ACS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
EGHAM



READY?



THE WORLD NEEDS NEW THINKING. GET READY.





JEREMY LEWIS
HEAD OF SCHOOL

WELCOME TO ACS EGHAM, THE ONLY SCHOOL IN THE UK TO OFFER ALL FOUR INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMMES.

At ACS Egham the old blends seamlessly with the new. Our beautiful grounds and buildings set in 20 acres of countryside give the school a distinctly village feel, while our cutting-edge International Baccalaureate teaching provides a truly modern learning experience.

Conveniently close to central London, we're home to 600 students, aged 4 to 18, and 160 expert teachers and staff, from over 50 countries. This global outlook informs our world-renowned curriculum, which builds on the best of global education standards and challenges our students to become service-orientated world citizens with inquisitive minds and a real sense of personal responsibility. We encourage critical thinking and intellectual curiosity so our students leave us as independent learners and leaders.

Walk into our buildings and the first thing you notice is the vibrant and extremely accomplished student artwork adorning the walls. Our young artists benefit from outstanding visual arts and design technology facilities including 3D printers, laser cutters and kilns. So as well as developing our student's academic abilities through the rigorous International Baccalaureate programme, ACS Egham also cultivates our students' creative understanding, creating confident, well-rounded individuals, ready for anything.

Our mission is to evolve and transform to meet the needs of our diverse community. We strive to promote the wellbeing of our staff and students so everyone will feel valued and supported. Physical activity, outdoor learning, service and environmental projects all encourage Egham students to be adventurous and try new things, reflecting our belief that success outside the classroom is just as important as success within.

READY TO EXCEL AS PEOPLE, AND THRIVE ACADEMICALLY.

OUR CURRICULUM

ACS Egham is the only school in the UK to offer all four International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes – Primary Years, Middle Years, Careers-related and Diploma, as well as the US High School Diploma. It is an education framework consciously designed to develop both learning and life skills, providing a seamless, globally recognised route to success – both in and out of the classroom. The IB programmes have proved themselves to be the success story in secondary education – globally recognised and accepted for continuing education at universities and colleges around the world.

CO-CURRICULAR

Life outside of the classroom is important for your child's development as a well-rounded global citizen. Our students benefit from excellent sports facilities and a wealth of activities, including our Model United Nations club, musical groups, tech clubs and drama productions. Additionally, we offer a wide range of service learning opportunities including our Nepal outreach programme. ACS Egham's co-curricular opportunities help cultivate the whole student while also being incredibly enjoyable.



> The school has a strong academic record. The average IB score of the graduates is impressive and the teachers are helpful. They seem to care strongly about the students' success.
>
> PARENT



READY TO DISCOVER, QUESTION AND CHALLENGE.

INSPIRED TO LEARN

We believe that learning is one of life's great pleasures, so our teaching is designed to inspire and instil a sense of wonder as well as impart knowledge. At the heart of this approach is inquiry-lead teaching and learning. A technique proven to encourage intellectual curiosity and excellence from a young age. We teach our students to think for themselves, work hard and make creative connections between ideas to arrive at a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the world and their place within it. We don't 'teach to the test' with a narrow focus on grades; instead we teach students to reach their own conclusions and to care about their local, national and international community.

An important part of this is ACS Egham's academically rigorous curriculum, specifically developed to support our four IB programmes. This rewarding, internationally regarded syllabus will challenge even the brightest student, and is the basis of ACS Egham's excellent academic reputation. Put all this together and our aim is to help students become effective learners, confident individuals and caring contributors with a genuine curiosity that inspires them to ask new questions and arrive at new answers. Armed with the courage to take risks we want students to leave us ready for both higher-level learning and the rest of their lives. It is the most important and fulfilling job in the world.

READY TO ENGAGE WITH THE WORLD, AND BUILD A BETTER ONE.

A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION

The world is changing fast and there are new challenges and opportunities everywhere you look. Undoubtedly, life today demands a new kind of school, one that creates well-balanced individuals able to overcome life's challenges with confidence and integrity. That's why education at ACS Egham is never just about academic performance, crucial though that is.

