

BOARDING

*'The quality of boarding is **excellent**'*

Boarders at Headington are **confident, articulate, tolerant and considerate**. The inspectors noted that **the quality of the boarding provision and care is excellent and provides for each pupil's needs** and that at Headington the boarders are **exceptionally well looked after**.

The boarders contribute to the smooth running of the boarding houses, live and work well together and develop a mutual respect that permeates all aspects of their lives. The refurbishment programme has created **high quality accommodation and recreational areas** that are both modern and welcoming.



The Headmistress and Governors have a **clear vision for boarding** and the leadership and management of the boarding provision are **excellent**. The girls have a wide range of school and house-based activities to choose from throughout the week and at weekends and the boarders feel **safe and secure** in their houses.



PARENTAL LINKS

*'Links with parents are **excellent**'*

Parents are overwhelmingly supportive of the School and satisfied with the information they receive, with regard to both the progress of their daughters and news from school. The inspectors observed that **reporting is frequent and detailed, and targets are clear**.

WELFARE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

*'The contribution of arrangements for welfare, health and safety is **excellent**'*

The safeguarding of pupils of all ages is a very high priority and **the leadership of safeguarding is strong**.

The provision for sick pupils and those with SEND is **of an extremely high standard** and the health centre is staffed by qualified nurses, with a high proportion of staff trained in first aid.

GOVERNANCE

*'The quality of governance is **excellent**'*

The governing Council comprises an **excellent blend of professional expertise in education, business, finance and medicine** and gives strong support to the leadership and senior team in advancing further the **excellent breadth and quality of educational opportunities for pupils**.

Governors have been fully supportive of the leadership's successful drive to improve the quality of teaching. Governors discharge **very effectively** their responsibilities for monitoring standards, financial planning and **investment in staff, accommodation and learning resources**.



LEADERSHIP

*'The quality of leadership and management is **excellent**'*

Leadership at every level is committed to excellence in all aspects of school life. The sustained focus on excellence at Headington is a significant contribution in supporting pupils' achievements in public examinations and extra-curricular activities and their **outstanding personal development**.

As a school, Headington places great emphasis on recruiting and retaining high calibre staff which contributes to the **high quality of teaching and pastoral care**.

Senior and middle leaders make a significant contribution to the successful fulfilment of the School's core aims. **A strong sense of direction and purpose permeates the School**.



'No individual is invisible'



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'Excellent' in all categories

Independent Schools Inspectorate, integrated inspection, May 2015



*'Headington School very successfully achieves its aims of providing a stimulating, enriching and empowering education for all its pupils. The quality of academic and other achievements is **excellent** throughout the School'*

ACHIEVEMENT AND LEARNING

*'The quality of the pupils' achievements and learning is **excellent**'*

Pupils show **excellent** levels of knowledge, understanding and subject skills, which develop well as they move through the school. The girls have **outstanding reading, speaking and listening skills** in a range of subjects, **high levels of artistic creativity** and **excellent mathematical skills across the curriculum**. Many individuals **achieve notable success in academic competitions**, from English and Languages to Science and robotics. Results in International GCSE are **higher than worldwide and UK averages**, A Level results are **excellent in relation to the national average** and pupils who take the International Baccalaureate (IB) achieve results that are **exceptional compared with worldwide averages and well above the UK average**.



TEACHING

*'The contribution of teaching is **excellent**'*

Teaching fully supports the aims of the School and **makes a significant contribution to pupils' progress and achievement**. There is a **strong rapport between teachers and pupils** and **passionate subject knowledge and high ended open-minded questioning** which encourage pupils to **participate fully, to extend their learning and to accelerate their own progress**.

The needs of pupils with SEND and EAL **are very well met through rigorous monitoring, planning and individual support**. There were **innovative and stimulating revision lessons** and **high standards of marking and evaluative comments** that give clear direction and set targets for pupils to improve.



CURRICULUM

*'The contribution of curricular provision is **excellent**'*

At Headington the **curriculum is very effective** and **makes an excellent contribution to pupils' achievements**. The range of high calibre visiting speakers **ensures that pupils gain respect for all people, opinions and beliefs**. The **varied and challenging enrichment programme** and **vast range of workshops, outside lectures and competitions**...encourage the pupils to challenge themselves **beyond the bounds of their school studies**. The extensive and up-to-date careers programme includes opportunities for work experience and **prepares girls well for higher education**.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

*'The contribution of extra-curricular provision is **excellent**'*

The **inclusive** thrust ensures that **all pupils have opportunity to develop talents in creative arts or sport** and **the lively music department organises a very large range of high quality groups**. The quality of extra-curricular activities and **their contribution to pupils' personal development** is **excellent**.

The activities programme **is enhanced effectively by work in the local community**. Pupils spoke appreciatively of the chances provided to gain experience of life in a less privileged environment.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

*'The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils is **excellent**'*

Headington girls are **self-confident, open-minded and tolerant**. Their behaviour is of the highest standard, they have **strong self-esteem** and appreciate and learn from the different cultural backgrounds of their peers. Pupils of all faiths and none use the chapel for private reflection and **appreciate tolerance as a key British value**. Pupils take a keen interest in social issues beyond the School and are aware of responsibilities to those less fortunate than themselves. They take a particular interest in charitable and environmental issues. **The pupils' charitable giving is a strength of the School**.

Pupils appreciate tolerance as a key British value and have **a well-developed respect for other people**.



PASTORAL CARE

*'The contribution of arrangements for pastoral care is **excellent**'*

There is a **warm, welcoming, international atmosphere** at Headington. The vertical house system encourages strong friendships between different year groups and age-specific specialists in the pastoral team assure high quality advice for pupils at key points in their school careers.

Pupils feel **safe, valued and well-supported** at Headington and **communication among pastoral staff is excellent**. Age-specific specialists on the pastoral team assure high quality advice for pupils at key points in their school careers.

All pupils have the **opportunity to stay fit** and they enjoy physical exercise. The PSHEE programme encourages **healthy eating**.

The respectful and warm relationships between staff and pupils, and among pupils themselves, are a strength of the School.

