

Empowering Girls since 1874

Manchester High School for Girls Prospectus

Welcome to Manchester High School for Girls

Aims and Values	pg 04
Our History	pg 06
Empowering Girls	pg 08
Caring for every individual	pg 10
Extra-curricular activities	pg 12
Joining the Manchester High School for Girls family	pg 14
Why choose our school	pg 16
Preparatory Department	pg 18
Senior School	pg 24
Sixth Form	pg 30
The Ivies – Our Alumnae Community	pg 36

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A Manchester High School Girl is known by her confidence and compassion. She is bright and passionate with a love of learning and is ambitious for herself and others. She is a kind, caring, well-rounded individual who wants to make a difference.

Our girls are remarkable.



Mrs Helen F Jeys – Head Mistress

At MHSG, we have been helping pupils achieve their potential since 1874 and have educated many women, who have made significant changes to our world. We are proud of our reputation for academic excellence, but recognise that our extra-curricular opportunities and caring ethos are equally important in supporting our pupils as they become outward-looking and forward-thinking young women.

Wellbeing is a priority and we help pupils develop an awareness of their own value as well as their responsibility towards others. We encourage our pupils to develop character; to build resilience, selfconfidence and self-esteem so that they can flourish as individuals. We encourage them to aim high and be 'risk-takers', embracing the importance of failure and viewing challenges as stepping-stones to future progress.

We believe these qualities are fundamental for happiness and success both at school and in the world beyond Manchester High.

Our pioneering alumnae epitomise our approach. From the Pankhurst sisters who fiercely campaigned for women's voting rights, through to today's leaders, such as Deputy Political Editor of ITV News, Anushka Asthana, Catherine Mayer, Co-founder of the Women's Equality Party and Dr Kotska Wallace, Principal Engineer at the European Space Agency, our pupils go on to make a real difference.

Manchester High School for Girls does indeed have a long and distinguished history but we strongly believe an even more exciting future lies ahead and we hope your daughter will be part of it.

Aims and Values

Our purpose

Manchester High School for Girls was founded in 1874 "To impart to the girls the very best education which can be given and to fit them for any future which may be before them".

Today, the School upholds these founding principles by encouraging each individual pupil to achieve educational excellence across a broad range of learning opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom. For each pupil, this all-round education fosters an awareness of their own value and a sense of responsibility towards others, both within our community and across the wider world.



Our aims

Manchester High School for Girls aims to educate and empower our pupils by:

- Supporting our pupils to develop an understanding of the value of education as an end in itself; instilling a lifelong love of learning, whilst striving for academic excellence alongside cultural awareness and understanding
- Inspiring pupils to achieve high academic standards within a culture of innovation, where they fulfil their individual potential
- Providing a broad and diverse range of subjects and extra-curricular activities that offer each individual pupil the opportunity to develop their talents and flourish
- Educating the whole child and prioritising their wellbeing so that pupils leave School with a sense of self-awareness, self-worth, self-discipline and an ability to contribute with confidence in an increasingly competitive and technological world
- Drawing on the School's social, cultural and religious mix of pupils to enable all to live and grow in an atmosphere of mutual respect and compassion
- Encouraging qualities of caring, kindness, honesty and loyalty, fostering high moral standards

Our mission

Our mission is to be a pioneering, academically selective school that embraces academic excellence and extracurricular enrichment where the individual flourishes. The School empowers and inspires highly talented, intellectually curious students to become self-confident, independent, resilient and remarkable global citizens.

Our values

Innovation

COMPASSION

aividuality INDIVIDUALITY

passion

INNOVATION

We empower our pupils to think for themselves and to experiment, express opinions, develop new ideas and challenge stereotypes. We encourage them to be 'risk-takers', embracing the importance of failure and viewing challenges as stepping-stones to future

LEARNING

WELLBEING

We believe in prioritising the all-round development of our pupils and encourage the pursuit of enjoyment, fun and mindfulness; recognising that happiness is fundamental to success.

