



# Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Provision at Sancton Wood School



# Extra-Curricular Activities

Our goal is to help reward effort and allow our students to be the best that they can be, whatever the field, whatever the outcome.

Extra-curricular activities form the backbone of student life at Sancton Wood. We provide a diverse range of lunchtime and after-school clubs which include sports, performing arts, gardening, embroidery, cooking, yoga, chess, computing and dance.

## We aim:

- To enhance a student's learning experience outside of the classroom
- To contribute to the students' social, moral, cultural, spiritual development
- To complement the school curriculum
- To be accessible to everyone
- To allow all students to develop and nourish their innate abilities and interests
- To stretch and extend the student's learning experience
- To build key character strengths

*"I've really valued the opportunity to learn about the production equipment and develop technical skills that I can take with me to college or in a future career" (Jonathan, year 10)*

# Performing Arts



Students star in numerous productions and concerts throughout the year - the delightful Pre-Prep nativity is closely followed by a Senior School Musical production and a highlight later in the year is our "Summer Showcase"

In 2017 we were delighted to be able to stage the premier of 'The Mystery of Mr E' written especially for us by Sophie Hannah, with music composed by Annette Armitage and soon to start a UK tour.

*"It was exhausting and so much fun. Also quite brilliant to think we were the first to perform the play - I learnt I could sing too!" (Tom, Year 10)*

In addition to in house drama and dance opportunities, students perform at professional venues and have the chance to see a variety of theatre and musical productions. There are numerous opportunities to perform and those wishing take their talent even further can subscribe to the LAMDA qualification.

The music department is a lively one with music lessons on offer in a variety of instruments, all delivered by a specialist team of peripatetic teachers. Our very own professional opera singer also offers singing lessons. Staff, students and parents form our choir and orchestra (known as Minstrels) and students are also encouraged and helped to form their own groups.

*"It's really special to see our students' enjoyment as they play alongside their teachers and parents and to feel the buzz as they achieve great things in performance." (Dr Annette Armitage, Music teacher)*





# Celebrating Science

## STEM Week

A whole series of challenges and projects take part during this week, delivered in Science and Maths lessons.

Science based films are shown at lunchtime. A visit to the Zoology Museum and a STEM quiz are also part of the agenda.

*“This is a marvellous opportunity to take advantage of all that Cambridge has on offer and celebrate all things STEM” Rachael Ainscough (Head of Science)*

# Sports

We offer a good range of popular lunchtime and after-school sports clubs. These include running, multi-sports, football (for both girls and boys), rugby and fitness. There are opportunities in dance too, with after school ballet classes and street dance.

Our impressive end of year Sports Day sees staff, students and parents come together to celebrate competition and sporting achievement.

“Sports Day had a lovely atmosphere with children and staff smiling all day” (parent, Year 9)

“Not only have I really enjoyed rowing, I am so excited to win a medal.” (Zeno, Year 9)



We make the most of everything on offer in Cambridge visiting the museums, the botanical gardens, its churches, colleges and even its cemeteries. In addition our students visit museums, theatres, concerts, galleries and cinemas further afield.

We also run the highly popular Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes.

*“DofE really does give our young people the chance to have fun and to develop their teamwork, leadership and endurance skills” Grace Mitchell (PE)*

## Educational Visits



*“We have a broad range of GCSEs and we take every opportunity to bring education to life for our students.”  
Debra King (Head of Upper School)*

# Extend & Challenge

Participation in local, regional and national competitions allow our students to realise their maximum potential and achieve individual goals.

Throughout the school year we run internal music, photography, art, debating, creative writing, media and maths competitions while students also participate in a very wide range of external competitions including regular sports fixtures, swimming galas, chess tournaments, Maths challenges, and national arts/writing competitions.

# Student Voice

We encourage our students to take part and be heard in all aspects of school life and they are key to our development, playing a part in staff recruitment and policy decisions.

Our Debating Club has also taken the Cambridge University debate, held at the Cambridge Union.

*“Debating is a great skill for the future, it also helps us to think about issues and ideas that are new and refreshing.”*  
(Oliver, Year 10)



# Celebrating Achievement



We all love to celebrate our students success and each week we select “Stars of the Week” from Nursery to Year 11 - a chance to recognise hard work, personal and academic achievements. Successes can be rewarded by a visit to the Head’s special ‘Praise Pod’ or some of the older children enjoy vouchers if their successes keep coming.

# Independent Learning

We are constantly developing our tailor made curriculum and facilitating our Upper School students, who are developing their own independent research projects (EPQ) in year ten as a key part of this.

*“It’s been great to have the chance to find out more about something I am really interested in and then to turn this into a project that will give me another qualification is amazing” (Eliza, Year 10)*







# Residential Trips

Students from Year 3 upwards have the opportunity to attend a residential trip.

## These include:

- Staying in a Tudor Barn
- An action-packed 3-day visit to Grafham Water
- A team-building trip
- Geography field-trips to Iceland and Flatford Mill
- A Science trip to CERN and the UN in Geneva
- A Spanish study visit to Santander
- A Year 9 Spanish exchange to Malaga
- French exchange visits

*"I heard that we might be able to see the Northern Lights. I was really excited because it was definitely on my bucket list...It was truly magnificent as it travelled across the sky as elegant as a soul re-joining the earth." (Guy, Year 9)*

*"I was so glad to see the famous Northern Lights in real life. It's something so many people want to do, and now I can say that I have. It was the perfect end to a great day." (Seb, Year 10)*



# Loving Literature

Book week has become an integral part of our school calendar. From young to old we celebrate writers of modern and classic literature and all of our year groups take part, whether it is dressing up in character, visiting bookshops and libraries, attending workshops, sharing stories or launching competitions.

*“There’s nothing better than making the world of books come alive for our children and book week is a chance to celebrate imagination and creativity”  
Rachael Janes (Year 6 teacher)*





A curriculum that enriches our students' education both within school and beyond the classroom walls.

**Our varied programme includes:**

- Extra-curricular clubs and activities
- A variety of educational visits
- Visiting speakers and tailor made workshops
- Trips to study the natural world and to enjoy arts and culture
- Residential visits to different countries.

Sancton Wood School was rated 'excellent' by ISI at the last inspection for extra-curricular activities.

*"The curriculum is enhanced by a wide range of educational visits" (ISI)*

*"We aim to develop the full potential of every student at Sancton Wood. Our enrichment programme is designed to compliment our young people's interests and enhance their abilities." Richard Settle (Headteacher)*