



ST GEORGE'S

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

EDINBURGH - SCOTLAND



A capital city school in one of the most desirable places to live in the world

The school is located in Edinburgh's prestigious West End on a tranquil 15 acre parkland campus.

Edinburgh boasts a stunning landscape, a rich cultural heritage and is a modern vibrant city. It is consistently considered one of the most desirable places to live in the world.

As a boarder living in the heart of Edinburgh a girl at St George's can take advantage of all the culture, sport and activity the city has to offer.



Mrs Alex Hems, Head

Some of the reasons for studying in Edinburgh:

- Home of Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace, Princes Street and the Scottish Parliament
- Easy access to lectures and courses at Edinburgh's world class universities and the Scottish National Art Gallery
- Beautiful Georgian architecture, Edinburgh's New Town and Royal Mile
- Gateway to the Scottish countryside, the Scottish Highlands and Loch Ness, St Andrews and the home of Golf
- Hosts the world's largest Arts festival - the Edinburgh International Festival and the Fringe Festival

Scottish education is respected worldwide

Scotland's universities are internationally renowned for their research, discoveries and innovations (the television, telephone, penicillin and more..). Edinburgh and Glasgow universities are part of the UK premier league Russell Group of universities.

Safe environment

Scotland is one of the safest places in the world to study with 30% of its student population coming from overseas.

Friendly and welcoming people

Small in size (a population of only 500,000 people), Edinburgh is friendly and welcoming.

Easy transport links

The school is 6 miles for Edinburgh international airport and a 1 hour flight from London or Amsterdam.

WHY CHOOSE ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, EDINBURGH?



What makes St George's unique?

- Established in 1888 by the pioneers of women's education in Scotland.
- The largest and the only all-through girls' school in Edinburgh (from 2 - 18 years).
- An Edinburgh city school at an optimum school size (approximately 800 students).
- Our award winning international programme promotes an understanding and awareness of ourselves in a global context.

A first class British education

We provide a traditional British boarding school experience. The vast majority of our pupils come from the UK meaning that our pupils speak English all the time, and our international pupils get the very best of a British style education in the UK.

Top universities

Typically, over 90% of leavers get into their first choice place of university or college. Popular subjects read range from Medical Sciences, Maths and Engineering, to History, Law, Finance and Business.

Girls join the UK premier league Russell Group of universities including Bristol, Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Imperial College and University College London, and Oxford.

Family boarding experience

The boarding house, Houldsworth House, is adjacent to the school and on the main school campus. It is secure, small and friendly, and is home to around 50 girls.

The girls benefit from a family atmosphere, living in a close-knit environment structured in a similar way to siblings in a family, where older and younger housemates can learn from each other and offer support to one another.

About half the boarders are from the UK and half from overseas.



Top academics and a flexible choice of subjects

- A flexible and bespoke academic curriculum following the English and Scottish qualification systems: GCSE, Scottish Highers, Advanced Highers and some A-Levels. (Scottish Advanced Highers university entry tariff is equal to the A-Level tariff).
- Oxford and Cambridge university successes.
- Very strong UCAS (university guidance) support and career guidance; including a competitive university programme for entry to the top universities in the UK.
- A rigorous academic curriculum with lots of individual attention.
- Excellent support for English as a Second Language.

Award winning programme of International Education

The school holds a highly sought after British Council International School Award (2015 – 2018). This recognises its exceptional International Exchange Programme as well as its pioneering international classroom-based work.



Students enter into exchange programmes with schools in many different parts of the world to learn more about the world around them. Our partners include schools in North and South America, Australia, China and Europe.

The school hosts a Confucius classroom and has been pioneering in the teaching of Chinese language and culture for many years.

Boys' school links

Academic, social and cultural links with Merchiston Castle School for boys in Edinburgh. We offer a fees discount scheme for brothers attending Merchiston (www.merchiston.co.uk).

Admissions

Girls are admitted at any stage of their school career, and from 11 years for boarders. Entry is by our own school entrance assessment, interview and school report. We offer school visits, open days and taster days. For parents based overseas we also offer interviews via Skype.



Yumi Tsang

A boarder from Hong Kong

Finding a school in the UK

'I have just finished my GCSEs this summer. I'm 16 years-old and I am from Hong Kong. I joined St George's three years ago. Before studying at St George's I was at a competitive co-educational school in Hong Kong. I asked my mother whether I could study in the UK as I enjoyed learning English at school and I wanted to improve. I also knew that if I remained in Hong Kong as I grew older I was likely to be restricted in my choice of subjects due to the competitive nature of education at home. You have to score really high grades in Chinese, Maths and English to get into the good Hong Kong schools and universities.

'At first we considered schools in England but the ones we looked at were very competitive to get into and they didn't feel very friendly. We ended up looking in Scotland because we were attracted to Edinburgh as a safe city with lots going on. St George's was very near to the airport so there were no issues for me with transport. My mother wanted an all girls' school and when we visited St George's it was warm and welcoming.

