



**STAHS**

PREP SENIOR SIXTH

CHARITY STATUS SINGLE-SEX  
INEQUALITY VAT CRISIS LABOUR  
**BEYOND**  
CO-EDUCATIONAL GENDER  
BIAS GIRLS SCHOOLS  
**THE NOISE**  
INDEPENDENT EVALUATION  
WELLBEING UNIVERSITY ENTRY  
DISRUPTED SECTOR GENDER

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**THINK**  
BEYOND

# INTO THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

Dear Parents,

**2025 marks a turning point for independent education. Headlines reflect a sector under pressure, with schools responding in different ways – some abandoning single-sex education for co-ed, others cutting back on their academic offerings.**

At STAHS, we stand firm. Thanks to the unwavering support of our parents, we remain dedicated to our Teach to 25 philosophy – equipping girls with both academic excellence and the independence to navigate early adulthood with confidence. Your message in last term's surveys was clear: you want us to continue delivering the outstanding STAHS experience, free from stereotypes and bias, so your daughters can break barriers and take on the world.

We are laser-focused on academic ambition, investing in curriculum, wellbeing, and facilities to ensure every STAHS girl thrives. Our leavers' impressive destinations speak for themselves, a testament to the hard work of our students, parents, and staff. With strong financial planning, consistently high demand, and a thriving school roll, our future is bright.

For 135 years – through wars, pandemics, and political shifts – STAHS has prepared young women to command respect and pursue limitless ambitions. While the education landscape evolves, our vision remains steadfast: to provide exceptional, progressive education for girls.

The world is changing. STAHS girls are ready to lead it.



**Amber Waite**  
Principal



**Alison Arnold**  
Chair





# READY TO THRIVE

**STAHS is a girls' school without equal. Here, ambition and curiosity thrive in a grounded, girl-positive environment. We take scholarship seriously but never take ourselves too seriously, and we certainly don't believe girls need to be shielded from the 'real world'. Instead, they experience the best of both worlds – benefiting from the proven advantages of girls' education while staying deeply connected to the wider world and their place in it.**

Here, strong female leadership is modeled by both peers and staff, while the men at STAHS exemplify true allyship. Every adult actively amplifies young women's voices, empowering them to lead, innovate, and succeed. Our students don't grow up seeing leadership skewed by gender bias, nor are they funneled into traditional roles based on outdated stereotypes. They aren't labeled 'bossy' for being assertive or expected to take a backseat while boys take the lead.

Because sexism isn't ingrained in their daily school experience, STAHS girls enter university and the workplace with fresh eyes – unwilling to accept inequality as the norm. They advocate for themselves and others, challenge bias, and become the next generation of strong, trailblazing women. And we couldn't be prouder of them.

**“They have the best of both worlds – the advantages of girls'-only education, along with a firm connection with the wider world**

# PERCEPTION

# vs REALITY



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## Myth

## Reality

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Single-sex education is outdated

With the gender pay gap still wide, women holding just 15% of FTSE 350 Executive Director roles, and young women 20% less likely to complete graduate schemes, girls' schools are more relevant than ever. They equip young women with the confidence, skills, and ambition to break these barriers – not be defined by them.

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Children perform better in co-ed schools

When boys' schools go co-ed, often overall results improve – but for whom? Research is clear: boys benefit from a co-ed environment; however, girls educated in an all-girl environment achieve more top grades, are more likely to study STEM subjects, participate in sports and go on to earn higher salaries. Girls' schools don't just benefit education – they empower futures.

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Girls' schools are 'hothouses'

At STAHS, academic success and wellbeing go hand in hand. Girls thrive when they feel happy, supported, and empowered to take risks. Our students achieve top results not through relentless competition, but because they are nurtured, encouraged, and inspired to aim high.

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Girls are more likely to have friendship issues in an all-female environment

Kindness and strength of true friendship can't be measured – but the myth that girls are inherently unkind stems from ingrained sexism, not fact. Rather than relying on stereotypes, we invite parents and students to experience STAHS firsthand and see the warmth of our community. Our alumni, who cherish lifelong friendships formed here, are proof that sisterhood thrives at STAHS.

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The real world is co-ed, so girls' schools leave students unprepared

Yes, the world is co-ed – but it's also unequal. Gender bias, especially when compounded by factors like age, race, or disability, persists in workplaces and universities. At STAHS, girls grow up free from these constraints, learning to be bold, confident, and self-assured in any environment. As a result, they don't just navigate the real world – they challenge and change it. (Plus, girls from single-sex schools are more likely to complete university and advance faster in their careers!)

