



ISLEWORTH &  
SYON SCHOOL  
FINIS CORONAT OPUS

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



## Admissions

Admissions to the school are the responsibility of the Governors of the school. The admissions process for students in Years 7-11 is managed by the local authority.

Admissions to the school will meet the requirements of the prevailing 'School Admissions Code'. A full copy of our Admissions Policy can be found on the school website.

Our current policy is based on the following criteria, listed in order of priority. Of these perhaps priority 4 is of most relevance to the majority of applicants.

- 1 Looked After Boys and boys who have been adopted (or made subject to a residence order or special guardianship) immediately following having been looked after.
- 2 Medical/Social  
Applicants who can demonstrate an urgent social or medical reason why their son/ward requires attendance at Isleworth & Syon School, rather than any other school. In such cases parents/carers are reminded that they must complete the appropriate section on the application form and attach a supporting statement from a suitable professional such as a consultant or a social worker.
- 3 Sibling  
Applicants who will have an older son/ward (or daughter in the Sixth Form), including all blood, half-, step-, adoptive and foster brothers (or sisters in the Sixth Form) of the child (not cousins) who live at the same home as the child, at the preferred school in the following September. If the older child is in Year 11 or Year 12 at the time of application, s/he must be expected to still be attending the school the following September.
- 4 Single Sex  
Applicants who support their application by including on the form a statement demonstrating their preference for single sex education.
- 5 Distance  
Distance will be measured by computer software based on Ordnance Survey and postal address data. The software measures using public roads and footpaths adopted and recorded by Hounslow Council's Highways Team.  
  
Further details are available on the school website.
- 6 Statemented Children  
Each secondary school has a duty to admit a child with a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school but the authority has a duty to consult the school before naming it in the statement. The admission of students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. This procedure is integral to the making and maintaining of statements by the student's home council. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. The school will advise the Local Authority and the family if they can meet the needs of the student.

The school will maintain a waiting list for applicants who are unsuccessful in obtaining a place. Waiting lists will be held for two terms. Further details are available in the full policy.

Prospective parents/carers are always welcome to visit the school - although an appointment made first is very helpful. The Open Evening is held in the Autumn Term, when the students and staff of the school welcome the opportunity of demonstrating what the school stands for and what it can offer prospective parents/carers and students.

There are 180 places available for 2016 entry. Each year a large number of first choice applications are received for the available places. The new admissions system is run to ensure that families get their highest, and preferably first, choice of secondary school. This does not always work and we would urge families who are determined to secure a place at Isleworth & Syon School to note the following.

When applying for a place, state your preference for single-sex education for your son/ward. This will increase your chances of securing a place. Do not worry if you cannot back this up with further choices. Stating the case for single-sex education cannot disadvantage your application.

## Admission's Appeals

The Education Act 1980 allows parents or carers to appeal against admissions decisions made by the London Borough of Hounslow.

For further information on the appeals system, contact the Education Department at the Civic Centre.

## The School Day

The timetable was reorganised in 2010 and is now based on a five-period day. A flexible period 6 is available and may be used to ensure the best educational provision for senior students.

Registration / Assembly	8.30 - 8.45
Period 1	8.45 - 9.45
Period 2	9.45 - 10.45
Break	10.45 - 11.00
Period 3	11.00 - 12.00
Period 4	12.00 - 1.00
Lunch	1.00 - 1.50
Period 5	1.50 - 2.50
Registration	2.50 - 3.00
Period 6	3.00 - 4.00

It is likely over time that, with an increasingly personalised curriculum for students, greater flexibilities in the school day will be used to meet students' needs.

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## School Term Dates (2016-2017)

Provisional term dates for the next academic year are as follows:

### Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1 September - Thursday 22 December  
Half-term: Monday 24 October - Friday 28 October

### Spring Term 2017

Monday 9 January - Friday 31 March  
Half-term: Monday 13 February - Friday 17 February

### Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18 April - Wednesday 19 July  
Half-term: Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June

Please note that Inset Days remain to be scheduled.