Our classroom learning inspires students to challenge the status quo, take intellectual risks and think independently. We also offer a wide range of opportunities for students to find and follow their individual strengths, including an impressive range of co-curricular activities, clubs, field trips, service learning, student ambassador roles and volunteering.

This emphasis on social and emotional skills means our students grow in ways that will stand them in good stead in the workplaces and communities of the future. To support our students we provide the best in personalised pastoral care, with a highly experienced team of counsellors available at all times.

Our mission to make our students ready for anything means that in many respects we are a learning partner rather than an education provider, working with students and their families to create a holistic educational experience that builds solid academic and personal skills. This partnering approach starts on day one of a student's time with us; our staff, student ambassadors and counselling team know that joining a new school can feel a little unnerving, so they go out of their way to offer a truly warm welcome to those joining the ACS Egham family.


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LONDON • ENGLAND



READY FOR A WORLD WHERE THE PATH ISN'T ALWAYS CLEAR.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Our students and staff come to us from every part of the world. The result is a wonderfully open-minded, outward-looking culture that celebrates international diversity and harnesses different perspectives.

ACS Egham's global outlook attracts expat and local families who want to ensure their children are ready to make a difference and contribute to the wider society. Internationalism and our common humanity is at the very heart of this philosophy. We're intensely proud of our multicultural identity and commitment to diversity and choice, while never forgetting the common humanity that binds us all together. We celebrate the things that make us different, not because they're fashionable but because they make the world a better, more dynamic place.

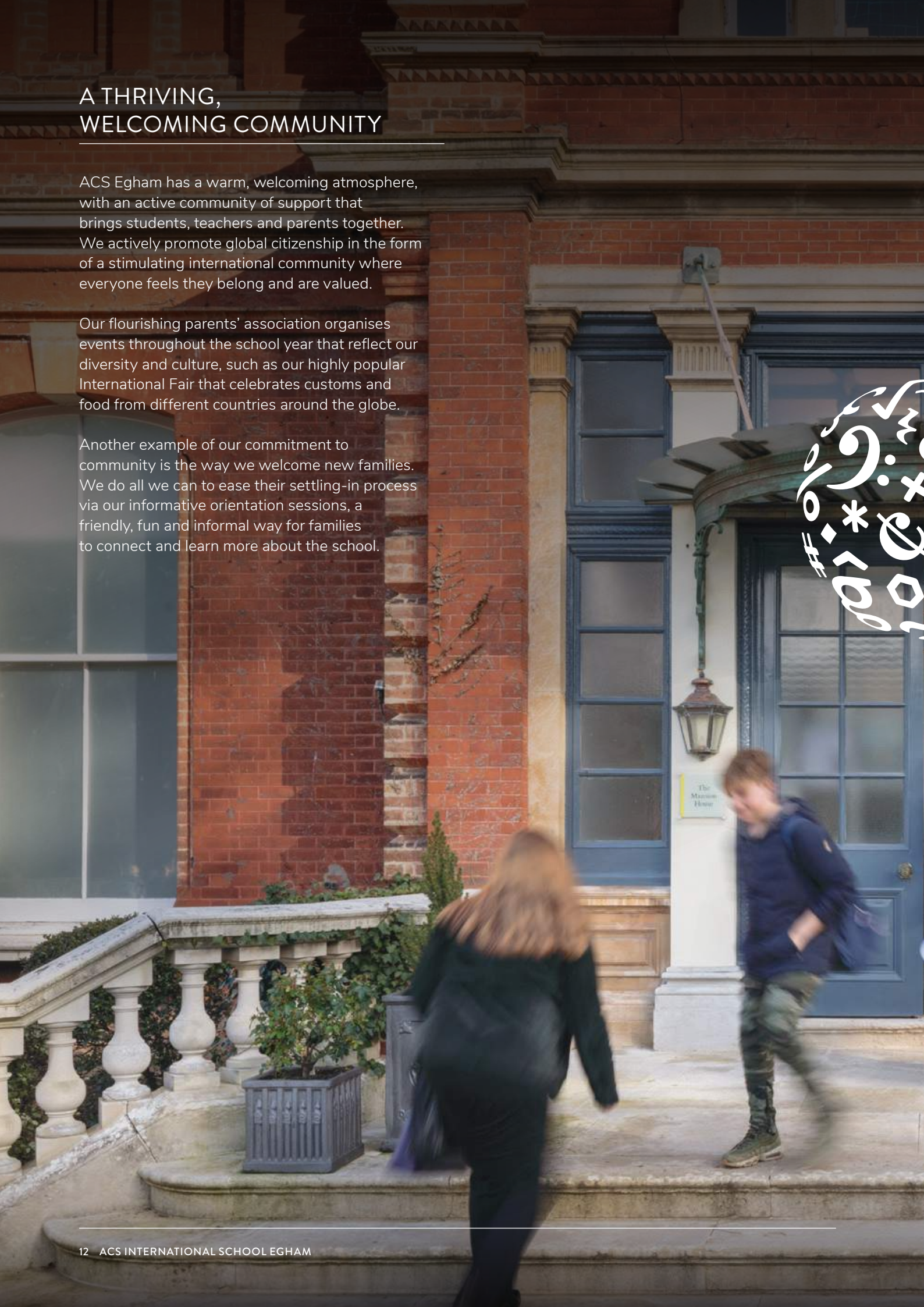
Our co-curricular and service learning opportunities such as the Model United Nations club and Nepal project encourage our students to be active global citizens – ready to contribute and make a difference.

