

Trinity School

Croydon, United Kingdom



In Shirley Park, a Steinway-filled music school whose choir is the only one asked back to the BBC Proms year after year.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	61/100
Academic outcomes	69/100
University placement	67/100
Prestige & heritage	69/100
Alumni network	16/100
Facilities	71/100
Transparency	64/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Trinity School occupies a distinctive niche in south London: an old Anglican day school, founded in **1596**, with the reach and self-possession of a major independent school but without the boarding gloss that shapes so many of its competitors. For families in Croydon and the wider commuter belt, that matters. This is a serious British school for ages **10–18**, taught in English, with ISI and HMC credentials and a public identity built around academic structure, pastoral systems and a deep co-curricular offer. The headline strength is music. The school’s own framing gives that away: music sits prominently alongside sport and drama, and Trinity’s reputation rests on substance, not branding. A school with a Steinway-rich music culture and a choir with that level of repeat Proms recognition offers

real artistic heft and *institutional confidence*.

What sets Trinity apart is the combination of scale, tradition and breadth. The website lays out a school with an Academic Scholarship Programme, published results, future pathways guidance, tutors and heads of year, student wellbeing, extensive clubs and societies, CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, trips, partner primary schools and a bursary fund. That breadth tells parents two things. First, Trinity does not educate narrowly. Second, it expects pupils to commit themselves. This is not a small, intimate school built around hand-holding. It is a *high-functioning, adult-minded environment* where talented pupils can build a life across classrooms, ensembles, sports pitches, productions and service. The ongoing extension of co-education also places Trinity in an interesting market position: a historic boys' school adapting its model rather than trading on nostalgia. That gives it *forward motion* without erasing its character.

Why shortlist it? Because Trinity offers more than a set of lessons and a polished prospectus. It gives ambitious children access to *serious musical opportunity*, strong academic organisation and a full school day in which enrichment is not an afterthought. In the London day-school market, that package has force. It will suit pupils who want to be busy, who can handle expectations, and who gain energy from a school with visible standards and multiple routes to distinction. The best fit is the student who wants more than one identity at school: scholar, chorister, actor, athlete, cadet, organiser. For that child, Trinity has *proper range* and *earned distinction*.

STRENGTHS

- Founded 1596; unusual institutional continuity.
- World-class Trinity Boys Choir gives the school a distinctive musical identity.
- Strong published 2026 A-Level record: 64.5% A*/A and 94% of leavers to a first- or second-choice place.
- Confirmed facilities include a large concert hall, sports facilities and a 25-metre swimming pool.
- ISI accreditation and HMC membership provide recognised oversight and networks.

TRADE-OFFS

- Day-only offering does not suit families seeking boarding.
- Co-education is still being phased in, so girls' entry points are limited until the 2027-2031 transition completes.
- Lower national visibility than larger neighbours such as Whitgift.
- Anglican identity may not suit every family.

ADMISSIONS

Trinity School is a day school in Croydon for pupils aged 10 to 18, so the main published entry points are 10+, 11+, 13+ and 16+. The admissions process also includes open events, scholarship assessment and learning support. Families considering girls' places should note the phased move to co-education: girls will join Years 6 and 7 from September 2027, with the school aiming to be fully co-educational by 2031. Beyond these broad routes, the school does not publish the finer detail parents often want first - exact annual deadlines, the structure of entrance papers, whether interviews are universal, or how places are prioritised - so families should expect a staged process but consult the school directly for current particulars.

Financial support is clearly part of the offer: Trinity publishes fees, scholarships and bursaries, and highlights a Trinity Bursary Fund, indicating that means-tested assistance is available alongside merit-based awards. The school material available here gives no percentages, fee-remission ranges or eligibility thresholds. One distinctive point is the visible role of scholarship assessment within admissions, integrated into the process rather than attached as a separate, lightly weighted step.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_6f4c0de658.