



Portland
Place
School



Welcome to Portland Place School

I hope you will find this booklet helpful and informative.

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If you are interested in applying to Portland Place School, please contact the Admissions department to arrange a visit. This can be an individual meeting with the Headmaster, with a small group of parents, or an Open Morning – whichever you prefer. After the visit, you will be able to make an application for your child.

If you would like to visit the school again or meet with the Headmaster again, you are very welcome to do so. We understand just how important the decision is about where you send your child to school, so we are very happy to accommodate further meetings to help you make a final decision.

Should you require any further information or wish to schedule a visit, please do not hesitate to contact Admissions:

By phone: 020 7307 8700

Or email: admissions@portland-place.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Bronagh Preston
Registrar

David Bradbury, Headmaster, Portland Place School



Welcome to Portland Place. As *The Good Schools' Guide* described us, '*Portland Place really does try to understand each individual pupil and help them find the best possible outcome for their abilities and skills.*' We hope that will be your conclusion too.

Here at Portland Place we believe that exceptional teaching, combined with a modern curriculum inside and outside the classroom, provides the best stimulus for children to become inquisitive, open-minded and creative learners and achieve beyond exams. We believe that all parents wish for is the knowledge that the grades their child achieves are the very best their child is capable of, be that a 9 or a 5. This is reflected in our impressive results in which independent statistical evidence shows that we 'add significant value,' often 1 or 2 grades to those predicted by externally administered baseline testing.

Our students look to a variety of options after GCSEs – A level courses, yes, but also BTEC, Foundation courses and apprenticeships. At Portland Place School we focus on best preparing our students for any of those paths they wish to take. Through the Alpha Plus Group we partner with DLD College to provide a seamless route for our students post-16 but we fully support our students into any course and college when they move on from Portland Place.

If you want a school that can achieve excellent results but let a young person have fun in gaining them; if you want a school that really does know, care and respect your child as an individual and not simply a statistic; if you want a school that believes you need more than classroom activities to stimulate a young mind – then please do come and see us; you will be made very welcome.

