

Admissions Information

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Senior Members of Staff

Chair of Governors Mr HJ de Sausmarez BA FCIS

Principal Mrs Jo Cameron BSc(Hons) (Surrey) PGCE

Bursar and Clerk to Governors Mr Ian Williams, BEng(Hons) (RMCS Shrivenham) CEn

(Correspondence for the Chair of Governors to be addressed to the Clerk of Governors via Queenswood School)

We are delighted that you are considering Queenswood for your daughter and hope that the information in this booklet provides an insight into life at our School and the benefits of a Queenswood education. Please do come and visit us.

Section 1

Our Ethos and Aims

Our Ethos

Queenswood has a Methodist Christian foundation and the Chapel, where we welcome girls of all faiths and none, is at the heart of our spiritual life.

We believe that our setting creates a most effective and positive learning environment for girls in which they can develop self-discipline, self-esteem, understanding and mutual respect for one another.

We are a community that places importance on knowing each and every person, be they pupils, staff, parents or friends of the School.

We take great pride in the international dimension of our community which enriches our lives and promotes understanding of a broad spectrum of cultures.

We place the highest value on the importance of the individual: inspiring, supporting and challenging her.

We embrace change in order to provide the most relevant education for women of the 21st century.

Aims

- To offer an excellent education through a broad and balanced curriculum, and continually seek to improve academic standards.
- To promote the happiness and self-esteem of the girls by valuing them as individuals, whatever their particular interests.
- To foster a love of learning, enquiry and debate.
- To promote international, cultural and political understanding.
- To promote spiritual and moral values, and increase girls' awareness of, and their responsibilities to, the wider world and those less fortunate than themselves.
- To provide opportunities for girls to challenge themselves in a wide range of co-curricular activities including the humanities, the arts, the sciences and sport.
- To prepare Queenswood girls, not just for university and higher education, but for life.
- To encourage parents to support all aspects of the life of the School, and to involve parents fully in the education of their daughters through the use of timely, informative and effective communications.

About Us

In 1894, Queenswood School was established for the daughters of Methodist Ministers in Clapham Park, London. It moved to its current site in Hertfordshire in 1925. Since then, Queenswood has become a progressive boarding and day school for approximately 430 girls, aged between 11 and 18, where boarders make up half of the School.

Our boarding ethos enriches the life of the School and the experience of every girl, and many girls choose to board at some point during their time here. In the Sixth Form, the majority of girls opt to board, seeing it as excellent preparation for university. The pastoral structure of the School means that every girl is overseen and cared for by a Housemistress/Houseparent who is experienced in looking after teenage girls.

The School Week

On a typical school day, all our pupils have a balance of formal lessons, study, tutorials and a host of other activities.

Day girls must arrive for registration by 8.20am. All pupils then attend Chapel or a tutorial. The teaching day starts at 8.55am. Lunchtime lasts from 1.10pm–2.20pm, allowing time for additional music lessons, match practices or other activities. Following afternoon lessons, tea is available at 4.30pm, after which girls are strongly encouraged to take part in the rich co-curricular programme (Monday–Friday).

Most girls stay at School until 6.00pm. However, if girls do not have an after-school commitment, they may leave at 4.40pm. School transport leaves Queenswood at 6.00pm Monday to Thursday and at 4.30pm on Friday.

Supper is available from 6pm and boarders are free to enjoy our extensive grounds and facilities in the evening and are expected to be in their Houses 30 minutes before their bedtime, with the exception of the Sixth Form. Day girls can stay at School on into the evening upon prior arrangement with House Staff.

Co-curricular Programme

The opportunities to develop at Queenswood are plentiful. To achieve a balance with the timetabled curriculum, girls are encouraged to follow a programme of co-curricular activities that is rich in diversity.

The weekends are planned to offer day girls and boarders the opportunity to play in matches, attend seminars, and participate in an exciting weekend programme. An extensive range of trips and socials is also organised and is open to both day girls and boarders.

Flexible Boarding Packages

The School offers flexible boarding packages to meet the needs of our busy working parents. As a result, families can take advantage of one-, two-, three-night and weekly packages. Girls are also welcome for occasional one night boarding in the Boarding Houses (subject to availability). Occasional boarding is charged on an ad hoc basis.

