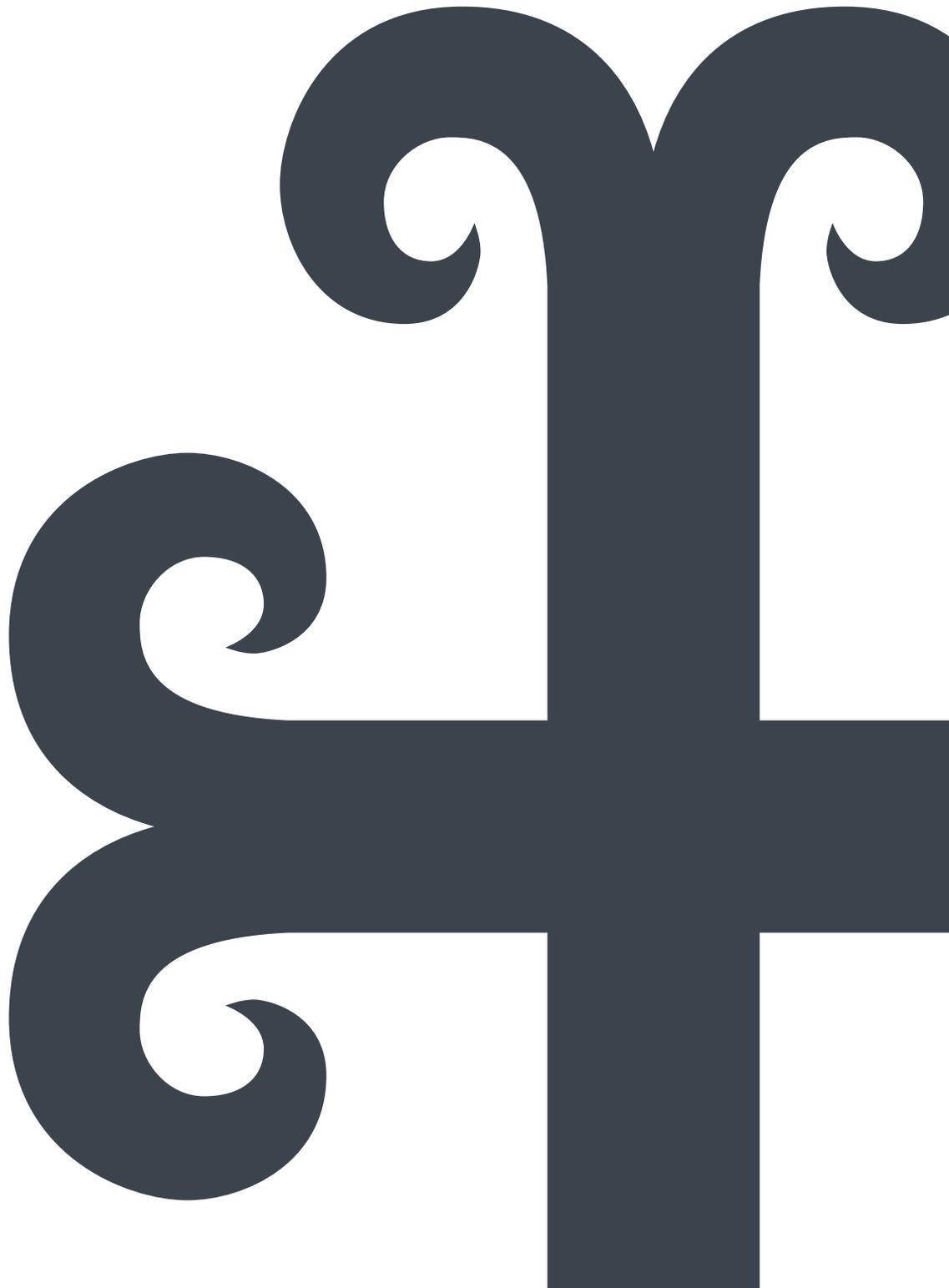


 DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS



“ PUPILS SPEAK OF THE BENEDICTINE VALUES WHICH LIE AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL’S ETHOS OPENLY AND PROUDLY. THIS IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THOSE PUPILS WHO ARE NOT CATHOLIC AS MUCH AS THOSE WHO ARE.

