

# DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP DIVERSITY

DLD COLLEGE LONDON PROSPECTUS



**DLD**  
COLLEGE  
LONDON  
ESTABLISHED 1931

NOT WEIGHED  
DOWN BY LEGACY  
AND TRADITION,  
BUT FOCUSED ON  
THE FUTURE AND  
DRIVEN BY LIBERAL,  
PROGRESSIVE  
VALUES.

## WELCOME TO DLD COLLEGE LONDON

Within the pages of this prospectus, we aim to provide you with a flavour of DLD College London – the essential information about what we provide alongside a sense of who we are and where we are going.

We hope you will take from it a sense that DLD truly stands out on its own, occupying a distinctive and dynamic space in the UK independent education sector and offering prospective students the chance to join a welcoming and supportive learning community.

Founded in 1931, we are a multi-award-winning 14-19 co-ed boarding and day school situated in the creative heart of one of the world's most vibrant, multicultural cities.

We are a school of diverse thinking and influences, not weighed down by legacy and tradition, but focused on the future and driven by liberal, progressive values. From this enviable position, our students are provided with a window to expand their horizons as they prepare to take up their place in the world.

For us, DLD represents the qualities of Development, Leadership and Diversity that we value so highly here, and within this prospectus you will get a feel for how they are brought to life within our school.

While we embrace the fact that we are a college by name, we are very much a school in terms of our ethos. We sit at the intersection of Secondary and Higher Education, putting in place all

the measures that enable students to mature and evolve during their time here; making sure they are equipped with the academic and emotional mindset needed to sustain their ongoing success in the years to come.

We do this by wrapping all of our students in an atmosphere defined by tolerance, kindness and respect. This permeates every space, from the classroom to the boarding spaces, and it is felt in the relationships between students and their teachers. It is the catalyst for DLD students to become not just successful independent learners but happy, healthy people.

For every new student embarking on that journey with us, a warm welcome awaits.

**Irfan H Latif**  
Principal

## WE ARE THE NEW GUARD

A STAND-OUT  
EDUCATIONAL  
EXPERIENCE TO  
PREPARE YOU FOR AN  
OUTSTANDING FUTURE.

At DLD College London, we are continually pushing at education's leading edge to deliver an exceptional learning experience for our diverse student body. One that is relevant for them today and ensures they are fully prepared for tomorrow.

We are respectful of tradition, and we have a history that stretches back for almost a century, but we are forever looking to tomorrow. Because in a challenging world, schools must adapt to meet shifting

needs and expectations. At DLD, that means the depth of our teaching is strengthened by the breadth of award-winning structures and mechanisms we have in place to support a 21st century education.

Our home is in the heart of London's cosmopolitan South Bank, over the Thames from Britain's seat of power in Westminster. It is an unrivalled location for exploring all the historical and cultural riches London has to offer, while being exposed to life in one of the world's greatest cities.

Students are with us to learn, but they are also here to grow and have fun. Our focus is on fulfilling their academic potential, but our duty is to support them on the journey. Our responsibility is to underpin their experience with a strong emphasis on wellbeing and independence, providing them with a delicately balanced environment where they can both focus and flourish.

For those who board, our innovative and award winning Urban Boarding model means students are uniquely

immersed in life at DLD. We reflect that by actively supporting each individual from every angle: we are their teachers and their carers; we are their champions and their guides; we provide them with a measured level of freedom, and we set them the clear boundaries they need to thrive.

As they progress to Higher Education and the early stages of their professional life, they do so as rounded young adults, confident in themselves, knowledgeable about the world around them, and fully prepared to push their own boundaries to wherever it will take them.

## WE THINK LIKE YOU THINK

AT DLD, WE ENGAGE WITH EVERY STUDENT AND ENSURE THEY'RE INVOLVED IN SHAPING THEIR OWN EDUCATIONAL DIRECTION.