'I fly via London to Edinburgh from home. It is a straight forward journey and not difficult to do. I have friends that have chosen schools nearer London. One of them is at a much bigger girls' school outside London. I think Edinburgh is easier to get around and safer than London.

'Looking back on our choice now I would say that it is important to pick a place that is going to suit your needs as you grow up; being in Edinburgh gives me access to lots of opportunities. I would also say you should visit the school before you accept a place. You need to get a feel for the school and you can't do that from a Skype interview or by looking at a website or school literature.



Settling in at St George's

'When I started at St George's I found the people very friendly. They were easy to get along with and more down to earth than some of the people I had met at the English schools we visited. This suited me as I didn't feel embarrassed or intimidated.

'I had a school 'buddy' to help me settle in. It was hard to begin with; it just takes time. You have to get over your homesickness. Take it step by step and you begin to blend in. You need to make an effort to hang-out with your room mates and to speak to everyone. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Everyone is in the same boat.

'I have changed over the last three years. I am more confident. I have lots of friends and I speak up for myself. There are many more opportunities at school here compared to schools in Hong Kong, and I have learnt to have a go at everything. Being girls-only means there are no gender barriers and you learn it is fine to be yourself. I have become more organised and independent. I speak English all the time. I do all my own laundry. I have learnt to play hockey and lacrosse, and overall I am busy and heavily involved in school life.

Academics and activities

'The academics are good. I like the fact that after GCSEs we do Scottish Highers and Advanced Highers. This means we don't have to specialise too early which keeps my options open. I'm studying English, Maths, History, Biology, and Spanish for my Highers next year and I will then do three of these subjects for my Advanced Higher year. My plan is to read Law at a good university in the UK.

'I particularly enjoy being part of the school's Modern United Nations club and taking part in inter-school debates. I represented the school at a conference in Glasgow this year and met delegates from all over Scotland and the north of England. This was very different to anything I had done at home. I've also seen some of Europe having been on a school exchange in Germany.

'Weekends are busy in the boarding house. This year we have all had to study for exams and the house environment is good for this. Edinburgh city centre is a few minutes walk away and we can go into town. I like eating at the restaurants and going to the cinema. There are lots of options to keep us busy.'



Key Facts

Age range of boarders: 11-18 years
Number of boarders: 50 (5% of school)
Number of international boarders: 25
Head: Mrs Alex Hems MA Oxon
Gender: Girls (boys in nursery only up to start of pre-school)
Type of School: All through school from 2 - 18 years
Total number of pupils: 800
Religious tradition: Non-denominational
Partner boys school: Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh 8 – 18 years

Fees

Boarding Fees per year £26,175 - £29,010
Registration fee: £75
Boarding deposit: £3000 (refundable)

Transport Connections

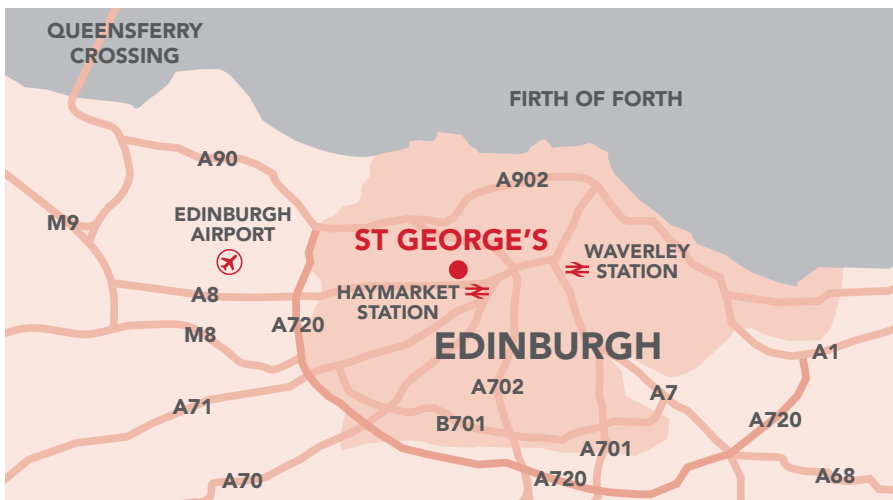
By Air

Located on the west side of Edinburgh.
Edinburgh Airport: 20 minutes (6 miles),
Glasgow Airport: 1 hour (52 miles)

Edinburgh and Glasgow airports have direct flights from around 90 destinations worldwide. One hour transfers are also readily available from London's airports and Amsterdam's Schiphol airport.

By Rail

Train station: Haymarket Station: 5 minutes (1.5 miles), Waverley Station: (15 minutes) 5 miles
Easy walking distance or only 5 minutes by car or taxi from Edinburgh Haymarket Station. Travel time by rail to Central London is about 4 hours.



For more information please contact Jane Thomson, school admissions on **T** +44 (0)131 311 8008 or **E** admissions@stge.org.uk

Garscube Terrace, Murrayfield, Edinburgh EH12 6BG

Independent day and boarding school, nursery-18 years

OSCR Charity No: SC012632 Help with fees available

stge.org.uk