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# WHY GIRLS' SCHOOLS WORK

International academic studies show that girls who attend girls' schools have unique advantages; they:

- ✓ Perform better in examinations
- ✓ Are less constrained in their choice of subjects. Participation in STEM subjects in particular is greater amongst girls in girls' schools
- ✓ Have more opportunities to show leadership
- ✓ Remain engaged in sport for longer
- ✓ Show a greater propensity to take risks and innovate
- ✓ Are less likely to conform to gender stereotypes
- ✓ Are more successful in the job market

“**STAHS girls get all these advantages in an environment that is intellectually stimulating, supports their wellbeing, builds lifelong friendships – and has a big dose of fun!**”

# PREP – SENIOR – SIXTH WITH YOU ALL THE WAY

**Whether joining us at Reception, Year 7, or another stage, a STAHS education is with your daughter all the way to adulthood with lifelong support through our dynamic alumni programme. Girls move on from the leafy, green environment of Prep, ready to seize every opportunity at our city-centre Senior School. It's at Year 13 when all the dedication and investment of girls, parents and teachers is realised. Our leavers' outcomes are outstanding. A snapshot of recent year groups shows:**

**Oxbridge** – sector-leading conversion rate from application to offer.

With a 36% STAHS application to offer rate in 2024, and a similar rate in 2025, vs the average rate of 16% we are leaders when it comes to Oxbridge. Thanks to the unique programme we offer, along with the academically stretching curriculum, we are one of the highest performing schools nationally at Oxbridge entrance. Our conversion rate puts us in the top tier of elite schools, outranking many well-known institutions.

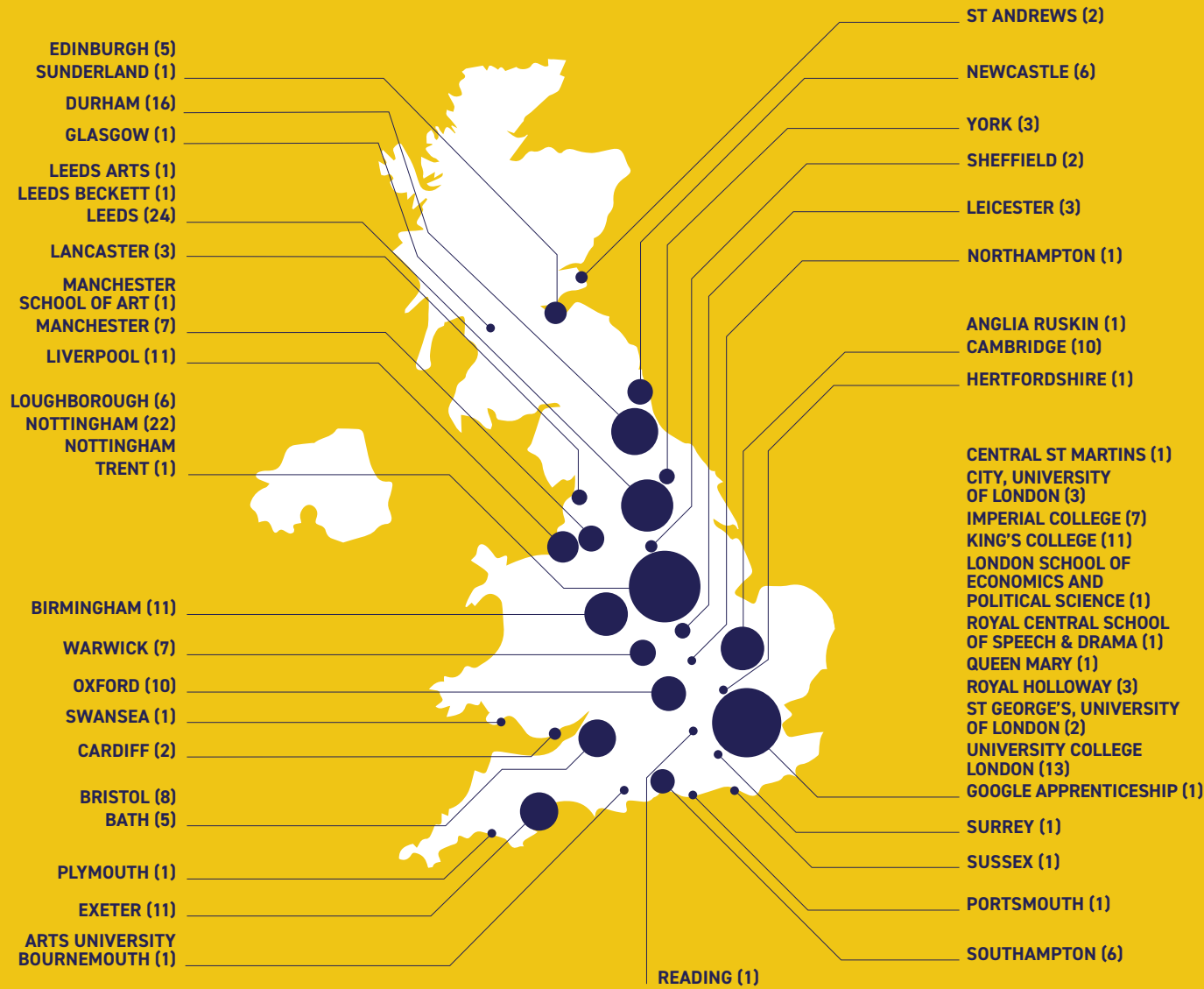
**Clinical Sciences** – our long-established STAHS Med/Vet/Dent programme is a model of excellence in preparation for the highly-competitive entrance to medicine, dentistry and veterinary science.