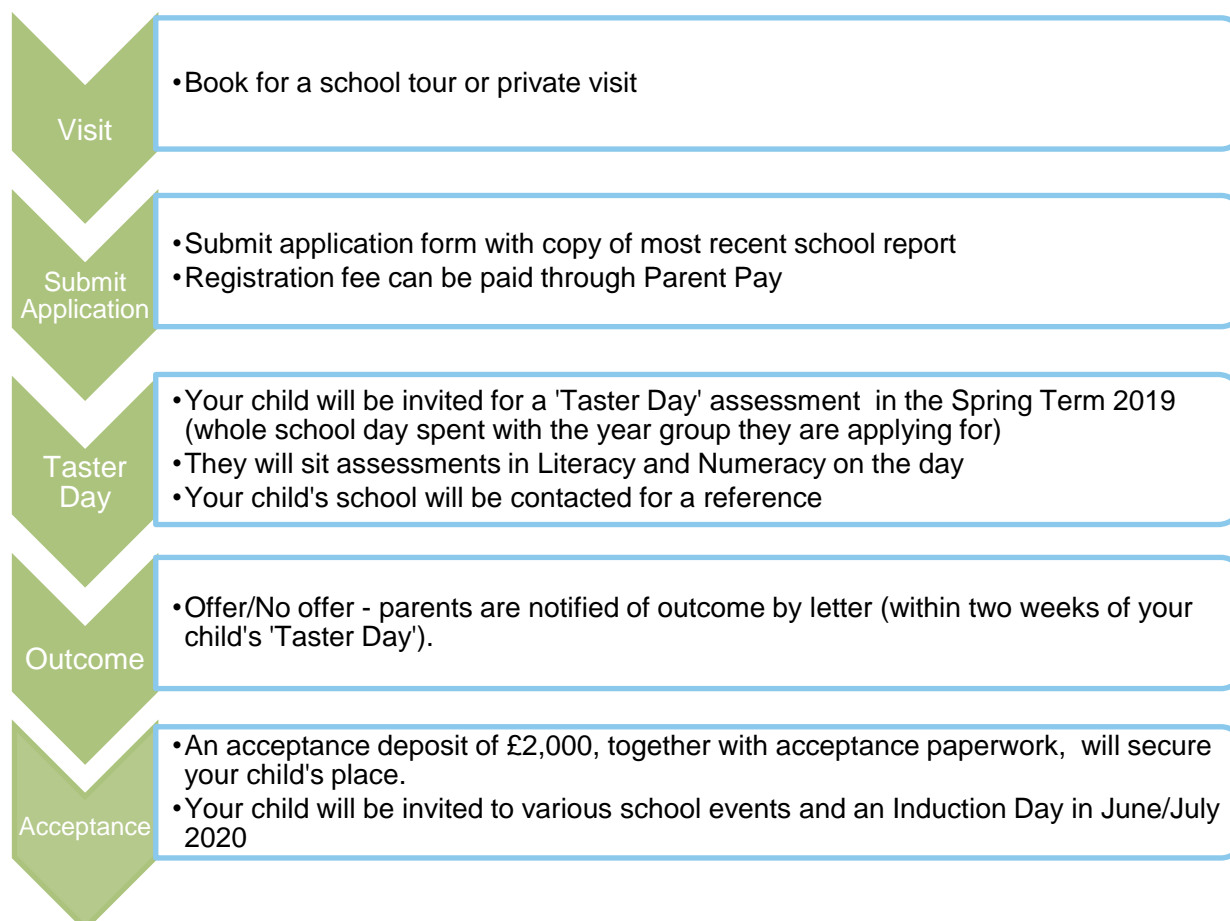
David Bradbury
Headmaster

David Bradbury was previously the Deputy Head Academic at South Hampstead High School GDST. Before that he worked in a variety of maintained and international schools in various leadership roles including Assistant Head and Head of Science. He teaches physics, though he has also turned his hand to the other sciences and mathematics at times. He enjoys cryptic crosswords, cooking and archery (when he gets the chance).

Years 6 – 10 Application Procedure for 2020 entry*

*2019/20 application – Please contact our Registrar regarding in year entry.

Year 6 (age 10+) application process



Parents wishing to seek entry for their child should submit the following:

- a completed registration form
- proof of payment for the registration fee to the sum of £75.00 (Paid by Parent Pay link on school website)
- a copy of your child's most recent school report
- a copy of your child's passport (photograph page), to include visa details (if applicable). We will need to verify the original on confirmation of placement

Upon receipt of completed application form and admission documentation, your child's current school will be contacted for a reference.

For entry into Year 6, assessments in Literacy and Numeracy are undertaken during the taster day. Following a successful assessment for Year 6, a formal offer of a place is made by letter within two weeks of sitting the assessment.

