

Sevenoaks School

Founded in 1432, Sevenoaks School enjoys the distinction of being among the UK's oldest schools, with a tradition of innovation and excellence



SEVENOAKS SCHOOL HAS BEEN CO-EDUCATIONAL FOR ALMOST 50 YEARS, AND IN 1978 BECAME ONE OF THE FIRST SCHOOLS IN THE UK TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN THE SIXTH FORM.

The IB is the gold standard in sixth form education, and has been shown to provide students with the best preparation for the most competitive universities.

Global in its outlook and rooted in the local community, the school is committed to developing enquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people, empowered with the skills to create a better and more peaceful world.

Pastoral care

Sevenoaks is a large institution, with sizeable ambitions to match, but the school's focus is on each individual student, as they find and develop their talents, areas of enthusiasm and interests as part of small, familiar units. A student's pastoral care is driven by their tutor; at Sevenoaks School, every day begins with tutor time and the friendly faces of a small tutor group.

Every student is unique, and Sevenoaks School is committed to giving students the tools to become the best versions of themselves, both in and out of the classroom, and provide a support structure for its holistic provision, founded on the positive relationships forged between students, staff, and parents.

Wellbeing and flourishing

Wellbeing is a strategic focus for Sevenoaks School, with long-term and research-based efforts to embed flourishing into every part of school life.

This year, Sevenoaks introduced new initiatives to support: happiness and life satisfaction; mental and physical health; meaning and purpose; character and virtue; and close social relationships – all key measures of flourishing according to the Human Flourishing program at Harvard, with whom the school works closely.

The projects are documented in Innovate, Sevenoaks School's academic journal to help others learn and develop their own teaching practices. The school also ran a Flourishing Conference with Harvard in October to share best practices.

Harvard identifies volunteering as a key component for student wellbeing. More than 400 students volunteer weekly on community projects or run service action programmes; including fundraising to help tackle societal issues such as climate change or supporting refugees.

Other wellbeing initiatives include a gratitude messaging service to thank friends and staff for everyday acts of kindness.

Recognising the importance of working together as a whole school community, Sevenoaks runs several wellbeing groups. This includes a parent wellbeing group to run alongside existing staff and student-led wellbeing groups, ensuring that everyone in the community has a voice and can be part of the wellbeing and mental health discussion. 🗨️

sevenoaksschool.org



INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS OF
THE YEAR 2023

WELLBEING
WINNER



“ We encourage students to combine their knowledge, passions and philanthropic values, helping them to flourish as individuals and make the world a better place.

Our involvement in Harvard University's ground-breaking Human Flourishing program helps us to gather meaningful insight to ensure the whole school community flourishes 🗨️

Jesse Elzinga, Headmaster