## Curriculum

Class sizes across the school are smaller than in most secondary schools due to the staffing ratios we employ. In particular students are taught in groups of 20-22 for art, drama, music, design technology and computing.

### Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

All students study the 'core' subjects: English, mathematics and science. In the early years of school there is a particular focus on English and mathematics with additional teaching time being devoted to these subjects, to ensure that students make rapid and sustained progress and achieve the best possible outcomes at Key Stage 4. It is our intention that all students achieve a high GCSE pass in the core subjects (currently a C grade or better).

Students also follow the foundation subjects: French or Spanish; geography, history, design technology; art; music; physical education and computing.

In addition there are lessons in religious education, drama and PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) for all.

Students follow an accelerated Key Stage 3 curriculum in Years 7 and 8 to enable them to access Key Stage 4 at the earliest opportunity.

### Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

At this stage there is greater flexibility in the National Curriculum. We provide three different pathways and personalised programmes of study within these pathways. Each includes the same core subjects and a range of courses to suit the varied strengths and preferences of students in each year.

All students study English Language, English Literature, mathematics and science, together with physical education, religious education and citizenship.

Additional subjects studied then vary according to the particular pathway. These include: French; Spanish; art; drama; music; photography; history; geography; economics; business studies; electronics; product design; resistant materials; graphics; media studies and ICT.

Our most able boys follow a traditional curriculum, and those with an aptitude for science take three separate sciences. Our most able mathematicians take their GCSE early and extend their studies by taking Additional Maths.

BTEC courses are offered in Sport, Performing Arts, ICT and Engineering, and some students follow a vocational programme of work, which may include courses run in partner schools and colleges.

## The Sixth Form (Years 12 & 13)

The school is a member of the Education Improvement Partnership which is a partnership of local secondary schools who work together for the benefit of students across the local authority. As a result, a much wider range of courses is available to the sixth form than would otherwise be the case. Nevertheless, students are generally able to follow all their courses at their home school.

A full listing of the available courses and enrichment activities are available in the separate sixth-form prospectus.

The school takes pride in its long tradition of outstanding success in public examinations, which annually leads to the award of places at leading Universities. Not all students, however, wish to enter higher education. An encouraging feature of the school is that those students who prefer to consider vocational training or employment have found little difficulty in doing so from Isleworth & Syon School.

## Setting Arrangements

In mathematics, science and modern foreign languages, students are taught in ability sets. These arrangements start in Year 7 for mathematics, Year 8 for languages and science, and continue through to GCSEs in Year 11. In English setting begins in Year 9. Setting also exists in certain other GCSE options' choices, depending on the particular numbers opting to follow courses.

It is important to appreciate that the setting arrangements are reviewed on a regular basis, following assessment to best suit the need of our students.

## Homework

Homework is set on a regular basis in all subjects. How much is given depends variously on the year, the nature of the subject, and the teaching group involved. Students can expect homework to increase as public examinations draw near.

On average, the time a student is expected to spend on homework is:

Years 7-9	1-1.5 hours an evening
Years 10-11	2 hours an evening
Sixth Form	2+ hours per day

All students are issued with a homework timetable and a diary, and parents/carers are asked to sign the diary each week.

## Monitoring Progress

Extensive arrangements are in place to monitor your son's/ward's progress. This is done through a wide range of assessment procedures and is reported annually in a full school report. On two occasions in the school year, parents/carers are invited to meet with their son's/ward's teacher to discuss academic progress through an expectations session and a parents/carers evening.

## Religious Education & Collective Worship

Religious education in the school is taught in accordance with our locally agreed syllabus. Examination courses are offered at GCSE level and in the Sixth Form.

There is a varied pattern of assemblies through the week, which incorporates an opportunity for reflection. In tutor time students will reflect on the particular 'thought for the day'.

We are happy to discuss any concerns parents or carers may have in relation to these arrangements.

## Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

The PSHCE programme is designed to help students mature into responsible adults equipped to take their place in society. The programme includes a wide range of topics, including: health, drugs and sex education; careers education and guidance; political and economic awareness; environmental education; and citizenship. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from certain aspects of this course.