Transport

The School operates a bespoke door-to-door transport service using our fleet of MPV vehicles, with each car carrying between six and eight pupils. The service is driven by demand from parents and interest in taking up the service is sought prior to the start of each academic year. We currently offer routes that cover North and Central London and the Home Counties. The service is subsidised by the School; please contact us for the latest information on routes and prices.



Chapel

We welcome girls of all faiths or none who appreciate the benefits of a Queenswood education. All girls are expected to attend Chapel. Our Chapel services give the school community an opportunity to be quiet together and to reflect on some of the big questions of life, society and faith.

Uniform

Girls wear school uniform for lessons and official school outings and the school sports kit is worn for games. Home clothes may be worn by Boarders after tea during the week and all day at weekends. Sixth Formers do not wear uniform but are required to dress in smart office wear during the working day.

Pastoral Care and Parental Involvement

Pastoral care lies at the very heart of school life at Queenswood. The needs of the girls are managed by our Deputy Head Pupils, supported by the Assistant Head Boarding, Heads of House, Tutors and our Resident Counsellor.

All girls are attached to one of the School Houses — Clapham North, Clapham South, Hartley or Waller — and there is a real sense of community and House spirit engendered through the numerous inter-House competitions.

We believe that it is essential that the School establishes and maintains a strong partnership with parents and works closely with them in order to provide the very best support for their daughters' education. Housemistresses/ Houseparents and Tutors constantly monitor each girl's progress and well-being and will be quick to make contact if there is cause for concern.

Parents are welcome at concerts, plays, Chapel services, matches and many other events in the school calendar.

Medical Care

The health and comfort of the girls are of primary concern. The School has a fully equipped Medical Centre with a team of qualified nursing staff. The School's doctor is a local GP with a special interest in paediatrics and adolescent health.

Our Resident Counsellor provides specialist confidential support to any girl who needs it, and there is also an Independent Listener.

Inspections

Queenswood was inspected by the Independent Schools' Inspectorate (ISI) in March 2017 and was rated outstanding. The full report into education quality may be read at www.isi.net or via the Queenswood website. In March 2017, ISI also

conducted an inspection of the School's compliance to specific standards required of boarding schools in the UK. All standards were met satisfactorily (the rating standards are either "met" or "failed"). This report is also available at www.isi.net or via the Queenswood website.

School Policies

The principal policies, and others as mandated by the regulations set by the Department for Education, are available on the Queenswood website. Our Child Protection Officer is Mrs Hillary Mackay, Deputy Head Pupils.



Section 2

Curriculum

Curriculum

The National Curriculum is broadly followed and we will adapt and enrich it where we believe it to be educationally beneficial to our pupils. Girls are encouraged to be self-motivated and to direct their own learning, to collaborate and to be self-disciplined in their approach to their work. A Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic Education programme runs throughout the School.



Years 7 and 8

A common curriculum is followed in the first two years comprising:

Art and Design
 Computer Science
 Design and Technology
 Drama and Dance
 English
 Geography
 History
 Latin and Classical Civilisation
 Mathematics
 Music
 Physical Education
 Practical Cookery
 Religious Studies
 Science
 Spanish

French and Japanese are offered as additional modern foreign languages. Our aim is to provide a broad and balanced programme of study throughout the Lower School leading to GCSE choices.

Year 9

In Year 9, girls have the opportunity to refine their curriculum. In addition to the compulsory core subjects (English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Studies), the remaining twelve subjects are grouped to ensure a broad pre-GCSE curriculum, from which the girls select

to study a modern foreign language, two humanities, two arts/technology subjects and one further option choice, freely selected from the twelve subjects.

Years 10 and 11

Each girl takes an average of nine GCSE/IGCSEs including the compulsory core subjects:

English Language
 English Literature
 Mathematics
 Science – either as three separate subjects or as Combined Science (still taught in Biology, Chemistry and Physics lessons)

In addition, girls usually choose three or four subjects from the following options:

Art and Design
 Classical Civilisation
 Computer Science
 Dance
 Design and Technology
 Drama
 French
 Geography
 History
 Japanese
 Latin
 Music
 Physical Education
 Religious Studies
 Spanish

Sixth Form

The national system of post-16 teaching and examination is followed in the Sixth Form. The majority begin with three subjects in the Lower Sixth; some may start on four subjects allowing time to ensure the most appropriate three subjects are chosen by the October half-term. Pupils are examined at A-Level at the end of the Upper Sixth.

