

BE ALL YOU CAN BE

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#### WELCOME FROM ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

Children learn most effectively when they feel happy and motivated.

To achieve this, we provide a stimulating holistic approach to education in a safe and nurturing environment.

We have high expectations for excellent academic achievement and for enthusiastic involvement in extracurricular activities.

We are proud of our reputation as a friendly school with a family atmosphere, where we know our boys and girls well. By valuing each pupil in our care, we help them develop the skills and independence to attain their goals. Small class sizes and the close links we have with parents mean that we are able to focus on the needs of each pupil. Our committed staff and pupils are passionate about St Edmund's, whether they are in the Pre-Prep, the Junior or the Senior Schools.

We offer rich academic and cultural experiences which encourage children to achieve their potential wherever their talents and interests lie.

Our pupils leave us well-educated, emotionally intelligent and responsible young people. We extend you a warm invitation to visit St Edmund's so that we may share the School's vibrant atmosphere with you and your family.

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Edward O'Connor Head St Edmund's School







#### **OUR HERITAGE**

#### FOUNDING

St Edmund's was established in 1749 as the Clergy Orphan School in Yorkshire. The School later moved to London before settling in our present location in 1855.

Respectful of our founding ethos, we nurture each child's individuality – creating opportunities for children to fulfil their own potential and enabling them to become confident, articulate and well-balanced individuals with a strong social conscience.

We are understandably proud of our history but we are also forward-looking and ambitious.

# 3-18 LEARNING ETHOS

We are an independent, co-educational, day and boarding school for children aged between 3-18.

Our Nursery & Pre-Prep, Junior School and Senior School are all on a stunning 45 acre site overlooking the beautiful city of Canterbury.

All our pupils benefit from a caring and supportive environment, high-calibre teaching and a holistic educational approach that seeks to develop creativity, leadership qualities and original thinking.

A broad academic curriculum and extraordinarily diverse co-curricular programme enable pupils to find their path and grow to 'be all they can be'.



## **PASTORAL CARE**

True to our founding ethos, great emphasis is placed upon the importance of supporting young people and of recognising the individual.

Indeed, it is the bedrock of a successful education. Children learn best when they have a positive, happy experience of childhood, feel valued and secure within the school community, and are enthusiastic about their education and school lives.

At St Edmund's, we seek to achieve this through the curriculum, our co-curricular programme, and our outstanding pastoral systems – supported by the ethos and family atmosphere of the school.

We have a very high level of pastoral knowledge among our staff and our school is widely recognised for its expertise in this area.

Our House system provides the foundation for outstanding pastoral support and each pupil has a personal tutor, who oversees their development throughout their education. Close attention is paid to the student voice, with various opportunities for pupils to express their opinions and contribute to the life of the School.







## **ACADEMIC**

St Edmund's is proud of its pupil-centred and ambitious academic ethos.

We seek to foster original thinkers with the intellectual and personal skills to be leaders and decision makers of the future. Our academic expectations are high. The breadth and balance of our academic programmes exceed the requirements of the National Curriculum and children seek to foster creativity by combining rigorous subject knowledge with sophisticated thinking skills. We work in close partnership with parents, and deliver our education in small, dynamic class sizes with children supported by excellent pastoral care. The result is an ideal setting for children to flourish, become inspired, and be the best they can possibly be.



## **BOARDING**

#### Boarding at St Edmund's is exciting and fun.

It helps our boarders to become fully independent, create deep and lasting friendships and immerse themselves in the life of the school community.

Our boarding houses allow everyone to thrive emotionally, socially and academically. The experience of boarding cultivates leadership, teamwork and tolerance; skills we nurture and develop in all our children.

Whether it be weekly, full-time, or even a one-night stay, boarding at St Edmund's provides a sense of belonging in a home where everyone is committed to each other's success and wellbeing.

We offer an exciting weekend activity programme for boarders. On Saturday mornings, boarders choose from a diverse range of options including sport, academic support, international cuisine, music and art. There is also a series of trips on Sundays to museums, London, sports centres and theme parks, areas of natural beauty in the Kent countryside and cultural sites.





The creative arts are an integral part of life at St Edmund's and a source of pride as children are given yet more opportunities to shine.

We are proud to offer such an extensive provision of the arts, which culminates in a spectacular annual summer festival celebrating creativity in music, drama, dance, art and design.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

Dramatic performance is part of the ethos of the School from the earliest years.

Children across the school participate in plays and other performances with vitality and enthusiasm as an outlet for expressing their talents. Our consistently outstanding GCSE and A-Level results are testament to the emphasis we place on drama

within the curriculum and school life in general. The 450 seat tiered theatre hosts a range of productions from pupil performances to concerts from worldclass musicians.

St Edmund's has an outstanding record of students securing places at leading Drama schools such as ALRA, The Rose Bruford School, Central School of Speech and Drama and RADA.



#### **MUSIC**

Music is woven into the fabric of school life at St Edmund's and is reinforced by the presence of the Canterbury Cathedral Choristers.

In our purpose-built music school, specialist teachers give lessons to children from Pre-Prep through to Sixth Form. Children of all ages participate in our numerous musical ensembles, which cater for a range of vocal and instrumental abilities. As a result, we have an exceptional practical examination record, with more than 80% of our entrants achieving Distinction or Merit. Some children have also been selected for places in the National Children's Orchestra, whilst others have been awarded scholarships to prestigious universities and conservatoires.





## **CO-CURRICULAR**

In all three Schools, children are offered an extensive range of co-curricular activities.

To understand the importance of the co-curriculum is to understand what makes St Edmund's a unique school. We offer one of the widest and most varied co-curricular programmes in Kent; children can choose anything from horse riding to chess, mindfulness to debating, ground-breaking drama and outstanding musical activities, an innovative outdoor education programme and some exceptional sporting opportunities. Our programme is flexible and constantly

evolving to reflect children' interests and passions, with new clubs and societies starting each term at the request of children, and going on to thrive. As well as being fun, the co-curriculum programme has a strong focus on personal development. Children who involve themselves in our co-curricular activities often find that they excel in their academic studies, and acquire the confidence and ability to excel professionally and personally.







# SPORT

#### Sport at St Edmund's is for everyone.

We want children to know how to make the most of their individual talents, building on their strengths and natural abilities. In addition to teaching physical skills, sport at St Edmund's promotes an understanding of teamwork, leadership and competition, which prepares children for the world beyond school. We

have a proud sporting tradition, with qualified coaches and exciting fixture lists. Athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders, squash, swimming and tennis are just some of our options. Children participate in teams or as individuals in competition with other schools and Houses.



## **CHORISTERS**

St Edmund's School is proud to educate and care for the choristers of Canterbury Cathedral.

They are a vital part of our school community and benefit from all the same teaching and resources as our other children. The opportunity to be a chorister is something truly unique given the international profile and prestige of Canterbury Cathedral.

Choristership is a life-changing experience that creates a great sense of pride and personal fulfilment. Some choristers go onto distinguished musical careers, and for all the leadership, teamwork and organisational skills they learn are extremely useful in their lives at the school, at university and beyond.





#### **ADMISSIONS ENQUIRIES**

Open throughout the school holidays

Phone: 01227 475601 Email: admissions@stedmunds.org.uk Skype: admissionsstedmunds

#### CANTERBURY IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

**By rail** from London St Pancras 56 minutes

#### By road

from Central London 1 hour Ashford International (Eurostar) 25 minutes London Heathrow London Gatwick

1.5 hours 1.25 hours





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