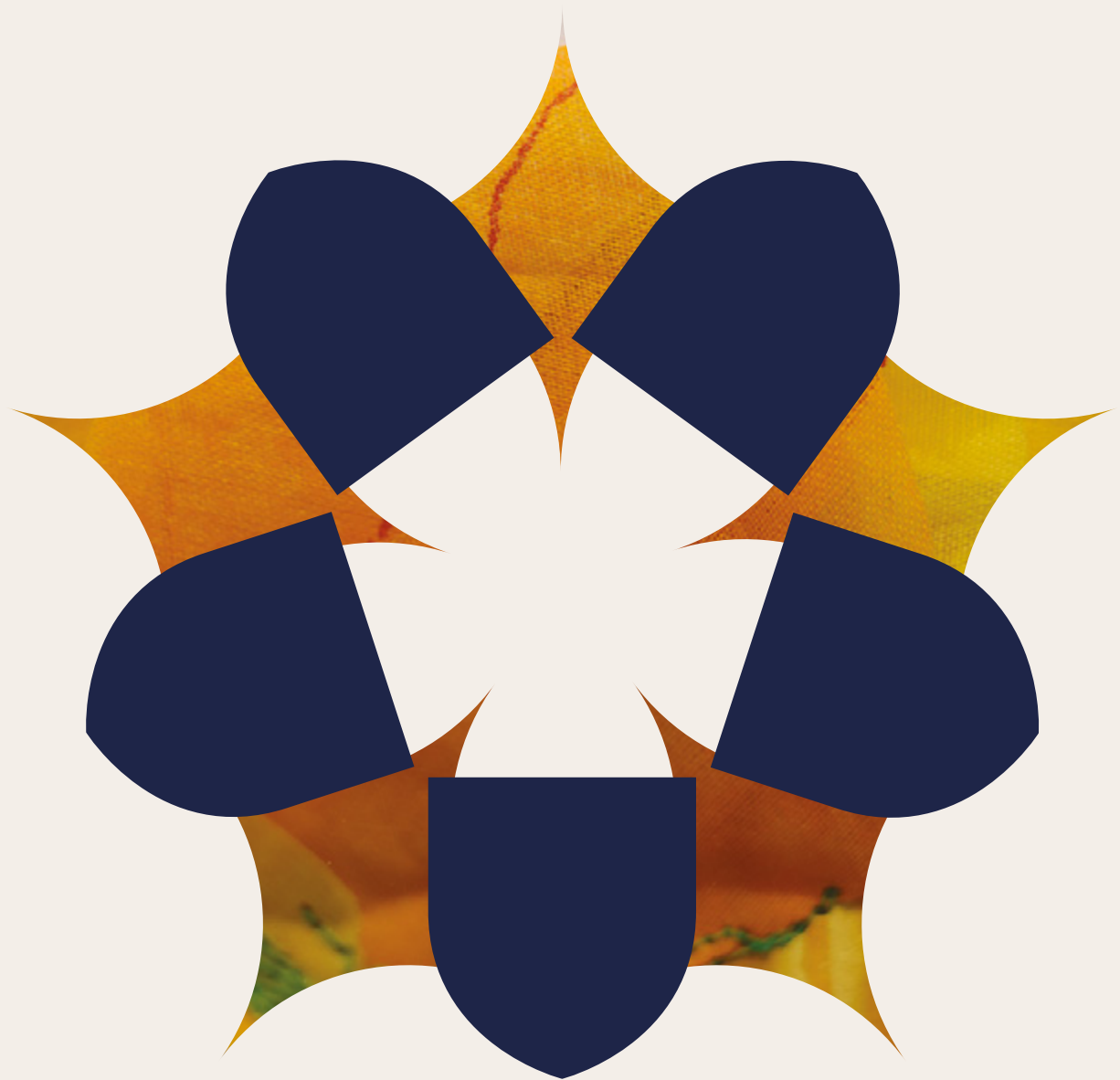


LOWER SCHOOL

Todd (Year 7) and IIs (Year 8) 2025 - 2026

Boarding and Day · Girls



TUDOR
HALL

Welcome

Our Lower School, comprising girls in Years 7 (Todd) and 8 (IIs), provides a unique transition to secondary school life. Day girls and boarders alike enjoy all the benefits of our full boarding ethos, with boarders having the flexibility to spend some additional time with their families as they make the adjustment to living away from home.