Our vision

Our vision is excellence: to deliver a pioneering, innovative and dynamic learning experience within a compassionate and caring environment for a needs blind, diverse community where the wellbeing and happiness of every individual and the fulfilment of their potential are our priority. As the School of choice for girls in the North-West,

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Our History

In the 1800s, an academic education for girls was rare. It was thought to be detrimental to their health, social norms and the taxpayer's pocket.

Thankfully not everyone agreed. Nine pioneering women and men set out to change things.

In 1873, a public appeal was launched to raise \pounds 3,000 to found an all girls' school in Manchester. In just a few short weeks, over 140 forward-thinking Mancunians had contributed.

Manchester High School for Girls opened on 19th January 1874, making us Manchester's oldest girls' school and the first girls' school in the North of England.

The Pankhurst connection

her three daughters, Christabel, Sylvia and Adela as pupils. School's archive today.

Has Manchester even realised the idea to give girls as good opportunities for a thorough to say the least, an experiment worth trying?

Our pioneering alumnae

history books, though. They continue to challenge gender stereotypes and are leading figures across

More recent pupils include the first woman to become Chief Cashier at the Bank of England, the first female to become an executive director at Marks and Spencer, the first woman in the British Army to fly a helicopter and the first female Bishop.

Empowering Girls

The excellent academic results achieved at Manchester High School for Girls are underpinned by outstanding pastoral care and an incredible range of extra-curricular opportunities. We know our pupils will be successful if they are happy and settled.

Pupils leave the School with the world at their feet

Good Schools Guide

Caring for *every* individual

Manchester High is a compassionate and close knit community and all our pupils are known to members of staff as individuals. Each pupil has a Form Tutor, or a class teacher in the Preparatory Department, who is there to keep an eye on progress.

These teachers work closely with our Pastoral Deputy, Section Heads and Heads of Year to ensure every pupil maximises their potential and enjoys their time at school. Pupils in need of extra pastoral and wellbeing support can also turn to one of our two nurses or our school counsellor.

Settling in and making friends

We recognise the importance of making friends and our primary focus, when pupils begin their Manchester High journey, is to help girls find their feet as quickly as possible. Our active and connected alumnae community is proof that the friendships formed at Manchester High last a lifetime.

The house system is very important to the sense of community that exists at Manchester High. Pupils are allocated a house on arrival and quickly bond with their house peers from across the different year groups.

Our 'Big Sister' scheme in the Preparatory Department pairs pupils starting Reception with a friend in Year 6. This means our youngest pupils are supported whilst giving our older girls the chance to put the School's ethos of kindness and compassion into practice.

Year 7 pupils find that their transition to Manchester High is eased by our comprehensive induction programme, which includes a residential trip to the Lake District. For students joining us at Sixth Form, our Junior Sixth Away Day helps students develop the bonds of friendship, not just for support during the crucial A-level years, but into and throughout adulthood.

Building resilience

Wellbeing is a priority at MHSG and our weekly lessons cover broad topics on physical and mental health, self-esteem and good citizenship. We also have 'theme weeks' across the school that focus on work/life balance, celebrating success and developing the resilience needed to cope with setbacks.



9

When I first started at MHSG, I was very excited about joining, as I heard all about its extra-curricular activities and what the School had to offer; but this wasn't without its worries. I was slightly anxious about meeting new people and making new friends, especially since I was the only person coming from my school.

However, the School helps with this, with the varied clubs on offer and form activities - no person is left out of place!

Kiyah, Year 9



Extra-curricular activities

The aim of our extra-curricular programme is simple; we want girls to have fun, discover lifelong interests and become well-rounded individuals. The programme allows pupils to pursue existing passions and discover new ones, both inside and outside the classroom.

There is no such thing as a 'typical' Manchester High pupil and this is reflected in the wide variety of clubs and societies on offer at lunchtimes and after school. From Model United Nations, Knitting and Zumba to Gardening and Rock Climbing, we cater for all ages and interests.

Having fun and keeping fit and healthy

At Manchester High we are passionate about the value of physical activity. Not only does it sharpen concentration and academic performance, it develops leadership and team working skills and promotes a positive body image.

