



# *St Martin-in-the-Fields* High School for Girls

Church of England Academy  
11-19 (Co-ed Sixth Form) Founded 1699  
SERVICE COMPASSION JUSTICE PERSEVERANCE

## *Prospectus*



## *Welcome from the Headteacher*

It is my pleasure to introduce myself as the Headteacher and to welcome you to our wonderful school.

St Martin's is a truly inclusive school with a strong Christian ethos. We are culturally rich; welcoming girls of all faiths and none. We are characterised by a warm community atmosphere where our girls are inspired to learn and work together within a solid moral and spiritual framework.

I am proud of our emphasis on examination success as the key to the door of future opportunities, but we aspire to much more than this. Education is about developing global citizens, so we value your daughter's happiness and personal development at every stage.

Choosing the right school can be a daunting prospect and it will be one of the most important decisions that you and your daughter will make. The essence of St Martin's is our Christian ethos which is central to the

life of our school. Students are at the heart of our vision; every girl that comes through our door will be cherished and grow in faith, and develop academically, socially and spiritually.

I am confident that, by looking through this prospectus, visiting our website and talking to our girls and staff, you will know that you and your daughter will be in safe hands.

I look forward to meeting you.

Beverley Stanislaus  
Headteacher

# *Vision and Ethos*

*Our aim is simple. It is to provide an exceptional education for girls of all abilities where they are inspired to learn and are ambitious for the future. It was the aim of our founders in 1699 and is still our aim today.*

*"The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is outstanding at meeting the needs of all learners."*

*Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools*



Our commitment to academic excellence and personal well-being is total. Our vision is to create a safe, caring, happy and inclusive community underpinned by our Christian values. We want our girls to shine and grow together in faith and knowledge, developing their unique gifts and talents both in the classroom and in the wider life of the school and beyond.

The girls at St Martin's are at the heart of our purpose and vision. They will be empowered to fulfil their learning potential because they are informed, ambitious, resilient; they respect and value education and being educated. Our girls will fulfil their academic potential, but more than this, they will develop the skills, competencies and personal qualities and characteristics that will help them to be successful in the future in whatever route they choose to take.

A St Martin's Girl is articulate and charismatic, and will become a:

- **RESPONSIBLE** individual, with a strong sense of community, an understanding of the importance of courtesy, appropriate behaviour towards others and the environment.
- **CONFIDENT** individual, able to think independently, confident in her academic and social capability and work within a strong moral framework.
- **SPIRITUAL** individual, compassionately sensitive to the needs of others and self; instilled with a heightened sense of morality and culturally aware.
- **SUCCESSFUL** individual who works hard, accepts challenges and is determined, scholarly and makes exceptional progress.

*Ambitious for the Future*



# Responsible

*A St Martin's girl is a **responsible** individual, with a strong sense of community, an understanding of the importance of courtesy, appropriate behaviour towards others and the environment.*

*"There is a very good atmosphere for learning."  
OFSTED 2014*



Our girls enjoy school and make good progress in both their academic studies and personal development. We achieve this by ensuring a high quality learning experience rooted in our Christian values. Our classrooms are orderly, with learning and progress the absolute priority.

In our classrooms and everywhere around the school you will find a 'buzz'. A variety of teaching approaches and activities ensures that girls are stimulated, intellectually challenged and active participants in their learning. Girls enjoy their learning and work exceptionally well together, delighting in the achievement of others as well as their own. The school library offers a host of resources to support teaching and plays a central and key role in supporting information literacy. We also use ICT across the whole of our curriculum as an important tool for teaching and interactive learning.

Our curriculum offer is designed to meet the needs of all our girls and prepares them well to take the next steps beyond school. There is a strong focus on the core curriculum where all girls study English, Maths, Science, Religious Education and Physical Education at both KS3 and KS4. This is supplemented by the Wellbeing programme which runs in Year 7 to 11 alongside the foundation Ebacc subjects. At post-16, there is also a dedicated Wellbeing programme that helps to prepare students for their future studies and careers. As students progress through the school, the range of subjects available for them to study expands to enable progression to Sixth Form and beyond.

