

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

An independent day school for girls, Durham High School for Girls was founded in 1884. The school was housed originally in Claypath and moved to Leazes House in 1910 when the school's governing body took over management of the school.

The school is a Church of England Foundation - the current Headmistress is ordained and takes seriously its vision to be a Christian school which welcomes girls of all faiths and none.

The presence of the University and the Cathedral in the heart of the city as well as strong professional and commercial interests ensure that Durham is a thriving community and a centre of intellectual and cultural excellence. Pupils come not only from the city of Durham but also from a very wide surrounding area.

In the 1960's the High School moved to its first purpose-built premises on the edge of the city adjacent to the new Durham University colleges. This began a period of building and expansion which continues to the present day. Recent developments have seen the addition of a new Sixth Form Centre (1993), the Rainbow Hill Nursery (1997), the Walters Building (2000) a new Science, ICT and Library block was completed in September 2003 and most recently a new building incorporating classrooms for Mathematics and Geography with a purpose built Performing Arts Suite and Music practice rooms (September 2007).

The academic standards are very high. The school has consistently topped the County League tables in both GCSE and A level. Consequently the school enjoys a very good reputation locally both for its academic results and for its friendly, caring atmosphere. Classes are small and the pastoral care of pupils is given a very high priority.

Durham High School provides a continuous education for girls from 3 – 18. The school has expanded considerably in recent years with 600 girls currently on role 400 in Senior House with 113 in Sixth Form.

AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

- To create a friendly, caring community based on Christian principles where every individual is valued
- To develop the potential of every girl in all areas of her life
- To encourage academic excellence and a life-long love of learning