



ST GEORGE'S
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ROME



PRINCIPAL

FROM AUGUST 2026
CANDIDATE INFORMATION



INTRODUCTION

A proudly inclusive, stand-alone British international school in one of the world's most iconic cities, St George's British International School, Rome, is a unique and thriving community with over 1,000 students from more than 100 countries. The School has two campuses: La Storta, north-west of the city, with 800 students from the Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 13 (Junior and Senior Schools), and the City Centre Junior School, with 200 pupils up to Year 6. St George's was founded in 1958 and is an independent, not-for-profit HMC international day school owned by an association made up of parents of the School. In 1961, the School became known as St George's English School, and seven years later, it relocated to its current La Storta site. Now known as St George's British International School, Rome, a second campus was opened in 2002 and, in 2017, relocated to a new purpose-fitted campus close to the Vatican in the central Aurelio neighbourhood. As well as being a member of

HMC, the School is a founding member of the Council of British International Schools (COBIS). The Junior Schools became members of IAPS in 2024.

Many students come from families working either at the United Nations or at embassies (based both in Rome and Vatican City). Although oversubscribed, St George's is intentionally inclusive, but its academic results are far above global IGCSE and IB averages, putting St George's on a par with highly selective schools in the UK. Many pupils proceed to Oxbridge, Ivy League and Russell Group destinations. According to Spear's Schools Index 2025, St George's is among the top 10 leading and most academically successful international schools in continental Europe.

As the oldest British international school in Rome, St George's prioritises admission for international families and those relocating from overseas. The Additional Educational Needs (AEN) department supports students with a range of learning support needs, ensuring that they can access the curriculum and thrive within the dynamic classroom environment. The department works in collaboration with the English as an Additional Language (EAL) department, which offers support to children of international families whose English level might not be to the standard necessary for them to succeed in the School.

Driven by its founding values of 'Internationalism, Inclusivity and Excellence' and the IB educational values and philosophy, St George's considers its students to be compassionate, mature, respectful, creative and fiercely passionate. The School strives to ensure that every student values their time at the School and leaves ready to enter the world as a caring, ambitious and open-minded individual.



VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

VISION

To be the **best International School in Europe** where all learners discover their passion and purpose, developing the character, skills and confidence to make a difference in the world.

MISSION

To ensure that all learners become the **best version of themselves** in a collaborative, respectful and kind community. We are dedicated to the inspirational teaching, exceptional learning and holistic development of highly committed, resilient and aspirational learners. Everyone contributes to our happy and welcoming school community, where strong relationships and cooperation lead to exceptional learning.

VALUES

St George's three core values are internationalism, inclusivity and excellence.

Internationalism

We are an internationally diverse community where differences are respected and celebrated.

Inclusivity

We are a welcoming community where all students, alumni, staff and parents are encouraged to thrive, feel safe and belong.

Excellence

We are a highly aspirational community where all learners are challenged to strive for excellence in all that they do.



CAMPUSES

The La Storta site has spacious grounds on the ancient Via Cassia, with magnificent views over the Veio Regional Park to the Abruzzo mountains. This is the largest international school site in Rome, with 25 acres of land, and the Senior School is based here, as well as one of the two Junior Schools on its own, newly renovated campus (Jubilee Building). The Senior School is based in the main building, which comprises six floors and is completing renovations in Art and DT in the Summer of 2026 to upgrade this flagship department. An additional Sixth Form block gives the Senior students a dedicated space for study. Recent building developments include a new Sports Dome and Fitness Suite, while works on a new Refectory and Indoor Swimming Pool will be completed in 2027. Students benefit from access to the 4G multi-purpose sports pitches, which include a full-size football and rugby pitch, a four-lane athletics track and an accompanying long-jump pit.