It is a highly tailored approach where personal objectives and ambitions play an important role in guiding academic outcomes.

It may sound simplistic, but we think of our students as people, not pupils. Relationships are conducted at a very 'human' level: we value conversation and communication; we believe teachers and staff should be approachable and welcoming; we draw on the fundamental values of a British education, such as courtesy, respect and integrity.

These values manifest themselves through the fact that students and teachers are on first-name terms and there is no expectation to wear a uniform. It is about striking the right balance – encouraging a level of autonomy but applying it within a framework of rules; valuing independent spirit but channelling it within acceptable parameters.





## FAMILY

TO OUR STUDENTS, DLD IS MORE THAN A PLACE TO LEARN, IT IS A HOME FROM HOME.

We work hard to ensure that all of our students feel welcome when they join and then quickly integrate into our uniquely inclusive community, where everything they need is all in one place. To us, our boarders and day students are seen as one big happy family.

Immersed in the comfortable surroundings of their environment, from the classrooms to the communal areas, boarders and day students alike foster an atmosphere of unity and togetherness. They know where they can go to talk and share a laugh, and they know how to find people who will listen.

## ONE WORLD

DIVERSITY IS  
INHERENT IN ALL  
ASPECTS OF LIFE  
AT DLD.

We are a mixed-ability school, and we have a student body and teaching staff who are proudly multi-national, multi-cultural and multi-faith.

We truly value and celebrate the richness that this diversity brings to our educational experience, and we encourage and support it at every turn, true to our overarching values of tolerance, kindness and respect.

Stepping outside of our building, students also have access to the diverse experiences on offer in London – one of the world's greatest cosmopolitan cities and an international hub for culture, commerce and innovation.





## SOUTH BANK'S SCHOOL

DLD IS A SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS OF THE WORLD, BUT OUR SELF-CONTAINED LOCATION ON THE SOUTH BANK MEANS LONDON IS EMBEDDED DEEP IN OUR DNA.

For our students, home is right in the heart of this awe-inspiring city, and they are blessed with genuine doorstep access to arguably its most culturally important area.

Our central position and excellent transport links make DLD the ideal location for exploring the world of arts and culture or getting a taste of business and finance in a place that is both filled with history and tradition yet dynamic and progressive.

Take a short walk over Westminster Bridge and you're within reach of the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square and the National Gallery. Follow the river from the Archbishop's Palace past the London Eye for a chance to soak up the atmosphere of the Southbank

Centre's festivals and exhibitions, immerse yourself in film at BFI Southbank and see world-class performances at the internationally renowned National Theatre. Shakespeare's Globe theatre is also just minutes away.

We take pride in the wealth of experiences available to us, and we also value the opportunity to develop the connections with our local community. We have forged links with educational establishments, such as Oasis Academy South Bank, we support Evelina London Children's Hospital with our many charity events, and we are continually looking to expand the range of organisations, businesses and cultural groups that we welcome through our doors here at DLD.

## CONNECTIONS

WE ARE A FORWARD-THINKING SCHOOL WITH OUR EYES ON THE HORIZON, ALWAYS LOOKING AT NEW WAYS TO DELIVER A TRULY MODERN EDUCATION.

In the same way, we are always looking to our students' futures, putting in place the relevant learning and support measures to ensure they arrive at the destination that's right for them.

Our deep knowledge of the UK university network enables us to guide students in their chosen direction. Over the course of their time here at DLD, students receive the combined benefits of our highly respected teaching staff and award-winning pastoral care.

The influence of our owners, the Alpha Plus Group, gives students access to an enviable range of resources to guide their university preparation, covering everything from applications to interview techniques. With their backing, DLD creates the optimal environment to succeed.

Further to the support we provide in relation to students' progression, we have a wider responsibility to broaden minds, expand horizons and stimulate intellectual and emotional growth. We achieve this

by welcoming notable speakers to give talks, organising visits to inspiring destinations, and providing access to the world of business through work experience programmes.

