



A long-standing record of the highest academic achievement and a strong tradition of providing a broad and ambitious education, a pioneering spirit and encouragement of individuality.

Welcome to our School



Set in the beautiful grounds of the former palace of the Duke of Chandos, North London Collegiate School provides a first-class academic education in an inspirational setting.

An Exceptional Education

North London Collegiate is one of the highest achieving schools in the country. This academic success comes from nurturing an enthusiasm for learning and a love of scholarship. We equip our students with the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to make the most of the opportunities they have at School and beyond.

Fundamental to our ethos is a belief in the importance of developing students' enjoyment and excitement about their subjects by providing opportunities for them to discover and explore their own interests and passions. Our teachers are subject specialists, who share their own intellectual passion with the students. Lessons are lively and varied, and the classroom atmosphere is relaxed, open and purposeful. We encourage students to try out their ideas and to be actively involved in discussions, presentations and debates.

Spanish, German, Russian, Mandarin and Italian are offered, while the Classics Department offers both Latin and classical Greek. All students take three science subjects to GCSE, and Computer Science is taught from Year 7. Whether a girl is interested in Science or Art, Maths or Music, she will be taught by inspiring subject specialists. In the Sixth Form, students are given the choice between studying a programme drawn from 23 different A Level and Pre-U courses or studying for the International Baccalaureate Diploma.





We emphasise the importance of balancing self-discovery with an analytical and critical approach to learning. With close support and guidance, the girls are inspired to think for themselves from an early age. We encourage them to meet exacting challenges, to take advantage of the abundant opportunities to develop further their abilities, to try new and varied activities, to debate, to reflect on and to engage with every aspect of their education.

Exceptional Pastoral Care



We believe that happy students are successful students. To this end, all our teachers also have specific pastoral responsibilities to make sure that every girl flourishes both socially and academically. Each form group has two dedicated tutors so that pastoral groups are kept small, typically 8 to 12 girls. Tutors encourage the girls to take advantage of all that the School offers. Equal value is placed on academic and non-academic achievements; all success is celebrated and the girls thrive as each one discovers her individual talents.

Each section of the school has a pastoral leader: a Section Head, who leads a team of tutors and Heads of Year. They are supported by the School Nurse, Doctor and Counsellor; Sixth-form girls act as peer mentors.

Parents

We aim to foster good relationships between all members of our community; staff, girls and parents work together to ensure that each girl makes the most of her talents in a happy environment. In addition to the formal parent/teacher consultation and information meetings, all parents are invited to attend the numerous plays, concerts, receptions, charity events and sporting fixtures which take place during the year. Parents and tutors have close contact through school events and personal communication.

Community

In our multi-cultural community we aim to develop reflective individuals who are both tolerant and outward looking. Through a rich assembly programme, and a strong emphasis on community service and fundraising, the students develop awareness of the needs of others and are given the compassion and commitment to make a difference. The personal, social and health education programmes across all phases of the School reinforce the importance we place on self-respect, forgiveness and consideration towards others.







