



ST MARGARET'S
SCHOOL



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An Education for Life

Lara Péchard Head



Welcome to St Margaret's School, Bushey. We are a co-educational independent day and boarding school in Hertfordshire. We have a reputation for supporting pupil wellbeing, whilst bringing on academic talent and progress. Our pupils go onto a range of destinations including some of the top Russell Group universities.

Based inside the M25 and within a short distance from all the major airports, we are a most unusual school. With over 60 acres of beautiful grounds, with a historic boarding house, we are a through school offering education from 2 to 18.

Teaching staff are dedicated to teaching and enjoy working here. Relationships are a strength. Alumni often comment on how happy their time was here and the friendships they forged are often for life.

We often say that there is no typical St Margaret's pupil, and this really is true. Our pupils go on to careers in medicine, law, aeronautical engineering, design, working in emerging markets and into the Police. We pride ourselves on working for and with individuals. It is important to us that all pupils feel valued at all stages.

Whether you are looking at entry into Nursery or for Sixth Form there is a buzz around the school. Whilst there is an emphasis on academic challenge there is also an impressively extensive offer. We are fortunate with our site and facilities. Pupils benefit from a wide ranging co-curricular programme that encourages breadth, enjoyment, self-reflection and excellence. The best way to experience St Margaret's is by booking in for an open day or tour. Here you will meet the pupils and staff, see warm relationships that encourage our pupil's confidence and growth. So, come and visit and see for yourself that this is a beautiful school, with a culture of learning, kindness and purpose.



The Nursery

The Nursery at St Margaret’s, is a term time nursery for children from 2 years old, during their preschool years, before they start in Reception. Children immerse themselves in play-based learning in a beautiful, light and spacious space, allowing them to create, play and explore the world around them.

The Curriculum

The children follow the EYFS curriculum. We work with the individual at the heart of our practice, supporting children’s next steps across all areas of the curriculum. The curriculum focus areas are communication and language, physical development, personal, social and emotional development, literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design.

Alongside these sessions, the children take part in outdoor learning with plenty of time and space outside.

Children in Pre-Reception (one academic year before Reception) will continue to focus on the skills and curriculum areas preparing them for Reception at St Margaret’s.

The Day

The core day will be 8am to 4pm, with drop off available from 7:30am and wraparound care available from 4pm to 6pm, these two hours are bookable as a chargeable extra.

The Sessions

One session equates to one half-day, with 10 sessions available over the week. There is a minimum number of 6 sessions for children in Pre-Reception (one year from starting Reception), with the minimum number for Lower and Upper Nursery set at 4 sessions.

In the term after a child has turned 3, they may be eligible for EY15 hours funding. If families are accessing funding of 15 hours, we ask that children attend The Nursery for a minimum of 25 hours per week.

Admissions

Children will be able to join The Nursery once they have turned 2 years old. This will mean children will be able to start during a term, at a time that is convenient for the family and subject to space availability.

Once your child is attending The Nursery, please do contact the School Office on: schooloffice@stmargarets-school.org.uk if you would like to increase your sessions. We will confirm if additional spaces and sessions are available.

Uniform

Children in Lower & Upper Nursery are able to wear their own clothes, but many families do choose to purchase the optional navy sweatshirt and polo shirt.

We ask that children in Pre-Reception do wear uniform; this is a tracksuit in the winter months and a summer dress or navy shorts and white polo shirt in warmer weather. Children should have indoor shoes and outdoor shoes, which can be either trainers or wellies.

Food

All of the children’s food is catered for by St Margaret’s. If your child has formula milk, we do ask that families provide the milk and the cup or bottle that your child usually drinks from, and the staff will build that into your child’s routine.

During your first meetings with the Nursery Manager, they will learn more about how your child eats and how the food should be prepared.



Junior School

Ages 4-11

St Margaret’s Junior School has strong foundations built on the school’s fine roots and tradition. The building is equipped with bright inspiring classrooms, a fully equipped Science lab, a Food Tech room, Art room, Music room and two halls, one affectionately known as the Playbarn.

