



Thames
Christian
School

navigation for life



ACHIEVEMENT
2025-2026

THAMES

THE CREATIVE CHOICE



Stephen Holsgrove
Head

Thames Christian School is an award-winning, co-educational senior school established just over 25 years ago in south west London. Welcoming children aged 11-18, we believe that every child who joins Thames is a story waiting to be told. Our staff carefully handcraft every pupil's educational experience, treating each one as an individual. A broad and personalised curriculum enables each pupil to develop their interests, both in the classroom and in sport, art, music and drama. With exceptional provision for creatives we recognise the overlap between creative and traditionally academic subjects allowing pupils to focus in either area or, most often, a blend of the two.

Pupils leave us as confident, compassionate and capable young people ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges of adult life. Many go on to leading universities and conservatoires whilst others choose degree apprenticeships or the workplace leading to a wide range of successful careers.

With a close, positive partnership between staff, pupils and parents, our school community has long been recognised for its warmth and attention within a strong pastoral framework, as well as highly-rated SEND care for pupils who require it. Our approach is to develop the whole child, giving them a sense of purpose so that they leave the school equipped to lead happy, productive and successful lives. We call our approach '*Navigation for Life*'.

GCSE Results 2025

This year 42% of grades were 9-7 and 93% of grades were 9-4. In particular, 39% of pupils achieved at least five grades at 9-7, 54% at least three 9-7 grades and 93% at least one 9-7 grade.

With the percentage of our grades at 9-7 being nearly twice the national average which is 22%, this pleasing set of results reflects the hard work of our pupils, coupled with the school's commitment to providing an environment where every pupil has the opportunity to succeed. Small, bespoke classes and a wide range of subjects enable an exceptionally flexible choice of options at GCSE and A Level.

GCSE Subject highlights: Textile Design 83% 9-7; 3D Design 79% 9-7; Fine Art 77% 9-7; Physics 55% 9-7; Maths 52% 9-7; Computer Science 50% 9-7; Religious Studies 47% 9-7; Geography 45% 9-7 and French 45% 9-7.

CAMPBELL

Having achieved ABB in Maths, Physics and 3D Design, Campbell is taking a fully funded five year degree apprenticeship in Civil Engineering with WSP Global. Alongside his studies, Campbell completed the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Year 12, a year early, and plays rugby for Middlesex U18 Rugby Union.



"The school's strong moral ethos and caring community feel set it apart. The emphasis on values, respect and character alongside academic achievement is exactly what we were looking for."

Thames parent 2026

Trips 2025-2026

At the invitation of Battersea MP, Marsha de Cordova, GCSE Spanish and French students celebrated European Day of Languages at Europe House, Smith Square, hosted by the European Parliament Liaison Office.

The event celebrated the rich diversity of European languages and featured workshops, games, quizzes and stalls from EU embassies.

Rev Jago Wynne, Rector of Holy Trinity Clapham, hosted Year 8 teaching them about William Wilberforce, leader of the movement to abolish slavery, and the Clapham Sect. HTC was the centre for these campaigners' work. One of the school's houses is named after Wilberforce.

Other trips included: European Parliament Ambassador Schools Event at the Houses of Parliament, *Ballet Shoes* at the National Theatre, Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition, Chinatown, Courtauld Gallery, Imperial War Museum Holocaust Gallery, Natural History Museum, Wandsworth Clip n' Climb, geography field trips and *History Happened Here*, a tour of blue plaques in Battersea.



CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Tanzania: A team of Year 11 and 13 students spent two weeks working with the charity Go MAD in Tanzania in the rural Mara region. Their work building water tanks, goat sheds and planting trees enhances the lives of villagers, providing them with clean water and an income. The trip enables students to experience Africa at a grassroots level. The trip concluded with a safari in the Serengeti including a night at camp. Fundraising for the projects and their own trip costs were part of this enriching experience.

Skiing: Thirty students enjoyed a ski trip to Flashau, Austria, in the Salzburger Sportwelt, which boasts 760km of downhill pistes with 144 marked ski runs. Snow was plentiful and 5 hours per day of ski school catered for varying abilities.

Bay of Naples: Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils had an amazing time on this popular trip, visiting Vesuvius, and the ancient sites of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Highlights included cooking pizza, gelato making and a boat trip down the beautiful Amalfi coast.