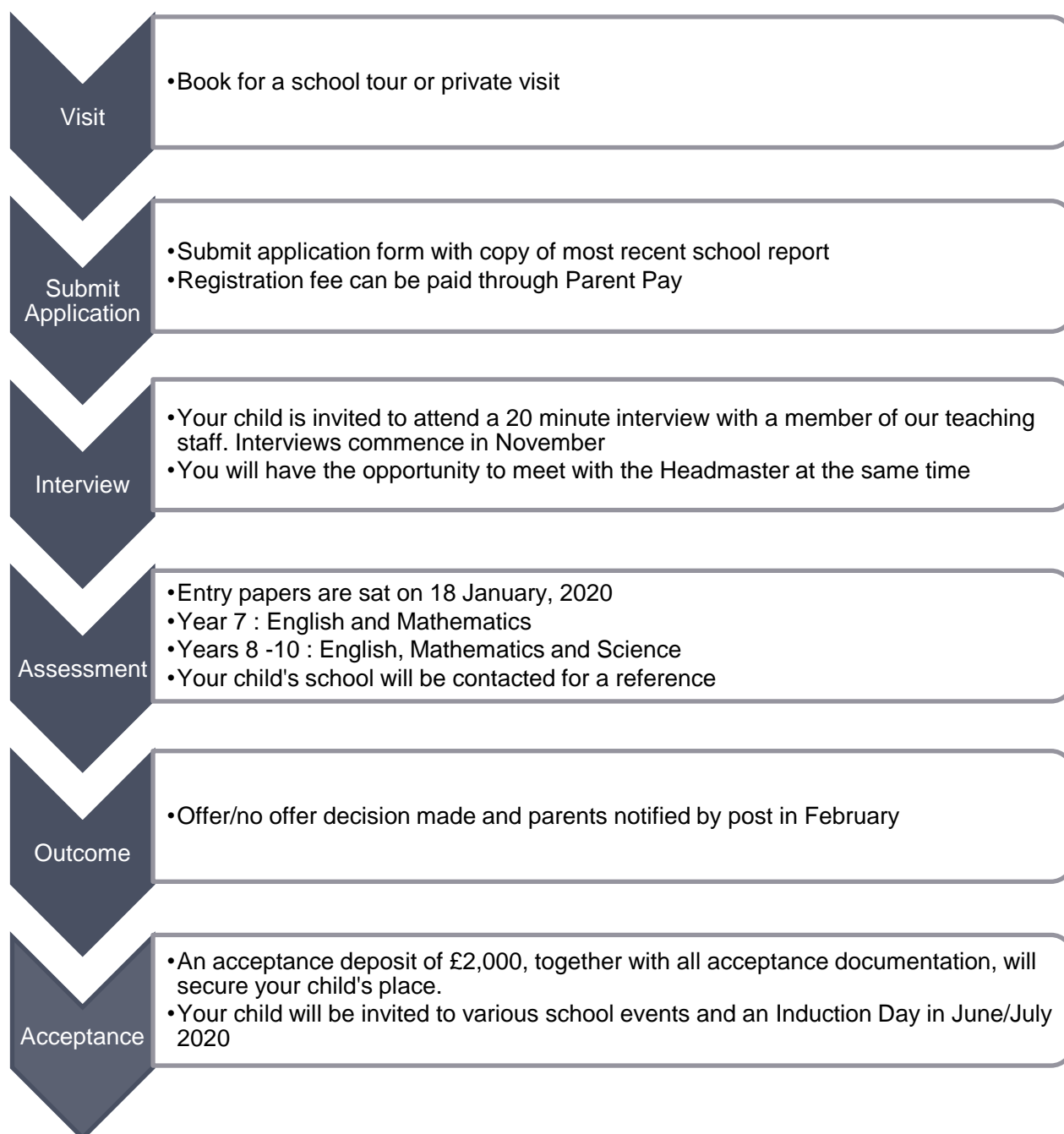
Every applicant for Year 7 to 10 entry will be called for an interview (interviews commence in November) in advance of the entrance examination which takes place on 18 January 2020.

The offer of a place is open until the deadline stated in the letter and the place is secured on submission of the acceptance documentation, together with a deposit of £2,000 on or before the deadline.

Year 7 (age 11+) - Year 10 (age 14+) application process*

***2019/20 application – Please contact our Registrar regarding in year entry.**

For September 2020 entry, applications should be made before 29 November 2019



Site Map and Walking Route



PPS	56-58 Portland Place W1B 1NJ	LOWER SCHOOL BUILDING - Main school office and base for Years 6 -9
GPS	143 Great Portland Street W1W 6QN	UPPER SCHOOL BUILDING –Base for Years 9-11
HH	101-105 Great Portland Street W1W 6QE	SUBJECT BUILDING – Specialist facilities in Science, Drama, Art and Textiles for all students
WALKING ROUTE ____		Year 6 - 8 students are walked across by the route shown by 2 members of staff. Year 9 and upwards are allowed to walk themselves.

