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HILLVIEW
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



What makes Hillview School for Girls the right choice for your daughter?

It's not just our unique specialism in the performing arts or our status as the highest-achieving non-selective girls' school in Kent. It's not solely our diverse curriculum, calm and focused working environment, or our excellent facilities across many disciplines.

It is our **dedication** to your child's holistic development. It is our teachers' **commitment** to exceptional teaching. It is our staff's **dedication** to your child's well-being. It is Hillview's **unwavering focus** on fostering community engagement through clubs, trips, competition and charitable work.

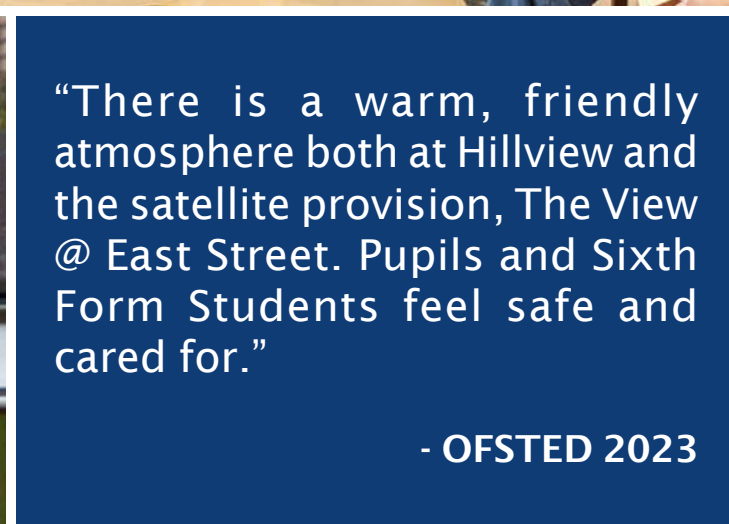
Here, we exist to unlock your daughter's **Pure Potential**.

"There is a warm, friendly atmosphere both at Hillview and the satellite provision, The View @ East Street. Pupils and Sixth Form Students feel safe and cared for."

- OFSTED 2023

"We found the school to be a very nurturing setting with excellent pastoral care. Furthermore, the school offers fantastic facilities to enhance the creative mind of our daughter."

- Year 9 Parent



HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Hillview School for Girls, a highly successful non-selective girls' school with a thriving mixed Sixth Form in the heart of Tonbridge. At Hillview, we believe in the pure potential of every child to be the very best they can be. As an educational provider, we offer quality teaching, a focused learning environment, and strong pastoral support to help every child succeed in their studies and in life.

Our role extends beyond ensuring that our students achieve good grades; we prioritise their well-being and support them as they pursue their desired career pathways. We are deeply passionate about the care we provide to our students and are widely recognised for our supportive environment. Our PDL (Personal Development and Life Skills) lessons offer a unique and specialised programme to prepare our students for their transition into adulthood and the world beyond education.

"Hillview helps us to lead safe lives," is a sentiment expressed by our students, who leave school as confident, aspirational, resilient, and determined individuals. Our dedicated and passionate staff members support each student's personal development from their first steps through the school gates to their graduation from the Sixth Form. Throughout their time at Hillview, students develop lifelong skills, whether through our specialised mentoring system, within their education, or through the extensive opportunities available to them.

Students gain confidence, creativity, and resilience, particularly through our creative arts programmes, which provide essential transferable skills that foster success in their studies and beyond. We believe that a school experience encompasses more than just classroom learning; therefore, we encourage our students to engage actively in wider school life through clubs, trips, competitions, and fundraising for local, national, and international charities.

Our visual and performing arts specialisms achieve exceptional standards across the arts, with direct links to industry and higher education that offer our students unique experiences and prospects in these challenging fields. Hillview School for Girls is recognised as one of the top-performing non-selective schools in Kent and holds the distinction of being the highest achieving non-selective girls' school in the county.

Our students learn in a focused and engaging environment that combines the right mix of knowledge, skills, and techniques, enabling them to flourish as independent learners. We maintain high expectations regarding both academic performance and attitudes toward work and one another. Our behaviour system is designed to support students in developing key skills that employers value, helping them achieve success in their exams.

