



HURTWOOD HOUSE

INFORMATION PACK



Hurtwood House is an independent school specialising in the sixth form; our unique blend of the creative and academic prepares students for university and life beyond.

The school has an outstanding academic record with over 20 subjects being studied at A Level, ensuring that it has ranked highly in the independent sector coeducational sixth forms for the last ten years. The other defining feature of Hurtwood House is its creativity. We are a centre of excellence for the performing and creative arts, providing outstanding opportunities for the aspiring actor, singer, artist, fashion designer, composer and film maker, both in the A Level courses and in specially arranged and professionally organised activities. These include our Film Academy, our concerts and our drama productions.

This culture of creativity, originality and professionalism permeates throughout the school and, because it is important to us that we provide a complete and broad education, we put a great deal of emphasis on personal development, preparing our students for university and, more importantly, the challenges of life beyond.

Hurtwood House is one of England's most exciting and successful schools – retaining traditional values, but breaking new ground educationally.

Joining the Hurtwood community offers opportunities to:

- Work with enthusiastic and well-motivated students in small, well-resourced classes
- Become part of a committed and professional teaching team in a friendly and supportive atmosphere
- Experience the benefits of a coeducational boarding environment, with a strong pastoral ethos and students from many different national backgrounds
- Develop your career in a modern, energetic school with a reputation for academic achievement and creative excellence
- Enjoy a beautiful campus in the midst of the Surrey Hills, but within easy reach of London, major airports and the South coast



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GEOGRAPHY



Hurtwood House is looking for an enthusiastic and dynamic teacher to join the A Level Geography department. The department is well-resourced and occupies its own bespoke teaching space at the heart of the main school campus. As student numbers have grown there is the need to have two groups studying in the A1 year and two groups in the A2 year – approximately 30 students in all. The Head of Department, who is also a member of the Senior Management Team, typically teaches only one of the two A2 classes, and due to staff retirement, we are now looking for a teacher to join her in delivering the A Level curriculum. Exam results are excellent, and Hurtwood geographers study a wide range of other A Level disciplines, and some go on to study Geography or related courses at University.

We follow the OCR (H481) specification and currently study the following components:

Year 1 –

- Geographical Debates: Disease Dilemmas
- Physical Systems: Coastal Landscapes
- Human Interactions: Changing Spaces; Making Places
- Investigative Geography: introduction to the NEA (20%)

Year 2 –

- Investigative Geography: completion of the NEA (20%)
- Geographical Debates: Hazardous Earth
- Human Interactions: Global Connections (Trade & Power and Borders)
- Physical Systems: Earth's Life Support Systems

In our teaching and learning, much emphasis is placed not only on the understanding of geographical concepts but also on the ability of each student to apply these to real-world scenarios and case studies. The successful applicant will need to be able to teach both the physical and human elements of the course. Classes are not shared, although there is much collaboration and teamwork involved in preparing all students for their final exams. Contact time with students is daily and this approximates to six hours per week. Support outside of lesson time is regarded as an essential supplement.

Hurtwood House operates a flexible policy in student admission and the mixed ability intake contains many students who are studying and writing in their second language. Group sizes are small, with an average of ten students per class and teaching takes place in dedicated, well-resourced classrooms. An enthusiastic, dynamic and ambitious teacher should expect a challenging but highly rewarding experience by joining the team from September 2024.



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BOARDING AND PASTORAL



As a fully residential school our primary concern is to provide students with a safe, structured, caring and happy community. That is why we place so much emphasis on our House structure.

Students board in one of five country houses or their lodges, some of which are on the campus and some nearby. Each House has a Housemaster or Housemistress (HsM) who lives in and a team of House Tutors. The HsM is the link between the school, the student and parents and is the first point of contact on all academic and pastoral matters. The House staff are responsible for looking after the students, for monitoring academic progress, for providing guidance and for creating a warm, supportive and organised family unit and what we like to think of as a sense of 'structured informality'. All full-time staff are assigned to one of the boarding houses as academic tutors who take responsibility for a small tutor group, meeting them on a Monday evening. Some staff are full tutors who assist the HsM in the running of the boarding environment by doing evening and weekend duties in the House. An additional allowance is paid for these duties.

All of the working day is spent on campus and students are transported back to their House after supper every evening by the House staff. Main meals are taken on campus in our award winning 'refectory' building where there is a wide choice of menus to satisfy all dietary requirements, freshly prepared on the premises by our own staff. There are also kitchen facilities in every House for snacks, tea and coffee, as well as games rooms, gyms and communal TV rooms. All Houses have wifi access and are connected to the main school network.

Joining the Hurtwood pastoral team offers opportunities to:

- Work with students outside of the classroom, building long-lasting, productive relationships
- Become part of the hard-working and dedicated tutor teams who run the boarding houses
- Help students prepare for the independence of life at university, drama school or art college
- Become fully involved in the busy and exciting extracurricular life of the school