



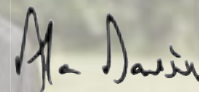
DAME ALICE OWEN'S  
SCHOOL

THE DAME ALICE OWEN'S FOUNDATION 1613  
TRUSTEES: THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BREWERS



## Welcome from our Headteacher, Dr Alan Davison

Dame Alice Owen's School has a national reputation for achievement and academic success, but the School is so much more than just its outstanding results. This is a school to which students are proud to belong, and former students wish they had never had to leave. We make sure students enjoy and achieve; the HMI leading our last inspection commented that we have 'the most extensive programme of extra-curricular activities I have ever seen'. It is a special community of students, staff and parents working together to achieve the best possible all-round results for each and every student. Across all areas of the curriculum, students at Owen's excel. Within the pages of this prospectus I have tried to share with you a flavour of the experience that is being part of Owen's.



Dr Alan Davison  
Headteacher



### Student

"I don't know of any other school that provides such a supportive, encouraging and enjoyable atmosphere for learning, and I'll never forget all the valuable lessons Owen's has taught me!"







## A Supportive community

At Owen's, we have a clear set of guiding principles known as 'The Owen's Way', which shape our work and run through everything that we do. They were written by the school council and are:

**Opportunity for all** – to learn, to participate and to enjoy

**Window to the world** – to be outward looking and informed

**Excellence in everything** – to strive to be the best that we can be

**Never stop learning** – to have an enquiring mindset

**Supportive community** – to affirm and bolster one another

'Not only is the Owen's Way straightforward and memorable, but there is clearly a real effort to build it into all aspects of school life, which the children appreciate.'

– Parent of a Year 8 student

'The teachers regularly talk about the Owen's Way, especially the 'supportive community', which I think is really important.' – Year 7 student

Visitors to the school will be immediately impressed by the lively, confident, buoyant and happy atmosphere that reverberates around this vibrant community. The students look forward to being here, thrive in their lessons and do their utmost to achieve their personal best. There is a highly respectful ethos that celebrates the value and worth of all young people.

Through Form, Teaching and Year groupings, as well as extensive extra-curricular activities that genuinely transcend age profiles, the young people mix and share a common identity with pride and loyalty. Charity fund raising is a prominent goal and there is a strong desire to give back and to serve others. The students love their school and will greet you with an openness and freshness that is infectious.

### Parent

"If you want a school that brings out the very best in your child and anchors their outlook in the importance of community, then you won't find a more inspiring example than at Owen's."







## Excellence in everything

We are unashamedly about academic excellence. Dame Alice Owen's regularly appears amongst the top 3 comprehensive schools nationally at both GCSE and A Level, with GCSE 5 A\* -C grades including English and maths exceeding 90% and A level A\*/A grades well above 60%. Between 20 and 30 students receive offers from Oxford or Cambridge every year and the vast majority of our Sixth Form go on to study at a Russell Group University.

The school is a centre of excellence across the curriculum with state of the art facilities. Science is a key specialism with over 200 students taking A levels in Physics, Biology and Chemistry annually. Between 30 and 40 students take Further Maths at A Level each year.

### Parents

"The range of subjects on offer is breathtaking."

"My three children have all achieved excellence in different ways. The school brings out the best in every child."

"Owen's does not place limits on a child's potential. They love it!"

### Students

"The teachers support and guide us in every possible way. They really want us to do our very best."

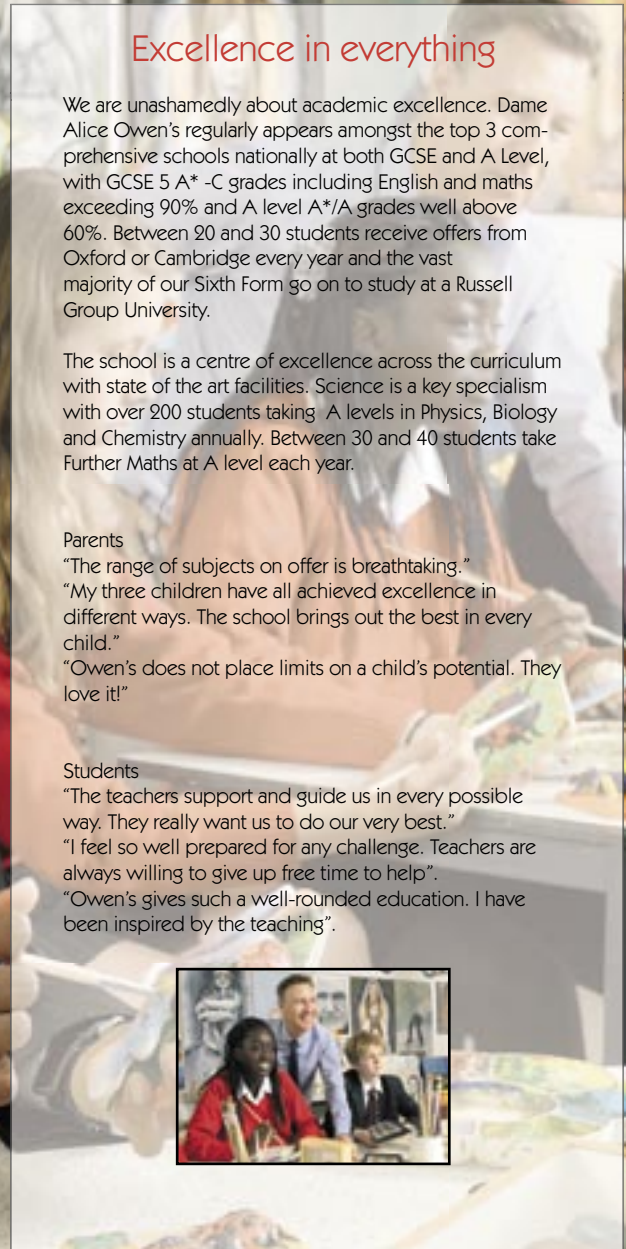
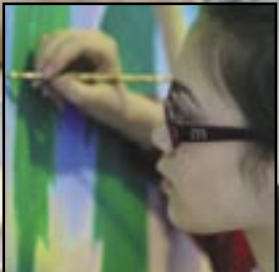
"I feel so well prepared for any challenge. Teachers are always willing to give up free time to help".

