



Tormead

SIXTH

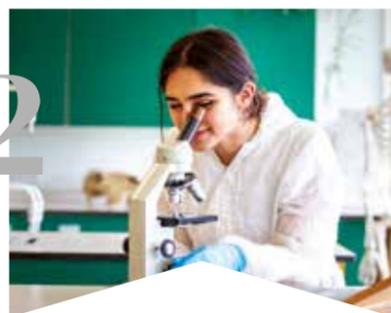
16-18 years

Equipped and ready to embrace a bright future.



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The Common Room is a lively space with multiple seating areas, as well as a balcony overlooking the campus.



“

A wonderful balance of being nurturing while placing great emphasis on teaching the girls to be independent.

”



Welcome to Tormead Sixth Form

Express yourself

Here at Tormead Sixth Form, you'll be welcomed into a close-knit community within a friendly and supportive environment.



We are very proud of our school and its ethos of encouraging each individual girl to develop her talents to the full in a happy and caring school. Our vision is to provide an excellent, all-round education in a warm, stimulating and supportive environment.

A Tormead education is one of academic excellence, outstanding pastoral care and a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities and enrichment. We pride ourselves on nurturing flexibility of thought and resilience in our girls, both key dispositions for future-proofing them in a world where traditional professions will be disrupted by the impact of AI and robotics.

Our commitment to academic excellence is evident in a strong track record in public examinations: a testament to our girls, our teaching staff and the whole school community. The hugely impressive results speak for themselves:

In 2020, 69% of all A Level grades were an A* or A, rising from 67% in 2019.

Tormead values individuality, celebrates diversity and encourages girls to be themselves, whilst emphasising equally the value of tolerance, teamwork and collective responsibility. We aim to instil a sense that they are members of a caring and outward-looking community and we measure the value of our education, not only by the standards of examination results and university destinations, but by the happiness of our pupils, the strength of our community and the success of our old girls as they chart their course beyond Tormead's gates.

Being an all-girls' school means you can be open and honest which helps form incredible friendships.

—Sixth Former

Our facilities for learning are first-rate, such as our beautifully constructed main teaching block, Atrium and Sixth Form centre; harder to see is our wireless network, which has allowed us to introduce iPads into lessons as part of our digital strategy as an Apple Distinguished School.

However, all the research shows that the most important factor in education is the quality of teaching. At Tormead, our girls enjoy inspirational and scholarly lessons, delivered by a well-qualified, talented, and caring staff – in small class settings which allow every individual to flourish to their full potential.

I'm excited to be leading Tormead at a time when we are looking towards further growth and development across the Sixth Form. Tormead is a school that has never rested on its past successes, as we continue to inspire the next generation of girls.

I look forward to welcoming you and your daughter to Tormead.

—Mr David Boyd
Head of Tormead School

The Sixth Form Difference



We're so proud of our Sixth Formers, who reflect the unique ethos of Tormead.

So, how do we produce these well-rounded, confident and intellectually curious young women, ready to make a positive contribution?

I particularly enjoy working with bright, curious and courteous young people with a real sense of fun – and helping them plan for a fulfilling life beyond school. The Tormead Sixth Form has a strong sense of community, while achieving very highly across the board.

—Julian Sykes, Director of Sixth Form (Pastoral)

- Engendering intellectual and social confidence through opportunities such as symposium research and presentations, assemblies, the Horizons programme, and voluntary work at local schools and care homes

- Equipping girls with the knowledge, ability and desire to make ambitious, exciting career choices

- Developing leadership skills as mentors and House Captains and other positions of responsibility

- Fostering positive workplace relationships by treating students as adults

- Offering a wide range of support for students to pursue diverse courses after A Level (including specialist Oxbridge advice)

- Empowering pupils with the voice to express concerns and actively lead on them

- Encouraging the individual and unique interests of every girl

In recent years, the girls have designed their own Common Room and written the Sixth Form prospectus. Future plans include the construction of a purpose-built Sixth Form Centre.

Above all, we celebrate our Sixth Formers' creativity, academic achievements, social and intellectual ease and the myriad ways they make the world better.



Celebrating Achievement

Because the end is just the start!

While enjoying two years of academic progress and personal growth, our Sixth Form girls achieve so much.