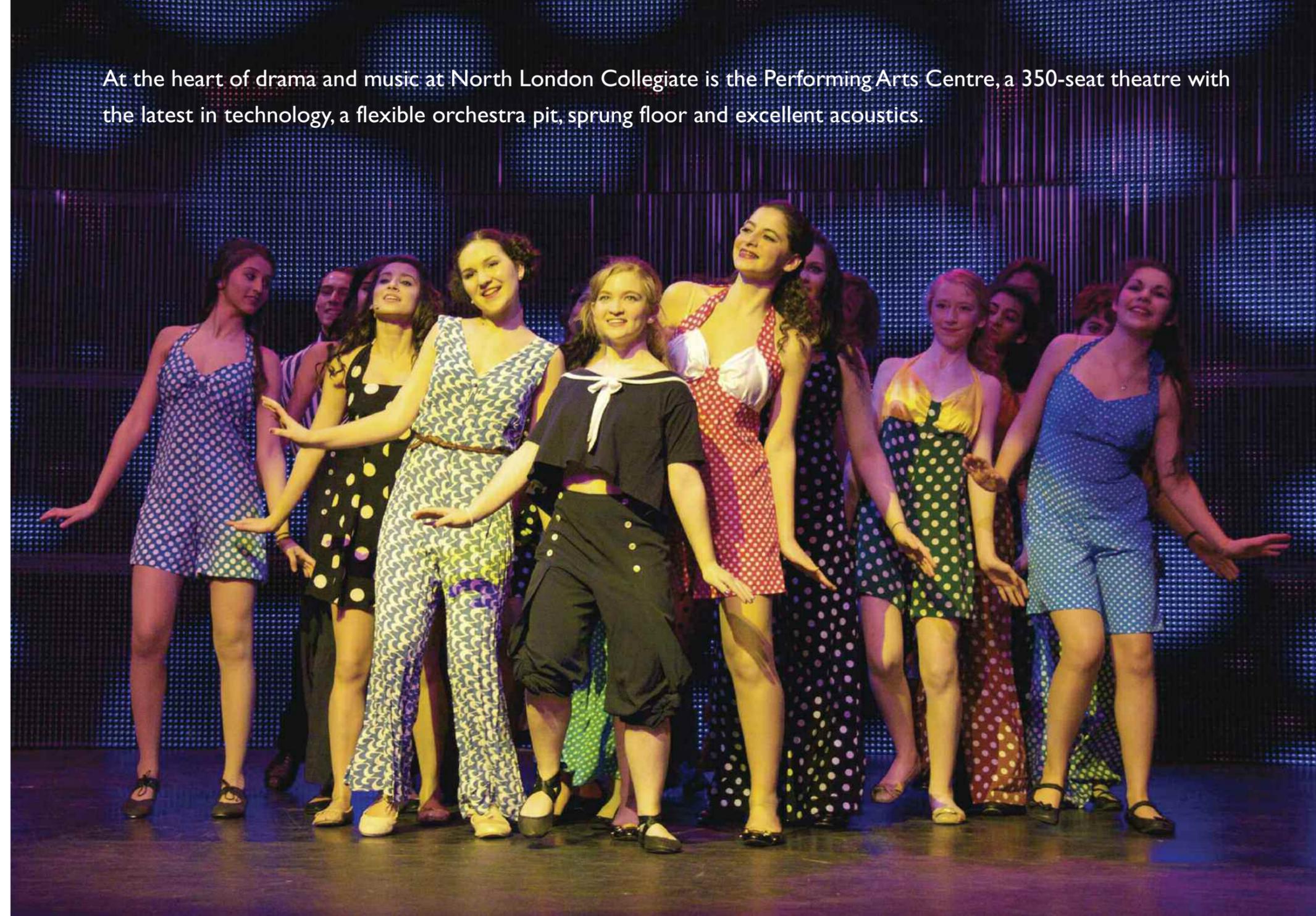
Exceptional Extra- Curricular Activities

North London Collegiate augments academic life with a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, thereby creating better educated, confident students. Whatever a girl's interest – from climate change to opera, human rights to chess, literature to maths – North London offers the opportunity to explore.

New perspectives are opened up by outside speakers, most invited by the over forty senior societies run by the girls. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme challenges mind and body. The Model United Nations, Debating and Public Speaking societies and symposia enable the girls to pit their public speaking skills against students from a wide range of different schools and in a variety of contexts. Older girls run clubs and societies for younger students.

Extra-curricular activities also enable North Londoners to compete externally and they regularly win prizes at national level in a wide range of specialities, from sport to biology, from essay writing to Young Enterprise business competitions.

At the heart of drama and music at North London Collegiate is the Performing Arts Centre, a 350-seat theatre with the latest in technology, a flexible orchestra pit, sprung floor and excellent acoustics.





Creative Expression

Integral to a good education is involvement in the creative arts, which develops the student's creative expression, a skill which will guide her throughout her life in whatever career or pathway she may choose. Drama, music and fine art all flourish at North London; as well as being taught as part of the curriculum, they are part of the rich extra-curricular programme.