## Learning Support

Children with learning difficulties are given extra support by staff who are experienced in helping students with special educational needs.

Members of the Learning Support Team work with subject teachers to develop a range of teaching strategies and resources for use in the classroom. They also support individual students, identify literacy and numeracy difficulties, and develop and monitor individual education plans.

This support team also provides assistance for those bilingual learners whose first language is not English. Support is provided both in the classroom and, when necessary, through withdrawal from normal timetabled lessons.

## New Students

Special care is taken to ensure that students new to the school settle quickly and without anxiety. Close contact is maintained with 'feeder' primary schools, and all boys coming to Isleworth & Syon spend a day at school in the July of Year 6.

## Work-Related Learning and Enterprise

The school has a designated member of staff responsible for organising careers advice and work experience. Careers education also forms an integral part of the PSHCE Programme. All students in Year 10 undertake a work placement in a local company. Many students have found this the first step on the road to considering a career. In Year 11 a careers programme is developed to help students with job applications or course applications and interviews. Students have the opportunity to learn about the business world now that Enterprise Education is part of the formal curriculum. A careers convention is held at the school annually.

## Facilities

Accommodation at Isleworth & Syon School is extensive and enables the school to offer the curriculum described above.

The school is on a single site and consists of the main (1939) buildings and various later additions, such as the art and technology areas and sports hall. The school has its own off-site playing fields at Busch Corner. There are also extensive playground areas. In addition to the general purpose classrooms, which are mostly grouped together by subject area, there are seven science laboratories; three art rooms with pottery and darkroom facilities; six design and technology workshops, containing computerised lathe facilities and a brand new food technology room; two business studies rooms; three extensively equipped computer rooms with multi-media machines and internet; a music suite, including music

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technology facilities and three music practice rooms; a drama room; a large sports hall; a gymnasium; a sixth-form area and a large assembly hall used for school and community productions.

The school also benefits from a new third generation astro-pitch. An extended Library was completed in the Summer of 2012; the Humanities block was refurbished in 2014 and plans are being finalised for a £7m new classroom block.

The school is in a conservation area and has attractively maintained gardens for the enjoyment of all students.

## Gifted & Talented Students

Our aim is for all of our students to achieve their full potential. We spend time identifying our students' special talents and gifts and nurturing them. Students on our Gifted & Talented register then have the opportunity to take part in a range of additional events or experiences. These can include residential trips, study clubs, university workshops and visits, preparation for Oxbridge entrance, inspirational lectures, working with successful past students, local and national competitions and summer schools and masterclasses. A large number of our students is also registered on the National Gifted & Talented register and we work in close association with the 'Brilliant Club'.

## Rewards & Discipline

Isleworth & Syon is well known for the excellent discipline that informs life at the school. The vast majority of our students are well mannered, mature young people with positive attitudes towards school and work. Success, hard work, and participation in school activities are recognised at weekly assemblies, and through a system of 'rewards'. Notable academic, artistic, sporting and social achievements are celebrated at the school's annual Senior Awards Evening in the Autumn Term and Key Stage 3 Awards Evening in the Summer Term.

The awarding of colours, flashes or ties remains a tradition of the school. These rewards are given for academic, artistic or sporting excellence or for outstanding contributions to school life, acts of citizenship or for outstanding progress.

Boys who fail to respond to encouragement and reasonable requests may find themselves faced with formal disciplinary procedures - interviews, detentions, report cards, contact with parents - that can lead, eventually, if all else fails, to exclusion from the school. Discipline is the joint responsibility of parents/carers and the school, and the school will not fail to support parents/carers who wish their sons/wards to be educated in a friendly yet purposeful atmosphere.

It is to be hoped that the first impression of any parent/carer visiting the school will be that of an excellent relationship between staff and student. It is also to be hoped that all students attending the school are proud to be at Isleworth & Syon.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

The school operates an extensive range of extra-curricular activities, both at lunch-times and after school, and we encourage all students to take part. Visits and trips during the school day and outside of lesson times are encouraged.