For most, their ultimate destination is a university education. And we're so proud of the A Level results they gain to make those dreams happen.

A level above

In 2020, 69% of all A Level grades were an A* or A, rising from 67% in 2019.



Where to next?

10% of each Upper Sixth year group apply for Oxbridge places, with others choosing a range of Russell Group universities, as well as specialist colleges for Art, Music and Drama. Others have chosen apprenticeships, such as one in engineering, helping to design ejector seats for fighter-jets.



Infinite Options

From Medicinal Chemistry at UCL to Classics at Oxford...

The sheer variety and scope of the degree subjects they choose to study is reflective of our broad curriculum: from Medicinal Chemistry at UCL to Classics at Oxford; Physics with Philosophy at York to Economics and Sociology at Edinburgh; Engineering at Liverpool to Modern Languages at Durham...

The possibilities are endless.

Academic Subjects

During their two key years of academic progress and fulfillment, our Sixth Form girls achieve so much.

Not only do their impressive A Level grades and exciting university destinations speak for themselves, but the wide scope of degree subjects chosen also reflects our diverse curriculum.

That's why we believe that the knowledge and learning they gain here at Tormead will always stay with them...

Academic Enrichment

Our Academic Enrichment provision continues to grow in the Sixth Form where we expect the girls to lead by example and take control of their own learning.

The Sixth Form buzzes with curiosity, intrigue and passion about the latest issues of the day – and we want to encourage our girls to stand up and be counted.

Beacon Pathways

Sixth Formers can explore their manifold interests in life beyond school, with options from technology and medicine to ecology or just plain fun. Each Pathway has its own mission statement and has no limit, crossing subjects, careers and academic interests. Previous topics have included Life in the GDR and National Poetry Day.

Beacon Events

Sixth Formers are invited to lead Beacon MiniTalks and Briefings, offering them a chance to both lecture on their passions and lead discussions. Students have formally run mock elections, briefings on Brexit and Identity Politics, while others have led 100+ students on language tasters in Arabic, Russian and Mandarin.





1st

in determination
(and celebration)

All results matter at Tornead



Tornead



STEM

Why STEM matters...

For our Sixth Formers, studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects means demonstrating academic rigour and the kind of pragmatic skills always in demand by leading universities and employers.

Here at Tormead, we're proud of our STEM provision and the results achieved by our girls in each of these key A Level subjects:

Biology

Biology is one of our most popular subjects studied at Tormead. Teaching the girls to love our natural world and be inspired by it, Biology focuses on the fascinating relationships and interactions that exist between animals, plants and microorganisms.

Chemistry

Chemistry is central to our understanding of the natural and man-made world. Many of the challenges facing our society will be overcome with the help of chemical scientists. Chemistry has a global impact in finding solutions which improve human health, preserve energy and natural resources, and help to combat climate change. Practical sessions form a large part of our teaching at all levels and girls gain a wide range of transferable skills, from team-working to practical problem-solving.

Physics

Physics is the fundamental science which enables us to understand the physical world – from the largest structures in the universe to the smallest subatomic particles. The amazing analytical and predictive power of Physics underpins almost all the technologies which enable our modern way of life.

Computer Science

Computer Science allows students to participate fully in an increasingly technologically dependent society. Combining theoretical study and practical application, it teaches the skills that would be needed for careers across the whole spectrum of the IT industry.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology is about solving problems: how can we use technology and design to address needs that we identify around us? The subject now centres on the design and making process and specifically covers the area of product design. Our excellent provision includes 3D printing facilities.

Mathematics

Mathematics encourages us to problem-solve, analyse arguments and reason logically. Many of the topics studied have applications in real life, as well as direct links to other subjects and topics. With a strong emphasis on essential algebraic, numeric and geometric skills, girls are encouraged to enjoy the intellectual challenge of mathematics.



Pastoral Care

Care & Compassion

At Tormead, we fundamentally believe that girls can only be successful when they are happy.

That's why pastoral care is the cornerstone of our provision as we strive to ensure that each and every girl is supported to feel fulfilled, safe and secure within our community.

Our approach to pastoral care focuses upon strong and positive relationships between pupils and staff as well as an open partnership with parents.

I help students see they have choices and have the capacity to make wise decisions. Creating an 'in here' safe space is also important and the counselling room offers time to press 'pause'.

