



Sophia HIGH SCHOOL

A British Online School for children 4 - 16

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Welcome Letter

Dear Parents,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to Sophia High School. Based in the UK, with our Head Office in London, Sophia High is a school where every child will receive the individual attention they deserve.

Our school model combines the very best practices of the UK private school system along with best practices in online education. It is a system and curriculum that my colleague and Director of Education, Vanessa Temple and I know very well, having been teachers and school leaders at several prestigious schools both in the UK and internationally for the last 48 years combined.

Our goal is to help your child achieve academic excellence and develop strength of character. This is delivered, in what we view as the future of education, a blended learning environment delivering the British Curriculum for students from age 4 through to 16, within a flexible homeschool online education setting. All of our online lessons are live, interactive, and taught by our team of qualified, experienced teachers.

In our view, every child is unique. Therefore, we adapt our approach to each child offering them the specific challenges and customized support that brings out their best.

We set ourselves very high standards. We will endeavour to inspire your child with new ideas, to support them as they learn to think for themselves and then to challenge them to transform the lives of others. At Sophia High we aim for children to grow from learners to leaders.

We promise to always work hard to excite young minds about the possibilities of tomorrow and to show them how to adapt and deal with change. We want children to be creative and resilient, to become excellent decision makers and to demonstrate compassion and tolerance. Most importantly, we want to nurture a love of learning and we want to enable children to forge friendships that

will last a lifetime as they learn to navigate the world of digital learning.

The difference at Sophia High School is the way we go about this by going much further than you would expect. We do not just follow a conventional international curriculum. Rather, we enhance the curriculum with extra activities and experiences, such as teaching immersively within the Metaverse. We make time for individual care as well and get to know every child in that class, looking for their different interests and strengths through our small class sizes of no more than 6 students in core subjects.

Finally, we make sure that we keep you, the parents, closely in touch with your child's achievements; because we believe that – together – we can develop the unique individual that lies within.

I am committed to ensuring our school provides the best academic standards, enrichment opportunities and pastoral care for our students. Our website sets out how we will follow an enhanced model of the National Curriculum for England and ensure your child is prepared for high status examinations and entry to the world's top universities.

But a school should always be more than its formal curriculum. We want to build, with you, a community in which your child will be happy and successful.

Both David and myself look forward to meeting, talking, and understanding you and your child. I want to convey the passion for learning that we have at Sophia High School.

Even more, I hope we can show you how we will help make a difference in your child's life.



***Melissa McBride - MA (UCL, IOE),
B Ed, BA, QTS
Chief Education Officer, Co-Founder***

Our Approach

At Sophia High School, we are passionate about creating a leading online learning environment through a **unique blend of traditional values and innovative approaches to education**. We offer the best in British Private Education, within a flexible homeschool online education setting.

Our school focuses on providing an exceptional online education, offering the UK National Curriculum for England, for students from age 3 – 15. **We are the only UK based online school which offers full time online learning for students from as young as Year 1 – Year 11.**

Through our blended learning programme, we inspire our students to be:



Leaders



Independent



Mindful



**Global
Citizens**



**Digital
Natives**

**Fieldwork
Education**

Improving Learning



We are the first online school to partner with Fieldwork Education to offer both the International Primary and Middle Years Curriculums. Our **interactive** online lessons are delivered **in real-time**, in **small groups of no more than 6 students**, for the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

Our partnership with Google enables us to utilise the leading Google for Education Suite of tools including *Google Classroom*, *JamBoard*, *Google Meet for Education* and many more. These tools transform how our educators and students learn, work and innovate at Sophia High School.

