



ST GEORGE'S  
EDINBURGH

A photograph of three young girls in school uniforms, laughing and smiling together in a classroom. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The girls are wearing dark blue blazers over red sweaters and checkered shirts. The background shows a bulletin board with various photos and notices.

Empowering girls to  
believe in themselves.

# Welcome

Ordinarily, the actions of a group of women in 1888 would have little bearing on a school's practice today. However, this is no ordinary school and our founders were no ordinary women. The pioneering spirit with which they led the movement for women's education in Scotland still influences everything we do at St George's today.

Your daughter will be joining a school designed for girls and free from gender stereotypes. She'll be taught by passionate professionals, free to focus their lessons solely on girls' needs. Like countless generations before her, she'll be surrounded by positive female role models and learn to lead. Most importantly, she'll gain real self-belief through discovering for herself what our far-thinking founders knew to be true - gender is no barrier to aspiration or success.

Just as importantly, your daughter can stay a little girl for longer here, preserving those precious childhood years. Free from some of the inevitable inhibitions of adolescence, she can find her own voice, select all 3 Sciences at Advanced Higher and discover the spark that may ignite a life-long passion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Chandler-Thompson', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Carol Chandler-Thompson**

Head



Prior to joining St George's, Mrs Carol Chandler-Thompson was the Head of Blackheath High School, London for nine successful years. Throughout her career Carol has specialised in girls-only education working at Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls and North London Collegiate School. She was also the founding Head of the girls' school at North Collegiate School Jeju, a British boarding school in South Korea.



# Opportunity and empowerment

The school years are formative. They will have a profound influence on your daughter's future, shaping her values, aspirations, work ethic and sense of self.

If she spends them at St George's she will encounter opportunity and empowerment in equal measure. Opportunity and empowerment are a potent combination. Together they'll allow your daughter to find her voice and develop independence of thought. They'll afford her meaningful positions of responsibility from an early age. They'll teach her that the only ceilings are those in her mind.

She won't be alone though. We'll encourage her to aim high and guide her along her chosen pathway. We'll also equip her for the changing, global world of her future. Working digitally on a project with a class in Bangalore or Bombay, for example, will start to open her mind to different cultural perspectives. Later, she might be one of the many girls annually who join our exchange programmes with Chile, South Africa, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the USA. Either way, she'll be developing skills vital for success in our global society and the workplace of her future.

*Photo: Bringing her learning to life using the latest virtual reality technology.*



'I would very happily say St George's has been a wonderful experience for my daughter. From the day she met the Head at interview until the day she left, she was met with a 'can-do' attitude from the staff, given the best opportunities, taught a good work ethic and had some of the best times with friends that she will keep for life.'





# Confidence in the round

Whenever you hear a successful individual being interviewed, they'll invariably speak of a pivotal moment when a spark was ignited, a curiosity born or a life-long passion inspired. More often than not it happened at school.

That's why we set such store by experiences beyond the classroom. In immersing herself in new situations, taking risks and testing herself, your daughter will identify the spark that could launch a future career or form a lasting and fulfilling interest.

Will it be building robots or debating? Singing, skiing or Scottish dancing? Will she find success on the sports field or stage? Will it be Model United Nations or The Duke of Edinburgh's Award that captures her imagination?

It doesn't matter. What's important is that your daughter comes to understand herself, her talents and abilities. In so doing she will grow in confidence. Not the brash and noisy kind but the stable, underlying confidence that will sustain her through life.







'We have watched our daughter become a confident, well-rounded young lady who is encouraged to believe in herself and her abilities.'

# The through school journey

Whichever of the five parts of the school your daughter joins, whether as a day girl or a boarder, she'll be joining a family community where she'll be extremely well known and cared for as an individual.

Our unique structure and size mean that your daughter can enjoy the best of both worlds here. As a through school, we are large enough to offer her specialist teaching from an early age, and real flexibility and choice in her exam years. However, we are also small enough in each section to provide her with very personalised care.

This tailored support continues seamlessly as your daughter progresses through each section of the school. Thanks to excellent communication and collaboration amongst staff, every detail in the picture amassed of your daughter is passed on. Equally, the all-through curriculum, rated as 'excellent', or sector-leading, by Education Scotland, ensures that her studies are continuous and uninterrupted.

The human scale on which we operate extends to you as parents too. By listening to and accommodating your needs, we are able to offer genuine flexibility as you juggle modern family life.



