MANNERS MAKYTH MAN
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Renowned for academic excellence, a Winchester education encourages curious minds amongst pupils from a diversity of backgrounds and experiences. This approach provides the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a globally connected world, where collaboration is as much a priority as competition.

So much of what makes Winchester exceptional is our people. Our teachers nurture independence of ideas and encourage innovation. Our pupils pursue their own passions and interests, alongside an extensive programme of community and outreach work, which prepares them for compassionate leadership in an increasingly global society.

Founded by William of Wykeham in 1382, Winchester College is one of the world’s most distinguished schools and is still defined by its original motto, Manners Makyth Man – a traditional motto with a decidedly modern sentiment: that we should be measured not by birth, but by our personal qualities. Today, Manners Makyth Man inspires the key qualities of Character, Conversation, Curiosity, Foresight and Leadership that our pupils develop during their time here.
Winchester College is a full boarding school for boys aged 13-18. Our Sixth Form also welcomes girls and boys as day pupils, with girls’ boarding places available from 2024.

Boarding at Winchester gives pupils an unmatched experience of focused learning and friendship.

Our day offer for Sixth Form pupils has been carefully designed to emulate this: a Winchester week is busy and stimulating, with house life at the centre of every pupil’s experience.

Located in and around the school are eleven houses. Many are listed buildings; all offer a comfortable home for around sixty pupils, drawn from each year group. We encourage a sense of community and an appreciation for individual perspectives and interests.
Discussions in class often continue over meals, instilling a lifelong love of debate. Independence and team spirit develop naturally within the houses, enhanced through an array of House competitions, ranging from singing, drama and football, to art and cross-country. Inevitably, spending so much time side by side with other young people can also develop patience, understanding and a good sense of humour.

In consultation with parents and their children, we accommodate pupils with care, getting to know them first through a personalised admissions process.

At the heart of our pastoral provision lies a commitment to ensuring that each pupil is happy and flourishes. All staff are committed to providing a caring environment, instilled through a culture of openness and collective responsibility.

We are dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our pupils, regardless of age, ability, race, culture, religion, gender, sexual orientation or class.
SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARIES

Music and Sports
Scholarships and the Warden’s Sixth Form Awards are available to any candidate who shows exceptional talent or ability in their chosen field.

Scholarship
A Winchester College education facilitates the ultimate adventure for the curious mind. Particularly bright boys joining at 13 may apply for an academic scholarship, whilst the Warden’s Sixth Form Awards are open to girls and boys with a flair for entrepreneurship, classics or modern languages.

Music and Sports scholarships celebrate and support exceptional talent or ability, and underpin our focus on excellence in these fields.

Bursaries
Winchester provides an education for those with the intellectual spark and ambition to take advantage of everything the school has to offer, and the drive and determination to give something back – regardless of their financial position.

Winchester has one of the most generous bursary programmes in the country with awards that cover up to 100% of the school fees, as well as other associated expenses.

The Wykeham Award is a means-tested bursary for pupils joining the Sixth Form, who are currently studying at a UK state secondary school. It is available for boys and girls, day pupils and boarders.

Each year we welcome pupils from a range of cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds. This diversity of experiences and views is one of the greatest strengths of our school community.
LEARNING

Inspiring teachers inspire learning. Pupils are hand-picked for their ability to think, our teachers, known as dons, are selected for their enthusiasm, dedication and expertise. Academic expectations are high but success is achieved through a genuine curiosity and love for learning.

The school is justly proud of its reputation for academic success, but a Winchester education provides more than academic results alone. This combines cultural studies in Div with a conventional curriculum of examined subjects, taught by highly-qualified subject specialists, in small classes with outstanding resources.

We encourage pupils to investigate themes, explore ideas and see connections beyond the examined syllabus. Learning alongside like-minded individuals, they leave Winchester with the ability to understand and tackle the complexities and challenges that further education, and life, will bring.
DIV

“Div is the reason I applied to Winchester College. No other school offers the same holistic style of learning to such a well-rounded degree, exploring topics far beyond the possible range of any realistic syllabus, transcending subject boundaries and allowing learning for the pleasure of learning.”

Through our unique programme of non-examined cultural studies, known as Div, pupils explore themes unrestrained by any syllabus. Div is what isn’t taught elsewhere and isn’t tested in exams, preparing young people to thrive in the modern world and contribute to a global society. Pupils explore global civilisations, histories and literatures, with cultural, practical and thematic links made between arts and sciences. Teachers are drawn from the whole range of academic departments, giving pupils a greater breadth of teaching than their specialisms might otherwise allow.
Our aim is to enable every pupil to experience the best and widest range of music-making, whether as a performer or listener. We approach this by sharing a love of music across the school, and by inspiring pupils to achieve – for themselves – the highest possible standards.

