



# Vyners School

Striving for Excellence



**'All staff share a common sense of moral purpose to ensure that all students feel happy and safe, and have the highest possible standards of education, to enable them to succeed at the school, and in the future'**

Ofsted

# Welcome to Vyners School

Vyners is a high performing school. We set high expectations, challenging all students to achieve more than they might feel is possible. The school has achieved many accolades over the years. Our aim is to deliver a truly first class education for all children and results consistently demonstrate strengths in all areas of the curriculum.



We believe that every child can succeed in life if challenged and inspired appropriately. A strong academic curriculum supported by outstanding extra-curricular provision helps Vyners students to develop as individuals with the necessary skills to excel beyond their time with us.

We firmly believe that we deliver outstanding learning opportunities; we have strong values and clear moral purpose. Within this brochure I hope you will find all the information you need to make an informed choice, although I would strongly recommend that you come to see us in action to really find out what makes Vyners such a fantastic school. Vyners School makes a significant difference to the lives of young people and we very much look forward to welcoming your son or daughter to the school and helping them to be successful in the future.

**Gary Mullings**  
Headteacher



**'Leaders have built on the school's previous strengths.  
Pupils, therefore, now benefit from an outstanding education'**

Ofsted

## Our School Values

Our school values:

**Community | Aspiration**  
**Respect | Endeavour**

underpin everything we do and were developed in conjunction with students, staff, parents and governors in 2013.



These values are supported by the Vyners' 10, a series of positive value statements that reinforce the high expectations we have. At Vyners, we successfully combine a 21st Century education with traditional high expectations of uniform, behaviour and standards.

We pride ourselves on the positive relationships that exist in the school and the sense of being part of a happy, vibrant community. We are a genuinely comprehensive school, believing that all students bring their own talents to our community. We value our students equally and take great care to make sure that every one of them is happy, secure and successful.

As a school, we firmly believe that our success should be measured by where our students are five to ten years after they leave us. We have a strong tradition of our students attending some of the best universities in the country as well as securing prestigious apprenticeships and our alumni can be found in a wide range of exciting careers. Many of them remain committed to Vyners School and return to support the current students as they strive for excellence.

# Community | Aspiration

Vyners School values its longstanding role in the local community. We are proud that as many as three generations of a single family have attended the school in its sixty five year history.



## Community

Our traditional house system unites students from different year groups in sporting, musical and dramatic endeavours as well as extensive fund-raising activities. Visitors to the school and those that have been part of Vyners for a number of years are all in agreement that it is a unique, friendly and supportive environment.

- I value others and understand that our individuality makes our community stronger
- I share in and celebrate everyone's success

## Aspiration

Our school motto is 'Striving for Excellence' and everyone in our community is encouraged to challenge themselves to be the best that they can be. We encourage students to set aspirational goals, stretching themselves beyond their comfort zone on a daily basis in lessons and during co-curricular activities.

- I am proud of who I am and what I have achieved today
- I actively participate in lessons and school activities



**‘The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. Pupils are unfailingly courteous and welcoming to visitors. They are fully signed up to the school’s inclusive ethos, and show respect for all’**

**Ofsted**





## Respect | Endeavour

'I would like to thank your staff for an excellent parents' evening for my daughter in Year 11. The feedback was very positive and the enthusiasm and commitment your teachers showed for my child's education and wellbeing was outstanding. I can't thank you all enough for such a great education & start in life for her.'

Parent of Year 11 Student



### Respect

As a school we have traditional values and high expectations of behaviour, uniform, good manners and attendance. These are the non-negotiable foundations of our school, modelled by all students and staff.

- I do as I'm asked, the first time I'm asked
- I am always in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing
- I understand that school is a formal environment
- I dress and behave accordingly
- I attend regularly and arrive on time with the correct equipment
- I am proud of our school, helping to look after it and create a positive learning environment

### Endeavour

Learning by its very nature is hard and we want to encourage students who are resilient, not afraid to take calculated risks or make mistakes. We want them to stretch themselves as we know that the most valuable learning takes place outside their comfort zone. There is no such thing as 'I can't do it', only 'I can't do it yet'. This Growth Mindset is nurtured by staff and praised where it is demonstrated.

