



**Vyners School**  
Striving for Excellence

Community | Aspiration | Respect | Endeavour





**‘All staff share a common sense of moral purpose to ensure that all students feel happy and safe, and have the highest possible standards of education, to enable them to succeed at the school, and in the future’**

Ofsted



# Welcome to Vyners School

Vyners is a high performing school, graded as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. We set high expectations to challenge all students to achieve more than they might feel is possible. The school has achieved many accolades over the years. Our aim is to deliver a truly first class education for all children and results consistently demonstrate strengths in all areas of the curriculum.



We believe that every child can succeed in life if challenged and inspired appropriately. A strong academic curriculum supported by outstanding extra-curricular provision helps Vyners students to develop as individuals with the necessary skills to excel beyond their time with us.

We firmly believe that we deliver outstanding learning opportunities; we have strong values and clear moral purpose. I believe that this is well supported by the commentary in our most recent Ofsted inspection report. Within this brochure I hope you will find all the information you need to make an informed choice, although I would strongly recommend that you come to see us in action to really find out what makes Vyners such a fantastic school.

Vyners School makes a significant difference to the lives of young people and we very much look forward to welcoming your son or daughter to the school and helping them to be successful in the future.

**Gary Mullings**  
Headteacher





**‘Leaders have built on the school’s previous strengths.  
Pupils, therefore, now benefit from an outstanding education’**

Ofsted





## Our School Values

Our school values:

**Community | Aspiration**  
**Respect | Endeavour**

underpin everything we do and were developed in conjunction with students, staff, parents and governors in 2013.



These values are supported by the Vyners' 10, a series of positive value statements that reinforce the high expectations we have. At Vyners, we successfully combine a 21st Century education with traditional high expectations of uniform, behaviour and standards.

We pride ourselves on the positive relationships that exist in the school and the sense of being part of a happy, vibrant community. We are a genuinely comprehensive school, believing that all students bring their own talents to our community. We value our students equally and take great care to make sure that every one of them is happy, secure and successful.

As a school, we firmly believe that our success should be measured by where our students are five to ten years after they leave us. We have a strong tradition of our students attending some of the best universities in the country as well as securing prestigious apprenticeships and our alumni can be found in a wide range of exciting careers. Many of them remain committed to Vyners School and return to support the current students as they strive for excellence.

## Community | Aspiration

Vyners School values its longstanding role in the local community. We are proud that as many as three generations of a single family have attended the school in its sixty year history.



### Community

Our traditional house system unites students from different year groups in sporting, musical and dramatic endeavours as well as extensive fund-raising activities. Visitors to the school and those that have been part of Vyners for a number of years are all in agreement that it is a unique, friendly and supportive environment.

- I value others and understand that our individuality makes our community stronger
- I share in and celebrate everyone's success

### Aspiration

Our school motto is 'Striving for Excellence' and everyone in our community is encouraged to challenge themselves to be the best that they can be. We encourage students to set aspirational goals, stretching themselves beyond their comfort zone on a daily basis in lessons and during co-curricular activities.

- I am proud of who I am and what I have achieved today
- I actively participate in lessons and school activities.