The Curriculum

The Junior School has an engaging curriculum and high quality teaching, the children are happy and equipped for a changing world and they move onto the Senior School in a seamless fashion.

Our youngest learners start at St Margaret’s in our EYFS, where children can join our Nursery or Pre-Reception class before they start Reception.

The EYFS at St Margaret’s is underpinned by the best practice from the EYFS Curriculum. Our key resources in our planning are our individual children, we reflect on a child’s journey, are present with them in their learning and plan to support their next steps.

Our children in Y1 and Y2, build on the foundations they have secured in their early years. Our considered curriculum focuses on supporting and stretching the pupils’ learning in core subjects, while offering them broad curriculum experiences in a variety of subjects, including PE, Games, Swimming and Computer Science.

In Y3 and Y4, the children focus on building strong core skills across the curriculum. Technology is used as a key part of the delivery of academic learning and children are well supported to make progress in all areas. The curriculum uses themes and high quality texts that children use to reach their focused outcomes.

The children in Y5 and Y6 continue to build on the broad and balanced curriculum with an emphasis on core skills, to enhance knowledge and understanding across the curriculum. Children use technology to access learning, as well as developing their own tool kit for independent study.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is a key part of what makes St Margaret's the right choice for your child, we know the children and provide a supportive environment where they feel happy and secure and want to learn and do well.

The children in the Junior School understand and value the opportunities open to them and value themselves as lifelong learners. The voice of the pupil is key, children are encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings through our Junior School council, as well as during informal opportunities where children from the earliest age are confident to come and talk about any concerns and suggestions they have with each other and staff.

Joining The Junior School

Our main points of entry are, into our EYFS, via The Nursery and Reception, or into Y3, via our 7+ entry. However at times, we also have occasional places across the School and would be delighted to hear from families that are interested in joining St Margaret's.

Once families have visited the School for a tour, registered children will be invited for an age-appropriate assessment and taster session.

Our Y6 pupils automatically have a place in the Senior School, if they have been in attendance at the Junior School since Y5. All pupils at the Junior School sit the Senior School entrance exam.

Wrap Around Care

We provide wrap around care from 7.30am- 6pm (5pm on Friday). Breakfast is taken in the main school dining room and our After School Care for our youngest children is in their dedicated learning environment and outdoors, while our children in Y3-Y6 complete one hour of supervised study. At 5pm the children in ASC come together for further homework, board games and outside play before they are picked up.

Clubs

We offer a range of activities in the Junior School for pupils from EYFS to Y6, including activities such as Choir, Natural History, Lego, Sewing, Football, Swimming, Netball, Sketch Club, Chess, Ballet and many others.





Senior School

Ages 11 – 16

In the Senior School, our aim is to provide an all-round education which is both challenging and flexible. We nurture St Margaret’s pupils who are confident, courteous and considerate students who enjoy life and love learning. All benefit from superb teaching by committed subject specialists, underpinned by excellent pastoral care.

Small classes, a beautiful spacious campus and optional supervised study until 5.30pm each evening are some of the distinctive elements in a St Margaret’s education.

Years 7 – 9

The curriculum is broad and balanced to allow the strengths of different individuals to be discovered and fostered. Regular educational visits and opportunities for residential trips extend knowledge and deepen friendships. A wide variety of co-curricular clubs and activities are also available both after school and during the lunchtime period.

Years 10 – 11

Pupils take their GCSEs and are encouraged to choose varied subjects to maintain the breadth which is a mark of their earlier education. Pupils achieve the high grades which underpin successful university applications while having time to pursue hobbies and interests to a high level and develop those life skills essential for success in later life.

