



WETHERBY  
SENIOR SCHOOL





# WELCOME

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*I am delighted that you are considering  
Wetherby Senior School for your son.*

In our fairly short history, Wetherby Senior has built a strong reputation as a forward-thinking, caring and successful community. Our boys are encouraged - academically and socially - to realise their full potential, which is proudly reflected in the places our alumni hold at top universities in the UK and overseas.

Our rigorous curriculum, taught by subject specialists and using our outstanding facilities, will build your son's knowledge and understanding, while our extensive co-curricular activities and strong pastoral support will help your son grow his confidence, develop his passions, and pursue new endeavours.

Our home in Marylebone ensures a smooth commute for pupils, and means we can easily invite speakers to give talks or run workshops about important social, political and cultural issues. It also enables us to regularly take our boys to London's many universities, museums, galleries, theatres and parks, that are of historical, geographical, literary, religious or scientific interest, to expand knowledge beyond the curriculum.

At Wetherby Senior, we are looking for boys who are eager to learn, who have an independence of mind, and who want to engage as a member of our vibrant and active School community. Choosing a secondary school or sixth form is a big decision so, if you think your son would benefit from being part of our School, then please register on our website to find out more. We hold an Open Day in the autumn, an Open Evening in the spring and Visitor Mornings throughout the year, so you can see for yourself what life is like at Wetherby Senior.

I look forward to meeting you and your son soon.

**Joe Silvester**

Headmaster





## HERITAGE

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*Wetherby Senior is an independent day school for boys, aged 11-18, in Marylebone, London.*

A proud member of the prestigious Wetherby family - which includes Wetherby School, Wetherby Prep, Wetherby Kensington, and Wetherby-Pembridge - Wetherby Senior was founded in 1915. Since then, we have grown to over 400 boys, from Years 7 to 13, with alumni now at top universities across the UK, continental Europe and North America.

Our School occupies two beautiful buildings in W1, with state-of-the-art facilities on-site for science, art, music, drama, sport and more.

*“Wetherby Senior is still a relatively new school – but with numbers going from strength to strength, its success is already abundantly clear. Boys are academically challenged here for sure, but there’s also a tangible emphasis on imparting the values and emotional intelligence that young men need to flourish in a broader sense.”*

Talk Education 2022



*“My A Level studies were extremely eye-opening – in addition to improving my study skills, they allowed me to develop a greater passion for my subjects. Having joined Wetherby Senior in 2015, I feel I have grown alongside the school itself, making lifelong friends along the way.”*

William completed his A Levels in summer 2022 and is now reading civil engineering at University of Leeds.







## Wetherby Senior's Class of 22 - University Destinations (UK)

University	Further information
University of Bath	International Development with Economics
City University	Business and Finance
Durham University ~	Accounting with a Placement Year
Imperial College London ~	Biochemistry
King's College London ~	Computer Science
Loughborough University	International Relations
Queen Mary, University of London ~	Geography with Business Management
SOAS	Development Economics
SOAS	Economics**
University College London ~	Economics
University of Edinburgh ~	Geography
University of Edinburgh ~	Scottish Literature
University of Exeter ~	English
University of Exeter ~	Zoology
University of Glasgow ~	Philosophy**
University of Leeds ~	Civil Engineering
University of Manchester ~	Ancient History and History
University of Manchester ~	Politics and International Relations
University of Nottingham ~	English
University of Nottingham ~	Management**
University of Nottingham ~	Politics and International Relations
University of Reading	Business and Management
University of Reading	Business and Management with Placement Year
University of Reading	Economics
University of Southampton ~	Modern History and Politics
University of York ~	Economics**
University of York ~	Engineering

## Wetherby Senior's Class of 22 - University Destinations (outside UK)

University	Further information
McGill University, Canada	Economics and Finance (Scholarship)
McGill University, Canada	Liberal Studies**
McGill University, Canada	Liberal Studies
McGill University, Canada	Liberal Studies
University of Toronto, Canada	Faculty of Arts and Science: Studies in Social Sciences
Babson University, USA	Entrepreneurship
New York University, USA	Computer Science and Economics
New York University, USA	Liberal Studies
New York University, USA	Schack Institute of Real Estate
Northeastern University, USA	Liberal Studies
Purdue University, USA	Engineering
University of California, Berkeley, USA	Liberal Studies
University of Notre Dame, USA	Liberal Studies (Glynn Family Honors Program)
University of Pennsylvania, USA*	Systems Engineering
Bocconi University, Milan, Italy	International Economics and Management
IMS Milan, Italy	Medicine**
Utrecht University, The Netherlands	
IE University, Madrid, Spain	Business Administration
IE University, Madrid, Spain	Business Administration

