



BATTERSEA
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
LONDON, S.W.16

1. **History** The School is a Voluntary-Controlled Secondary Grammar School under the London County Council. It was founded as an endowed grammar School under a trust deed established by Sir Walter St. John in September 1700. The former site was on St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction, in the Borough of Battersea, where the School carried on its work from 1875 to 1936. The size of that site prevented extension in any form, and, in September 1936, the School removed to its present position in Streatham.

2. **Buildings** The School premises rank among the finest grammar school buildings in the country. They were designed by an Old Grammarian, J. E. K. Harrison, F.R.I.B.A., and stand in about ten acres of ground, which includes a playing field and an unusually beautiful garden. The Great Hall is fitted for dramatic and cinema performances and there is a separate Dining Hall. Six laboratories provide ample facilities for work to an advanced standard in Physics, Chemistry and Biology. A studio, and workshops splendidly fitted for both woodwork and metal work, enable the School to devote special attention to Art in its abstract and applied forms. There is an attractive library, a Geography Room and sixteen spacious and well-fitted Classrooms.

The development of the Sixth Form in recent years has led to the need for more library facilities. This will be achieved by certain internal re-arrangement of accommodation and the erection of an entirely new Art block at the front of the School.

At Burntwood Lane, S.W.17, the Trust has a second playing field, of about nine acres, which the School shares with the sister school, Sir Walter St. John's. This was purchased by donations from Old Boys, parents and friends of the Schools.

3. **Admissions** The normal method of admission, under the terms of the Education Act, 1944, is through the Junior Leaving procedure of the London County Council. This enables those boys selected by the School to enter in the September when they are between the ages of eleven and twelve years. The only other means of entry is by transfer at a later age from another Secondary School.

The parents or guardian of a boy who enters the School will be required to complete a Form of Agreement that the boy shall remain at the School *at least* until he has taken the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary level. The School has a strong tradition for work in the Advanced Course and, wherever a boy's abilities justify it, parents will be required to allow the boy to take this Certificate at the Advanced level at the age of eighteen years. No fees are payable for any boy attending the School, and no charges are made for books, stationery or games.

Any boy admitted to the School may be required to take a test to decide which Form he shall enter.

4. **Courses and Curriculum** The School offers a Grammar School curriculum in all the normal School subjects. The Lower School contains a three-year course and in this a boy will study Divinity, English Language and Literature, History, Geography, French, Latin, Mathematics, Science, Art, Crafts and Music. There is also a carefully controlled Physical

Education. In the fourth and fifth years, Greek, German, Spanish, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Technical Drawing are all available in addition, or as alternatives, to the subjects already studied.

The Sixth Form enables boys to take specialised courses leading to the University Faculty requirements in Arts, Science, Medicine and Engineering. Botany, Zoology and Geology are all available in addition to the subjects already studied. The present scheme enables a boy to enter either the Arts, Science or Medical Advanced Courses and to choose from a wide range of different courses.

The Governors of the Trust award every year a Dawnay Scholarship (value £35 a year for three years) to a boy who intends to enter the profession of Engineering.

5. **Homework** A certain amount of private preparation is required from all boys, but the amount varies from form to form. The work is set well in advance, and it is possible for a boy so to arrange his work that a particular evening is kept free from homework. Parents are asked to co-operate with the School in seeing that reasonable facilities are provided at home, and in ensuring that the work is done.
6. **Religious Instruction** The School day commences with Morning Service or House Prayers and in every Form one or more periods a week is given to Religious Instruction. Parents have the right to request exemption, on grounds of conscience, from the Morning Service and the Divinity Lessons. This should be made in writing to the Headmaster before the boy joins the School.
7. **House System** The corporate and social life of the School is centred in a House organisation, and the discipline of the School is based upon this loyalty. The six Houses, Bolingbroke, Dawnay, Erskine, St. John's, Spencer and Trinity, commemorate important phases in the history of the School, and each boy is assigned to one of these Houses on admission, care being taken to see that family connections are preserved. Each boy is, therefore, under the guardianship of his House Master who develops a close personal relationship with the boy throughout his School career.
8. **Terms, Hours and Holidays** The School year consists of three terms, giving a total of about forty weeks' School attendance. There are holidays of about two weeks at Christmas and Easter, and a long vacation of six or seven weeks in the Summer. There is no Saturday school, but boys may be required for School matches on that day and, in cases of consistently bad work, poor conduct or serious unpunctuality, a boy may be required for detention on Saturday morning. The hours of attendance are 9.15 to 4.0 daily and there is a long-break from 12.50 to 1.55 each day. All boys must keep the full term, and leave of absence at the beginning and end of term can be granted only for *family* holiday. The work and play in this School are exacting, and make severe demands on a boy's mental and physical energy. If the boy is to profit fully from his course, it is essential that he has adequate sleep, especially during term time. Parents are

