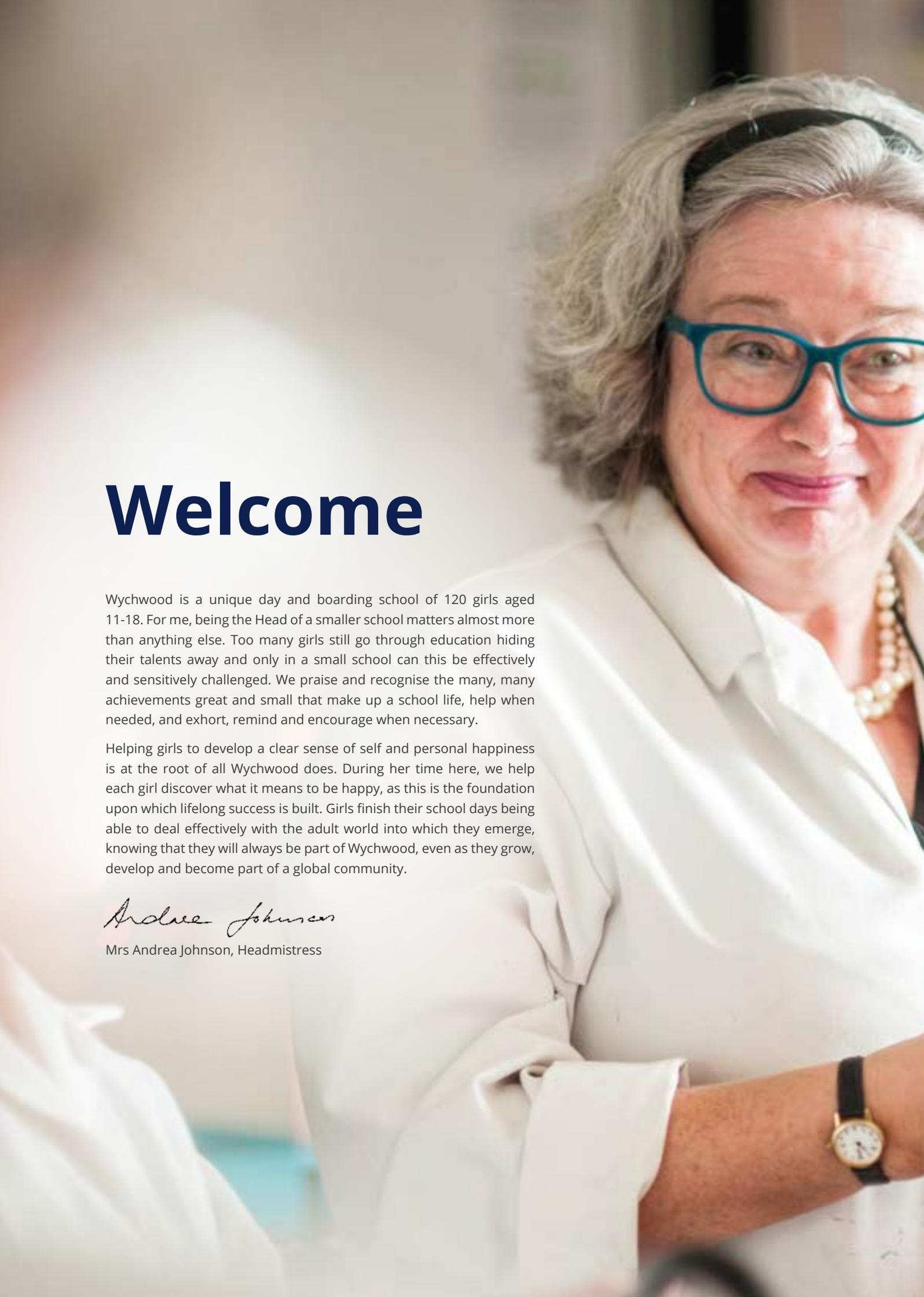




Wychwood School
OXFORD



Welcome

Wychwood is a unique day and boarding school of 120 girls aged 11-18. For me, being the Head of a smaller school matters almost more than anything else. Too many girls still go through education hiding their talents away and only in a small school can this be effectively and sensitively challenged. We praise and recognise the many, many achievements great and small that make up a school life, help when needed, and exhort, remind and encourage when necessary.