At the heart of drama and music at North London Collegiate is the Performing Arts Centre, a 350-seat theatre with the latest in technology, a flexible orchestra pit, sprung floor and excellent acoustics; around 36 productions and concerts take place there each year. The Performing Arts Centre also contains two galleries offering exhibition space for girls' art-work and for travelling exhibitions, including an annual exhibition from the Hayward Gallery.

All styles of music thrive at North London Collegiate, from classical to rock and from chamber ensembles to large orchestras. Girls are encouraged to participate in as many musical activities as possible. All levels are accommodated in the three symphonic

orchestras, the string orchestra, numerous choirs and jazz and rock bands. Chamber music is particularly strong with 30 groups rehearsing each week, including quartets, trios, and other ensembles. Approximately 550 instrumental lessons are taught each week by over 25 distinguished visiting instrumental specialists. North Londoners have played at St John's Smith Square, Cadogan Hall and the House of Lords; tours abroad have included performances in Venice, New York and Tuscany. Generous music scholarships are available to girls in the Senior School. Musical alumnae include the composer Judith Weir CBE and virtuoso string players, pianists and pop musicians.

All pupils at every year-level are able to participate in drama, either onstage or backstage. There are many opportunities to become involved with drama beyond the curriculum: in addition to the numerous major performances staged every year involving girls from across the entire school, drama clubs, studio pieces, Edinburgh Fringe productions and workshops provide the students with more experimental platforms. The older girls often devise, direct, write and perform works of their own choosing. Many pupils have gone on to perform at the National Theatre, in the West End and in television and film.

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The visual arts are well provided for in the free-standing Drawing School, which includes facilities for drawing, painting, photography, computer-aided design, intaglio and screen printing, textile design, welding and ceramics. Regular weekend and after-school workshops are held for senior students: these include life drawing, photography and top-up sessions for students wishing to extend class-based projects. As well as an impressive range of resources and media to draw upon, there are regular trips to major European cities and the Sixth Form Art Society organises the annual charity Fantasy Fashion show and visiting speakers. Many students go on to study art, design or architecture at university.



Sport and Games

With its extensive playing fields and array of sports facilities located on the 30 acre site, sporting life flourishes at North London. There are beautiful tennis courts set in historic gardens, games pitches and a track bordered by an ancient Lime Avenue, and an all-weather pitch for netball, soccer and tennis.

Our superb facilities include a fully equipped Sports Centre, indoor swimming pool and fitness suite allowing us to offer sport and fitness for all, with an equal emphasis on excellence and enjoyment. At every level of ability, students can participate in a wide range of sports, including netball, lacrosse, swimming, cross country, badminton, gymnastics, dance, athletics, tennis and table tennis. Other activities available include fencing, riding, cricket and skiing.

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Engaging with The World

Education means much more than passing exams. North London Collegiate students actively engage with London and the wider world.

Other Schools

There is a programme of active partnerships with other schools, including collaboration with boys' schools for joint research symposia in the Sixth Form; debating activities with other schools in Years 10 and 11; and, in Years 7 to 9, a wide variety of activities and partnerships with a range of maintained schools. The School regularly hosts conferences in different subject disciplines, and has established an annual Hispanic Theatre Festival. Classicists in the Sixth Form have the opportunity to teach Latin in local state primary schools.

Service

Girls throughout the School are involved with charitable work and community service. Projects include raising money for and teaching at schools in Africa, visits to a local disabled charity, and Fantasy Fashion – an extravaganza organised by the girls to support the Karenni Student Development Programme, a charity established by an Old North

Londoner which supplies housing and education for Karenni refugees.

Trips

In a typical year there are over 30 foreign trips. These may include language trips to Montreal, Argentina, Spain, France, Germany and Italy; sports tours to the US and France; classicists visiting Pompeii; geographers in Iceland or Morocco; and history trips to Berlin, the US and the First World War battle sites. In addition, there are numerous field trips and visits to the theatres, galleries and concert halls of London.

