



1919

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



www.spsch.org

Headteacher's welcome



Stanborough is a co-educational independent Christian school, unique in its diverse pupil intake and personalised approach to teaching

Finding the best education for your child is one of the major concerns for any family. Stanborough School provides young people with a safe and nurturing environment, in which they learn to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime. An ISI inspection noted that our personal development is “exceptional”. This coupled with small classes, enables us to challenge and support each individual in their learning and in building good interpersonal skills.

Our values of excellence, respect, courage, resilience, helpfulness and integrity help young people to grow in confidence and better appreciate each other. The school has a genuine family atmosphere and is a safe haven for our students and staff.

At Stanborough, we teach a broad and balanced curriculum, catered to meet the needs of students from all backgrounds, including disadvantaged students and those with Special Educational Needs. We enjoy seeing young people understand their value, learn to honour and encourage others, while contributing to the wider community. This can be seen in work with charities across Watford, on our Community Service days.

Our mission is to assist all students in creating meaningful and balanced lives, developing as lifelong learners and stewards, and productively serving a world in need of their gifts. We provide education of quality and excellence in a loving and safe Christian environment where children are free to be children.

We enable pupils to understand their God given identity and prepare them for adulthood. While welcoming students from all backgrounds and faiths, our ethos, values, and principles have a firm foundation in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and over a 100 year tradition at Stanborough.

We encourage the pursuit of excellence and achievement of personal best in all endeavours. Our students are encouraged to achieve their full potential, to face new challenges and to be discerning and analytical.

I am so proud of our atmosphere of warmth, trust, care and a team of committed staff, who nurture, challenge, and equip students with what they need for them to genuinely flourish. I am confident that you will see why we value the school's location, heritage, facilities and staff but most of all, the students who define us and are the heartbeat of the school.



Jeanetta Liburd

Headteacher





Our School

Located in over 40 acres of beautiful parkland and only 30 minutes from London, the school provides an ideal setting for learning and boarding.

Why study at Stanborough?



Family Atmosphere

Whilst our school is large enough to have some top-class facilities, we are sufficiently small for everyone to flourish as part of one big family.

Inclusive Approach

In a recent ISI inspection our Personal Development was deemed Outstanding.

We strongly support the principles of inclusion by ensuring that all children in the school – whatever their ability or disability, race, gender, or religion – are offered the same opportunities.

- **Support** towards tuition fees
- **Small** classes
- **Boarding** School
- **Flexi**-schooling



“

At Stanborough School there is a strong sense of family formed among students and teachers. The environment is uplifting, diverse and inclusive. We feel free here and everyone is treated equally. The love we have for one another dispels fear and propels achievements and excellence. I could not be prouder to be a part of the school's rich history.

Head Boy

Music at the heart

A special music programme

We believe that music changes people's life. Many studies conducted by neuroscientists show how playing musical instruments influences the human's life and enhances the human brain function in every way. We believe that, through instrument playing, our students will be better in academic progress as proved by scientists.

At Stanborough, we have a special music programme in which every student, from Years 7-9, is required to learn a musical instrument of their choice, which allows the students to try something they might not attempt otherwise.

We believe that playing an instrument will enable your child to have the best education for their life. All tuition is conducted by highly qualified professional teachers, some from the Royal School of Music. A Grade 5 in music is equivalent to a GCSE, and a Grade 6 is equivalent to 'A' level.

The success of this programme demands attendance at every lesson and practice at home. This requires discipline on the part of the student and we would like to work with parents to ensure students get the full benefit of this programme.





Passion for learning

Global citizens of tomorrow

We support our pupils by encouraging them to think, to question and to develop the skills they need to become confident, reflective and resilient learners – the global citizens of tomorrow.

Positive climate

Staff create a positive climate for learning in which everyone wants to learn. They inspire students to be curious about their studies, reach their potential and be ambitious for themselves and their future.

Special need

We meet the learning needs of all our students. For children who have difficulties with their learning, additional support is implemented. At times, students may access external support from one or more agencies, such as the Educational Psychologist.

For those children identified as having 'additional needs', teachers work alongside the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo) to produce an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This identifies the specific needs of the child and the actions that will be taken to address them.



Our vision

Creatively developing global leaders
in a safe, value-learning environment,
where no child is left behind.



Teaching, learning and the curriculum

Personalised teaching

With an average of fifteen students in each class, teachers have more opportunities to get to know their pupils, observe how they work and help them improve on their weaknesses. Personalised learning enables all students to achieve their full potential

Assessment proficiency

The cornerstone to how we teach and how our students excel is what we call Assessment Proficiency. This helps students develop the ability to reflect on their learning and what they now know, how the current learning links to previous learning, and what their next steps are. We see this as the smartest way to create highly engaged and increasingly independent learners.