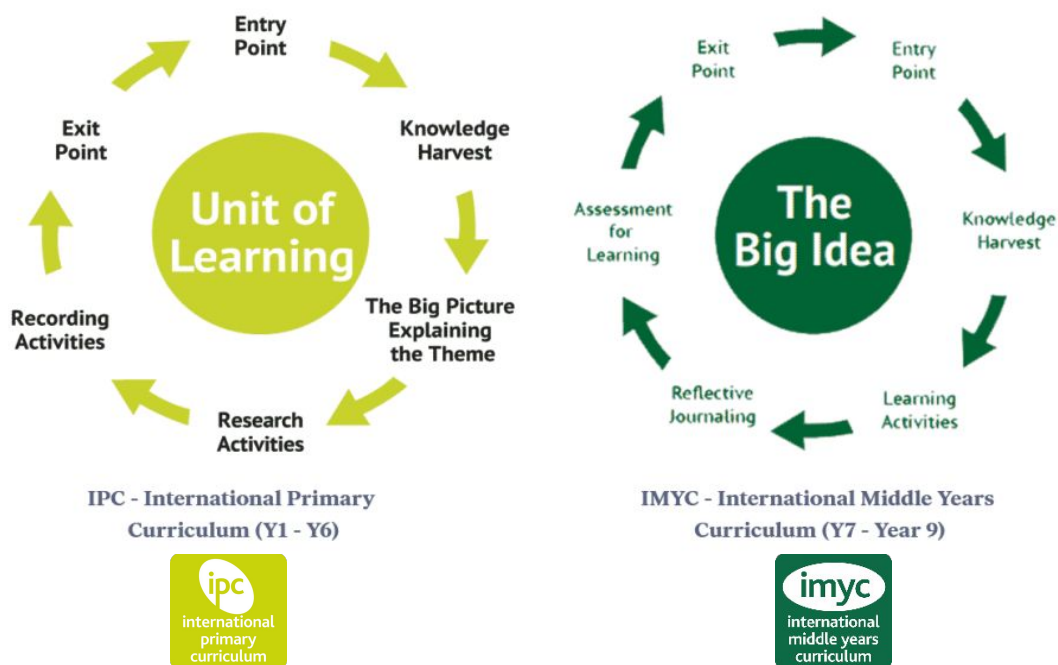
Google
for Education

Our Curriculum

At Sophia High School, we have imagined an exciting new future for education and have brought this to life through our online **blended learning programme**. Our students take part in live interactive lessons, led by their team of fully qualified, experienced teachers.

Our Partnership with the International Primary Curriculum (IPC) and the International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC) enables us to deliver the broad and balanced **UK National Curriculum**, while at the same time promoting academic achievement, character development and the nurturing of a global perspective in our students.

As an international British online school, we aim to offer the **standards of a premium private education** through a curriculum which stirs the imagination, fosters creativity, develops students' independence, critical thinking and inquiry skills and provides our students with the skills required for success in the 21st century at primary school and secondary school levels.



Online IGCSE at Sophia High School

As a result of our expansion as a school and in response to parent requests, we are extending our academic offer to include IGCSEs for the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

We will be offering five core (compulsory) subjects (English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science (x2 IGCSEs)). In addition, students will be able to select further optional (elective) IGCSE subjects depending on their interests.



Future Focused

We not only think about what our students need now, but what kind of education they will need for the future. Working within cutting edge technology is only part of what we believe the future of education will look like.

The dream of lifelong learning is now possible for any student, anywhere in the world. By using a hybrid approach to teaching accredited curricula, including a strong focus on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, we focus on those skills that will allow all students to enter the global workforce with a significant advantage.

Ethical decision making, entrepreneurship, confident and creative use of technology and tools to enhance the learning experience, these are the key elements of our Future Focused Curriculum. A truly international framework that our global students work within to develop their ideas, work collaboratively, and begin to take meaningful actions to bring about change to make a difference in their lives and those in their wider community.

Any Child, Anywhere!

◆ THE GLOBAL CLASSROOM IS OPEN!

Sophia High School is a British online school in its own right, but we also partner with schools, investors and education groups which share our educational values.

We bring to life our vision of Education for the Future.

Overarching Principles

Wellbeing
Communication
Collaboration

Specific Focus Areas

- 💡 Computer Science - developing skills and knowledge
- 💡 Creativity - self-expression, ideas driven
- 💡 Entrepreneurship - bringing ideas to life
- 💡 Digital Community - Working together to move ideas forward
- 💡 Global Citizenship - Working in harmony with the planet and its citizens



As we come closer to 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals come clearer into focus, working as part of the Global Schools Programmet to ensure that our students around the world hear the call to action, becomes increasingly important. With the largest population of under 25th that the world has ever seen, change must, and will, come from our youth.