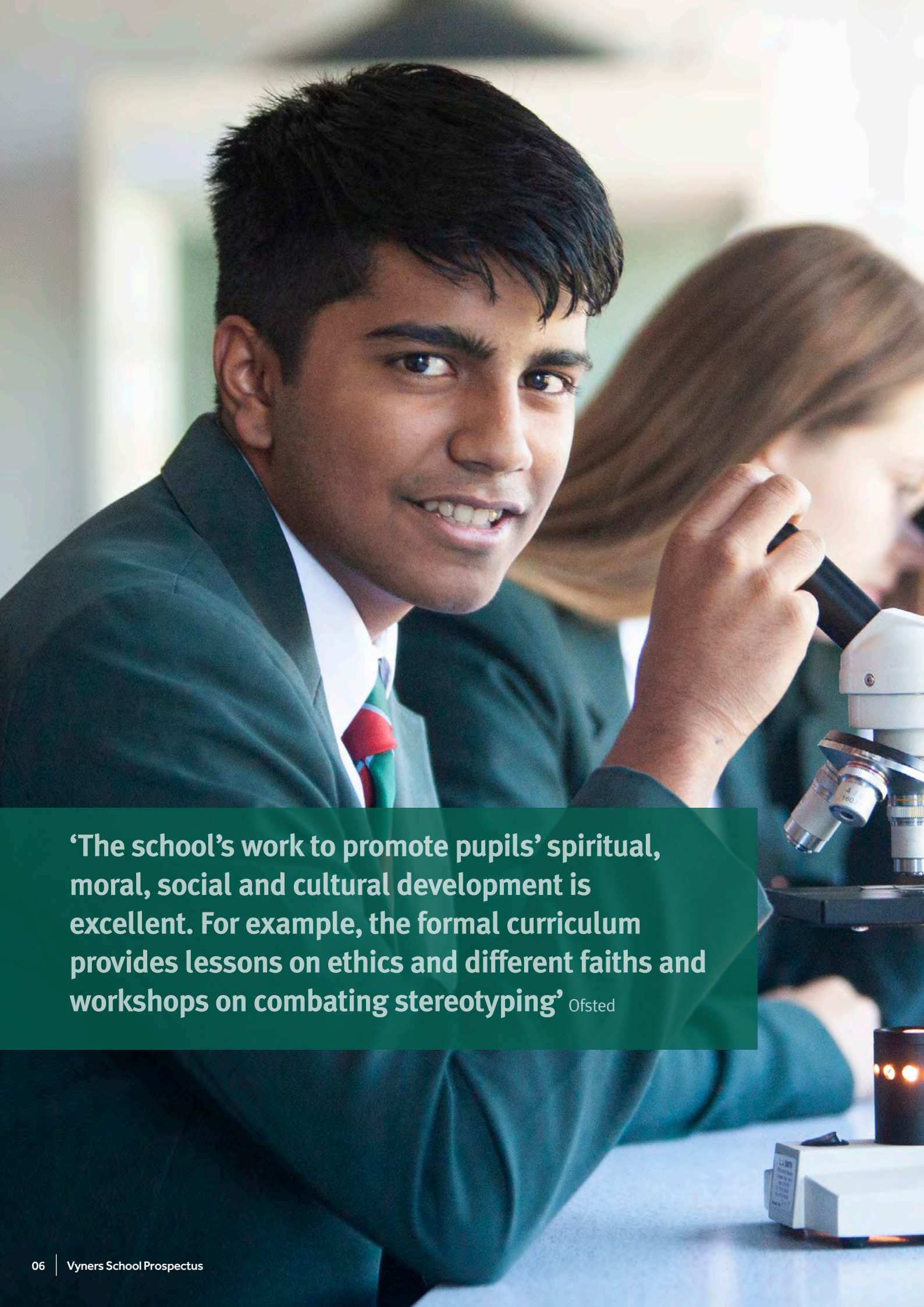




**‘The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. Pupils are unfailingly courteous and welcoming to visitors. They are fully signed up to the school’s inclusive ethos, and show respect for all’**

Ofsted





**‘The school’s work to promote pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent. For example, the formal curriculum provides lessons on ethics and different faiths and workshops on combating stereotyping’** Ofsted



## Respect | Endeavour

'I would like to thank your staff for an excellent parents' evening for my daughter in year 11. The feedback was very positive and the enthusiasm and commitment your teachers showed for my child's education and wellbeing was outstanding. I can't thank you all enough for such a great education & start in life for her.'

Parent of Year 11 Student



### Respect

As a school we have traditional values and high expectations of behaviour, uniform, good manners and attendance. These are the non-negotiable foundations of our school, modelled by all students and staff.