ISI Report 2018



CONTENTS

WELCOME	4
ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND ETHOS	6
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY	8
LOCATION	10
LIFE AT DOWNSIDE: BOARDING	12
LIFE AT DOWNSIDE: DAY	14
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW	16
FIRST AND SECOND FORMS	18
THIRD TO FIFTH FORMS	20
SIXTH FORM	22
THE WIDER CURRICULUM	24
A TRULY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY	28
LIFE AFTER DOWNSIDE	30
TESTIMONIALS	32
ADMISSIONS	34

WELCOME

AT DOWNSIDE, WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES AND TO PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH NURTURES YOUNG PEOPLE OF INTEGRITY WHO CAN THINK FOR THEMSELVES, STAND UP FOR THEIR BELIEFS, AND ACT TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

Our Catholic and Benedictine values provide support and challenge in equal measure for children of any faith or none. The strength and confidence which our pupils and staff draw from belonging to a community, in which kindness and looking to the needs of others is the currency, encourages them to strive to make the most of their unique gifts and to support others to do the same.

We are uncompromising in the pursuit of academic excellence. We aim for the highest standards in our extensive and exciting extra-curricular programme, and we provide plentiful and varied opportunities for service and leadership. We celebrate the achievements and successes of our pupils, but do not allow these to define them. What is most important is that our pupils learn to value themselves and others for who they are, recognising that their achievements are the by-product of their values and accompanying work ethic.

A Downside education does not come with a 'sell-by' date; it remains a wellspring which provides sustenance and perspective throughout one's life. Our pupils – present and past – are notable for making it their priority to welcome others and put them at their ease; for being open and taking an interest in those they meet. They recognise the value of forming fruitful relationships and respecting others as they are. They have a well-developed understanding of living in a community and making a positive contribution. Moral courage and integrity are values they prize. I hope that you are able to visit Downside to experience our School community for yourself and see that these characteristics do not come about by accident.

I hope you will enjoy reading our School prospectus and I look forward to meeting you and your family in person.

ANDREW HOBBS
Head Master



ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND ETHOS

DOWNSIDE IS A CO-EDUCATIONAL, FORWARD-THINKING CATHOLIC SCHOOL THAT WELCOMES PUPILS AND PARENTS OF ALL FAITHS WHO SET STORE BY EMPHASISING THE IMPORTANCE OF MORAL COURAGE, INTEGRITY AND SERVICE TO OTHERS.

When the climate is one of personal growth and change, achievement happens, in all arenas, without becoming the be-all and end-all of life. We all know that education is a long game – indeed the longest game possible. Our pupils will achieve the exam results necessary to get them to the next stage of their lives, but the Christian values learnt here will accompany them forever.

The School, founded in 1606 (the same year, for example, that the Gunpowder Plot failed and Rembrandt was born), is home to 340 boarders and day pupils, aged between 11 and 18 years of age. They share six Houses – four for boys and two for girls.

The School is a collection of beautiful buildings, the most magnificent of which is the Abbey, visible like a beacon for miles around. The School grounds and pitches are everything you would expect from a major school in the rolling Somerset countryside. The facilities are extensive and include an indoor swimming pool, a Mac Suite dedicated to music, a health centre, and a Performing Arts Centre containing a 400-seat theatre and a recording studio.

“ PUPILS SPEAK OF THE BENEDICTINE VALUES WHICH LIE AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL'S ETHOS OPENLY AND PROUDLY. THIS IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THOSE PUPILS WHO ARE NOT CATHOLIC AS MUCH AS THOSE WHO ARE.

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OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

“ I FEEL VALUED AT DOWNSIDE FOR WHO I AM.
Current Pupil

BEING PART OF DOWNSIDE SCHOOL MEANS BELONGING TO A COMMUNITY IN WHICH EACH INDIVIDUAL IS ASKED TO LOOK TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.

It entails understanding that helping others in no way diminishes us, but instead leads to our achieving even higher standards – individually and as a community. Leadership at Downside can be best defined as the ability to bring out the best in others. From this perspective, we encourage each and every member of our community to be a leader.

