

Championing Future Thinkers

City of London School for Girls
125th Anniversary Appeal



Foreword

“If the City of London School for Girls didn’t exist, it would need to be created with a certain amount of urgency. It is a school that educates young women who are self-aware and want to be a force for good. It is a place where compassion and acceptance underpin relationships, and where difficult questions are not avoided. It is a place where the joy of learning is palpable everywhere and where creativity and rigour go hand in hand. It is a school that will continue to flourish because it understands that excellence is a habit based on openness to change.”

E. Harrop

Ena Harrop, Headmistress, 2019

Our vision

At City of London School for Girls, our vision is to nurture life-long learners who can think critically, listen with empathy and embrace difference. We believe it is young women with these attributes who will be best empowered to make a positive contribution in our fast-changing world.

Critical to the realisation of this vision is our unique diversity. It is a diversity that stems from our past and our values, and from our commitment to ensuring that ability to pay is no barrier to accessing an education ranked among the very best in the country.

As we celebrate our 125th anniversary, you can help us secure this commitment for generations. Our ambition is to guarantee financial support for the girls who need it most, so that many more can fulfil their potential and shape our future.



Our story, our impact

City of London School for Girls (CLSG) is an independent day school for girls aged 7-18 situated in the heart of the Barbican. Opened in 1894, the school provides an outstanding education to able girls from all backgrounds, cultures and faiths. Our location allows us to attract pupils from all over Greater London and beyond, and to give them access to every learning opportunity our capital has to offer.

The impact we have on our girls, and on society as a whole, can be best summed up in three ways:

1. Inspiring life-long learners

At CLSG, we strive to nurture fiercely independent thinkers and life-long learners. This perpetual sense of curiosity means that our girls are well equipped to adapt to a fast-changing world, and to make a positive contribution in a diverse range of careers. Our approach weaves the academic with the pastoral, and promotes self-review so that girls consider *how* as well as *what* they learn. The aim is to encourage the girls in our care to enjoy continued growth throughout their lives and to always strive to seek answers to difficult questions.

2. Understanding the power of difference

Our intake reflects London's exceptional diversity. As a result, we support social mobility by allowing the brightest girls to access the very best education, regardless of their background or financial circumstances. At the same time, our students learn with and from peers of very different backgrounds and beliefs, and develop a rich and valuable understanding of our increasingly complex world. It means they gain both the tools to work with people from all walks of life, and the strength to be themselves. This empathy for others prepares them to engage positively with the world and to excel in tomorrow's collaborative, multidisciplinary workplace.

3. Empowering young women

We are perfectly placed to develop tomorrow's female leaders. Our education nurtures talent and self confidence in equal measure. It empowers our girls to follow their passions, from STEM to the Arts, and gives them real choices in the outside world. We show girls how much they have to offer and inspire in them the confidence, self awareness and the skills to succeed. Most importantly, the girls develop an understanding that the best leaders are defined by their ability to listen and to value what they can learn from others.

“Getting the bursary has been an enabler not a differentiator. I was given the chance to show off my talents on a completely equal playing field where money isn't crossing anyone's mind and only one's ability and personality matters. I think that this is social mobility in its truest form.”

*Shana Pretheshan, Head Girl in 2018
and bursary recipient*



Our difference

Critical thinking

We nurture life-long critical thinkers who have the strength to be different. This is reflected in their confidence to choose a wide range of degree courses, from aeronautical engineering to global sustainable development, and from animation production to politics and anthropology.

Academic Success

We have a track record of high academic success, placing us among the very best schools in the UK:

- **In 2017/18, the school topped The Times A-Level league table after our girls achieved the highest proportion (47% at A*) of top grades in our history.**
- **At GCSE, the proportion of A* or 8-9 grades was the second highest ever achieved at the school, placing us 5th nationally.**
- **Every year, over 30% of our pupils are accepted onto Oxbridge, Ivy League universities and Medical Schools**
- **In 2018, CLSG was 2nd in The Times Parent Power ranking of the highest-achieving schools in the UK.**



Expert teachers

Our teachers constantly refine their practice and are experts in their fields. We have a unique Continual Professional Development programme, in which all teachers undertake research every year. Our Researcher in Residence supports staff research and liaises with our Higher Education partners. In addition, several members of staff are completing research degrees, one is a Visiting Research Fellow at King's College London, and several others have published work in academic journals in areas as varied as Biology, Economics and Modern Foreign Languages.

Diversity

We are committed to diversity. We attract girls from all over London and from a wide range of social backgrounds. In 2007, we were one of the first schools to move away from scholarships to focus solely on means-tested bursaries, ensuring our financial support goes only to those girls who need it the most. The vast majority of recipients – over 80% – receive full bursaries.

Extracurricular initiatives

Varied extracurricular initiatives allow every girl to explore their passions and excel. From taking part in debating to leading environmental campaigns, our girls develop teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills alongside their peers. Here are just a few highlights:

- Our gymnasts have reached national finals for three consecutive years, and our cross-country squad have twice been national champions.
- Our teams have reached national and international finals in Robotics and Space Station Design.
- Our girls organise annual conferences for other schools in London on a variety of academic topics.

Personal development

Personal development is deeply embedded across the school, supporting every girl to develop self-awareness, tolerance and an understanding of what it means to be a good citizen. We commit one hour of curriculum time every week to personal, social and health education for all year groups. Our programme includes external speakers on a variety of topics from self-esteem to prison reform and has been praised for its outstanding quality by the Independent Schools Inspectorate and Ofsted. Quite uniquely, our Sixth Form pupils also have responsibility for the planning and delivery of some sessions for younger year groups.