Quality Resources

The Senior School is currently building a new music centre, which, along with our well equipped performing arts studio and performance space in the main hall, ensure our pupils can enjoy the arts throughout the curriculum. Sports are a key part of life at St Margaret’s: our dance studio, all-weather pitches, sports centre and large grounds ensure pupils can enjoy a wide range of sports and activities. In the last year a new Computer Science laboratory joined our facilities, near to our range of top end Science laboratories.



Sixth Form

Ages 16 – 18

From September 2020, St Margaret’s Sixth Form went co-educational. With over twenty A-Level subjects and some non-traditional subjects such as B-tecs from which to choose, St Margaret’s Sixth Form students have access to a broad range of inspiring and challenging courses.

Over a two year period, Sixth Form students become independent, curious and aspirational, developing in-depth passions and interests. At St Margaret’s Sixth Form, students mature into adults with a set of values, practical skills and the confidence that will stand them in good stead for life.

Our outstanding taught post-18 pathways preparation programme enables students to learn more and prepare for the next steps into adult life, be that the world of higher education, apprenticeships or entry level jobs.

Sixth Form students take advantage of the wide range of co-curricular activities and leadership opportunities on offer and everyone responds positively to being treated as adults and having greater freedoms and opportunities to assume responsibility.

Facilities

- Spacious study rooms with individual study areas
- Common room with kitchen and restroom facilities
- UCAS and Careers Office
- Sixth Form Café
- Sixth Form parking
- Sports centre with swimming pool, gym and games facilities

First Class University Preparation

- Timetabled university preparation lessons
- Visits to universities, careers and apprenticeship fairs
- Interview and entrance examination practice
- Enrichment week: students are shown how to write personal statements and submit winning applications
- Weekly General Studies programme with external speakers
- Gap Year education and advice
- Individual and tailored support before, during and after applications
- Bespoke careers guidance and access to alumni networking events



Boarding

We are among one of the oldest boarding schools in the United Kingdom. We take great pride in this fact as it not only demonstrates our wealth of experience, but also our success in ensuring pupils are well looked after and above all, happy at St Margaret's.

We welcome pupils into our boarding house, which is situated within the main school building from Y7 onwards.

The St Margaret's boarding experience is like no other. It is full of activities, lively and fun, however, we ensure school work is a priority. A lovely community set amongst a 60 acre rural background and only 20 minutes from central London.

Full Boarding

Round the clock care at all times except school holidays, Exeat weekends (1 every half term) and the May Bank holiday weekend. There is always the flexibility for pupils to go home for occasional weekends to fit in with family events. Boarding also means lots of fun with extra activities and excursions included in the full boarding fee.

Weekly Boarding

Means that a pupil has their own bed in school which can be used for 3-5 nights a week by arrangement. Weekend stays and all excursions are available to weekly boarders for a supplementary charge.

Occasional Boarding

Can be offered if we have a bed free in the accommodation appropriate to a pupil's age. This can take the form of one or two nights a week on a regular basis, just the odd night here or there, or a week or two during the year. These options are all helpful when parents are away dealing with business or family matters, or when pupils have particularly time consuming commitments at school such as play rehearsals or preparation for public examinations.



Co-curricular & Sport

At St Margaret's there are an abundant amount of opportunities to shine, not just in the classroom, but also outside it. Our vast choice of co-curricular activities form a core part of school life, so much so, that the school day is organised to accommodate many of them during lunchtimes as well as after school.

