



Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys

PROSPECTUS
2025 - 2026



Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys

Welcome to
Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys





I am delighted to welcome you to Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys

Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys – affectionately, ‘The Poly’ – is consistently a high performing school that aims to serve the community, improving opportunity for our students. Year after year, our boys significantly outperform boys’ national averages in English, Maths and across the curriculum at GCSE, meaning that, should you choose to entrust your son’s education to us, he will likely perform better than most other boys in the country. This secures great opportunities for our boys beyond secondary education, many of whom choose to stay with us in our equally successful Sixth Form.

I am so proud of our students.



Mr T Lawrence - Headteacher



Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys



SUCCESS FOR EVERYONE

At the heart of our approach is our vision of "Success for Everyone". We recognize that this success looks different for each of our boys: they have their own ambitions and we work together with them to help them achieve these.

To enable this, we have devised a curriculum from year 7 to year 11 that enables all abilities to be inspired, thrive and succeed. SEND-specialist staff, along with highly trained teachers, adapt their teaching to ensure that any student with SEND can progress. To cater for high achievers, we have devised an ambitious Grammar School Intake (GSI) curriculum for English, Maths and Science at key stage 3 that challenges their minds with skills, concepts and knowledge that draw upon, and prepare them for, future study. Then, at key stage 4, the curriculum expands to encompass a range of specialist studies for our high achievers, for instance in Economics, Computer Science, Astronomy, Further Maths, Extended Project and the Triple Sciences. For those students that require more support, we deliver functional skills and we make links with other colleges to provide practical skills in construction.

This range of subjects runs alongside our more traditional curriculum of Modern Foreign Languages, History, Geography, Music and the Arts. To ensure no boy falls behind, we run interventions in reading and numeracy as well as a programme of subject-specific after-school, Saturday and holiday schools. This means that our boys leave us with meaningful qualifications that set them up for their future ambitions.

Outside of the assessed curriculum, we have an enhanced programme of enrichment. Our regional and even national sporting success is legendary and I feel sorry for any other school that dares compete with us on the field! Equally, in local debates, our boys command their audience and thrill with their reasoning and argument. We run weekly clubs in Music, robotics, Drama, chess, Art, Sports as well as debating and poetry competitions – and this roster is being added to each term. Last year, we were presented in the House of Commons with an award for best Citizenship teaching in the country. We also ran a Science Fair, attended by professors to judge students' investigations.

These successes arise from a dedicated team of teachers and support staff who relish the opportunities to see our boys succeed across the board. There is something to inspire every boy to explore his passions, including trips to Paris, Barcelona, Poland and our annual Activities Week that takes the boys out to London museums, the Kent coast and a range of entertainment, sporting and cultural institutions. We educate for exam success but also for a deeper, richer appreciation of our society and the opportunities it provides.

We recognise that a happy and secure child is more likely to have a successful, secure and happy future: the excellent results our boys achieve are not just a measure of quality teaching but also a result of individualised support. The foundation of all our work is our exemplary pastoral care: we have a team of highly trained specialist staff who closely monitor our students' needs and always have an open door to any issue that arises. We give our staff generous time so that they can look after our boys' social and emotional needs to build trusting relationships with each and every one of them.

Our Personal Development programme teaches our boys how to navigate a complex real and virtual world and, fundamentally, how to lead safe and healthy lives, supplemented by the behaviour expectations we have of our boys to be ready, respectful and safe. And should a boy fall short of these expectations, we work as a team to understand and mitigate breaches of this code, using a restorative approach, to monitor and support the student to be back on-track.

I naturally recommend our school but the facts above give confidence and credibility to my recommendation. I invite you to see the school in session for yourselves to confirm this. I am confident also that you will have made the right choice for your son by privileging us with his care and education so welcome to the Poly Family.





OUR SHARED VISION

Our vision is "Success for Everyone". We aspire for every member of our community, regardless of circumstances or background, to be the best version of themselves - confident, successful students, committed, successful staff, who are committed to growing and developing as practitioners, and engaged stakeholders who unite in celebration. We achieve our Vision through our two core values of CARE and UNITY.