Helping girls to develop a clear sense of self and personal happiness is at the root of all Wychwood does. During her time here, we help each girl discover what it means to be happy, as this is the foundation upon which lifelong success is built. Girls finish their school days being able to deal effectively with the adult world into which they emerge, knowing that they will always be part of Wychwood, even as they grow, develop and become part of a global community.

Andrea Johnson

Mrs Andrea Johnson, Headmistress





**A pint-sized
powerhouse...**

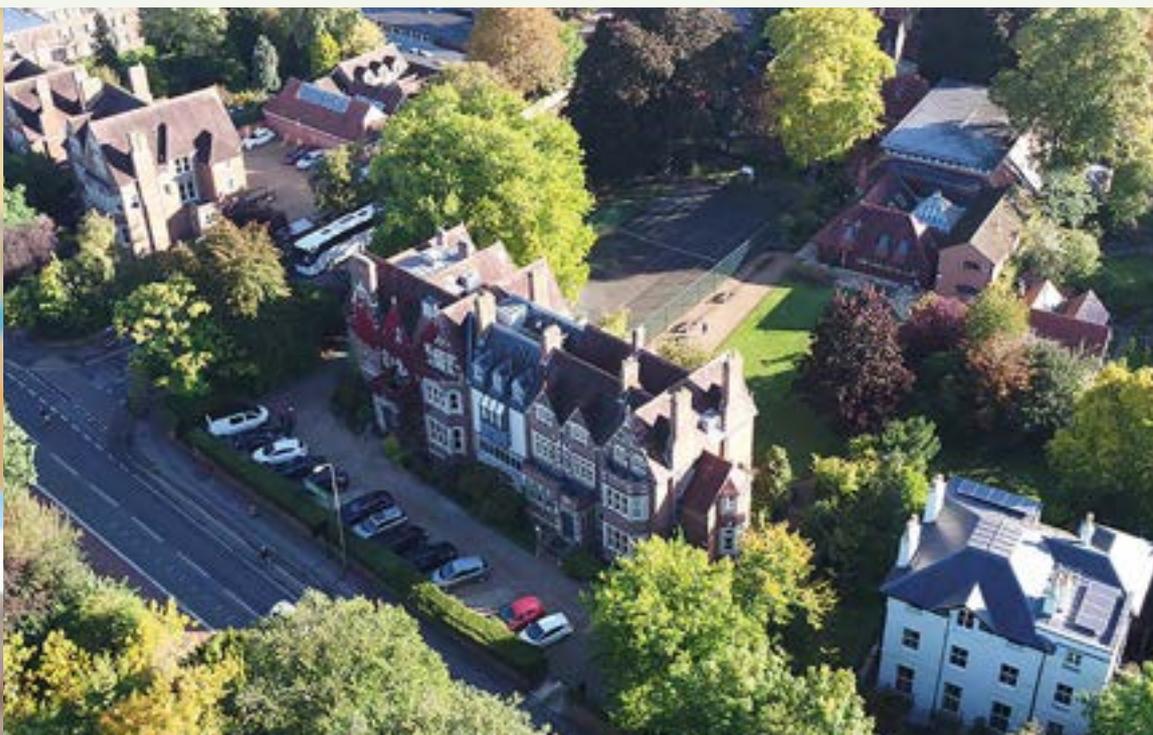


...amongst Oxford's spires

A Wychwood education fires the imagination, engages the soul, stimulates the brain and opens up the world for our girls. Our small size means that we offer individual challenge and pastoral care to a far greater extent than larger institutions can. As a result, our girls gain excellent academic results and emerge confident and well prepared for their futures.

Our size also affords us great flexibility, be that the flexibility to offer new subjects, to teach classes in different ways to suit girls' individual needs or to provide boarding for one night only to day-girls after the return of an evening trip.

