



BRENTWOOD URSULINE CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

FAITH. AMBITION. JOY.



An education for life

Catholic education in the Ursuline tradition

Founded 1900

WELCOME

A school with a clear purpose

I am delighted that you are considering Brentwood Ursuline for your daughter's secondary education. Choosing a school is an important decision: you are choosing not simply where your daughter will spend the next seven years but the community that will help shape the young woman she becomes.

At Brentwood Ursuline, we are ambitious for every student. We believe an excellent education should furnish the mind, develop intellectual curiosity, form character and prepare students to contribute confidently and generously to the world beyond school. Academic achievement matters enormously to us, but education is richer than examination results alone. We want our students to acquire powerful knowledge, to think deeply and independently, to communicate with confidence and to develop the discipline and resilience required to do difficult things well.

As a Catholic school in the Ursuline tradition, that ambition is rooted in our mission: to create a Christian environment in which each student can grow towards the full realisation of her potential. That growth is deliberately broad: in knowledge and skill, but also in personality, relationships, faith and character. We want our students to leave us not simply well qualified, but as thoughtful, confident and compassionate young people who know themselves, recognise their responsibility to others and are ready to make a positive contribution to the world.

Our school motto, Duty, captures something important about a Brentwood Ursuline education. It reminds us that our gifts, opportunities and education are not solely for ourselves. We have duties to one another, to our community and to put our faith into action. For our students, that means working hard and pursuing excellence, noticing others, serving generously, acting with integrity and having the courage to do what is right.

This is why high expectations and excellent teaching sit alongside leadership, service, sport, the arts, enrichment and opportunities to discover talents and interests beyond the classroom. We want every student to be known, supported and challenged: secure in her belonging, ambitious in her learning and increasingly ready to take her place in the wider world.

A prospectus can give you a glimpse of a school, but it cannot fully capture its character. I therefore warmly encourage you to visit us, speak to our students and staff, and experience Brentwood Ursuline for yourself. I hope you will see a school that is joyful and purposeful, proud of its traditions and ambitious for its future and, most importantly, a place in which your daughter can flourish.

Miss F Scott
Headteacher

OUR PROMISE

More than a school. An education for life.

For more than 125 years, Brentwood Ursuline has educated young people with a distinctive combination of scholarship, faith and service. Our history gives us deep roots, but our mission looks firmly to the future: to create a Christian environment in which every student can grow in personality, relationships, knowledge and skill towards the full realisation of her potential.

That means developing the whole person. We want our students to grow in what they know, how they think, who they are, how they treat others and what they are prepared to contribute.

Knowledge matters. Character matters.

What you do with both matters.

What you can expect

An ambitious academic education that develops knowledge and skill, values intellectual curiosity and is underpinned by excellent teaching.

A Catholic and Ursuline formation that develops character and personality, placing dignity, faith, service, responsibility and joy at the heart of school life.

A community built on strong relationships, in which every student is known well, supported carefully and expected to contribute.

A rich wider life through sport, music, performance, leadership, service, trips, clubs and opportunities beyond the classroom, enabling students to discover and develop their gifts and talents.

Clear standards. We believe that excellent habits of attendance, punctuality, hard work, courtesy and self-discipline, create the conditions in which students can grow, flourish and realise their potential.

Daily Routine

08:15	Site opens to students	<i>Note: Students are not expected to bring a mobile phone to school. If they choose to do so, it must be handed in to the form group's phone safe during morning registration and will be returned during afternoon form time at the end of the day.</i>
08:45	Registration / Form Time	
09:10	Lesson 1	
10:00	Lesson 2	
10:50	Break	
11:10	Lesson 3	
12:00	Lesson 4	
12:50	Lunch	
13:30	Lesson 5	
14:20	Lesson 6	
15:10	Afternoon Form Time	
15:15	End of Day	

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Ambition, realised.

We are unapologetically ambitious for our students. Strong outcomes matter because they open doors: to demanding courses, to excellent Sixth Form study, to university, apprenticeships and careers, and to choices that may not yet have been imagined.