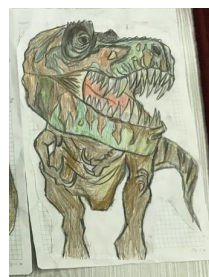
Student Work

We are so proud of the work our students are producing, and their excitement and enthusiasm for learning they bring to our online lessons everyday.

Each week, we come together as a learning community during our whole school celebration assembly. Students are awarded with our **Fridge Work Certificates** as we celebrate their hard work and successes from the week.

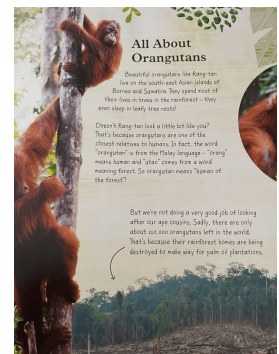
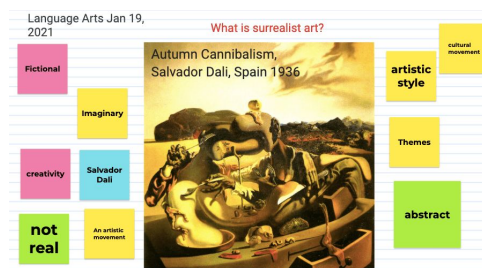
"I like that everyone is kind to one another, and I like that our teachers make everything so fun for us."

Z – Year 2 Student



"I like that I have a very kind teacher and she's also very good at doing art"

D – Year 5 Student



Click below to see some examples of our live lessons!

[Miss Jennifer's French Class KS2](#)

[Miss Rose's Science Class](#)



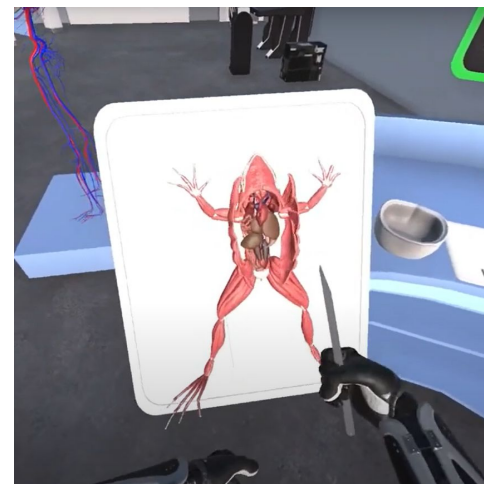
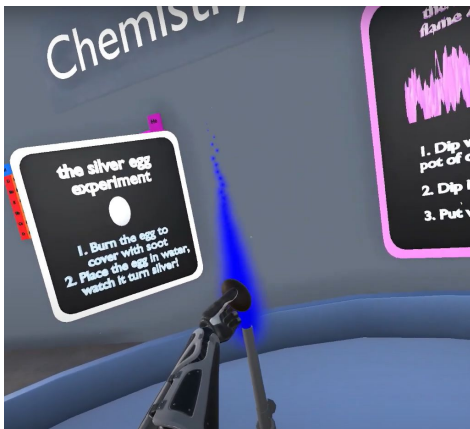
"I have a very nice teacher and I have very nice classmates"

I – Year 8 Student

Metaverse Education

As a founding member of the Metaverse Council, we also offer VR and Immersive Teaching for Yr 5+. We are the first British Online School in the Metaverse through our Athenaverse Project. Athena Labs is a weekly immersive VR learning program where students learn inside of the Metaverse and develop coding skills as they build and create 3D assets in virtual worlds on Unity.