Individual Music Tuition



Tuition is offered in:

- Singing
- Piano – Classical or Jazz
- Guitar – Electric, Acoustic or Classical
- Bass Guitar
- Drum Kit
- Woodwind – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone or Recorder
- Strings – Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass
- Brass – Trumpet or Trombone
- Music Theory
- Music Technology
- DJing (through FutureDJ's – organised by PPS)

Pupils who wish to learn an instrument are generally expected to bring their own instrument and accessories to school for each lesson, although the facility to rent an instrument on a short-term basis is occasionally possible.

Cost (based on current costs – 2019/20):

Each half-hour lesson will cost £27.10. We aim to deliver 30 of these per year; therefore, termly charge is approximately £271. This is added to your school bill each term. The cost for paid lessons is £13.55 per lesson.

Pupils taking GCSE Music:

Pupils taking GCSE music in Years 10 to 13 will be entitled to a reduction of 50%; paying £135.50 per term for their 1st instrument. If they take a 2nd study, this will be at full cost.

If you would like to apply for tuition please return the slip below to Mr. Hill, or email the information to steve.hill@portland-place.co.uk



We are very pleased to be able to offer, as a part of the compulsory curriculum for Music, free tuition for all Year 7 students at Portland Place.

They select and learn an orchestral instrumental completely free of charge as part of our *Symphonfree Scheme*!

For 2019-2020 entry, we were delighted to offer lessons for the following instruments:

- **Strings:** Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass
- **Woodwind:** Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone
- **Brass:** Trumpet, Trombone

As part of the scheme, all students have weekly, half-hour lessons in groups of two or three for the entire year.

These lessons will operate just like individual music lessons (on a rotating timetable) but are given at no charge.

Students must attend the weekly lessons, and also ensure that they bring their instruments to each curriculum lessons, as well as taking the instruments home to practise. During curriculum lessons the students receive further music tuition and learn to play pieces as an ensemble. This ensemble will perform in various concerts through the year.

All students take part in the scheme and therefore, to stand the best chance of learning an instrument of their choice, they are asked to list their top three preferences. We attempt to give every student one of their preferences of instrument (but please note that these choices are not guaranteed; the music department may decide that a student is more suited to another study than that specified).

Students should pick instruments which they have not played before or have only a limited beginner knowledge.

As part of the *Symphonfree* scheme, the school loans instruments to students for the year, also completely free of charge! Once allocated, instruments must be added to your own household insurance. The instrument remains the property of Portland Place School Music Department and must be returned if requested and / or if the student leaves the school.

If you have any questions then please feel free to email Mr. Hill, Director of Music, at steve.hill@portland-place.co.uk.

Examination Results 2019

2019 GCSE Results News Update: We are proud to announce an increase in 2019 in the number of higher grade passes (9 – 7) at GCSE and (A* - B) at A level.

We are also proud to announce that we remain in the top one-third of schools nationally for progress made to A-Levels. Independent statistical evidence shows that we ‘add significant value’ to those predicted by externally administered adaptive testing. The majority of our students secured places at their chosen Universities including a good number into Russell Group Universities (e.g. King’s College London, Queen Mary University of London, Durham), top overseas universities (e.g. McGill University, Toronto) and others into highly regarded specialist courses. Year 11 students’ destinations include DLD College, Albermarle, Ashbourne, Ibstock Place and Brampton College.

When asked, our students say that they feel their academic success at Portland Place is a result of their feeling comfortable and valued. There are small class sizes (average 12 in Years 7-11; average 6 in the Sixth Form), with an informal yet highly productive working relationship between students and teachers. This collaborative ethos instils a sense of self-belief in our students, which is undoubtedly the platform for their academic success.