Summer 2026 Examinations Data:

44%

GCSE grades 9-7

185

Grade 9s

91%+

GCSE grades 9-4

63.4%

A-level grades A*-B

100%

Business ND Dist*-Dist

100%

Performing Arts ND Dist-Merit+

Our 2026 results reflect a culture in which students are taught well, expected to think hard and supported to succeed. Academic excellence is not a slogan: it is built lesson by lesson, through expert teaching, purposeful practice, careful assessment and the conviction that every student should be challenged.

High expectations. Strong support.

We teach to the top and support students to get there. Teachers use assessment intelligently, identify misconceptions, build secure knowledge and help students become increasingly independent learners. Where students need additional help, support is targeted without lowering ambition.



LEARNING

We want students to know more, think deeply and ask better questions.

A great education is not simply a sequence of examination specifications. It gives young people a rich body of knowledge, the confidence to use it and the curiosity to keep learning.

At Key Stage 3, students experience a broad and distinctive curriculum including Art, Citizenship, Computer Science, Dance, Design Technology, Drama, English, Food Technology, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, PE, PSHE, Religious Education and Science.

The classroom matters

Our teachers are subject specialists and our classrooms are places of serious academic endeavour. Lessons are purposeful, focused and ambitious. Students are expected to listen closely, contribute thoughtfully, practise deliberately, question, read, write and think deeply. Learning time is protected and every minute matters. We value calm, orderly classrooms because attention is essential; challenge because students should grapple with demanding ideas; and expert teaching because secure knowledge is the foundation for critical thought, intellectual independence and future success.

Beyond what is examined

We want students to encounter ideas, texts, people, places and disciplines that enlarge their world. Curriculum enrichment, trips, performances, competitions, visiting speakers and subject opportunities help students see where their learning can lead.



CATHOLIC & URSULINE

Faith that is lived.

Our Catholic identity is not an addition to school life. It shapes it.

Inspired by the Gospel and by St Angela Merici, founder of the Ursuline Order, we seek to form young people who understand that their gifts carry responsibilities: to learn, to serve, to notice others and to contribute to the common good.

JOY: Jesus. Others. Yourself.

Prayer begins our day. The Chapel remains at the heart of the school and our community gathers for Mass, liturgy and the great feasts of the Church and the Ursuline tradition. Retreats and opportunities for service invite students to reflect more deeply on faith and on the person they are becoming.

Students of different backgrounds are welcomed into a community with a clear Catholic character. We want faith to be encountered not only in worship, but in scholarship, relationships, forgiveness, leadership, generosity and service.

“Act, move, believe, strive, hope, cry out to Him with all your heart.”
St Angela Merici



DUTY

A small word with a big meaning.

Our school motto is Duty. It speaks to an idea that is increasingly important: that education is not only about what we can gain, but about what we owe to one another.

For a Brentwood Ursuline student, Duty means taking learning seriously and recognising the responsibility that comes with opportunity. It means working hard, treating others with dignity and respect, using your talents well and looking beyond yourself to the needs of others and the wider community. It is an understanding that character is shaped not only by significant moments, but by the choices, habits and standards of everyday life.

The duty to learn.

To be curious, attentive and intellectually ambitious.

The duty to others.

To act with kindness, dignity and consideration; to serve and to contribute.

The duty to use your gifts well.

To take opportunities, develop talents and refuse to settle for less than your best effort.

The duty to the community.

To recognise that every individual helps create the culture in which everyone else learns and grows.



BELONGING

Known. Supported. Challenged.

Starting secondary school is exciting, but it is also a significant transition. At Brentwood Ursuline, no student should disappear into a crowd. Strong pastoral care begins with knowing our students well.

The form tutor is central to a student's daily experience, supported by the Head of Year, pastoral team and senior leaders. Strong relationships allow us to notice when things are going well, respond when they are not, and keep expectations high.

A strong start

Transition begins before September. We work to understand the students joining us, help them become familiar with the school and establish routines quickly so that Year 7 can begin with confidence.

Support that keeps ambition high

Our approach to inclusion begins with high-quality classroom teaching. Where students have additional needs or barriers, our SEND and pastoral teams work with teachers, students and families to identify appropriate support while maintaining ambitious expectations.

Being known means being noticed.