A THRIVING, WELCOMING COMMUNITY

ACS Egham has a warm, welcoming atmosphere, with an active community of support that brings students, teachers and parents together. We actively promote global citizenship in the form of a stimulating international community where everyone feels they belong and are valued.

Our flourishing parents' association organises events throughout the school year that reflect our diversity and culture, such as our highly popular International Fair that celebrates customs and food from different countries around the globe.

Another example of our commitment to community is the way we welcome new families. We do all we can to ease their settling-in process via our informative orientation sessions, a friendly, fun and informal way for families to connect and learn more about the school.



READY TO MAKE FRIENDS AND COLLABORATE.



EARLY CHILDHOOD & LOWER SCHOOL

AGES 4–11 / PRE-K – GRADE 5

Our school is a true community where everyone works together to fully support all of our children throughout their time here. Even at this young age we believe in the importance of listening to their thoughts and opinions, so they are ready to explore individual areas of interest within the teaching framework.

Delivered through the IB Primary Years Programme (IBPYP), our inquiry-led approach supports, challenges and inspires every child as they take the first steps on their learning journey and begin to explore local and global issues in real-life contexts. Guided by six transdisciplinary themes of international significance, students deepen their learning by strengthening their knowledge and skills across and beyond subject areas.

Our highly experienced teaching team work together to plan each child's experience across the curriculum. Our core programme is complemented by lessons led by specialists in, STEAM, library skills, drama, PE and Forest School. As well as academic activity, our students are encouraged to respect and appreciate the diversity of cultures, beliefs and ideas in our school community and the world around us. It's a source of enormous pride for us to see our young students grow in confidence and ability as they ready themselves for the next stage of their education.

As well as students and staff, our school community includes all our parents. We encourage them to get involved, supporting their children in a truly holistic way that ensures they blossom as confident, independent thinkers and well-rounded individuals.










GAP

MIDDLE SCHOOL

AGES 11–14 / GRADES 6–8

Middle School is an exciting and dynamic environment where our students thrive as they grow from children to young teenagers. As well as academic achievement we encourage them to contribute to the wider school community, guiding them to make a positive impact through hard work while developing integrity, good manners and courtesy.

Academically, our rigorous, inquiry-based IB Middle Years Programme (IBMYP) curriculum develops critical thinking and challenges students to reflect on their learning experience. The IBMYP encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world through a curriculum framework that comprises eight subject groups. Students who complete the IBMYP are well-prepared to undertake the IB Diploma Programme or IB Career-related Programme.

At the same time our school ethos champions cultural awareness and internationalism in a way that gives abstract academic ideas an authentic, real world context, bridging the gap between school and life.

Our pastoral programme focuses on scholarship, citizenship and wellbeing. It includes an extensive after-school sports programme and a comprehensive music and drama offering, with choirs, instrument tuition, ensembles/bands and school productions.

