

### Welcome to

# Abingdon School Open Day

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Saturday 28 September 2019 9.30am – 12.30pm

We hope you will have a very enjoyable visit. Please feel free to talk to staff and boys and to 'have a go' at the numerous activities we have on offer.

#### Welcome

On arrival, all visitors are asked to sign in at the **Ingham Room** or at the **Yang Science Centre** where they will be allocated a tour guide. (see map overleaf).

#### What's on

A full programme of events, times and venues is available on the day. **Michael Windsor**, the Headmaster, will speak to visitors at 10am and 11.30am in the Amey Theatre.

Academic Departments – all our departments are open and staff and boys are looking forward to meeting you. You can try your artistic talents in the new Art department in Beech Court, get involved with the Romans in Classics, experiments in Science and debating in Religious Studies. English, Modern Foreign Languages and History will also host a variety of games and competitions for all the family to try. There are plenty of opportunities to hear the wide range of music on offer and do visit the Drama department to take a look at some short performances, presentations and information about our award winning Abingdon Film Unit.

**Admissions** – the Admissions team will be in the Science Centre and the Ingham Room. They will be able to help with any queries regarding the entry process for Abingdon and Abingdon Prep School plus practical details such as bus routes, fees, bursaries and scholarships and awards.

**Boarding** – our Head of Boarding, Matthew Kendry, will be delighted to meet you and to introduce you to boarding at Abingdon, which is an integral part of school life. Staff will be happy to share with you our boarding activities and enrichment programmes as well as take you on a tour of our facilities and to meet the boys.

**Bursaries** – bursaries are available from age 11 and can cover up to 100% of day fees. If you would like information about how to apply please speak to our Admissions teams in the Ingham Room or Yang Science Centre. Further details can also be found at **abingdon.org.uk/bursaries**  **Lower School** – If you are interested in joining Abingdon at age 11 then do come and see our newly refurbished Lower School Houseroom where there will be plenty of games for our younger visitors. Lower School includes Years 7 and 8 (the First and Second Years) and boys join us mainly from primary schools in Year 7. Adam Jenkins, the Lower School Housemaster, and staff are available all day to answer any questions you may have about joining the Lower School.

**Other Half** – we have over 120 extra-curricular activities on offer at Abingdon and a large selection of these will be available for you to 'have a go'. You can try a string or brass instrument, be creative in Art and DT, hone your climbing, rowing and rugby skills and learn more about the challenges of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the CCF. Please refer to the programme, available on the day, for details.

**Sixth Form** – our new Sixth Form Centre in Beech Court opened its doors for the first time in September 2018 and it has transformed our sixth form facilities. The Head of Sixth Form, Nick O'Doherty, and his team will be on hand as will our career specialists who support boys with career advice, university applications and A level subject choices. All of our academic departments are also very happy to discuss their A level provision. During the morning Mr O'Doherty will be giving a presentation about the Sixth Form – see the programme on the day for timings.

**Sport** – view our fantastic facilities and see a wide range of sporting activities including rowing, rugby, fencing, aquatics, squash and many more.

**St Helen and St Katharine School** – Much of our drama and music is shared with the girls of St Helen's and there are some subjects taught together in the Sixth Form. The two schools operate a joint bus service. St Helen's is also holding its Open Day on 28 September. A shuttle bus will operate from our coach park from 10am – 12.30pm.

**Wellbeing** – our Head of Wellbeing, Paul Gooding, will be available to discuss the School's programme of Personal Development which includes the PSHCE curriculum and the Mindsets programme in the Sixth Form.

War Memorial Field



#### Places to see and additional information

Arts Centre – recently refurbished our Arts Centre houses the Music and Drama departments and the 450-seat Amey Theatre.

**Beech Court** – Beech Court opened last year and offers superb new facilities for the Sixth Form (ground floor), library (first floor) and Art department (second floor).

#### Boarding Houses and Dayboy

House Rooms – Visitors are invited to take a tour of our boarding facilities with our boarding staff (times available on the day) and to visit our dayboy house rooms. They can be found in:

Lower School – Big School James's – Greening Court O'Doherty's – Big School

Chapel – Take time to visit our beautiful school chapel where each year group comes together once a week for an interdenominational service. Enjoy the Chapel Choir and a range of Chamber Music throughout the morning (see the programme available on the day for details). Take the opportunity to view the contemporary stained glass windows of Nicholas Mynheer and the 17th century eagle lectern.

**Dining Hall and Refreshments** – Tasting sessions for visitors will be available in our Dining Hall. (Please enter via Park Crescent.) Light refreshments will also be available from 9.30am–12.30pm – see the programme on the day for details.

**Greening Court** – Home for the Geography, History and Classics departments, Greening Court houses 16 classrooms, a learning resource space, two dayboy house rooms and a GIS (geographical information system) classroom.

Library – the new library in Beech Court includes areas for silent study, quiet group work and reading for pleasure all acoustically designed with sound baffling and modern, ergonomic furniture. The library staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



**Sports Centre** – a variety of sports will be taking place in the sports hall, swimming pool, squash courts and studio and you are welcome to try your skills on the climbing wall. Our facilities at Tilsley Park, half a mile away, include a fantastic new 4G rugby/ football pitch and throw arena to complement the existing all-weather surfaces for football, hockey, tennis and athletics. We have 51 acres of sports pitches at Abingdon and Abingdon Prep School plus a beautiful Boat House on the Thames.

Yang Science Centre – this impressive facility has three floors for Biology, Physics and Chemistry with 21 laboratories, open plan learning spaces and study areas plus an outreach lab for use by the local community. Standing in the entrance is the stunning Science Fusion Tower, a 10m high sculpture depicting themes from the three sciences. There are plenty of hands on activities in the Science Centre plus information on Admissions.











## Key dates – Admissions

First Year entry 2020	Entrance Exam	Saturday 11 January 2020
Third Year entry 2020	13+ Academic Scholarships – for selected candidates only.	Week commencing 4 March 2020
Third Year entry 2021	Entrance Exam	Saturday 12 October 2019
Sixth Form entry 2020	Entrance Exam	Wednesday 13 November 2019 and Saturday 8 February 2020

For admissions information email: admissions@abingdon.org.uk or telephone +44 (0)1235 849041.

#### Notices

In the event of an emergency evacuation being required, the fire alarm will sound as a high continuous tone. Exit the building immediately and report to the nearest assembly point. **First Aid:** The School Health Centre, based in Whitefield, will be open all day. Smoking: This is not permitted anywhere in the buildings and grounds. **Toilets:** The main visitor toilet facilities are to be found adjacent to the Amey Theatre Foyer and in the Sports Centre and Science Centre.

### Abingdon School bus routes

The map gives an outline of the routes covered by the School's bus service which is shared with St Helen's.

Please see abingdon.org.uk/joint bus service

Abingdon Prep School is holding its Open Morning on Saturday 5 October from 10.00am – 12.00pm



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