

Langley Park School for Girls



Enabling everyone to thrive – acting with kindness, determination and respect.

Headteacher: Mr S Whittle, MA (Cantab), PGCE, NPQH

9th January 2026

Dear Families,

I hope that all our students and their families enjoyed a restful winter break, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

While students benefited from an additional day of holiday this week, staff returned on Monday for an INSET and professional development day. Colleagues worked collaboratively on curriculum planning with a focus on explicitly teaching subject-specific vocabulary and developing students' language skills across the curriculum. The day concluded with a presentation from Professor Dylan Wiliam, a highly influential educationalist, who shared his work on formative assessment.

We were also greeted this week by a rather nasty surprise in the form of much colder weather. With conditions now improving and local roads and pavements becoming safer, we expect students to return to wearing normal school footwear from next week, in line with our uniform policy.

Before the end of last term, it was a pleasure to welcome students to our Achievement Assemblies, where we were able to celebrate their hard work, commitment and successes across the school. Alongside the subject awards and school value awards, large numbers of students have been presented with certificates in recognition of the number of P points they have received to date. These occasions are always a highlight of the term and provide a valuable opportunity to recognise the many different ways our students excel.

Our winter concert was another true highlight and a wonderful celebration of the depth and breadth of musical talent at LPGS. This year's concert saw the highest ever number of students performing on the school stage, with outstanding contributions from our choirs and ensembles including the Flute Group, Belles and Booms, Jazz Band, Year 7 Band, Young Voices, Chamber Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Tour Band, Steel Band and our A Cappella group. I am immensely proud of everyone involved – students and staff alike – who worked so hard to deliver such a memorable evening.

This afternoon, our Year 7 students were treated to a Bromley Youth Music Trust (BYMT) Inspire Concert, designed to inspire the next generation of musicians and encourage students to become involved in music-making. The concert featured ensembles from BYMT alongside professional musicians, showcasing exceptional talent and offering opportunities for interaction and practical demonstrations. As a Lead School within the South East London Music Hub, LPGS works closely with BYMT and partner schools to support teachers and ensure that children and young people can access high-quality musical opportunities.

On the last day of term, much laughter was shared during the staff pantomime performed for our KS3 students. This fun-filled tradition (and well-kept secret from Year 7!) was a lovely way to end the term and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately, our Year 7 Interform Netball Competition had to be postponed due to the poor weather. This was due to be our first interform house sporting event, and we will look to reschedule it for an alternative date later in the year.

It has been a real pleasure this week to meet with all of our Year 11 students for individual guidance meetings. These conversations have been focused on students' goals, target grades for their forthcoming GCSE examinations, effective study habits and revision strategies, as well as discussing plans, subject choices and entry requirements for next year. This follows our Sixth Form Open Evening last term, where students learned more about the A-level and vocational pathways available at LPGS6 and about day-to-day life in the Sixth Form.

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On Wednesday, a group of Year 7 and Year 10 students who took part in a peer-coaching programme last term attended their graduation day at King's College London. During their visit, students toured the university campus, met student ambassadors and learned more about what higher education can offer them in the future. They were also delighted to bump into a former LPGS student, now in her second year at university. Our student participants were commended on their exceptional conduct and active participation in the day. Below are some of the insights they shared into their involvement in this programme.

“At the beginning, I was hoping to improve my spelling. My coach helped me make my goal come to life.”

A Year 7 student

“The area where I experienced the most growth was when discussing difficult work. My coach made me feel heard.”

A Year 7 student

“I really looked forward to seeing my coachee. Monday sessions never felt like a chore.”

A Year 10 coach

“This programme helped me become more organised so that I could plan my coaching sessions and keep up with homework.”

A Year 10 coach

Thank you to all parents and carers of our Year 13 students who attended Parents' Evening this week. As always, we value the opportunity to work in close partnership with families during this important stage of our students' education.

Please note the information contained within this weekly newsletter on the recent consultation on school uniform and a change to our safeguarding team.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school.

Mr S Whittle
Headteacher

MESSAGES FROM STAFF

Safeguarding Team at Langley Park School for Girls

Mr Dushku, Assistant Headteacher, left the school at the end of the Autumn Term. He was very sad to leave behind the students and staff, having thoroughly enjoyed working with them and families. He commented on the special community which exists at LPGS and wishes our students all the best for the remainder of the school year and for the future.