## Music

Apart from timetabled music lessons, which form an integral part of the curriculum, students are offered the opportunity of pursuing various musical activities.

The school has a choir and a number of instrumental ensembles. There is a traditional carol concert held every year at St Mary's church. Boys are encouraged to contribute musically to morning assemblies and to take part in concerts to demonstrate their prowess.

Instrumental lessons are arranged in the school, using specialist peripatetic teachers. The school has a fine musical tradition.

## Drama and School Productions

Whenever possible, theatre visits are organised to the West End, and arts events and exhibitions are highlights of the school year.

There is a long tradition of presenting large-scale musical shows. Recent productions have included 'Fawlty Towers', the world premiere of 'Billy Elliot', 'Moulin Rouge', 'Anything Goes', 'Macbeth', 'Animal Farm', 'Oliver' and 'Grimm Tales'.

Such productions continue to constitute exciting times in the life of the school. They provide opportunities for students from Isleworth & Syon to display their talents on stage, in designing and making stage scenery and props, in wardrobe and make-up, and as members of the backstage crew.

## Sport

The school has an outstanding reputation for sport. Physical education is taught to all years.

Saturday morning sports fixtures remain an important feature of school life. Rugby, soccer, athletics, cross-country, badminton, basketball and cricket are the main team sports, and an impressive number of students have gained, and continue to gain, representative honours at borough, county and national levels. A full range of additional sporting opportunities is made available to students using the school's excellent facilities. Ofsted and the Youth Sport Trust know of no other state school in the south of England with such a full programme of Saturday sport.

Inter-house competitions in a range of sports take place annually.

The formal curriculum allows for 2.5 hours of compulsory physical education per week at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. In addition, GCSE PE (full and short courses) and the Sports Leaders UK Award are offered as option choices at Key Stage 4. A-Level PE and BTEC First and BTEC National are offered in the Sixth Form.

The school currently has seven full-time physical education teachers who, between them, possess the full range of coaching qualifications and expertise.

In addition to the specialist teachers, other teachers offer help in the taking of school matches and in supporting the delivery of the compulsory curriculum. Some of these teachers have also obtained PE coaching qualifications. Parents/carers are particularly supportive in being willing to help organise school matches.

The school has particularly strong sporting links with The Isleworthians Association, which offers older students the regular opportunity of playing in club matches in cricket and football. Close links exist with other local sports clubs.

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

From the end of Year 9, students are encouraged to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Camping and hiking trips, community service, physical and cultural pursuits are all included in a programme organised by staff at the school.

Students at school take part in all three levels of the Award Scheme. We are the only school locally licensed to run the Gold Award including Gold Level expeditions.

## Charity Events

Various events are organised annually and, during its recent history, the school has raised over £250,000 for local and national charities. Community service projects and the annual Harvest Festival continue to focus attention on the needs of others.

## Student Leadership

Many opportunities exist for students to demonstrate their leadership potential and expertise. We are one of the few schools recognised nationally as a Leadership Academy.

The School Council is made up of representatives of each of the Year Councils. Elections for the posts take place early in the Autumn Term. Meetings take place in the school library and are chaired by the Head Boy. Observers of the council meetings have commented on the outstanding contribution of the body to the continuing development of the school.

Charity representatives and environment representatives, as well as form representatives and sports captains, are also much sought-after positions of responsibility within the school. A 'duty boy' system also operates, giving boys the chance to help with visitors and the daily administration of the school.

In the Sixth Form, numerous duties are carried out by the students, all of which contribute to their own personal development, as well as the good of the school.

## Wider Learning

The school has, for many years, believed in the educational and pastoral benefits of activities held off the school site and involving residential experience. On arrival in school, new Year 7 students take part in an outward bound team-building venture. Trips and visits are offered through the year, while in Year 9 students are encouraged to take part in the Summer Wider Learning Week.

## Clubs and Societies

Many clubs and societies operate after school or at lunch times, all of which add to the life of the school. These include chess, debating, rocketeers and diving, as well as a range of subject-based clubs.