'We picked St George's because we liked its size and intimacy, and we haven't been disappointed. I really like the way the classes work together across the whole school. My daughter has really enjoyed her first 2 years and I'm sure will continue to grow and develop her potential with the school's support.'





‘My daughter is happy for the first time in all her school years. I have witnessed her evolve from a shy and reserved child into a confident young lady who has established a vibrant enthusiasm for both her learning and the friendships she has been supported with at school. As a parent, choosing St George’s is one of the best decisions I have made.’









'My daughter has flourished since arriving at St George's. She has grown in confidence, matured and developed a very positive attitude towards learning. She is always enthusiastic about all aspects of school and her grades have been consistently high.'



# A learning community

Naturally you'll aspire to excellent grades for your daughter, and want her to be able to access the university course or career of her choice. We share these ambitions, as our track record and excellent rating in performance (attainment and achievement) from Education Scotland testifies.

We place just as much emphasis on the approach to learning, however, for this will stay with your daughter beyond school. From the outset, we will help her develop a growth mind-set and life-long attributes such as resilience, perseverance, creativity and the ability to collaborate and self evaluate. Thanks to high expectations, small class sizes and an environment rich in stimulation, your daughter will be encouraged to think for herself. She'll develop independence whilst being supported and guided where necessary.

We practise what we preach here. Your daughter will be joining a learning community; she'll be taught by experts, themselves committed to continual improvement of their own pedagogy. Their ensuing energy and innovation, when applied to our coherent, creative and challenging curriculum, assures your daughter of inspiring lessons and an infectious love of learning.



‘There are absolutely no words to describe the quality and care that my daughter receives from St George’s. The school goes above and beyond what it says ‘on the box’ and I would not hesitate for a second to recommend this school. A top-quality school that has my daughter wanting to learn and be the best that she can be.’



'St George's is a great school for bringing the best out of the girls irrespective of their ability. The teachers work so hard to ensure that the girls come out with the best grades possible and help them make the right choices as they move through the school.'



# The best of British education

Marine Biology, Medicine, Mathematics, Modern Languages, Music, Aeronautical Engineering, English, Anthropology, Art, International Relations, Business Management, Chemical Engineering, Classics, Physics with Astrophysics, Foundation courses in Art and Textiles.... these are just some of the diverse range of courses that our girls have gone on to study at universities across the UK and the world.

Your daughter may follow in their footsteps or tread a different path. What's key is that she has been enabled through the education she has received to set off in her preferred direction.

That's why we have chosen to combine GCSEs at 16 with the Scottish exam system of Highers and Advanced Highers in the Sixth Form. The academic rigour and flexibility that this blend of the two systems offers will enable your daughter to maintain breadth, whilst developing the valuable study skills and work ethic these courses require.

Whether she's selecting 9-10 GCSEs, picking 5 Highers from the 20+ subjects on offer or determining which degree course to choose, your daughter will receive bespoke guidance and advice. She'll be supported both practically and emotionally by a variety of staff to ensure that she chooses the most appropriate pathway and makes the best possible application.

*Photo: Turning her designs into objects using the 3D printer and laser cutter.*



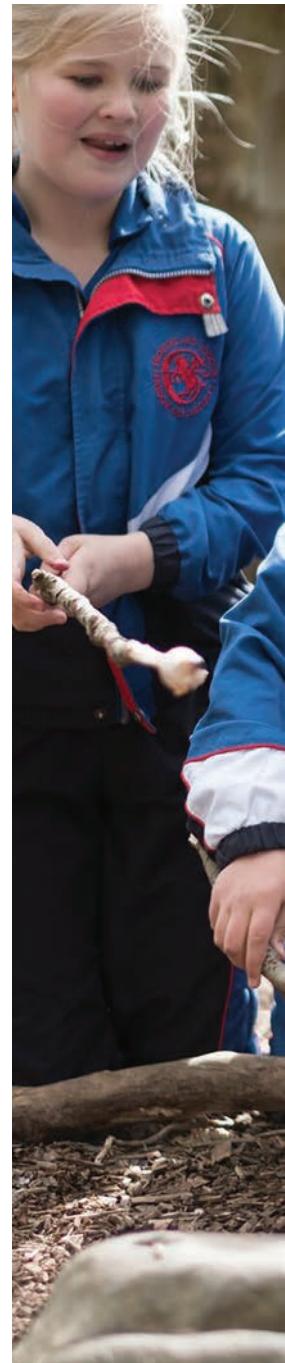
# The individual in the community

In joining St George's your daughter will become part of a warm and respectful community. Individuals matter here. She'll be encouraged to believe that her opinions count and are valued. In turn she will come to respect the opinions of others and the value of their contributions. The result is relationships between staff and students that are courteous and respectful on both sides.