I can therefore confirm that Mrs Mitchell has been appointed as Designated Safeguarding Lead from January. Mrs Mitchell will be familiar to many of our students and parents/carers who have worked with her and she has a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to supporting our students and families.

Other members of the safeguarding team are shown below:

LANGLEY PARK SCHOOL FOR GIRLS SAFEGUARDING TEAM

If you are worried about yourself or another student, please speak with a member of the Safeguarding Team. Email: Safeguarding@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk



 **Mrs R Mitchell**
Designated
Safeguarding Lead

 **Mr S Whittle**
Headteacher

 **Mrs M Forde**
Senior Pastoral
Manager and 6th Form
Safeguarding Lead

 **Mr A Littlechild**
Assistant
Safeguarding Officer

 **Mrs R Hurley**
Assistant Head
(Maternity Leave)

 **Mr J Chinery**
Assistant Head
(SENDCO)

 **Ms S Osborne**
Assistant Head
(Key Stage 5)

 **Mrs L Brown**
Head of
Key Stage 4

 **Mrs J Kourtaa**
Head of
Key Stage 3

Belonging • Equality • Kindness • Ambition • Respect • Determination

School Uniform Consultation

Thank you to all students, parents/carers and staff who took part in the school uniform consultation in October 2025. We received a strong response, with feedback from over 1,000 members of our community, including parents/carers, students across all year groups and staff. This has provided valuable insight to inform future decisions.

Overall views on school uniform

There was broad agreement that a school uniform plays an important role in promoting equality, a sense of belonging and school identity. Staff were particularly strong in their view that uniform supports high standards, equality and wellbeing, while students' views were more mixed, with many feeling neutral about the impact of uniform on identity or preparation for adult life.

Branded items

Across all groups, there was strong support for limiting compulsory branded items to a maximum of three, in line with government guidance. This view was shared by parents/carers (80%), students (84%) and staff (91%).

There was general agreement that the following items are most important for maintaining school identity:

- Blazer (KS3) and cardigan (KS4)
- Skirt or trousers
- LPGS PE polo shirt

Some students were slightly less attached to the blazer than staff and parents, but it was still one of the most commonly identified items linked to school identity.

Cost, affordability and access to uniform

Affordability was the strongest and most consistent theme across responses. Many parents reported that the current uniform is expensive, and:

- 60% of parents/carers and 70% of students felt the proposed changes would reduce costs
- A clear majority supported the option to purchase some uniform items from high-street or supermarket retailers, providing they met agreed standards
- The ongoing provision of second-hand uniform was widely supported
- Students and parents emphasised that any changes should result in genuine cost savings, not simply move costs from one item to another.
- Parents/carers shared the difficulties acquiring some items of uniform, specifically PE kit items from our current supplier and we are committed to addressing and improving this.

Support for the proposed model

There was majority support for the proposed uniform model of three branded items from September 2026, which will be implemented from September 2026.



The poster is titled 'School Uniform from Sept 2026'. It features the Langley Park School crest and the slogan '#TEAM LPGS'. It lists 'Branded items (Y7-9)' and 'Non-branded items' for Year 7-9, and 'Branded items (Y10-11)' for Year 10-11. The branded items are: Blazer*, Skirt or trousers, LPGS PE polo shirt; Non-branded items: Navy blue V neck school jumper, White revere blouse, Other PE kit (e.g. PE shorts)**; and Branded items for Year 10-11: LPGS cardigan, Skirt or trousers, LPGS PE polo shirt. Footnotes explain the asterisks: * We are looking to redesign the blazer to remove the existing piping which adds significant cost; ** We anticipate optional additional items of school branded sportswear being available for purchase from our schoolwear suppliers. The school will, however, allow non-branded items to be worn, for example a navy blue plain tracksuit.

Branded items (Y7-9)	Non-branded items
Blazer*	Navy blue V neck school jumper
Skirt or trousers	White revere blouse
LPGS PE polo shirt	Other PE kit (e.g. PE shorts)**

Branded items (Y10-11)
LPGS cardigan
Skirt or trousers
LPGS PE polo shirt

There will be a clear transition period and we will be ensuring that we effectively communicate and provide clear guidance on what is acceptable in advance of the new school year (September 2026), including to parents/carers of students joining the school in Year 7.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed their views. Your feedback has been carefully considered, shared with our Governing Body and has informed the development of our revised uniform policy for September 2026. We are planning our next steps, ensuring the changes are fair, affordable and reflective of our school values.