requested to ensure that boys go to bed at reasonable times, and that the attraction of radio, television and cinema is sensibly controlled.

Parents are reminded that it is illegal for boys between the ages of 13 and 15 to engage in paid employment without a licence and parents are urged to consult the Headmaster before any arrangements are made whereby boys attending the School undertake any form of paid employment at any age.

9. **Meals and Milk** Milk is available without charge. A midday meal is served daily and may be taken by any boy. Payment is made weekly in advance and credits are allowed for lunches not taken by reason of absence from School. All boys must take lunch at School unless they can return to their own homes for this meal. The Headmaster may grant special leave to take the midday meal with relatives, but application for this must be made in writing. No boy who remains to School lunch is allowed to leave the premises during the long break, unless he has permission from his House Master.
10. **Absence** If a boy is unwell, the School expects parents to exercise sensible discretion about keeping him at home, but the Headmaster should be informed the next day by letter or telephone. In no other case may a boy be away during term time without *previous* permission, and in normal circumstances this must be requested in writing at least one day in advance; in cases of extreme urgency, leave should be sought by telephone. The decision of the Headmaster must be accepted as final. If a boy is absent through illness, a note explaining the reason for the absence must be brought *when the boy resumes attendance*. In cases of illness due to infectious disease, a doctor's certificate of freedom from infection must also be brought.
11. **School Uniform** Boys in the Junior School (Forms 1, 2 and 3) will wear the School cap, School blazer (black-and-white striped with gold falcon badge), House tie and grey flannel trousers. Trousers in these Forms may be shorts at the wish of the parents and grey stockings will then be worn with them. Pullovers will be grey and must have V necks. Socks will be dark grey, navy blue or black. Boys in the Middle School (Forms 4 and 5) will wear the School blazer (black, single-breasted, with gold falcon badge), House tie or C.C.F. tie, and grey flannel trousers. Pullovers will be grey and they must have V necks. Socks will be dark grey, navy blue or black. In the Sixth Form, boys will wear either the School blazer, as for the Middle School, or a double-breasted black blazer without a badge; grey flannel trousers, pullovers and socks will be as for the Middle School. The Sixth Form may wear, as an alternative to the House tie or C.C.F. tie, the special Sixth Form tie. Senior Prefects, on appointment, become honorary members of the Old Grammarians' Association and have the privilege of wearing the Association tie. In the matter of top coats, parents may select either a navy blue rain coat (with or without belt) a *dark* grey overcoat or a navy blue duffle coat *without* hood.

All items of School uniform are kept in stock by the School Outfitters, Messrs. Pratts of 210, High Road, Streatham.

12. **Bicycles** Boys living at a distance may make application for permission to bring bicycles to School, and, provided the boy has passed the road safety cycling test, this will be granted up to the capacity of the cycle shed. Only those granted places in the rack may bring bicycles to School, and the owners will be responsible for keeping them in safe condition. They must be locked while on the School premises. Periodical inspections of bicycles are made and occasional lectures are given by the Police. Permission to bring a bicycle to School is withdrawn from boys whose machines are not considered safe.

Members of the Sixth Form may apply for permission to bring motor-cycles to School; it is forbidden to carry another boy to or from School on the pillion.