Our location, in the heart of Oxford, is fundamental to the school's unique approach and character. The local spaces, facilities and inspirational environment that surround us are part of everyday school life and we take full advantage of them at every opportunity.



With a personalised approach...

At Wychwood we believe that education is about more than just the exams which our pupils take, but we recognise that these exams are their passport to the future and therefore we take them seriously. Girls are taught in groups of varying size, depending on their age and stage. In Years 7 to 9 they can expect to work in groups of 10 to 25, depending on whether they are in half or full classes. At GCSE, group sizes vary from about 5 to 20 and at A Level the maximum size for a teaching group is 10.

Academic life is the backbone of our school day. We offer up to 28 subjects at Key Stages 4 and 5 so girls can choose a portfolio of courses tailored to their own interests and abilities. Almost 90% of our students go on to their first choice of university studying a range of courses from English to Natural Sciences, Fine Art to Economics. We could make this 100% but girls need to learn that ambition is a powerful force. Girls regularly go further from Wychwood than they ever thought possible when they arrived.





**...to academic
excellence**





**Offering
a wealth of
opportunities...**



...for learning beyond a curriculum

Our extra-curricular programme of clubs, activities and trips is wide-ranging and firmly based on the girls' preferences and requests. Educating the whole child, broadening horizons and offering opportunities for new experiences is an essential part of education beyond the classroom.

Activities range from Young Enterprise, Model United Nations, LAMDA and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme to school clubs, such as Astronomy, Equal Rights and Harry Potter.

Sports clubs include traditional team sports like hockey, netball and rounders, and the more individual, such as running, tennis, swimming and yoga. Being in Oxford, almost any form of sport or leisure activity is available and we can facilitate this at all levels.

The sound of girls singing or playing their instruments echoes through the school every day. Over half of our girls have music lessons and live music is a feature of the majority of school events. Every girl has the opportunity to be involved, whatever their level or experience.

Trips and visits are an essential part of Wychwood. Our programme includes bonding weekends, language exchanges, fieldtrips, cultural trips to European cities, subject-based outings and of course visits into Oxford, London and beyond for the theatre, museums and conferences. It is the memory of trips and visits that remains long after the lessons are forgotten.





Where individuals flourish...

A strong feature of life at Wychwood is the relationships that pupils have with each other and with the staff. As a small school we get to know each girl very well and we know her strengths, her weaknesses, her ambitions. This allows us to tailor what we offer to suit each individual. As a result, girls form strong bonds with the staff which last well beyond their school years. These relationships are very much in evidence in our alumnae community who play a very active role in Wychwood life.

Girls also form strong friendships both within their class and across the school. Girls take part in activities and trips, clubs and sports matches across the year groups and they socialise together at lunchtime, after school, during outings and, particularly and often, on the swing! Laughter is a common feature of life at Wychwood. These friendships last and our alumnae act as each others' bridesmaids, godmothers and lifelong supportive and much-loved friends.



**...building
genuine
friendships**





Pastoral care

For generations the many and varied strengths of Wychwood have been underpinned by a focus on pastoral care. In a school this size it is genuinely possible to monitor and care for the girls in line with the ideals of a mission statement. Great responsibility has always been placed on pupils for reinforcing this pastoral ethos through areas of responsibility. Pastoral care is at the very core of the girls' lives, with girls pastorally caring for girls as well as staff committed to their well-being. Education here is approached holistically – in and out of the classroom – and the girls flourish.



Wychwood facts and figures

120
years

Wychwood has been teaching girls for over 120 years

30
subjects

There are at least 30 GCSE, A Level and BTEC subjects offered



Far from being 'special', Wychwood's pastoral care is natural. There is a genuine familial feel that is unique and warm. Vertical and horizontal mixing within school, as well as strong pastoral support from staff and former students means in many ways this pastoral support system never leaves a Wychwood girl, it forms them, and embraces them into a wider family when they leave school.



10 Oxford colleges

Our staff and alumnae have studied at 10 Oxford colleges



10 minutes

The Pitt Rivers museum, Ashmolean and The Oxford Playhouse are all 10 minutes' walk away



I love being part of a small community where everyone is friends and you can be yourself.