—Verity Vinen, School Counsellor

The Sixth Form team – comprising of two Directors of Sixth Form, one Pastoral and one Academic, along with an experienced group of Sixth Form Tutors – is responsible for the welfare of the girls and are available before, during and after school. We operate an open-door policy and the team have a great deal of experience in working with Sixth Formers. Every girl benefits from regular one-to-one chats with the Sixth Form team to discuss any matters of concern.

Sixth Sense is a programme of talks and workshops to help prepare the girls for life beyond Tormead. This is mainly delivered by Tormead staff but occasionally outside speakers are invited to contribute. This initiative encourages discussions relating to mental health and topics such as sexuality and identity. It is a popular forum for inspiring debate beyond the classroom.

Wellbeing Centre

School Nurse (the Health Care Lead), a Counsellor and a Pupil Support Officer, together, they provide support in response to specific needs.

- Our Counsellor is available for a free and confidential counselling service; each girl has access to a number of sessions each academic year
- Our School Nurse is available every day to respond to acute and chronic medical problems
- Our Pupil Support Officer is available throughout the day as a listening ear for any girl experiencing upset or difficulty

Horizons is a weekly lecture series delivered by a wide range of outside speakers. The line-up changes each year but in recent sessions we have had a speaker who discussed how he overcame a serious drug addiction, another told of his experiences since being paralysed from the chest down and another outlined her life after severe facial burns. These talks allow the girls to observe resilience and perseverance with the opportunity to ask questions and enhance their empathy and listening skills.

Wellbeing is at the core of everyone's journey, both on a personal and academic front. We aim to help girls fulfil their potential and ambitions while equipping them with tools to navigate choppy waters – as we recognise growing up isn't simple.

—Marie Langlet, Assistant Head of Wellbeing



Extra-curricular

Our extra-curricular provision is exciting and varied, giving each girl the opportunity to experience new activities and find their niche.

Activities are offered before school, at lunchtime and after school, with additional trips running at the weekends and during the holidays. From chess, knitting, climbing to performing in a musical, the girls are encouraged to be actively involved in the running of a club (in collaboration with a member of staff). This allows them to develop their leadership skills for the benefit of the wider school community.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

All pupils are encouraged to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, a worthwhile scheme for both personal development and applications for employment and university.

Expeditions run throughout the year at all three levels of the Award and prepare the girls for our international expeditions to Nepal, Mozambique and Cambodia.

KYTOS Programme

The KYTOS Biology Enrichment Programme offers unparalleled opportunities to explore the subject beyond the classroom. Girls can develop their surgical skills in the Dissection Club, enhance the school environment in the Conservation Club and delve deeper into the fascinating world of forensic science and criminal investigation in the popular Forensics Club.

Tormead Professional

Tormead professional is a suite of exciting professional qualifications and experiences designed to enhance your employability and give you a competitive edge but in a way that allows and encourages you to make a difference to others. Professional qualifications are offered relating to the world of finance, project management and teaching of English as a foreign language. In house programmes include the Tormead Leadership Programme and the Tormead Resilience Programme. Competitions include the Young Enterprise Company Programme, the Tycoon Enterprise Challenge and the ICAEW BASE competition. All qualifications and some competitions are offered online, with considerable and flexible in person support from us, allowing you to access the programme ambitiously due to the flexibility to fit around your other commitments. You are actively encouraged to combine your newfound professional skills with the Sixth Form volunteering programme and your roles throughout the Tormead community.



Sport

These girls can

Sport and physical education are so important for all our students, whatever their ability. That's why we always aim for a balance between encouraging inclusivity and developing elite performers.



Facilities

We're fortunate enough to share some of the best facilities in Surrey at the Surrey Sports Park, the Spectrum and Craggy Island Climbing Centre. And our exciting future plans include new facilities (full size hockey astro, athletics track, and upgraded football, rugby and cricket pitches) at our new home ground, the Urn Field. Not to mention an upgraded pavilion and parking to host visiting teams.

Elite Athlete Programme

For girls aiming to train and compete at an elite level, we offer exceptional training opportunities and support their aspirations with our Elite Athlete Programme which tailors a strength and conditioning programme to their individual needs (plus advice on nutrition, rest and recovery and sports psychology). Our elite athletes represent Tormead at county, regional and national levels.