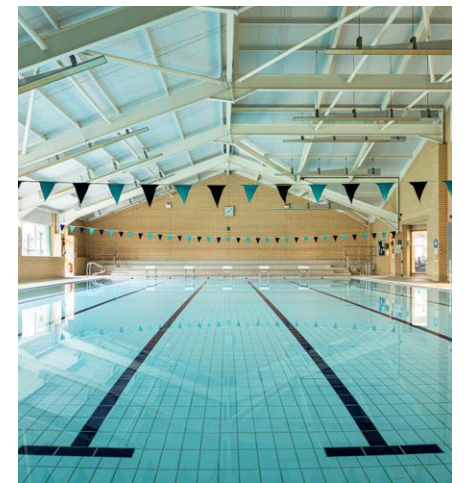
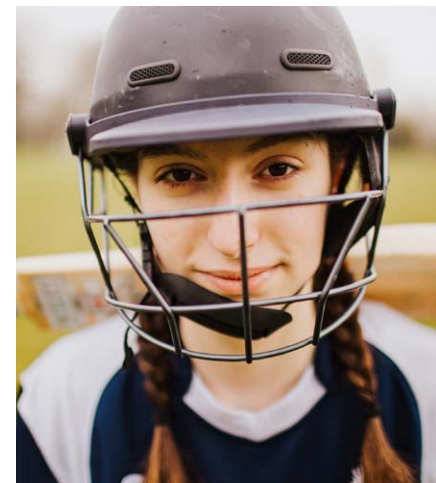
Every day, pupils from our EYFS classes through to Sixth Form take part in all kinds of co-curricular activities, to broaden their experiences and challenge themselves. With a choice of twenty musical instruments to learn from alone, our pupils can truly say they have an enriching experience at St Margaret's.

From academic enrichment clubs to volunteering; football and cricket to ballet; chess to speech and drama; Model United Nations to coding club, pupils are encouraged to push their limits and discover their passions, which often become part of their adult lives.

Volunteering and student voice is very important to us and students are regularly asked to give generously of their time in order to support the school's local and global community.

A few of the activities on offer are:

- Art, Design & Fashion
- Drama & Music
- Business, Economics & Enterprise
- Languages
- Sport
- Science
- Leadership, Debating & Public Speaking
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Lifeskills & Wellbeing
- University & Careers Preparation





Our Campus

Exam Results and University Destinations

The process for awarding public examination grades in 2021 differed from that of previous years owing to the cancellation of exams. The grades received by our students this year are therefore not statistically comparable with those of past years and consequently we have taken the decision not to publish data. However, that is not to say that there were not numerous successes to celebrate! A-level results were superb, with pupils moving on to study a range of competitive courses such as Chemistry with Drug Discover at Bath, Engineering at Edinburgh, Psychology with Criminology at Southampton, Psychology in Education at Bristol and Biochemistry at Imperial College London.

Year 11 also had much to celebrate on GCSE results day, with four pupils achieving a clean sweep of grade 9s. We commend the resilience and hard work of all our students over this unusual time, and we celebrate their successes and the strength of relationships in our community which allowed our students to emerge from the pandemic with successes to celebrate and bright futures to look forward to.

Case Studies



Inosha

Inosha was set on sciences from a young age and her desire to study Medicine was confirmed when joining the school's Biomedical Society in Y10. Learning more about Medicine pathways to strengthen her application through work experience, she has gone on to university to read Medicine. Inosha was a well-regarded peer mentor in Sixth Form and a Deputy Head of School Prefect with responsibilities for students in Y7 and Y8. During her tenure, the peer mentoring scheme was enhanced and every student in Y7 knew and admired Inosha.



Natania

Natania joined in Y12 from a local independent school. She became interested in becoming an architect through our university preparation programme and support from the Art and Maths department. She is now successfully going on to read Architecture at the world-renowned Bartlett School of Architecture in UCL. As a prefect and peer mentor, Natania was a source of unfailing support to younger students in the School and she will be greatly missed by the entire community.



Amy

Amy joined us in Y7 and was attracted to the School because of our combination of academic excellence and pastoral care. Amy threw herself into the academic life of the School taking advantage of all the university and Oxbridge preparation programmes, eventually earning a place at Clare College, Cambridge. Amy also contributed enormously to the life of the School, being in the senior and chamber choirs (earning her a choral scholarship at Emmanuel Cambridge in the process) and was Head of St John's House: the House's winning streak never ceased during her tenure and it is a record of which she is very proud!