It means that at Downside wisdom is where strength and compassion both live, so that in all facets of our lives – academic, sports, the arts – we strive to be as good as we can be, and support others to be as good as they can be. That goes for the whole community: all pupils, all staff, all parents.

So, whilst all schools will give learning, Downside gives a meaning – a meaning that brings purpose and positive consequences to life at and after school.



LOCATION

DOWNSIDE'S BEAUTY AND TRANQUILLITY WILL HAVE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON HOW YOUR CHILD LEARNS AND GROWS.

The School is set in 500 acres of glorious English countryside. The famous World Heritage City of Bath is a mere 25 minutes away and has direct train links to London. Bristol Airport is only 40 minutes away and we are also close to the M4, M5 and A303 road links. At the start and end of each term and half term breaks there are shuttle buses to London Heathrow (2½ hours) and Richmond in South West London.

As well as historic Bath and cosmopolitan Bristol, our location enables us to offer a broad variety of 'on the doorstep' staff-supervised activities and excursions during the weekend and outside of lesson times. There is a plethora of nearby landmarks and attractions such as the World Heritage Site of Stonehenge, the spectacular limestone caves and gorge of Cheddar, or Longleat House and Safari Park. Cinema, ten-pin bowling and shopping trips to Bath and Bristol are always popular, as are sailing at Cheddar Reservoir or kayaking on the River Avon.

Whilst we are rural, we are not isolated.





LIFE AT DOWNSIDE: BOARDING

OUR HOUSES PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SCHOOL LIFE (AND LIFE AFTER SCHOOL). THEY ARE PLACES OF FUN, HAPPINESS AND RELAXATION FOLLOWING THE FULLEST OF DAYS, BUT ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN UNDERSTANDING THE REAL MEANING OF DIVERSITY, TOLERANCE AND EMPATHY.

At Downside, having a role model and becoming a role model are both important. Both can often start in the House. This is why it is important for us that we remain an 75% boarding school. It means that, unlike many schools today, we are a seven-day-a-week community, with all that brings in terms of friendships, esprit de corps and the sense of belonging which is at the very heart of pastoral care.

School life revolves around the six Houses: First, Second and Third Form boys join Powell House, before moving up to one of three senior boys' Houses – Barlow, Roberts or Smythe. Girls join Isabella in the First Form and stay there until the end of the Upper Sixth, or they can move to Caverel for the Third Form onwards. Each one of these Houses has its own unique spirit and

traditions. However, pupils integrate across the Houses and with day pupils, who are also assigned to one of the Houses.

Socially, our boarders have that incredibly important opportunity to relax with their friends. Enjoying time outside of classes together is fundamental for healthy friendships to be forged. Add spending weekends together on top of this and Downside School nurtures friendships that last a lifetime. Boarding life also coaxes independence to blossom within all of our pupils.

“ BOARDING CREATES STRONG COMMUNITIES IN EACH HOUSE WHERE PUPILS CAN BE FOUND COOKING IN THE KITCHENS TOGETHER OR HELPING ONE ANOTHER WITH ACADEMIC WORK, PARTICULARLY OLDER PUPILS HELPING YOUNGER.

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Those who choose to be day pupils with us experience every element of 'a life fully lived', benefitting tremendously from being at a school that is primarily boarding. Day pupils are integrated seamlessly into a world of opportunity, mirroring all that a boarder will experience. They can even choose to sleep at School for two or three nights per week with our Day Plus option.

We believe that, in this part of the country, we offer the best combination of academic focus, co-curricular breadth and pastoral care. Our School day can dovetail seamlessly with the parental working day, with all activities on one beautiful rural campus, where rushing to after-school appointments can become a thing of the past.

This can give the family significant benefit at no extra cost; indeed parents tell us that this added freedom has a very positive impact on the quality of family time at home.

All meals, including supper, can be taken at School. Day pupils can stay until 9.00pm, meaning that prep and exam revision can be done in a supervised atmosphere. Parents tell us that this is an effective use of time and actively enhances the home life of their child.

