



ISLEWORTH &  
SYON SCHOOL  
FINIS CORONAT OPUS

# PROSPECTUS

“The school succeeds in dispelling the myths and stereotypes that are sometimes associated with boys’ schools. This a caring environment in which the emphasis on ‘learning, achieving and succeeding together’ permeates school life.”

CHALLENGE PARTNERS REVIEW



# WELCOME TO ISLEWORTH & SYON SCHOOL

Thank you for your interest in our school.

We provide an outstanding education for all the boys who attend Isleworth & Syon School. We are a ‘Leading Edge School’, meaning that we are a member of the only national network for high-performing schools.

We welcome boys from all cultures, backgrounds and beliefs and are proud to be the only 11-19 non-denominational boys’ school in the area. The school has a long and distinguished history and has been educating boys for nearly four hundred years.

We have a strong commitment to the pursuit of learning, not purely for the attainment of formal qualifications but also with the intention of seeing our students grow as individuals into mature, considerate and successful young men.

It is our belief that boys flourish best in our single-sex environment. Alongside our enviable academic record, we have also grown accustomed to extremely high levels of artistic and sporting achievement. Our values are traditional: boys are required to be smart in appearance and courteous and respectful in their manner. The school is well-ordered and has a strong, compassionate pastoral system. The attractive and modern environment and an outstanding range of rewards and extra-curricular opportunities are also inspiring. All of these factors contribute to creating a school where students can remain happy and highly motivated whilst they achieve their ambitions and realise their potential.

This prospectus provides a flavour of the school. To join Isleworth & Syon School is to join a school where scholarship is unashamedly valued, where courtesy and manners are a basic expectation, where the additional opportunities are exceptional, and where you can be assured that your son/ward will flourish.

There can, however, be no substitute for coming to visit us in person. You will be most welcome.

Euan Ferguson  
Headteacher



“My son loves school. He is proud of belonging to the community and receives the individual recognition that motivates him to achieve well.”

YEAR 7 PARENT/CARER

# SINGLE SEX EDUCATION



"Exceptionally good care, incorporating a House System, means that the needs of students are very well met."

OFSTED

Isleworth & Syon provides a rarely-offered choice - a non-selective and non-denominational school for boys.

An increasing body of educational research highlights the significant advantages of single-sex education up to the age of sixteen, especially for boys. It is no coincidence that many mixed schools now artificially separate boys and girls by class or through seating plans.

We focus on our boys' education and development, every minute of the day. Our teachers create challenge and learning experiences in lessons that are designed for boys specifically. The result is that our students consistently out-perform boys who are taught in mixed settings.

Our three core drives in school are:

- to achieve outstanding academic results for our boys;
- to provide an extensive range of additional opportunities outside the classroom;
- to do these within a climate that recognises our long history and traditions.

It is no coincidence that visitors to the school, including Ofsted inspectors, consistently comment on the wonderful learning environment in school, the lovely relationships that exist across the school, and how our students develop into fine young men.

We are unapologetic in our ambition for our students, wanting them to aspire and compete on a national level. Despite the current national decline in the number of students following pursuing the arts and competitive sport, we still actively strive to provide a route for our boys into the widest possible range of courses and future careers, utilising our staff's wide range of specialisms to nurture these ambitions.



"Gifted and talented students are suitably stretched."

OFSTED

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Isleworth & Syon School enjoys an enviable reputation in the local community and beyond as a place of learning, which values and promotes academic excellence.

All students have individual strengths and our curriculum is matched to their needs. This personalised approach to learning, a commitment to innovation and a passion for teaching and learning, means that we are able to maximise each student's academic potential.

Our students' examination results are amongst the best in the country. Our boys consistently out-perform boys in mixed schools, at all examination levels.

This pattern is repeated across other subjects in the school and leads to students successfully progressing to further and higher education, and their chosen careers.



"Our core drive is to ensure that Isleworth & Syon School provides an outstanding education and excellent opportunities for all boys."

HEADTEACHER

"The school recognises children's talents."

YEAR 11 PARENT/CARER



A culture of celebrating and rewarding achievement inspires our boys. "Colours" are awarded in the form of a blazer flash or a tie for outstanding academic achievement and for excellent progress. Our boys wear these awards with great pride.

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 across the country, including Oxford and Cambridge. Students in the Sixth Form are assigned a form tutor based on their subject interests wherever possible, meaning that staff are able to offer individualised support with post-16 options.

"The needs of students are carefully evaluated and support is tailored to their needs."

OFSTED

# CARE & SUPPORT

“Academic achievement has also been positively affected by the outstanding quality of care, guidance and support.”

OFSTED



“This inclusive school knows the needs and personal circumstances of its students very well and uses this information exceptionally well to develop outstanding partnership work with parents and carers.”

OFSTED

High achievement is possible only when students feel that they are recognised and valued as individuals, and when they understand how they are expected to conduct themselves.