We are proud of our student leadership system which allows students to take responsibility across many areas of the school. As well as having a team of Prefects at Key Stage 4, all students have the opportunity to contribute their ideas and views through the Student Council.

*Inspired to Learn*

# Confident

*A St Martin's girl is a **confident** individual, able to think independently, confident in her academic and social capability and work within a strong moral framework.*

*"Extra-curricular and enrichment activities offer considerable support to the quality of the curriculum."  
OFSTED 2014*



We believe that the learning that takes place outside the classroom is invaluable in ensuring all round development. With this in mind, we offer an extensive enrichment programme, encouraging every girl to extend herself through creative arts, sport, community service and leadership.

We aim to provide something to capture the imagination of every girl and open up new opportunities outside the classroom. Whether through expanding their cultural horizons, excelling in competitive sport and other activities, or developing an interest into a passion, we offer something for everyone.

We have recently introduced Mandarin to our enrichment programme and this has given a group of students the opportunity to communicate in a

language that is spoken by more than a fifth of the global population. Mandarin classes run on Saturday morning and we aim to prepare students to take a GCSE.

Educational visits are also a major feature of our enrichment within the curriculum. Our girls are committed to meaningful community service and to give of themselves to support others in need, locally, nationally and globally.

Our House system provides additional activities throughout the year, including Inter-House events which encourage competition and friendly rivalry. Students are proud of being in houses named after inspirational women of yesteryear. Emmeline Pankhurst, Rosa Parks, Rosalind Franklyn and Mary Seacole.

*Ambitious for the Future*

# Spiritual

A St Martin's girl is a *spiritual* individual, compassionately sensitive to the needs of others and self; instilled with a heightened sense of morality and culturally aware.

*"Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness is excellent."*

OFSTED 2014



Christ is at the centre of our school community where we live, love and learn together. Every aspect of school life is built upon our core Christian values; Service, Compassion, Justice and Perseverance.

We aim to provide a safe, happy and caring community in which each person is valued as an individual made in the image of God. Jesus treated everyone equally, no matter what their background and encouraged us to do the same. We believe that everyone is of equal worth to God and that our differences make us a richer community.

We are committed to showing kindness and respect in all our relationships and conversations. We model the behaviours that demonstrate that we respect and care for each other and the community around us. "You shall love your neighbour as yourself". Mark 12:31

We have strong pastoral care for all our students. On joining St Martin's, each student is placed in a mixed ability Tutor Group with a dedicated Tutor. The year group system is led by a Progress Leader who, with a team of tutors, provides support and monitors the progress of all students.

We celebrate a range of events throughout the year and, most importantly, those on the Christian calendar. The school comes together regularly at Holy Trinity Church and also through our whole school Act of Worship as well as in year groups. As a whole school we celebrate St Martin's Day and Founders Day and have opportunities to celebrate these at our founding church, St Martin-in-the-Fields, in Trafalgar Square.

Lunchtime discussion groups and the Christian Union give students the opportunity to explore their faith.

