



## Founders Day Service- What does Camberwell Mean to me?

When I was asked to speak about what Camberwell meant to me, I suddenly felt an abundance of pride, joy and passion. I remember my first day at Camberwell in Year 8. I walked through the Torrington St gates, nervous and excited to start my journey at a new school. As soon as I walked into student reception on that summers morning, I immediately felt at home, welcome and cared for. Seeing the welcoming face staff and my lovely buddy Bel, I automatically knew this is the place where I belong. A school that genuinely cares for every student. A school that prioritises our wellbeing and, more importantly, our happiness. Camberwell means a lot to me, as I am sure our school means a lot to everybody here today. Whether that be our rich history, strong morals and our incredible community, Camberwell plays a vital part in all of our lives.

To me, Camberwell is a community of like-minded, strong, passionate and dedicated people who strive to achieve their personal best and build a better future for the world around us. More importantly, it is a safe place where every student, teacher, and staff member feels welcome, appreciated, and loved. I believe that love is something that Camberwell truly encompasses. From the pride, passion and dedication of our teachers, the kindness of all the students and the respect that every person at the school has for each other, Camberwell is most certainly filled with feelings of care and warmth. As at Camberwell, we see everyone as equals and appreciate everyone for their authenticity and uniqueness.

An example of this can be seen through our Wonderwall displayed in lower wood stock and our regular shoutouts at assembly. I also do not believe that any other place in the world displays more spirit and pride for their school than we at Camberwell do. From the endless house events, inter-school sports activities and different learning initiatives and opportunities, we at Camberwell Girls truly reflect 100 years' worth of energy, passion and enthusiasm for our community and the world around us. Saying this, Camberwell to me means care and concern for our community and being leading figures for change. I have been fortunate enough to participate in many service activities at the school, from participating in Dream stitches and River Nile to travelling to Cambodia. From participating in these, I understood what 'Utilis in Ministerium' meant to me, and I truly appreciated and learnt how great of an emphasis our school puts towards social justice. I find the effort Camberwell Girls places towards service genuinely remarkable and an action that shines through the caring and kind hearts of all the students and members of staff at this school.

Finally, to me, Camberwell is a place where every girl has the opportunity to thrive. It is a place for every student to excel in and a school built by its incredible values of respect, integrity, hope and courage and years of remarkable history. And now, being in year 12 and reflecting on all the incredible aspects that our school has to offer and the memories that I have made here over the past five years, I am truly proud and honoured to be a Camberwell girl.

Thank you.