International

North London has an international perspective that is unique amongst London day schools. The opening of our sister school in South Korea benefits pupils through joint projects, exchange opportunities and gap-year internships and creates an important connection with the ever-growing economies of the Far East. North London also offers student and staff exchanges with schools in the USA, Australia and across Europe, as well as outreach opportunities with a school in Zambia.





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Junior School

Age 4 – 11

Throughout the Junior School, the girls enjoy their lessons and activities. In fact they are having so much fun that they hardly know they are learning! In any given week you may encounter girls dressed up as Victorian school children, a class listening to a visiting author, a group making a video or doing a tree survey in the grounds or a team testing out a Roman chariot they have just designed.

The First School (Age 4 – 7)

When 4 year olds enter the First School they are immediately part of a bright and busy environment. Housed in a dedicated building, the First School is thoughtfully planned with its own hall, library and playground designed for this age group. In classes buzzing with activity, the younger girls are absorbed in the fun and adventure of learning – something that will carry them throughout their time at North London.

From Reception onwards, girls follow a full curriculum and rapidly develop skills. Expert and inventive teaching is supported by committed pastoral care. Older students play their part, mentoring and befriending the younger girls.





The Lower School (Age 7 – 11)

The Lower School facilities are impressive and include spacious classrooms, a science lab, an ICT suite, an art studio and well-stocked libraries. Girls who join us at 7+ quickly settle into this welcoming and stimulating environment. In addition, all Junior School girls benefit from the School's grounds, sports facilities, swimming pool and the dining hall.

From Year 5, specialised subject teaching is introduced. Classes enjoy the broad curriculum, which includes four different modern languages and chess, extending well beyond national requirements. In the final year, subject teachers from the Senior School work in conjunction with Junior School staff to ensure a smooth transition.

Girls participate in an extensive range of extra-curricular activities and the sports teams regularly compete in matches against other schools.

As throughout the School, the environment is non-competitive, the girls are challenged only to better themselves and class positions are never published, an approach that consistently brings out the best in the bright, young pupils.





A Community for Life

North London Collegiate is a community for life. Our students make friendships and develop skills that endure for their lifetime and we are committed to maintaining a **life-long link with them**. We run a full programme of reunions, starting with a one-year reunion and continuing with a three-year reunion, ten-year, twenty-year and beyond. Our careers network offers Old North Londoners advice, mentoring and placement at whatever stage of their careers. In addition we offer special industry-specific ONL groups, and regional ONL groups across Britain and the globe. Parents are also part of the North London Collegiate community; when a girl leaves North London, her parents become Friends of NLCS and are invited back for plays, exhibitions and other special events.





Exceptional Leaders

North London Collegiate has always been a leading school, and in turn has produced generations of leaders. According to the *Good Schools Guide*, 'no other school in the history of girls' education has had such significance.' The School was the first of the large, academic day schools for girls. Our founder, Frances Mary Buss, testified before parliament about women's education and campaigned to open British universities to women. To this day, the School perennially leads the academic league tables. A Sutton Trust report names North London as the most successful school in the UK for getting pupils into highly selective universities.

Given its historic significance and academic excellence, it is no surprise that North London has produced leaders in all areas of life. Many of the earliest alumnae were pioneers in their field, some travelled the world to open schools, one became the first British woman to qualify as a dentist, others led the suffragist movement. This spirit continues today: Old North Londoners include the structural engineer who designed the spire of *The Shard*, a producer of Hollywood blockbusters, the founder of a leading asset management firm, a Court of Appeal Justice, eminent doctors, famous actresses, leading academics, writers and film critics.

Clockwise from left: Lilian Lindsay, CBE, FSA, first woman dentist qualified in UK;; Anna Madeley, actress; Susie Orbach, Psychotherapist and writer; Roma Agrawal, engineer 'The Shard'; Anna Wintour, OBE, editor 'Vogue'; Lady Justice Victoria Sharp, DBE, Court of Appeals Justice.



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Good Schools Guide