



ADCOTE  
SCHOOL



INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS  
ASSOCIATION

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Girls'  
Schools  
Association





# Welcome



**It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our wonderful school! I am incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of Adcote School, here in the heart of Shropshire.**

We are extremely fortunate to be housed in an inspiring Grade 1 Victorian building, equipped with state of the art science and sporting facilities and surrounded by breath-taking parkland, offering spectacular views, where our girls can thrive surrounded by nature. We continue to build on the work of our founder, Amy Gough, whose vision was to provide excellent schooling for young women and it is our aim today, to develop this pioneering spirit within our girls, so they are ready to take on the challenges modern day life has to offer.

As an all-girls school, we specialise in nurturing the female leaders of the future, using our substantial knowledge to inspire and challenge them. Adcote has an impressive track record of success; we develop happy, well rounded, confident girls, who excel in maths and science and achieve in both the sports arena and the classroom. Our rigorous assessment and intervention programmes ensure that all students reach their full potential, making us one of the top independent schools in the UK for adding value to academic potential; translating student performance into top grades.

Adcote is a journey through childhood. We have developed through our CLEAR learning programme an innovative, ground breaking education which puts the girls at the centre of everything we do. We offer our girls the chance to thrive; to be free from stereotypes and shine in all areas. Our curriculum and further learning through our extensive extra-curricular programme, is tailored to the needs of the girls and recognises and encourages changes in technological advances. We incorporate technology to support our educational vision and balance between traditional and contemporary skills. It is our aim

to give our girls the very best opportunities and experiences on offer.

We pride ourselves on knowing every girl individually and putting our girls first. We are an intentionally inclusive school – our students talk to us about any issues they may face and we nurture and develop young women's voices. We encourage them to learn to fail in a safe environment and grow stronger as a result, building grit and determination to succeed. It is a privilege to serve such wonderful girls and watch them blossom into incredibly confident young ladies.

Our girls' leave with outstanding results; a love of learning, confidence, a wide unwavering friendship group and a firm CLEAR value system that prepares them to embrace the challenges life throws at them in their future endeavours. Our Adcote graduates have an excellent record of academic success and study at the world's most renowned universities, in a wide range of faculties and specialisations. Over 80% of our Sixth Form access their first-choice universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. We allow our students an enviable breadth of choices for their post 16 and post 18 future studies and ensure global opportunities for their future professions.

**I look forward to meeting you and warmly invite you to see for yourself the amazing learning taking place at Adcote School.**

*Mrs Victoria Taylor*



“

*This is what makes the Adcote experience so special - that the girls can be who they are and that their individuality is celebrated and encouraged.*

CURRENT PARENT





*100% of students  
were accepted by their  
university of choice.*



*The Telegraph ranked  
Adcote School in the top  
100 schools in the UK  
in 2023*



### The journey to excellence starts at Adcote...

Our staff provide support and guidance to students as they explore their interests and passions, research university options and apply for courses. We aim to help our students find the university and course that is the best fit for them, based on their academic strengths and personal aspirations.

We have a strong track record of helping our students gain admission to top universities both in the UK and abroad,

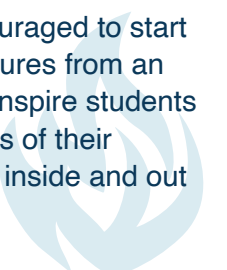
including Oxford and Cambridge. Other destinations for our students include Russell Group universities, Ivy League institutions and leading universities in Europe and Asia. UCAS support is provided by staff who have not only decades of direct experience in guiding students through this process, but have themselves been educated at Oxbridge and the Top UK universities.

Our success in this process

can be seen from the university destinations of our students.

Academically, Adcote is the top value-added school in Shropshire for A Levels, and in the top 50 nationally.

Students are encouraged to start thinking of their futures from an early age and we inspire students to thrive in all areas of their academic life both inside and out of the school.