~ Russell Group university

\* Ivy League institution

\*\*2021 leaver (gap year)

# ACHIEVEMENT

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*A Level Results Day 2022 saw a string of excellent outcomes, that bucked the national trend, for Wetherby Senior.*

This included:

- 50% of A Level grades awarded at A\* and A
- 79% of A Level grades awarded at A\* to B

Testament to our School's commitment to supporting boys in their higher education ambitions, our Class of 22 are now reading a range of courses at world class institutions. For those staying in the UK, 76% joined Russell Group universities. This includes institutions in London (such as Imperial College London, UCL and King's College London) and across the country, including Manchester, Edinburgh, Exeter and York.

In addition, of our sixth formers starting university in autumn 2022, almost half applied to study outside the UK. This means:

- 9 joined a US college
- 5 joined a Canadian college
- 2 joined IE University, Spain
- 1 joined Bocconi University, Italy
- 1 joined Utrecht University, Netherlands

GCSE Results Day 2022 saw our Year 11 achieve excellent GCSE results, including a string of top grades:

- Grade 9 = 29%
- Grade 9-8 = 52%
- Grade 9-7 = 75%

Under the current system, 9 to 7 grades correspond to the old-style top grades of A\* and A. Our results show Wetherby Senior pupils strongly bucking the national trend where just 27% of GCSE grades awarded were 9-7 (rising to 53% for independent schools).

*“Wetherby Senior fully supported my university ambitions. In Year 12, each week, we had a lesson on applying to the US, where an expert explained how we should approach writing our common application essay and our supplemental essays. I was also able to send this advisor my supplemental essays, before I submitted, to get further feedback.”*

Robert completed his A Levels in summer 2022 and is now reading environmental sciences and sociology at University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

100% pass rate, A Level Results Day 2022

14 admitted to top North American universities in autumn 2022







# LIFE IN OUR LOWER SCHOOL (YEARS 7 AND 8)

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*Year 7 is an exciting step in your son's education, as he moves to a new secondary school.*

Boys join our Lower School in Year 7 (11+ entry) and are immediately made to feel part of our community. As the change from primary to secondary school can seem daunting, we have an experienced Lower School team (which includes our Head of Lower School, Assistant Head of Lower School and form tutors) who work hard to provide a smooth transition.

As well as being part of a form group with their own tutor, your son will join one of our five Tribes, as our house system is known, and we schedule a Year 7 residential trip in early September, meaning your son can make friends through this shared enjoyable experience.

Our fascinating and rewarding Lower School curriculum, taught by subject specialists, provides a solid foundation for future studies. It will involve some subjects familiar to your son and introduce some new ones! For example, every Year 7 has a philosophy lesson (to help with critical thinking and understanding) and all in Year 7 learn to play a brass or string instrument, with teaching supported by professional musicians who regularly perform with Europe's best orchestras and bands.

Alongside his academic studies and sporting commitments (boys have games lessons twice a week), your son can participate in our wide-ranging co-curricular clubs and activities. This will enable him to continue existing hobbies or develop new passions, with options in art, drama, sport, music and more. He may want to write articles for *The Barometer* (our half-termly pupil-led School magazine), grow plants at Botany Club, or compete against his new friends at Board Games Club!

*“On a visit to the Museum of London, Year 8 spent time looking at artefacts from the ancient world in the Roman London gallery, which links to our lessons on ancient Pompeii. This provided a great opportunity for pupils to analyse material sources first-hand.”*

Miss Nash, Head of Classics at Wetherby Senior.