Analysis of GCSE grades

Exam Year	% 9	% 9-8	% 9-7	% 9-4	% 9-1
2019	6	17	27	86	100
2018	4	13	28	93	100

Analysis of A level grades

Exam Year	% A*-A	% A*-B	% A* -E
2019	18	45	96
2018	10	39	97

Example Timetable Years 6

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	Physical Educat PST	Mathematics ACA 22	History ACA 22	Physical Educat JRI PPH	Mathematics ACA 22
2	Physical Educat PST	English LCO 24	Mathematics ACA 22	Mathematics ACA 22	Physical Educat PST PPH
3	English LCO 24	Spanish RPI 33	Physical Educat JMC PPH	English LCO 24	Music CBO 1
4	Mathematics ACA 22	Physical Educat PST	English LCO 24	Science ACA 22	Science ACA H2
5	Citizenship LCO 24	Physical Educat PST	Geography ACA 22	Drama DCH H9A	Art TMO H10
6					



Example Timetable Year 7,8 & 9

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	Physical Educat JMC	Computing NYA 34	Mathematics AEL 10	Physical Educat NWH PPH	French TLA 36
2	Physical Educat JMC	Music CBO 1	Design Technol	Drama DCH H9A	Art TMO H10
3	French TLA 36	English JHU 35	Physical Educat JKU PPH	Science DBE H4	Geography AKI 10
4	Mathematics AEL 10	Physical Educat JKU	English JHU 1	History CBU 33	Mathematics AEL 10
5	Citizenship AKI 35	Physical Educat JKU	Science DBE H4	English JHU 35	Science DBE H4
6					



Example Timetable Year 10

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	Business Studie HBR G21	Biology DKE H2	Geography AKI G22	Chemistry PSA H3	Physics STH H6
2	History PLE G23	English LOD G24	Chemistry PSA H3	Computing NYA G11	English LOD G24
3	Geography AKI G22	Business Studie HBR G11	English LOD G24	Mathematics AAG G33	Mathematics AAG G33
4	English LOD G24	Physics STH H6	History PLE G23	Physical Educat SPY	Enrichment NYA G11
5	Biology DKE H2	Computing JCA 34	Mathematics AAG G33	Physical Educat SPY	Enrichment CMA G11
6					

GCSE Core subject options:

- English Language
- English literacy
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology

GCSE non-core subject options:

- Business Studies
- Design
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Economics
- Film Studies
- Fine Arts
- French
- Geography
- History
- Italian
- Media Studies
- Music
- Spanish



Further information

In-year placements

Please contact our Admissions Registrar to discuss the possibility of in-year entry (in-year entry occurs when parents apply to move school outside of the normal time frame within the admissions process).

Entrance examinations

Our entrance exams are based on work that should be familiar to students from their last couple of years in education. There is no need to do any additional preparation for the entrance tests. We do not provide past papers.

We test students in English and Mathematics for entry into Year 7 and below. The English paper consists of comprehension and creative writing. For entry into Year 8 and above, students are also tested in Science. Each assessment for Years 7,8 and 9 last 45 minutes. Assessment for Year 10 entry are 60 minutes in length.

Apart from the entrance exam, what does my child have to do?

Every child has a 20-minute interview with a member of our teaching staff. We ask the child to bring along something related to a hobby or outside interest that they would be comfortable chatting about (e.g. a medal for a sporting achievement, an art book, rock collection or a musical instrument, or a piece of work they are proud of). After the interview the Headmaster has a brief review meeting with the parents. Interviews take place in the second half of the Autumn term.

Do you accept overseas students?

Yes. The procedure for entry is the same as for UK pupils. Occasionally, children may be allowed to sit the entrance examination at their overseas school under teacher supervision. Please contact the Admissions Registrar for further information about this.

Transport to and from school

Most of the older children travel by themselves using public transport. Many children in Lower School are brought to school by their parents at first. However, once they are familiar with their route to school they will often travel with a group of friends.

Lunch

Lunch is provided on site, at no extra charge. Vegetarian options are available daily.

Please speak to us about any allergies or other concerns relating to food.

What about Security – the school is in the middle of the city?

All pupils in Years 6, 7 and 8 are supervised from the start of the day until 3.45pm. They are always escorted by teachers as they move between buildings and are not allowed out at lunchtime.

The pupils in Year 9 are allowed to move between the buildings unsupervised but are not allowed out at lunchtime. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 move between buildings unsupervised and are allowed to leave the premises at lunchtime.

