



The Royal Hospital School



AN INDEPENDENT
CO-EDUCATIONAL
BOARDING AND
DAY SCHOOL
SET IN 200 ACRES
OF STUNNING
SUFFOLK
COUNTRYSIDE

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WELCOME TO THE ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL

As Headmaster, it is my aim to unlock the potential of each individual by offering a whole new world of life-changing opportunities and an environment in which academic excellence is promoted through learning and shared experiences. The Royal Hospital School is a place which encourages boys and girls to discover themselves and, quite simply, to develop a passion for life. Passion generates purpose, and purpose maps out the journey ahead.

As a parent, I identify with the desire to give children the best possible start in life. The school experience should be a happy one, founded primarily on academic endeavour, but also on relationships formed and values shared. I firmly believe that a well-balanced individual needs a sense of spiritual awareness, along with academic and sporting achievements, and all of us at the Royal Hospital School set great store by the values of kindness, service, generosity of spirit and integrity; these are the invisible strands that hold a community such as ours together.

By working together, the staff at the Royal Hospital School ensure that the transition to senior school is a smooth one, enabling pupils to settle in quickly and form strong relationships. Through inspirational teaching, first class academic tutoring and outstanding pastoral care, we maintain breadth, and challenge our young people, inspiring individual and social responsibility and developing the life skills that will prepare them to meet the future with confidence. In short, our intention is to produce happy, rounded, grounded young people who will go on to live balanced and full lives.

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Royal Hospital School.



James Lockwood MA
Headmaster



Sarah & James Lockwood



A PROUD HERITAGE

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL HAS BEEN PROVIDING EXCELLENT EDUCATION FOR THREE CENTURIES

Founded by Royal Charter in 1712 to educate boys for service in the Royal Navy, the School was originally housed in buildings which now form part of the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. We moved to our present 200-acre site overlooking the River Stour in 1933.

Today we accept boys and girls, boarders and day pupils, preparing young people for whichever career path they choose. However, there are legacies of our seafaring heritage which make the School unique: the exceptional provision and opportunities for sailing, the spectacular whole-school ceremonial parades, the commemoration of key naval events and traditions, as well as our continued royal patronage.

BLUE SKY THINKING

EDUCATION SHOULD BE A LIBERATING
EXPERIENCE, OFFERING THE WIDEST
POSSIBLE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES

At the Royal Hospital School, we believe in nurturing the talents and abilities of each individual. We provide an exciting learning environment in which pupils are motivated to fulfil their academic potential and achieve their ambitions.

Our pupils are taught study skills, how to learn independently, how to think imaginatively and how to reason critically. They learn to be confident, to be proud of their academic achievements and to believe in their own ambition.



STARTING OUT

JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS ARE WELCOMED INTO A CARING COMMUNITY, FILLED WITH OPPORTUNITY AND ALIVE WITH ENERGY

Supported by high-quality teaching and superb resources, pupils are gently eased into the next level of learning. Class sizes are small and every child has a personal tutor who will become pivotal in their formative years, mentoring their academic progress, as well as their emotional well-being.

Whether day or boarding, all junior pupils do supervised prep or homework at school. When the academic day is over, they can wind down with a huge variety of activities and clubs, before going home or back to the House in the evenings to relax and re-charge.

“EVERYONE IS REALLY FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL. WE WORK HARD BUT WE ALSO HAVE FUN.”





LEARNING TO LEARN

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AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL
WE ENCOURAGE DISCOVERY AND
CHALLENGE RIGHT FROM THE OUTSET

Pupils are not educated simply to pass exams or memorise facts, but to enjoy the adventure of learning and to develop a lifelong appetite for knowledge. They are expected to take increasing responsibility for organising their time and developing a capacity for self-motivated study. They are encouraged to aim high, attain their personal best and, most importantly, to enjoy achieving it.

Within a closely nurturing framework, they acquire an enthusiasm for learning and for new challenges. These are valuable qualities that will be useful to them throughout their lives.

INDIVIDUAL GUIDANCE

PERSONAL TUTORS ARE FOCUSED ON HELPING PUPILS MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR EDUCATION

Every child will meet with his or her personal tutor formally each week, but the tutor is also there to provide guidance and support in between these meetings. Tutors will set goals, highlight achievement and, where necessary, ensure additional help or resources are provided. Through baseline testing, targets are set against quantifiable national data giving each pupil the opportunity to fulfil his or her academic potential.