PE lessons are a vital part of our curriculum but many pupils choose to participate in school sport in their spare time. As well as traditional sports such as hockey, netball, rounders and athletics, there are opportunities to experience activities such as rock climbing, water polo, taekwondo and track cycling.

Out and about

Inspiring creativity

voice and co-operation.

Creative pupils can take advantage of our fabulous

Art, Music and Drama provision and explore their passions

Drama forms an integral part of the curriculum but there are

many additional opportunities to showcase talent. We are

the only independent school in the area to provide Dance

at GCSE in a modern dance studio and our purpose-built

Music Department offers tuition in more than 20 musical

departments and has brought musicals such as Sweeney Todd,

High, providing a wealth of opportunities for pupils to be involved, both on stage and behind the scenes.

The Manchester High School for Girls experience goes far

for art as well as all aspects of performance. Participation

in the Arts helps to develop confidence, independent decision-making, emotional intelligence, an individual

beyond the School walls, with pupils regularly heading out to build on their learning in class by experiencing fascinating and eye-opening trips. Whether it is taking part in mock trials at Manchester Crown Court, becoming engrossed by exhibitions at some of the country's most celebrated galleries or delving beneath the land's surface to discover caverns and grottos, there is much to explore. Our students also have opportunities to take part in

life-changing adventures abroad; from Modern Foreign Language trips across Europe, where students immerse themselves in another language, to destinations a little further afield, such as a sports tour to Sri Lanka or a Geography and Physics expedition to Arizona's Grand Canyon.



My lunchtimes are packed with jazz band and choir rehearsals, cricket practice, *puzzling out conundrums with* fellow Mathletes and debating literature in Book Group.

Maysa, Year 10



Joining the Manchester High School for Girls' family

We teach pupils from the age of 4 through to 18, preparing them for happy and successful lives.

As an 'all-through' school, Manchester High enables pupils to enjoy a seamless and settled educational journey throughout their childhood and teenage years.

While some of our pupils join the Preparatory Department at the age of 4, there are two other main entry points for pupils wishing to become part of the Manchester High community – the Senior School, from the age of 11, and our Sixth Form from the age of 16.

Preparatory Department Age 4 to 11

The Preparatory Department is a pupil's first experience of daily school life. Yes, it is a time to set the foundations for a lifelong love of learning and high aspirations, but we recognise it is also a time for building confidence, having fun and making friends.

Find out more on page 18.

Senior School Age 11 to 16

The Senior School is a vibrant, stimulating environment where students work towards securing some of the best GCSE results in the country. That said, it is not just about the results we see on paper – we take great care to balance our focus on academic excellence with opportunities and experiences to develop the whole person.

Find out more on page 24.

Sixth Form Age 16+

The Sixth Form at Manchester High is characterised by ambitious, motivated students who are ready for independent study. With a reputation for outstanding A-level outcomes, we have an impressive track record that sees our students secure places in highly competitive courses at their first-choice of university.

Find out more on page 30.



id you know...

Our Sixth Formers do not just go on to pursue further study at world-class universities. A number of them have also secured places on highly competitive apprenticeship schemes with the likes of the BBC, Ernst & Young and PricewaterhouseCoopers.



Why choose our school?



A commitment to academic excellence and learning, and an established reputation for securing some of the best examination results in the country with enviable value-added scores



A broad curriculum that balances traditional subjects alongside the active and creative

We focus on character education. We encourage students to aim high and be 'risk-takers', embracing the importance of failure and viewing challenges as stepping-stones to future progress. We believe these qualities are fundamental for happiness and success both at school and in the world beyond Manchester High.