Catherine

Catherine joined the school in Y7 and has flourished in the Sixth Form, taking advantage of our careers support and pastoral system in order to shape her future choices. Catherine took part in a range of clubs and societies and it is through attendance at our Psychology Society that she developed a passion for learning how the brain works. She goes on to study Psychology with Neuroscience this year and she will be greatly missed by her teachers and friends.



Scholarships & Bursaries

Scholarships

St Margaret’s scholarships are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement or promise in a particular subject. The majority of our scholarships are up to 10% of school fees.

Academic scholarships are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Applications for 11+ and 13+ entry will automatically be considered for an academic scholarship on the basis of success in the entrance examinations and interview that take place in the Autumn/Winter of the preceding academic year of entry.

16+ Academic Scholarship examinations and interviews take place in the November of the year preceding the year of entry.

Specialist scholarships are also available in: Art, Drama, Music, Sport and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) at 11+, 13+ and 16+ entry points. At 16+, specialist scholarships are also awarded for contribution to the St Margaret’s community.

Pupils can apply for one specialist scholarship along with an academic scholarship. All scholarships are reviewed annually. There is one application form for all scholarships (including the Sixth Form academic scholarship) which can be downloaded from the website.

Please note that we will only consider scholarship applications from candidates who are registered for entry to the School.

If you require financial assistance please refer to the section on bursaries. Simultaneous applications may be made for both a scholarship and a bursary.

Scholarships Available

| | | |
|-----|----------|---|
| 11+ | Academic | Art, Drama, Music, Sport & STEM |
| 13+ | Academic | Art, Drama, Music, Sport & STEM |
| 16+ | Academic | Art, Drama, Music, Sport, STEM, Community Service |

*At 16+ candidates may apply for academic scholarships in two subjects



Bursaries

St Margaret’s is committed to broadening access to the School. Within the resources available, means-tested financial support for the payment of school fees can be provided to parents/guardians of pupils who have been offered a place following the normal admissions and selection process.

Such support is known as a bursary which is awarded in the form of a discount of tuition fees payable, depending on the financial, compassionate or other pertinent circumstances of applicants. This discount rarely exceeds 33%.

Bursary awards are subject to repeat testing of parental means each year and may be varied upwards or downwards, depending on parental circumstances.

The Bursary Application Process

Step One

Parents seeking a bursary are required by 30 November for entry the following September to complete an application form which seeks to establish the financial circumstances of the household. The form, which requests details of income, expenditure and capital assets, must be accompanied by full documentary evidence. The completed forms together with the necessary documentary evidence, are to be submitted to the Bursar at **bursar@stmargarets-school.org.uk** normally at the time of registration but in exceptional circumstances prior to this. All people with parental responsibility (even if separated and one parent makes no contribution to living costs) must complete the form.

Step Two

The Bursar assesses all applications in order to establish the likely level of support which will be required in order to allow the child to attend the School and prepares a recommendation in accordance with the St Margaret’s School Scale of Awards which is considered with the Head. A joint recommendation is then reached.

Step Three

After the recommendation has been presented to the Chairman of the Governors’ Finance and General Purposes Committee for consideration, the parents are then advised whether their child is to be offered a place at the School and of the Bursary offer.

To find out more, please contact the Admissions Department at **admissions@stmargarets-school.org.uk**



Timing of the School Day

September 2021 Timetable

| Junior School | | Senior School | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 08:30 | Period 1 | 08:30 | Period 1 |
| 09:30 | Period 2 | 09:30 | Period 2 |
| 10:30 | Break | 10:30 | Break |
| 10:50 | Period 3 | 10:50 | Period 3 |
| 11:50 | Period 4 | 11:50 | Period 4 |
| 12:50 | Lunch | 12:50 | Lunch |
| 13:50 | Period 5 | 13:50 | Period 5 |
| 14:50 | Period 6 | 14:50 | Period 6 |
| 15:50 | Form Time | 15:50 | Form Time |
| 15:50 – 16:10 | End of Day (Staggered Departures) | 15:50 – 16:10 | End of Day (Staggered Departures) |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | Supervised Study/Clubs | 16:15 – 18:00 | Supervised Study |

Junior School After School Care is available from 17:00 - 18:00 Mon - Thurs.



