



PALMERS GREEN
HIGH SCHOOL

Live Q&A session during the Lower School Webinar

When are you moving the nursery to the same road as the main school?

Thank you for your question. We are currently in the process of obtaining planning permission, so hopefully very soon!

What is your admissions process?

If you would like to register your daughter for a place in our Nursery, Reception or other year groups, please download the registration form on the website and send it back to us with the registration fee. This is £50 for entry into the Nursery through to Year 2 and £75 for Years 3 - 6 and can be paid by cheque, cash or bank transfer. Alternatively, you can complete the registration form on-line. For entry into the Nursery, your daughter can join us once she has turned 3 and you can apply for a place at any time before this date. Entry to the Nursery is based on a short assessment with our Headmistress and Head of Nursery and these are organised on an ad hoc basis. For entry into to Reception 2021, your registration form needs to be with us by 31st December 2020.

Will you be covering how the school is managing “bubbles” during COVID? To add some context, are classes being allowed to move around the school to dedicated rooms such as technology/art/science or are they held to a single classroom?

Currently, pupils are in year group bubbles and have a dedicated base classroom. All specialist lessons are continuing with the specialist teachers and many are taking place in the specialist classrooms. We have a new one-way system of movement around the school and staggered break times to avoid crossover of bubbles.

Do reception do PE? If so what sports are typical for PGHS girls at reception?

Yes, they have three lessons a week. Mrs Turanli, our Head of PE, will tell you a little more shortly.

My daughter is 3 years (September born) will she be eligible for your nursery?

Yes! We welcome pupils from the day that they turn 3.

Can you please advise the maximise class size for the lower school?

Our maximum class size in the Lower School is 24 pupils. Many specialist lessons, e.g. D&T are taught in half-class groups.

How big is your reception class size?

We go up to a maximum of 24 pupils in each year groups with two adults working full time in the Prep Classes (Reception - Year 2)

Her language is still developing as she is bilingual, will that be something that will be assessed for entry into nursery?

Yes, of course. And we actively encourage you to continue with her home language. Having more than one language is a fantastic skill!

Can you please advise what the numbers are at current reception class and year 1?

Our current reception has 13 pupils and Year 1 has 16

Good morning. Do you have any male teachers?

Yes, we do. You will hear from Mr Pepper and Mr Morris today. There are also other male staff members who do support work with the pupils, teach in the Senior School and also in our support team.

Can you confirm current class size for year 5? Thank you.

There are currently 22 pupils in Year 5

How many children are in your Year 2 class?

There are currently 18 pupils in Year 2

Do existing PGHS girls in lower school take the 11+ test to enter senior school? What are the chances of getting in i.e. how many applications do you receive per place?

Yes, all our pupils sit the 11+ entrance exam. In the Senior School there is more flexibility for places as no lessons (except PE) are taught as a whole year group. There are usually an additional 15 places available for the Senior School and there may be up to 40 external applicants sitting for those places.

Is there any streaming in year 5?

We do not formally 'stream' in the Lower School; however, there is differentiation for all subjects and extension or support as required for each individual. Streaming at such a young age can prevent pupils from making the full progress that they are capable of as they can become stuck in a particular group. Our differentiation means that pupils have more opportunities to challenge themselves.

Does 11+ govern entrance to the secondary school?

Yes, we hold the 11+ exam in January and all pupils sit the test. Because we know the Year 6 girls so well, we are able to recognise if they have had a 'bad day' on the day of the test; however, they usually do very well and, as the exam is also the basis of our scholarships and subject awards, we are pleased to see many of our internal applicants gaining these awards.

Is it a given that PGHS Year 6 girls get in to secondary?

It is extremely rare that a pupil would not automatically come through to the Senior School; however, if we felt that it was not the best place for a pupil, we would have a discussion with the parents, usually within Year 5.

So, there is no real exam prep for 11+? Do you teach Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning?

Our pupils are fully prepared for the challenges of the 11+ through their lessons. We do not formally teach reasoning as an independent subject but those skills are included across the curriculum. There is also an optional reasoning skills club for pupils in Years 5 and 6.