Boarding

We recognise that girls in the Lower School may benefit from additional time at home whilst they adapt to boarding school life. Therefore, Lower School boarders may go home on a Saturday after morning lessons and come back to school either on a Sunday evening or a Monday morning at 8am. Boarders are encouraged to remain at school for the closed weekends which are scheduled for the first and last weekends of the term. From Year 9 (IIs) up to and including the Sixth Form, we maintain full boarding at weekends.

We provide transport to London leaving after school finishes at 12:30pm on Saturdays and returning on a Sunday evening. Please contact Admissions for more detail about this service.

Todd and IIs boarders live together in Todd House, a cottage situated on the edge of the school campus which provides a homely and nurturing environment, allowing those new to boarding to settle into the rhythms and routines of boarding life. Todd and IIs day girls are also dropped off at Todd House in the mornings and all Todds use this house as their base during the school day. To allow a sense of progression, IIs day girls and boarders have access to a dedicated common room in the Main House of the school during the school day.

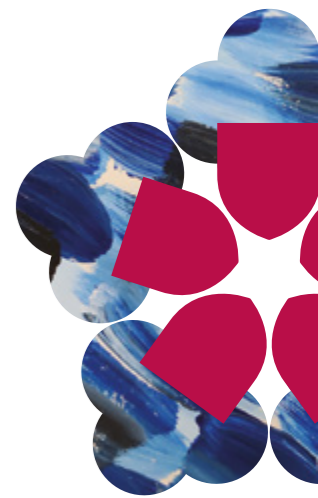
Whether girls join in Todd or IIs, being part of our Lower School enables them to develop their understanding of life at Tudor in a supportive, welcoming and friendly environment. Both year groups are deliberately smaller than those in Year 9 and above, enabling us to know and value every girl and build the crucial feeling of belonging that will allow them to embrace new challenges and friendships as they move through the school.

In the Lower School, just as in the rest of Tudor Hall, we recognise the importance of our girls developing an adventurous spirit in pursuit of their goals, whatever these may be, and opportunities to operate out of their comfort zone are plentiful both inside and outside the classroom.



Partial boarding

We offer day girls the opportunity to board for a fixed two consecutive nights each week between Monday and Thursday. Partial boarding gives greater flexibility for the day girls to stay on nights when there are late sporting activities or drama commitments and is a good way to gradually introduce boarding while continuing to nurture the bond between the year group. The exact nights are confirmed by the Housemistress at the start of each term, and are dependent on available bed space.



Our Lower School Team



Luci Burton-Sims, Lower School Housemistress.

Luci has worked at Tudor Hall for nine years, as a Housemistress and an RS teacher. Most recently, she has been Lower School Housemistress and a teacher of PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education). Luci lives with her husband and daughter in Todd House and has pastoral and academic responsibility for the girls in Lower School.

Luci is supported by a Deputy Housemistress and a House Matron.

Tutor Team

All girls in the Lower School have a tutor, who plays a vital role in their academic development and, along with the Housemistress, is the key point of contact for parents. Tutor groups in the Lower School are typically very small, with a maximum of ten girls in each; this enables each tutor to get to know the girls in their care exceptionally well.

As well as seeing girls at daily registration periods, the tutor discusses academic progress with each individual,

particularly following academic tracking points and the publication of school reports, helping them to reflect and set targets for further improvement.

Tutors support their tutees in their co-curricular activities, for example by attending plays and concerts outside the school day. They provide a vital link between parents and teachers, making regular email and telephone contact with parents to feed back on academic and personal progress.





Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

It is of vital importance that our girls are happy; we know that they will only be able to reach their true potential if they are happy and feel a sense of belonging within our school community.

As our girls navigate secondary school, there will inevitably be challenges but our robust pastoral systems ensure that support is available at every step. In addition to the Housemistress and Tutor, we also have a School Counsellor, a Chaplain, and a Life Coach, who support the work of the Deputy Head Pastoral and Assistant Head Pastoral.

Support is also on offer from our Sixth Form Mentoring Team. Led by our Deputy Head Girl, the team consists of LVI (Year 12) and UVI (Year 13) pupils who can lend a listening ear where appropriate, or more hands-on practical support, for example with a particular subject or a skill such as time management.