# Our unique CLEAR approach



We believe passionately in the advantages of educating girls in a single sex environment. Our outstanding staff are specialists in the way girls learn. We understand the challenges that modern women will face in their futures and **our unique CLEAR learning programme** equips them with all the skills they will need in order to thrive and be happy in the 21st Century.

Universally, parents tell us they want their daughters to be **Confident**; to have faith in themselves, to speak up, to challenge and defend.

They tell us they want their daughters to be able to **Lead**. To be able to take control of a situation, as an excellent team player but also to be able to lead themselves when working independently.

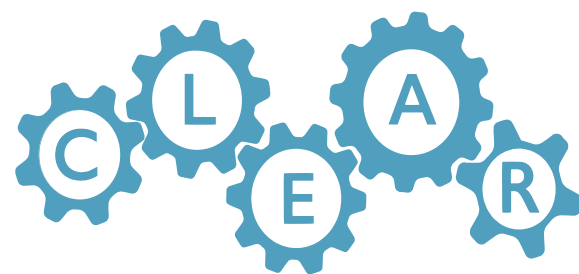
In our multi-screened world, parents tell us they want their daughters to be **Engaged** with the real world, not the virtual world presented to them online.

Of course, they want them to be **Achievers**. To achieve the best possible examination results they can but also to achieve in other areas and feel the thrill of success in competitions and performance.

Lastly, and so closely linked to success, they want their daughters to be **Resilient**; to understand that failure is a necessary part of success and know the value of lessons learned from mistakes: “bounce, don’t break”.

Adcote’s unique CLEAR learning programme is structured to embed the key outcomes of Confidence, Leadership, Engagement, Achievement and Resilience in all our students and is woven into every part of school life.

The CLEAR programme includes wide-ranging initiatives that introduce students to challenging new learning, adventure tasks and experiences that test their initiative, creativity, team building, resolve, social skills and endurance.





# A CLEAR choice

CONFIDENCE | LEADERSHIP | ENGAGEMENT | ACHIEVEMENT | RESILIENCE

“*Adcote has been life changing, not only for my daughter but for our entire family.*”

CURRENT PARENT



**We have an unrivalled reputation for building the right sort of confidence in our young people.**



Here at Adcote, we pride ourselves on our small class sizes and welcoming atmosphere which ensures that we are able to build strong relationships with each of our students. Feeling safe and secure in their learning environment enables our girls to take bold risks, and they are encouraged to venture answers more readily, constantly challenging themselves to achieve new heights in their understanding.

Our tailored support, gender-specific delivery, and the warm and encouraging environment we nurture for our students mean our girls have high self-worth.



Visitors to our school, including inspectors, have consistently commented on the personable nature of our students who are highly articulate, polite, and impeccably behaved. Our girls are afforded several opportunities to showcase their leadership through the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Combined Cadets Force, and our bespoke outdoor programme called Wayfarers.

Sixth Form girls get to hone their leadership skills with the chance to achieve a CMI award in Leadership and Management and the Extended Professional Qualification. We also offer



driving lessons to encourage independence.

Our younger girls are encouraged to develop their leadership skills by taking on roles of responsibility, with senior student leadership roles coming up toward the end of their prep school years. Our educational values are those of the British system but as we have students from all over the world, our students have valuable insights into other cultures and traditions. This global diversity affords our students an understanding of the working environment they are likely to encounter in their future careers.



At Adcote, we are proud of our non-selective status. Our dedication to each child's learning journey enables them to thrive, and our remarkable results exceed national averages with many of our girls leaving us to attend top UK universities like Oxford and Cambridge.

We prepare our students for life's trials and tribulations with a carefully crafted curriculum designed to build resilience in their characters. Be it tackling pre-match nerves before a sports event or conquering a difficult problem as part of our Challenge programme.

We strive to enrich our students resilience so they may go on to flourish in all aspects of their lives.







# Why a Girls' School?

*“A truly amazing, family environment in which my daughter has thrived beyond belief.”*

CURRENT PARENT



Women are expected to balance many roles during their lives. Their paths to success require confidence, independence, the ability to lead, integrity and an instinct to achieve.



## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Single sex schools for girls dominate the top of the exam results league tables. At Adcote, we excel in everything we do - especially in science and mathematics!

## CONFIDENCE

With only their fellow girls in the classroom and on the sports field, our girls have the space in which their intellectual and physical confidence can blossom.

## OPPORTUNITIES

At Adcote, girls don't just enjoy equal opportunities, they enjoy

ALL opportunities. We believe there should be no limitations on your daughter's ambitions.

## CARE AND SUPPORT

What's different about Adcote is that we really do understand girls. This understanding means we can give the right kind of support and create safe environments in which girls feel comfortable taking risks and asking questions.

## GIRLS LEARN TO BE LEADERS

The girls of today will be the leaders of tomorrow and Adcote is a wonderful environment for your daughter to learn not just how to

shoulder responsibility, but also how to take risks and inspire and lead others.

## FREEDOM FROM STEREOTYPES

Girls are leaders, they excel as much in Physics, Engineering and Design Technology as they do in English, Drama and Art, and they are free to pursue and achieve in every sport we offer.

## UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

Adcote has an excellent track record of helping our students gain places at the university of

their choice.

## CAREERS

We open girls' eyes to possibilities and help them to take the practical and imaginative steps necessary to achieve their ambitions. With visiting speakers, partnerships, expeditions and exchange visits, and joint activities with other schools, we prepare your daughter for the many challenges of life in the real world.



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*Both of our daughters have gone on to their first choice universities, including Cambridge. Clearly the decision we made over a decade ago to send our girls to Adcote was the right one!*

CURRENT PARENT



## Sixth Form

**Adcote Sixth Form has a pre-university culture with very high expectations of our students.**

**Improved academic performance:** Many studies have shown that girls perform better academically when they are in a single-sex environment. This is partly because girls are often more comfortable asking questions, taking risks, and expressing their opinions when they are not in a mixed-gender setting.

We offer a more supportive and nurturing atmosphere, which can help girls to reach their full potential academically. Along with university style seminars, a structured programme of tutorials and progress monitoring meetings with personal tutors, our students achieve their full potential in chosen specialist areas.

**A focused learning environment:** Our girls concentrate on their studies and stay on task in our bespoke 6th Form setting, this helps them to prepare for crucial examinations and the need to be as focused as possible.

**Increased confidence and self-esteem:** Our girls are encouraged to take on leadership roles within the school and we encourage them to be more assertive. We have a prefect / Head Girl system in place with a full Student Leadership Team. There are regular partnership meetings between the Student Leadership Team and the Headteacher to ensure the views of the girls are listened to and acted upon. We offer leadership opportunities that can help our students to develop their skills and explore their interests. From sports teams to debating societies, there are plenty of ways for girls to get involved and build their confidence.

**Sense of community:** At Adcote, we have a very strong sense of community and belonging which is particularly important during Year 12 and Year 13. Our girls form close bonds with their peers and their teachers, and feel comfortable speaking out and expressing themselves in this supportive environment.

**Our girls expand their horizons and are prepared for a future of possibilities...**





# Senior School



**Our girls develop important academic skills, life skills, and a deepened sense of belonging and identity, which will benefit them well beyond their time in school.**

During the senior years (Year 9 - 11), your daughter will not only continue to build on academic skills and knowledge but will also develop skills and qualities that will equip her for the future. She will start thinking about future career choices and preparing for GCSE examinations.

Your daughter will experience academic growth, personal growth and empowerment.

Throughout their time in the Senior School not only will

students be studying for their GCSE exams, they will also be developing important life skills and qualities through a curriculum that focuses on more than just academic achievement. These include public speaking, leadership skills and team building.

At Adcote School we pride ourselves on our supportive and caring environment, and this is never more important than in the Senior School, as students face increasing pressures of

exams. Academic development is supported by small class sizes, excellent teaching, and strong teacher/student relationships along with a deep engagement with academia.

