



## Press Release

# An education innovation



Firstly, we are a state school, which means we contribute to a sector educating 94% of children in the country. Secondly, we are a girls' school, which means we are part of a historical struggle and an educational insurgency. Thirdly, we are a grammar school, which means we belong to a tradition of academic excellence and social mobility. These three characteristics define our reality.

In February 2023, we became partners with Future Stories Community Enterprise (FSCE), demonstrating our determination to be an actively socially inclusive school community. From September 2023, we began using a new CCHS Entrance Test, provided by our FSCE partners. This became our *Leaders of Tomorrow* programme:

[Chelmsford County High School for Girls | Leaders of Tomorrow](#)

### *The CCHS Entrance Test*

The test as part of our school vision and mission:

- Our 'developing the leaders of tomorrow' vision amplifies and fortifies the ethos which drives the Future Stories Community Enterprise entrance test.

- Our school mission – a progressive grammar school community, committed to excellence in girls’ education and empowerment – inspires us to innovate and seize opportunities to support girls from all social backgrounds.

The test as part of a broader social mobility ambition:

- As a partner with the Future Stories Community Enterprise, we demonstrate our complete commitment to be an actively socially inclusive grammar school.
- We are a leading part of forging a new narrative for grammar schools – communities for and of social mobility.

The test as an experience:

- Complements the knowledge and skills embedded in the Key Stage 2 Primary Curriculum, with a focus on English, mathematics and creative writing.
- Assesses natural curriculum learning experiences.

The test as an assessment tool:

- The focus on curriculum-informed literacy and numeracy provides an indication of knowledge mastery and skills flair.
- Provides feedback on the dynamic of curriculum engagement and the application of natural talent to realise high-level outcomes.

Mr Lawlor, Headteacher, said: “I urge you to read the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 article by Nicola Woolcock in The Times, which provides an excellent background to this education innovation, as well as a description of the educational philosophy which drives this work. Indeed, our work as a girls’ school is particularly noteworthy for our community in 2026 given that this academic year we are marking both the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first girls to be taught at the school, and the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first CCHS Alumna to complete university studies: Winifred Picking, Girton College, Cambridge, 1916.”

[Overhauled entrance tests to remove advantage from children whose parents have paid for tutors - The Times, 6th February 2026](#)

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**Notes to editor:**

**About Chelmsford County High School for Girls (CCHS)**

Chelmsford County High School for Girls (CCHS) is a proud girls' school community. CCHS was formally opened on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1907, with 76 inspiring students on roll, to provide girls with an academic education. By 2026, there are 1,275 extraordinary girls and young women, representing cultures and traditions from the world over, who are part of our progressive grammar school community, committed to excellence in girls' education and empowerment.

[Home - Chelmsford County High School for Girls](#)