"Owen's gives such a well-rounded education. I have been inspired by the teaching".



### Student

"I chose Owen's primarily for its high reputation for quality teaching, but getting top grades is only scratching the surface of the Owen's experience, and as I prepare to leave for Oxford in October, my only regret is that I can't rewind and enjoy it all over again."







## 400 years of excellence

Dame Alice Owen founded our school in 1613 in Islington and entrusted the leadership to the Worshipful Company of Brewers who continue to be trustees of the Owen's Foundation today, contributing over £600K a year. Originally a boys' school, a girls' school was added in 1886 and we became co-educational when the school moved to Potters Bar in 1973.

To celebrate the momentous 400th Anniversary of the school, the school organised a concert at the Royal Albert Hall and a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral in April 2013. These fantastic events gathered all of the Owen's community together to honour the legacy of Dame Alice Owen and showcase the high standard of education and achievement that the students enjoy today.

## Extra-curricular

There is a rich and rewarding (and really exciting) life outside the classroom at Dame Alice Owen's. Clubs and societies that meet at lunchtime include Computing, LinC (Christian Union), Chess, Debating, Art, Science and Formula 1, in addition to the music and sports activities. These all add to the student experience at our school. If we do not offer something that students would like, then we encourage them to start up a club themselves. Drama at school is exceptional with three productions per year including a full musical production. Beyond the school boundaries there are numerous opportunities including language exchanges and visits to our partner school in Tanzania. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Life as a student at Dame Alice Owen's is varied, stimulating and utterly unforgettable.

### Parent

"Students are eager to engage with the world and have a rock solid confidence that they can achieve their full potential."

### Student

"There are always exciting events planned and countless opportunities for everyone to pursue and indulge their hobbies which makes the school so much more than just an education."







## Sport and Music

The PE department provides opportunities for students to participate in a wide variety of sports including football, rugby, netball, hockey, athletics, gymnastics, basketball and badminton in lessons and as extra-curricular activities at lunchtime or after school. Sport caters for students at all levels and the school has a number of students holding representative honours at district, county and national levels. Our sports facilities are excellent with a gymnasium, sports hall, all-weather pitch, tennis and netball courts, a sports pavilion and an extensive area of pitches.

The Music department has a concert hall, three specialist classrooms, numerous practice rooms, a recital and rehearsal studio and a recording studio. More than 500 students receive instrumental lessons and extra-curricular activities include four orchestras and bands, five choirs, chamber music and an annual musical production. Our Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band, and Senior Mixed Chamber choir have performed at the Royal Albert Hall, The Barbican, The National Festival Hall and the Llangollen International Eisteddfod with abundant awards received. Academic performance is excellent too. Many students go on to study music at university, including Oxbridge, The Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music.

## Teaching School Status

As an outstanding School, Dame Alice Owen's was successful in securing Teaching School designation in April 2013. The school is leading the "Advanced Learning Alliance", a collaborative partnership of many of the country's leading secondary schools, primary schools and Higher Education establishments in the area who are sharing their expertise in all aspects of education. Teachers are encouraged to participate in professional development activities and action research projects, both to further their classroom practice and to show students that learning is a life-long process. Our vision is to facilitate outstanding learning across the Alliance and to develop excellent leadership at all levels in order to ensure that students have the best educational experience possible.

## Student

"There genuinely is something for everyone at Owens and it is clear from the very beginning that every teacher in the school is friendly, helpful and passionate in everything they do."

