



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

The numerous benefits available from participation in extra-curricular activities have been acknowledged by researchers and educationalists for many years. At Woldingham we offer over 80 clubs and activities a week covering a broad range of interests, run both by enthusiastic school staff and external specialists. Through our priority system of allocating set times to music, sport and drama, we ensure that girls are able to become involved in a wide variety throughout the week. Through regular surveys of the provision and suggestions made, we aim to keep the programme fresh and relevant for all ages.



Music

Music plays an integral part in Woldingham life, be it group or individual, vocal or instrumental. On top of a wide range of individual instrumental lessons and classes, there are a large number of ensembles for girls to be involved in. There are three full-scale concerts a year, fortnightly recitals alternating with 'Live Lounge' (for singer-songwriters), and plenty of other opportunities for girls to demonstrate and develop their musical talent: solo concerts, scholars concerts, House Music Competition, annual tour, regional and national competitions. In addition, the Music Department works very closely with Drama in producing two to three productions a year.



Choirs

Senior Choir is open to any girl in Year 9 or above. The repertoire ranges from Masses, sacred and secular classical standards, opera in concert performance to extensive medleys from musicals and popular music – all in SSA setting. Similarly, Junior Amaris involves girls from Years 7 and 8, singing in two to three parts.



Amaris

Girls in Year 9 or above are invited to audition for Amaris (Chamber Choir). The repertoire is more extensive and challenging: from 3 to 7 part singing, often a cappella. Amaris leads the singing in school Masses and at the annual carol service in London. There is also the opportunity to compete in regional and national festivals.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is open to girls of any ability who have an interest in playing jazz classics and standards – from swing and popular song, to funk and fusion. The girls are coached in improvisation and aspects of solo performance within a band.

Symphony Orchestra

Any girl who plays an orchestral instrument is a member of the Symphony Orchestra. The music is adapted for all grades, giving everybody the opportunity to improve and learn how to play in an orchestral setting. From this large umbrella ensemble, smaller and more select groups are formed, for players of grades 5-8 standard: Chamber Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Brass Group, Clarinet Choir, Flute Choir, Percussion Ensemble.

Chamber Groups

These currently include String Quartet, Violin Quartet and Trio, Piano Trio, Piano duos, and the Scholars Ensemble. The groups afford the most talented and dedicated of our musicians the chance and opportunity to develop their performance skills to a very high level with expert coaching and direction. Woldingham musicians will often form their own small ensembles, for pleasure and the challenge of it.



Drama

The School's Millennium Centre provides girls with the facilities needed to create an innovative and thriving drama department, including a 600-seat auditorium with orchestra pit, industry standard sound and lighting control rooms, and a separate fully-equipped Studio Theatre. We stage at least three major productions each year as well as several smaller studio performances.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Woldingham productions are an intense period of committed work and play. The Sixth Form production is open to all girls in the Sixth Form and often uses boys from other schools to create a performance of the highest quality. The whole of Year 7 take part in a Year 7 production whilst girls from Year 8 and 9 are able to audition for the Junior Production. All year groups are encouraged to get involved in drama at Woldingham.



Speech and Drama

Speech and Drama lessons are an extra-curricular opportunity with a visiting, highly qualified teacher and are open to girls from any year. Not only do girls improve their public speaking and confidence, but they are able to take graded Trinity Guildhall examinations at the level appropriate to the individual, which has aided the high number of girls chosen to be part of the National Youth Theatre.

Costume Making

Students are encouraged to join Production Workshops in the wardrobe department, creating costumes, props and sets. This leads to girls developing their own design skills, as well as teamwork and an understanding of theatre. Woldingham's extensive wardrobe and accessories store allows girls to work with new and exciting materials in order to make beautiful and creative outfits.



Technical Club

Both the main Auditorium and Studio Theatre are fully equipped with excellent sound and lighting facilities. In Technical Club, girls are given the opportunity to learn about lighting and sound effects, as well as to operate the equipment during productions and shows.

Qualified technical staff are always on hand to advise and help students, but the girls are given plenty of independence to try new things and help create the best atmosphere for a production.



Art

Girls at Woldingham have plenty of opportunities to get involved in activities which bring out their creative sides. The Art Department offers spectacular facilities to students including two studios, a 3D room, a fully-equipped dark room and a textiles studio. This allows girls to study and master many different mediums to an extremely high standard, as well as to investigate ideas and techniques which they may previously not have considered.