In school, there is an atmosphere of care and concern for each individual student. There is also a clear framework of expectations for our students that helps them to appreciate how they can “be the best that they can be”.

Students joining the school are placed in mixed-ability tutor groups. The form tutor will get to know the students personally and be responsible for their progress and welfare, acting as the first point of contact for parents/carers.

Pastoral Leaders assume co-ordinating responsibility for students’ academic progress, attendance and punctuality and general well-being. They monitor each student’s progress, using a variety of data and, if necessary, arrange interventions to support the boys.

“Students’ relationships with each other and with staff are a strength.”

OFSTED

Each student is also assigned to one of four Houses: Adam, Brunel, Shackleton or Turner House. The House Leaders work with vertical groupings of students; they also contribute to ensuring that our boys continue to be successful at school, as well as encouraging participation in charity, community, sporting and cultural activities. There is clear evidence that being grouped in Houses contributes to feeling safe and secure in school and this leads to better educational outcomes.

The whole pastoral system is supported by three Pastoral Support Managers. As non-teachers, these members of staff are available throughout the school day for parental contact, should the need arise.

Our pastoral system is described by Ofsted as outstanding - you can be assured that if your son/ward joins us, he will be well looked-after during his time at school.



# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

A key feature of Isleworth & Syon School is the extensive and outstanding range of opportunities outside the classroom.

Ofsted have described our extra-curricular offer as “exemplary”. We believe that these additional opportunities and activities are essential in helping our boys to develop as individuals. They broaden their horizons, allow them to contribute fully to the school community and make them more rounded and desirable to universities, colleges and to employers.

The extensive sporting programme allows students to compete for their House within school, and also for the school at local, county, national and international levels. Indeed, Ofsted and the Youth Sport Trust know of no other non-selective state school in the south of England which still retains a full Saturday morning programme of sport.

Drama and music have both flourished in recent years. Our students have extensive opportunities to perform on stage or within a wide variety of music ensembles. The numerous professionally-run performances and concerts during the year are wonderful school events. Recently, students have progressed to The Royal College of Music; Guildhall School of Music and Drama; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA); London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art (LAMDA); Institute of the Arts Barcelona and The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. One of our former students has enjoyed success in an ITV drama, while several others have begun their theatre careers as stage management staff in West End productions.

There are many other clubs providing additional opportunities for our boys; examples include the chess club, debating club, electronics club, medic club and film club. There are frequent opportunities for visits to museums, the theatre and exhibitions, as well as the chance for overseas travel on language or sporting ventures or cultural visits. A new partnership with a school in the south of France has provided some wonderful cultural and sporting exchanges in the future.

We run the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme and are the only local school authorised to run expeditions at Gold level. Many students benefit from the scheme and several boys continue their contributions as leaders after leaving school.



“Outstanding enrichment activities, including a wide range of sports and many other clubs, ensure that provision is well adapted to meet the needs of students.”

OFSTED



“Students enjoy the many opportunities to mature and develop good leadership skills within the local community.”

OFSTED

# TRADITIONS

The origins of the school can be traced back to 1630 and we take great pride in our long history. We have a tendency to ignore passing fashions, always focusing instead on what is best for our students and for their futures.

This does not mean that we ignore innovation - far from it. We will provide inspirational lessons and activities for our boys and embrace technology where it enhances learning. We always search for the very best educational and cultural experiences for our students.

However, we also absolutely believe in holding on to the very best traditions of the school and we firmly believe in the maintenance of traditional values.

When a student is new to school, he is greeted formally by the Headteacher, by way of welcome. Courtesy and manners are a basic expectation and our boys learn how to conduct themselves in the very best way. Students take a full part in

the daily operation of the school and will have the chance to display leadership by hosting visitors, by taking up one of the positions of responsibility, or by serving on one of the student councils. The school uniform is traditional, while students in the Sixth Form wear “business dress”.

On a termly basis, we hold achievement assemblies to celebrate boys that have shown outstanding attainment and/or progress, or made outstanding contributions across a number of areas of the school. Annually, students will attend the Key Stage 3 Awards Evening or Senior Awards Evening. The range of awards, cups, trophies and scholarships is wide as a large number of students are formally recognised for their achievements.

Choosing Isleworth & Syon School means that you will be joining a well-established, highly confident organisation with a proven track record in providing an outstanding education for boys.



# FACILITIES

Our school has undergone an extensive transformation over the past few years and now boasts some of the best and most modern teaching facilities in the area.

In September 2018, we opened a brand new £7 million teaching block of twenty classrooms. These rooms have been designed to provide the best climate for learning and now house our English and mathematics classes. Four new refurbished science laboratories also opened in 2019. With the highest achieving science faculty in the local area, these additional facilities will enable us to enhance our offer even further. A £1 million project to expand our dining facilities; to refurbish our kitchen; to create new drama and music facilities; and to develop our Sixth Form study area, was completed in 2020.