Taken together, these elements all ensure that our focus on academic attainment is maintained without sacrificing the development of the personal qualities so valuable to life beyond school.





## WHAT YOU'LL LEARN AND WHAT YOU'LL EMBRACE

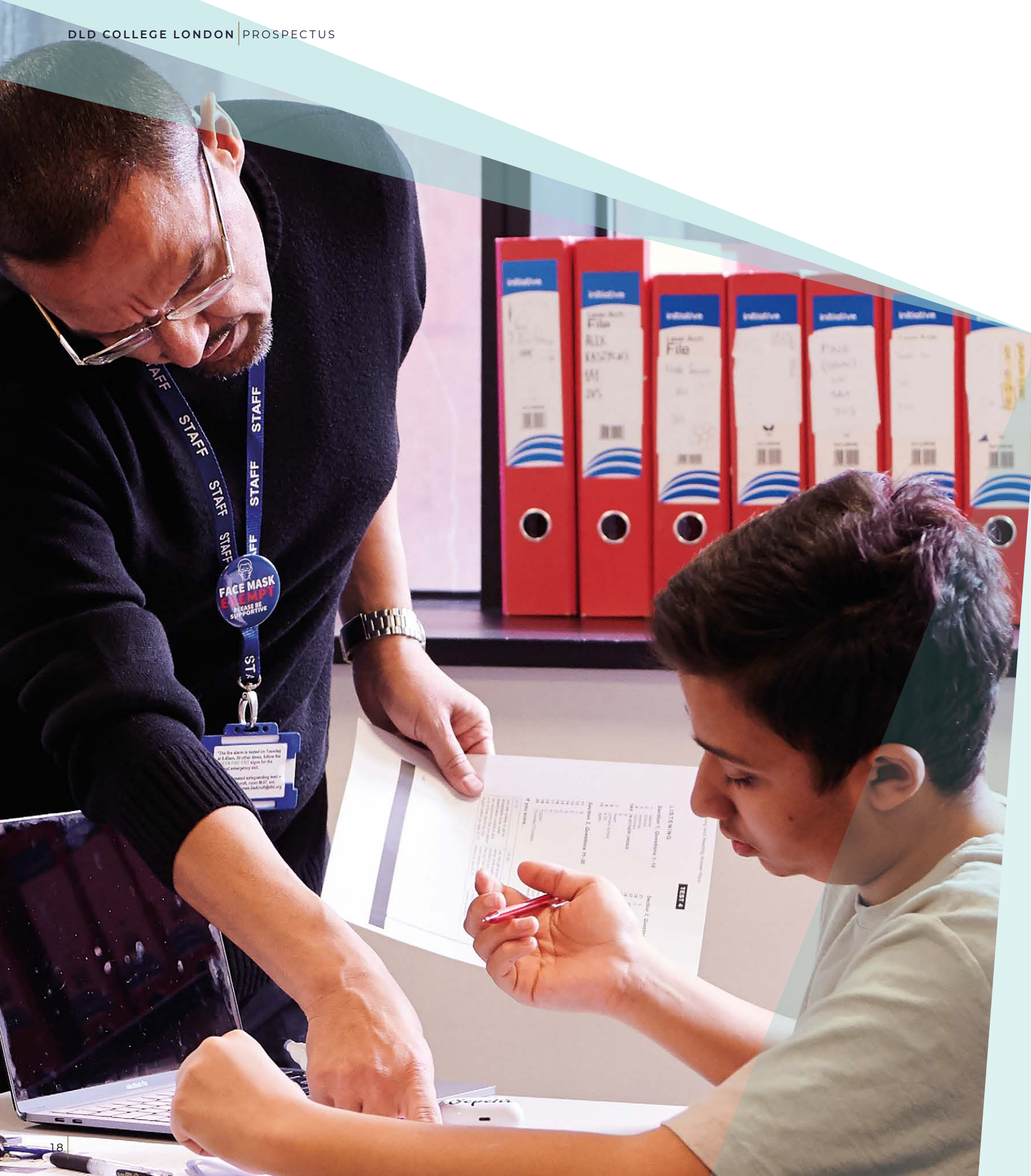
IN SCHOOL, JUST AS  
IN LIFE, WE ARE ALL  
CONTINUALLY STRIVING  
FOR BALANCE. AT DLD,  
YOU WILL FIND BALANCE  
ALL AROUND YOU.