St George's City Centre Junior School is nestled on Via di Santa Maria Mediatrice, just a short walk from the Vatican in the south-west of central Rome. The School moved from its former Nomentana campus in September 2017, marking the start of a new chapter in a purpose-built, modern environment designed for learning and growth. The 1,500-square-metre building features bright, spacious classrooms, a dedicated library, and its own playgrounds. Pupils also benefit from access to outstanding shared facilities, including two football pitches, an impressive

indoor gymnasium, a 250-seat auditorium, and a 25-metre swimming pool. Whereas La Storta is owned by the School, the City Centre site is rented.

An extensive school bus network ensures that both sites are easily reached from all across Rome, with a train connection to the La Storta campus.



STUDENT WELLBEING

St George's strives to ensure that every individual is fully supported so that they can enjoy all aspects of their education and achieve at the highest levels in everything they do. Families come from around the world and may be at the School for relatively short periods of time, so support with new student transition is an additional core focus.

In the Junior School, the class teacher supports all aspects of their education, and there is a large emphasis on social and emotional development through a well-structured Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) programme.

A dedicated member of staff in the Senior School provides workshops and lessons for Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) throughout the year in KS2.

In the Senior School, all students have a tutor who sees them every day. The tutor supports all aspects of their education and is the first point of contact for parents who have any questions about their child's education and progress. The Year Group is led by the Head of Year, who oversees all aspects of a student's school life, with a particular focus on the progress every individual is making.

A School Counsellor is available to parents and pupils at both sites via appointment. The primary responsibility is to

promote the wellbeing and development of all students from an academic, personal and social perspective, as well as to offer support to students, staff and families.

Key Stage 3 students have one Wellbeing lesson every two weeks. The course coincides with the current PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Educational) programme supporting themes and ideas. Students also have the opportunity to work on whole-school initiatives in collaboration with the School Counsellor and Heads of Year.

In Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, students have access to inspirational talks, masterclasses and workshops.

The aim of these lessons and workshops is to encourage awareness, connection to others, an appreciation of community, a philosophical enquiry into meaning, and the acquiring of self-knowledge, and to allow each student to be able to build a 'toolkit' that helps them transform the way they approach life and work.

As well as being in their tutor group, every student at St George's (from Nursery to Year 13) is a member of a House. The Houses run a wide variety of activities and competitions that all students are encouraged to get involved in.



CURRICULUM

St George's combines an enhanced UK National Curriculum with the IB Diploma and A Levels. The School offers tremendous breadth without compromising quality, and the offer outside the classroom is as important as that which takes place within.

The Junior School curriculum is rich in developing concepts and skills, combining the rigour of the English National Curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 with the international and Italian context. The result is a wide-ranging and inspiring curriculum full of colour, curiosity and creativity. Subjects are taught through a thematic approach, including Music and Computing. All Junior School pupils have Italian lessons every week.

The Additional Educational Needs (AEN) department is equipped to support pupils with a range of differing academic needs, and from Year 3, pupils sit Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs). These help to identify children's potential in learning as well as identify additional gaps in learning.

Key Stage 3 pupils follow a two-week timetable cycle of six lessons per day. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is integrated across the curriculum as a tool for learning, as well as being taught as a discrete subject. Students are placed in classes according to ability to ensure appropriate levels of challenge and support. Key Stage 3 students sit exams across their core subjects at the end of each year, which help monitor and assess performance as they progress towards their IGCSE examinations at the end of Year 11.

In Years 10 and 11, students normally follow IGCSE courses in nine subjects, and in Year 10, they also complete the Higher Project Qualification (externally accredited and worth half a GCSE). In Year 11, this time allocation is dedicated to following an enhanced PSHE curriculum and sessions to prepare them for Sixth Form study, including taster lessons, university and careers advice and the creation of subject portfolios. Core subjects at IGCSE are Mathematics, English Language, English Literature, two Natural Sciences and a foreign language; students then select three further subjects from the wide range of optional subjects available.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) has been offered at St George's since 1996, and almost all the 33 IBDP courses offered are available at both higher level (HL) and standard level (SL). In 2025, the School also added a small number of A Levels to further widen the curriculum.