An exceptional range of extra-curricular activities aimed at developing self-confidence, leadership and team-working skills that support a 'character-based education'



Inspirational teachers who embrace an innovative research-based approach to teaching methods, and who are both subject specialists and experts in educating high-achieving and bright pupils



Manchester High is large enough to ensure we offer a wide range of opportunities, but small enough to ensure that each pupil is known as an individual



An exciting 'Futures' programme that equips students for the competitive careers market

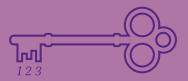


Outstanding and compassionate pastoral care and wellbeing support that ensures our pupils are happy and feel a real sense of belonging





First-rate facilities – from our state-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre, to our swimming pool, climbing wall, science laboratories and a purpose built Preparatory Department and specialist music rooms



A range of entry points – pupils can join us from the age of 4 and stay with us through to 18, or start in Year 7 or Sixth Form



A diverse, vibrant, multicultural community where pupils of many faiths, or none, are all welcome

Preparatory Department

4 – 11 years old

Where pupils acquire a natural curiosity, develop a love of learning and grow in confidence.



This is a precious time in a child's development. We want our pupils to understand that their very best is what they should aim for each and every day.

Mrs Gibbons, Head of the Preparatory Department





Inspiring girls from their early years

Our Preparatory Department is where pupils thrive in a warm, friendly and lively environment. Encouraged to take part in all that is on offer, girls develop a love of learning and are fully prepared for their secondary education in a safe and supportive atmosphere where pupils and staff get to know each other well.



Did you know...

Our popular After School Club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm. Pupils have time to play and tackle homework with staff they know in an environment where they feel at home. The stimulating curriculum is taught by dedicated class teachers and we take full advantage of Senior School specialists for subjects such as PE, Music and Modern Foreign Languages.

We make sure it is great fun too – themed days, visiting speakers and excursions, all help to contextualise learning and bring it to life. From stepping back in time at National Trust properties, to celebrating Chinese New Year; from encouraging the next generation of innovative computer coders to inspiring budding artists at the region's finest galleries, pupils are encouraged to become active learners through play and hands-on exploration.

Teaching is also enhanced by a wide range of extra-curricular activities including a variety of sports clubs, ballet and street dance classes, gardening club and Mathletics. There are choirs, orchestras and recorder groups, and pupils can access individual Speech and Drama tuition and Music lessons.

Our PHSE and wellbeing programme supports pupils as individuals as they build confidence, self-belief and the skills to succeed. These first steps on their personal development journey are engaging and appropriate to their age, delivered through activities such as the MyHappyMind programme – mindfulness for little ones.

At Manchester High, we recognise the importance of strong links between home and school and provide many opportunities for parents to visit and find out about their daughter's progress - from regular parents' evenings and written reports to our relaxed and informal 'Dine with your daughter' lunch date.



I love school and I really like PE and swimming lessons. School is really good; I learn lots and like all the reading we do. I am looking forward to joining the Senior school and having dance lessons. I cannot wait until I am old enough to join them.

Samanvi, Year 2



Senior School 11 – 16 years old

A broad and balanced learning experience, full of opportunities and support.







Our GCSE results are up there with the best in the country. Our excellent academic outcomes are a reflection of both our talented, hardworking pupils who are keen to learn and our excellent and innovative teachers.

; Helen F Jeys, Head Mistress



Inspiring girls to aim high and achieve their very best

In the first three years of the Senior School we offer a broad and balanced range of subjects, including the arts, humanities, computing and PE. From the very start og Year 7, Science is taught as individual disciplines – Biology, Chemistry and Physics – and students also learn French, German, Spanish, Latin and Mandarin.

In Year 9, pupils are given help and guidance to choose their GCSE options. Dedicated teachers are on hand to ensure students select the subject combination that is right for them and keep options for Sixth Form study open.

At GCSE level, certain subjects - English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, at least one Modern Foreign Language and the Sciences (either Biology, Chemistry and Physics as separate subjects or Combined Science) – are compulsory.

These are accompanied by 'optional' subjects and students can choose from Fine Art, Computer Science, Drama, Food and Nutrition, Geography, Graphics, History, Music, PE, Dance and Religious Studies.

Our teachers challenge us in our learning both in and out of the classroom and this has helped me to believe in myself more and find the positive in every challenge.

Louise, Year 11

Sparking that creative streak

Creative subject such as Art, and our Design Technology and Innovation course, allow students to innovate, explore and challenge themselves. Visits to galleries and exhibitions open eyes and imaginations to new experiences and perspectives.