Each child's needs are addressed through our personalised approach, resulting in happy and successful students. I look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant and exciting school and developing a strong partnership to support your child in the next stage of their education.

Hilary Burkett
Headteacher



WHAT IS PURE POTENTIAL?

The Pure Potential belief is at the heart of Hillview and is the basis of everything that we do. This belief recognises the individuality of every child and the development required to enable students to unlock their pure potential, to drive their future and thrive in society.

We, as a school, seek to: support each person in recognising and harnessing their strengths, interests and passions; provide each child with the opportunities to develop, explore and build their independence and self-belief; ensure that they are able to succeed and step out from education into their future with confidence and the greatest chance of success and achievement.

Pure Potential



INSPIRATION
INNOVATION
INDEPENDENCE
INCLUSIVITY

Pure Potential starts with the curriculum, but extends into the pastoral care, Learning Support, extra-curricular enrichment and throughout the Hillview community. It also supports each individual to recognise their place in society and how, by working with others and helping others, they can become a better person and grow.

Students embrace their pure potential by taking ownership for their learning, embracing the opportunities available to them, engaging positively with Hillview, their education and others, being the best version of themselves that they can be.



INDEPENDENCE

Developing happy & confident students

Leadership & Responsibility

Students are actively involved in helping to shape the school. Through the Student Council, students are able to represent their peers on the key issues that affect them, whilst others might apply to become school ambassadors or subject ambassadors. In the Sixth Form, we also offer the opportunity for students to stand for Head Student, to become a Prefect or a member of the Student Leadership Team.

Pastoral Support & Student Welfare

We are proud of our pastoral support and student welfare provision at Hillview. Students' mentors are usually the first point of contact, but our wider pastoral teams and highly experienced teachers, dedicated SENDCO and support staff are all on hand to support students' emotional wellbeing and academic progress.



We understand that the transition to secondary school can seem daunting...

That's why we have a structured transition programme and work closely with our local primary schools and parents to ensure that students who join us in Year 7 feel at home and settle into the school quickly.

Achievements are recognised and praised regularly and we have a strong rewards culture, which enhances learning and performance throughout the school. Behaviour is excellent and we have very high expectations with regard to discipline and respect for others.

Personal Development Learning (PDL) is an important part of the curriculum for all students. Lessons encourage our young people to face the future with confidence, curiosity and care (for themselves and others). PDL incorporates statutory requirements to deliver Relationships, Health and Sex Education and Citizenship alongside Careers and Personal, Social and Health Education at Key Stage 3, 4 and 5.

"Hillview has supported me through my academic and pastoral difficulties. Teachers believed in my Pure Potential and helped me through so many experiences and achievements."

- Catie Mucklow
Hillview Student

INDEPENDENCE

Diverse & stimulating curriculum

“We can reach our goals if we can push ourselves and try hard enough to get to that point, everyone has potential they just need to realise it.”

- Holly Davies
Year 10

Our diverse curriculum allows students of all abilities to develop their competencies in accordance with their interests and emerging ambitions.

Careers provision is also integrated into the curriculum and students are given the opportunities to explore varying careers and access unique opportunities to engage with and learn from different speakers and specialists from across the breadth of the working world.

Students receive one-to-one advice from our specialist Careers Advisor. We appreciate that every student is unique, so we allow our students to personalise their curriculum in Year 9 through our accelerated curriculum, which supports breadth but enhances engagement, preparing students for choosing their GCSE options.

Personalised support and guidance is given when students are choosing from the broad range of GCSE options we offer. We value the breadth that the EBACC offers. However, we also value each student's right to study courses that are appropriate for them, their skills and their career aspirations.

We, therefore, offer our students one of the broadest choices of GCSE options seen in schools locally. With a detailed knowledge of our students, our teachers monitor attainment regularly and provide individual feedback and guidance to ensure that no one is left behind.

Extra-curricular

With over 80 extra-curricular clubs, there is something to spark every interest. Our cheerleading teams are particularly popular and recently won in all categories in the School National Championships. We also have a wide range of sports clubs – from gymnastics to handball, netball and hockey.