## LIFE IN OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL (YEARS 9, 10 AND 11)

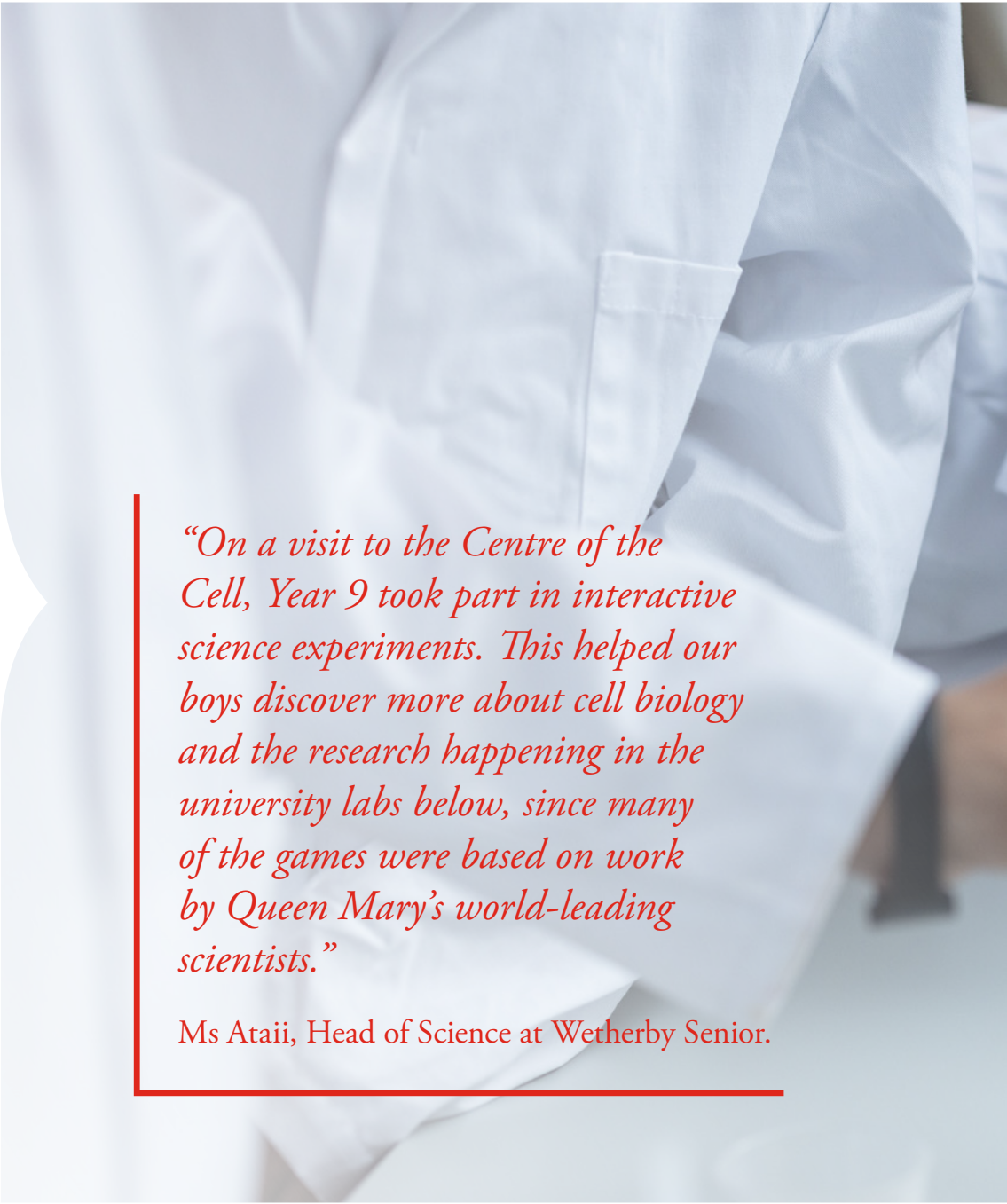
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*Year 9 marks an interesting stage in your son's education, as he prepares to make the transition to GCSE studies.*

Boys join our Middle School in Year 9 (13+ entry), meaning this cohort is comprised of around 50 pupils moving up from Year 8 and around the same number joining externally. Our dedicated Middle School team (which includes our Head of Middle School, two Assistant Heads of Middle School and form tutors) help all settle in together. We also schedule a Year 9 residential trip in early September, helping your son to make friends and feel part of our Middle School.