Mr Whittle, Headteacher

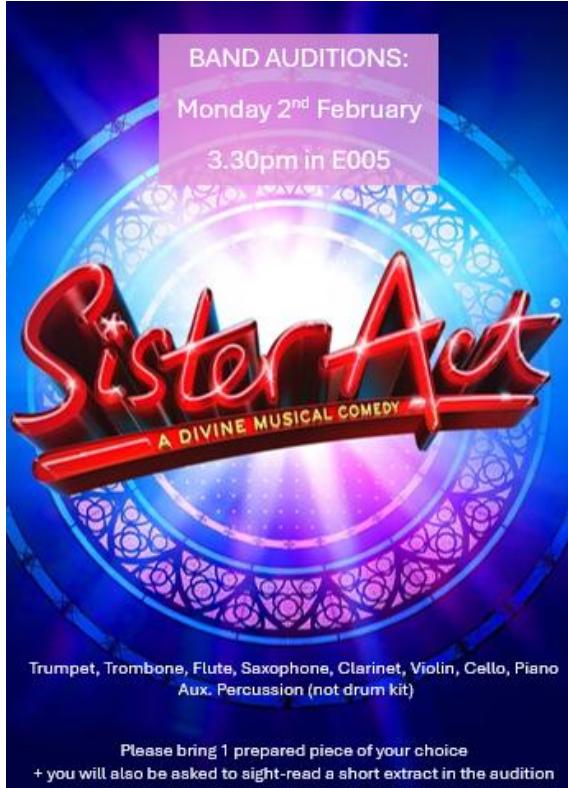
Online Safety

The Children's Commissioner has recently published a new guide, [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives](#). We know that supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For you as parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many of you face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play. This guide is a useful resource that you may wish to use as a support in managing your young person's digital life.

At LPGS our PSHCE curriculum covers different age appropriate aspects of online safety in all year groups from Year 7 through to Year 13.

Ms Sunman, Assistant Headteacher

Music Events



Miss Sheppard, Head of Music



LPGS6 applications now open

LPGS6 prospectus and course subject videos

LPGS6 application form

LPGS

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Langley Park School for Girls
MINDNESS - AMBITION - RESPECT - DETERMINATION
BELONGING - EQUALITY

A graphic for LPGS Sixth Form Applications. It features a blue and pink geometric pattern on the left and right sides. In the center, the text 'LPGS6 applications now open' is displayed above two QR codes. Below the QR codes are links to 'LPGS6 prospectus and course subject videos' and 'LPGS6 application form'. At the bottom left is the LPGS logo (a blue circle with '6' and 'LPGS'). At the bottom right is the school crest with the text 'Langley Park School for Girls' and the values 'MINDNESS - AMBITION - RESPECT - DETERMINATION' and 'BELONGING - EQUALITY'.

Ms Osborne, Assistant Headteacher

INFORMATION

SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Here is a reminder of key information regarding school closure in the event of severe weather conditions.

- The decision to open or close the school will be made by the Headteacher
- The decision will be made by 7.00am
- The decision will be communicated on the school website and via e-mail.
(You are advised to check this before sending your child to school)

If it has snowed, please do not assume that the school will be closed. The school will only close if it places the health and safety of staff and students at risk.

If weather conditions deteriorate whilst the school is in session, we will contact parents/carers to inform them of the situation via the website and e-mail. Students will be kept informed of the decision and guidance will be given as to the next steps.

We are committed to ensuring that all our students are able to maximise their potential and any decision to close the school will not be taken lightly. We will aim to remain open or partly open during inclement weather to avoid disruption to students' learning but will consider the conditions and safety of students on the school site, public transport as well as levels of staffing. Langley Park School for Girls has good public transport links and we rely on parents/carers to make appropriate decisions about student safety, appropriate clothing and footwear when travelling to school during such weather.

CALENDAR

21 st January	Platform Concert
29 th January	Futures Fair
29 th January	Y7 Parents' Evening
w/c 2 nd & 9 th February	Y13 Trial Exams
2 nd February	Sister Act Band Auditions
w/c 9 th February	Y11 Trial Exams
16 th – 20 th February	Half Term
w/c 23 rd February	Y11 Trial Exams
26 th February	Y9 Parents' Evening