Coach Routes

St Margaret’s organises dedicated coach services for its pupils. In general, coach routes operate in Hertfordshire and North London.

All buses arrive at St Margaret’s School at approximately 08:15 and depart promptly at 16:15. Full timetables can be viewed on the website.

Bushey Station Shuttle

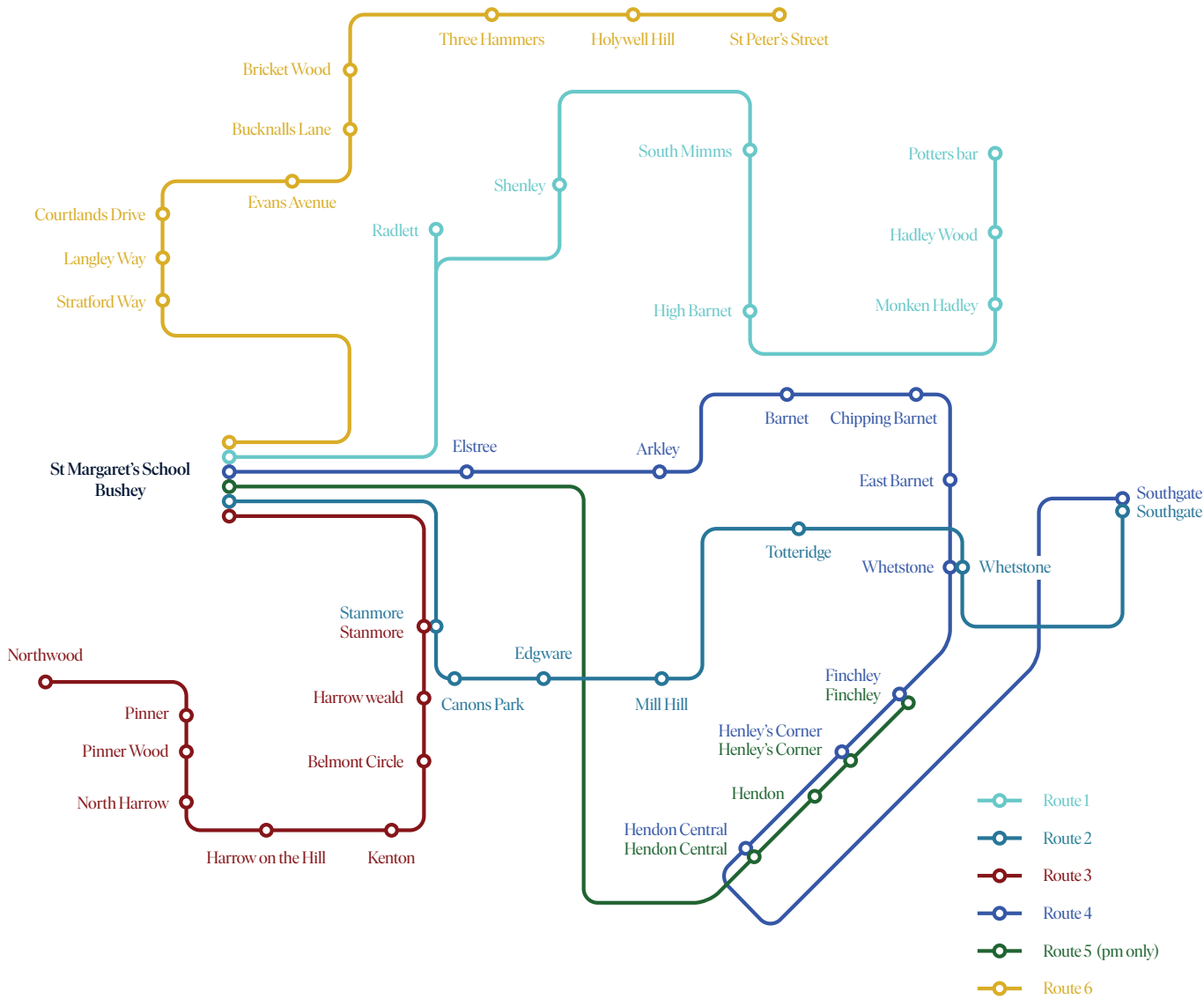
The school provides a daily shuttle from Bushey station costing £2.50 per journey on Route 6, leaving the station at 08:05.