CARE

The overriding feel within our Trust is that we care more than anyone else could expect. We care for all aspects of our practice and, in particular, we care for:

- Everyone's safety and happiness
- Everyone's personal development and growth
- Everyone's outcomes
- Everyone's standards
- Everyone's learning
- Everyone's well-being
- Everyone's relationships

This is reflected by the fact that we call ourselves the Poly Family and we are an organisation based on relationships above all else – we are individual people first and students, staff and parents/carers second.

UNITY

The value that ensures that our impact is greater than it ever could be if we worked alone. This means that our schools, teams and individuals are always pulled together in ways which share the workload and create solutions from which everyone benefits. We are determined that nothing can divide us when we put the needs of our community before everything else.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

LESSONS FOR SUCCESS

We offer an exciting, innovative and personalised curriculum that changes in response to national requirements. All stages of our curriculum are designed to inspire and challenge students at all levels of their education.

The school puts an emphasis on the importance of information and communication skills. These underpin and empower your son's independent learning, which will put him at the forefront of technology.

In a recent OFSTED inspection, it was noted that we have "an unusually high proportion of Advanced Skills Teachers and Lead Practitioners" who encourage creative, responsive and effective approaches to teaching and learning.

Academic, personal, social and leadership skills are developed through our varied curriculum that includes artistic, musical and sporting opportunities.



"Pupils take pride in their work and talk enthusiastically about what they are learning, making links with what they have learned previously."

OFSTED 2024

CURRICULUM



We are very proud of our new curriculum, which has been designed to be inclusive of our school's communities. It is reviewed each year in order to tailor the right courses to the right students and so ensuring success for everyone.

The wider curriculum includes an extensive Personal Development programme and a fantastic range of leadership and extra-curricular activities.

Our curriculum plays an important part of the continuing success of our boys in their examinations.

KEY STAGE 3

We offer a full, broad and balanced curriculum, taught by subject specialists who deliver high quality lessons in order to inspire the love of their subject and promote a sense of awe and wonder so that our students become specialists in that field. At the heart of this curriculum is the development of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills – those skills central to future success and life-long learning and to develop our students as well rounded individuals, ready to move onto the next phase of their education.

Our personalised curriculum means that some students in Year 7 follow our transition curriculum. This involves a cross-curricular approach to literacy and numeracy, taught by specialists who are skilled in developing vital learning skills. This curriculum has proved a great success in helping students make more rapid progress than that of the national average.

KEY STAGE 4

All students select their Key Stage 4 choices via our option programme during Year 9 and start their courses in Year 10.

Our options programme is extensive and allows students to study a considerable range of GCSE and vocational courses at Level 1 and 2, where appropriate.

Students are given close guidance and support to help them make the best choices for themselves and their future, securing the most suitable pathway to sixth form, college, apprenticeships and beyond.

SUCCESS FOR EVERYONE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL INTAKE

We are pleased to be able to offer an exciting and challenging curriculum to our most able students through the Grammar School Intake (GSI) programme.

The aim of this programme is to provide a grammar school curriculum experience within an outstanding, inclusive and caring comprehensive school.

Students are selected for the programme based on their previous achievements and school testing on intake.





PASTORAL CARE



CARING FOR OUR BOYS

Woolwich Polytechnic School prides itself on the outstanding quality and strength of its pastoral care. Our highly skilled heads of year and their tutor teams are dedicated to supporting the pastoral and academic welfare of the students in their charge. We have enhanced the pastoral teams this year to include lead practitioners and mentors to enhance students' experiences. This outstanding and compassionate team will ensure your son succeeds academically, socially and personally.

Woolwich Polytechnic School, like any high achieving organisation, is anchored in a celebration of its achievements. We celebrate a diverse and multicultural community and academic, sporting, social and cultural successes. Our celebratory ethos inspires our boys to reach their potential by praising and rewarding their success.

The pastoral team forges close links between parents, students and tutors to ensure that your son understands the importance of good manners.

Additionally, we now have a newly appointed Pastoral Lead, and each year group is supported by a member of our Senior Leadership Team.

We believe the success of Woolwich Polytechnic School is based on the thriving partnership between parents and carers, students, staff and governors. We encourage parents and carers to take an active role in their son's studies and often invite them into school to share subject knowledge with them. We use My Child at School to inform parents of day-to-day developments and detailed information on their child.

We hold many events that bring our entire school community together to share in your son's success.

It is the parents/carers' responsibility to ensure that their child attends school and that the school is informed of the reason for any non-attendance. Students receive certificates for very high attendance.