We also have daily minibuses running to and from Frome, Bath and the Chew Valley to help with travel arrangements for day pupils.

LIFE AT DOWNSIDE: DAY

“ AT DOWNSIDE I FEEL MY CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: THE NURTURING OF THE HOUSE PLUS REGULAR FAMILY TIME AT HOME. THEY LOVE BEING DAY PUPILS AT DOWNSIDE AND REALLY BENEFIT FROM THE BOARDING STRUCTURE: LESS PRESSURE TO SQUEEZE IN ALL OF THE EXTRA ACTIVITIES IN THE NORMAL SCHOOL DAY, MORE DOWNTIME WITH THEIR FRIENDS AND SCHEDULED PREP TIME.

Current Parent



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

LIFE REWARDS THOSE THAT DEFY THE NORM. DOWNSIDE HAS STRONG ACADEMIC RESULTS PARTLY BECAUSE IT ESCHEWS THE MAINSTREAM – BEYOND EXPECTATION AND MILES FROM THE ORDINARY.

A stellar set of A levels is, in many cases, the 'price of entry' into the best universities, here and abroad. It is no surprise that the vast majority of our pupils gain entry to their first choice of university, and a gratifying number of them achieve First Class Honours at their chosen place of study.

Downside pays more attention than many to how your child will fare after leaving school. The life-skills – practical, spiritual emotional, social – learnt through the minutiae of the everyday at school always give the pupil-about-to-be-student a flying start.

Deeply embedded in our philosophy of learning, and also in the Benedictine tradition, is the idea of transformation. The purpose of education is to transform us, all of us, into our best possible selves. It is, therefore, the

magnitude of the change that matters, not the final result as measured in a comparative table. However, the important point is that, when indeed our results – academic, sporting, cultural – are measured comparatively, they prove to be excellent. But having been reached through a process of self-fulfillment, the individual is strengthened and balanced, rather than damaged by the pressure of objective attainment for its own sake.

You should expect growth and change in your child. You should expect their greatest talents to be identified and nurtured. Only in this way can they find themselves on the path to a 'life fully lived'.

“ PUPILS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC AND HIGHLY MOTIVATED LEARNERS... A CLEAR AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO LEARNING PERMEATES THE WHOLE SCHOOL, ENABLED BY EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STAFF AND PUPILS.

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FIRST AND SECOND FORMS

(YEARS 7 AND 8)