Balanced and rigorous curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to provide young people with the core knowledge and cultural capital needed for further academic study, while enabling them to develop as citizens and engage effectively in the world beyond school. It is designed to be balanced and rigorous in order to maximise students' knowledge, as well as their cognitive and personal development. We continually work to provide coherence within and across subjects, while also mapping the curriculum vertically from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4.

Tailored curriculum

Our curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of all students. Effective assessment ensures that our teachers teach to the gaps in students' learning, and extensive intervention is available for students who are underachieving. Our curriculum pathways will ensure that we, not only captivate the aptitudes and interests of our students, but that students can access all subjects as well.

Engaging online lessons

In addition, to the outstanding practice during face-to-face teaching, our teaching staff have gained the skills and competence to deliver engaging lessons and intervention sessions online. Carefully planned lessons allow for students to make good progress during remote and face-to-face learning.





“

Our classes are small, creating a sense of family and unity. Students are not just a number and have the security of knowing that they are cared for by teachers. We help them achieve their goals by recognising them as individuals with individual dreams.

Lara Venter
Maths Teacher



An open-minded and respectful community

Learning environment

Everyone at our school has a role in making our school a truly reflective learning environment, with the highest possible aspirations and expectations. We expect students and all members of our community to be treated – and to treat others – with respect at all times. This helps make our school a calm and orderly place in which students have a positive attitude toward their learning.

Open culture

Students benefit from an open culture that actively promotes all aspects of their welfare and gives them a voice. As a result, they are happy and enjoy good emotional well-being.

Well-being

We believe that pupils achieve their best when they are happy. The structured pastoral programme at

Stanborough ensures that all its pupils are content and positive. From the form teachers who mentor each of their pupils, to the senior pupils who are assigned to support younger pupils, 'well-being' continues to be rated highly by all members of the school. Senior pupils develop a keen sense of duty and responsibility by setting good examples and levels of care while younger pupils settle quickly and seamlessly into life in the secondary school. The school chaplain further enhances the programme with an additional level of care and provision of inspiring and character-building assemblies.

Pastoral support

Our well-trained pastoral team supports students by getting to know them well and going out of their way to meet their day-to-day needs.

Success beyond the classroom

After-school activities

There is so much more to Stanborough School than strong academic achievement. We offer an extensive range of exciting extracurricular opportunities, including lunchtime and after-school activities.

Art and sports

We take pride in sporting excellence and host competitions and community sports activities throughout the year. Students of all abilities can enjoy a good range of facilities, including a sports gymnasium, sports field and tennis courts. There is an extensive club timetable during and after school, and we are proud of our students' participation rates.

Discover new interests and passions

These opportunities give students the chance to achieve in different contexts, develop existing talents and discover new interests and passions.





Partnership with parents

Constructive communication

Positive partnerships between families and school are crucial in helping parents and carers support and engage with their children's education as effectively as possible. To encourage this, we strive to provide you with clear, timely and constructive communication. We also hold additional events for parents as learners – regular Parents Information Evenings are there to help you support your child as they prepare for independent study and examinations.

Fostering early connections

We also help new students foster early connections with our staff and develop solid friendships with their peers. A dedicated group of Year 10 listeners are on hand to support the younger students and to make sure they are finding their way around the school. As a result, your child can look forward to learning in a safe, calm and happy environment, where success is possible for everyone.

Enjoyable transitions

We excel at creating a smooth and enjoyable transition for students as they join us from their primary schools. It can be a challenging and an exciting time, so we do all we can to help students foster new friendships, support their academic progress and recognise their talents and achievements. Our community spirit is essential to the Year 7 experience being a happy and successful one. We work closely with local primary schools to ensure as many new students as possible visit us before they enrol. We know these initiatives really help to quell the mystique and fear of moving to secondary school.



Religious life

The practice of Christian values is the key to our success as a community living and learning in harmony.

God is the Master of our School

We support our pupils by encouraging them to think, to question and to develop the skills they need to become confident, reflective and resilient learners – the global citizens of tomorrow.

All faiths and backgrounds

Stanborough welcomes pupils from all faiths and backgrounds in an atmosphere of warmth and acceptance. The pupils are taught to respect others, whatever their beliefs, and to seek to understand the unique qualities of the major faiths. Pupils participate in the three times per week, whole-

school assemblies and are challenged to examine their lives and seek ways to improve the lives of others in the world around them.

Active community involvement

We encourage our students to show compassion for our community and the world. They are encouraged to be actively involved with both local and international charity organisations like ADRA and One Vision. Our pupils organise and perform in charity concerts, fundraising events and the school's annual Community Service Day.