Put all this together and the result is an active and challenging learning environment where the needs of adolescents are understood and genuinely appreciated, ensuring they're ready for High School and beyond.

HIGH SCHOOL

AGES 14–18 / GRADES 9–12

At ACS Egham students and staff have a genuine drive for excellence. We prize holistic education, internationalism and communication. In High School, the students undertake external eAssessments in the form of electronic portfolios and on-screen examinations, and are eligible for the IB MYP Certificate. In Grades 11 and 12 students go on to study either the IB Diploma or IB Career-related Programme.

We offer an outstanding range of subjects that reflect our commitment to a broad, balanced and holistic education. Our IB courses include economics, business management, design technology, psychology, visual arts, theatre studies, sports and exercise science alongside the core subjects. We believe that with the right support and encouragement, every student can achieve far more than they thought possible.

This academic education is enriched by the cultural diversity of ACS Egham, our small class sizes, outstanding facilities, service work, community involvement and beautiful, leafy campus. Students and staff have a genuine thirst for academic excellence. At the same time we encourage all our young leaders to see the bigger picture, think globally, and act to safeguard the future of our planet.


MILWAUKEE
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ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

We offer a robust curriculum built upon international standards and adapted to the needs of our diverse student body.

We have worked hard to become the only school in the UK fully authorised to offer all four IB programmes – the IB Primary Years Programme (IBPYP), the IB Middle Years Programme (IBMYP), the Career-related Programme (IBCP) and the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP).

The IB diploma is the world's most recognised academic programme for students 16–18. It offers a rigorous curriculum requiring six subjects which can be selected according to a student's strengths and interests and provides students with an excellent foundation for university.

In ACS's University Admissions Officers' research conducted over the last ten years, the IB programme has been shown to significantly outperform A-Levels in developing qualities such as a global outlook, open-mindedness, self-management, coping under pressure and analytical thinking.

READY TO EXCEL.

IBDP

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP):

- Fosters critical thinking and independent learning
- Encourages breadth and depth of learning
- Assesses more than examination techniques
- Provides an international qualification

IBCP

The International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP):

- Encourages specialisation in the area of choice
- Prepares students for career-specific pathways
- Develops academic research skills through the Reflective Project
- Provides an international qualification



YU, GRADE 12

I believe the IB was instrumental in teaching me how to challenge myself. It bolstered my confidence in writing academically and prepared me for both long-term projects and exams.

I enjoyed the focused classes and the close engagement of both classmates and teachers, as well as the kindness I received and learned from certain individuals.

After leaving ACS Egham, I would like to study English or Journalism at Georgetown University in Washington DC, with the intention of working in the publishing sector.



JAPHETH, GRADE 12

The IB has strengthened my career ambition to study philosophy, politics and law at university.

The programme has developed my critical thinking skills. It has pushed me through my boundaries and now I am able to debate with efficiency with my peers. It has also improved my research skills for all the subjects that I am currently taking.

I have received great support from my teachers at ACS Egham. They have promoted the value of working independently, which has certainly aided in enhancing my study skills. Being part of an international school has been an enriching experience and I am confident that I'll leave here with the tools and support I need to achieve my future goals.

CELEBRATING THE ARTS

Studying the visual and performing arts brings benefits on many levels. Not only are these rich, rewarding subjects in their own right, they also help develop self-expression, imagination, communication and cultural and historical understanding, leaving our students ready to go further.

As part of their study, students experience a wide range of activities that awaken their creative talents, boost their cognitive abilities and strengthen their problem solving skills, all of which directly support their wider academic endeavours.

All students take visual arts, drama and music up to and including grade nine. Students then choose visual art, drama or music to pursue during their grade 10 year, after which some students go on to take art as a Diploma Programme subject. We also organise a popular annual Diploma Programme Visual Arts exhibition, featuring the work of our final year visual arts students.





READY TO INNOVATE.









READY TO CREATE.