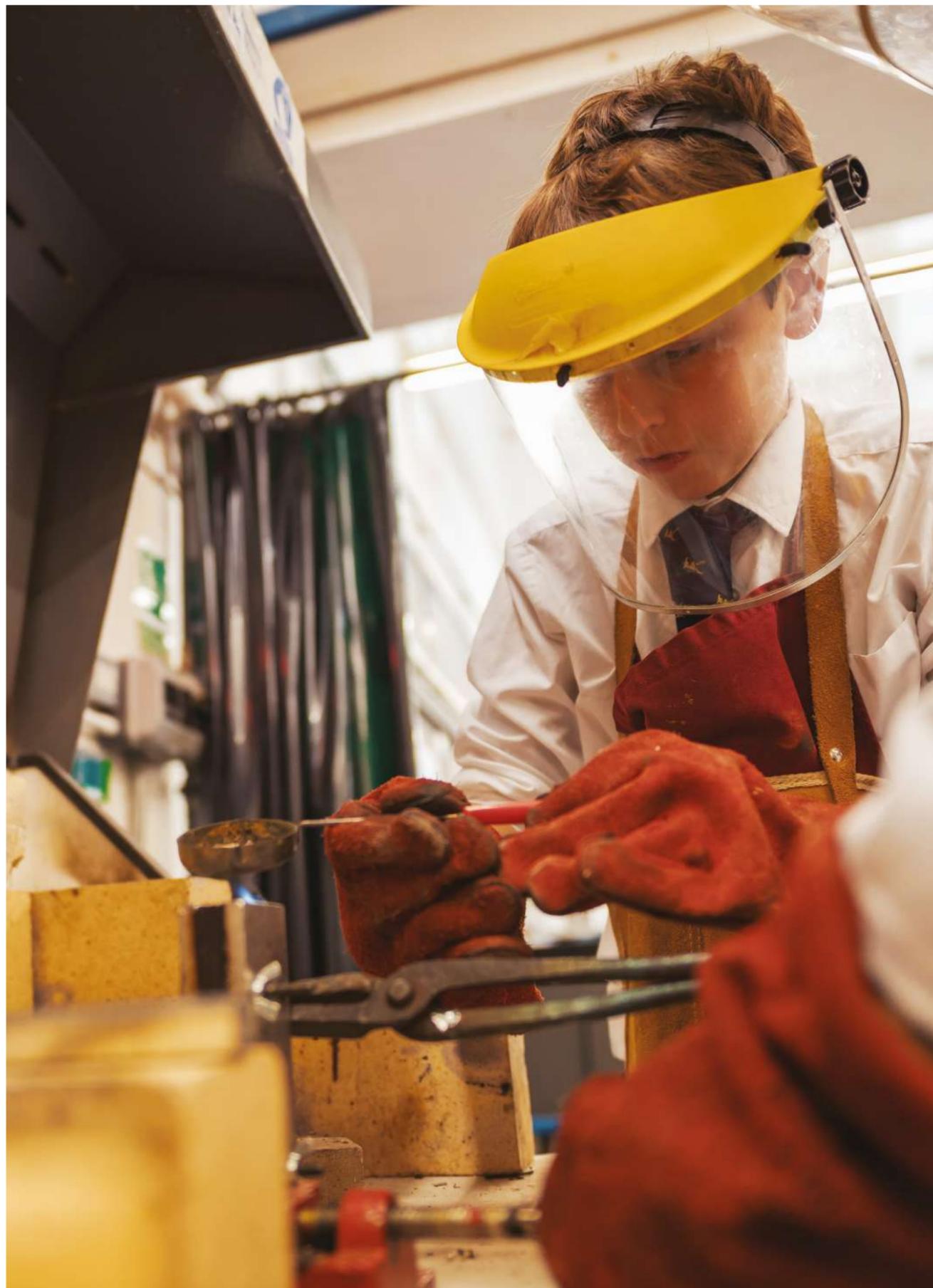
THE MOVE TO SENIOR SCHOOL IS HANDLED WITH GREAT CARE HERE AT DOWNSIDE. IT IS A TIME FOR EXPLORATION, BUT ALSO FOR YOUR CHILD TO FIND THEIR FEET IN ALL ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIFE, INCLUDING THE ACADEMIC.

We help each pupil, one-to-one, to do this. Above all we want their education here at Downside to be exciting, and to explore new subjects and opportunities. We have specialist teachers in all the subjects you would expect. We teach the Sciences (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) separately, and we encourage all pupils to study a modern language.

Separate timetable courses in Art, Music, Drama, Design Technology, Computing and SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural) offer our pupils possibilities that could, and often do, lead a lifetime interest.

Every pupil, from the off, is assigned a dedicated tutor – these weekly sessions with their tutors have a marked impact on progress through the School.





THIRD TO FIFTH FORMS

(YEARS 9 TO 11)

BE FULLY QUALIFIED BUT FULLY HUMAN AS WELL. OUR PUPILS ARE COMPLETELY AWARE THAT THEIR GCSE AND A LEVEL RESULTS ARE IMPORTANT IN HELPING THEM TO REACH THE NEXT STAGE OF THEIR LIVES, BUT THAT THE CHRISTIAN VALUES LEARNT HERE WILL GET THEM TO THE FINISH LINE.

Preparation for Fifth Form GCSE examinations starts in the Third Form. Academically, if you are capable of achieving the very highest grades in any subject, you will be able to do it at Downside. We are used to high achievement in academics (perhaps you would like to read *Tessera*, our academic magazine dedicated to outstanding work across all subjects by our pupils), but the difference is this – achievement is always allied to the other human qualities we value so highly here.