Throughout the year, the School is visited by representatives of world-leading universities. With the guidance of the Director of University Guidance and Careers, students are given the support they need to apply to the universities or colleges of their choice and so enter the next phase of their academic careers with the strongest possible foundation.

The English as an Additional Language (EAL) department provides teaching, support and opportunities for non-native English speakers of all levels.



The School believes that a rich education must extend beyond the classroom and should provide opportunities for students to flourish, develop their talents and explore new interests. St George's extra-curricular programme is comprehensive and makes full use of the extraordinary opportunities afforded by Rome and its environs. The Junior programme includes excursions and residential trips; this carries on into the Senior programme, which also introduces 'May week' residential trips for all year groups. Students are also encouraged to create and play an active role in student societies, ranging from Junior Duke, Play Maker Award, The Green Team, Community in Action and Young Entrepreneurs in the Junior School to new elements such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award, TEDxYouth SGBIS and an active Model United Nations programme in the Senior School.

As well as achieving outstanding examination results, St George's Art students often win significant prizes in local, national and international competitions for their work. The Music department includes the School Choir and the School Orchestra, both of which undertake regular overseas tours and hold an annual Spring Concert performance in the impressive Auditorium Parco della Musica venue in Rome: both Junior and Senior Schools are very involved. The Drama department puts on a variety of outstanding productions, from in-house musicals to powerful ensemble work in cutting-edge experimental theatre. Students are involved not only as actors but also as stage crew and sound/lighting technicians.

To enhance the co-curricular offer, St George's has created a partnership with Newcastle United Foundation for the football programme. The School has been given Athlete-Friendly Education Centre (AFEC) status for its Elite Athlete Support and is also an ABRSM Partner Programme School due to the exceptional participation rates in music.

As part of the School's mission to educate global citizens, each student must embrace sustainable practices and should appreciate the value of protecting the environment for future generations. Initiatives such as Switch Off Week, Waste Warriors and the elimination of plastic cups and bottles across the School are just the start of a long-term drive to reduce the carbon footprint, both as individuals and as a whole-School community. The School obtained the Green School Bronze Award in its first year of accreditation.

GOVERNANCE

St George's is owned by the St George's School Association, a parent-founded, not-for-profit body that safeguards the School's mission and long-term independence. The Board of Governors and Board of Trustees are the guardians of the School's mission.

The Board of Governors, appointed by the Association, provides strategic and financial oversight of the School – setting direction, approving policies and budgets, and appointing and evaluating

the Principal. The Board is composed of between nine and 16 members, including parents, staff representatives, and external professionals with expertise in education, finance, law, and governance.

The Board operates through three standing committees – Education, Resources, and Governance & Risk – which oversee academic standards, financial performance, and institutional compliance. Working in partnership with the Principal and Senior Leadership Team, the Board maintains a strategic, hands-off role, ensuring long-term sustainability and sound governance while leaving day-to-day management to the School's leadership.

The Association also appoints a separate Board of Trustees whose key role is to ensure that the Board of Governors acts in full compliance with the Association's statutes and in the best interests of students and staff.

The St George's School Association owns St George's School Srl (SGS), which, through its subsidiary companies, operates all parts of the School, including the La Storta and City Centre campuses, as well as the School's real estate and sports facilities. Each company has a Board of Directors composed of two Governors (including the Chair) and the Principal, ensuring alignment between governance, operations, and the School's mission.





LIVING IN ROME

The Eternal City needs no introduction. Its role in world history, natural beauty, artistic heritage and world-famous cuisine is well documented. The standard of living is high, and teachers, staff, students and parents alike benefit from the city's many cultural sites, restaurants and activities. Be it skiing in the mountains, hiking in the hills, or strolling along the coast, one can easily access an exceptional range of opportunities: Florence, Naples and Pompeii, for example, are all within day-trip range of the city. Eating out is, of course, one of the great pleasures the city affords.