We celebrate effort, improvement, achievement, service and contribution. We also intervene when attendance, behaviour or learning begins to slip. Care and challenge belong together.



LIFE BEYOND LESSONS

Developing character. Discovering talents. Contributing to others.

School should introduce students to interests and experiences they may carry with them for life. Our enrichment programme is designed to broaden horizons, develop talents and encourage students to look beyond themselves. Through six distinct strands, students have opportunities to create, perform, compete, explore, serve, lead and develop the wider skills that help shape who they become.

Our current programme is structured around six broad strands, providing opportunities for students to create, perform, compete, explore, serve, lead and develop new skills.

Arts & Culture	Opportunities to create, perform and experience the arts through music, dance, drama, literature and cultural activities.
Civic Engagement	Opportunities to engage with faith, service, contemporary issues and the wider community, developing a strong sense of responsibility towards others.
Developing Wider Life & Future Skills	Experiences that develop communication, confidence, problem-solving and other skills that prepare students for life beyond the classroom.
Nature, Outdoors & Adventure	Opportunities to engage with the natural world, sustainability and outdoor activity.
Sport & Physical Activities	Team sport, individual activity, competition and recreational opportunities that develop fitness, teamwork and resilience.
Well-being	Activities that provide space for creativity, connection and positive wellbeing alongside the demands of academic life.

The programme changes and develops over time, but its purpose remains constant: to broaden horizons, develop talents, build confidence and encourage students to look beyond themselves and contribute to the life of the school and wider community.

We expect students to participate, contribute and discover something beyond their timetable.

A LIVING HERITAGE

A school with history and a future.

Brentwood Ursuline stands on a distinctive wooded site in the heart of Brentwood, close to the High Street, station and Cathedral. The grounds include mature trees, a natural lake and orchard alongside specialist teaching and sporting spaces.

The school began in 1900, when Mother Clare and Ursuline Sisters founded a school for just 15 girls in Queen's Road. More than 125 years later, generations of students have learned here - and the school continues to evolve.

Rooted, not stuck.

We value the character of our historic campus while continuing to invest in spaces that support excellent teaching, community and the future of the school. Our newest developments include a dedicated two-storey Sixth Form centre designed for modern study, collaboration and independence.

125+ years of Ursuline education in Brentwood.



CONDUCT, CHARACTER & STANDARDS

High standards. Strong character. Positive contribution.

A place at Brentwood Ursuline is an opportunity, and we expect students to make the most of it. We are a school with high standards and clear expectations, and we are unapologetic about both.

Students are expected to attend regularly, arrive punctually, work hard, behave well, wear their uniform correctly and with pride, show good manners, treat others with courtesy and respect, and follow the reasonable instructions of staff. These are not peripheral expectations: they are part of what it means to belong to Brentwood Ursuline.

Excellent education depends upon excellent habits. Clear routines, consistent discipline and high standards of conduct protect learning, create a calm and orderly environment and develop the self-discipline young people will need long after school.

Attendance matters

Every day in school matters. Regular absence fragments learning, weakens routines and limits participation in the wider life of the school. Leave of absence during term time is therefore only authorised in exceptional circumstances; holidays and commitments such as external dramatic productions or rehearsals are not normally considered exceptional.

Courtesy beyond the gates

Our standards do not end when students leave the site. In uniform, on journeys, on trips and in the local community, students represent themselves and the school. We expect them to be thoughtful, respectful and good neighbours.



THE JOURNEY

Seven years. A future full of possibility.

A Year 7 student does not need to know what she wants to do at 18. She does need an education that keeps possibilities open.

From Year 7 onwards, students are encouraged to discover their strengths, develop their interests and begin to understand the opportunities that lie beyond school. Careers education is woven through school life, connecting today's learning with future possibilities and introducing students to a wide range of professions, pathways, employers and universities.

As students move through the school, that guidance becomes increasingly individual. They are supported to make thoughtful choices about GCSEs, Sixth Form study and, ultimately, higher education, apprenticeships and employment. At each stage, strong academic foundations, excellent advice and growing independence prepare them to make increasingly important decisions for themselves.