Specialist subject teachers provide tuition in subjects including English, Mathematics, the separate Sciences (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), History, Geography and Religious Studies. The Third Form also sees the introduction of Classical Greek, German and Spanish in addition to the existing French and Latin. Private lessons

in Chinese, Italian and Russian are also possible. Timetabled courses in Art, Music, Drama, Design Technology and Computing are also part of the curriculum, giving pupils an opportunity to explore and gain valuable knowledge for further study.

In the Fourth and Fifth Forms, pupils follow a broad and balanced range of GCSE subjects. Most pupils will follow courses leading to the award of ten or eleven GCSEs. There is also the opportunity to undertake a One Year GCSE for our international pupils. Whilst academically demanding, this provides excellent preparation for further post-16 study.

“ PUPILS’ UNDERSTANDING AND USE OF TECHNICAL LANGUAGE ARE EXCELLENT, ESPECIALLY IN THE SCIENCES.

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MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR GCSE COURSES CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE DOWNSIDE.CO.UK OR REQUESTED FROM THE ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT (SEE P34).

SIXTH FORM

A STEPPING STONE TO THE NEXT STAGE AND A PASSPORT FOR LIFE. THIS IS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT IN THE LIGHT OF FUTURE EMPLOYERS SETTING EVER GREATER VALUE ON THE 'REAL PERSON' AND THE LIFE SKILLS THAT ARE SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART OF DOWNSIDE.

We welcome new pupils into the Sixth Form. It is a vibrant and inclusive community working collaboratively with teachers, and encouraging independent learning and thought.

A wide range of subjects are on offer: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, English Literature, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, History, Geography, Art, History of Art, Design Technology, Computing, Economics, Physical Education, Religious Studies, Spanish, French, Classical Greek, German, Latin, Music, Psychology and Theatre Studies.

Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs) can be done in Lower Sixth. These are challenging, in-depth pieces of work on a specific topic. As such, they prefigure the sort of academic rigour that will be expected at university. The independent research, organisation and prioritisation

of data, plus the detailed teacher feedback, all help enormously to prepare for life in higher education.

Of course A level results are of great importance, and our pupils perform consistently well with the majority achieving their first choice universities. Furthermore, we encourage parents to meet our Department Heads to discuss the progress of their children in their chosen subjects. However, when seeking employment in their chosen career, there are qualities beyond academic qualifications that count. These things are obviously to do with the 'adult' skills of confident, self-assured social interaction, but also to do with values, with having a moral compass, with honesty, with compassion – all of which are consciously and consistently at the forefront of life at Downside.

“ WE ARE IMMENSELY PROUD OF OUR SIXTH FORM AND THE OPPORTUNITIES IT HAS GIVEN US. GET INVOLVED IN EVERYTHING, AS YOUR TIME HERE WILL FLY BY.

Sixth Form Leaver, 2018-19

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR A LEVEL COURSES CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE DOWNSIDE.CO.UK OR REQUESTED FROM THE ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT (SEE P34).





THE WIDER CURRICULUM

EVERY FIRE IS STARTED WITH A SINGLE SPARK. THAT SINGLE SPARK CAN COME FROM ANYWHERE – AND LEAD YOU ANYWHERE.

“ PUPILS ACHIEVE WELL IN A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES ENABLED PARTICULARLY BY THE FOCUSED STAFFING OF ACTIVITIES AND THE OPENNESS SENIOR LEADERS SHOW TO PUPILS’ VIEWS ON SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES THEY WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP.

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Taking advantage of one of the numerous and useful wider-curriculum activities provided at Downside School could take your child on a journey that defines the rest of their life, create new friendships and help them to perfect a new skill. Joining the CCF, for example, or learning to play chess.

There is sailing – using our own fleet of boats – or taking part in our popular choir, who regularly sing in the magnificent Abbey Church. Fishing, stone carving, fine dining, kayaking, Duke of Edinburgh, debating (we have the oldest accredited debating society in the country)... there are over 70 activities to choose from.

Pupils benefit greatly from being able to try their hand at anything, and are encouraged to do so.

We provide extended time slots every weekday afternoon for activities, clubs, societies, drama, music and sport. Weekends are busy and purposeful, where pupils are engaged in a wide variety of activity options: clubs, games, sporting fixtures, socials, trips out and Sunday Mass. With all this on offer, there is never 'nothing to do!' Quite the opposite.