Boarding School

Flexible boarding

Stanborough School offers a hundred boarding places for those who wish to board five days or seven days a week.

In addition, flexible boarding is available to accommodate pupils who need supervision out of the school hours. The Preceptor and Preceptress, with support staff, provide excellent care and support in regular homework supervisions and cater for their social, emotional and spiritual needs.

Boarders are encouraged to keep close contact with their parents via email, letters and telephone. On Saturday mornings boarders attend the local church situated beside the park.

Well-suited lodging

Rooms in the boarding school offer privacy with ensuite facilities and wireless internet connection. Double or triple rooms of about fifteen square metres, with double wardrobes, individual desks and woodland views, offer comfortable living spaces.

Common areas where pupils can socialise and relax include:

- ▶ The multimedia lounge which has DVD facilities
- ▶ The study lounge which offers internet, enables computers for pupil use for homework assignments and emails
- ▶ The gymnasium
- ▶ A mini-kitchen for boarders who wish to prepare their own snacks





“

I am confident that you will see why we value the school's location, heritage, facilities and staff, but most of all, the students who define us and are the heartbeat of the school.

Jeanetta Liburd
Headteacher

International programmes



Stanborough School offers an effective programme for learners of English as an Additional Language (EAL) and those wishing to study British history and English literature. We offer a number of flexible courses which range from one week to a full year. Pupils who decide to stay beyond the year are given the opportunity to take the GCSE examinations.

Students have the choice to visit us for a week through our Language & Cultural Tour programme and stay on to enrol into our Full Immersion Experience (FIE) course for the duration of a term or two. Some students are happy to continue their learning journey with us and extend their studies by attending our annual summer camp.



We believe that our international programmes contribute to the rich, cultural mosaic that characterises our school and prepares our pupils to compete in a global society with confidence.

Full Immersion Experience (FIE)

Our Full Immersion Experience (FIE) course is for students who are able to study with us for one or two full terms. During their stay, students have the opportunity to immerse themselves into the British education system and British culture. Our uniquely designed course offers cultural and exam preparation lessons that boost all four English language skills(reading, listening, speaking, and writing).

Accredited Cambridge examination centre

Stanborough School is an accredited Cambridge examination centre; all pupils have the opportunity to sit a Cambridge English examination at the end of their FIE course, gaining an internationally-recognised language proficiency certificate.

English summer camp

Our popular annual English summer camp is for international pupils aged 11-17, and combines tuition in English language with many fun-filled activities and visits to cultural and historical landmarks in London. At the end of summer camp all students are offered the opportunity to sit the Cambridge exam.

Language & cultural tour

The Language & Cultural Tour programmes are a tailor-made educational and cultural experiences. Students have the opportunity to practise their English language skills as well as get a taste of British culture.



International ties

Global partnerships

Through its EAL department, Stanborough has cultivated partnerships with schools across Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa. Every year, groups of students from Japan, Spain and Brazil attend our FIE programmes. Many and various groups of pupils from France, Italy, Belgium, Romania, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Germany, Russia, Brazil, Argentina and China are eager to enrol into our Language & Cultural Tour programmes year after year. Our courses in the English language and British culture are much-loved by all!

Global family

Stanborough firmly believes in developing in its pupils a deep sense that they belong to a global family. This prepares them well to make a contribution to the international community. In addition to teaching the pupils about global issues, cultures and trends, our pupils are given many opportunities to mix and engage with pupils and professionals from other countries. Visiting speakers, from many countries, address pupils at assemblies and themed weeks. Trips abroad form an important part of the education pupils receive at Stanborough.





Admission

Students who wish to enrol at Stanborough
must submit:

- ✓ The completed application form available from our Registrar at **registrar@spsch.org** or at the school.
- ✓ A handwritten essay of approximately 450 words for Years 8-11 and 150 words for Year 7 on 'What I want to achieve in school'.
- ✓ A satisfactory school report/reference from the present school your child is attending.
- ✓ Payment of £80 registration fee.
- ✓ Upon submitting/forwarding the application form, together with a copy of their passport and two passport-sized photos, students are invited to sit an entrance test in English, Mathematics and Science.
- ✓ Following this, you and your child will be invited to have an interview with the Headteacher or Senior staff.



Alumni

Learn more at spsch.org/about/alumni



1919

Stanborough School
Stanborough Park, Watford
Hertfordshire, WD25 9JT
United Kingdom

+44 (0) 1923 673268
info@spsch.org
www.spsch.org

Donations

Account Name: Stanborough School
Sort Code: 40-45-28
Account Number: 91041274 (HSBC)
Reference: SCHOLARSHIP FUND