Year 7 camp: Activities at the 3 day camp at the Horstead Centre, Norfolk, included raft building, climbing, zip wire, crate stacking, low ropes and a night walk. Pupils gained familiarity with the school ethos and values and got to know each other better.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award: Twenty Year 9 pupils completed the Bronze award and four Year 11s completed Silver. The Bronze practice expedition took place on the edge of Ashdown Forest and the qualifying expedition near the Surrey Hills.

Co-curricular activities: 3D modelling, 3D papercraft, baking, basketball, brand design, British Sign Language, chess, choir, code breaking, coding, Couch to 5K, crochet, dance, debate, digital research skills, dissections, electronics, fashion & textiles, forensic science, football, Hebrew scriptorium, historical research, international cookery, illustration, instrumental ensemble, life drawing, lino printing, Mandarin, musical theatre, netball, origami, propmaking, Rubik's cube, rugby, story writing, surrealist collage, table tennis, tech dissection & repair, spreadsheet skills, STEM, tennis, Thames radio, Thames Theatre Company, The Table, woodwork and Youth Alpha.



FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY

Go MAD in Tanzania: Our Sponsored Cross Country raised £7,280 for charity. The £6,630 remitted to Go MAD in Tanzania funded two plantations of 2,500 trees each. Seedlings cost £1 to plant and maintain by villagers, and in 10 years the wood harvested will be worth 100 times this, the profit being invested back into further reforestation projects and the community. Funds raised also paid for a tool shed at another plantation and contributed £1,000 to Go MAD's Land Rover fund.

Year 11s Talia and Spencer organised a fundraising concert, the proceeds going towards the costs of their trip to Tanzania. Elsie raised funds by running 50km and Theo ran a half marathon.

Year 9 DT students sold chocolate bars they had made from moulds of their own design, raising further funds for Go MAD.

A21's Crisis Care Centres: £600 was donated to support their anti-trafficking work.

Jumpers for Jamaica: Pupils were allowed to wear Christmas jumpers in school to raise funds for the Hurricane Melissa Relief Fund.

Wandsworth Food Bank: Year 12 arranged collections of groceries, hygiene products and seasonal treats at Christmas and the end of the summer term.



LEILANI

Leilani joined Thames in Year 12 and gained A in Art, A* in 3D Design, A in History and A in the Extended Project Qualification. She will study Architecture at University of Loughborough, her first choice. Training with Bromley Swim Club, Leilani represented Thames at ISA National Swimming Galas, achieving Bronze in individual butterfly and Silver in the medley relay.*

Use of Technology

Dr Stephen Holsgrove attended a presentation on educational technology in schools at the Palace of Westminster organised by Laura Trott MP, SafeScreens and Close Screens Open Minds. Speakers included actress Sophie Winkleman and author and presenter Dr Rangan Chatterjee.

Jennifer Powers of Unplugged Coalition gave a talk to parents on smartphones and technology. Jennifer is a regional leader for the Smartphone Free Childhood movement and a former special adviser to the Prime Minister on Energy, Business & Regulation.

A group of Year 7 and 8 pupils attended a Social Media Round Table for local schools invited by Marsha de Cordova MP.

Our Innovation Lead, Mrs Madeleine Champagnie, attended a forum at the House of Lords run by the Shape the Future Leaders Coalition, an initiative supporting safe, purposeful and intelligent uses of AI in schools.

Thames was awarded a Silver AI Quality Mark by Good Future Foundation recognising the school's responsible and ethical AI implementation.



25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Current and former pupils, parents, teachers and trustees celebrated 25 years of Thames and gave thanks for our building with a special commemorative service and reception. As well as hymns and prayers, the ceremony included memories from former students, interviews with the school's founders and head, and specially written musical and drama performances. Guests were also able to view a special exhibition at the school that included photos, articles and records of many milestones from our earliest days to the present.

The event marked the official launch of Thames Parents' Association, as well as Thames Alumni, with regular events to be held in the future.