St George's offers support to new staff to help them with their transition into daily life at the School and in Italy. The St George's relocation programme includes help with medical arrangements and facilitating a range of social opportunities. Dedicated help is also given to finding accommodation, whether this be in the centre of Rome, in the leafy suburbs surrounding the School, or at beautiful Lake Bracciano, 30 minutes to the north of the School.

All new staff benefit from a series of 'Getting the most out of Italy' sessions, where they have the opportunity to meet existing staff and hear their views on various aspects of Italian life – from art and culture to language and driving. Numerous social activities at the beginning of the School year and throughout the year provide further opportunities for staff to get to know one another outside of the classroom.



THE ROLE

Opportunities such as this are rare. St George's has appointed only three Heads in the last quarter of a century, and with staff turnover at around only 8%, the attraction of working in this iconic School is evident. However, an incoming Principal will be arriving to a dynamic environment and will therefore have every opportunity to build on the outstanding achievements of Principal John Knight (leaving for a major headship in South-East Asia) by putting her or his stamp on this inclusive, high-performing School. Given the current success of St George's (exemplified by the recent acquisition of land and the subsequent rationalisation and significant upgrade of facilities at La Storta), future evolution will require a clearly articulated vision accompanied by sensitivity and diplomacy.

The successful candidate will need to understand the historical context of St George's and secure the huge benefits of trust and confidence in decision-making ensured by a governing body made up of parents, experts, and rotating staff members. As well as ensuring the Governors have complete trust and confidence in his or her decision-making, the Principal must be able to forge warm relationships with the wider community beyond the Board. With the United Nations and Embassies providing many of the families who make up the School community, the Principal will maintain and develop strong bonds with these communities. They should also explore new market opportunities, given the School's reliance on its current base: the mass movement of families around the globe by governments and agencies should not be taken for granted.

St George's is truly international, with 104 nationalities represented in the pupil body. The Principal's commitment to an international mindset must extend beyond the curriculum and the philosophy of the IB (now accompanied by some A Level options) and into the daily life of the School. Nowhere is this international essence better showcased than at International Evening, where parents, pupils and staff come together to

celebrate diversity through an evening of food, activities and a parade of nations. However, the School day is relatively short compared with many international schools elsewhere, and that brings an attendant intensity.

St George's prides itself on the quality of relationships. It is imperative that the new Principal exudes warmth, is visible and continues to build a community of engaged staff. It is a balancing act since the two Junior Schools and the Senior School each have their own Heads who report to the Principal, so the Principal is effectively an Executive Head who nonetheless needs to inspire the community on the ground. A Strategy Group comprising Heads and Deputies from the three Schools, plus the Director of Finance and Operations and Head of Marketing, Communications and Admissions, meets weekly to ensure, among other things, the Schools are in step. The Senior Leadership Team comprises senior academic staff, and the Junior Schools have their own leadership meetings.

Because staff turnover is low, it is important that the new Principal can continually challenge and excite colleagues, and she or he will need to ensure there is an engaging programme of continual professional development. Balancing inclusivity with exceptional academic results is an increasingly demanding task, and all colleagues need to be on board with this aim. An interest in the latest research in teaching and learning will be important, and close engagement with HMC and COBIS should continue to ensure the Principal is plugged in to the sector and alive to new initiatives.

Though proudly not-for-profit, St George's recent fiscal success provides the School with financial security through the generation of an annual surplus. This surplus is reinvested back into the School over time, and this is expected to continue under the new Principal.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

CORE PURPOSE

The Principal reports directly to the Board of Governors and is responsible for providing professional leadership and management across the Senior School and the two Junior Schools. More specifically, the key responsibilities of the Principal can be outlined as follows:

VISION AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

- To work collaboratively with the Board, the senior leadership and staff to develop an ambitious vision for St George's which builds on the School's many strengths and positions the School as a leader in the rapidly changing world of international education.
- To translate this vision into a clear, measurable strategy, inspiring and empowering all parts of the St George's community in its delivery.

- To ensure St George's is well positioned to seize opportunities and respond to challenges presented by changes in the external context, locally within Rome, nationally within Italy and globally.