VISUAL ARTS

At ACS Egham the art room is a popular location, with students telling us they actively look forward to lessons. We introduce students to a wide range of materials and techniques including drawing, painting, printing, ceramics, sculpture and digital art. We encourage students to take creative risks in order to develop their individual style. The result is varied, original work that would make far-older artists proud.

Art is a lively, open-ended subject that enables students to balance their demanding academic workload with something a little more creative. Our visual arts programme is an opportunity for students to reflect, debate, experiment and learn valuable life lessons regardless of whether or not they intend to follow a career in the arts, leaving them ready for the next stage of their development.

READY TO INSPIRE.

MUSIC

We encourage all our students from 4 to 18 year olds to experience the joy of making music; from general classes – including individual tutorials – all the way through to challenging International Baccalaureate courses in the High School.

A popular option is joining one of our many vocal or ensemble groups, with our most accomplished musicians travelling to Europe each year to take part in prestigious Association of Music for International Schools (AMIS) competitions.

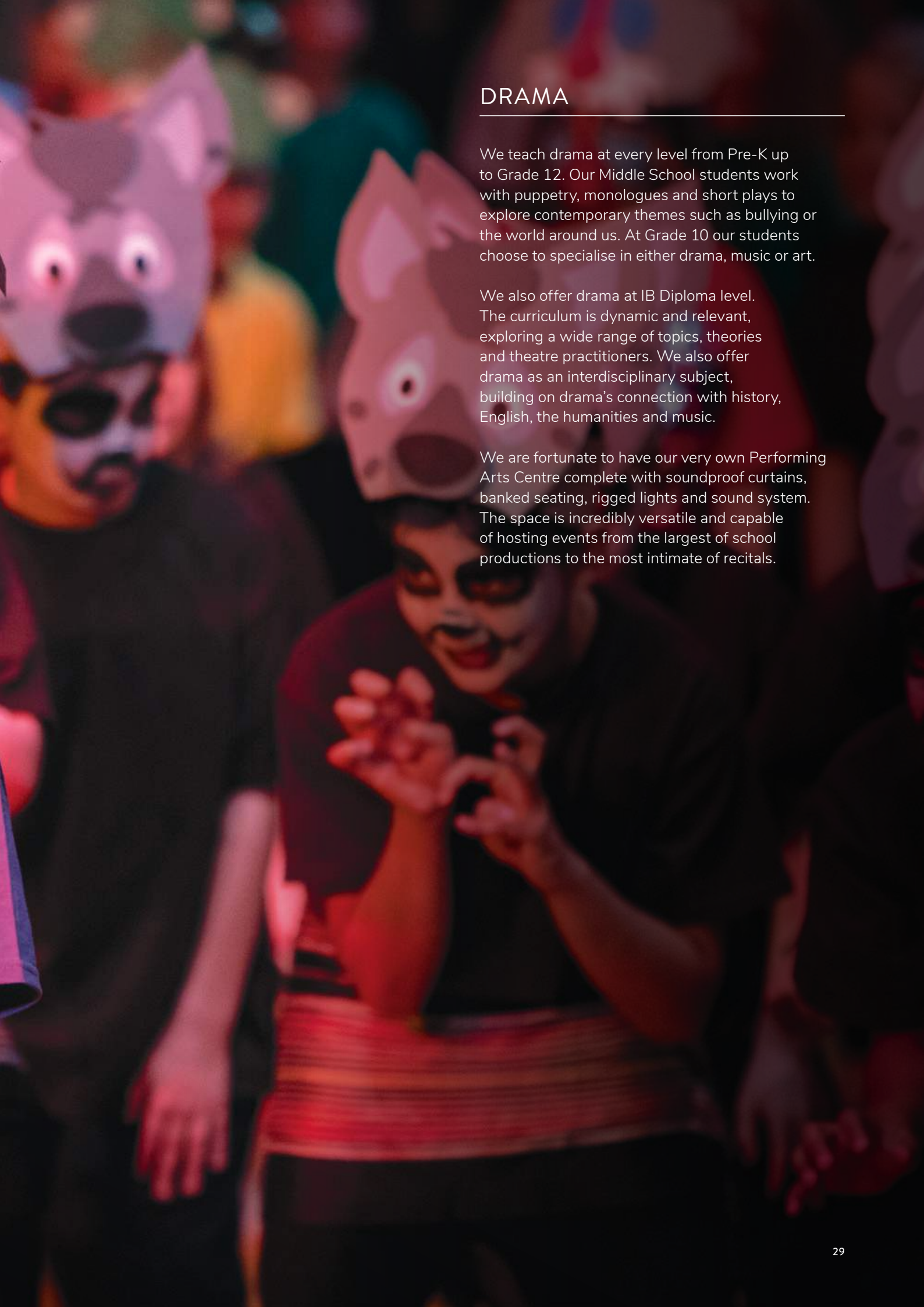
Inspiring our students to celebrate their creativity in this way helps them acquire and develop a broad range of skills. From learning to communicate their thoughts in group settings, to a nuanced appreciation of music from a range of periods, places and cultures that will last a lifetime.