Craft Club

From knitting and crochet to patchwork and pom poms, craft club offers opportunities for girls to enjoy being creative whilst learning and developing new skills.





Life Drawing

Life Drawing is a compulsory class for A Level Art students, although younger students can attend if invited and with parental permission. It is a great opportunity for students to improve and develop their observational skills and broaden their understanding and confidence with a range of techniques and media. The work produced is submitted as part of the A Level course and for those applying to Art courses beyond Sixth Form, it becomes a vital part of their portfolio.

Jewellery Club

Here girls can create their own jewellery using specialist tools and equipment, be it earrings, bracelets, necklaces or a creation of their own.



Major team sports

For girls who like to train and compete, the Sports Department runs Squads in the Major Sports (Netball, Hockey, Swimming, Cross Country, Rounders, Athletics and Tennis). These sports have weekly training. Attendance and commitment are vital for those wishing to represent the school.

We have frequent weekday and Saturday fixtures as well as participation in local District and County tournaments. Our Hockey and Netball Teams also tour: in the UK, Europe, and to farther climes!

We aim to nurture the positive aspects of being a sports person and encourage, at every opportunity, the characteristics of organisation, reliability, commitment, maturity, challenging oneself, supporting others, being an ambassador for others

and trying one's hardest. Students learn about the 'integrity' of the athlete, etiquette, winning/losing with honour, competing with passion and skill – these amongst other things are important.

The Department aims to provide opportunities for 'sport for all', but is also committed to achieving high standards in individual and team competitive sports.

There are further opportunities for sporting competition in the Inter-House games matches, which are held regularly throughout the year and available to every student. House points are allocated and at the end of the school year the winning House receives the coveted Inter-House Games Cup.

Hockey

Hockey is one of the major sports at Woldingham. We have a floodlit astro-turf pitch and full indoor Hockey facilities. Each age group trains as a squad. We also have links with an outside hockey coaches who offers specialised training. Talented players are offered the chance to take part in workshops and opportunities to extend their level of play on the County Pathway. Each term we are able to hold and run various tournaments both indoors and outdoors.





Netball

We have six, hard netball courts, one indoor court and three astro courts. Three of our hard courts are floodlit and can be used throughout the winter.

Netball Club is open to anyone and those selected for Squads will be expected to attend additional regular sessions – lunchtime fitness, after-school training and matches. During extra-curricular sessions the girls will work on their speed, agility, fitness, netball specific skills and more advanced tactics.

During some training sessions the Squads are led by a visiting netball coach. Occasionally we will invite international players to work with our squads in specialist weekend workshops. Talented girls will be given the opportunity to apply for the Surrey Active Satellite Coaching, and from this they can move into the County selection programme, should they chose to do so.

Matches are held on Wednesdays and Fridays. Most age groups are entered into the County Tournaments and the District Events.



Tennis

Woldingham has excellent tennis facilities and a dynamic coaching team led by fully qualified licensed LTA coaches. There is a total of 17 courts - nine artificial grass, seven Macadam courts and one permanent indoor court, so our pupils can play throughout the year.

In the summer term, the girls participate in regular mid-week and Saturday fixtures against other Surrey and Sussex county schools and Woldingham has had success in Junior and Senior County leagues as well as inter-school competitions including the Surrey and Sussex Doubles Festival Days.



Athletics

Athletics is one of our main summer sports.

Woldingham competes in a division of the East Surrey District Athletics League. For talented athletes, occasional workshops are run by visiting elite coaches. The school teams have a good record of achievement at every age group in the District Championships.

Every year Woldingham athletes are selected to compete for East Surrey at the Surrey School Athletics Championships at the Kingsmeadow track in Kingston-upon-Thames. Some athletes have then gone on to represent Surrey in Inter-Counties competition.



Swimming

The pool sessions are led by a specialist coach.

The girls have the opportunity to train in a 25 metre, four lane pool, up to three times a week. We enter inter-school and district galas throughout the school year which are enjoyed by both the girls and their parents (parents as spectators of course)!

Stroke development, stamina, starts, turns, relay take-overs are all covered over the sessions throughout the year, with even a few fun games at Christmas! We have a swimming representative for every year group and two Swimming Captains.

