

BENENDEN SCHOOL

Cranbrook
Kent

A leading independent boarding school
for girls aged 11–18

Girls Non-denominational

About School

Benenden School is a girls' boarding school for 550 pupils aged 11–18 in Cranbrook, Kent, 510 of them boarders.

It ranked 76th among UK independent schools and 97th overall in the Sunday Times Parent Power 2026; in 2025, 69.1% of A level grades were A*/A and 78.2% of GCSE grades 9–7.

Key facts for parents

Academics

2025: A level 32.5% A*, 69.1% A*/A, 87.9% A*/B; GCSE 78.2% 9–7 (Sunday Times Parent Power 2026). Average class up to GCSE 19 (GSG 2026). There is a medical centre staffed 24/7 (GSG 2026).

Where leavers go

2025: 4 to Oxford or Cambridge, 6 to medicine and 1 to veterinary science. Durham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Exeter and UCL are popular (GSG 2026).

Recognition

Sunday Times Parent Power 2026 (2025 results): 76th of UK independent schools and 97th in the combined state and independent table (A level 69.1% A*/A, GCSE 78.2% 9–7; A-level rank 88=, GCSE rank 120=).

For international families

A girls' boarding school where 510 of 550 girls are full boarders. Entry is at 11+, 12+ and 13+, with about 3 applicants per place at 11+ and 13+ (GSG 2026).

Good to know

The campus covers 250 acres. London is about 1 hour 15 minutes by train from nearby Staplehurst (estimate).

Students



Boarders who stay at weekends (full boarders): 100%

Fees / term

Day boarding
£46,200

Full boarding
£63,900

Per year, 2026/27 (Good Schools Guide); VAT status not stated

Educational Programmes offered

- GCSE / IGCSE
- A Levels

Academic Results

GCSE 2025	9–7		
	78.2%		
A-LEVEL 2025	A*	A*–A	A*–B
	32.5%	69.1%	87.9%

GCSE bands are grades (9 = top); only bands the school publishes are shown.

School Ranking

#76 UK independent schools (2026) (Sunday Times Parent Power)

#97 State and independent, combined (2026) (Sunday Times Parent Power)

Location

Nearest airport: London Gatwick
About 1 hour by car from Gatwick (estimate).