As well as nurturing the roots of a healthy lifestyle, all types of movement support mental and emotional good health. The transferable life skills involved in being part of a team and showing mutual respect for opponents are also invaluable.

Our diversity of options reflects what the girls enjoy – from team sports to individual activities such as cross-country (and we've just introduced rowing to our wide range of choices). Our two-week timetable enables the girls to stay involved across different sports and compete for several teams. In fact, any girl who wants to be in a school team can do so.

At Tormead, one of our key beliefs is 'We value every girl'.





A★

in self-expression

(ism)

All results matter at Tornead



Performing Arts

The Performing Arts help develop each pupil intellectually, socially and pastorally.

The Performing Arts engages with the entire school curriculum. Drama, Music and Dance's public aspects – performing and sharing work with others – provide important links between the girls, parents and the wider community. Above all, the performing arts at Tormead should be enjoyable, accessible and actively involve girls at all levels and in many different ways. Within Tormead School's academic curriculum it has a vital part to play, providing a unique outlet for self-expression, creativity, teamwork and fun.

Our ethos is to allow the girls to feel comfortable and confident when performing to an audience, at whatever their performance level.

Music

Music plays a major part in the wider life of the school through timetabled lessons, including the option to study for GCSE and A Level and a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities. Music is taught in purpose-built facilities comprising dedicated music classrooms, one of which contains a suite of Apple Macs running Logic, Sibelius and GarageBand software. There are seven practice rooms plus an ensemble rehearsal space.

Some 150 girls take part in musical performances during the course of the year. These range from informal lunchtime concerts to major musical events, held both in and out of school. In recent times members of the Chamber Choir and the Symphony Orchestra have participated in professional recordings in a studio in Islington.

Girls are encouraged to sing in one of the four choirs and to learn to play at least one musical instrument. Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band and Jazz Band are just some of the ensembles available to girls. The Jazz Band conducts a biennial tour to Europe during the summer holiday.

Approximately 40 percent of girls in the Senior School have individual music lessons in school; they are supported through Associated Board or Trinity Examinations up to, and beyond, Grade 8. Free trial lessons are made available to girls considering a new instrument, and the department runs its well-established Endangered Instrument Scheme which offers a year's worth of free lessons on the rarer orchestra instruments to girls upon successful audition.





Drama

The aims of Tormead Drama are threefold: enjoyment, innovation and self-expression. It has a unique place in the school curriculum. We aim to give every Drama student skills that are transferable and useful in the wider world, such as co-operation, self-control and, most importantly, self-confidence, through a wide and varied curricular and extra-curricular programme.

We promote a job in the Arts as a possibility to be considered and therefore encourage professionals in to teach workshops whenever possible. We make our girls aware of external events and opportunities, as well as offering a varied plethora of internal activities for them to be involved in, both on stage and behind-the-scenes.

Stretching our most Talented Pupils

Nationwide initiatives, such as the National Theatre Connections Project, the Shakespeare Schools Festival or the Leatherhead Drama Festival, give students the chance to perform on professional stages. Girls are guided through auditions for outside companies such as the National Youth Theatre, G Live Creative Company, Monologue Slam UK and for television work with casting agencies.

Being involved in Tormead Drama activities has been a hugely rewarding experience, encouraging me to experiment and explore new concepts from the past, present and future in a highly creative and fun environment.

— Poppy, Tormead Drama student



Outreach and Volunteering

Charitable work is at the heart of Tormead life. Volunteering isn't an added extra, but is what we do. Every year pupils spend over 4,500 hours volunteering in the local community.

Work includes nurturing primary school children, peer mentoring, visiting local retirement homes, working in local charity shops, litter picking in the surrounding roads, working with the St Joseph's Trust, help tending to the Rosamund Community Garden and conservation in the Surrey Hills.

Voluntary work benefits the local community and fosters the value of service in the pupils, encouraging responsibility for each other and the environment.





Beyond Sixth Form

Preparing for a Bright Future

In such a competitive world, our girls need polished employability skills, the ability to make good but ambitious choices, and the resilience to welcome and adapt to change flexibly and effectively.