A wide range of subjects is taught in the Senior School, which is reflected in the large number of options available at GCSE. We pride ourselves on our academic outcomes with extremely pleasing results in Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Biology and English. Performing Arts, Fine Art and

Textiles form an integral part of life in and outside of the curriculum. Sporting and cultural activities are also used to inspire initiative, ambition, responsibility and compassion. Physical Education, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), information on careers and work experience are included as an important part of the core curriculum for all of our girls.

We have a wide range of extra curricular activities on offer for Senior School students; they

have access to our Wayfarers Programme, CCF, athletics and community initiatives.







# Prep School

**The Prep School is a happy, inclusive environment in which your daughter can learn, build confidence and thrive!**

We provide an education that inspires confidence and free-thinking. We understand the crucial role that building self-confidence plays in bringing about a positive attitude to learning and education.

We give our girls the skills that they need to succeed through support and positivity, both in the classroom and beyond.

Our learning throughout the Prep School is based around the National Curriculum. We maintain a rigorous assessment regime throughout all years. In the formative years, we watch our girls form friendships for life!

Years 7 and 8 give our girls the very best start to their secondary education, without the stress of moving to a new school. Our teachers already know the girls and vice-versa, giving our students confidence and familiarity as they seamlessly transition to Key Stage 3 learning.

The girls leave the Prep School poised for the demands of GCSE study and the excitement that

moving up to the Senior School brings.

Students have access to many extra curricular activities, including Horse Riding, Creative Writing, Astronomy, Gymnastics, Athletics, Netball, Hockey and Football. We have an excellent Music Department where a wide range of instruments are played.

Choir, Orchestra and informal tea-time concerts are a part of Adcote life.



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*It is unbelievable to see how much my daughters confidence has grown in such a short space of time.*

CURRENT PARENT



# CLEAR Skills for Life



**Our students participate in activities that encourage CLEAR values as well as building skills for life...**

## **CLEAR CHALLENGE DAYS**

Challenge Days are carefully crafted, complex situations which safely take students out of their comfort zones in order to grow core skills. These take place every term and are enjoyed by all of our girls. All activities take place in mixed age groups in order to encourage collegiality, build on our House system and allow our younger students to learn from older students.

## **COMBINED CADET FORCE**

This is based on the British Armed Forces; its aims are to develop leadership - leading self and leading others, teamwork and courage. Y10 and above students can opt to be attached to one of four sections: Navy, Royal Marines, Army or RAF. They will stay with these sections for the two terms of the academic year.

## **WAYFARERS**

This is a course run at School and takes girls through leadership training, first aid and problem solving. It gives the girls life skills and a chance to add to their list of qualifications.

## **CLEAR IN THE COMMUNITY**

Our girls are volunteers - NHS Cadets, Brownies/ Scouts, football and hockey refereeing, litter picking, helping others, reading to younger students - we pride ourselves on being an integral part of our local community!

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

Recognised widely by universities and employers, the DofE award enables young people to build

character, independence, confidence, inter-personal skills, develop their knowledge and give back to their local community, reinforcing Adcote School's CLEAR values.

## **GOOGLE EDUCATION**

Using Google Education, we have the resources to improve two important areas of education; effectiveness and efficiency. The platform ensures that our education is effective, as we are able to use the amazing information and resources available to use on the internet. Students and staff are able to share, collaborate and discover together.

**Google**  
for Education







# Full STEAM ahead!

**84% of our Sixth Form students  
achieved at least one A\* - A grade  
at A - Level!**

**In 2023, English Literature and  
Further Mathematics students  
achieved 100% A\* - A.**



Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) is a key part of our CLEAR Curriculum across all age groups. STEAM teaches our girls, innovation, creativity, critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration amongst many other skills proven to lead to success. Our CLEAR learning programme incorporates all elements of STEAM and almost half of our girls go on to study a

STEM subject at university! We hold annual Science Fairs, Art Exhibitions, Fashion Shows, Careers Open Days, hold a Science Week and celebrate the annual Pi Day in Mathematics on the 14th March to support our STEAM offering!