13. **Games** The main School games are Association Football and Cricket and provision is made for all boys to play regularly each week during the five years of the main school. Training in Athletics, Boxing, Lawn Tennis and Swimming is also given. House and inter-School matches in all the sports mentioned take place after School and on Saturdays. All boys must play games unless exemption for some medical reason can be claimed; such application should be made in writing to the Games Master at the beginning of each School year.

A boy's first loyalty is to the School; if he is required to play for a School side, exemption will be granted only for medical or religious reasons.

14. **Physical Education** All boys who are physically fit have lessons each week in the gymnasium. A warm shower after each lesson is obligatory and boys must bring their own towels for a rub down. Requests for exemption on medical grounds must be made in writing to the master-in-charge either at the beginning of each school year or, where temporary, at the commencement of the lesson concerned.

The School has a Boxing Club which meets regularly each week and the School Hall is fitted with a portable boxing ring which is used for School and House Boxing matches. Written permission from parents is required before a boy is allowed to join the Boxing Club.

15. **Character Training** The School has a unit of the Combined Cadet Force which has rightly earned a splendid reputation for keenness and efficiency. All the officers are members of the School Staff, and boys from the Fourth Forms upwards are eligible to join. There are no fees for membership and annual Camps are organised for Navy, Army and Air Force sections.

16. **Clubs, Societies and Out-of-School Activities** In addition to the normal School curriculum, including Games and Athletics, there is a wide variety of Clubs and Societies, which function out of school hours. Membership, though sometimes subject to a boy's position in the School, is open to all. These include the Upper School

Society, Christian Union, Dramatic Society, Orchestra, Choir, Chess Club, Camera Club, Art Club and Geographical Society. Foreign tours are arranged during the holidays.

Group classes in the violin and clarinet are also held at the School and application to receive instruction should be made by letter to the Secretary. A term's notice is required when it is desired to discontinue this instruction. Further information may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary.

17. **The Voluntary Fund** The School Magazine is published twice a year and is given free to all boys. Payment for this and other miscellaneous expenditure (subsidies for games travelling and cost of refreshments after School matches, etc.) is met from a Voluntary Fund to which all parents are asked to contribute. The normal rate is 5s. a term for each family (when brothers are in the School only one payment is expected).

18. **Leaving** Notice of the intention to remove a boy from the School must be given in writing to the Headmaster not later than half-term, and this may become effective at the end of that term provided this is *not earlier* than the Summer Term following the completion of the G.C.E. Ordinary level course. Applications for leave to remove a boy earlier than the normal time must be made in writing to the Governors, through the Headmaster, at least a full term in advance, and adequate reasons must be given. Transfer to another school, by reason of parents' removal from the district, is not regarded as leaving in this connection.

If after two years in the School it is clear that a boy cannot cope adequately with the Grammar School curriculum, the Governors may require parents to consult the Headmaster so that a transfer to another School may be arranged.

If the family home moves outside the County of London, the boy may not continue in attendance at the School unless the formal consent of the new Local Education Authority is obtained. When removal is under consideration, parents are urged to consult the Headmaster without delay.

19. **Interviews with Headmaster** Parents may call at the School on any MONDAY afternoon during term time and the Headmaster keeps himself free between 2 and 4 p.m. to see parents without previous appointment. Interviews at any other time must be by appointment, and arrangements should be made with the Headmaster's Secretary either by telephone, by letter or by a message through the boy. Appointments cannot be arranged on the first and the last days of term.

20. **Careers Department** The School has a Careers Department which provides up-to-date information about all forms of employment into which Grammar School boys are likely to enter. Boys who wish for advice in their choice of career should consult the Careers Master during their third year at the School and again during their final year. Parents may interview the Careers Master without previous appointment on MONDAY afternoons between 2.45 and 4 p.m. The Careers Department cannot undertake to place boys in actual posts, but they

will be registered with the Youth Employment Bureau, where the fullest possible service is available.

