



WINCHESTER  
COLLEGE



SIXTH FORM  
DAY & BOARDING

EXTRA-CURRICULAR LIFE





# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The Winchester day is long and expansive, with lots of time to pursue extra-curricular activities, known as Ekker. There is a huge variety on offer: from academic clubs to student-led societies, from the traditional to the futuristic. Whatever you are interested in, we know that you will find like-minded people to explore those interests with, and we hope that you will develop new interests and skills in your time here, too.



Most pupils have extra-curricular activities daily, with all pupils taking part in either Community Service or Combined Cadet Force on Wednesdays.

Time is set aside in the timetable so you have opportunities to play sport, music or develop other interests every afternoon.

This booklet provides more information about Winchester's sports, artistic, and musical opportunities, as well as the community outreach activities and the cadet force.

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## MUSIC

Winchester is known for its music. There are numerous opportunities to develop your individual talents, learn a new instrument, and play or sing alongside friends in any of the following: Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Winchester College Choral Society, close harmony groups, Voces and VocSoc, Big Band, Jazz groups, Brass groups, Wind ensembles, two official Rock groups, and Chapel Choir.

Over 700 instrumental lessons are taught each week by visiting music teachers in a dedicated Music School with performance and recording spaces, as well as 55 teaching rooms, all equipped with excellent pianos. The level of instrumental music making is extremely high: numerous pupils gain diplomas, many at Licentiate level.

There is a renowned Visiting Artists programme, alongside weekly pupil performances and concerts. Fortnightly Chamber concerts may include Rachmaninoff's Cello Sonata, as well as violin sonatas and piano sonatas by Beethoven and Brahms, and string quartets by Haydn and Dvorak.

The Symphony Orchestra recently performed Dvorak's 8th Symphony, whilst the College's Choral Society joined Winchester Philharmonic Choir to perform Handel's Messiah in Winchester Cathedral in January 2024. The Chapel Choir provides music for two services a week.

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# SPORT

Sport and physical activity are an important part of every pupil's Winchester College experience.



There are over 30 sports on offer and pupils typically discover new sporting passions during their time at the school. From football, cricket, tennis, and martial arts to athletics, rowing, mountain biking, and basketball, we offer something for every pupil and every interest.

The Winchester sports programme is broad and varied, allowing pupils to pursue sports they already play, try new sports, and compete at the highest level they choose. All pupils are encouraged to develop new skills and are supported to develop their fitness and mental well-being. This may be through playing for a team, pursuing an individual activity, joining a fitness class, or taking part in our strength and conditioning programme.

Sports scholars have a bespoke programme to help support their sporting ambitions. We offer mixed gender activities in sports, where permitted by the governing body rules for each sport. In addition to our professional coaches and experienced Sports Centre staff, we work with athletes in the local community, such as Hampshire Vipers, and Winchester Hockey Club.

- Rowing
- Cricket
- Adventure Education (Kayaking, Mountain biking)
- Badminton
- Cross-country
- Fencing
- Fitness Classes (Spinning, boxercise, circuits, etc.)
- Football
- Golf
- Strength Training
- Netball
- Basketball
- Athletics
- Touch Rugby
- Clay Pigeon shooting
- Table Tennis
- Martial Arts – Aikido, Judo, Karate
- Rackets
- Rowing
- Sailing
- Sculling
- Squash
- Swimming
- Winchester College Football (Winkies)
- Tennis
- Hockey
- Rugby 7s (not mixed)
- Fives
- Yoga
- Fly Fishing
- Chess
- Croquet
- Running



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## DRAMA

Drama allows participants and audiences to explore themes and issues, which are relevant to the world in which we live.

LAMDA lessons take place each week, delivered by visiting teachers. There are three exam sessions per year and pupils enter for graded examinations (up to grade 8) in Acting, Public Speaking, Speaking Verse and Prose and a variety of other disciplines, with some pupils choosing to take the PCertLAM diploma.

## PLAYS

We stage between seven and ten productions every year, in our theatre, the QEII, or venues around campus, such as College Hall, Musa, or the gardens. The standard is high but everyone is encouraged to get involved. This is particularly true of the house plays, which are led by Sixth Form pupils and truly collaborative.

There are numerous opportunities to take part, whether acting, directing, composing music, designing costumes, painting the set, or front-of-house. We have a thriving Make-up Society, and pupils can learn technical skills in lighting and sound. We encourage pupils to write plays and to participate in play-writing schemes, such as the National Theatre New Views competition.

## WORKSHOPS AND CLUBS

In recent years, our drama workshops have focused on physical theatre, delivered by professional companies such as Frantic Assembly, Gecko and Punchdrunk.

Drama clubs are divided by year group and are often led by Sixth Form pupils.

Recent topics have included:

- Improvisation; Melodrama
- Comedy
- Brecht
- Monologues

There are also two drama options as part of our Community Service programme, working with primary school pupils



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## ART AND DESIGN

### ART

The Art School is open for all pupils on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons for Ekker. During these times there are a wealth of opportunities available for pupils to explore creative personal interests or to develop work and ideas taught in lessons. We also run workshops such as film-making, sketch crawls and drawing courses. Ekker sessions can be shaped to suit pupil interests, so there can be an often eclectic range of activities taking place at any one time. These can include photography, fashion and textiles, digital painting and drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, graphic works using the Adobe Creative Suite, graphic novel production, animation, clay throwing, printmaking, drawing etc.