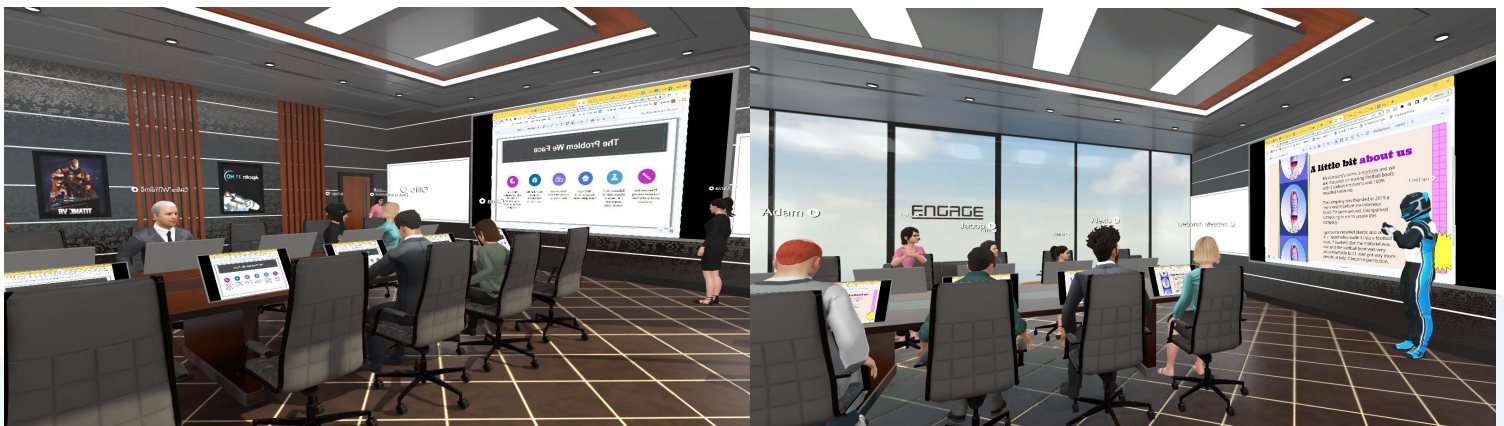
The Meta Science Lab has been created to encourage participation in STEM subjects. The lab is an immersive environment where students can recreate conventional experiments in an unconventional space.



"I always get excited when I know we are going into the Metaverse"

S– Year 4 Student

Our students took part in a Dragon's Den style product pitch in the Metaverse and honed their entrepreneurial and public speaking skills. Students were judged by entrepreneurs across the globe who were welcomed into our immersive online space to watch our innovative students pitch their ideas!



Parent Testimonials

"We are very pleased we found Sophia High - I wish the British curriculum also followed the IPC and IMYC - it's so much better and in fact, **I had been looking for something like this for years** as I think it gives the children a completely different dimension and understanding...thanks for all the hard work!"

Reshma – Mother of Year 2, Year 4 and Year 8 students



"Sophia High School appeared at the right time in our lives [and] has allowed us to keep V.'s education to the **high standards** we have always provided her. Her skills in managing digital tools have improved tremendously; while she has **gained in self-confidence and independence**, through the continuous and positive reinforcement her teacher gives her on a daily basis. We couldn't be happier with our decision to send our daughter to Sophia High School."

Danixa – Mother of Year 7 student

"Sophia High has come to the rescue by providing an innovative and dedicated approach to [our children's] education. We feel that the **care and the attention to the children's individual growth** is paramount and as a consequence the children have adjusted much more seamlessly to the professional online school that is provided by Sophia High.

I would highly recommend Sophia High, not just in these uncertain times, but also in a wider context whereby we can define and control our children's education from the comfort of our home."

Andrew – Father of Year 5 and Year 6 students

Academic Performance

2022 - 2023 Standardised Assessments

At Sophia High, we partner with respected authorities like GL Assessments to integrate robust benchmarking into our programs. Standardised testing provides objective data on student gains over time and grades levels. This enables us to validate quality, inform instruction, and ensure students thrive as we support them in reaching their potential.

Progress in English

100%



Progress in Maths

92%



Progress in Science

100%



% of students working at or above UK National Average

The Sophia Difference

Our outstanding teachers give individual attention, instilling a strong work ethic that brings richly deserved exceptional results.

Our partnership with assessment leader GL enables us to access the same trusted metrics used by top British and international schools worldwide. So you can trust us when we say we provide a high quality online education for our students.

We go beyond chasing scores alone. Assessments are one input to holistically personalised learning. Our focus is unlocking human potential and developing confident, empowered learners equipped to excel in life.

Discover why Sophia High represents the future of education.

Beyond the Curriculum

At Sophia High School, we believe in a future of education in which children are given the chance to be creative thinkers.