We take part in the British Physics Olympiad, Royal Society of Chemistry Challenge, Biology Olympiads and the UK

Mathematics Trust Challenge.

Our highly qualified teachers bring mathematics to life for our girls, helping them to develop both logical thought and mental agility in problem solving, in a warm, caring environment.

Our excellent facilities in science allows for full access to experiential learning and the development of investigation skills

through practical applications.

Our young scientists develop confidence, knowledge and understanding and put this into practise in lessons and in our weekly science clubs, competitions and field trips!





# Performing Arts

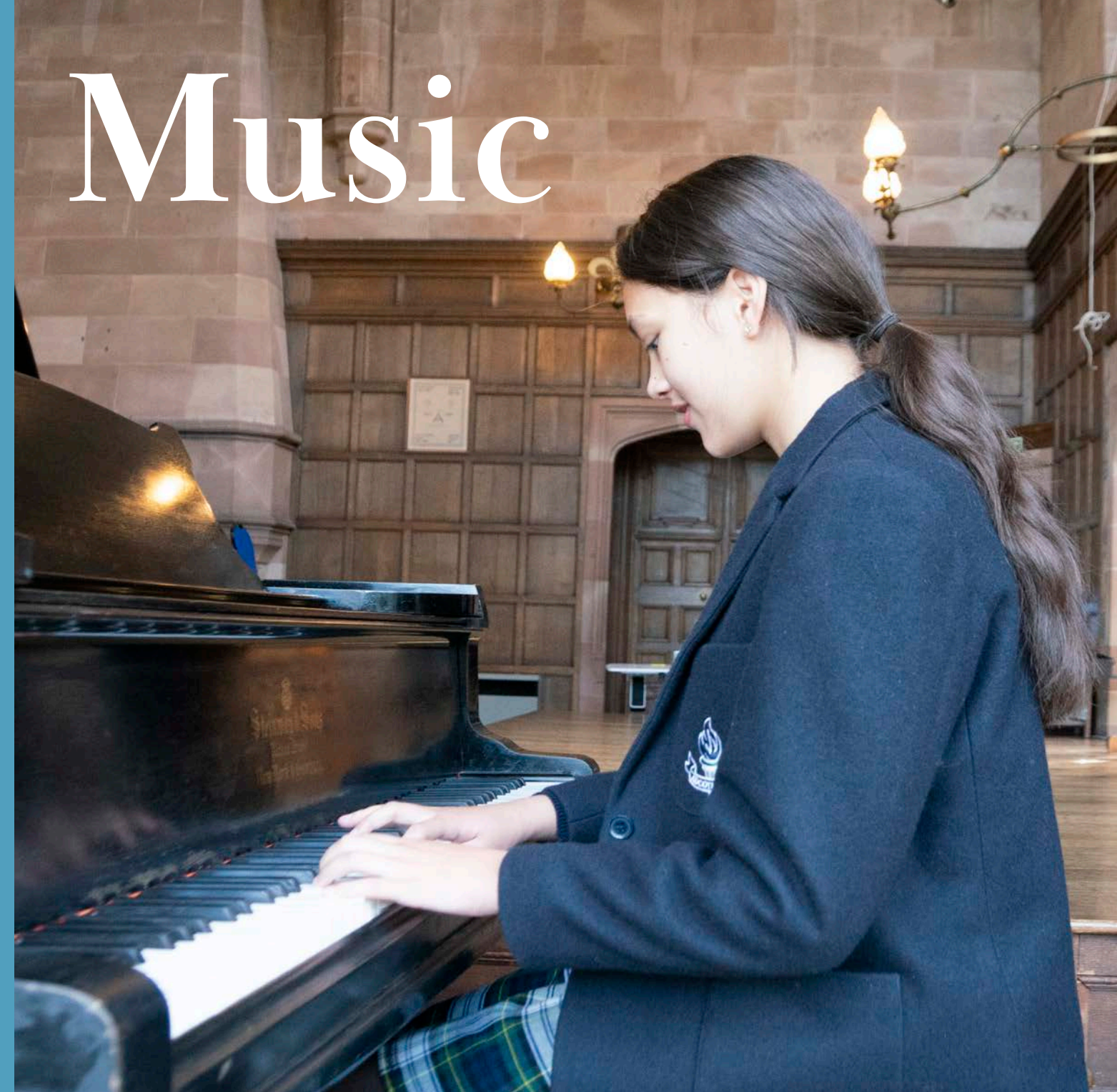
**This year's whole school performance is 'Grease' come along and see for yourself our amazingly talented cast!**



We are incredibly proud of our Music and Performing Arts achievements at Adcote!