- I can, if I think I can, and I strive to do my best even when learning is difficult





'I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the teaching (and support) staff at Vyners. I can honestly say I have had nothing but positive interactions with any of the staff I have encountered in my dealings with the school'

Parent of Year 7 Student



## Learning at Vyners

All students are expected to work hard and do their very best. This ensures that they are active learners and makes being in lessons an exciting and rewarding experience.



We provide a broad and balanced curriculum that offers all students the opportunity to succeed in the workplace and society of the 21st century. We teach students the skills to be effective learners and encourage in them a love of learning that they will foster throughout their life.

A dedicated team of professional, skilled and well qualified teachers and associate staff provide outstanding learning experiences for students. Students are encouraged to be curious, independent learners supported at home by parents and carers who play a critical part in their development towards becoming responsible young citizens. The school has invested significantly in developing the quality of the learning environment, refurbishing the interior and exterior of the buildings so that it provides an inspirational, welcoming ethos where success is openly celebrated.







'The school's work to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent. For example, the formal curriculum provides lessons on ethics and different faiths and workshops on combating stereotyping' Ofsted

## Life at Vyners

The education we provide at Vyners School extends well beyond the classroom. We strive to develop well-rounded individuals, giving them the cultural awareness and leadership skills needed to be successful in life.



The energy and enthusiasm of our students and staff are evident in a wide range of co-curricular activities and all members of the school are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities available. We excel in music as demonstrated by our award winning Vyners Swing Band, along with our junior and senior orchestras, African drummers, Ukulele choir and many others. Our Christmas, summer and instrumental concerts provide a showcase for the wealth of musical talent in the school. Our large scale drama productions take place every 2 years and are a much anticipated part of the school calendar. Recent shows include 'Our House', 'Hairspray' and 'Sister Act'.

Vyners continues to be successful in its sporting endeavours, with success throughout the borough in rugby, football, hockey and netball, to name a few. We encourage all students to find a sport that they love, and activities on offer range from archery and trampolining to mountain biking and handball.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a core feature of activity in Years 9-13, with large numbers of students completing the Bronze Award and Sixth Formers embarking on their Silver and Gold Awards.

Opportunities for students also extend abroad with a skiing trip to Austria, cultural visits to France, Germany and Spain and a range of sporting tours (football, rugby and netball).

## The Sixth Form at Vyners

The Sixth Form is an integral and highly successful part of the school community. The majority of our Year 11 students continue their education in the Sixth Form.



Nearly all our students progress on to higher education, including entries to the very best universities in the country as well as overseas. Recently there have been increasing numbers of students accessing high quality apprenticeships as an alternative to higher education. Vyners students have acquired placements at British Airways, the BBC, Cisco, Google, Jaguar and Rolls-Royce, to name a few.

The Sixth Form has its own identity but the students play a significant role as leaders within our wider school community as Prefects, House Captains, Sports Leaders and role models.

All students contribute to the whole school through community work, supporting younger students in lessons and delivering lectures and assemblies.

As students move through the Sixth Form they are assured of expert guidance from experienced subject staff, tutors and the pastoral team as they deal with the challenges of entry into higher education, employment, training or gap years. We have a dedicated member of staff who works to identify and mentor potential Oxbridge candidates as well as supporting all students with their UCAS applications.





'Congratulations to all the staff at Vyners. As a parent, the (Ofsted) report is very pleasing to read and it is fantastic to see the improvements that you have all worked very hard on. I have great confidence in my daughter staying on with you, in the Sixth Form.'

Parent

## Vyners past students reflect ...



### **Benjamin Surguy 2015-2022**

For me, Vyners was more than a mere education facility. It was a community of friendly students and staff committed to helping me develop as an individual. This began in Year 7, when the teachers helped stretch my understanding beyond the reaches of the curriculum, and continued all the way through sixth form, with staff who went above and beyond to nurture my love of the subjects. The outstanding example of this was when I was given a great deal of support with my (subsequently successful) application to read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford. Teachers across several subjects helped me through the process by marking practice questions, meeting regularly with me and conducting mock interviews, which gave me more confidence and significantly contributed to the success of my application.