21. **Lost Property** The School endeavours to assist its boys in safeguarding personal property but it must be understood that neither the Headmaster nor the Governors can accept responsibility for loss or damage. All personal equipment must be plainly marked with the owner's name and/or School admission number. There is a Lost Property Department, which opens daily at stated times. It must be understood that any boy who finds anything on the premises must deliver it to the Lost Property department, or hand it to a Master or a Prefect. Claims for lost articles should be made at the earliest possible moment.
- When boys change for Games or Physical Training they must hand money and other valuables to the master-in-charge. Every boy is required to provide himself with a small material bag into which these personal valuables can be put at such times; it must have a draw-string top, and be marked with the boy's name.
- Boys guilty of wilful damage to School premises, equipment, text books or stationery, will be required to pay a fine to meet the cost of repair or replacement; accounts for this are rendered each term.
22. **Regulations** There is a code of Regulations to which all members of the School must conform; a copy of this is given to the boy on his first day in School.
23. **Old Grammarians' Association** This Association provides Old Boys with a means of maintaining contact with the School and with one another. Its activities include a Football and Cricket Club, a Dramatic Society and a Social Section; various social functions are held annually. On leaving School, boys are given full details, including the names and addresses of the Secretaries, and it is expected that all boys will become members.
24. **Parents' Association** The Parents' Association provides a means for parents of boys, past and present, to be in close touch with the work of the School, to meet one another through social gatherings, and to support the work of the School in a variety of ways. Both parents are eligible for membership as soon as the boy enters the School and full details are sent to the parents of all new entrants. The Annual General Meeting is held in October each year.

Up to Road 1965

Staff

W. J. LANGFORD, C.B.E., J.P., M.Sc.	Headmaster
E. G. COOLEY, M.A.	Deputy Head (Modern languages)
M. U. AHMAD, M.S., B.Sc., LL.B.	Head of Physics Department
W. G. BARBIER, B.A.	Modern Languages
C. J. BRAY, B.A.	English
D. CAPPER, B.A., OFF. D'ACAD.	French and Geography
COL. D. CARMICHAEL, O.B.E., M.Sc., M.I.MECH.E., M.I.E.I.	Mathematics
*R. CLARKE, M.A.	Head of History Department; Librarian
J. A. COATMAN, B.Sc.(ENG.), A.C.G.I.	Mathematics
MRS. M. M. E. DIPSTALE, M.A.	English
*K. W. DOBSON, B.A.	English; Head of Junior School
B. H. EDWARDS, B.D., A.L.B.C.	Divinity
S. D. FARNDILL	Head of Art Department
J. D. E. FOAN	Crafts and Technical Drawing
P. A. B. GOWLLAND, B.Sc., A.R.C.S.	Head of Chemistry Department
*J. D. R. HOWELL, B.Sc., F.R.G.S.	Head of Geography Department
D. M. HUGHES, B.A., F.R.C.O.	Director of Music
H. EVANS JONES, B.A.	Head of Divinity Department
K. KILBURN, M.A.	Head of Classics Department
C. J. LOVELL, A.T.C.	Art
R. D. MCNAMARA, B.Sc.	Chemistry
T. W. MARSHALL	Head of Physical Education Department
MRS. K. M. MASON, B.Sc.	Biology
E. J. K. MILES, B.Sc.	Mathematics
*G. R. PACK, B.A.	Classics; Careers Master
*A. P. PENFOLD, M.A., B.Sc.	Head of Mathematics Department
W. J. POPE, M.A.	Head of English Department
M. RABSON, M.A.	Mathematics
MISS M. D. SCUDAMORE, B.A.	French
*P. B. SMITH, B.A., DIP.P.E. (CARN.)	Head of Modern Languages Department
H. SPENCER	Physical Education & Geography
L. R. TURNER, B.A.	French and Latin
C. H. TYACK, B.A.	Classics
B. WATTS, B.Sc.	Biology; Senior Science Master
M. S. WEST, B.Sc.	Physics
D. R. WILLIAMS, DIP. HANDICRAFT	Head of Technical Department
	* House Master

Headmaster's Secretary: Miss I. E. Lansdell