.**

**“The ‘SEND hub’ provides a space  
for pupils to receive additional  
lessons as necessary, as well as a  
welcoming location for pupils to  
seek help should they require it.”**

**“Staff monitor pupils’ engagement  
in recreational activities carefully to  
ensure they are making the most of  
the opportunities available whilst  
avoiding becoming over-committed.”**

# Fostering passions through enrichment and opportunity



## What the inspectors have to say

**“Pupils have many opportunities to take part in sport, music and drama both inside the curriculum and extra-curricular activities, including in partnership with other local schools.”**

**“Teachers encourage pupils to explore their interests and develop their intellectual and physical skills in a wide range of clubs and societies. As a result, many pupils compete successfully in national or international sporting events, essay prizes and other competitions.”**

**“Lessons are often inherently cross-curricular, enabling pupils to become skilled at recognising connections between subjects, such as between biological systems and approaches to design.”**

**“The academic enrichment programme in the senior school has been developed so that, in addition to studying for public examinations, pupils study a wide range of additional subjects from abstract philosophy to contemporary politics.”**

**“Leaders are imaginative in measuring the impact of provision, such as by monitoring pupils’ increased engagement in optional academic challenges as a result of the academic enrichment programme.”**

**“Pupils receive information on future careers and older pupils experience a comprehensive programme of careers guidance events.”**