

SHEFFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST



JUNIOR SCHOOL



Welcome

Sheffield High Junior School – Melbourne House – is an exciting place to be. Girls' talents are fostered, interests are nurtured and imagination and creativity extended. Melbourne House girls develop confidence and independence and build strong friendships in a happy atmosphere.

Our two form entry Junior School is located in separate accommodation on the same site as the Senior School. Each classroom is bright and well equipped. The girls also enjoy using purpose built libraries, art and music studios, and science room, as well as the Senior School's on-site sports facilities.

I am always happy to meet prospective parents and girls and show them around our thriving school; I would be delighted to arrange a possible 'taster day' for your daughter.

Anne Jones

Mrs Anne Jones
Head of Sheffield High Junior School

"A warm, stimulating and happy environment in which girls enjoy learning and are encouraged to fulfil their potential."

Independent Schools Inspectorate



A love of learning

Melbourne House girls enjoy learning in a stimulating environment. As an independent school we have the freedom to be flexible and innovative, offering a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of our pupils. We combine the best of the Early Years and National Curriculum with challenge and enrichment designed to encourage and excite, as well as enabling each girl to reach her potential.

In our Reception classes, the Foundation Stage curriculum will help your daughter gain confidence, develop her social skills and enjoy an exciting and diverse range of experiences. Our Early Years teachers and small class sizes will encourage her to broaden her knowledge and understanding through a mixture of play, creative opportunities and more

structured activities. First steps in phonics will ensure that your daughter's reading progresses at a pace which is appropriate to her and her early writing skills will flourish. Her mathematical development will be stimulated through a range of practical activities. French is introduced to girls in Reception.

From Year 1 upwards, the girls study English, Mathematics, Science, Art and Design Technology, Geography, History, a Modern Foreign Language, Music, Physical Education and Religious Education. Our modern ICT facilities, including interactive whiteboards in all classrooms, a wireless network and both laptops and pcs, enable ICT to be fully integrated into the curriculum.

As the girls progress through the Junior School, more of the curriculum is taught by specialist teachers. Our aim is to challenge and extend girls, whilst at the same time providing support and encouragement. Your daughter will have access to the very best resources, including well-equipped Music Studio, Science, Art and Technology and PE facilities, as well as a generously stocked Library and state of the art ICT equipment.

In Key Stage Two, regular enrichment sessions and extended assignments provide opportunities to develop thinking and investigative skills, whilst encouraging creativity and both collaborative and independent learning.



“Lively enrichment sessions provide a valuable opportunity for girls to extend their thinking and investigative skills while working in mixed age groups on problem solving activities.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate

“Children’s learning experiences are positive and they make excellent progress.”

Ofsted

“Children’s reading and writing skills are exceptional.”

Ofsted

“Throughout standards of numeracy, oracy and literacy are high. Girls speak, listen, write and read with confidence and enjoyment.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate





Health and happiness

Visitors to Melbourne House frequently comment on the happy and friendly atmosphere in the school. We encourage the girls to support each other and our ethos is that we treat others as we would wish to be treated. The Junior School Council, with representatives from all forms from Year 2 to Year 6, is chaired by our Head Girls and reviews the Code of Conduct annually, as well as giving the girls a voice in the development of the school.

We believe that education is a partnership between home and school and therefore offer an open door policy. Parents are invited in to school to contribute to workshops in the Early Years and to accompany school visits. We hold regular Parents' Evenings which will give you the opportunity to discuss your daughter's progress with staff, as well as receiving

an annual end-of-year written report. Regular Junior School newsletters will keep you informed about planned activities and recent successes. Our lively parents' association (Friends of Sheffield High – FOSH) has a strong commitment to social activities and is key in welcoming new parents to the school.

Your daughter's form teacher will take a full role in her pastoral development; she/he will be the main link between home and school and ensure that everything is done to maintain her happiness at school. Our Personal, Social, Health and Emotional education programme gives girls the opportunity to discuss and explore issues such as healthy living, friendship and communication.

The House system, which starts in the Junior School and extends through into the Senior School, gives

girls additional opportunities for interaction with others, as well as taking part in charity fundraising and sporting competition. Year 6 pupils are able to take leadership roles as Head Girls, House Captains and Prefects and these develop a sense of community and responsibility.

All Junior School pupils are expected to have a school lunch. Our in-house catering team prepares fresh meals which are served in a modern, bright dining hall adjacent to Melbourne House. The Catering Manager is keen to promote Healthy Eating and is involved in teaching the girls about nutrition. We benefit from the expertise of an on-site school nurse and have our own medical room. In addition, the majority of staff have first aid training.



“The girls have very positive attitudes; their behaviour is exemplary, they show great enthusiasm for their work and activities and they enjoy all the learning experiences that are offered.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate

“The partnership with parents is outstanding.”

Ofsted

“The positive links between home and school complement children’s learning.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate

“Staff know their pupils well and support and guide them in both their academic work and in their personal development. Relationships between staff and pupils are excellent.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate

Beyond the curriculum

An important part of life in Melbourne House is our extensive extra-curricular programme. As well as experiencing Music, Art, Drama and Sports within the normal school day, girls are encouraged to take part in Clubs and Activities both at lunch time and after school. Regular concerts and plays give girls the opportunity to develop self-confidence through performance and the older pupils have the chance to take part in sporting competitions with other schools. Girls can choose from a varied selection of clubs; current examples include Mandarin, Arabic, Theatre Dance, Jewellery Making and Crafts. There are many musical ensembles – String Group, Wind Band and

Recorder Groups and girls can choose from a wide range of instruments for individual music lessons. External coaches offer Tennis, Playball, Ballet, Yoga, Karate and Speech and Drama.

We believe that off-site visits are an important part of the girls' development and offer educational experiences which complement those they experience in school. For our youngest pupils, this may mean a visit to the Botanical Gardens or the local shops, whilst our Year 6 girls spend four days on a residential visit to an activity centre, where they develop their problem-solving and team building skills, as well as having fun!

“An extensive lunch-time and after-school extra-curricular programme, ranging from sport to music and from first aid to Latin, supports the taught curriculum in the Junior School. It is appreciated by the girls and seen by the school as an important part of its educational provision.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate





The school day and beyond

Our normal school day is between 8.30am and 3.30pm (3.15pm for Reception and Year 1). In addition, we offer an extended day through our Breakfast Club which is supervised from 8.00am and our After School Care which runs until 5.45pm.

Many of our girls travel to school using the parentally organised coach network and Junior School pupils are escorted to the coaches at the end of the school day.

During three weeks of the school holidays, several of our support staff run Activity Weeks for Melbourne House girls.

“Thank you for making my daughters’ time in Melbourne House such a positive experience, giving them the best start to their education and for making them feel so welcome and at home, especially in the early weeks. They have enjoyed every minute!”

Parent of Year 4 and Year 6

After Melbourne House

The seamless provision at Sheffield High School means that girls from Year 6 transfer to the Senior School. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils regularly use the facilities of the Senior School and several Senior School staff teach in Melbourne House; the Headmistress leads assembly in the Junior School each week. There is close liaison between the two schools so that the girls are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

“Her love of learning is fantastic and she is confident and happy at school.”

Reception parent







SHEFFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Girls' Day School Trust