 **ADVANTAGES OF WORKING AT** 

**COLCHESTER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

* All students are well motivated to succeed and excellently behaved.
* Parents are keen to send their daughters here and the school is over subscribed.
* We are successful but not complacent. The school is always striving to move forward.
* There is an extensive induction course for new staff to support them as they adjust to teaching here. There is also a wealth of informal support from subject departments, pastoral teams and support staff.
* The staff, both teaching and support, are very friendly, caring and helpful. Continuing Professional Development has a high priority. Training is personalised to meet the needs of individual staff and to reflect school improvement priorities. CPD days are a mixture of whole days and twilight sessions taken across the academic year. The School is committed to developing the potential of every member of staff and build future leadership capacity.
* The school has been designated as lead school for the Alpha Teaching School Hub and Colchester Teacher Training Consortium (CTTC).
* We have a culture of sharing good practice both within and across subjects, across the Alpha Teaching School Hub, and in collaboration with colleagues from Alpha Trust.
* Life-long learning is a reality here with many staff still studying and/or undertaking action research. They pursue courses both to further their career and just for pleasure.
* We teach creative and critical thinking skills to our students and encourage the development of thinking skills and creativity across all subjects.
* Many of our students are highly creative; many have a range of talents outside the curriculum. They all have a wealth of interests and the school runs a huge number of extra-curricular activities, many of which are run by the students themselves. We have a very active Student Voice which contributes to the development of the school.
* We encourage an extensive range of educational trips and visits nationally and internationally, including a thriving Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme.
* We have good links with universities, particularly Oxford and Cambridge and are developing our link with universities overseas, including Harvard.
* As part of the Alpha Teaching School Hub, we work in partnership with a range of local primary and secondary schools as well as exploring links to similar selective grammar schools.
* We are linked to a range of International Schools, and more locally with community groups and charities.
* Classrooms and practical rooms are well-equipped; all classrooms have ICT data projectors and many have interactive white boards, tablets are also available as learning tools.
* The canteen is exceptionally good with a wide range of excellent hot and cold food available each day for a very modest price. The menu, including a wide range of vegetarian food, changes often and the catering manager will use recipes given by the staff or students. We also have free coffee and tea in the recently refurbished staff room.
* The school is on a pleasant site with ample, safe car parking.
* Colchester has excellent transport links. The school is close to the A12, with bus links to the town centre, and is about a 30 minute walk from the station.