It is our focus on ensuring that every girl finds her voice and feels heard that builds community. The great affection for 'St G's' and real sense of pride that girls feel arise precisely because they recognise the value the community places on their opinion, involvement and effort. This, in turn, encourages greater participation, such as older girls supporting younger girls through paired reading, helping in the Nursery or performing together in composite choirs.

As your daughter experiences the fulfilment and wellbeing that contributing to the community brings, she will develop a sense of service. In time, we will encourage her to look beyond the school community and develop an awareness of her responsibility to the wider world she will inhabit in later life.

*Photo: Outdoor Learning in the school grounds.*









'St George's School is well structured and professional. The girls move seamlessly from Junior through Lower to Upper school. Your daughter will develop an independent mind and life-long friendships. Academically, she will be stretched to be the best she can be. A key strength is the school's ability to be very flexible, for example, in subject choices for GCSE and Higher exams - even accommodating extra topics for very gifted girls.'

# Edinburgh's hidden gem

You'd be forgiven for forgetting you are in a capital city when you enter our campus. As well as purpose built facilities for the expressive and performing arts, the quiet, leafy site hosts sports fields and all-weather pitches. For younger girls there is also plenty of green space for outdoor education in the 'Wild Wood' and 'Fantastical Forest'.

Yet the vibrant and culturally rich hub that is Edinburgh is just a short walk away; indeed it's visible from the Upper School library. Safe and easy to navigate, the university city affords endless opportunities such as world-class drama, concerts and lectures. It is also an absorbing city for our boarders, with many options for the outings they help to plan.

The city's excellent reputation and its superb connections by rail, road and plane really enliven and enrich our community; your daughter will grow up amongst girls from Edinburgh, further afield in Scotland and across the globe.





# What they say about us

## Maddy Shepherd

### What do you love about St George's?

The friendly and informal atmosphere – it means that everyone is relaxed and proper relationships are formed between teachers and students.

### What do you think makes the school different from other schools?

Being single sex means that the girls can be who they want to be. For example, we have total freedom to share our opinions in class, and to do traditionally 'male' subjects like Physics. The small size means you get to know everyone in your year very quickly and the class sizes are fairly small which is great for learning.

### Can you give two examples of how you are benefiting from your education at St George's?

St George's has really helped me develop my confidence in numerous areas. I have no doubt that I wouldn't be as confident if I hadn't come here. The friendly atmosphere was a key aspect, allowing me to grow up in a non-judgemental atmosphere. The bonds I have made during the past 6 years are so strong, and this is not only with my immediate friends. The whole year group is close, and I will miss every one of them when I leave. The close community of St George's is very special.

### You will be starting to think about careers after school. Can you think of anything at school that is influencing your current thoughts?

I am studying Social Anthropology at University next year, and I am interested in using this to take on a career in international development. The school's strong international ties have most definitely influenced this.

### St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school has helped you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?

Definitely. I know that when I go into the real world I will not feel limited by my sex in any way. Girls who want to do subjects that are traditionally 'male' like sciences are never put off by society's expectations. There is no expectation to do traditionally 'female' subjects either, which means that we can be who we want to be.



# Sarah Ogilvie

## What do you love about St George's?

There is such a community, familial feel to the school that makes studying enjoyable as well as making us strive to do our best no matter what that is.

## What do you think makes the school different from other schools?

St George's adapts to suit the pupils in the best way that it possibly can, whether through help sessions after school to supporting us through exam stress or friendship problems. The teachers really do want us to do our best but do this in a relaxed friendly way, allowing our personalities, confidence and enthusiasm to grow.

## Can you give two examples of how you are benefiting from your education at St George's?

St George's has allowed me to gain more self confidence in voicing my thoughts and opinions both in and out of the classroom. It has also helped me to become an independent woman who is able to think for herself and make her own judgements and opinions, without necessarily following the crowd. I know that undoubtedly St George's has helped shape me into who I am today.

## Can you think of anything at school that is currently influencing your thoughts (career after school)?

I am going to study Art at Edinburgh University, but I know that if it wasn't for the support from the art teachers I would have dropped it in Lower 5!

St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school has helped you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?

St George's has given me so much self confidence from my time studying here. It has taught me to stand up for others, to stand up for myself and to voice my opinion. It's also taught me that being kind is one of the most important things to be.