Balance can be seen in the make-up of our student body. Balance can also be found in how we help students grow, at once driving them in pursuit of academic goals, but also helping to foster the skills they need for life.

Beyond the curriculum, we ensure everyone has opportunities for play, the space to think and the points of social interaction needed to support healthy relationships with peers and staff. They understand boundaries without feeling restricted. They

feel a sense of comfort in their own skin that enables them to explore their potential.

Ultimately, this approach results in thoughtful, mature young people who are able to bring a sense of perspective to the world around them. They have an appreciation for learning and an understanding of themselves that will stand them in good stead for life.



## YOU ARE YOU WE RESPECT THAT

TRADITION SAYS THAT  
TEACHERS TEACH AND  
PUPILS LISTEN. BUT  
THAT'S NOT THE WAY  
WE DO THINGS AT DLD.

It is certainly the case that our highly qualified teaching staff are respected authorities on their subject matter, but their relationships with students are built on trust and mutual respect.

Their role is to engage and to inspire; to challenge and to support; to share what they know and to encourage students to learn for themselves.

It is a more contemporary and modern approach that ensures students are guided with the necessary authority and structure, but leaves them free to become confident, independent learners.



## HOW YOU WILL FEEL

ASK EVERY STUDENT TO DESCRIBE THEIR EXPERIENCE OF OUR SCHOOL AND EVERY ANSWER WILL BE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT.

They are all, however, certain to reference the happy atmosphere that infuses life here at DLD.

This atmosphere is built on our school values of tolerance, kindness and respect. Often, values such as these fail to translate themselves into the real world, but at DLD they are ever present.

They are the starting point for relationships, they underpin how we communicate with one another, and they create the positive environment needed for every individual to feel supported and able to succeed.

- > Tolerance
- > Respect
- > Academic Curiosity
- > Community
- > Kindness

## ONE DAY AT A TIME

EVERY DLD STUDENT UNDERSTANDS THEY ARE WORKING TOWARDS WHERE THEY ARE GOING TOMORROW, BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ALSO NURTURE AN APPRECIATION FOR EACH AND EVERY DAY.

An education is precious, and we want our students to be engaged, happy participants in their own experience while also being active contributors to the wider school community.

To help them achieve this, we provide support for all the many academic, social and emotional

dimensions involved in their personal development and growth. As teachers, we instil values and impart knowledge, but we do so in the interests of building each individual's self-confidence, self-reliance and self-control.





## THE HORIZON

# DLD GIVES STUDENTS THE ACADEMIC MOMENTUM TO TAKE THEIR NEXT STEP.

We also give them a broader set of skills they need to truly soar when they get there, whether they are aiming for a globally recognised university or the world of work.

With around 20 A Level subjects on offer as well as the Extended Project Qualification, BTEC courses, a range of GCSEs and International Foundation Programmes, we engage with each individual to discuss their goals. We then agree on the courses that suit their ambitions and match their skills, providing them with the best opportunity to progress to the university and career of their choice.

DLD students go on to a range of Higher Education destinations,

including prestigious Russell Group universities such as Oxford and Cambridge as well as Imperial, King's College and UCL here in London. Some are internationally minded and head off to universities around the world, including UCLA and NYU in America. Some also pursue apprenticeships and vocational training where it fits with career-based expectations.