Manchester High has a strong tradition when it comes to Music and Drama. Our purpose-built Music House is a lively hub for musicians and our drama studio is perfect for budding thespians.

Students regularly take to the stage at prestigious venues, while professionals from the worlds of dance, theatre and music frequently come to school to share their experiences.

A sporting chance

Sport is important at Manchester High and not just for the naturally athletic. We teach physical confidence at school encouraging everyone to participate, regardless of ability, in a variety of sports.

Competitive sports such as hockey, netball, and rounders are part of timetabled provision, alongside individual sports such as swimming, athletics and tennis. We also offer dance, water polo, football and cricket.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of our extensive facilities, from the indoor swimming pool, climbing wall and fitness suite to our dance studio, floodlit hockey pitch and multi-functional sports hall with viewing gallery.

We offer an Elite Pathway for students competing at representative level and regularly take part in prestigious local, regional, national and international competitions in a variety of sports.



Manchester High has allowed me to cultivate my sporting interests with so many opportunities ranging from dance and hockey to having the experience of learning to pole vault. I have had the opportunity to represent the School in hockey, tennis, rounders and athletics. Due to my strong interest in sport, I have chosen P.E and Dance as GCSE options.

Maisie, Year 10



A new phase of independence that is ideal preparation for university, adulthood and everything else that awaits beyond the school gates.







MHSG has a stimulating environment which inspires us all to have the desire to learn and celebrates our success, whether academically or in extra-curricular activities, both in and out of school.

Victoria, Senior Sixth

Ready to take on the world

Sixth Form is a time to prepare for life beyond school. We are very proud that our students attain some of the best A-level examination results in the country.

Students begin their Sixth Form career taking four A-levels. They benefit from expert teaching in our state-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre, which houses classrooms, meeting rooms, a lecture theatre and a canteen and dining area.



Did you know...

Project Pankhurst is an initiative that sees members of our alumnae community mentor individual Sixth Formers. Mentors help students prepare for the world beyond Manchester High, share their experience and support students as they make important decisions about their next steps. We encourage our students to undertake the Extended Project Qualification in Junior Sixth. This is a self-directed and self-motivated study based on an area of personal interest. Universities actively look for students who have undertaken an EPQ as it demonstrates independent research skills and originality of thought.

Extra-curricular opportunities in Sixth Form are diverse and include the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Doctors, Dentists and Vets Club, Philsoc, Model United Nations and Young Enterprise. Students can also try their hand at life drawing or become involved in editing the school magazine, Onward.

"The Young Enterprise scheme has opened up copious amounts of opportunities and brilliant experiences both running a business first-hand and working within a team. The on-the-job learning of how to negotiate with suppliers and the designing of an effective brand are skills that will propel anyone into confidence within business and the wider world, skills that I know will help me throughout my life."

Lilia, Senior Sixth

Extensive support is given to every individual throughout the higher education process. Each student is allocated an individual advisor who is on hand to help with the choice of course and the ever important personal statement. Practice interviews are offered, as well as the opportunity to hear directly from admissions tutors at leading universities.

Our record for students securing places at prestigious universities is impressive. We also successfully support students through the Oxbridge application process.

Manchester High students do not just head for university - music conservatoires and drama schools are popular destinations for our former students, as well as degree level apprenticeships in business and industry.

Sixth Form Enrichment Programme:

Our Sixth Form Enrichment Programme offers students exciting learning opportunities beyond their A-level subjects. From student cookery to 80s pop music, and from classical Greek temple architecture to astronomy, there should be something for everyone!



My aspiration is to study law at university with the hope of becoming a solicitor advocate in the family law field. This is important to me because I have always felt passionate about helping children and this is mainly what drew me to family law. Working in this law field will allow me to support children and impact them positively during what may be an emotional time in their life.

TiAnna, Senior Sixth

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The Ivies *Our Alumnae Community*



MHSG teaches its students that gender disparity exists, but that it should not be an obstacle to their ambitions.