# Caitlin Goodale

User Experience Designer, Computer Games Industry, left in 2011

## What has your career path been since you left school?

I wanted a career in the digital creative sector, specifically making video games. Upon leaving St George's I studied Computer Arts at university, securing internships at Microsoft and working on Minecraft. Last year I was headhunted for a role at King, the makers of Candy Crush, and moved to Sweden for my role as a User Experience designer.

## When you were a student at St George's was there anything in particular that influenced your career path?

Design is all about having a broad knowledge base, and St George's absolutely helped me to build that. I was encouraged to study a broad range of subjects, from Chinese to Art to Chemistry, all the way through Sixth Form. The Art faculty and facilities in particular helped me to build an amazing portfolio for applying to university, and helped me to explore projects and techniques I wouldn't have been able to anywhere else. Extra-curriculars like life drawing strengthened my skills as an artist exponentially, and have affected my job making video game art to this day (where I help to run a life drawing class at our studio!)

## St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school helped you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?

The school helped me to become more confident in myself, and in my slightly unconventional career path. I remember travelling to Beijing for a Chinese speaking competition and having to negotiate a new hotel room for me and another St George's student. Those sorts of experiences certainly helped me when taking the leap to move to Sweden!



# Bethany Lloyd

Medic, left in 2011

**What has your career path been since you left school?**

I am just about to graduate from the University of Aberdeen in Medicine, and will be starting work in Portsmouth from the end of July. After finishing at St George's in 2011, I spent a year working at a hospital and a children's home in Cambodia.

**When you were a student at St George's was there anything in particular that influenced your career path?**

I think St George's makes aiming for excellence the norm- there is none of the notion that I have experienced in other places of achieving despite being a girl. St George's teachers are truly exceptional in the way that they invest in pupils, challenging them to work towards their personal best and supporting them as much as possible in doing so.

**How do you think you benefited from your education at St George's?**

St George's certainly empowered me to believe in myself, and is a large part of the reason why I have been involved in so many different things since leaving St George's. Recently I won a competition to design some teaching for the undergraduate curriculum on professionalism for all medical schools in the UK, and ran this teaching session at the General Medical

Council's annual conference in London. Some of my inspiration for this came from teachers at St George's, demonstrating that serious topics can be covered in fun and engaging ways, and by encouraging me to take on leadership roles whilst at school.

**St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school helped you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?**

I have strong memories of learning of many examples of both men and women who have excelled in life, in whatever field that is in. They inspired me (and continue to do so!) to aim high, but most importantly to not be afraid to take the path less travelled and measure success by my own standard.



# Nicola Buckley

Director, Centre of Science and Policy,  
University of Cambridge, left in 1993

## How do you think you benefited from your education at St George's?

I am very grateful to have learned so much as a student at St George's. I think the school is very good at instilling belief amongst its students that they should set their sights high and aim for the educational and career opportunities in life that they want to pursue. I learned a great deal from inspiring teachers, and my sixth form History teacher, Mr Shepley, was particularly influential in my decision to apply to the University of Cambridge.

## What has your career path been since you left school?

I graduated with a first class degree in History and then worked in the UK voluntary sector as a fundraising manager before returning to Cambridge for a Masters degree in social anthropology. After that I managed the Cambridge Science Festival and founded the annual Cambridge Festival of Ideas. I now work as Associate Director at the Centre for Science and Policy at the University of Cambridge. I also hold the voluntary position of Chair of Trustees at the Cambridge Junction, a multi-arts venue.

**St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school helped**

**you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?**

St George's certainly helped me develop my self-confidence and I think it encourages its students to develop in many ways: for instance I enjoyed sports and debating among other activities at school. I am sure that the self-belief and interests that the school helped me develop were particularly important during a period of independent travelling I undertook in my 20s, travelling the Trans-Siberian railway, and also when I set up the Cambridge Festival of Ideas a few years later. These were both times of considerable challenge, and in tackling those challenges I appreciated the resilience and belief in myself that had been encouraged at St George's.



# Lily Oram

Music Industry, left in 2009

**How do you think you benefited from your education at St George's?**

I was nurtured throughout my whole school career by some really great teachers who genuinely really cared about my progress and supported me through not just my exams, but growing up too. The ethos of the school shaped me to believe I can achieve success if I put my mind to it and nothing is impossible, the only real hurdles that face me are the ones in my mind. My teachers were always really encouraging and I found that especially in the sixth form; they really helped shape my interests and who I have become. They were very dedicated to my growth and kept us stimulated and stretched.