All girls participate in an academic enrichment programme that includes academic ICT skills, research and referencing, presentation skills, a visiting speaker programme and support for university, work experience and employment applications. Many pupils choose to undertake the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which is a Level 3 qualification (equivalent to the second year of A-Level study) for which pupils are required to complete a piece of detailed, individual research, based on a subject of their choice.

In addition to the subjects offered at GCSE, the following subjects may be studied in the Sixth Form, provided that the combination fits within the timetable blocks available:

Business
Economics
Government and Politics
Further Mathematics
Psychology

Virtually all Queenswood pupils go on to university, some after taking a gap year to travel and work abroad.

Careers

Our Careers Adviser runs a well-stocked and up-to-date careers room, which has unlimited access to the information available. We have many links with business, industry and other careers organisations. Regular lectures are arranged, and, whenever possible, we invite Old Queenswoodians to talk about their university and professional experiences.



Section 3

Admissions

Admissions

It is not possible to do justice to the special qualities of our School in a prospectus or on a website, so we would thoroughly recommend making a visit.

We organise a regular programme of Open Mornings and for many families this is a good way to see the School for the first time. You will be guided around the School by one of our girls and will have the opportunity to listen to talks from senior staff and pupils. Members of the Queenswood Parents' Association will also be present to answer any questions that you may have.

You may also like to arrange an individual visit during the school week. This will allow you to look at the School in more depth and to meet individually with the Principal or another senior member of staff. If you would like to book a place at an Open Morning, or organise an individual visit, please contact

admissions@queenswood.org



For a list of forthcoming Open Event dates please visit:

www.queenswood.org/open-events

Admission Process

Each applicant is considered on individual merit. Entry to Queenswood is by entrance examination, an interview and a confidential reference from your daughter's head teacher at her current school.

We offer all girls in Year 6 or above, the opportunity to have a "taster day/sleepover" at Queenswood. If your daughter is interested in experiencing life as a Queenswood girl, please contact the Admissions Office.

Registration

To register your daughter for a place at Queenswood, you will need to complete a registration form and return it with the appropriate fee. Details about registration fees can be found at:

www.queenswood.org/admissions



11+ Entry

For pupils from schools not offering the ISEB Common Entrance Examination — girls sit entrance papers in English, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning at Queenswood in the January prior to entry.

For pupils from schools offering the ISEB Common Entrance Examination* — we require all CEE applicants to sit our Verbal Reasoning paper at Queenswood in the January prior to entry.

12+/13+/14+ Entry

An assessment day is held at Queenswood in the January of the year of entry. Each applicant will be interviewed by the Principal or another senior member of staff. All girls are required to sit entrance papers in English and Mathematics (with applicants at 13+ and 14+ required to sit a language paper in French or Spanish if previously studied).

16+ Entry

An assessment day is held at Queenswood in the November prior to entry. Applicants are required to sit entrance examinations in the subjects that they plan to study at A-level. We do not stipulate particular GCSE requirements, although Queenswood Sixth Formers will typically have achieved at least six Grade 6 results at GCSE, with Grades 7–9 in the subjects to be studied at A-level.

Timeline for 11+ entry

October	Registration deadline
November	Individual entrance interviews begin
January	Entrance exam day ISEB Common Entrance candidates to sit Verbal Reasoning Paper
February	Results posted
March	Acceptance deadline

12+/13+/14+ Entry

October	Registration deadline
January	Entrance exam day and individual entrance interviews
February	Results posted
March	Acceptance deadline

16+ Entry

October	Registration deadline
November	Entrance exam day and interviews
December	Results posted and acceptance deadline

* The Common Entrance Examination is run by The Independent Schools Examinations Board (ISEB) and is not the same as the 11+ Entrance Examination Offered by the North London Independent Girls' Schools' Consortium.