Registers are taken at the start of every lesson. In addition, we have recently introduced an electronic tap in/tap out system which lets us identify the location of any student if on site, and whether or not they have left the building. All students are issued with an electronic bracelet (Years 6, 7 and 8) or an electronic pass-card (Years 9, 10, 11 and 13).

Sport

Children in Year 6 have sports every day.

Children in Years 7, 8 and 9 have sport four days out of five, amounting to 6.5 hours per week.

Sport is reduced in Years 10 and 11 to once or twice per week as the GCSE curriculum commences.

Pupils are taken to nearby facilities – either on foot or by minibus. Regents Park, Seymour Centre, Paddington Recreation Ground and the Oasis Sports Centre are some of the many facilities we use.

SEND – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We have an excellent reputation in providing for the special educational needs of pupils. SEND Pupils must be able to work in classes (of around 15 students). Our teachers are sensitive to an individual student's needs and adjust their teaching to accommodate them. They are led in this by the school's SENDCo.

MFL – Modern Foreign languages

In Year 6 pupils study Spanish.

All pupils in Year 7 study either Spanish or French. This choice is made during the second week of the Autumn Term, after a series of taster lessons in both languages. Students continue with this choice in Years 8 and 9.

In Years 10 and 11 pupils may choose to continue learning French or Spanish, although currently this is not compulsory.

Homework

Children should expect about 7.5 hours of individual work at home per week. We ask parents to talk to the Head of Year if the time spent is significantly more or less as this may point to an underlying problem.

Uniform

Uniform can be purchased from any school wear supplier, such as John Lewis. The full list can be found on our website at: <https://www.portland-place.co.uk/current-parents/uniform/>

School Policies

The following school policies can be found on our website at <https://www.portland-place.co.uk/about/policies/>

- [Admissions Policy](#)
- [Aims of Portland Place School](#)
- [Anti Bullying Policy](#)
- [Behaviour Discipline and Exclusion Policy](#)
- [First Aid Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [SEND Policy](#)
- [Complaints Procedure](#)

Fees 2019/2020

Fees are due on or before the beginning of each term

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees are charged equally over three termly instalments of £7,185.

Payment is required by direct debit. Please contact the Finance & Operations Manager, Vicki Bromley (vicki.bromley@portland-place.co.uk) for queries on setting up a direct debit.

Extras

Extras such as public examination fees, books, and theatre and museum trips will be charged at cost. Individual music tuition can be arranged with the Director of Music and is payable on receipt of invoice.

Acceptance Deposit

After an offer of a place is made, an acceptance deposit of £2,000 is required to secure the place. This is payable on acceptance and the place will be confirmed upon receipt. The acceptance deposit is returned when the pupil leaves the school.

Notice of Leaving

In all cases a full term's notice is required in writing to the Headmaster if a pupil is withdrawn from the school. Absence of written notice will incur a charge of a term's fees in lieu of that notice.

Opportunities to Visit

Should you wish to take the opportunity to visit us again, please do not hesitate to call.

Autumn Term:

Open Evening: (5.00-7.00 pm)

Thursday, 12 September

Thursday, 3 October

Thursday, 7 November

Saturday Open Mornings: (10:00am - 12:00pm)

Saturday, 21 September

Saturday, 12 October

School Tours: (8:45 – 11.00 am)

The school is open for visitors on selected mornings during term time. **We begin with a question and answer session with the Headmaster and tour you around in small groups with one of our students.** During the morning parents and prospective pupils see classes and activities in two of our sites during a normal school day.

The next in-week school tour is scheduled for:- Tuesday, 19 November.

Individual appointments

Our Headmaster, Mr David Bradbury, would be delighted to meet you individually to discuss your child at a mutually convenient time during the school day.

Please telephone the admissions office (020 7307 8700 ext.2) to reserve a place on one of the School Tours or to arrange an individual appointment with the Headmaster.

Portland Place School
56-58 Portland Place
LONDON
W1B 1NJ
+44 (0)20 7307 8700
admissions@portland-place.co.uk



the **Gold Standard** in education

Portland Place School is part of the Alpha Plus Group of Schools and Colleges