Current Pupil



Boarding



402

slices of toast
eaten per week at tea

**Golden
tickets**

50

board games in
our collection



We provide our full, weekly and flexi boarders with a secure, safe and happy community where they learn effectively and enjoy relaxed social times with their friends, feeling that they are cared for but allowed the personal freedom to grow, mature and develop as individuals.

Our boarders do not just join a school, they become part of an extended family. In a small boarding school such as Wychwood, good relationships at all levels and ages are of paramount importance. In addition to resident house staff and gap assistants, teaching staff organise activities and trips at weekends which have included making Spanish tapas and cupcake baking,

and trips to the Harry Potter Studios, the Arctic photography exhibition at the Natural History Museum, the Balenciaga exhibition in London and to watch England play netball. The older girls learn to care for and advise younger boarders; younger girls have 'older sisters' in the house.

Friendships between boarders and day girls develop naturally and there is no division within the forms. Day girls and weekly boarders often join in with weekend activities and Golden Ticket evenings allow boarders to invite day girls to stay over for a special supper, a film, lots of games and some dancing.



Wychwood is an amazing school. It is caring, positive and very much working with the individual. The staff work closely to bring the best out in every girl. If you're after a school that 'genuinely cares for each child' and looks at them as an individual, challenging them and finding their true potential then you've found it.



Current Parent



Wychwood Sixth

The success of Wychwood Sixth is based on individual attention. Our numbers are such that we really can get to know every single girl and work with their strengths to unlock their potential. It is not just the academic work – although they do work hard – it is because we believe in a truly holistic education, so that what goes on outside the classroom is almost as formative as that within it.

Girls choose a personalised portfolio of A Levels and BTECs to underpin their individual ambitions and interests. In addition, the Extended Project Qualification is an outstanding piece of individual research that offers superb preparation for the demands of university.



86%

of students over the last 5 years went to their first choice University

3

average class size

65%

of students over the last 5 years average A*-B at A Level



Girls have a considerable amount of freedom to organise their lives, both in and out of school. There is no uniform and during Study periods girls can leave school to visit a gallery or grab a coffee with friends. Research indicates teenagers perform better if allowed to sleep late, so girls can take advantage of a 9.30am start on Fridays giving them three days a week to catch up on sleep.

We offer a unique, fulfilling and rewarding Sixth Form experience that is definitely cause for celebration and something to shout about – especially on Results Day!



Without your teaching, essay planning lessons and your belief in me I would not have been able to achieve what I have so thank you so much! If you would have told a younger me that I would get an A* at A Level and then a first in my dissertation I would have thought you were joking! You played a vital part in me being able to achieve this so I just wanted to pass on my thanks and tell you how grateful I am for your wisdom!



Old Girl



“

I remember my time at Wychwood with distinct fondness, the close-knit community, quirky culture and the homely feel. A small school meant you really did feel at home. Being at Wychwood has shaped me into the person I am today. ”

Old Girl

“

I love that everyone has a voice. ”

Current Pupil



Joining the Wychwood Family

Our main entry points are into Year 7 (11+), Year 9 (13+) and Year 12 (16+) although girls also join us into Year 8 (12+) and Year 10 (14+). Girls regularly join us during the school year as well as in September.

1

Visit

We offer three open mornings a year, a number of taster days or you can have an individual appointment to meet the Head and see the school on a normal day.

2

Register

To register to apply for a place, either complete an Application for Entry Form or submit an online application, together with a non-returnable Registration Fee. wychwoodschoo.org/online-application

3

Assessment

We use entrance tests, an interview and a school report to assess a girl's suitability for Wychwood. Our entrance tests are used to ensure that each girl has the capacity to benefit from a Wychwood education.

4

Join

We run a number of induction activities including Taster Afternoons and Sleepovers to ensure that when a girl starts at Wychwood, she is already familiar with her surroundings.

If you wish to visit the school for a tour, open morning or taster day or would like to discuss your daughter's application, please contact us:

admissions@wychwoodschoo.org

+44 (0)1865 557976



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