For more information please visit:
www.queenswood.org/admissions

Section 4

Scholarships, Personalised Learning and Discounts

Scholarships

Queenswood Scholarships are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement or promise in a particular sphere.

The majority of our Scholarships are honorary and do not attract financial support; however, a small number of awards with fee remission are available for candidates applying for a music Scholarship who demonstrate excellence coupled with exceptional potential.

If you require financial assistance please refer to the section on Bursaries.

Simultaneous applications may be made for both a Scholarship and a Bursary.

Academic Scholarships are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+ (i.e. Sixth Form) entry. Art, Music, Hockey, Sports and Tennis Scholarships

are available at all entry points. Dance and Drama Scholarships are available for 14+ entry and above.

All scholarships are reviewed annually to ensure that existing Scholars are still eligible.



For more information,
please visit:

[www.queenswood.org/
admissions/scholarships-
and-bursaries](http://www.queenswood.org/admissions/scholarships-and-bursaries)

Scholarship application forms can be obtained from the Admissions Office. Please note that we will only consider Scholarship applications from candidates who are registered for entry to the School.



Personalised Learning

No two pupils are the same.

At Queenswood we believe that every girl should have her own individual learning profile, and in September 2018 we launched our Personalised Learning Centre. Situated at the heart of the School, this is a central hub where expert staff provide support and challenge for all pupils. Personalised Learning is also delivered in the girls' classroom.

Sibling Discount

We are pleased to be able to offer a discount on the fees for girls who are siblings. Where two or more daughters attend the School at the same time, the fees for the younger daughter(s) will be subject to a 5% discount.

Forces and Civil Service Discount

A 15% discount on fees is available for members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, the Metropolitan Police and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Fees



For up-to-date information about termly day and boarding fees please visit: www.queenswood.org/fees



Section 5

Bursaries

Bursaries

Bursaries are awards offered to girls who satisfy the School's required entry standards and who are deemed to have the potential to make a significant contribution to the School community, but who require financial assistance with the fees.

Queenswood is not richly endowed as a school and relies principally on fee income from which to fund Bursary awards. However, as a registered charity, the School is committed to the demonstration of public benefit through provision of Bursaries to widen access to a Queenswood education.

Further information and a Bursary application form can be obtained from the Admissions Office.

Please note that we will only consider Bursary applications from candidates who are registered for entry to the School.



For information about Bursary application deadlines please visit:

www.queenswood.org/scholarships-and-bursaries



Section 6

Parents' Association and Old Queenswoodians' Association

Queenswood Parents' Association

The Queenswood Parents' Association (QPA) is a social and fundraising committee. It is a registered charity (No 801650) with the following objectives:

- To provide opportunities for parents, girls and staff to meet in a social context.
- To raise funds to be applied for the benefit of the girls at the School.
- To provide a link for parents with the School.

The association organises a range of social functions and activities each year, such as the Queenswood Ball, Parent and Daughter Tennis and Sports Day refreshments.

Old Queenswoodians' Association

The Association has approximately 4,000 members in 68 countries throughout the world. The Association works closely with the Queenswood Foundation Office, in providing networking and career mentoring opportunities to our alumnae and current Queenswoodians.

Queenswood Foundation

The Queenswood Foundation has been set up as a permanent body to ensure regular communication between the

School and its community and to generate regular sources of fundraising income to support the School's ongoing strategic development.

For more information about the Foundation and our exciting programme of developments, please contact the Foundation Office at Queenswood on **01707 602669** or via

qfoundation@queenswood.org



Section 7

How to Contact Us

Contact Us

If you have any queries about Queenswood please do not hesitate to contact us.

Admissions Office:

E-mail: admissions@queenswood.org

Tel: +44 (0)1707 602500

Fax: +44 (0)1707 602597

Queenswood School
Shepherd's Way
Brookmans Park
Hatfield
Hertfordshire
AL9 6NS
United Kingdom

How to Find Us

Queenswood is situated north of London, just outside the M25 and to the east of the A1(M).