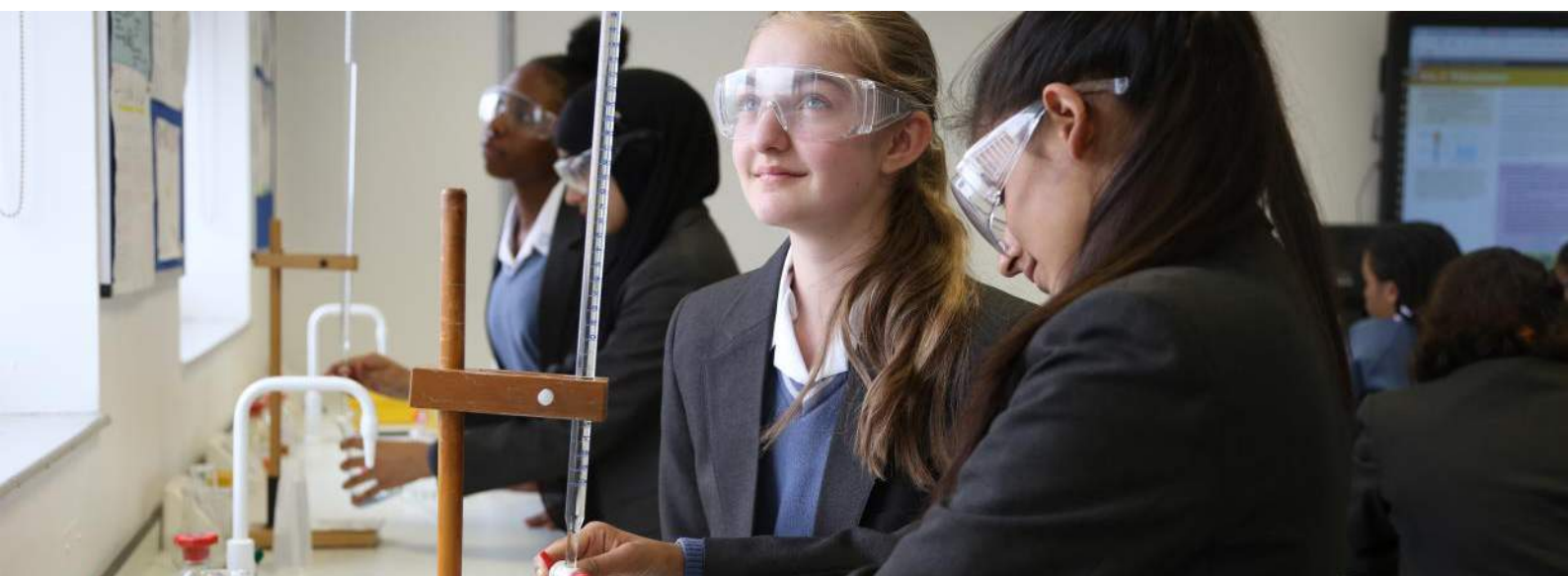


# Successful

*A St Martin's girl is a **successful** individual who works hard, accepts challenges and is determined, scholarly and makes exceptional progress.*

*"Teaching is particularly successful in developing students' self-confidence in their ability to study and learn."*

*OFSTED 2014*



We are proud of our emphasis on examination success as the key to the door of future opportunities. But more than this, our girls will have been educated, not just examined.

Our offer of a broad and intellectually demanding curriculum seeks to ensure that a St Martin's Girl will develop a positive attitude, have an enquiring mind and be an independent thinker. Above all, she will possess one of the most important attributes for today's ever changing world – resilience.

The strong and special teacher-student relationships that exist within the school encourage and challenge the girls to reach and exceed expectations. We are proud that many of our girls continue with us into the Sixth Form and that a St Martin's Girl is also a sought-after student for local post-16 institutions.

Through 'The Brokerage' organisation we have established links with many top city firms such as Goldman Sachs, Allen and Overy, KPMG, Morgan Stanley, Hogan and Lovell and Barclays. These city firms come into school to run workshops on topics such as the skills gap, employability, CV writing, interview skills.

Year 10 undertake a week of work experience across a variety of sectors and we have seen our students take up placements in a multitude of local businesses.

Students go on a variety of inspirational visits each year to broaden their horizons and help them refine their plans for the future. Visits have included both Oxford and Cambridge universities.

*Ambitious for the Future*

## *Thriving Sixth Form*

*Our Sixth Form students are real ambassadors for St Martin's. Students have chosen to join us from other schools and many stay with us from Year 11. St Martin's is part of South London Sixth (SL6) a partnership with three other schools in Lambeth.*

*"Students have high aspirations for their future and an increasing proportion of students go to university, including highly successful universities."*

*OFSTED 2014*



Our post-16 is co-educational, offering places to boys from our SL6 schools and from further afield.

Our curriculum pathways are designed to provide a traditional academic route for the majority of our students and a bespoke vocational route for those interested in a future in healthcare or business. With over 30 subjects to choose from, students can tailor a curriculum to suit their own individual interests and needs.

We like to offer our sixth formers more independence and encourage our students to be independent learners. Along with guidance and support from their teachers and form tutors we want to ensure that students take responsibility for their own learning.