Our dynamic Middle School curriculum is taught by subject specialists. We appreciate that preparation for GCSE studies can seem daunting, so our staff provide a structured programme of support for decision making around options. This will help your son reflect on his strengths and select GCSE subjects that he is passionate about.

Alongside his GCSE studies, your son will be able to develop leadership skills by taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award and Model United Nations, and by becoming a Middle School Ambassador who helps support life across our School. Through our enormous range of co-curricular clubs and activities, he will be able to continue existing interests or develop new ones. So, he may become a chess champion, take up creative writing, or join our Choir!

A background image showing the sleeves and cuffs of several white lab coats, suggesting a scientific or laboratory setting.

*“On a visit to the Centre of the Cell, Year 9 took part in interactive science experiments. This helped our boys discover more about cell biology and the research happening in the university labs below, since many of the games were based on work by Queen Mary’s world-leading scientists.”*

Ms Ataii, Head of Science at Wetherby Senior.









*“Wetherby Senior’s Sixth Form staff were incredibly helpful throughout my university application process, and my A Level studies was a great experience, as I examined subjects, that I am genuinely interested in, in much greater detail.”*

Faris completed his A Levels in summer 2022 and is now reading liberal studies at New York University.



# LIFE IN OUR SIXTH FORM (YEARS 12 AND 13)

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*Year 12, with the start of A Level studies, is a vibrant and exciting moment in your son's education.*

Within our Sixth Form, our highly skilled teachers are all subject specialists and class sizes remain small. Your son will study three A Levels and his Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), a highly respected independent research project on a topic of his choosing. Some boys also opt to study a fourth A Level.

Alongside his studies, your son can continue with existing hobbies or develop new ones, through our incredible range of co-curricular clubs and activities. There are also leadership opportunities that he can apply for, such as our Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy and prefect posts, our Year 12 academic mentors, and our Year 12 peer mentors. These enable him to support life across our School and act as a role model to younger pupils, whilst developing important transferable skills, like public speaking.

Our sixth formers enjoy a joint lecture series, throughout the academic year, with girls from nearby Queen's College, London. With talks by eminent guests on a wide range of topics, these lectures introduce fascinating subjects of interest to our young people, as well as supporting topics in PSHE, careers, and wellbeing. Our budding entrepreneurs also take part in Young Enterprise with peers at Queen's College, London, creating their own company, while gaining valuable business skills and real-life experiences.

Our Sixth Form encourages higher education ambitions with bespoke guidance, which includes each sixth former being assigned their own university tutor to help with their higher education goals – an initiative unique to Wetherby Senior. As well as supporting plans to study in the UK and continental Europe, we also have two US Advisors to assist with applications to North America.

The success of our university support is reflected in the results of our young people - our Class of 2022 held over 120 offers at top universities around the UK, continental Europe, and North America. Indeed, in just three years, our sixth formers have received forty offers to study in the USA and Canada.

Such excellent outcomes mean most in Year 11 remain at Wetherby Senior for their A Levels, and are joined by up to 15 external sixth formers. Our Sixth Form facilities include dedicated study rooms and a common room, while our Marylebone location means your son can go beyond his subjects by attending workshops or lectures with leading experts, by participating in conferences or research programmes at top universities, or by visiting the many museums, galleries, theatres, exhibitions and more across London.

# WELLBEING

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*Wellbeing underpins all we do and, with just over 400 pupils at Wetherby Senior, we are proud to know each boy as an individual.*

Our much-praised pastoral system is led by our Deputy Head: Pastoral and managed by our Heads of Section, with support from our network of form tutors. Throughout your son's time at Wetherby Senior, his form tutor will stay in close contact with you regarding his progress and will be your first point of contact.

Alongside this, our highly qualified wellbeing team includes two professionals who provide counselling and coaching to nurture the wellbeing and personal development of our boys.

Our School's much-loved house system is known as Tribs, short for Tributaries, since each is named after one of London's hidden rivers – Effra, Fleet, Ravensbourne, Tyburn and Walbrook. Creating a fantastic sense of belonging, our Tribs mean boys feel part of Wetherby Senior from their first day, while providing a fun way to make friends in other years and take on leadership responsibilities.