“MY TUTOR IS GREAT. HE TAKES THE TIME TO EXPLAIN THINGS REALLY CLEARLY.”



STEPPING IT UP

WE BELIEVE IN TRADITIONAL VALUES, RE-INVENTED FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, combining the best of academic rigour with the latest technologies. We want to ensure our pupils leave school well prepared for the increasingly complex challenges of tomorrow's world.

Children today are 'digital natives'. We recognise that they are growing up in a world where information is at their fingertips. Our classrooms are exciting and inspiring environments with so many different ways in which pupils can learn. There are plentiful resources and the learning platforms are stimulating, dynamic and state-of-the-art.



MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

THE AIM IS TO PROVIDE A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE CHALLENGES OF THE SIXTH FORM

The core subjects are English, mathematics, a modern or classical language and the sciences. They are complemented by an extensive choice, including art, photography, textiles, business studies, design technology, food technology, drama, geography, history, media studies, music, physical education and religious studies.

Pupils are helped to make informed choices so that they can reach their true potential. The most able pupils are stretched through the scholars' programme and a nationally accredited scheme for able, gifted and talented pupils, with extended reading and discussion groups to encourage independent thinking. For those needing extra guidance and support, the Learning Support and English as an Additional Language departments provide tailored lessons.





BUILDING CONFIDENCE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

WE OFFER OUR PUPILS EVERY
OPPORTUNITY TO BROADEN
THEIR EXPERIENCE

The curriculum is enriched through the Middle School Society with an inspiring programme of visiting lecturers, school trips and co-curricular activities and events.

Enquiring minds are cultivated through academic enrichment activities such as the Debating Society, Literary Society, Medical Society and the Model United Nations programme of national and international conferences. Pupils are encouraged to see themselves as global citizens who appreciate, value and respect all cultures, religions and languages.

This global awareness is intrinsically linked with a whole-school commitment to environmental responsibility. We promote awareness and understanding of environmental issues, as well as encouraging pupils and staff to play a practical role in helping tackle them.

“IT'S GOOD TO LEARN ABOUT
THE WORLD. IT CAN CHANGE
THE WAY YOU THINK.”

“THERE IS SO MUCH GOING ON AT THE SCHOOL, YOU'RE NEVER SHORT OF THINGS TO DO WHEN LESSONS ARE OVER. YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN ALL SORTS OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING TEAM SPORTS, SAILING, ART, MUSIC, DRAMA AND MORE. THE TEACHERS ARE REALLY ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTIVE. THEY HELP YOU CHOOSE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU ENJOY AND CAN LEARN TO DO WELL.”



AN INSPIRING PLACE TO LEARN

THERE IS MORE TO EDUCATION THAN EXCELLENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Academic endeavour is extremely important, but providing a world-class education is not just about focusing on examination results. We believe children should be inspired and motivated to make the very best of every opportunity presented.

Each child's educational journey should not just be about fulfilling academic potential and ambitions. It is also vital that he or she discovers interests and experiences beyond the boundaries of the formal curriculum. Broadening children's horizons helps them develop exciting new talents, creating an environment where world-changing ideas can flourish.



CREATIVITY & IMAGINATION

ARTISTIC EXPRESSION IS NOT JUST THE REALM OF THOSE WITH NATURAL TALENTS

Everyone has the potential to be creative. Therefore, at the Royal Hospital School we encourage all our pupils to try something new, discover hidden passions and use their imaginations.

Opportunities for experimentation are numerous. The curriculum includes drama, music, art and design. Extra-curricular activities include dance, film club, photography and musical ensembles.

The Art Department is a hub of creativity and originality, where pupils can experiment in a wide range of media, including photography, textiles and pottery. At the Design Centre they learn to combine practical skills with sound aesthetic values. Work from both departments is displayed all year round in the Centre's impressive atrium.



MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

THE SCHOOL'S
TALENTED SOLOISTS
AND ENSEMBLES
INCLUDE A WORLD-
RENOWNED CHAPEL
CHOIR AND BAND

We are well known for our excellence in music study and performance and have invested in a superb new music school. However, music is also embedded in the School's wider culture and ethos. Everyone can choose to play an instrument, sing in the choir, join the orchestra and band, or simply develop a love and appreciation of music.