We are also a no-smartphone school for Years 7-11. Sixth Form students may use their smartphones, but only in designated areas.



*"Bullying is not tolerated,
and staff are vigilant.
This helps to ensure that
pupils feel safe and are
kept safe."*

OFSTED 2024



ENRICHMENT



Our gifted and talented Scholars' programme, working alongside our GSI provision, identifies those students who have the potential for above average achievement in either traditional 'academic' subjects and/or more creative areas such as art, drama, music and sport.

We ensure that conditions such as dyslexia, which may prevent students from demonstrating their potential, do not form barriers to identification and achievement.

We offer a broad spectrum of extra-curricular activities that are designed to motivate and challenge students and explore interests beyond the curriculum.

We believe that learning transcends barriers and reaches out into the local community and beyond; therefore, we actively encourage students to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

We have a wide variety of after-school clubs and activities that are available to all students, including sports, drama, music, art and technology. Students are often given the chance to showcase their talents to a far wider audience than the school.

Our school was the first in the country to receive a Gold Award for its Work Related Learning, which promotes students' understanding of the world of work and key employability skills. We have close links with businesses, both local and national, which support our enterprise activities. Moreover, our excellent work experience programme for students in Year 10 and Year 12 helps your son with his career choice and prepares him for the transition from school, to college or to employment.



UNIFORM



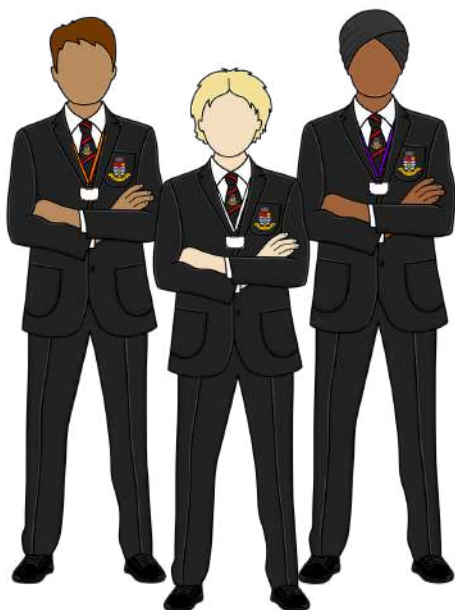
All students are expected to wear the school's uniform and to possess the necessary kit for physical education.

Clothing must be smart, clean and tidy. All boys are expected to wear this uniform on the journey to and from school, as well as in school.

If for any reason your son is unable to come to school wearing the correct uniform, he should bring a note of explanation from you.

The following items are not permitted: caps, trainers, hooded jackets, durags, snoods, or extra tracksuit bottoms worn under trousers. If your son is found wearing these items, they will be confiscated and he may be sent home.

Boys are not permitted to wear jewellery (including earrings) to school for health and safety reasons. The only permissible pieces of jewellery is a watch or a medical wristband.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Black blazer with school badge*
- Black trousers
- White shirt
- Black v-neck jumper (with or without the school badge)
- School tie (black and red with school badge)*
- Shoes - black (boots and trainers are not permitted)
- A plain dark coat or jacket for outside wear
- Black socks
- A lanyard* (One free lanyard is provided in the first instance but lost lanyards must then be paid for)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT

- Black shorts with school badge*
- Red and black polo shirt with school badge*
- Red and black rugby shirt*
- Trainers
- Red football socks*
- Black training top ~
- Black training pants ~
- Red and black fleece ~
- Football boots ~

**These items can be purchased on-line direct from the manufacturer. Please see the school's website for the order form. Orders can be collected from the school or sent directly home.*

~ These items are not compulsory.



CASHLESS PAYMENTS

The school operates a cashless payment system. The school finance office will no longer accept cash as a method of payment unless there are exceptional circumstances. The school is able to accept card payments, operated through My Child at School. All parents/carers will be issued with a username and password and details of how to access the system. The system can be used for all payments including catering, educational visits, Activities Week and revision guides.

CASHLESS CATERING SYSTEM

Cash loaders around the school allow students to use their identity cards to add funds to their accounts. Students are discouraged to bring cash into school and electronic payment is the preferred option.

LOCAL AUTHORITY RESOURCED PROVISION

Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys Local Authority Resourced Provision (LARP) is for pupils with ASD. Admissions to Woolwich Polytechnic LARP are made through the RBG SEN.