Our inter-Trib competitions (including music, drama, sport, debating, individual subjects, and more) provide friendly rivalry, alongside cooperation with others in their Trib, as boys work towards winning our coveted end-of-year Thames Trophy.

*“Wetherby Senior is an amazing community, and that is something I relished during my time here – being part of a tight-knit year group and with teachers who are proactive and passionate, making learning engaging and enjoyable.”*

Maxime completed his A Levels in summer 2022 and is now reading geography at University of Edinburgh.













# SPORT

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*At Wetherby Senior, sport is compulsory across all years, helping boys develop character, build friendships and stay healthy, both physically and mentally.*

Behind the trademark red doors of our Marylebone Lane building lies a treasure trove of sporting facilities and equipment for our young people. This includes a fully-equipped strength and conditioning suite, a superb spin studio, an excellent boxercise studio, and space for yoga.

Our central London location also makes it possible to use nearby state-of-the-art facilities, like Ealing Trailfinders, which our pupils visit several times a week. Here, boys benefit from equipment and pitches also used by professional rugby union and cricket teams.

The breadth of facilities available, both at our School and away from Marylebone Lane, allows for participation in rugby, football, tennis, cricket, youth athletic development and spin. We also offer athletics, basketball, swimming, yoga, table tennis and running, to name just a few of our available options.

Although our School's sports programme is inclusive, it is also challenging, and weekly fixtures provide a packed timetable for our sports teams. By taking part in external competitions, plus inter-Trib events, our boys build valuable skills and experience, represent our School or their Trib, and make lifelong friends.

*“Sport remains integral to the life of Wetherby Senior, which is why we include PE in the timetable for all and ensure access to outstanding facilities, on and off-site. We aim to inspire our boys to develop competence and confidence in different sporting activities, thus supporting their health and fitness, now and in the future.”*

Mr Fuller, Director of Sport at Wetherby Senior.

# OPPORTUNITIES

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*At Wetherby Senior, we capitalise on our Marylebone location and work hard to enrich the education of our boys with co-curricular clubs and activities.*

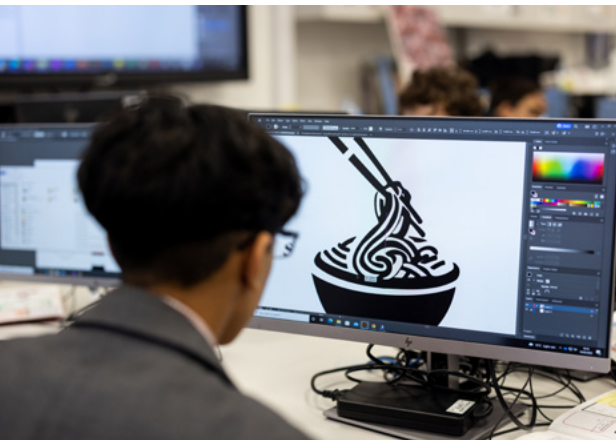
Our School's central London home makes it possible to invite outside speakers to give talks or run workshops, for our pupils and for our parents. In 2021-22, this has included bi-monthly lectures to sixth formers on a range of careers options, interactive workshops with different year groups by renowned charity Beyond Equality, and inspiring talks to both pupils and parents by one of the UK's leading mental health campaigners, Natasha Devon MBE.

In 2021-22, within London, this has included lectures at the Royal Geographical Society, theatre trips to see *Life of Pi*, *The Ocean at the End of the Lane*, *The 47th*, *Blood Brothers* and more, and visits to exhibitions at the nearby Wallace Collection. Further afield, making use of good transport links from London, it has included geography fieldwork in Brighton and Whitstable, and a history tour of Kenilworth Castle, plus planned trips to Italy and Canada for our enthusiastic skiers!

Each term, our pupils take part in a Field Day where they go beyond the curriculum, extending knowledge in an enjoyable and memorable manner. Some of our Field Day activities, in 2021-22, included pupils hiking across the Chiltern Hills for their Duke of Edinburgh Award, examining regeneration in Stratford (and riding on the ArcelorMittal Orbit, the UK's largest sculpture, at the Olympic Park), undertaking drama workshops before watching *Or Juliet* in the West End, touring the Royal Albert Hall, learning about amputations at the Old Operating Theatre, and being inspired on a literary walk in Hampstead.