Curriculum

We understand that every girl who joins Tudor Hall begins her journey from a unique starting point. Taught by specialist teachers, Lower School pupils experience a discovery curriculum encompassing core subjects, humanities, the arts and practical subjects. Teamwork, creativity, leadership and resilience are embedded into lessons, ensuring that their learning experience is well-rounded and equips them not only with academic qualifications but also with key life skills. Class sizes are small, allowing teaching to support all girls in reaching their academic and personal potential.

Academic Enrichment

'Aim Higher' is an ethos that underpins every aspect of life at Tudor; we seek to foster a growth mindset in our girls both inside and outside the classroom. Irrespective of their starting point, the Aim Higher ethos enables all pupils to make progress and to develop the necessary resilience and confidence to achieve their goals. As a High Performance Learning pathway school, Tudor is incorporating cognitive and neuroscience research and methodologies into every aspect of school life as the School works towards the prestigious World Class School accreditation. Our Aim Higher programme is open to all pupils and includes weekly lectures on a diverse range of topics, bespoke themed conferences and a Tudor Diploma which focuses on research and public speaking skills, together with important aspects of life at Tudor such as outdoor education and volunteering.

In the final week of the summer term, the normal timetable is collapsed as the whole school takes part in Curriculum Enrichment Week, comprising trips, activities and House events, before the community comes together on the last evening for an outdoor cinema event, along with dodgem rides!

Co-curricular Life

Through our extensive co-curricular programme, we focus on harnessing our girls' intellectual, physical and creative potential as well as developing their emotional and spiritual awareness. A well-balanced combination of academic and co-curricular learning increases the willingness to take risks, improves social interaction, develops resilience and enhances leadership skills. It is these valuable 'soft skills', learnt through practical application in the co-curriculum, that will allow pupils to thrive and flourish in their future lives.

While many girls will join us with established hobbies and interests, the Lower School is the perfect time to try out new clubs and activities; this enables girls to find new passions and get to know people with similar interests, both within and outside of their year group. With well over 100 clubs to choose from, from sports clubs to dog walking and retro video gaming, there really is something for everyone!

From 4pm on weekdays, the remainder of the day is split into three PS (Personal Study) sessions. This allows girls to opt into clubs and activities in some sessions and complete prep in others, thus developing independence in the way they wish to structure their day and reflecting the needs of each individual.

Weekend Programme

Lower School pupils have lessons on Saturday mornings, which is followed by a vibrant and exciting weekend programme. This might include trips to local places of interest, theme parks, restaurants, water parks, bowling and cinema. At other times, activities are based in the House and might include pamper evenings, board game nights or movie marathons. Socials are regularly organised with schools such as Cothill and Summer Fields.

Day girls are welcome to join all weekend activities and, whilst Lower School boarders may choose to go home after Saturday morning lessons, there is no obligation to do so, and they may stay at school some weekends and return home for others.





Joining us

We offer a Taster Day for registered prospective pupils in the Summer Term of Year 5, as well as offering a Boarding Taster in the same term.

Assessment Days for entry into Todd (Year 7) take place in November of the year prior to entry, with an opportunity to apply for Music, Dance, Drama and Art scholarships in the January of the year prior to entry.

New Girls' Day is just before the end of the Summer Term, offering parents and girls who have accepted a place the opportunity to hear from key staff and meet others in the cohort.

Admissions Team

Registrar Elspeth Dyer
Assistant Registrar Fi Gaskin
Email admissions@tudorhallschool.com
Phone 01295 756259

Fees (January 2025)

Boarding	£19,032
Partial boarding	£13,680
Day girls	£11,610
International boarding	£19,962

Being a Lower School girl at Tudor means being part of a whole school community and its traditions and values, whilst at the same time working with a smaller team who are experts in the education and care of girls in this age group. The strong foundations that are built in these first two years serve as an excellent springboard for success in Year 9 (IIs) and beyond.





TUDOR HALL

Registrar
Elspeth Dyer | admissions@tudorhallschool.com

Tudor Hall School, Wykham Park, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX16 9UR
01295 263434 | admissions@tudorhallschool.com

www.tudorhallschool.com