“ THE SCHOOL HELPS TO DEVELOP THE CHARACTER AND CONFIDENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH SPORT AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

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“ PUPILS EMBRACE THE SCHOOL'S DIVERSE COMMUNITY WITH RELISH AND ENERGY. THIS IS EVIDENT IN THE WAY PUPILS ARE INTEGRATED IN LESSONS AND IN LIVELY CONVERSATIONS AT MEALTIMES, SUCH AS BETWEEN YOUNGER PUPILS FROM DIFFERING CONTINENTS.

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A TRULY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

FRIENDSHIPS AT DOWNSIDE CUT ACROSS NATIONALITIES, AGE GROUPS AND IDEOLOGIES, CREATING A GLOBAL NETWORK OF FRIENDS FOR LIFE.

Our overseas pupils hail from many different corners of the world, all bringing with them their own cultural identities to share with the new friends that they will make here, as well as a willingness to appreciate British culture.

There are many reasons why overseas pupils join Downside: for some it's about reaching their academic potential. Others are looking for new life experiences, to gain independence, or to perfect their English. Your child will certainly broaden their mind during their time here and enjoy living in a vibrant, compassionate community.

Overseas pupils are fully incorporated within the School and live in the same boarding Houses as UK-based pupils, creating a strong sense of community

spirit. There is a pupil-led International Committee which runs a variety of events including Oktoberfest, Chinese New Year and the Mid-Autumn Festival.

We offer extensive English as an Additional Language (EAL) support for all pupils whose first language is not English. The 'full immersion' experience begins immediately and, in this way, natural language acquisition starts to take place from day one. We also offer a recognised qualification in English as a Second Language (ESL).

LIFE AFTER DOWNSIDE

DOWNSIDE IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A PLACE OF EDUCATION. IT HAS A UNIQUE AND ALMOST UNRIVALLED NETWORK OF FOLLOWERS WHO DEMONSTRATE AN EXTRAORDINARY DEGREE OF LOYALTY.

When pupils leave Downside they become Old Gregorians (OGs). The School has always facilitated their on-going interaction by organising reunions all over the world, as well keeping them in touch with the School and each other via newsletters, magazines and the School website. In recent years, social media has strengthened our connections with an OG Facebook group, an active professional group on LinkedIn as well as feeds from Twitter and Instagram.

The old adage 'it's not what you know but who you know' is as true today as it always was and the OG network is second to none as a vibrant and active group. The values learned at Downside of welcome, concern for the individual, building community, listening and humility characterise an Old Gregorian. They are the ones most likely to raise money for charity or do the washing up after a party.

Getting on the career ladder or taking that next step in your professional development can be a daunting prospect and we try hard to facilitate professional

networking for all our members. This provides a much broader network of support and experience than would otherwise be possible alone.

Starting at School, we hold a career seminar every year when OGs come back to speak to Sixth Form pupils about various career options, pathways to get to them there, and likely pitfalls on the way. As pupils go on to university and feel clearer about the direction they are likely to take, we can put them in touch with OGs willing to mentor them, provide work experience or just have an informal chat. Once part of the world of work, we arrange professional networking events, usually in London, for OGs. The opportunity to share ideas and build relationships with people who live by the same code of conduct can be very valuable in so many ways in today's turbulent and frantically busy world. They are also a great opportunity to chat over their old school days and reminisce about their wonderful memories of Downside.

“ PUPILS GROW IN CONFIDENCE TO REACH THE HIGHEST LEVELS BY THE TIME THEY LEAVE SCHOOL, SHOWING EQUALLY HIGH LEVELS OF SELF ESTEEM. THEY DEVELOP STRONGLY AS INDIVIDUALS, ENABLED BY THE VERY HIGH LEVEL OF PASTORAL CARE THEY RECEIVE.

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TESTIMONIALS



“ I am now in my final year of training to be a vet at the Royal Veterinary College. Looking back to four years ago, when I had just finished my time at Downside School, I only remember it with fond memories. Being at boarding school really helped me to become more independent.