In every case, future progression is determined by individual targets and achieved by embracing the outstanding teaching available here at DLD. It also goes hand in hand with an unrivalled level of personal preparedness to ensure the future is embraced with focus and confidence.

## HUB INFORMATION

# A DETAILED VIEW OF THE COLLEGE.



# 200+

ON-CAMPUS BEDROOMS IN  
OUR PURPOSE-BUILT STUDENT  
RESIDENCE DIRECTLY ABOVE  
THE COLLEGE.



# 70

SEAT ON-SITE THEATRE  
EQUIPPED WITH A CINEMA  
SCREEN, SURROUND SOUND  
AND THE VERY LATEST  
LED LIGHTING.

### The DLD Community

When you join DLD you become part of an active school community, where everyone is encouraged to support each other.

Which part of the school you join depends on your age, with younger students in Years 10 and 11 forming part of the Lower School and Sixth Form students entering the Upper School.

In the Lower School, students are welcomed into either Marylebone or Westminster House, and oversight of the cohort is provided by an Assistant Principal. Within the Upper School, students join one of five Houses: District, Jubilee, Metropolitan, Northern or Piccadilly, based on the iconic London Underground tube network.

All students are assigned a personal tutor whose role is to get to know their tutees, engaging them in discussion during registration and weekly PHSE lessons. They also encourage them on their learning journey and promoting involvement in societies and co-curricular activities (CCAs).

The Houses are led by experienced House Masters and Mistresses who have a visible role in the college and a complete overview of a student's academic, co-curricular and pastoral life. With this holistic picture they are able to give students the guidance needed to ensure they excel and reach their desired goals.

Each House in both Lower and Upper School is comprised of a diverse mix of nationalities, and has its own schedule of academic, sporting and cultural competitions throughout the school year. This programme enables students to express themselves outside the classroom, making new friendships and developing their leadership skills along the way.

### Boarding

At DLD, we are proud to have created the award winning concept for a 21st Century model of 'Urban Boarding'.

It's an innovative model that led to us being crowned the Independent Boarding School of the Year at the Independent Schools of the Year Awards 2020, where we received the additional recognition of the Special Judges' Award for our boarding experience and support structures for student welfare.

DLD College London is the only school in central London where boarding and teaching facilities share the same building, with students living immediately above the college itself. Our holistic, all-round pastoral care is delivered through close-knit 'Huddle' communities, each of which is led by one of our team of resident Houseparents, who can be contacted 24/7.

Our commitment to our students' personal development was commended in our most recent ISI Inspection (2019), with 100% of boarders stating that they felt safe, happy and at home here with us.

The quality of our boarding facilities is among the best in the country, featuring ultra-modern en-suite rooms. Each floor has its own Common Room, affording students incredible views across London, and contains a kitchen, comfortable seating, tables and chairs, a TV, books and games. We ensure tea, coffee, bread, milk, butter, jam and fruit are all provided.

### Facilities

DLD College London boasts world-class teaching facilities, which are housed in our recently constructed purpose-built campus in the heart of central London. Students have access to state-of-the-art classrooms and equipment, providing them with the environment and all the tools they need to succeed.

Our college campus features:

- > 55 classrooms fitted with 60 touchscreen displays
- > Six dedicated science laboratories for Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- > Three Art studios as well as a graphic suite, Fashion Management classroom and a photography studio and darkroom
- > The latest Apple iMacs for Art and Media students
- > Learning E-Hub Centre equipped with all the latest educational technology
- > Five private-tuition rooms for one-on-one learning
- > WeWork inspired study areas including a dedicated area for under-16s

- > School library for research and study as well as an online library
- > Access to a virtual learning environment as used by universities to access course materials and resources and submit assignments
- > 70-seat on-site theatre equipped with a cinema screen, surround sound and the very latest LED lighting plus green-screen wall
- > Three-room basement recording studio complex
- > Three music practise rooms with acoustic and digital pianos and a drum kit
- > Wellbeing Centre located in the heart of the college with access to the college nurse, counsellor, life coach and learning support services
- > Multi-sports court and outdoor recreation area
- > More than 200 on-campus bedrooms in our purpose-built student residence directly above the college
- > In-residence gym and swimming pool