- I do as I'm asked, the first time I'm asked  
I am always in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing
- I understand that school is a formal environment; I dress and behave accordingly
- I attend regularly and arrive on time with the correct equipment
- I am proud of our school, helping to look after it and create a positive learning environment

### Endeavour

Learning by its very nature is hard and we want to encourage students who are resilient, not afraid to take calculated risks or make mistakes. We want them to stretch themselves as we know that the most valuable learning takes place outside their comfort zone. There is no such thing as 'I can't do it', only 'I can't do it **yet**'. This Growth Mindset is nurtured by staff and praised where it is demonstrated.

- I can, if I think I can, and I strive to do my best even when learning is difficult









'I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the teaching (and support staff) at Vyners. I can honestly say I have had nothing but positive interactions with any of the staff I have encountered in my dealings with the school'

Parent of Year 7 Student





## Learning at Vyners

All students are expected to work hard and do their very best. This ensures that they are active learners and makes being in lessons an exciting and rewarding experience.



We provide a broad and balanced curriculum that offers all students the opportunity to succeed in the workplace and society of the twenty-first century. We teach students the skills to be effective learners and encourage in them a love of learning that they will foster throughout their life.

A dedicated team of professional, skilled and well qualified teachers and associate staff provide outstanding learning experiences for students. Students are encouraged to be curious, independent learners supported at home by parents and carers who play a critical part in their development towards becoming responsible young citizens. The school has invested significantly in developing the quality of the learning environment, refurbishing the interior and exterior of the buildings so that it provides an inspirational, welcoming ethos where success is openly celebrated.

Our recent expansion has provided us with a brand new all weather sports facility and the addition of excellently resourced learning spaces to promote excellence across the school.





**‘Teachers plan activities that systematically build on pupils’ prior learning. They challenge pupils to apply their learning in new contexts, and to solve increasingly challenging problems’**

Ofsted





**'We have just finished hosting two of Vyners' rugby players here in South Delta, British Columbia, and I'm writing to commend your coaches and players on the quality of your team, on and off the field. All of our parents commented on how polite and well-behaved the boys were. We can't wait until it's our turn to visit you in two years time!'**

Parent at South Delta High School, Vancouver



## Life at Vyners

The education we provide at Vyners School extends well beyond the classroom. We strive to develop well-rounded individuals giving them the cultural awareness and leadership skills needed to be successful in life.



The energy and enthusiasm of our students and staff are evident in a wide range of co curricular activities and all members of the school are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities available.

We excel in music as demonstrated by our award winning Vyners Swing Band, along with our junior and senior orchestras, African drummers, Ukulele choir and many others. Our Christmas, summer and instrumental concerts provide a showcase for the wealth of musical talent in the school.

Our large scale Drama productions form a highlight of our school year with recent shows including 'Our House', 'Grease' and 'Guys and Dolls'.

Vyners continues to be successful in its sporting endeavours, with success throughout the borough in rugby, football, hockey and netball, to name a few.

We encourage all students to find a sport that they love and activities on offer range from archery and trampolining to mountain biking and handball.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a core feature of activity in Years 9-13, with large numbers of students completing the Bronze Award and Sixth Formers embarking on their Silver and Gold Awards.

Opportunities for students also extend abroad with a skiing trip to Austria, cultural visits to France and Germany, a biennial rugby tour to Canada, gallery visits to Los Angeles and Geography field trips to Iceland and Costa Rica.



## The Sixth Form at Vyners

The Sixth Form is an integral and highly successful part of the school community. The majority of our Year 11 students continue their education in the Sixth Form where they are joined by students from other schools.



Nearly all our students progress on to higher education including entries to the very best universities in the country as well as overseas. Recently there have been increasing numbers of students accessing high quality apprenticeships as an alternative to higher education. Vyners students have acquired placements at British Airways, BBC, Cisco, Google, Jaguar and Rolls-Royce, to name a few.