**What has your career path been since you left school?**

After I left St George's, I went straight to Newcastle University to study a BA in Music. After I graduated, I took some time to travel to Cuba and then moved to London to do a 6-month marketing graduate trainee scheme for the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Once that ended, I moved to Universal Music Group where I was a digital assistant working on a streaming app for one of the labels. I then moved into a marketing role at the same label (Decca Records) and after almost 2 years at Universal, I then moved across to the live

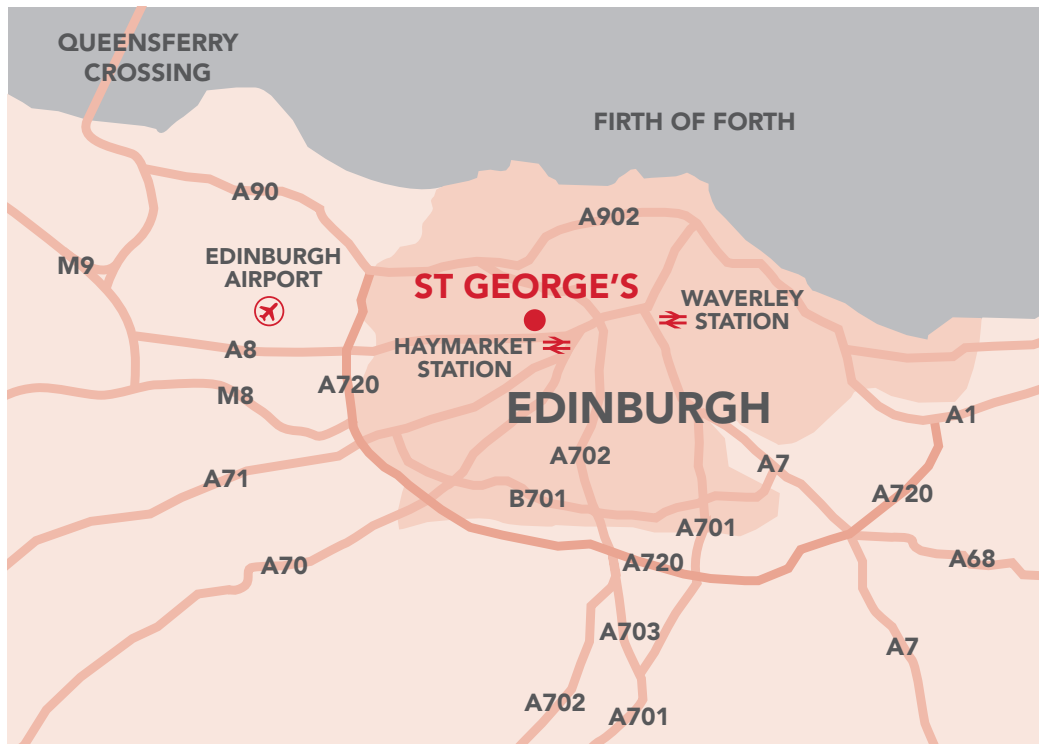
side of the industry. I now work for Coda Agency Ltd where we book gigs, tours and festivals for the artists on the roster. I have a lot of evening work going to gigs and festivals over the summer so am always busy!

**St George's prides itself in empowering women to believe in themselves. Do you feel the school helped you to develop this assured self-confidence in becoming a well-rounded individual?**

Yes I definitely do. I have grown a lot in confidence since school but we were always taught that we could achieve whatever we put our minds to; it was a really encouraging environment. The music industry is changing but it is still fairly male dominated and St George's taught me to have a voice and to believe in myself, regardless of my gender. I feel as though I am respected and treated very fairly but I would never expect anything else!



# Visit us



If you have any questions or would like to arrange to tour the school and meet Mrs Chandler-Thompson please contact the Admissions Department on 0131 311 8008 or [admissions@stge.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stge.org.uk)

Nursery 3 - 5 years

Junior School 5 - 10 years

Lower School 10 - 13 years

Upper School 13 - 16 years

Sixth Form 16 - 18 years



# ST GEORGE'S EDINBURGH

Garscube Terrace, Murrayfield, Edinburgh EH12 6BG

**Day and boarding school for girls, 3 - 18 years**  
**Boys extending up to the end of P3 by 2024**

**T** 0131 311 8000 **E** office@stge.org.uk

OSCR Charity No: SC012632 Help with fees available

**stge.org.uk**    