## HUB INFORMATION

### The Global Kitchen

The Global Kitchen dining experience provides the perfect space for studying and socialising while offering students restaurant-quality food prepared by our talented chefs. The diverse, nutritious menu changes throughout the week with a focus on healthy eating. A vast selection of food is prepared daily to accommodate the myriad dietary requirements across our international student body. As part of our community, the catering staff welcome feedback and menu ideas, helping to ensure food plays a central role in the many festivals and cultural events that we celebrate as part of our wellbeing commitment.

There is also an on-site café, the Grumpy Mule, which is open throughout the day for barista coffees and other drinks, plus a selection of sandwiches, paninis, cakes and pastries.



# 5

PRIVATE TUITION ROOMS FOR  
ONE ON ONE LEARNING.

### Courses

DLD students benefit from a unique education that blends high-quality teaching with a flexible, supportive approach. We ensure each student is able to build his or her confidence within a happy, friendly environment.

Our course offering includes:

**GCSEs:** One and two-year programmes, plus an 18-month option, which are focused on providing a rigorous grounding for the demands of A Level study and other post-16 qualifications.

**A Level:** A large selection of subjects are on offer, helping students to access a wide range of universities and courses.

**BTECs:** Offering a more practical, real-world approach to learning alongside a grounding in core theory, BTEC qualifications are accepted by some of the best universities in the UK and overseas.

**EPQ:** Offered to all Year 12 students to stretch and challenge them beyond the syllabus, providing a strong foundation for research-led study and also providing extra UCAS points.

**IFP:** A selection of International Foundation Programmes are on offer as an alternative to A Levels for international students who desire a more specific pre-university experience.

**APC:** The Academic Preparation Course (APC) prepares a student for a main course of study in the UK. The programme is designed to prepare learners during the academic year prior to them joining GCSE, IFP and A Level courses.

**BBSE:** The British Boarding Experience (BBSE) allows international students to experience a term studying the British curriculum and improving their English whilst boarding in the heart of one of the UK's most exciting cities.

### Study Support

In addition to the highly experienced teaching staff, DLD also provides a range of additional support services that enhance students' learning opportunities and assists with university applications.

**UATs:** The University Admissions Tutors have specialist subject area interests and university knowledge, and are allocated to students based on their intended progression. The UAT guides the student through the university selection and application process and provides dedicated hands-on support to students from Year 12 onwards, helping them to develop creative ideas for Personal Statements and to evidence an informed interest in their subject.

### Neurodiversity and Learning

**Support:** Specialist staff work closely with teaching staff to ensure that an individual learner's needs are met within the classroom and through appropriate co-curricular activities. In addition, students have access to the on-site college nurse, counsellors and life coach as part of a holistic approach to wellbeing.



# 55

CLASSROOMS  
FITTED WITH  
60 TOUCHSCREEN  
DISPLAYS.

## HUB INFORMATION



CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND TEAMS PROVIDING CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.



NATIONAL AWARD WINS, INCLUDING BOARDING SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AND SPECIAL JUDGES' AWARD IN THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2020.

### Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs)

The Co-Curricular Activities programme provides an extensive list of academic, artistic and physical opportunities to supplement learning in college. It is an important element of the school timetable, enabling students to develop new friendships whilst learning soft skills such as time management, organisation and commitment.