Outside of academic studies, Vyners provided me with excellent opportunities to develop leadership skills, particularly through School Council and the leadership development training given to us by Mr. Mullings. I also enjoyed taking part in two of the school bands, including the Vyners Swing Band, and performing in the termly concerts.

However, my lasting memories of Vyners come from the sense of community. Teachers, some of whom hadn't taught me in several years, would still greet me cheerfully in the corridor, and I made many friendships that have continued after we left Vyners. Overall, Vyners gave me confidence to stretch and challenge myself, while presenting opportunities to give back by serving the community, and enriching my extracurricular activities. These experiences continue to be of much value to me.



### **Wemi Adebajo 2016 - 2023**

All of my years at Vyners were nothing short of transformative, greatly shaping both my personal and academic life. From the moment I walked through the doors, I felt a sense of belonging. Vyners didn't just teach me the curriculum; it ignited my curiosity and encouraged me to explore beyond the textbooks as I attended various events that broadened my interests.

Vyners welcomed me into a family that supported my dreams and ambitions no matter how high they were. The unwavering encouragement from my teachers and peers boosted my confidence and made me to strive to achieve more and develop lifelong friendships. The guidance I received was a cornerstone in my journey, helping me secure a place at the University of Cambridge, where I am now studying medicine.

The extracurricular activities and A-level courses at Vyners played a pivotal role in sparking my interest in science, particularly neuroscience and developed my interest in the arts and sports. The support from my teachers was instrumental in pushing myself to apply and attend a summer school at Cambridge, an experience that cemented my decision to study there. The amount of support and guidance I received in preparing for my application was immeasurable, and it is something I will be forever grateful for.

Looking back my time at Vyners it was a nurturing community that didn't just equip me with academic knowledge but also life skills and values that will stay with me forever. Vyners will always be a part of who I am, and I am incredibly grateful for the experiences and support that helped shape my path.



### **George Alexander 2017-2022**

When I came to the Open Evening at Vyners, the first place I wanted to see was the PE sports hall. I walked in and joined the other Year 6's watching the Vyners students playing basketball, then one of the PE teachers came over and asked us if we wanted to join in. I was enjoying myself so much, after about 25 minutes when I had to leave to see the rest of the school, I didn't want to go!

My first impression of Vyners was how friendly the other students were, they made me feel included everywhere I went around Vyners on my tour. When I arrived in Year 7, I was the only person from my primary school and I was very nervous as I didn't know anyone. By break time, I had made some friends who were in my tutorial and we were all still good friends when I left at the end of Year 11.

My passion was - and still is - rugby. I joined the afterschool rugby club in Year 7 and made even more friends with other students from different tutorials and over the years, we travelled to other secondary schools in the borough to represent Vyners at matches and tournaments.

I decided to leave Vyners after Year 11 to go to Henley College as I had a place in the Ealing Trailfinders/Henley College rugby programme which I did at the same time as studying a two year BTEC L3 extended diploma in Sport, Exercise and Personal Training. After college, I received an unconditional offer from the University of Gloucestershire to study Sports Therapy which I start in September 2024 and I also have a contract with Gloucester Rugby Club where I will continue my studies, while following my passion.

When I think back to my time at Vyners, with the support of my teachers and the opportunities that were given to me, I feel lucky to have such good memories of school inside and outside the classroom. From that very first experience, I knew that Vyners was where I wanted to be!



**Vyners School**  
Striving for Excellence



**Vyners School** is situated in the popular village of Ickenham, near Uxbridge in Middlesex.

Just a short distance from Central London, there are excellent transport links by road, rail and the London underground.

The nearest mainline railway station is West Ruislip, with underground stations at Ickenham and Hillingdon on the Metropolitan Line and Piccadilly Line within walking distance of the school.



**Vyners School**

Warren Road, Ickenham, Middlesex, UB10 8AB  
Tel: **01895 234342**

office@vynersschool.org.uk  
[www.vynersschool.org.uk](http://www.vynersschool.org.uk)

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