Our in-house productions are firm fixtures on the school calendar throughout the year and offer the students opportunities to take part in plays, concerts and performance projects for different ages.

LAMDA examinations are an excellent way for the girls to develop their acting and



# Music

public speaking skills and we are proud to have achieved a 100% Distinction rate in our examinations to date.

We pride ourselves on producing polished and professional performances and we always have fantastic responses from our audiences. Music and Performing Arts have a high uptake at GCSE and our girls have enormous fun gaining confidence, discovering who they are through performance and learning how

to create, perform and respond to any given situation, music and text.

Studying Performing Arts teaches transferable skills such as; public speaking skills, creativity, team working skills, discipline and confidence.

The Arts are exciting, creative, challenging and versatile subjects in which your daughter will grow and thrive, and demonstrate all of the CLEAR values.

We offer most musical instruments for private tuition supported by tea-time concerts, Chamber Choir, Orchestra and 'Adcote Little Poppets' our Prep Choir!





# PE & Sport



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*It is unbelievable to see how much my daughters confidence has grown in such a short space of time.*

CURRENT PARENT

The expertise of the sports staff and coaches has ensured that we have seen many successes in a range of sports, with National ISA victories for several individual and team events in both athletics and gymnastics.

Gymnastics and athletics have a strong tradition at the school. Adcote has a fierce reputation for excellence in these sports in local, regional and national events.

We are extremely competitive in the best possible way, and we have teams in fencing, archery, football, equestrian, hockey, netball, martial arts and many more!

We cover a wide range of sports in PE lessons and as activities, with a focus on learning skills but also allowing the girls to engage in sport for fun. Dance, aerobics, badminton, basketball, dodgeball and volleyball are a few of the activities taught.

Our facilities include an air-conditioned sports hall where most sports are taught, tennis courts, netball courts and large grassed areas for field sports. We have recently added 'golf frisbee' to our offering and this is played at the front of our gorgeous school building!

We truly believe in a 'sport for all' approach!







# Activities



**FENCING, DRIVING LESSONS, RIDING, NETBALL, GYMNASTICS, PIANO, MUSIC, ENSEMBLE, DANCE, ENTERPRISE CLUB, DEBATING, SPANISH, ROCK BAND, PRODUCT DESIGN, LAMDA, STEM COMPETITIONS, STRINGS CLUB, COMPOSING, PHOTOGRAPHY, GUITAR ENSEMBLE, BADMINTON, CHOIR, A-CAPELLA, EQUESTRIAN, TENNIS, ECONOMICS, MUSIC THEORY, TEXTILES, DRAMA, CHRISTIAN UNION AND MANY MORE...**



Our staff deliver extra-curricular activities with skill, passion and a knack for developing core skills. We embed CLEAR values in all of these clubs.

These activities take place beyond the academic curriculum and form an important part of the ethos and school life at Adcote. Our extra-curricular programme is designed to stimulate young minds and provide girls with an

all-round education. Our activities run weekly throughout the school year.

As the girls move through Senior School, they take part in the Wayfarers program or CCF. These are run in combination with the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. In Sixth Form we offer the girls the opportunity to gain their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award, as well as a week's work

experience and driving lessons! We offer a variety of performing arts and music programmes for our more artistic students, as well as multiple art clubs including photography, textiles and product design.