The Sixth Form has its own identity but the students play a significant role as leaders within our wider school community as Prefects, House Captains, Sports Leaders and role models. All students contribute to the whole school through community work, supporting younger students in lessons and

delivering lectures and assemblies. As students move through the Sixth Form they are assured of expert guidance from experienced subject staff, tutors and the pastoral team as they deal with the challenges of entry into higher education, employment, training or gap years. We have a dedicated member of staff who works to identify and mentor potential Oxbridge candidates as well as supporting all students with their UCAS applications.





**‘Congratulations to all the staff at Vyners. As a parent the (Ofsted) report is very pleasing to read and it is fantastic to see the improvements that you have all worked very hard on. I have great confidence in my daughter staying on with you, in the Sixth Form.’**

Parent



## Vyners past students reflect ...



### Beth Kume-Holland 2006-2013

"Many people leave their school and don't look back, but Vyners School makes people do exactly the opposite. Not only did Vyners teach me how to excel academically, it taught me about community, confidence and how you should set no limits on what you can achieve in your life. I've just graduated with a BA, First-class Honours in History at the University of Oxford and am privileged to have been given a position at the University, working with the leading expert in Civil Rights and American Religious History as his research assistant, constructing a set of lectures delivered at Harvard University and a book which will be written over the course of the year. I will be working with tutors and lecturers who are world-experts in their fields

It's been like a 'Harry Potter' dream; and as well as working hard, I've had such fun rowing and competing, singing and even managed to set up a college-wide Debating Society and run the 'Night that Malcolm X came to Oxford' event in the Oxford Union with Malcolm X's uncle and the Regius Professor of Oxford. I have had so many unique experiences and have been able to take on these positions with confidence due to the skills which Vyners enabled me to develop.

Admittedly, coming from a comprehensive school meant that I initially stood out at Oxford, but I am so proud of that fact. If anybody asks me, I proudly tell them that not only do I come from a state school; I come from one which is quickly becoming one of the best in the country.

Vyners goes above and beyond for its students and the skills which you learn, friendships you forge and memories you create; you take them with you."



### Josh Valman 2006-2013

"I began my engineering career at 10 years old, with a fascination in robotics. By age 15 I was consulting on supply chain and engineering for some of the largest manufacturing companies. Throughout my time at Vyners I received great support from my teachers and other staff. Applying real world situations to education is incredibly important and something embraced by Vyners School. Through multiple school trips, special guest speakers and their commitment to a well-rounded education, Vyners was a powerful starting point from which to launch my business. Now, aged 22, I am the CEO of RPD International. We operate globally, with offices in London, Amsterdam, Shenzhen and Singapore, supporting 120 manufacturing facilities. RPD powers R&D through to production for some of the world's blue-chip organisations, with clients including Vodafone, Bosch and Bacardi. Our teams develop everything from home appliances to aerospace components."



### Tom Hughes 2004-2011

"Vyners is an exciting and engaging high school, which prepared me well for the experiences and challenges I have faced since leaving in 2011. Attending Loughborough University, I embraced an unrivalled sporting environment by captaining the Rugby League first team. Impressing in this role, I was selected in the Welsh Students team playing in the 2013 Student World Cup. I went on to tour South Africa with Great Britain Students, and from this platform gained a place in the full Welsh first team, achieving three international caps in the 2014 European Championships. In the year after university, I fulfilled a lifetime ambition spending a 6 month period travelling independently in Australia and South East Asia. Since returning from my travels I've started a career in finance, gaining a role at Goldman Sachs, a large investment bank. This career choice was derived from my undergraduate degree in Economics, but initiated in my A Level studies of the subject at Vyners. I have no doubt that my successes and diverse set of experiences have been influenced by the positive memories I have of Vyners School. Combined with a hard working attitude the school can help you to achieve your potential; they certainly helped me achieve mine."