The criteria is as follows:

- Have diagnosis of ASD/MLD
- Normally have an EHCP with ASD as primary need
- They should have potential to access and engage in some mainstream learning with appropriate support

Students are supported by specialist staff within the provision, which comprises of two main classrooms, a life skills area, sensory garden, outside learning space, sensory room and access to their own toilet area. Additionally, we are opening a new provision for those ASD students with more complex needs.

Multi-Disciplinary Team

We work closely with parents/carers along with a range of other professionals involved with each individual student. This can include Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, CAMHS, Outreach services, Children with Disabilities team and health professionals.

Curriculum

Students have their own personalised timetable based on their individual needs which includes mainstream lessons along with accessing the curriculum and interventions within the LARP. Students follow a personalised curriculum to meet their own individual needs. Depending on their pathway they will follow either an adapted curriculum (EQUALS, AQA UAS, ASDAN, Entry Level, Functional Skills or GCSE where appropriate). Many of these lessons include practical activities which support independence and tolerance of new sensory stimuli. The LARP provides specialist interventions to help develop the student's communication, interaction, self regulation and independence.

Learning

- Structured approach and visuals to support
- Staff know individual students well to reduce anxiety and recognise triggers
- Students use a reward system to motivate and engage
- Positive approach and work towards strengths and motivators
- Trips and visits are an important part of learning
- Students are rewarded for successes

Low arousal approach

- The environment is kept visually calm and ordered
- Students voice is listened to and time allowed to manage difficulties
- Opportunities for own time and space throughout the day to manage work and sensory overload when needed



GCSE RESULTS 2025



Continued Academic Excellence at Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys

We are proud of our boys' achievements, with English and Maths pass rates up by approximately 5% on last year - these are really the gateway subjects to future study, so it means that even more students can access key stage 5 or apprenticeships without retakes. With the best English grades at 79% and maths at 74%, we also know that these beat national averages by some margin.

Other notable successes include Art and Physics with 100% pass rate, Citizenship with a 90% pass rate, followed closely by Drama and DT on 85% and Economics and French on 80%.

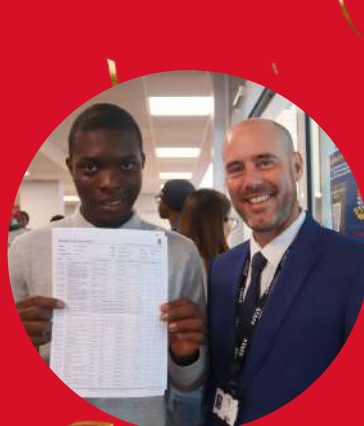
At grade 7 and above, again Art, along with Economics, English Literature and Maths all achieved around 20% or more for these top grades. There should also be a shout-out for Further Maths, where almost 100% of students achieved grade 6 or higher, with 79% at grade 7 or above and 21% at grade 9.

Mr T Lawrence, Headteacher comments:

"I am delighted and immensely proud to announce that Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys have achieved GCSE results that compare very favourably to previous years, indeed showing a significant increase in pass grades from last year. English, Maths, Art, Photography, Graphics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Citizenship, Design technology, Economics, French and Spanish - the list is happily extensive! - stand out as particular successes. I must also congratulate teachers for their enormous efforts and offer my gratitude to parents for supporting their sons and us through these times: everyone's efforts have been rewarded with great success."

Top Achievers – Grade Breakdown

- Toan: 9 grade 9s, 1 grade 8
- Deividas: 3 grade 9s, 6 grade 8s, 1 grade 7
- Malachi: 3 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 1 grade 6
- Muhammad: 2 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s, 1 grade 6
- Michael: 1 grade 9, 5 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s
- Mithiran: 1 grade 9, 3 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 3 grade 6s, 1 grade 4
- Abdulrahmon: 1 grade 9, 3 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, 3 grade 6s, 1 grade 5
- Taran: 1 grade 9, 2 grade 8s, 6 grade 7s, 1 grade 6, 1 grade 4
- David: 1 grade 9, 2 grade 8s, 6 grade 7s, 1 grade 5
- Jamal: 1 grade 9, 2 grade 8s, 4 grade 7s, 2 grade 6s
- Arthur: 1 grade 9, 2 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 1 grade 6, 1 grade 5
- Benjamin: 1 grade 9, 2 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s, 1 grade 6, 1 grade 3
- Nam: 5 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, 2 grade 6s, 1 grade 5
- Calvin: 4 grade 8s, 4 grade 7s, 1 grade 6, 1 grade 5
- Dylan: 4 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 3 grade 6s
- Khaliq: 4 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, 2 grade 6s, 2 grade 5s
- Refael: 3 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 4 grade 6s
- Hamsa: 3 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s, 3 grade 6s, 2 grade 5s
- Oluwatimileyin: 2 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s, 3 grade 6s, 1 grade 5