ETHOS AND EDUCATIONAL CULTURE

- To uphold St George's distinctive ethos as a non-selective, international and academically successful school.
- To maintain and further enrich a school culture which celebrates the richness and diversity of its communities.
- To deliver the highest standards of pastoral care, ensuring that the welfare, social, moral and personal development of students are at the heart of all decision-making within the School.

PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- To provide effective leadership to an experienced senior team, delegating effectively such that colleagues are supported to deliver their remits to the highest standards.
- To work with and through the Heads of School to:
 - recruit, retain and develop high-quality teaching staff;
 - build capacity and develop leadership at all levels, championing an open and collegial organisational culture in which staff are empowered to take initiative and ownership.
- To work closely with the Director of Finance and Operations to ensure finance and resources are managed effectively.
- To support the Director of Finance and Operations in the effective management of support staff.
- To work closely with the Head of Marketing, Communications and Admissions to align marketing strategy, brand and enrolment growth with the School's long-term vision.

WORKING WITH THE BOARD

- To work effectively with an engaged Board of Governors, ensuring St George's is able to meet its short-, medium- and long-term strategic objectives.
- To be accountable to the Board for the performance of the School.
- To work collaboratively with the Board to achieve the strategic plan.

LEADING TEACHING AND LEARNING

- To provide clear, inspirational academic leadership, ensuring St George's students of all abilities are supported and challenged to realise their full potential.
- To champion a culture of high expectations in terms of teaching quality, developing a reputation for St George's as a 'destination school' for the very best teachers and leaders worldwide.
- To work with and through the Heads of School to ensure that learning sits at the heart of all strategic planning, decision-making and resource management.
- To maintain a strong, current knowledge of the latest pedagogical developments globally and lead by example in encouraging all leaders and staff to be outward-facing in their approach.

COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

- To be a compelling and credible ambassador for St George's, effectively communicating the strengths of the School to a diverse range of external audiences.
- To develop strong relationships with parents/carers, the UN agencies, Embassies and the wider Italian and international communities to the benefit of the School.
- To be strategic and proactive in engaging with St George's diverse and talented global alumni community, stewarding these important relationships for the long-term benefit of the School.
- To represent the School effectively as an international member of HMC, an executive member of COBIS and as part of ECIS and CIS, valuing connectivity with such bodies.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

This person specification is an indication of the strengths and qualities that St George's will be seeking in its Principal; the recruitment process will consider candidates against this list of experience, qualifications, values and attributes.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

It is **essential** that the successful candidate has the following:

- A university degree and a teaching qualification.

The successful candidate is also likely to have:

- A minimum of 15 years' relevant teaching experience in an English National Curriculum school, either in the UK or overseas.
- Experience of running an all-through school as Principal or as Head of a large campus.
- Experience of the IB Diploma and some familiarity with A Level.
- Evidence of commercial acumen and leading a school or school section through OFSTED/ISI inspections or equivalent.
- Experience of an approach to education that resonates with St George's ethos, values and aims.
- Experience of developing a vision, strategy and organisational plans.
- A Master's degree in the field of education or an NPQH.
- A strong record of having participated in continuing professional development.



VALUES, ATTRIBUTES, SKILLS AND PERSONALITY

The Principal will be committed to St George's approach to education. Beyond this, the successful candidate is likely to be:

- Resilient and adaptable.
- Keen to be visible and present within and beyond the School community.
- A passionate believer in inclusivity and the approach to education offered by the IB, but acknowledging that some pupils might be better served by A Levels.
- Visionary, able to lead and to see ways of interpreting St George's approach in the Italian context, but at the same time with an eye for the details that are vital for a thriving school.
- Committed to the continuous professional development of all staff.
- Financially and commercially astute and capable of delivering a year-on-year surplus.
- Comfortable working within the confines of Italian labour laws and associated bureaucracy.
- Energetic and determined to set out, achieve and personify the aspirations and priorities of the School, yet pragmatic enough to adjust priorities when necessary.
- Thoroughly cognisant of the Principal's responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and child protection issues and with a clear commitment to delivering best practice in safeguarding.
- Open-minded, a good listener, slow to judge and keen to understand the perspectives of others before coming to a clear decision.
- Culturally curious in general and specifically about living and working in Italy.
- A relationship builder whose default position is to build teams and work collaboratively; someone who understands that the School's success will be based on his or her ability to build mutually respectful relationships at a number of different levels and, when necessary, to work to resolve conflicts.
- A problem solver, able to work under pressure, prioritise tasks and find creative solutions.
- Diplomatic, politically astute and able to maintain good external relationships.
- Committed to high standards and continual improvement while also recognising the importance of support and compassion in achieving such standards.
- Thoughtful, considerate, intelligent and articulate.
- Keenly interested in new educational thinking and innovation, but not someone who always reacts to the latest new idea.
- Convincing and reassuring for all parents: someone to inspire confidence in British education and St George's approach, even when it may be different to the expectations of a certain demographic of parents.
- A confident ambassador, able to work with a wide range of people.
- An excellent communicator in English, able to share St George's vision with staff, pupils and parents.
- Adept at engaging with children, deeply interested in the pupils and able to inspire them and the wider community.



REMUNERATION



St George's is committed to employing and rewarding teachers and leaders who share its ambition, its aims and its values. In addition to a competitive salary, the Principal of St George's will also benefit from:

- Accommodation.
- Pension contributions.
- Private health care.
- A car.
- 94% discount on school fees.
- Smartphone, laptop and tablet.

Individuals moving to Italy for the first time or returning to Italy after a set period are able to qualify for significantly reduced tax for the first five years (and for longer in certain circumstances). The role comes with a permanent contract. The School is committed to the professional development of all its staff and leadership so that they can continue to grow as teachers and educators.

APPLICATION PROCESS

This recruitment process is being managed by RSAcademics Ltd on behalf of St George's. Unless stated otherwise, all communication about the appointment will be via RSAcademics.

Two members of the RSAcademics team are primarily engaged in this process:

- Chris Edwards, Senior Advisor for International Appointments: chrisedwards@rsacademics.com
- Jean Sullivan, Head of International Search: jeansullivan@rsacademics.com

Interested candidates are invited to contact Jean Sullivan by email (enclosing a copy of their CV/résumé) for an initial confidential conversation.

Closing date: Monday 24 November 2025 at 10:00 (UK) / 11:00 (Italy).

Applications should be made electronically to RSAcademics. Please apply at www.rsacademics.com via the **Apply Now** link accompanying the announcement of the position. You will be taken to an online portal where you will be able to download an application form.

Please follow the instructions provided to complete and submit your application. You should submit:

- A completed application form.
- A copy of your CV/résumé.
- A covering letter, preferably of no more than two pages, addressed to Flaminia Muratori, Chair of Governors. The letter should explain your reasons for applying, the attractions of this role and of the School and the relevance of your experience and personal educational philosophy.

Should you have any queries relating to uploading your application documents, please contact:

- Alison Hooper, Project Coordinator, at applications@rsacademics.com / +44 (0) 204 6269 791.

The recruitment process will proceed as follows:

- All applications will be acknowledged by email. If you have not received acknowledgement within two working days, please contact RSAcademics by telephone at +44 (0) 204 6269 791.
- Preliminary interviews (by video call with RSAcademics colleagues) will take place for selected candidates in the week commencing 24 November 2025.
- Dates for further and final-stage interviews will follow shortly.
- RSAcademics will collect references for candidates who progress to the later stages of the process. No referees will be contacted until RSAcademics has received your express permission to do so.

St George's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An appointment to St George's is conditional on criminal records clearance, and the successful candidate will be required to supply the necessary information and documentary evidence. References will be obtained for all candidates called for final interview, and applicants should be aware that questions relating to the candidates' suitability to work in a post involving children will be asked throughout the recruitment process.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020.

RSAcademics is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to promoting diversity and inclusion in schools.