### **Dylan Houston 2012- 2019**

"The leadership skills and confidence I gained during my seven years at Vyners have shaped my life in every way imaginable, allowing me to achieve things that would otherwise be beyond reach.

Vyners always encouraged me to broaden my horizons by exploring my subjects beyond what the curriculum required. It was because of this encouragement, that I was able to work with both Apple and Adobe, before even completing my A Levels. In my penultimate year, I was awarded a scholarship by Apple, allowing me to visit their annual conference in California, giving me real world insights into my subjects. Later that year, I was selected to present some of my work at a technology summit held by Apple in Berlin. It was thanks to the immense support that I received from everyone at Vyners that I had the confidence to apply for and pursue these incredible opportunities.

The guidance and support I received when selecting universities allowed me to apply to some of the best in the country. I am currently at the University of St Andrews, studying for a BSc in Computer Science and Physics. Studying a joint degree, a decision that stemmed from my A Level choices, has caused me to develop an interest in quantum computing, the ever-growing research field that I intend to eventually be a part of.

When I look back on my time at Vyners, I don't think of the school that I went to, I think of a community that I am proud to still be a part of. The people I met, the skills I gained, and the fond memories made will stay with me for the rest of my life."



### **Laura White 2014 - 2020**

"When you walk through the doors of Vyners, you become part of a community, a family and a legacy. It is a school which is supportive, yet encourages you to take on new challenges.

The school has enabled me to achieve academic success, but also instilled a great sense of confidence and taught me a lot about leadership. Often I've progressed from being a participant to a leader. For example, I took part in the Royal Shakespeare Company's Schools Programme: across three years I performed with a group of other Vyners students in the streets of Uxbridge, at the Andrew Lloyd Webber Theatre in Chiswick and eventually alongside RSC actors in Stratford-Upon-Avon in a production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. The following year, I became an RSC ambassador: I wrote, directed and produced a street performance of The Tempest. This gave me the confidence to attend an English Literature summer school at the University of Oxford. The summer school clarified for me that English was the subject I wanted to study at University and I'm hoping to read English in September at Durham University.

My seven years at Vyners have been characterised by excellent education, but have also involved opportunities beyond anything I ever thought possible and forming friendships that will last a lifetime. Even having left Vyners, it remains a place which feels like home."



### **Jasleen Chaggar 2010-2017**

"Like any institution, students get as much from Vyners as they put in. The difference however lies in the real sense of community that can be felt at the school.

During my time at Vyners, it was this sense of community that encouraged me and many other students to contribute to the life of the school. With so many students feeling similarly and actively participating in extra curricular and school events, Vyners is built around a warm environment which celebrates the value of community and service. In my time there, I found that students shape Vyners as much as it shapes us.

Vyners gave me the confidence to consider options outside of the UK for university. I currently study at Columbia University in New York. This year I have been able to take advantage of the American 'liberal arts' system, exploring classes from literature to economics and physics to philosophy. I have also been able to get involved with extracurricular activities such as Afro-cuban dance and a policy think tank, as well as hearing the Presidents of Colombia and Ghana speak on campus and visiting Washington DC to meet with Senators. Through Columbia, I have also had the opportunity to spend the summer in Peru interning at a NGO.

Without the leadership and service opportunities at Vyners, as well as the strong support of my teachers, I never would have even been able to consider the American route, which is typically reserved for the most privileged of private school students.

Vyners has given me a set of skills, values and friendships to take with me long after I hung up my bottle green blazer."





**Vyners School** is situated in the popular village of Ickenham, near Uxbridge in Middlesex.

Just a short distance from Central London, there are excellent transport links by road, rail and the London underground.

The nearest mainline railway station is West Ruislip, with underground stations at Ickenham and Hillingdon on the Metropolitan Line within walking distance of the school.



### Vyners School

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**Vanguard Learning Trust**

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