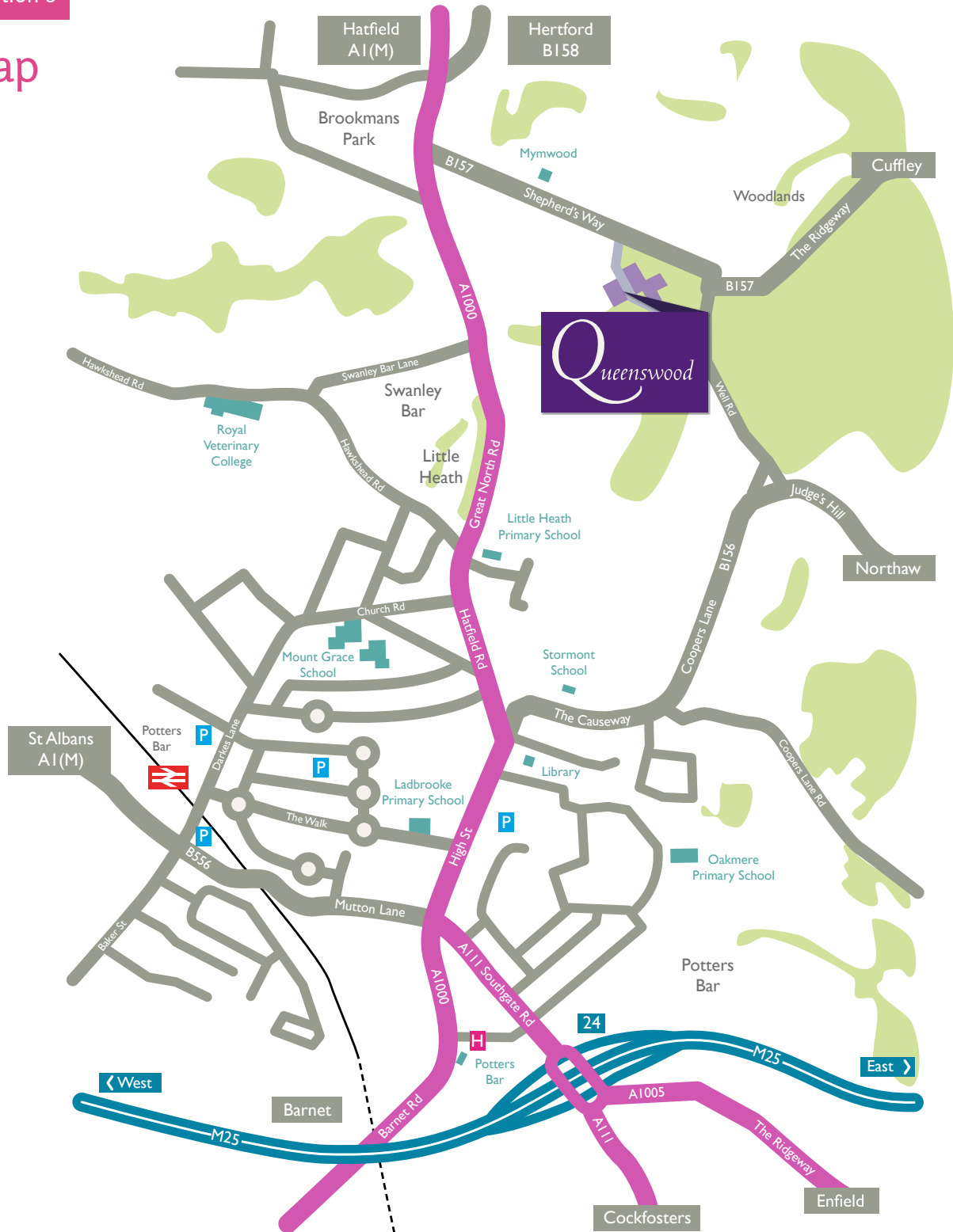
If using satellite navigation please use the postcode AL9 6NS.

Please follow the signs for Reception on arrival. Parking is available outside Reception.



Section 8

Map



Queenswood



Queenswood School
Shepherd's Way, Brookmans Park,
Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 6NS,
United Kingdom

queenswood.org

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Registered in England and Wales
as a private limited company No 40561
Registered charity No 311060

Printed on paper from sustainable sources.

