

A very warm welcome to Swakeleys School for Girls in Hillingdon. Swakeleys is an incredibly special place and I am so proud to lead this high achieving, highly supportive school. Over the summer the students from Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 at Swakeleys received some unbelievable results in their public exams. Students in Year 11 on average made one and half grade better progress than expected. Although school performance tables have not yet been released by the Department for Education we anticipate that these results will put us in the top percentage of schools in the country.



Many students have stayed with us into the sixth form for the next stage in their learning. We were so delighted to see the Year 13 students off to follow their passions at University. It is testament to the passion of the teaching staff, and their expert subject knowledge, that students are studying a huge variety of subjects – from Law, Art, Psychology, to Pharmacy. We wish all of our Year 13 students' success as they head off into the world. They started with us as children and leave as young women ready to make their mark on the world.

To introduce myself I have worked in Education since 2001 and have worked at three different schools across London - in Wandsworth, Shadwell and Brentford. My most recent post was as Head of School at Brentford School for Girls. I have worked in girls' education for the last 15 years and love girls' schools for the freedom that girls have to be themselves, to be free from stereotypes and as I am sure you know students in girls' schools get better results compared to any other students nationally. I believe in hard work, social justice and equity and if you are from our parent body I can guarantee you that I will be working hard alongside the staff at Swakeleys to make sure that your daughter gets the very best out of her time at school, and is safe and happy.

What initially attracted me to Swakeleys School was the fact that students are engaged in their learning and involved in a huge range of activities. There is a really strong culture of student leadership within the school, lots of opportunities to be involved in whatever interests you – whether that be sport, music, debating, work experience, reading, drawing or dancing. We know that to be ready for life in a changing society you need more than just exam results, you need to have something that drives you. We provide all sorts of opportunities to our students in order to develop their character and support each girl to be the best woman/citizen that she can be.

Parents are absolutely critical to the success of our school community. We are holding a number of parent events over the coming weeks so that parents can come into school. All of the events start at **6pm** and will last around an hour. There will be an opportunity to meet with your daughter's form tutor, her year learning coordinator, the linked member of the leadership group and myself. As well as getting to know each other, we will also provide information about the curriculum that your daughter will follow, how you can support at home, how to manage her mobile phone/social media usage and key dates and events for the year. Below are the dates of each year group evening and I very much look forward to seeing you then:

Year 7 safe, settled and successful evening:
Year 8 parental engagement evening:
Year 9 parental engagement evening:
Year 10 parental engagement evening:
Year 11 parental engagement evening:

Wednesday 28th September 6pm start
Wednesday 5th October 6pm start
Thursday 20th October 6pm start
Wednesday 12th October 6pm start
Thursday 22nd September 6pm start

It has been wonderful welcoming the students back into school this week. They have been so friendly and welcoming. The School Production has been chosen, the extracurricular activities timetable is being drawn up and includes a wide range of activities from music, sport dance, drama, languages, film, coding and much, much more! House Assemblies are being prepared, senators are being nominated - it is all go at Swakeleys and such an exciting place to be! So whether you are a student, a parent, a prospective parent or member of staff you will be welcomed into our school community.

With very best wishes,

Kelda Stevenson