At St Martin's we pride ourselves on developing our students to be expert learners within the confines of the classroom. Alongside excellent pastoral and careers guidance, our sixth form students are also supported to be thoroughly prepared for university life and beyond.

Our A Level students are highly successful and many are accepted into the best universities in the country, including Oxford and Cambridge. Destinations include prestigious Russell Group Universities as well as some students following a path of Apprenticeship.

*Inspired to Learn*



## *Families at St Martin's*

*We are proud of our positive relationships with parents and carers. We are committed to working closely with families so that we can help your daughters succeed in school.*

*"A very large majority of parents said they would recommend the school."*

*OFSTED 2014*



We see the relationship between home and school as being extremely important in determining how successful a student is. It is important that there is a shared philosophy and we are all clear about what we can expect from each other.

A good partnership also involves transparency, honesty and clear channels of communication so that you can be fully informed about your daughter's learning and development.

We provide regular, structured opportunities for communication about how your daughter is progressing, both academically and personally. There are also opportunities for you to become even more active by participating in the newly revived parent forum or being a parent governor.

You are encouraged to contact us should you ever feel the need to do so. We will support you in any way we can. We are here for you and your daughter.

We are excited when we can invite you to share in those glorious moments when your daughters are singing, acting, playing an instrument or receiving an award. These events demonstrate the exceptional talents and achievements of your daughter that we are always proud to share with you.

*Ambitious for the Future*

# *Admission Arrangements and Criteria*

The Governing Body admits 140 girls into Year 7. St Martin's has a distinctive Christian ethos which is at the heart of the school and provides an inclusive, caring and supportive environment where children learn and flourish in a setting shaped by Christian values. **We welcome applications from all members of the community and we ask all parents to respect the Christian ethos of our school and its importance to our community.**

The Governors have designated 60% of places in each ability band as **Foundation Places**, for the children of regular worshipping members of a Christian church.

If you wish to apply for a place at St Martin's, please name us as one of your preferences on the Common Application Form (CAF) and return it to your home borough. In addition, **you MUST also complete our Supplementary Form (SIF) and return it to St Martin's.** On the Supplementary Form you need to tick at least one of the criteria. However, you can tick more than one.

The form must then be returned to St Martin's by **FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER 2017.** Please make sure you indicate where you wish your daughter to sit the Admission Test (11 November 2017).



## **APPEALS**

If a girl is unsuccessful in her application, parents may appeal by contacting the school within the time stipulated in the decision letter from the Local Authority.

## **FAIR ACCESS PROTOCOL**

The school is committed to taking its fair share of girls who are hard to place in accordance with the locally agreed fair access protocol. Pupils admitted under the protocol will take priority over any girls on the waiting list, and this may include on occasion admitting above the planned admission number.

## **LATE APPLICATIONS**

The school will consider late applications in accordance with the procedure in the Local Authority's coordinated scheme as detailed in the secondary transfer booklet. In essence this means that late applicants will be considered after the initial round of offers is made; where the school is oversubscribed this is likely to reduce considerably your chance of gaining a place.

## **PUPILS WITH A STATEMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Parents of pupils who have a statement of special educational needs are required to apply for school places separately through the local authority from whom advice is available. If a child with a statement is placed in the school by the local authority before the normal admission round, the number of places available to other applicants will be reduced.

## **UNDERSUBSCRIPTION**

If there are fewer applicants for Foundation Places than places available in any of the ability bands, the unfilled places will become available to all other applicants at the end of the allocation procedure and vice-versa.

## **WAITING LISTS**

If a girl is unsuccessful in her application, parents may request their daughter go on the school's waiting list.



To ensure a comprehensive intake, applicants will take NFER tests and will be assigned to one of three ability bands (25% Band One, 50% Band Two and 25% Band Three).

**Foundation Places** (60% in each ability band) are for children of regular worshipping members of a Christian Church (affiliated to Churches Together in England, the Evangelical Alliance, Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches or Affinity Churches). Parent(s) or carer(s), together with the child, will usually need to be attending Church at least once a fortnight and have been practising for at least three years. Please give details of your church membership in the Supplementary Form and hand the Clergy Form to your Minister of Religion. Please also tick other items as appropriate (Looked After Child, Sister, Medical or Social Need, Nearness of Home to School).