PACIFICA



READY TO PERFORM.



DRAMA

We teach drama at every level from Pre-K up to Grade 12. Our Middle School students work with puppetry, monologues and short plays to explore contemporary themes such as bullying or the world around us. At Grade 10 our students choose to specialise in either drama, music or art.

We also offer drama at IB Diploma level. The curriculum is dynamic and relevant, exploring a wide range of topics, theories and theatre practitioners. We also offer drama as an interdisciplinary subject, building on drama's connection with history, English, the humanities and music.

We are fortunate to have our very own Performing Arts Centre complete with soundproof curtains, banked seating, rigged lights and sound system. The space is incredibly versatile and capable of hosting events from the largest of school productions to the most intimate of recitals.

READY TO REBOOT.

STEAM

STEAM stands for “Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics”. This is a whole-school interdisciplinary approach that reflects the growing importance of design and technology in today’s world. At ACS Egham we are working continuously to improve our STEAM provision at all levels, both in and outside the classroom. We encourage transdisciplinary projects particularly in the Lower School years, such as coding, electronic circuits and stop-motion movies. Our younger students also explore applying different art techniques to their project work – from print making to weaving and sewing.

From Middle School we offer product design, digital design and combined design with projects including robotics, app design, film creation and internet safety.

The IBMYP design programme helps prepare students for success in the IB Diploma and in creative design and engineering career paths. In High School we offer four design areas – software design and development, media and communication design, architectural and 3D design and 3D product design. Students can make use of our dedicated design and technology labs complete with cutting-edge equipment such as laser cutters, 3D printers and virtual reality sets.

Our curriculum enables students to push the boundaries of their project work, encouraging them to explore and develop their individual interests within the subject area, to think imaginatively and independently. Students can go on to choose Information Technology in a Global Society (ITGS) and Design and Technology as part of their IB Diploma.





READY FOR CHALLENGES.





SPORTS AT ACS

Egham Jaguars

The acres of excellent facilities around our campus – including a full multi-purpose sports centre – make sports accessible, inviting and an intrinsic part of life at ACS Egham.

Playing in a team is a part of school life we believe every student should experience, whatever their level. Our programme is positive, highly inclusive and helps students develop into well-rounded individuals ready for life. From personal fitness classes to highly competitive varsity teams, we take great pride in the fact that almost every one of our students will be a part of our programme during their time with us.

In the Lower School our clubs programme – comprising football, judo, tennis, basketball, dance, track and field and other activities – places a strong emphasis on physical fitness and an active lifestyle. In the Middle School every student has the chance to play on a team, regardless of their ability or experience, while in our High School they take advantage of our membership in the International School Sports Association, playing varsity tournaments in football, volleyball, basketball, tennis, and golf across Europe.

These overseas trips double as great cultural experiences, giving our students the opportunity to meet and forge friendships with fellow athletes from other European schools. We also play other international schools in the London area, and participate in local tournaments.

JAGUARS

ACS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL EGHAM

READY TO CONTRIBUTE.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We have a wide programme of co-curricular activities that underscore our belief that learning does not stop when lessons end. As well as our service and volunteering programme, we offer sports, drama productions, musical groups and STEAM, all of which are available to students throughout the school week. Several of our clubs are organised and run by the students themselves, helping develop their leadership skills.