We encourage all Adcote students to get involved with a range of activities. We want all of our girls to challenge themselves and try something new and

unusual. Often involvement in a particular area can sometimes lead to life-long pursuits. Students are encouraged to give feedback and suggest new programmes.





# Weekend Activities



ALL of our girls regardless if they board or not, can attend our weekend events. This year we are going to: Drayton Manor, paddleboarding, Go Ape, quad trekking, theatre visits, shopping trips and many more!

We feel confident that there is something for everyone!







# Boarding Life

**Our boarding houses are a safe, caring, friendly environment, where we create a strong sense of family, community and belonging based on traditional values.**

Our homely boarding houses welcome girls between eight and eighteen and **we offer full, weekly and flexi boarding options to cater for all needs.**

The Head of Boarding and her team, who all reside on site, and a Medical Officer on call for us 24/7 provide the care, comfort and support, which are so important to the girls' well-being and success.

Nurturing and guiding the youngest to the oldest, we encourage independence, confidence, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility and respect for other cultures throughout the houses.

We have two boarding houses here at Adcote, where structure and routine are key. Aston Hall has twin rooms with en-suite facilities. In Norman House students are in rooms that typically sleep 2 to 6 students with separate bathroom facilities. Both houses have common rooms where the girls can relax, watch television, play games or have a hot drink and socialise.

Meals are eaten as a boarding community in our Darby restaurant and give opportunities to mix across houses and year groups. Our catering team accommodate all specialist diets and our menus are varied and healthy.

Our activity program offers both onsite and offsite cultural, active and relaxation activities and we encourage our students to take advantage of what is on offer.

We welcome casual boarding for day girls, subject to availability, where the occasional overnight stay is needed such as a birthday celebration, a school production or for when parents need to be away from home.

We are proud members of the Boarding School Association (BSA) and accredited for the Forces Continuity of Education Allowance.

**“*I love Adcote! My daughter was a boarder and going off to university was an easy transition as she had all the independent skills required!*”**

PAST PARENT





# Student Support

**Our teachers support and guide students in their academic journey by delivering high quality teaching!**

On arrival at Adcote, all girls in Year 7 and above are assigned a personal tutor. This person is the primary contact for the girls and their parents. Formal meetings between girls and their tutor are held every term to discuss progress in both academic and pastoral matters.

We have a Head of Student Services and SENCO, for specific concerns. A counsellor comes to school each week who can help within the school setting on an individual basis for more targeted support.

Our prefect team run our 'Student Voice' - this is a forum where girls can make requests, have their ideas, thoughts and feelings listened to and make whole school change as a result.

**We have a whole school approach to supporting our students mental health through our CLEAR Learning Programme.**

Resilience is particularly important. We teach our students to cope with change, adversity and overcoming barriers and enable them to feel more confident.

We offer programmes in mindfulness and wellbeing which can reduce stress and anxiety, as well as focusing on positive thinking techniques. All of our girls have access to these provisions, leading to a more positive outlook and greater understanding of the world around them. Short courses are offered as boosters to students, which sit alongside normal lessons. This additional

support, as well as small class sizes, ensures that all students get the tailored education that they need to succeed.

Student support is assessed on an individual basis and reviewed accordingly.

## **EAL SUPPORT**

Our school life is enriched by the variety of ideas and perspectives that come from our international students, and we understand that they can have different educational needs. We are committed to supporting students' language requirements throughout their courses, in order to achieve the standard required to demonstrate their skills in English.

*"The involvement of the girls in their academic target setting is excellent and I think it encourages independence and a sense of responsibility for their own learning."*

CURRENT PARENT





## FACILITIES

30 acres of landscaped gardens in the Shropshire countryside.

4 Tennis courts  
Modern boarding facilities  
Large indoor sports hall  
Outdoor classroom facilities

## LOCATION

**By air:** Birmingham and Manchester are the closest airports

**By train:** Shrewsbury Train Station is the closest train station to Adcote

**By road:** Nearest motorways are the M54 and M6

Liverpool

Manchester

Chester



Shrewsbury

Birmingham

London







**ADCOTE  
SCHOOL**

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