Our rich co-curricular programme aims to develop confidence, teamwork and leadership, while enabling boys to have fun and make friends in other years. Pupils can develop existing interests, try something new or set up their own club if they wish! Indeed, many of our sixth formers run clubs to help further develop leadership skills. Every Friday afternoon, time is set aside in for all at Wetherby Senior to take part in co-curricular activities, with further opportunities before- and after-school, and over lunch, during the week.





*“In a year group of 90, you can run rugby and football teams and it’s large enough for inter-house competitions and to find a kindred spirit who shares your enthusiasm for Warhammer. We’re conscious parents actively choose us because they feel their son will thrive in a school our size.”*

Joe Silvester, Headmaster, to Good Schools Guide 2022.







# THE ARTS

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*The arts add a vibrant dimension to life at Wetherby Senior, with options in creative writing, art, music and drama.*

*The Barometer* is our entirely pupil-led magazine, published every half-term, featuring news from our School and the wider world. It provides a fantastic opportunity for keen writers, editors, critics, photographers, illustrators or designers, amongst our pupil body, to see their work in print.

Our Music Department encourages boys to develop their individual talents and interests. All in Year 7 are taught a brass or string instrument, with tuition also available in a number of different instruments. Across Wetherby Senior, nearly 200 boys take lessons on a weekly basis.

We place a high importance on performing and being part of an ensemble, so our Music Department boasts numerous music ensembles (including string and cello ensembles, three brass bands, four rock bands, and a concert band) and three choirs. Our termly concerts and recitals enable pupils to demonstrate their talent and gain important public performance experience.

Our Drama Department produces three large scale productions a year, with recent plays ranging from comedies to tragedies and from dramas to murder mysteries. These provide a huge range of acting roles for our boys, plus opportunities for behind-the-scenes work. For example, our Autumn Term play involves collaboration with girls from Queen's College, London and Francis Holland, Regents Park, as pupils work with West End professionals to put on a show at RADA. We also have an entirely pupil-led production via our annual Trib Drama competition, which sees each Trib select their own director, assistant director and actors as they perform a different scene from a specially commissioned play.

*“Year 7 learn to play a brass instrument, with teaching aided by our team of professional brass players who regularly perform with Europe’s finest orchestras and bands. Our Brass Bash concerts encourage future generations of brass players, while our Brass Band tour of Jersey, in April 2022, saw boys work with staff from Jersey Academy of Music, and perform at venues like Jersey Zoo and Howard Davis Park.”*

Mr Martin, Director of Music at Wetherby Senior.

# GLOBAL CITIZENS

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*At Wetherby Senior, we strive to develop our boys beyond their academic studies, to ensure all contribute positively to society.*

Our central London location means all years can take part in valuable volunteering opportunities to support the local community and people across the city. In 2021-22, this included our boys visiting nearby Marylebone Library to help older people learn how to better use digital devices, our sixth formers supporting children's learning at London primary schools, and our School hosting an afternoon tea for members of the immediate community.

Across Wetherby Senior, participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award remains popular. From volunteering in the community to hiking across the countryside, the Duke of Edinburgh Award provides an excellent opportunity for our young people to enhance their teamwork, organisation and leadership skills.

Leadership responsibilities in our School include sitting on our School Council, with a boy from each form elected to represent their peers and provide pupil voice on a number of issues. Our School Council makes important decisions around community service, such as agreeing the charities our School

will support through fundraising. In 2021-22, our chosen charities were Save the Children and Crisis, and we continued our partnership with West London Mission. Throughout the year, annual charity events such as our Christmas Shoebox Appeal are hosted, while additional fundraising activities (like a 12-hour sponsored cycle ride in our School's spin studio) enable our boys to raise money, learn more about important issues, and have fun.

