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April 2025



ADMISSIONS AT STROUD HIGH SCHOOL

21ST CENTURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL



As a grammar school in the 21st Century we know that we provide a unique choice for parents and carers. Out of just over 3,400 state secondary schools in England there are only 163 grammar schools, of which under half of this number are single sex girls' schools with, in the case of Stroud High School, a mixed Sixth Form. Our aim is to keep striving to be an educational option for girls at the age of 11 who demonstrate the ability and aptitude to access our experience, irrespective of socioeconomic status or postcode.

WHY DOES STROUD HIGH SCHOOL NOT HAVE A CATCHMENT?

When the school expanded in 2015, our geographical position meant we acknowledged population increases in Swindon and Wiltshire to support the case for an increase and to consider the potential impact on the secondary school system in Stroud. Our school community is made up of students from the Stroud District, Cirencester and the Cotswolds; the cohort also reflects that we are 28 minutes by train to Swindon and located 13 miles by road from the Wiltshire border. We are also the nearest girls' grammar school to South Gloucestershire and the City of Bristol. Contrastingly the school is 14 miles from Cheltenham and 11 miles from Gloucester, where there already exist two girls' grammar schools and two coeducational grammar schools

STROUD & PROUD

As a school community, we value the fact that we are right at the heart of Stroud and the Five Valleys. The Stroud District remains the largest represented area in the school community. The school wants to contribute to the town, and each year we work in partnership with 8 local primary schools, hosting festivals of learning and Stroud High teachers delivering close to 100 lessons for primary school students each academic year. The school enjoys performing concerts and proms at the Subscriptions Rooms, every Year 8 student works with the Canal Trust to understand the town's history and year on year we are a central part to Ecotricity's Young Green Briton Challenge; our roots remain strong with the town. We work in partnership with local organisations, and we work hard to contribute to the town through our ongoing charitable commitments to Stroud Women's Refuge and sponsorship and support for Stroud Book festival.

PROVIDING A UNIQUE CHOICE

As a selective and a single-sex school from Y7-Y11, we understand that we provide a unique educational choice. We provide an option for families where the choice does not exist, most notably for locations to the south of Stroud. Direct train lines and established transport links mean that students from the Stroud District are joined by students from different parts of Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Swindon, and North Bristol. This is a brilliant blend of different people, cultures and communities; a microcosm of modern Britain. As a 21st century school, we want to celebrate that we can be both a Stroud school and a choice for families across the region.



CREATING OPPORTUNITY

Over the past decade, we have implemented a series of measures to support access to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Our admissions arrangements ensure students receiving pupil premium are prioritised and our outreach, summer schools and free online support materials support accessibility to the test. We continue to invest in this important work. Our primary outreach programme means we can support local primary schools to create opportunities for all students to experience secondary teachers, language lessons, science labs, and computing tasks, all while working with our Sixth Form mentors. Our work is not simply about encouraging access to Stroud High School. We want to support the educational experience of all the boys and girls we work with and learn from and with our primary colleagues. Experiencing these opportunities will help them prepare for life at any of the secondary schools in the Stroud area.

WILL STROUD HIGH SCHOOL EVER CONSIDER A GEOGRAPHICAL CATCHMENT AREA?

The school and its Trustees review the admissions arrangements of the school annually. This includes understanding the number of students who attend from the immediate local area. Trustees benchmark this against the forecasting data provided by GCC. This analysis would be central to any future decisions.





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