Over 50 clubs, societies and teams are on offer:

**ACTIVITY** ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT IN PHOTOGRAPHY **ART PORTFOLIO CLINIC** BAND CLUB **BASKETBALL** BIOLOGY SOCIETY **BOXING** BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SOCIETY **CHEMISTRY CLINIC** CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD **CHESS CLUB** COMPUTER SCIENCE CLINIC **CREATIVE DRAWING** CRITICAL THINKERS – THE BEBRAS CHALLENGE **CURIOUS CONVERSATIONS** CURRENT AFFAIRS **DEBATING** DJ'ING – IN THE MIX **DLD MEDIA PRODUCTIONS** DRAMA PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE **DRAMA PRODUCTION "MACBETH"** DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD **FENCING** FILM & MEDIA CLINIC (EXAMBUSTERS) **FILM & MEDIA SOCIETY** FIND YOUR VOICE **FOOTBALL** GEOGRAPHY CLINIC **GRAPHIC ANIMATION** HUMANITIES REVIEW/EPQ **IELTS CLINIC** INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE **INTRODUCTION TO FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY** INVESTING, SPECULATING & TRADING **KNIT & NATTER** LANGUAGE & LANGUAGES: ORIGINS **EVOLUTION & DIVERSITY** THE LAW SOCIETY **MEDSOC** MODEL UNITED NATIONS **MORE THAN NUMBERS – MATHEMATICS SOCIETY** NETBALL **PERCUSSION & RHYTHM GROUP** PET WRITING CLINIC **PHYSICS CLINIC** PHYSICS OLYMPIAD **PUBLIC SPEAKING** RUSSIAN CLINIC **SCENE STUDY** SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE **SPANISH CLINIC** THE FEMALE LEAD SOCIETY **THE HERODOTUS SOCIETY** THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY **THE PSYCHOLOGY SOCIETY** UKULELE BAND

## DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN A CHALLENGING AND DIVERSE WORLD.

### How to Apply

Please contact our Admissions teams who will be delighted to arrange a visit to the college and will provide any further information you require.

For students living in the UK with a British passport please contact the in-college Admissions Team:

Call **020 7935 8411**  
or email **dld-admissions@dld.org**

For all students living overseas and also UK based students with a foreign passport, please contact the International Admissions Centre:

Call **03300 536 082**  
or email  
**admissions@abbeydld.co.uk**

### Governance

DLD College London is governed by our proprietors, the Alpha Plus Group. The Chair of Governors, Sir John Ritblat (Chair of Alpha Plus Group), can be contacted at the Alpha Plus Group:

50 Queen Anne Street,  
London W1G 8HJ

Call **020 7487 6000**  
or email  
**enquiries@alphaplusgroup.co.uk**

### Awards

Award	Category	Result
Boarding Schools' Association Awards 2021	Wellbeing & Mental Health Initiative Award	Winner
TES Independent Schools Awards 2021	Wellbeing Initiative of the Year	Highly Commended Finalist
Independent Schools' Association (ISA) Awards 2020	Innovation in Pupil Voice	Winner
Independent Schools of the Year Awards 2020	Special Judges' Award – Independent School of the Year	Winner
	Boarding School of the Year	Winner
	International Student Experience	Finalist
Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools	Boarding School Mental Health Award	Gold – 1st school in the UK to receive this award
TES Independent Schools Awards 2020	Boarding School of the Year	Finalist

Featured in the Good Schools Guide and Tatler Schools Guide.

### Statement of DLD College London's Ethos & Aims

Development, Leadership & Diversity

Students joining DLD become part of our college community; we aim to support students in achieving their full potential by enabling them to:

- > Take ownership of their learning and demonstrate leadership, responsibility and initiative
- > Appreciate and celebrate the diverse cultures, faiths and beliefs within our college community
- > Obtain the best possible examination results based on consistent effort
- > Gain a place on their chosen university course or career pathway
- > Achieve personal development and growth
- > Broaden their outlook and perspective of the world
- > Work towards positive emotional and mental wellbeing

# DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF **LEADERS** TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN A CHALLENGING AND **DIVERSE** WORLD



## **DLD College London**

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**Principal:** Irfan H Latif MA

## **Follow us on our digital channels:**



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