

Croydon High Sixth Form

Progression and Futures



Croydon High School
for girls aged 3-18



PROGRESSION AND FUTURES AT CROYDON HIGH

We know that your daughter's future is your top priority, and we make it ours too. We want all of our pupils to benefit from the best possible preparation for their future, whether they go on to study at university, take up an apprenticeship, or go directly into the world of work. We also want to make sure that they are "real-world ready" and have built up the skills and experience to thrive in their chosen careers.

We have built a bespoke offering for Progression and Futures at Croydon High, and the Sixth Form is central to our vision. We are committed to supporting each student to achieve their individual dreams and ambitions and providing them with access to the best resources to guide and encourage them along their path to career success.

THE BEST ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Our focus on Progression and Futures really puts this front and centre for our Sixth Form. We have a dedicated Head of Progression and Futures whose role it is to ensure that every student receives the personalised advice and guidance they need to succeed in their future beyond school.

As part of the GDST family, Croydon High benefits from an extensive network of alumnae who are available to provide advice and information to our pupils. Our alumnae are impressive women with strong voices who are industry leaders and who are also committed to supporting future generations of girls in learning about their sector and their journey within it.

There are several platforms where pupils can gain direct access to our alumnae.

- GDST Life offers pupils the opportunity to connect with alumnae who work in the fields in which they are interested, and there are a number of career-specific groups on the platform. GDST Life also provides access to a range of virtual events hosted across the GDST.
- Rungway gives pupils the opportunity to ask questions more informally and receive an answer directly from an alumna with relevant experience.
- We also benefit from Ivy Link, our own network of Croydon High alumnae which provides a pool of willing mentors and supporters.
- By using these networks, our pupils are really able to "be who they see".





Croydon High has teamed up with other GDST schools to launch Limitless Learning. This programme connects GDST pupils across the country who have the same ambitions and who are on the same journey. It provides the best of all our schools beamed onto their screens, delivering initiatives designed to support and enhance our pupils' studies in sixth form, and help them 'bridge' to university study.

GDST teachers are talented and supportive and Limitless Learning allows our pupils to learn from more of them and benefit from their expertise. It brings together our pupils, their school, and their 24 sister schools, all working together to offer them every opportunity to stand out in the future.

We have a comprehensive library of careers-related books and can provide direction for pupils looking for information online, whether about university courses, apprenticeships or careers. We encourage our pupils to be proactive in finding this information, and to take control of their own futures, while providing the support and expertise to enable them to do so.

The resources available to Croydon High pupils are comprehensive and provide invaluable support to help them to shape their future, wherever it may take them.





A TAILORED APPROACH FOR EACH STUDENT

Croydon High alumnae are out in the world demonstrating how a GDST education, and the opportunities it affords, can put pupils in an incredibly strong position to succeed in their chosen careers.

Alumnae have gone on to become law changers, business founders, prize winners and organisation leaders, in fields as varied as finance, media, law, medicine, sport and politics. We support and nurture all of our pupils' different ambitions to help them become the best they can be.

Pupils benefit from regular 1-2-1 sessions with the Head of Progression and Futures, and other members of the Sixth Form Team, to discuss their career aspirations and ambitions for the future.

Each student is allocated a "Personal Adviser" in Year 9, who stays with them through to Year 11, providing advice, supporting them on their journey to Sixth Form and acting as their champion within the school.

By getting to know the pupils individually, we are better able to guide them towards the information and experiences they need to stand out from the crowd when it comes to UCAS applications and CV building.

"We know that the workplace is constantly evolving and that is why we ensure an individualised and personalised approach to support our pupils in their decision making when considering life after the Sixth Form. Our bespoke approach allows for an understanding of each girl's skills and qualities so that we can offer tailored guidance and support at this crucial time."

Annabel Davies, Head

By taking a skills-based approach, we are able to help those with a definite plan for the future to enhance their UCAS application and CV, while allowing those who are still exploring their options the chance to develop transferable skills that will prepare them for whichever path they take.



CROYDON HIGH SIXTH FORM IS COMMITTED TO INSPIRING PUPILS TO DISCOVER AND REALISE THEIR DREAMS AND AMBITIONS, WHICHEVER PATH THEY CHOOSE

Our Pathways mentoring programme provides each student with an individual mentor to help them take control of their own progression, explore their options for the future, and support them to achieve their ambitions. Pathways bridges the gap between sixth form and university or an apprenticeship, and ultimately, working life.

Our mentors have been selected because of real-world experience in a particular career, or related subject expertise, providing tailored insight for the pupils. Pathways mentors also have access to the extensive GDST alumnae networks, through which they can connect pupils with alumnae working in the fields they are exploring.

Pathways is flexible enough to support those pupils who have a clear idea of where they are heading, and those who are still thinking about the path they might want to pursue. For those who are committed to a specific path, like Medicine or Law, Pathways provides targeted support to make sure they have the best possible application. Those who are less sure we expose to a wide range of opportunities and experiences to guide them on their journey to choosing the best path.

OUR HEAD OF PROGRESSION AND FUTURES, DR LAKHA-KASSAM, EXPLAINS:

“Pathways is an extraordinary opportunity for pupils to explore the best academic and career path for them with a well-seasoned guide who can show them the most scenic and most direct routes to their chosen destination. The aim is to make each student’s decision-making as calm and as carefully considered as possible.”

Pathways allows pupils to explore different paths in a flexible way and encourages them to be proactive and to take advantage of the opportunities open to them. No two pupils will have an identical Pathways experience. Our aim is that every student leaves us as prepared for their future as they can be, armed with a toolkit of skills and experience that will help them achieve their goals.