Tiffany Agbobu

Medical Student, University of York

Navigating through my first year of medical school, in the midst of a global pandemic, was definitely a feat for which I didn't think I could be prepared.

The transition from the abrupt end of my final year at MHSG to the excitement of starting medical school in the wake of all the uncertainties was character building. I have had to quickly adapt to different environments; alternative teaching techniques and having the foresight to go out and conduct my own extensive reading in addition to my lectures – a testament to my resilience. My time serving as Deputy Head Girl increased my confidence so that I could speak out during clinical conversations, allowing me to gain more hands-on clinical experience.

MHSG teaches its students that gender disparity exists, but that it should not be an obstacle to their ambitions. As I advance in my career, eventually specialising as a surgeon, my goal is to continue to promote diversity in the surgical field and inspire younger girls to consider it as a career option.



Holly Smith

Section Engineer at Skanska working on behalf of High Speed 2 (HS2) Limited

I was always very interested in STEM subjects at school, but I wanted to find a career where I could use these subjects in a more practical way. After participating in the Engineering Education Scheme at Manchester High – I knew engineering was the career for me.

I am now working on Europe's largest infrastructure project as a civil engineer. It is so exciting to watch something being built in front of your eyes and seeing the decisions you make every day having a tangible impact.

Manchester High gave me the confidence that I should have no fear in succeeding in a male-dominated industry. I am well equipped with the self-belief that not only am I more than competent in terms of my skills, but that I also bring vital diversity of thought to our multidisciplinary team.

The construction industry has so many opportunities for a vast number of careers – and we need more talented, quick-thinking, decision makers (especially women!), to take up the challenge. The teachers at Manchester High empower students to believe that anything is possible and to never shy away from a challenge!

being inspired.



Majida Rasul

Political Affairs Officer, United Nations

When I left Manchester High, I knew that I eventually wanted to work internationally, and guickly realised that a journey isn't necessarily a straight line from A to B.

After studying Law at Cambridge, and being called to the Bar in London, I decided I wanted to get a bit of lived experience. I completed a Masters in Post-War Recovery Studies at the University of York and eventually went into field work in the humanitarian sector. I've worked in countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and in East and West Africa. I now work for the UN in peacekeeping and love the opportunity to work to make a real difference and to see the world.

My time at MHSG allowed me to explore my interests, especially in Sixth Form with the teachers who were really invested in helping identify even hidden paths to an exciting and rewarding career. I especially remember forming early and ambitious ideas of justice under the gentle guidance of my A-level History teacher, reading far and wide and

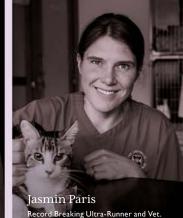


Prof. Fay Dowker

Professor of Theoretical Physics, Imperial College London.

Dr Me<u>la</u>nie Garson

Internet Policy Lead at the Tony Blair Institute and Lecturer in International Conflict Resolution, UCL.







Anushka Asthana Deputy Political Editor, ITV News.

Murvah Iqbal Co-Founder, Hived

Catherine Ma

Author, Journalist and Co-Founder of the Women's Equality Party and Primadonna Festival.





Emma Barnett BBC Woman's Hour.

ncipal Engineer, European Space Agency.







Deputy Director, EU and Trade, Department of Health and Social Care.



Rt. Rev. Libby Lane Bishop of Derby, First female Bishop, Church of England.



Head of Podcasts, Hat Trick Productions

Ready to take the next step?

We love meeting girls and their families who are considering a Manchester High education, so please do get in touch.

Open Events

We run a number of Open Events each year which are a great opportunity to tour our facilities, meet current pupils and our inspirational teachers.

More details can be found online: www.manchesterhigh.co.uk/open-events

Follow us

Follow us on social media for all our latest news, events and pupil success.

www.twitter.co.uk/ManHighGirls www.facebook.com/ManHighGirls https://www.instagram.com/ManHighGirls

Admissions, fees and charges information

Find out more on our website: www.manchesterhigh.co.uk/admissions

Contact us

Manchester MI4 6HS

If you have questions or would like to organise a personal tour, please do contact us:

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