



# NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

*"creating opportunities for success"*

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE  
2025

STATE SECONDARY  
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR  
LONDON

4 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Year 9 Cultural Arts and Careers Week: Monday 13 July – Friday 17 July 2026**

Our Cultural Arts and Careers Week each summer is an opportunity for all students to engage in a variety of creative and enriching learning experiences and enjoy opportunities for growth and career development beyond the curriculum. Please note that attendance is compulsory and normal lessons are suspended for this week.

Workshops and activities are led by external providers and Newstead Wood School staff, with opportunities to take part in visits out of school for each year group. We have an exciting programme of events planned and I am delighted to be sharing this with you:

### **Day Trip – Monday 13 July**

Students can choose between a history-focused trip to Bletchley Park, a drama-focused Globe Theatre trip, and a botanical trip to Kew Gardens. Each has a separate cost explained below.

These trips are run on a first come, first served basis and as such we would encourage you to make your choice and payment as soon as possible to secure a place on your preferred trip. We are not able to add further spaces to any of the trips once the places are full.

### **8BillionIdeas Careers Day – Tuesday 14 July**

This should be an interactive and informative day, led by our partners from the 8BillionIdeas Team. Students will be divided into groups and work with their mentor for the day alongside our Careers Team.

### **Performing Arts Festival – Wednesday 15 July**

All Year 9 form groups will be preparing for our annual Performing Arts Festival throughout the year. Their final performances will take place on Wednesday 15 July when they will perform to Year 8 students and judges in the afternoon, then for parents and carers in the evening.

We are looking forward to their fantastic productions!

**Headteacher:** Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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### **Drumming, Dance, and Active Fun – Thursday 16 and Friday 17 July**

Steel Pans are musical instruments originating in Trinidad and Tobago and students will learn how to perform as an ensemble with our facilitators. We will also have Japanese Taiko drumming, and Iroko West African Drumming, as well as an introduction to Yoga from an external provider.

Students will also receive instruction sessions from Step into Dance – an exciting organisation associated with the Royal Academy of Dance – as well as learning about parliamentary elections, classical gods, and participating in active sporting activities.

The cost of the week's activities will depend on the trip chosen. Instalment 1 will cover the cost of whichever trip you choose for the Monday, and Instalment 2 will cover costs for the activities in school for the remainder of the week.

Please make payment for *Year 9 Cultural Arts Week* via WisePay. Please note, payment constitutes permission to take part in all activities. If you have any financial concerns regarding payment for these activities, please contact [finance@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:finance@newsteadwood.co.uk) in confidence.

- Instalment 1 - £6 (Kew), £13 (Globe) or £36 (Bletchley Park), by 31 January 2026
- Instalment 2 - £30 for all other activities, by 31 March 2026

We hope you are as excited as we are about all these fantastic enrichment activities planned during our Cultural Arts Week.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [aboutall@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:aboutall@newsteadwood.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

A Boutall

**Mr A Boutall**  
**Assistant Headteacher**