SUCCESS FOR EVERYONE



Woolwich Polytechnic Sixth Form

Woolwich Polytechnic Sixth Form Celebrates Outstanding A-Level Results

80%+ A*-C



WWW.POLYSIXTHFORM.CO.UK

Many of our student transition to the Poly Sixth Form after Year 11. It is co-educational with a track-record of excellence and allows our students to remain part of the Poly Family after leaving us.

Woolwich Polytechnic School is proud to announce another year of exceptional A-Level results, with 80+% of all grades awarded falling within the A* to C range. This remarkable achievement reflects the hard work, dedication, and ambition of our students, supported every step of the way by our dedicated teaching and support staff.

Woolwich Polytechnic School is proud to announce another year of exceptional A-Level results, with 80+% of all grades awarded falling within the A* to C range. This remarkable achievement reflects the hard work, dedication, and ambition of our students, supported every step of the way by our dedicated teaching and support staff.

Director of Sixth form, Ms Bassi said, *"We are incredibly proud of the entire Year 13 cohort. They have shown outstanding resilience, maturity, and determination, and their achievements today are a true testament to their efforts and to the commitment of our staff team."*

In fact, Woolwich Polytechnic Sixth Form students have likely once again outperformed both the London and national average for Russell Group university offers - Exeter, UCL, Birmingham, Kings, Warwick, Queen Mary and Imperial - demonstrating the school's consistent focus on academic excellence and student aspiration.

Beyond university, many students have also secured competitive apprenticeships at top firms across Finance, IT, Insurance and Engineering sectors. A number of students are set to begin exciting roles at OFCOM, the UK's communications regulator - highlighting the diverse range of successful pathways our students are now pursuing. *"Whether our students are heading to university, starting an apprenticeship, or entering the world of work, we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them,"* said head of year 13, Mr Tatton. *"This cohort has shown what is possible when high standards meet belief and support."*

Headteacher, Mr Tom Lawrence stated, *"Our class of 2025 have done themselves proud, achieving admirable A Level and vocational results that will enable nearly all students to get their first choice of university or apprenticeship. Our headline figures show an impressive 98.5% pass-rate, and for those grades that really matter to get into university, C-A* grades, our overall percentages hold up very well indeed. The results day itself has been a great day of rightful celebration for staff and students. I am immensely proud of their considerable achievements and wish them well in their next stage, confident that they have built a great foundation for future success at the Poly."*

WHY CHOOSE A POLYMAT SCHOOL?



WELCOME FROM THE CEO OF POLYMAT MR T PLUMB

PolyMAT operates three very successful schools in Greenwich – Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys, Woolwich Polytechnic School for Girls and Bannockburn Primary School.

Our three schools serve the same community and we work in close collaboration to achieve our Vision of “Success for Everyone”. This means that we are highly inclusive and place the needs of our students and their families at the heart of our work. All that we do is driven by two values – Care and Unity. By Care, we mean that we show a level of consideration and commitment to each-and-every student that we believe is unmatched. This means that each student is seen as an individual and treated with the care that they need to achieve great things. Unity means that we always work together – with our three schools, with our community and with our wider partners – to ensure that we are delivering the best strategies to create success for everyone.

Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys has a very long history of success (indeed, the actual school is over one hundred years old!). It has a track record of impressive exam results and impressive levels of pastoral care and we ensure that the environment for learning is always one which is safe, positive and enjoyable. We work very hard to create strong relationships within our organisation and we welcome strong parental involvement. We know that our students will only achieve their best if they are safe and happy. The main school is supported by a large and successful Sixth Form on the same site which admits girls as well as boys.

I do hope that you find this prospectus exciting and that it persuades you to come and visit us to see what makes us special. I am confident that you will not be disappointed!





Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys

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