Regular school performances attract audiences from far afield. In addition, our talented instrumentalists and singers are invited to appear at high profile festivals and events. For example, they have performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, before international rugby matches at Twickenham and at the annual Seafarers' Service at St Paul's Cathedral. Many of these opportunities result from the School's royal and seafaring connections.

“IT'S REALLY EXCITING TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO PERFORM AT IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FESTIVALS.”

ON THE STAGE

THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUPILS TO TAKE PART IN DRAMA, BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE THE CURRICULUM

We offer a range of theatrical activities, including our inter-house drama competition, school plays for all age groups, musicals, after-school drama clubs and visiting workshops. As well as drama in the GCSE and A Level curriculum, we support practical examinations through the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) and Trinity College London.

Pupils are encouraged to discover their creativity and explore their imagination through the performing arts and theatrical productions take place in a variety of venues, both within the School and in the wider community, often as part of national competitions.





“THE SPORTS FACILITIES
ARE BRILLIANT AND
YOU GET EXPERT
COACHING TO HELP
YOU IMPROVE.”

DEVELOPING FITNESS WELL-BEING AND HEALTHY COMPETITION

OUR PUPILS ENJOY A WIDE RANGE
OF TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL SPORTS
AT ALL LEVELS OF ABILITY

Our committed and highly qualified sports staff provide expert coaching to a high level. All pupils take part in some kind of sporting activity, and those that wish to have the opportunity to enjoy sport every day.

Our fantastic grounds offer 96 acres of playing fields, including an all-weather pitch, tennis and netball courts and a nine-hole golf course. Indoor facilities include a large swimming pool, squash courts and a multi-purpose sports hall with a fitness suite.

TEAM SPORTS AT THE HEART

PROMOTING BOTH PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL INTERACTION, PROVIDING EVERY PUPIL WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPRESENT THEIR SCHOOL

We understand that children develop at different rates. Therefore, we support and nurture individual pupils with diverse needs to develop confidence and resilience through a wide range of opportunities.

Our coaching structure allows the more able performers to be pushed to maximise their potential, while also allowing pupils of all abilities to develop their skills.



INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A LIFELONG INTEREST IN SPORTS

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WITH SO MUCH ON OFFER, EVERYONE
CAN FIND SOMETHING THEY ENJOY,
WHATEVER THEIR LEVEL OF ABILITY

This positive approach generates an atmosphere of enthusiasm and healthy competition. As a result, many find themselves not only involved, but excelling in a sport they might not have even considered trying before joining the School.

ON THE WATER

OUR PROVISION FOR SAILING AND WATER SPORTS IS UNRIVALLED

We are proud of the School's illustrious maritime history and maintain a strong connection with water-based activities. With excellent facilities close at hand, including Alton Water and the Stour Estuary, opportunities abound for pupils to participate in sailing and water sports.

The School is a RYA training centre and pupils can enjoy all sorts of exciting and challenging experiences, including racing dinghies at the highest level up to five times a week, training for the canoe marathon from Devizes to Westminster or enjoying weekend cruising on Cornish shrimpers around the peaceful Suffolk waterways.

“WITH THE RIVER AND RESERVOIR SO CLOSE, THERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAIL NEARLY EVERY DAY.”



ENCOURAGING LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE & SELF-DISCOVERY

PUPILS ARE EMPOWERED
TO PURSUE A HUGE RANGE
OF INTERESTS, SHARED
EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

They begin learning life skills from their earliest days at the School, taking part in adventure training and team-building events. From Year 9, the Combined Cadet Force and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme open up a whole range of opportunities, from rock climbing, coastering and power-boating to flying lessons, safety skills and training in self-reliance through participation in expeditions.

Older pupils are expected to give something back to the School community by taking on positions of responsibility. They can demonstrate leadership skills through the prefect and peer support system, running clubs and societies and becoming role models for younger children.

“IT WAS AN AMAZING
FEELING TO
OVERCOME
MY FEAR AND
TAKE ON A REAL
CHALLENGE.”

SERVICE, LOYALTY & COMMITMENT

WE PLACE GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE VALUES OF KINDNESS, SERVICE, GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT AND INTEGRITY

Through the Community Action Team, pupils have the opportunity to serve others, discover the value of self-improvement and support the wider community.

In school, they might fundraise for local charities and participate in recycling and conservation projects. Further afield they may opt to work in local schools, homes for the elderly or with a sailing for the disabled project. Other options include disability awareness training and the service element within the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Taking part in these programmes of community service, social responsibility and self-improvement equips pupils well for their future lives. They become more self-reliant, show initiative and approach life with an open, receptive mind.

“WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM HAS BEEN INSPIRING AND REWARDING.”





FEEL AT HOME FROM THE VERY BEGINNING

OUR STRUCTURED SCHOOL COMMUNITY PROMOTES COMPANIONSHIP, SELF-ASSURANCE & SOCIAL SKILLS

Whether your child is a boarder or a day pupil, the two Junior Houses provide a 'home from home', offering stability and security, while opening up a world of exciting possibilities in the early years at senior school.

A team of caring and involved House staff ensures that each child settles quickly and happily into their new extended family. Friendships are easily forged across the junior year groups, while the 11 and 12-year-olds eagerly share an appetite for each new challenge.

At 13, whether moving up from the lower school or starting in Year 9, pupils will join either a co-educational Day House or a Senior Boarding House, each with its own distinctive character and strong identity. Providing a framework of support and guidance, the House engenders pride, loyalty and a sense of belonging, helping pupils grow in confidence and become socially at ease.

FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

WE OFFER A RANGE OF
BOARDING AND DAY
OPTIONS TO FIT IN WITH
BUSY LIFESTYLES

Boarding can be full time or weekly, while day pupils can sample a taste of boarding with ad hoc overnight stays in the Junior Houses. Senior day pupils can stay as late as 7.00pm to finish their homework and make the most of the available extra-curricular activities.

The Senior Boarding Houses each have around 55 boys or girls, most of whom board full time. Weekly boarders may choose to go home on a Saturday afternoon after school commitments and return on Sunday evening or Monday morning. Day Boarders can have supper at school, complete all their homework in the House and, if space is available, stay overnight on occasion – a popular option for busy working families.

PASTORAL EXCELLENCE

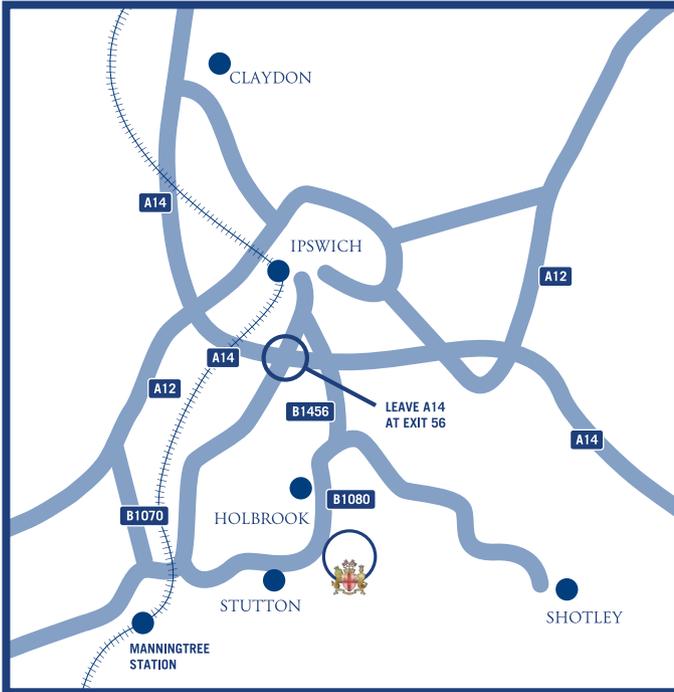
WITH CLOSE PASTORAL CARE AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, EVERY CHILD FEELS NURTURED, SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED

Boarding is a whole new way of life. However, by focusing on good communication with parents, we make sure that everyone is reassured. An established 'buddy' and peer support system helps new pupils settle in comfortably, resolving any pastoral issues quickly.

Matron looks after the health and well-being of the pupils in the House and we also have a well-established and sizeable health centre with nursing staff, daily doctor's surgery, dentist, physiotherapist and counsellor. Three healthy meals are provided daily in the magnificent dining hall, with nutritionally balanced menus consisting of fresh, seasonal and wherever possible, local produce.

The School welcomes and respects the needs and beliefs of children from all faiths and backgrounds, but a Christian faith underpins our philosophy. The whole-school community gathers together most mornings for chapel – an important time for reflection and consideration.

The School provides extensive daily bus routes throughout Suffolk and Essex for day pupils.
Airport transfers are also available for those travelling overseas.



The
Royal Hospital
School

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