**International** – we have a deep understanding of the US university sector and other international Higher Education opportunities. This enables us to help girls secure elite destinations, from the Ivy League to leading European universities, including offers with substantial scholarships attached.

**Diversity of destinations** – there's no 'one-size fits all' approach at STAHS. From STEM, to Humanities, to Languages, to Conservatoires and top Art schools, to the most sought-after degree Apprenticeships, we enable STAHS girls to pursue their passions.



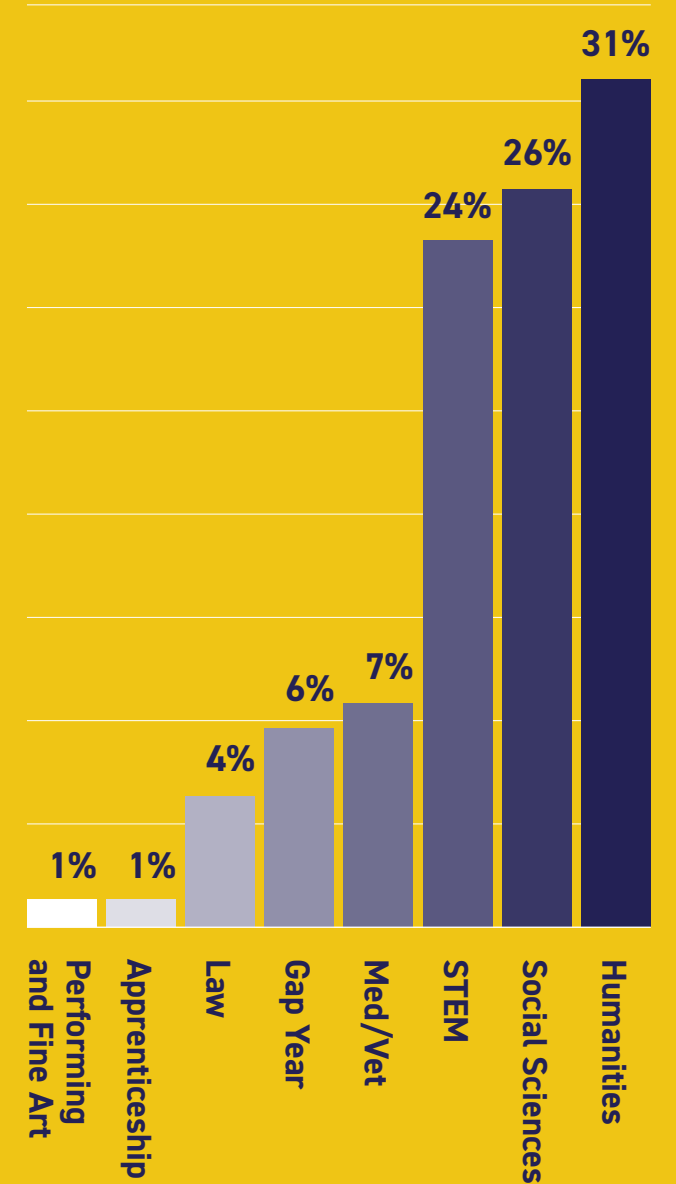
# 2022-2024 LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS



## INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS:

- HARVARD, USA (1)
- LOYOLA MARYMOUNT, USA (1)
- WELLESLEY COLLEGE, USA (1)

# 2024 LEAVERS' UNIVERSITY COURSES





Part of the  
**ST ALBANS**  
EDUCATION GROUP

**St Albans High School  
for Girls - Senior**

Townsend Avenue, St Albans,  
Hertfordshire AL1 3SJ

info@stahs.org.uk  
Tel: 01727 853 800

**St Albans High School  
for Girls - Prep**

Codicote Road, Wheathampstead,  
Hertfordshire AL4 8DJ

info@stahs.org.uk  
Tel: 01582 839 260

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**stahs.org.uk**