For those not feeling competitive, girls can take up the challenge! Why not join our dedicated swim-fitters and 'swim the channel'. Open to Year 10 and above, girls can swim at their own pace and choose to follow a pre-prepared schedule of their choice. The aim is to swim once a week (or more if wanted) and accumulate the distance. Every length swum, under supervision, gets the girls closer to the French coast!

Cross Country

Cross Country is popular across the whole school. It gives the girls a chance to enjoy running on some of the tracks and footpaths around the campus and to re-energise during a busy school week. It takes place at lunchtimes and after school when there is the choice of a 20-minute run or a longer, hill-run for the more serious runners. We enter the District event and girls take part in several local competitions during the year. Girls who perform well at the District Cross Country will be offered the opportunity to compete at the Surrey Schools County Championships.



Rounders

Rounders is a hugely popular sport at Woldingham and we are very successful in matches and at District level. All are welcome at training. All girls compete for a space in the teams and we try to run C and D matches when we can.

Recreational sports

A number of sports and activities are available at a recreational level. Team sports include netball, basketball, football, cricket and lacrosse. In addition to training in the skills required, matches are arranged against local schools whenever possible.



Fencing

Fencing is becoming increasingly popular at Woldingham, and the team is enjoying success in competitions both nationally and regionally. Girls are provided with all of the basic equipment and encouraged to compete with each other in order to improve their skills and technique. Coaching is provided by a top national épée coach.

Archery

Archery is a very popular activity at Woldingham, with girls taking part in Target Archery and practising their skills in this historically important and advancing sport. Equipment is provided and the Woldingham grounds provide a spacious practice range.



Lacrosse

Lacrosse club is run by very able and committed staff who work not only to teach girls the skills of the game but also to inspire girls to try new and exciting sports like lacrosse. Girls have the opportunity to compete locally in a team made up of students from different year groups.

Polo and Horse Riding

The exciting sport of Polo takes place at Sussex Polo Club in the summer months, when the girls play on grass, and at Hickstead Polo Club in the winter, where they play arena polo under floodlights. Teams take part in tournaments and also friendly chukkas against local schools, when they can be arranged. Ponies and transport are provided. Traditional horse riding lessons are available locally.



Ballet and Dance

The ballet class at Woldingham, held in the Dance Studio, is taken by a visiting RAD qualified teacher and is designed for dancers of all abilities. Other forms of dance are available with the weekly Dance Club offering more contemporary styles. An annual Dance Show gives all girls the opportunity to display their talents and over recent years has incorporated a vast array of dance forms - Ballet, Tap, National Dances, Hip Hop, Zumba, Contemporary, Street Dancing and Cheerleading.

Individual sports

Trampolining and Gymnastics are popular activities, with girls achieving grades in their chosen disciplines. Girls who enjoy Martial Arts are also able to progress through the gradings and have the opportunity to attend external competitions.





Racquet sports

In addition to private tuition available in squash and tennis, badminton, squash and tennis are available as recreational activities, with teams playing matches against local schools and entering District tournaments.



Golf

Golf is open to all students regardless of experience. Classes cover the basic skills and also cater for those looking to improve their handicap or practise specific swings or shots. Classes generally take place in the school grounds, but in the summer months opportunities are available for girls to visit local golf courses and take part in tournaments.



Skiing

During the winter months training takes place for keen skiers. Teams enter various competitions including the British Schoolgirls' Races held annually in Flaine, France.

Mountain biking

Surrounded by hundreds of acres of the beautiful Surrey Hills, girls are escorted by experienced staff on rides of various lengths and levels on our fleet of well-maintained mountain bikes. For those not yet able to ride a bike, beginners' biking is also offered.



Enrichment

In addition to the large range of activities available in the Arts and in Sport, Woldingham aims to provide enrichment opportunities for every girl. 'Wellness' and meditation are used to promote personal wellbeing and growth whilst the Duke of Edinburgh award and Pru Leith cookery course provide long lasting skills for girls to use in the future. Other such enrichment activities can be found in the separate Enrichment Brochure.



Wellness

This club is open to all year groups and gives girls the opportunity to learn different ways to keep healthy and relaxed. Visiting therapists teach various massage techniques and manicures whilst in more informal sessions girls can try out skin care products, herbal tea tasting, foot spas and more. There are also relaxation activities in school on a regular basis, such as yoga and meditation.