## School Journeys

The school organises a wide range of cultural and activity-based ventures, both at home and abroad. Recent trips have included skiing in Italy; outward bound in Spain; football in Belgium and Germany; rugby in Italy and Canada; geography field work in Iceland; history trips to Russia, Ypres and Auschwitz; trips to the museums and galleries in London; and a wide range of visits to local areas of interest.

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## Parents/Carers and the School

At Isleworth & Syon there is a close partnership between students, staff, parents/carers, governors and the local community. The bond between school, home and community is vital if students are to realise their full educational potential.

A Home-School Agreement is signed by students, parents/carers and the school.

The school has a flourishing Isleworth Association and all parents/carers and staff are automatically members of the Association. There is an 'open' committee that meets regularly through the term. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for parents/carers, working in partnership with the staff, to make a contribution to the working of the school. Social events are also a regular feature of the school year.

Parents/carers may telephone the school to make an appointment with any member of the pastoral staff. If you contact the school in person, please use the front entrance and sign in at reception. You will appreciate the necessity for tight security and for visitors not being allowed into the school without our knowledge. Please sign out when you depart.

Parents/carers and visitors are always welcome at the school.

## The Isleworthians

The Isleworthians have their own sports ground and social facilities in Wood Lane. The Association aims to maintain close links with the school and former students through its numerous sports teams and social functions. All students are invited to join the Isleworthians Association when they leave school. The school is grateful for the support it has received from the Association over the years.

## School Uniform

We encourage students to take a pride in their appearance. All boys must wear the school uniform. An acceptance of a place at Isleworth & Syon implies an acceptance of our Appearance Code.

The uniform is simple, smart and relatively economical. The school shop sells the majority of the uniform and is open every day. This allows boys, or their parents/carers, to purchase uniform, sports kit or stationery.

Blazer	Black with School Badge
Tie	School or Colours Tie
Shirt	Plain white
Trousers	Black
Pullovers	Black V-necked (short or long-sleeved)
Shoes	Black outdoor shoes (no trainers).
Socks	Dark coloured, plain.
Coats	Plain (no leather, suede or denim).

When boys are travelling to and from school, it is expected that they will maintain our Appearance Code and be a credit to their families and the school.

### For PE and Games lessons

House Polo Shirt (PE lessons)  
School Games Shirt (Games lessons)  
Black Shorts  
Red Games Socks  
Training Shoes  
Football/Rugby Boots

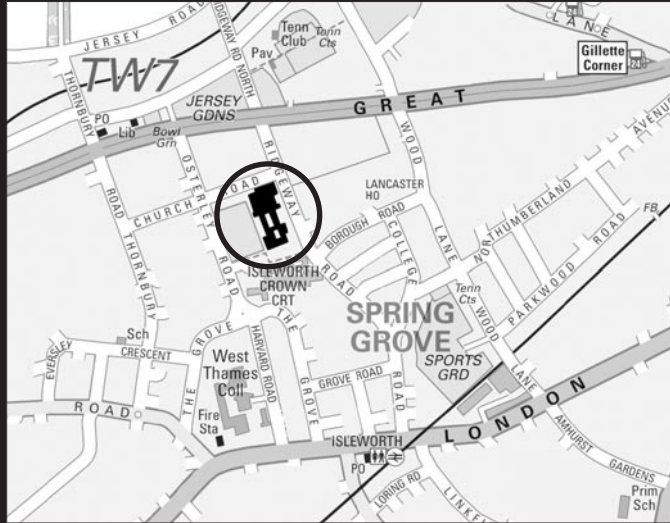
In the Sixth Form the dress code is formal 'business dress'.

Full details of the uniform required can be found in the Parents/Carers Handbook.

## School Policies

Full copies of all school policies and other guidelines and documents are available from the school on request.

Many essential policies are included in the booklet for new students, or will be available on the school's website.



Nearest Underground Station: Osterley  
Nearest Overground Station: Isleworth



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## Isleworth & Syon School for Boys

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