Beyond music as a curriculum subject, we encourage extra-curricular participation for every pupil. Two thirds of our pupils learn an instrument, while many learn two or three. From orchestras to jazz, opera to rock bands, we cater for diverse tastes and experiences. A full programme of visiting artists complement the numerous opportunities for pupils to perform, whether in the purpose-built Music School, the inspirational College Chapel, or our concert hall.

Music scholarships recognise and support exceptional musicians, with expert teaching and additional development and performance opportunities.
Sport brings challenge, and a vital balance to academic life. There are over 30 sports on offer and Winchester 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.

Winchester pupils pursue sports to compete at the highest level they choose, often playing for regional and national teams. Extracurricular activities form an important part of the daily school timetable, allowing lots of opportunity for sports and exercise and all pupils are encouraged to develop new skills and supported to develop their fitness and mental wellbeing.

Sports scholarships are available for the most talented athletes. Scholars benefit from specialist coaching sessions, a regularly assessed strength and conditioning programme, and a dedicated Sports tutor to help them achieve their sporting goals.
CREATIVE ARTS

Pupils looking for creative inspiration enjoy the beauty of Winchester’s natural and built environments, which are complemented by the school’s extensive collections of art and archaeology in the Treasury museum.

Art School offers large, well-equipped studio spaces, flooded with natural light, divided into specialist areas of paint, print and sculpture. There is also a dedicated gallery for both pupil and professional artists’ exhibitions.

Drama is part of the fabric of house and school life. Each year, pupils participate in around seven to ten theatrical productions. Plays directed by senior pupils are a long-standing tradition, as is a studiedly diverse repertoire. The Junior Drama Festival at Christmas sees all first years tread the boards in a thirty-minute play, directed by Sixth Form pupils.

Design & Technology enables pupils to develop practical, spatial and intuitive intelligence. In our DT centre, equipped with a comprehensive range of traditional and high-tech machinery, graphics studio, and electronics lab, pupils learn to solve challenging problems through creativity and the realisation of innovative ideas.

Open access to all these facilities allows pupils to experiment creatively, with expert help on hand if they need advice or technical support.
INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Pupils are encouraged to think differently; to adopt new, exciting ways of thinking, and to innovate for the betterment of society. Makyth Ventures, the College’s entrepreneurship hub, supports lateral thinking and impactful imagination, which are the natural products of our holistic approach to education, through collaborative projects and competitions.
Beyond the Classroom

There is time set aside every day to pursue personal interests. In addition to sport, music and the creative arts, pupils lead an extensive range of clubs and societies, supported by dons, that offer them the chance to enjoy established passions or discover new challenges.

These include a diverse mix such as charity fundraising, sustainable fashion, journalism, and coding, alongside the long-standing traditions of debating and a focus on the environment; the Natural History Society was established in 1870. A rich programme of performances, lectures and masterclasses from visiting professionals and experts, provides entertainment and fresh perspectives, and stimulates lively debate.

Our annual Studium is a full day of talks from speakers who are leaders in their fields, from the worlds of business, science, technology, culture, politics and the professions.

Pupils take regular trips to enhance their learning, with an emphasis on making the most of what the UK has to offer for sustainability reasons, in addition to sporting and musical tours.
and popular. It includes a broad spectrum of activities, mixing adventure and discipline. These rewarding experiences develop humility, compassion, teamwork and leadership skills, and pupils often count them amongst the highlights of their time here.

All pupils spend some time in service of others. Through our community relationships, pupils learn the value of helping others and broaden their life skills to bring tangible benefits to the wider community. The pupil-led, staff-supervised Combined Cadet Force (CCF) at Winchester College is very well-established.
Winchester is a beautiful place. The whole school takes seriously its responsibility to care for its unique local ecology, and to maintain our historic, built environment sustainability. Set on the edge of the South Downs National Park, crisscrossed by rare chalk streams, the school enjoys a tranquil, natural setting within a vibrant city, full of heritage.

Pupils enjoy the independence of being able to walk the few minutes into town, past the cathedral, and to the high street shops or cinema, or to explore the local countryside.
A close connection with those living in the city and across the region is an intrinsic part of school life.

Our Outreach programme partners with 40 external organisations across Southern Hampshire, with 300 pupils providing 18,000 hours of voluntary work on an annual basis. Members of the public provide an appreciative audience at events and pupils’ musical performances.

Winchester College has strong links with primary and secondary schools in the region, providing opportunities for local pupils to be inspired by our teaching staff and pupils in enrichment activities that are designed collaboratively with these partners to ensure we are providing support tailored to their needs.
Winchester has a well-deserved reputation for academic success. It attracts bright pupils, who thrive amongst like-minded friends, and fulfil their potential. Our Sixth Form provides the important bridge to higher education.