For many, that seven-year journey continues into our co-educational Sixth Form, where students specialise, lead and take greater responsibility for their own learning. They remain part of the Ursuline community while preparing for the independence and demands of life beyond school.

Our students progress to an impressive breadth of destinations, from Medicine, Engineering, Law and Mathematics to Architecture, Astrophysics, Midwifery, Pharmacy and Psychology, and to leading universities including Oxbridge, Durham, UCL and King's, alongside high-quality apprenticeship and employment routes.

We do not choose a future for our students. We give them the knowledge, character, confidence and opportunity to choose well for themselves.



OUR UNIFORM

Smart. Traditional. Worn with pride.

Our uniform is an important part of the identity and tradition of Brentwood Ursuline. We expect it to be worn correctly, consistently and with pride by every student.

We are deliberately traditional in our approach. Students are expected to arrive each day smartly presented, wearing the correct uniform and ready to learn. High standards of appearance sit alongside high standards of conduct, courtesy and academic endeavour: attention to detail and self-discipline matter.

Families choosing Brentwood Ursuline should understand and be prepared to support these expectations. Uniform is not a matter of individual interpretation; our published requirements apply to all students.

Years 7–11 uniform

Blazer: Brentwood Ursuline branded school blazer

Skirt: dark brown, kilt-style, knee-length school skirt

Blouse: yellow revere-collar school blouse

Pullover: dark brown V-neck pullover

Tights or socks: plain brown tights or plain white ankle socks

Shoes: flat, plain dark brown or black traditional school shoes

Coat: plain, practical coat without prominent logos

School bag: plain black, brown or navy and large enough for A4 files

Branded and distinctive items are purchased through the school's approved uniform supplier. Full PE and Dance uniform requirements are set out in the Uniform Policy.

Presentation

Our expectations extend beyond the clothing itself. Students in Years 7–11 are expected to meet the school's presentation standards throughout the school day.

Make-up should be very discreet; false eyelashes are not permitted.

Nails should be natural, with no nail varnish or acrylic nails.

Jewellery is limited to a wristwatch, thin neck chain, a maximum of two pairs of small flat stud earrings and one simple small flat ring; bracelets and anklets are not permitted.

Hair should be appropriate for school: extreme hairstyles and non-natural hair colours are not permitted. Hair bands should be plain and dark.

Students wear the Brentwood Ursuline uniform not simply to comply with a dress code, but as members of a community whose standards they represent.

Full uniform requirements, together with purchasing information, are available in our current Uniform Policy, available on our website.

CHOOSING WELL

The right school is the right fit.

We want families to choose Brentwood Ursuline because they understand what we stand for and want to be part of it.

Our school is a strong fit for families who value an ambitious academic education; a clearly Catholic and Ursuline ethos; high standards of attendance, behaviour and uniform; a rich wider life; and the expectation that students contribute to their community.

Think about the whole school day

When choosing a school, consider the daily journey as carefully as the destination. A long or complicated commute can make a young person's day significantly longer, particularly in winter, and may make it harder to participate fully in clubs, rehearsals, fixtures, events and the wider life of school.

For Catholic families, we encourage serious consideration of excellent Catholic provision close to home as part of making the right decision for your child.

Come and see us

A prospectus can only tell part of the story. Visit classrooms. Speak to students. Notice the atmosphere. Ask what is expected. Consider whether you can picture your daughter learning, growing and contributing here.

ADMISSIONS

Joining Year 7

Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School is a Catholic academy for girls aged 11-18, with a co-educational Sixth Form.

How to apply

Applications for Year 7 are made through the Common Application Form of the local authority in which you live. Families applying under relevant oversubscription criteria are also asked to complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF). The closing date for both is 31st October 2026.

Admissions arrangements, oversubscription criteria, the SIF, deadlines, appeals information and any arrangements relating to Music places are published on the school website. Please use the current published admissions policy for the year of entry.

Before you apply

Please read the admissions policy carefully and ensure that all required forms and evidence are submitted by the published deadlines.

BRENTWOOD URSULINE

Faith. Ambition. Joy.



Furnish the mind. Form character. Use your gifts well.

DUTY

BRENTWOOD URSULINE CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

Queen's Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4EX

www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk