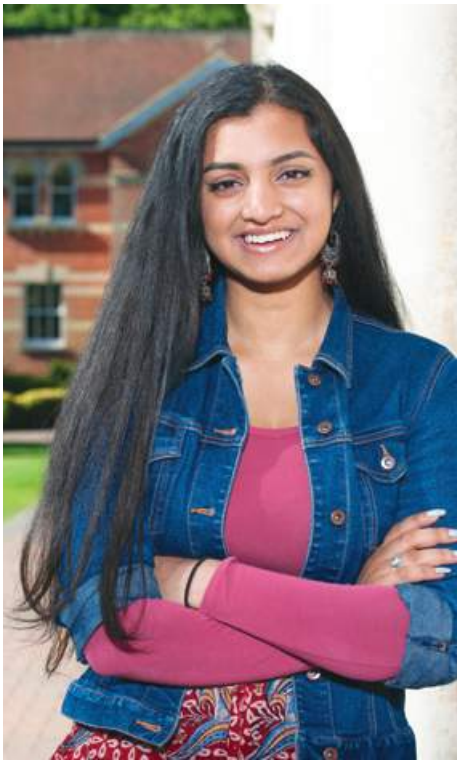
One of these is our Model United Nations club where we debate topics of international concern. As part of this students can attend conferences each year in The Hague and other cities, where they debate the world's most pressing issues with thousands of other students. It's all part of our commitment to educating the whole student so they're ready for tomorrow.






GOLDEN STATE
30
WARRIORS





RIYA, STUDYING LAW WITH POLITICS/ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT SOAS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

I strongly believe the international mindset with which the IB is taught fueled my interest in overcoming cultural and religious barriers that exist on a global scale.

The programme also instils the dedication and organisation needed for higher study and demanding careers, and it gave me the courage to take on the challenge of a Law degree.

Coming from a school community which struggled to accept my differences, ACS offered me a place to nurture the culture that I came from and allowed me to be true to myself every day. I will always appreciate how the teachers taught me to accept myself which shaped my dedication and passion for the school community.



GREGOR, STUDYING HISTORY AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY

I am studying history at university, however I am looking at going into scriptwriting and directing as my chosen career path.

I chose history as it fosters many inter-disciplinary skills, such as analytical and argumentative writing, that I can use as a foundation for any career. At ACS Egham I appreciated the chance to encounter so many different people, from such diverse backgrounds.

Additionally, the supportive nature of the teachers at ACS always stands out to me. Whether it was a teacher in Pre-K encouraging me to play with different people, or being pushed to explore a concept deeper in my IB classes, the teachers at ACS go above and beyond to assist their students to think critically and engage in their classes.



LIFE AFTER ACS

As strange as it may sound, we want every student to outgrow us. We want them to leave ACS Egham feeling absolutely ready to take the next step in their lives, secure in the knowledge of who they are and what they do best.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the majority of our students go on to university. Our university and college counsellors provide a wide range of expert support tailored to the individual student. From researching their options to succeeding in selection. This attention to detail and in-depth guidance – based on many decades of university counselling and admissions experience – significantly improves their chances of securing a place at their chosen college or university.

The result is that students leave us with world-class qualifications that enable them to thrive in the most prestigious and demanding university environments, including the Russell Group and the Ivy League. Just as importantly, they leave ACS Egham with a real understanding and respect for the world around them, a thirst for learning and confidence in their own abilities. It is an unbeatable combination.



JOINING THE ACS FAMILY

Whether you are making an international move or simply changing schools locally, we're here to help.

We are committed to supporting our students from their first day with us with the very best in personalised pastoral care. We do everything we can to ensure a smooth introduction to the ACS Egham family – with our student ambassadors, buddy families, country representatives, welcome committees, native language courses and social events for new students and their families.

If you like what you've read in this brochure we invite you to either visit our campus for a one-to-one tour or come along to one of our Open Days.

To find out more just call our admissions office on **+44 (0)1784 430611** or contact us online at **eghamadmissions@acs-schools.com.** To apply online for school places please visit **www.acs-schools.com/apply-now.**

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.


READY?
SET.
GO!

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