Community

We make a positive difference to our local community. We host regular Maths enrichment days, orchestra workshops, leadership training and academic conferences for pupils at our partner state schools. We also provide regular teaching support to several local Academies in subjects such as English, Maths and Latin. In total, this work reached 200 pupils in 2017/18.

Becoming leaders in their chosen fields

Our girls are well equipped to be influential leaders and innovators in the most diverse range of careers. CLSG alumni include:

RACHEL BOTSMAN
A world expert on how technology is transforming trust

TIN-TIN HO
World Class table tennis player who won silver medals at the 2014 and 2018 Commonwealth Games

HAYLEY CARR
Full bursary recipient who founded Lauriston Lights, a charity which supports high-ability children from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their potential

DAISY CHRISTODOULOU
Bursary recipient, education expert and author of Seven Myths About Education

KARIN COOK
COO of Quilter, and former Director at Lloyds and COO at HSBC Private bank

OLIVIA SUDJIC
Former Head Girl and writer who has most recently examined what it means to be a female writer in the social media age

CLAUDIA WINKLEMAN
TV presenter, radio personality, and journalist

FARINE CLARKE
Chairman of Procare Health, author, and commentator on medical issues on BBC, Sky and LBC

MADELEINE SUMPTION
Director of the Migration Observatory, focusing on the impact of migration policies

SHEENA GHOSH
Director at Deutsche Bank, and former Vice President of Credit Suisse and Executive Director at Morgan Stanley

Our opportunity

In 1881, successful manufacturer William Ward left a bequest in his will for the opening of a girls' school. During a period of rapid social change, he understood the power of education to support social mobility. Today, his vision lives on in our sector-leading approach to bursaries.

CLSG provides tangible proof that needs-blind access creates a thriving community where students can achieve, irrespective of their background. In 2017/18, with the support of donors and matched funds from the City of London Corporation, we funded 103 girls, (16% of pupils), on bursary places.

Each year, we receive more than 250 requests for financial support. Our vision is to support every girl who is both academically able and who qualifies for a bursary. To mark our 125th year, and with your support, our ambition is to:

- **Raise an additional £1.25M** through philanthropic gifts to expand our bursary programme.
- **Extend our financial support to girls at the Prep School**, ensuring we help families in the greatest need as early as possible.
- **Establish an endowment fund** to secure the future of William Ward's founding vision.

We will also recognise those who would like to leave a gift in their will by launching the **William Ward Legacy Club** in October 2019.



“Our daughter has made deep connections with girls from a huge range of social backgrounds. For me, that’s one of the most powerful things about CLSG, and bursaries and scholarships are a crucial component of that. We want our daughter in a school that reflects the London, Britain and world into which she will emerge.”

Parent

How your support will help

£18,000 will fund one year's tuition and fees for a girl who would otherwise be unable to afford the best education

£36,000 will support a girl at Sixth Form, taking her through her A-levels

£126,000 will fund a girl from Year 7 to Year 13, enabling her to fulfil her potential and make a difference to society

As the City of London School for Girls Bursary Fund is a charity (number 276251) we can reclaim tax on any gift donated by a taxpayer and your gift will be increased by 25%.

In addition, the City of London Corporation has agreed to match your gift. For example, a gift of £5,000 with Gift Aid will be worth £6,250. With the City of London Corporation's match-funding, this will be worth £12,500.



“As parents of two girls at CLSG, we love the diversity that CLSG adds to the girls’ education. It prepares children for the real world. We have been supporting this real world diversity through funding full bursaries, providing amazing opportunities for super smart inner city girls, as well as creating a more diverse overall educational environment.”

Anonymous donor

Help girls be the best they can be

Today, we have a unique opportunity to secure the financial support we offer for future generations. On our 125th anniversary, we are reaching out to our wider school community and beyond, to help us remove the barriers that currently prevent some of the brightest girls in our area from being the best they can be. We want to set free their potential, so that many more have the opportunity of a life-transforming education with us. In the future, CLSG girls – through their compassion and moral agency – will shape our world and lead our society.

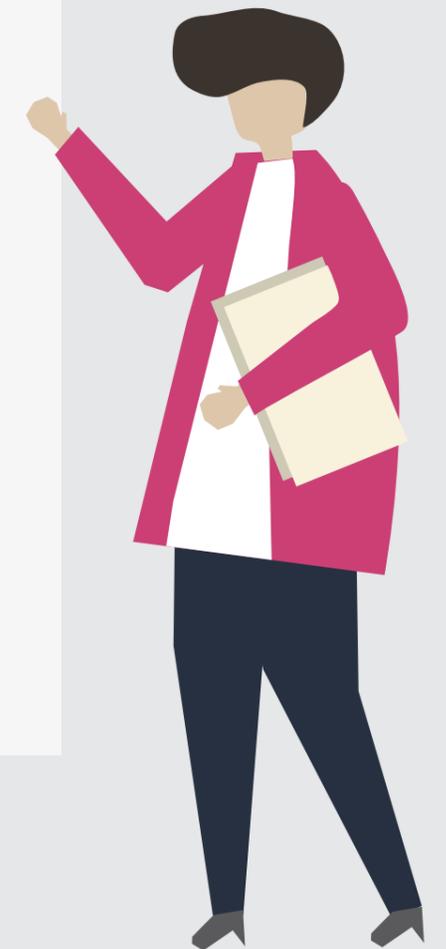
To discuss giving to the Championing Future Thinkers Campaign at the City of London School for Girls, contact:

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“My parents have always done their best for me, but tough circumstances meant I would not have been able to attend a school like City of London School for Girls without full financial support. I could not have dreamt of the opportunities this would lead to. As a Bermondsey girl living in social housing, I am also struck by the difference in my social horizons. I have friends from every walk of life, across the UK and the World.”

Sarah O’Keefe, former bursary recipient, now studying at the University of Oxford





**CITY OF LONDON
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

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