Coach Charges

- 7-10 journeys (full pass) = £47.00 per week
- Single journey (for those wishing to travel less than 7 times per week) = £6.70
- Book of 5 x ad-hoc passes (for those who do not wish to commit to booking a seat) = £40.00

The coach service is only available to pupils in Y3 and above.

Routes are reviewed at the end of each academic year, please refer to the website for the latest information.



Termly Fees From September 2021

Termly Fees

| | | Day | Weekly Boarding up to 3 nights | Weekly Boarding up to 5 nights | Full Boarding |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Junior School | Nursery & Pre-Reception | £3,920 average per term | - | - | - |
| | Reception, Years 1 & 2 | £4,185 | - | - | - |
| | Years 3 – 6 | £5,112 | - | - | - |
| Senior School | Years 7 – 13 | £6,117 | £8,484 | £10,017 | £11,661 |
| Supper with supervision (16:15 - 20:00) | Years 7 – 13 | | | £15 per day | |
| Temporary/Occasional Boarding | Years 7 – 13 | | | £60 per night | |

The following activities are available at an extra charge

| Individual Music Lessons | Speech & Drama Junior School | Speech & Drama Senior School |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| £210 | £100 (small groups) | £200 (individual lessons) £150 (paired students) |

In the event of parents wishing to withdraw a pupil early, a full term's notice, in writing, must be sent to the Head, otherwise a liability will be incurred for a further term's fees at the appropriate boarding or day rate. A similar full term's notice is also required if you wish your child to change status from boarding to day. In the case of discontinuing extra paid activities, a full term's notice, in writing, must also be given where the activity is to be discontinued at the conclusion of the term.

Deposit

A deposit of £1,000 (£2,000 for boarders) is required upon accepting a place at the school. £500 of this deposit will be credited against the first fee invoice, the remainder returned on completion of the pupil's education at the School.

Entry to St Margaret's School

Key Dates in Admissions Process

Entrance for September 2022

| Age in years | 3+ | 4+ | 7+ | 11+ | 13+ | 16+ |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Closing Date for Registration and Scholarship Applications | 31 March 2022 | 19 October 2021 | 22 November 2021 | 12 November 2021 | 29 October 2021 | 25 February 2022 |
| Entrance Assessment | By Invitation | Completed no later than 12 November 2021 | 26 November 2021 | 29 November - 3 December 2021 | 9 -11 November 2021 | Not applicable for UK pupils. Overseas students will be advised by Admissions |
| Interviews | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | 29 November - 3 December 2021 | 9 - 11 November 2021 | To be confirmed |
| Offer Letter will be Posted By | Within 10 days of assessment and receipt of nursery report | Within 10 days of assessment and receipt of reference report | Within 10 days of assessment and receipt of reference report | No later than 4 February 2022 | No later than 4 February 2022 | Within 10 days of assessment and receipt of reference report |
| Written Acceptances to reach St Margaret's School | Within 2 weeks of receipt of offer | Within 2 weeks of receipt of offer | Within 2 weeks of receipt of offer | No later than 3 March 2022 | No later than 3 March 2022 | As per the offer letter |

Occasionally places become available in other year groups. The Admissions Team will be able to advise on possible vacancies.





www.stmargarets-school.org.uk

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If you would like a tour of the school
or need any further information please
contact the Admissions Team.

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