That's why our Careers programme is so important, as it equips girls with the ability and desire to make ambitious choices that are right for them. There is no 'one size fits all'. We adapt our careers support seamlessly so that each individual girl will fulfil her dream – whatever it may be.

The Careers department adapts, too, as the further education and employment landscape changes, nimbly and creatively adjusting the programmes we offer. Sixth Formers will always have access to the most accurate, most credible and most up to date resources, one-to-one advice - whenever they need it - and an endless supply of encouragement!

Tormead's Careers Department empowers girls with the tenacity and perseverance to chase their dreams with enjoyment, grit and vigour.

In their final year, the Upper Sixth benefit from our Beyond Tormead enrichment programme, which provides a thorough and rewarding preparation for the next stages of their life.

Held over two weeks in June, Beyond Tormead is a mix of university level academic skills, employability skills and knowledge and preparation for leaving Tormead. The varied programme has something for every Upper Sixth girl: each day comprises three formal sessions alongside practical tasks to complete.

Every year, virtually all our Upper Sixth achieve their first choice university places – with approximately 10% applying to Oxbridge places.

After all, our alumnae show the limitless possibilities waiting for our girls. We have old Tormedians currently working at McLaren, Dyson, Mercedes, helping to design the London Underground, one who is firmly committed to joining a future Martian expedition... Not to mention CEOs, set designers, lawyers, costume designers, doctors, researchers, authors, journalists and the Premier League's first female football commentator!

“It is always good when alumnae tell us how the advice we provided has helped them – and they tell current pupils to make the most of all the opportunities we give them. I love talking to pupils and hearing their ambitions and dreams. It's especially rewarding when they think there are obstacles and we find a way to overcome them.”

—Cathy Williams, Head of Careers





Today, tomorrow Tormead

A Tormead education means that our girls will enjoy a relationship for life with the school.

Ellie

Music



- Classical Greek
- Latin
- Music

Organ Scholar, Clare College Cambridge

"I would recommend getting involved in whatever music clubs or extra-curricular activities interest you, as well as the academic subject. The Music Department at Tormead played a big role in developing my love of music. This, combined with music-making outside of Tormead, definitely helped me get to where I am today."

I am currently working as the organ scholar at Tewkesbury Abbey and Dean Close School, which involves training choristers as well as accompanying services. Next year, I will move on to be the organ scholar at Salisbury Cathedral."

Eilidh

Art



- Biology
- 3D Art
- Chemistry

BA (Hons) Performance Costume and Design, University of Edinburgh

Former Tormead Head Girl, Eilidh, created two amazingly crazy costumes for 'The Magic Roundabout', as her graduation project for Performance Costume at ECA, with Florence's dress featuring a mechanical revolving roundabout.

"I visited The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in Coventry to see an exhibition entitled: 'The Story of Children's Television'. I was inspired to highlight the variety of design seen throughout this genre. I wanted to recreate a bygone era. This interpretation also aims to allow both children and adults to recognise the importance of the development of children's television in our expanding multi media society. Finishing with a sprinkling of magic from Zebedee, all that is left to say is, 'Time for bed!'"

Gabrielle

Engineering



- DT Product Design
- Further Maths
- Physics

Engineering Loughborough

"I knew that someday I wanted to be part of an engineering project that could change people's lives and the world for the better."

Throw yourself into all the amazing opportunities that Tormead, and life in general, gives you. Even if you think you know exactly what you want to do, do not be afraid to continue looking at other pathways which you could consider."

Visiting Tormead

Attending an Open Morning event is an ideal way to get to know our school, meet our Head, David Boyd, and hear from our girls as they explain what they like best about Tormead.

If you are unable to attend an Open Morning, our Registrar, Mrs Melanie Hobdey, will be pleased to arrange an alternative visit to Tormead. She can be contacted on 01483 796040.

Guildford is easily accessible by both road and rail and our girls travel to school from the many towns and villages throughout Surrey. The school is a short walk from London Road Station and many Senior School girls travel by train.

In addition, Tormead has a dedicated coach service bringing girls of all ages from Camberley, Cobham, Esher, Farnham, Godalming, Haslemere, Walton, Weybridge, Woking and the surrounding villages.



“We wanted to see our daughters thriving rather than surviving – somewhere to discover themselves and their passions.”

—Tormead parent