Our school hall accommodates theatre seating that provides the very best venue for school drama productions and music events. Our sporting facilities include a sports hall, gymnasium, floodlit astro-turf pitch, on-site grass pitch and three pitches at our playing fields at Busch Corner. We also enjoy access to the athletics track across the road from the school and have partnerships with Thistleworth Tennis Club, the Indian Gymkhana and of course the Isleworthians - our former students' sports club - where we enjoy the use of additional sporting facilities.



# THE SIXTH FORM

In the Sixth Form at Isleworth & Syon, a 'college' approach prevails. Students accept more personal responsibility for attendance, appearance and academic study, yet they are able to enjoy the advantages of freedom and responsibility, alongside the close personal contact between staff and students that only a school Sixth Form can provide. Our Sixth Form is mixed, and each year a number of external applicants choose us as their post-16 option.

**"Sixth Formers take positions of responsibility as sports coaches and ambassadors in the school and local community, becoming successful role models and mentors for younger students."**

OFSTED

Every member of the sixth form is a member of the Sixth Form Association, from which an elected Student Voice committee is formed to organise events and assist with the day-to-day running of the Sixth Form. Sixth formers are also encouraged to volunteer their help, not only within the school - for example, by assisting younger students in lessons and engaging with reading mentoring - but also in the local community. The Head Boy sits on the governing body and, along with the Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl, runs the School Council.

In school, we create an environment where our students are able to make excellent academic progress and enjoy an extensive range of additional opportunities, whilst they learn to become mature, successful and confident young men.

We take great pride in the successes of our former students as they make their way in the world. They provide an outstanding example to our current students and every year many of them come back to school to provide inspiration to the next generation of Isleworthians.

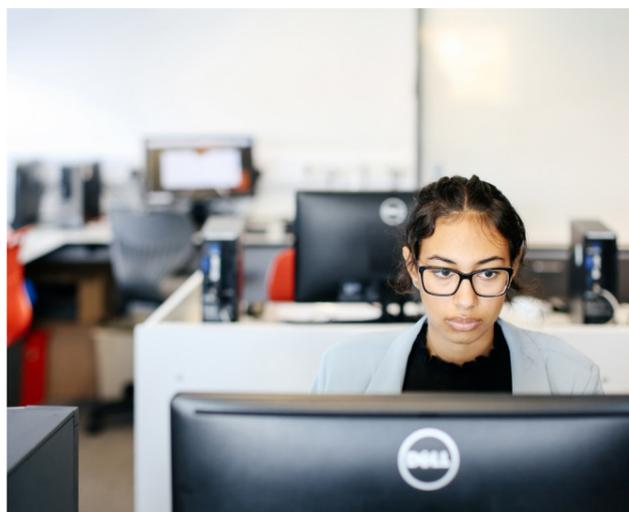
**"We are proud that our Sixth Form continues to be ranked in the top 10% nationally for adding value to our students' achievements."**

HEADTEACHER



**"The Sixth Form remains a successful centre to which over two thirds of students transfer at the end of Year 11."**

OFSTED



# A BRIEF HISTORY

Isleworth & Syon School has an interesting history that makes it one of the oldest schools in the area. Its origins can be traced to the establishment, in 1630, of a charity school that became known as The Blue School in the eighteenth century. This building in 'Old Isleworth' may still be seen in the square. An upper department was created in 1883 and was established as a model school in which students from Borough Road College (now part of Brunel University) could practise, and new methods of teaching could be tested. Middlesex County Council and the British and Foreign Schools' Society assumed control of the school, by now located in St John's Road, Isleworth, in 1906.

The school has been on the Ridgeway Road site since 1939. In 1944, following the Education Act, the school was renamed Isleworth Grammar School for Boys and became well known in the London Area for its academic achievements. The present school was founded in 1979 when the Grammar School and Syon School for Boys were merged. It has retained its reputation for academic success and high standards of student behaviour.

In 2003, the school was designated a Specialist Sports College. This exciting new phase in the school's history increased opportunities for our students and allowed us to lead the development of sport within the local area. The Sport Impact organisation, led from Isleworth & Syon School, continues to provide sporting leadership across the local area.

In March 2012, the school became an Academy. The academies programme was aimed at already successful schools that could enjoy freedom from Local Authority control. These freedoms have been embraced whilst ensuring that the distinctive nature of the school remains unchanged.



**"We take great pride in our long history and in the many traditions we uphold. Our focus, though, is always on our current students and their futures."**

HEADTEACHER



## Isleworth & Syon School

Ridgeway Road, Isleworth

Middlesex, TW7 5LJ

T: 020 8568 5791 • F: 020 8568 1939

[school@isleworthsyon.org](mailto:school@isleworthsyon.org)

[www.isleworthsyon.org](http://www.isleworthsyon.org)

[f](https://www.facebook.com/IsleworthSyon) [i](https://www.instagram.com/IsleworthSyon) /IsleworthSyon