Our Sixth Form leadership opportunities mean boys can support our School whilst developing important transferable skills needed in any future career, like public speaking. For example, in Year 12, our sixth formers can apply for our one-year leadership posts – Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy, and prefects – with responsibilities like helping with open events and assisting with life at Wetherby Senior. In addition, we have Year 12 academic mentors (your son would be trained to help younger pupils and, working with Heads of Department, would be assigned a pupil to support) and Year 12 peer mentors (your son would undertake training to support younger pupils and act as a 'big brother' role model).





*“From the staff and on behalf of the residents, thank you! Christmas can often be difficult for people who don’t have anyone to share the festive season with, so your contribution and thoughtfulness bought some joy.”*

West London Mission, which supports the homeless, after Wetherby Senior donated over 100 shoeboxes of gifts in December 2021.



*“Well done to all who participated in our first Wetherby Senior School Sponsored Spin. As a School, over 100 different participants collectively cycled over 1,000 miles in our spin studio, raising over £5,000 for our charities.”*

Mr Thornton, Head of Philosophy and Head of Charity at Wetherby Senior, who co-ordinated our charitable cycling race to be the first Trib to cycle 346km (the length of the River Thames).



# LOCATION

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*Located in the prestigious area of Marylebone, central London, our School is close to both Oxford Street and Mayfair, and a short walk from major landmarks like Hyde Park, Regent's Park and the Wallace Collection.*

Transport links to Wetherby Senior are excellent, enabling a safe and smooth commute for pupils and staff. Our nearest tube stations are Baker St, Bond St or Oxford St (Bakerloo, Central, Jubilee, Victoria, Hammersmith and City, Circle, Metropolitan, and Elizabeth lines), and our School is served by a number of different bus routes.

*“Our A Level Geography cohort spent a productive and enjoyable day in Whitstable, undertaking fieldwork that explored the impact of exogenous factors on the character and sense of place in the seaside town. Our sixth formers were able to practise fieldwork techniques in preparation for the coursework element of their A Level.”*

Ms Smith, Head of Geography at Wetherby Senior.







# ADMISSIONS

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*Wetherby Senior is academically selective with our usual entry points at Year 7 (11+), Year 9 (13+) or Year 12 (16+). Applicants are assessed through an entry exam, references from previous school, and an interview.*

## **Year 7 entry (11+)**

If your son is applying for 11+ entry, he will be required to take our entrance exam during the autumn term of his Year 6. Interviews take place in the spring term of Year 6.

## **Year 9 entry (13+)**

If your son is applying for 13+ entry, he will be required to take our entrance exam during the autumn term of his Year 6. Interviews take place in the spring term of Year 6.

## **Year 12 entry (16+)**

If your son is applying to our Sixth Form for 16+ entry, he will be invited to an assessment day in the autumn term of his Year 11. He will be interviewed and examined in the subjects that he wishes to study for A Level.

## **Occasional places**

Occasional places may become available in various year groups, so please contact our Registrar for more information.

Registration forms, key dates and deadline, and further information about applying to Wetherby Senior can be found on our website at: [www.wetherbysenior.co.uk](http://www.wetherbysenior.co.uk).

At Wetherby Senior, our selection process is designed to identify those who are able to benefit from our dynamic and rewarding education, as well as make a positive contribution towards the life of our School. Please note that we usually offer places to candidates on our waiting lists after our closing date for acceptances has passed.

Some means-tested bursaries are available, so please contact our School directly for more information.

If you have any questions about applying to Wetherby Senior, please visit our website or contact our Registrar on telephone: **0207 535 3553** or email: [registrar@wetherbysenior.co.uk](mailto:registrar@wetherbysenior.co.uk)

*“My A Level studies were very enjoyable, thanks to the fantastic teachers at Wetherby Senior. I am particularly grateful to the staff who helped me when applying to Bocconi and to UK universities.”*

Alexander completed his A Levels in summer 2022 and is now reading international economics and management at Bocconi University, Italy.





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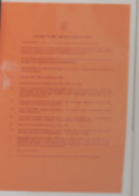
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Periodic Table

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Our prospectus was printed in summer 2022.  
All details were correct at the time of going to print.

*“An energetic, forward-looking school with a traditional core but thoroughly modern approach to caring for boys and helping them succeed academically – and in life.”*

Good Schools Guide 2022.

Keep up-to-date with our latest news and events by following us on social media – look for Wetherby Senior on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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