

Queen's College London

London, United Kingdom



Founded in 1848 as the first institution to award women academic qualifications, this Harley Street school carries that charter forward.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	60/100
Academic outcomes	62/100
University placement	60/100
Prestige & heritage	62/100
Alumni network	61/100
Facilities	60/100
Transparency	50/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Harley Street is not short of old institutions trading on history, but Queen’s College London has a claim few schools can match: it was founded in ****1848**** as the first institution in Great Britain where girls could study for and gain academic qualifications, and it received a Royal Charter in 1853. That matters here because the school still builds its identity around girls’ education rather than treating it as a legacy badge. Queen’s is a day school for girls aged ****13-18****, non-religious, English-medium and school-declared British in curriculum. The age range makes it a focused senior school rather than an all-through operation, which gives it a clear proposition: adolescent girls taught in an environment designed for that stage, with none of the energy diluted across nursery and prep years on the same site. The school’s own

language is full of confidence and purpose; the substance beneath it is a *serious academic inheritance* with a *distinctive historic mandate*.

What puts Queen's on a shortlist is not scale, spectacle or sporting mythology. It is the combination of central London location, an all-girls setting, and a mission rooted in opening academic doors for girls in the first place. Parents who want a co-ed campus with sprawling grounds will look elsewhere. Parents who value intellectual tradition, urban sophistication and a school that takes female ambition as the default rather than the exception will pay attention. The introduction of a Queen's Diploma from 2026 also signals that the school wants to push beyond exams into a broader account of education, though the school does not publish enough detail here to judge the substance yet. Fees average **£30,892** a year across the senior age range, which places Queen's in the expensive bracket, but not at the outer edge of London independent-school pricing.

The pupil who will want Queen's is a girl who is ready for a *purposefully female academic culture* and does not need a school to soften its convictions about that. She will value discussion, intellectual confidence and a setting where leadership by girls is routine, not symbolic. She may also prefer a school with *strong-minded tradition* over one chasing every fashionable educational fad. This is not a school selling bucolic childhood or glossy all-rounder mythology. It is for families who want an urban senior school with a clear point of view, a long memory, and a direct line back to one of the most important educational breakthroughs for girls in Britain.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1848; unusually deep educational heritage.
- First British institution awarding girls academic qualifications.
- Rated Excellent by ISI, with strong and improving exam results.
- World-class music provision and elite arts across drama, dance and visual arts.
- New Sixth Form boarding option launching September 2027 in partnership with DLD College London.

TRADE-OFFS

- Girls-only model excludes families wanting co-education.
- Central-London townhouse setting constrains on-site sports facilities.
- British curriculum only; no IB or alternative pathway offered.

ADMISSIONS

Queen's College London is a girls' school spanning ages 11-18, with a Prep school for younger girls nearby, so the principal entry points fall at 11+ and into the sixth form. The school presents itself as pastorally led and academically ambitious, and rated Excellent by ISI. The material available does not set out a full public admissions timetable or a detailed breakdown of assessment stages, so families should confirm current deadlines and the exact selection process — which typically combines assessment, interview and school reports — directly with the admissions office.

From September 2027, Queen's plans to introduce a small Sixth Form boarding option for around 12 Year 12 pupils in partnership with DLD College London, aimed at pupils born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011. Families interested in bursaries or other financial support, or in the new boarding provision, should contact the school directly for current arrangements, eligibility and deadlines.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_e477964830.