Ekker time in the department is great fun and provides a platform for the exploration of creative interests and the development of valuable independent and critical research skills. You can work independently or choose to collaborate if you prefer.

The production of house art for Drew Jug (the inter-house Art competition) sees half the school making, fixing, joining, painting and getting involved in creative, innovative practice.

The Art School offers large, well-equipped studio spaces, divided into specialist areas of paint, print and sculpture. The Art School Library contains over 2,000 books, DVDs and magazines covering all aspects of the fine and decorative arts, and architecture.



### DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

The DT centre, Mill, gives pupils the opportunity to develop practical, spatial and design intelligence. Pupils learn to solve challenging problems through creativity and the realisation of innovative ideas. Mill is open for all pupils every afternoon except Wednesday.

The centre is equipped with a comprehensive range of traditional and high-tech machinery, from wood-turning to 3D printing. The open workshop is complemented by a graphics studio, an electronics lab and forty computers packed with professional software. Pupils are encouraged to experiment and apply their knowledge under the supervision of highly-qualified staff. Whilst pupils are free to explore personal projects, teachers also run a range of workshops focussing of specific skills.



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## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Makyth Ventures is the College's entrepreneurship & innovation hub for the unashamedly curious, creative and motivated.

It was founded in 2021 to equip pupils with tools and methodologies to bring the boldest business ideas to life. Our year-round programme includes:

- Regular events to build practical knowledge around startup operations with the help of the most accomplished OWs in the world of business
- Skill-building sessions to help take ideas from the concept stage all the way to first revenue & customers
- Unique opportunities to get selected for internships with some of the most promising startups in the UK
- Pitching competition, MV Ignite, where pupils get the chance to bring to life their own startup idea

## COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)

Within the CCF, pupils can choose to join the Army, Navy, RAF or Royal Marines section. The CCF runs weekends away, expeditions and adventurous training, as well as competitions, such as the Field Gun Race, and the Pringle Trophy patrol competition.

As well as being challenging and enjoyable, it offers valuable skills – first aid, leadership, and teamwork, for example – to carry into university and the workplace. The school has a strong tradition of military leadership, from gap-year commissions all the way up to Chief of the Defence Staff.



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## COMMUNITY SERVICE (CS)

Community Service enables pupils to engage with the local community, whether working with the very young, the elderly or the vulnerable; assisting those with learning disabilities; or, making a positive impact on the world around them, through conservation and other contributions to the local environment and heritage. As well as being enormously rewarding, CS will also give you a huge range of

skills beyond the academic: an understanding of the wider world, empathy, communication and collaboration, for example.



### **Current CS partnerships and outreach activities**

- All Saints Chess Club
- Blue Apple Theatre
- Butterfly Conservation
- Charity Shops
- Clausentum Fen
- Disabled Swimming
- Entertainers
- Jazz
- Meal Feeding at RHCH
- Music and Dementia
- Night Shelter
- Primary Schools Drama
- Primary Schools Ecology
- Primary Schools French
- Primary Schools Music
- Primary Schools Science
- Primary Schools Sports
- Rewilding
- Secondary Schools Maths
- Special Needs Schools
- Supporting Speechlessness
- Trinity Winchester
- Win at Maths
- Winchester Museums
- Primary Schools Maths Challenge
- Supporting Refugees



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## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

A major part of life in the Sixth Form is the freedom to pursue your own interests with like-minded people, or to learn about something completely new.

Our societies and clubs are driven by the interests of the pupils and led by Sixth Form pupils, with support from a teacher.

The following list illustrates the wide range currently on offer:

### Politics, philosophy, economics, law

- 1922 Society
- Equality and Diversity Society
- Gaitskell Society
- Law Society
- Nash Society
- Ramsey Society
- Studium
- Sustainability Society
- Theology & Philosophy

### Computer science, physics and engineering

- Aeronautical Society
- Astronomy Society
- CompSci Society
- Engineers' Forum
- IDEAS Society
- Mathematics Society
- Prog Society
- Robotic Society

### Publications

- Quelle
- Spirit Lamp
- Trusty Servant

### Biology, chemistry, medicine & psychology

- Biology Society
- Journal Club
- Medical Society
- Natural History Society
- Psychology Society
- Science Society

### Games and puzzles

- Chess Club
- Game Society
- Game Dev Society
- Go Society
- TTRPG Society



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### Music, dance, drama and makeup

- Ballroom Dancing
- Beat Society
- Bell Ringing
- Drama Society
- Make-up Society
- Music Society
- Opera Society
- SROGUS
- Sustainable Fashion Society

### Faith and charity

- Chapel Servers
- Charities Committee
- Christian Union



### Peoples, places & cultures, ancient and modern

- Ancient History Society
- African Society
- Circulus Latinus
- Classical Society
- FROG Society
- Geography Society
- German Society
- History Society
- Hispanic Society
- MENA Society
- Slavonic Society

### Weird and wonderful

- Cheese Society
- Caledonian Society

### Writing, speaking, art and design

- Architecture Society
- Creative Writing Society
- Debating Society
- Kenneth Clark Society
- IDEAS Society
- Model UN
- Numismatics Society
- William Empson Society

### Sports, expeditions and adventures

- DofE
- Futsal Society
- Rock Society
- SCUBA



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