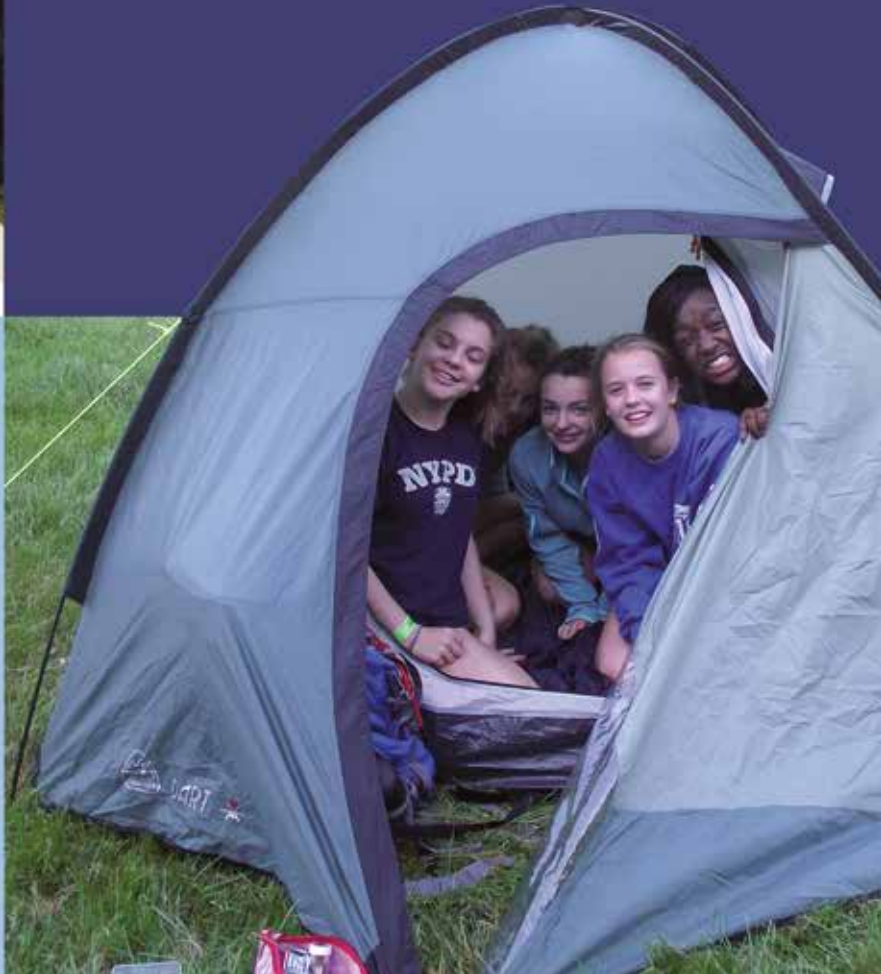
Cookery

At the after-school cookery classes girls prepare a huge range of dishes and learn a variety of techniques, from baking and boiling to knife care and health and safety.

Girls in the Sixth Form can complete a Pru Leith cookery course, resulting in each girl gaining a skills certificate and knowledge which will prove useful in later life.

Duke of Edinburgh

This prestigious Award is open to girls in Year 10 at Bronze Level and in the Sixth Form for the Gold Award. Girls need to complete four sections; skill, volunteering, physical, and expedition with the addition of a residential component at Gold level. The school organises the expeditions and necessary training and encourages girls to come up with ideas for the other sections, giving them the chance to acquire new practical skills and develop physical recreational interests.



Other extra-curricular activities available include:

Musical

Brass Quintet
Close Harmony
Flute Ensemble
Ukuleles
Wind Band

Creative

Cake Decorating
Creative Gifts
Creative Photoshop
Creative Textiles
Dark Room Photography
Design & Technology
Japanese Arts and Crafts
Mural Club
Papercraft & Card Making
Photography
Stop Frame Animation

Active

Artistic Roller Skating
Fitness
Personal Training
Taekwondo
Tag Rugby
Volleyball
Yoga
Zumba

General Interest

Chinese Club
Classics Club
Community Service
Creative Writing
Debating
French Conversation
French Film Club
Fun science
History Film Club
Law Society
Natural History
Peace and Justice
Psychology Club
REThink
Spanish Bilingual Blog



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