The long-established Amnesty International Society at Hillview is a cross key-stage group where students from across the school campaign to uphold the United Nations Human Rights Declaration of 1948 by writing letters, creating assemblies and running charity events. The group is regularly invited to Amnesty International's Head Office and The Houses of Parliament to meet with key figures including the British United Nations Ambassador.

Other clubs range from Languages to Fashion, Film, Duke of Edinburgh, Art and Philosophy and, of course, these are complemented by

We ensure that all students receive the right level of support and challenge for their needs. Our aim is to create curious and active learners who will go on to become well-rounded citizens, able to flourish in today's increasingly knowledge-based, interconnected world. We achieve this through our approaches to teaching, learning and behaviour, but also through extra-curricular activities and trips, our attitude to pastoral care, student leadership and our whole-school ethos.

a range of school trips and visits each term; including recent trips to New York, Athens and Venice. Many outside speakers and workshops are also organised each term too.

In addition to this, our Leaders of Community run numerous competitions which encourage students to work independently or collaboratively and to showcase their skill sets. Community competitions have included a Spelling Bee, Pet Portraits and Glow Up amongst others.

Building on its successful participation in the Turing Scheme, Hillview is excited to rejoin the Erasmus+ Scheme from 2027. The programme will provide opportunities for students to visit partner schools across Europe, take part in collaborative learning activities, and explore local historical and cultural sites. Erasmus+ also enables Hillview to host international students, helping our students broaden their horizons, develop cultural awareness, and benefit from a wide range of international experiences.

INCLUSIVITY

Building a supportive environment

Every individual counts at Hillview, so it is important that everyone feels integral to the wider Hillview community: a part of something big. Our four communities: Austen, Franklin, Hepburn and Westwood form the basis of our key stage mentor groupings and also lend a competitive edge to the sporting and rewards activities that we participate in throughout the year.

Each of these groups is led by a Leader of Community and meets regularly for assembly. Within our key stage vertical mentoring system there is a sense of mutual respect and care.



Community Work

Through learning communities, students are responsible for organising a variety of fundraising initiatives throughout the year. These range from bring-and-buy sales to donations and enterprise projects that involve the local community.



Emotional Health & Well-being

We support and champion students' overall well-being and happiness through a whole school approach. This is embedded in all walks of school life, educating our young people to respect each other and themselves, to hold caring and supportive relationships, make the best choices and overcome any challenges they face.

Our Designated Mental Health Lead, and safeguarding and pastoral teams work closely to deliver bespoke support, meeting students one-to-one so they have someone to talk to, signposting and referring where needed.

Within the curriculum and mentor time we teach students social and emotional understanding and promote resilience and self-efficacy. We empower students and give them a voice in school council meetings and through offering training to students to become anti-bullying ambassadors and peer mentors.



Regular communications include parent consultation evenings, a weekly newsletter, reports, contact with your child's mentor and other information events. Our active, friendly Parent Teacher Association holds regular meetings, which all parents are invited to join.



INNOVATION

Igniting imagination & creativity through our Performing & Visual Arts specialism

With specialist Performing and Visual Arts status, Hillview School for Girls is a recognised leader in Performing and Visual Arts provision and holds the prestigious Artsmark Platinum Award from Arts Council England.



Graphic Communication allows us to not only understand and engage conceptually in semiotics but it also enables students to participate in the production of signs and symbols through the disciplines of advertising, illustration, branding and information design

Photography enables students to fully immerse themselves in the contemporary visual world. Through working with both dark room and digital technologies, students are able to expand their creative strengths and explore the full potential of the medium to document ideas, generate visual narratives and express conceptual thinking.

Textile Design allows students to explore the disciplines of Textiles for interiors, fashion and fine art in a multidisciplinary way. Students learn how to experiment by creating, selecting, manipulating and exploring with a wide range of textile media, materials, techniques and processes.



Our subject experts have a proven track record of delivering imaginative & engaging lessons

This is alongside producing a wide range of annual shows, musicals, concerts and exhibitions to professional standards.

At Hillview, we actively look for opportunities to engage with a range of practitioners within the Performing and Visual Arts industries, offering students unique experiences and qualifications to expand their knowledge, confidence and passion.