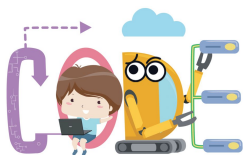
This involves offering them an array of opportunities to explore beyond the curriculum, led by our fully-qualified teachers who are dedicated to providing high-quality online schooling in a way that makes sense for the 21st century.

In the last academic years, we took our students beyond the curriculum during **British Science Week**, during which they got the chance to put on their lab coats and take part in a wide range of science experiments.



Our students also got to take part in a **performing arts** and public speaking workshop with West-End star Maria Coyne, which introduced them to the concept of dramatic arts.

At Sophia High School, we believe in the importance of **mental health** awareness, which is why we partnered with Dominic Watts from the Free Spirit Collective to offer our students mindfulness workshops during mental health awareness week.



Building skills for the 21st century is essential, which is why we also offer our students **coding workshops**. From Scratch to Python, these workshops are a way for our students to express their creativity and curiosity.

As a way to inspire our students, we like to invite experts in their field to host **career workshops** at Sophia High. For example, we welcomed paleontologist, Dr Ashley Reynolds, who led workshops both in the primary and the senior school and shared her experiences in this field.



Board of Directors



Melissa McBride
Co-founder & CEO

With over 18 years of teaching and educational leadership experience in top schools in Canada, London (UK) and in the Middle East, Melissa is a forward-thinking leader with a passion for creating innovative schools designed to meet the needs of the learners of the 21st century.

Following a successful career in Educational Leadership and Teaching, including supporting the opening of three independent schools in three countries and work as Education Advisor to the CEO of a Global Schools Group, Melissa now enters the EdTech space as Co Founder and CEO of Sophia Technologies.



Dan Turner
Board of Directors / Co
Founder

As a Board Director and school owner, Dan is passionate about ensuring Sophia High School delivers the highest standards of education for all of our students and families around the globe.

Dan brings his wealth of experience as a Hedge Fund Manager for a US based fund in London and 20 years of finance and investment experience in the sector, to ensure that Sophia High School meets all of its strategic priorities and works with the Chair of the Board to provide support and guidance to Senior Leaders.



Vanessa Temple
Director of Education

Vanessa is a UK qualified, seasoned educator and leader with over 30 years' experience in a range of international school settings. With a focus on school start-ups, developing online and hybrid learning programmes and the development of curriculum and CPD, Vanessa is the link mentor for co-leads on the Board.

With over 1500 students attending a full year of her Early Years Online programme, the knowledge gained through this experience gives a unique perspective into meeting the needs of students, families and education providers as we move towards a truly global classroom. Vanessa is a Global Schools Ambassador and champion of ESGs on the Board.

Co-Leaders of Learning



Jennifer Callaay
Chief Learning
Engagement Officer

Jennifer oversees the development of engaging online curriculum and training teachers in effective virtual pedagogy at Sophia High School.

With over 11 years experience teaching internationally, Jennifer completed her BEd and MEd focused on educational technology in Canada. She has led staff training initiatives and is a Google Certified Educator, exemplifying her commitment to continuous development in digital learning.

Jennifer's passion for creating dynamic virtual classrooms that foster student success makes her an invaluable leader in realizing Sophia's mission of accessible, transformational online education.



Holly McKenna
Chief Academic Excellence
Officer

Holly brings over 20 years of experience as an inspirational educator and senior leader to her role as Chief Academic Officer at Sophia High School. Her breadth of knowledge and passion for personalised learning approaches help drive Sophia's mission.

With a First-Class Honours degree in Biological Sciences and PGCE from the University of Durham, Holly has worked in diverse academic roles including Head of Department, Assistant Principal, and Head of Upper School. Holly is our lead IGCSE Teacher for Science and Maths in KS3.

Holly is the Designated Safeguarding Lead at Sophia High School



Rosanna Sparks
Chief Global Citizenship &
Community Officer

Rose Sparks brings over 9 years of experience as an inspirational primary school teacher and science specialist. As Chief Global Citizenship officer, she is committed to making a positive impact on students' holistic learning journeys and upholding our commitment to the SDGs as a BCorp Certified School

Rose firmly believes education should be enjoyable, nurture the whole child, and help students gain confidence to take risks. She cultivates caring, encouraging environments where young people develop a natural lifelong love of learning and are empowered to achieve their aspirations.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



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