



# 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 top ten coeducational sixth forms for the last five 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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## MEDIA STUDIES



Hurtwood House is looking for an enthusiastic and dynamic teacher to join a strong A Level Media Studies team in September 2022. With a 100% record of success in external examinations and a 80% A\*- A success rate at A Level last June, it is living up to its claim to be the best school Media department in the country. The department has the full backing of the management and enjoys excellent resources and funding. The teaching team consists of seven full-time members of staff, including two specialist practical teachers.

### TEACHING

Groups are small, averaging twelve students per class and each group has six hours lesson time per week, covering theory and practical work. The classes are not streamed and the groups are of mixed ability. The department adopts a seminar-style approach to teaching and places emphasis on ensuring students acquire the analytical and writing skills necessary for A Level. The department sees Media Studies as a dynamic combination of theory and production work, developing the students' understanding through critical study and hands-on experience. By the end of the course students are expected to have a detailed knowledge of a range of texts, the institutions which produce them and the wider contexts in which they are consumed. They will also have developed a range of creative and technical skills, through creating several of their own media products. Trips and visits are encouraged and there is a policy of inviting outside specialists to visit and instruct in their respective areas.

### SPECIFICATION

The department follows the CIE International A Level specification. This is examined through two written papers and two production portfolios.

### PRODUCTION WORK

Production work benefits from a dedicated film studio, equipped with Black Magic cameras and a digital edit suite, employing Adobe Premier and AfterEffects on Macs. Students are also encouraged to produce professional standard print and online content, enabling them to get to grips with a wide range of software and online platforms.

The department also runs an extracurricular Film Academy, allowing students who are interested in careers in the media to extend their experience through the production of documentaries and short films.



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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 the food is healthy, wholesome and there is a wide choice to satisfy all dietary requirements. It is all freshly prepared on the premises by our own staff. There are also kitchen facilities in every House for snacks, tea and coffee etc, games rooms and communal TV rooms. All Houses have internet access and a wireless LAN.

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