Our extensive range of extra-curricular activities and clubs supports students working across the full age range to develop their skills and nurture their talent. A focus on the Performing and Visual Arts allows young people to become secure, thoughtful and compassionate and to adapt and thrive in any environment.

Dance excites and challenges students as well as enabling them to develop essential skills for the workplace and beyond. Dance can awaken a zest for learning which often translates through to many other subjects and strongly contributes to mental and physical well-being.

Drama allows students the freedom to explore issues and themes in a safe environment, while harnessing performance skills which are transferable, assisting students with presentations, speaking, listening, and social interaction. Drama is the platform from which students can raise their self-esteem and confidence, while empathising with characters' situations and predicaments.

Music develops self-expression, teamwork skills and a capacity to understand and express ideas and feelings. It also enables students to develop an awareness of other cultures and traditions. The teaching of the key areas of musicianship such as composing, performing, listening and appraising supports the development of the whole student.

Fine Art enhances our visual and tactile engagement with the world. It enables students to develop both a personal creative dialogue and conceptual thinking through the senses; to experience, respond to, question and challenge our perceptions and ideas.

INNOVATION

Looking to the future



Most of our students continue their academic journey in Hillview Sixth Form,

where we also welcome students from a range of local schools. Our Sixth Formers are supported by a consistency of approach and high expectations as they stretch beyond the boundaries of school, looking towards an exciting future. The Sixth Form curriculum has breadth and depth, offering an impressive range of academic and vocational qualifications which ensure that the unique talents and abilities of each student are harnessed.



Our continuous investment in careers supports our students in choosing the best next steps for them and our individualised approach sends students on to a wide range of future pathways including Russell Group universities, apprenticeships and industry placements.

Our students value the school experience they have had and recognise their responsibility in modelling behaviours we value, such as self-belief, resilience and care for others.

Sixth Formers are an active part of our community, enthusiastically engaging with school events and the wider world.

They lead events for younger students and take seriously their role as senior members of the school. They are the bridge between the security and stability of school and the exciting opportunities of the world beyond.



SUBJECTS OFFERED

Year 7 & 8 Subjects

All students study the following subjects:

- Art & Design
- Computing
- Dance
- Drama
- English
- Food & Cookery
- Geography
- Graphics
- History
- Languages
- Maths
- Music
- Personal Learning Development (PDL)
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science
- Textiles

Year 9 Subjects

All students study the following subjects:

- Computer Science
- English
- Maths
- Personal Learning Development (PDL)
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science(s)

Students also choose from the following:

- Humanities (Geography or History)
- Languages (French or Spanish)
- Performing Arts (Dance, Drama or Music)
- Visual Arts & Design (Art, Food technology, Textiles or Graphics)

Years 10 & 11 Subjects

All students study the following subjects:

- English Language & Literature
- Maths
- Science - Biology
- Science - Chemistry
- Science - Physics
- Personal Learning Development (Non-Examined)
- Physical Education (Non-Examined)

Students also choose from the following:

- Art and Design: Fine Art
- Art and Design: Textiles
- Ancient History
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- Graphic Communication
- Health & Social Care
- History
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Travel & Tourism

Pastoral Structure

At Hillview School for Girls we operate a vertical pastoral system designed to support every students' wellbeing, personal growth, and academic journey. Students are grouped into mixed age mentor groups by Key Stage, with Years 7-9 forming our Key Stage 3 community and Years 10-11 forming our Key Stage 4 community.

Each key stage is supported by a dedicated pastoral team who provide consistent care and guidance throughout the students' time in that phase. This structure encourages strong relationships, peer mentoring, and a sense of belonging, while allowing us to tailor support to the specific needs of each age group.

Our approach helps younger students settle in quickly and gives older students opportunities to lead and inspire. It's a system that builds confidence, resilience, and a positive school culture, ensuring every student feels known, supported, and ready to thrive.



Prospectus & Further Information

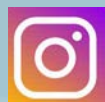
Please scan this QR code for a digital copy of this Prospectus, an FAQ sheet and a link to our website.

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