**All other places** (40% in each ability band) are for girls who do not qualify for a Foundation Place as their parents are not practising Christians, but have chosen the school for the type of education it provides. Parents applying do so knowing that the school aims to provide an education based on Christian principles and therefore Governors expect that all pupils will take part in the Christian worship of the school and will attend Religious Education lessons.

Please tick all relevant criteria in the Supplementary Form (Looked After Child, Sister, Regular worshipping member of a Christian church, Faith other than Christian Faith, Medical or Social Need, Nearness of Home to School).



If there are more applicants than places in any of the ability bands, places will be allocated according to the following criteria:

1. A 'looked after' or 'previously looked after' child<sup>1</sup>.
2. The presence of a sister<sup>2</sup> in the school (Years 7-11), who is living at the same address, as at September 2017.
3. [FOUNDATION PLACE ONLY]  
Regular worshipping member of a Christian church.
4. Daughters of parents of faiths other than the Christian faith who express a clear desire for a school with a religious foundation. (The Supplementary Form should be supported by a letter from a priest or religious leader.)
5. Girls with an exceptional medical or social need. This must be supported by written evidence from a specialist health professional, social worker other care

professional. The evidence must set out the reasons why this school is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

6. The nearness of the home to the school<sup>3</sup>.

## FOOTNOTES

### <sup>1</sup> **LOOKED AFTER OR PREVIOUSLY LOOKED AFTER CHILD**

A 'looked after' child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A 'previously looked after' child is a child who was adopted, or subject to a residence order, or special guardianship order, immediately following having been looked after.

### <sup>2</sup> **SISTER**

Sister is defined as a female blood relative, step-sibling, half-sibling, adopted or foster sibling who is living at the same address.

### <sup>3</sup> **NEARNESS OF HOME TO SCHOOL**

Lambeth Local Authority's system for measuring distance will be used and the Local Authority will be asked to carry out the measurements. In the event that girls have exactly the same distance between their home and the school, the school will operate random allocation.



# Past, Present, Future



Our motto, **CARITATE ET DISCIPLINA - WITH LOVE AND LEARNING**, embodies our vision and is timeless. All that we do is underpinned by our Christian values and the knowledge that the realisation of our vision is transformational for the girls at St Martin's. God's guidance will give our girls the insight to see realistically what is and provide them with the vision to dream of all the possibilities that can be.

*Visit [www.stmartins.academy](http://www.stmartins.academy) for more detailed information on all aspects of school life, policies and procedures, including school uniform and SEND provision.*



**THE PAST:** St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls was founded in 1699 and has a tradition of education that extends over 300 years. In the mid-17th century, St Martin-in-the-Fields Church and the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK) were headed by radical thinkers who believed that there should be a local school for girls as well as boys.

Originally, the school was based in Charing Cross Road, close to its founding church. Parish endowments made it possible to educate girls. The school did well; by the early twentieth century growth was such that a bigger building with proper grounds and playing fields became necessary. The school relocated to its present site in 1928. It was officially opened by the Duchess of York (Queen Mother).

**THE PRESENT:** Schools are not just about the buildings or their status, they are really about the people and what takes place inside them; what happens in them every minute of the day; the engaging and innovative

teaching; a consistent approach to behaviour; the care, interest and respect of student and adult relationships. At St Martin's we are definitely getting this right. Underpinned by our strong Christian values, students are happy, ambitious and empowered to fulfil their learning potential.

**THE FUTURE:** Students benefit from learning in very traditional teaching areas, in our listed building, as well as in the more modern state-of-the-art facilities, such as the new science suites, drama studio, sports hall and sixth form centre.

We provide our girls with a myriad of opportunities to empower them to fulfil their academic potential; we will equip them with the skills to be 'learners of today, leaders of tomorrow'. Our girls will be ambitious for themselves and others; respect and value diversity; will have memories and friendships for life and the personal qualities and skills that will prepare them for life in the future, whatever that might look like.