Speakers 2025-2026

Rev David Smith, Museum of the Book, on the 500th anniversary of the Tyndale New Testament

Professor Stuart Burgess, Professor of Engineering Design at the University of Bristol

Kate Wyncoll, UCL, special care dentist

Janet Kemp JP

Charlie Munns, The Economist

Camilla Byk MBE, Podium.me

Tom Barnardo, descendant of Thomas Barnado

Des Morant, Authentic Business Group, motivational speaker

Clare Dorey, past Thames teacher

Steward's Trust

Moses Swaibu, former professional footballer

Graham McClure, Go MAD in Tanzania

Foluso Oyedele, Citizens UK

Andy Monks, author & youth worker

Ben Malawo, MRI radiographer

CHARLES

Charles came to Thames in Year 9 from a specialist dyslexia school. His A in 3D Design, A in Economics and C in History enables him to study Finance: Business Management at University of Exeter. Charlie's leadership skills were demonstrated as Head Boy and as a member of the team that volunteered in Tanzania with Go MAD.*





*"We love the family feel and everyone is so welcoming.
Small class sizes are important."*

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P E R F O R M I N G A R T S

Curtain Up! This year's show was a specially designed Musical Revue celebrating 25 years of Thames Christian School. With 25 songs from different musicals, *Curtain Up!* took the audience on a journey from pre-1920s Operetta, through the Jazz, Golden and Post Golden Ages to the present day. With songs from *The Mikado*, *Sweet Charity*, *West Side Story*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Matilda*, *Hairspray*, *Evita*, and many more, they featured solos, duets and big dance numbers.

Mrs Rachael Smith directed and choreographed the show and new Head of Music, Mr Steven Hill, directed the music and led the four-piece band. Behind every successful show lie countless hours of dedication from pupils and staff. From the design of costumes to the creation of props, backstage management to technical coordination, so much vital work happens away from the spotlight.



Performing Arts: Over the year parents enjoyed a high standard of individual, instrumental, choral, dance, drama and musical theatre performances including numbers from *Oliver! The Musical*. The February concert featured a *Jazz Magnificat* composed by the retiring Director of Music, Dr Paul Mitchell.

LAMDA Highlights: In the LAMDA graded awards, Jemimah, Year 9, attained Distinction in Grade 7 Silver Acting. Zoe, Year 9, achieved Distinction in Grade 6 Bronze Acting. Sam, Year 11, and Juliet, Year 8, attained Merit in Grade 6 Bronze Acting. Hollie, Year 9, attained Merit in both Grade 6 Bronze Acting as well as Grade 6 Bronze Musical Theatre.



S P O R T

Swimming: At the ISA London West Gala, Harmony, Year 10, came 1st in 50m Fly, qualifying for the Nationals. Leilani, Year 13, came 2nd in 50m Fly and 100m Freestyle. Will, Year 11, came 2nd in 100m Freestyle. At the ISA National Swimming Gala, Harmony won Gold in Individual Butterfly and Gold in the Medley Relay making her the fastest female swimmer in the country for her age group.

Athletics: Josiah, Year 9, won Gold in the 1500m at the ISA London West Athletics, qualifying him for the ISA National Athletics at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, where he won Bronze with a PB of 4:27.37.



At Wandsworth Schools Athletics, Eleanor, Year 8, Lucas and Josiah, Year 9, and Nathan, Year 10, qualified for London Schools Track & Field Championships where Eleanor came 5th in the girls' discus with a distance of 14.53m.

Cross Country: Four pupils gained places into the ISA Cross Country National Finals with Josiah, Year 9, winning Silver in the U14 race.

Rugby: Thomas, Year 9, was invited to join the UR7s National Sevens Academy next season.

Marathon: Teacher Mrs Victoria Cionini-Visani completed the London Marathon in aid of Whizz Kidz. This is the second time she has run the London Marathon.



CHRISTAL

Christal achieved A in English Literature, A in Economics and B in History. She is taking a gap year to work in a law firm before applying for university next year to study law or secure a degree apprenticeship.*

Careers

Careers Fair: A range of 34 careers were represented at our Careers Fair including law, interior design, hospitality, medicine, engineering, PR, software design, visual and creative arts, journalism, finance and the police amongst others. A Q&A with a graphic designer, global HR director and an architect gave helpful insights into entering the world of work.

A week's work experience gave Year 10 pupils a first taste of an adult workplace, building job confidence and testing out future career ideas. In one placement Finlay shadowed Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson in the House of Lords and spent two days working with London Youth Games Foundation.

Futures Week: Year 10 experienced A Level taster sessions, as well as focused sessions on the future of work and how AI is affecting the workplace. Students considered the merits of varying post 18 options: degrees, degree apprenticeships and AI-proofed careers in the creative arts or practical trades.

