



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE

WINCHESTER COLLEGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Advancing the influence of great
education on the modern global stage.



Winchester College, the oldest of the Clarendon Commission Public Schools, reaches its 640th anniversary in 2022. Over the last two years the Headmaster and Fellows have reflected on the school's strengths and future purpose.

Our determination to provide an intellectual education of exceptional quality and breadth remains unaltered, as does our commitment to the values which have underpinned Winchester since its foundation.

We also want to ensure that we have an even sharper focus on preparing those studying here to thrive in the modern world and to contribute to our global society.

We are determined that Winchester, which led the way when it was founded, continues to be a leader and influencer of great education on the modern global stage.

SIR RICHARD STAGG
WARDEN OF WINCHESTER COLLEGE



WHO WILL BENEFIT?

The first 70 scholars who entered the school gates in 1394 had two things in common: their families had to have an income of no more than £3 6s 8d per year; and they were all boys.

After almost a century of deliberation on the subject, we will in the next few years introduce girls into the school, initially into the Sixth Form. Like our sister foundation New College Oxford, the other colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, and many other institutions with ancient foundations, we want the school to welcome all who are capable of benefiting from the exceptional education Wykehamists enjoy. Added to this, the admission of girls will bring multiple benefits: new intellectual challenge; diversity of thought; broader horizons.



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In parallel, we will respond to growing demand to increase provision for day pupils from autumn 2022. While boarding education will remain the norm for most, day pupils, fully integrated into boarding houses, will bring a greater sense of connectedness locally and a new opportunity for families living within easy reach of the College.



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Winchester was founded for poor and needy scholars. Over time, the cost of independent education has risen exponentially. The school has for many years offered a generous bursary scheme, which currently benefits about 120 boys in the school. It is in keeping with William of Wykeham's vision as well as our philosophy of modernisation that we admit promising pupils whatever their background. The scheme will continue and grow, with the initial objective of a 25% increase, to 150 pupils by 2024 – combined with a significantly increased focus on outreach and partnerships with other schools. With our new capacity to offer lessons online, we can also now help academically able children whatever their family's financial situation and wherever they live. So while some will attend the physical school on bursaries, for others, we will offer tailored support, initially to schools across Hampshire, with a focus on those with pupils from the most disadvantaged backgrounds.

Our founder,
William of Wykeham,
was a philanthropist
and visionary who
revolutionised education,
and it's his tradition
of looking ahead that
we seek to continue.



DR TIM HANDS
HEADMASTER OF WINCHESTER COLLEGE

HOW WILL IT WORK?

HARNESSING TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPING THE PHYSICAL SCHOOL

A major discovery of the past year has been that a Winchester education can literally travel worldwide. We have successfully put our lessons online for our own pupils, allowing unbroken academic progress throughout the lockdowns and restrictions of 2020. Continuing to invest in technologies that can enhance learning will be a priority, so that the new possibilities revealed during the pandemic are not lost but integrated into our provision.



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At the same time, our commitment to improving the site and facilities of the bricks and mortar school continues uninterrupted. We know that for many families, the prospect of a school which offers a green and spacious campus environment, easily accessible from London, is very appealing. An essential part of a good education that teaches resilience and resourcefulness for life is the promotion of positive mental health. The development of our boarding accommodation and house arrangements as we prepare for the arrival of day pupils and girls will more and more focus on these priorities. Winchester intends to lead the way in the imaginative and sustainable design of its physical spaces, to promote pupil wellbeing and complement the vibrant and individual character of each house community.



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WHAT IS A MODERN WINCHESTER EDUCATION?

The changes outlined above will have an impact on the look and feel of the school. They will deliver the benefits we expect, if we also adapt what we teach and how we teach it. We need to give our pupils the knowledge and understanding to thrive in a globally connected world, where collaboration is as much a priority as competition and in which a wider and more tolerant understanding of other cultures is increasingly important. This means broadening our curriculum, particularly in English and History, opening the minds of our pupils to the global context and particularly to how different things look to those brought up in other parts of the world.



We are convinced that Winchester's unique focus on non-examined subjects (Div) and the emphasis we place on intellectual suppleness and curiosity offer an ideal preparation for an increasingly uncertain world. We want to make this link clearer and more specific. The Headmaster has already developed a reshaped Div curriculum, to ensure that the time spent on non-examined subjects provides the maximum benefit. The focus will remain on intellectual challenge and inculcating critical thinking. The scope of the curriculum will be more diverse, with a new emphasis on creativity and collaboration. In parallel, the school will be giving greater priority to entrepreneurship, innovation and technology — with the goal of establishing a Centre for Innovation before the end of this year.



This will allow the school to continue its unique approach to education, based on values which have endured for centuries, while preparing our pupils to thrive in today's and tomorrow's world.

As will be clear to all, Winchester is launching a significant programme of change. The Governing Body and Headmaster are confident that this will allow the school to continue its unique approach to education, based on values which have endured for centuries, while preparing our pupils to thrive in today's and tomorrow's world.





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