"What the school does so well is nurture our son's confidence and foster a genuine love of learning. He feels encouraged, supported and motivated in his day-to-day experience."

Thames parent 2026



NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Pupils have been successful in an increased number and variety of ISA and other competitions this year.

ISA Drama: Year 9 girls, Jemimah, Poppy, Himani, Zoe, Margaux and Hollie, won the Best Musical category for their performance featuring the song *SIX*, choreographed by Jemimah. The judges said: "The ensemble work and chorus sections were particularly strong, and movement around the space was fluid and purposeful." In the Individual Performer category, Spencer, Year 11, received an Honourable Mention as Eric in *Bouncers*.

ISA Composer: Talia, Year 11, won the Solo Instrument Year 10-11 category with her piano piece *Ragtime Jazztime* she composed for her Music GCSE. Spencer, Year 11, was runner up with his film score *Hit of Something Else*.

ISA Coding: This competition encourages pupils to explore their creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking through their coding skills. Matthew, Year 10, won the Key Stage 4-5 category with his 3D version of the game *Snake*. Xavier, Year 7, won Best Visual Design in the Key Stage 3 category for his game *Galaxy Defenders*.

ISA Public Speaking: Hugo, Year 9, reached the national finals of the Public Speaking competition held in Cambridge.

ISA Art: In the highly contested London West competition second places were achieved by Will, Year 13, in 2D Key Stage 5, with his portrait of Ceci; Eloise, Year 11, with her artwork *Stretching* in the 2D Key Stage 4 and Philip, Year 9, in Key Stage 3 Drawing. A number of others were Highly Commended.

UK Mathematics Trust: In the Senior Mathematical Challenge, Will achieved Gold and Veniamin Silver certificates. In the Junior Challenge, Elizabeth and Alex were awarded Gold, two pupils achieved Silver and nine pupils Bronze. Elizabeth's score qualified her for the Junior Kangaroo Competition. In the Intermediate Challenge, two pupils achieved Silver and nine pupils Bronze.

Chemistry: Twenty-seven Year 9 and 10 Chemistry pupils took part in the Perse Junior Chemistry Challenge, a demanding 45 minute written exam for Year 9 to 11 students. Ava, Oscar, Kiishi and Luke, Year 9, achieved the Copper Award - the equivalent of Bronze.

English: Hugo, Year 9, was Highly Commended in the National Poetry by Heart Competition.

Awards

Independent School of the Year: In the 2026 Awards, Thames Christian School was Highly Commended for Student Wellbeing in recognition of the quality of the school's pastoral and SEN provision. Finalists will be announced in Autumn 2026.

Education Choices Awards 2026:

Special Mention for Inclusive SEN Provision.



S I X T H F O R M

A Level Results

This year 52% of grades were A*/A and 21% at A*, while 83% were A*/B. Half of our students gained at least one A* grade. Most subjects taken by this cohort achieved top A*/A grades including Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, English Literature, History, Economics, Spanish, Art and 3D Design.

Almost all students gained entry to their first-choice university which include: Mathematics at University of Bath; Finance with Business Management at Exeter; International Politics and Spanish at Manchester; Sports Therapy at Chichester University; Architecture at Loughborough; Computer Science at Queen Mary University of London; Financial Mathematics at Cardiff and Economics, Finance and Business at Oxford Brookes.

VENIAMIN

*With A*AA in Maths, Further Maths and Physics, Veniamin takes up a place at Queen Mary University of London to study Computer Science. He achieved A in the Extended Project Qualification choosing as his in-depth research topic whether AI could replace human labour. Veniamin came to Thames in Year 10 as a refugee from Ukraine with very limited English.*



“One of the school’s key strengths is its commitment to developing students’ personal qualities and character. The school consistently promotes values such as kindness, integrity, resilience, and respect.”

Thames parent 2026



Sixth Form Trips & Visitors 2025-2026

- Material Matters Exhibition & The Wood Awards at London Design Festival
- Studio at New Wimbledon Theatre: *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen
- Jewellery workshop with Paul Ravn, master goldsmith
- The Wallace Collection
- Sir John Soane's Museum
- Royal College of Surgeons: Hunterian Museum
- English Literature Student Conference
- The National Archives
- National Theatre: *Hamlet*
- Make, international architects
- SW Consulting, independent careers advisor
- UCAS Fair at Excel Centre
- What University? What Career? Live at Olympia