The ethos at Downside is very centred around living within a big society, with people with different characters from different cultures and this helped prepare me for university life, and life in general for that matter. The teaching at Downside, especially in Sixth Form, is heavily focussed on independent learning, directed by the students but guided by the teachers and this meant university learning was not a huge shock to me. Downside enhanced my confidence and social skills and made my transition to university in London easier than I'd imagined.

**TASIE MORGAN (C15) –
OLD GREGORIAN**



“ I joined Downside specifically for the Sixth Form, having previously been at a state school. I chose Downside because I wanted to have a committed focus for my A levels. The smaller class sizes and amazing academic support offered here make that possible. I like the fact that I can choose to have breakfast and supper at school if and when I want, which means more time with my friends. Plus the food is really good with a lot of choice.

I'm very sporty and the sporting opportunities here at Downside are wide-ranging and really suit me. I will often go to the School gym after prep before I leave for home. My House is buzzing during the day, which I really like. During prep, however, we respect each other's need to concentrate. I think I am happier here than I would be anywhere else; it's an inspiring and safe environment to be in. The culture at Downside is that everyone can do the best that they can and you are fully supported to achieve that – I don't think you find that in many other schools.

**JAMES –
CURRENT UPPER SIXTH FORMER**

“ Downside is unique in how it provides an enriched education, fundamentally developing its pupils as well-rounded individuals. Even now, while working in London, I still use and think about the specific skills and core Benedictine values that I learned while at Downside. In a world that is increasingly competitive and complex, my time at Downside could not have prepared me better for later life.

It was far more than just an educational experience. My tutors, teachers and sports coaches personally developed key attributes in me such as leadership, teamwork and self-confidence that helped me right through my gap year, studying at university in my current job. When it was time to leave, I didn't feel like a by-product of a system, but a well-rounded and prepared individual, able to take Downside's values and use them to reach my potential.

**CHARLIE HARBOARD (R12) –
OLD GREGORIAN**



“ I came to Downside as I was keen to go to a boarding school, plus my brother wanted to come here as well. I quickly realised how much I enjoyed it and how Downside was becoming a second home to me. I like being constantly surrounded by my friends and being able to use all the School facilities in the evening. I think I am much more confident now after my first year at Downside.

I was 11 when I joined and was used to mum sorting my stuff. Now I think I am much more independent. I also really enjoy all the sports facilities and I am looking forward to starting my Duke of Edinburgh challenge in the Third Form. I have formed solid friendships that are strong because we all live together.

**EMILY –
CURRENT SECOND FORMER**



ADMISSIONS

AT DOWNSIDE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE ADMISSIONS JOURNEY TO A SENIOR SCHOOL CAN BE AT FIRST A DAUNTING ONE, WHETHER YOU ARE BASED IN THE UK OR LIVING OVERSEAS.

It is our pleasure to work with families to ensure that the admissions process is a personal journey, which supports you and your child every step of the way.

Admission for boys and girls to Downside is normally at 11+ into the First Form (Year 7), at 13+ into the Third Form (Year 9), or at 16+ into the Lower Sixth Form (Year 12). Places occasionally become available for boys and girls for admission at 12+ into the Second Form (Year 8) or at 14+ into the Fourth Form (Year 10).

Downside School is pleased to offer a range of scholarships to talented pupils at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Bursaries may be granted in addition to scholarships.

Prospective parents and children are encouraged to attend one of our Open Days or, if you would prefer, to arrange an individual visit to the School on a normal working day to meet the Head Master, talk with current pupils and tour our extensive facilities and stunning grounds.

If you then wish to proceed with the admissions process we will ask you to register your child for entry. Once registered, we will arrange for your son or daughter to complete our entrance assessments and to have an interview. We will also obtain school reports and references from your child's current school. Successful completion of the entry assessments will be followed by an offer of an unconditional or conditional place. We then ask parents to sign a contract with the School and to make a deposit payment, as acceptance of the offer.

Downside School aims to ensure that boys and girls who join the School are able to be happy, successful and secure within its academic, cultural, pastoral and spiritual environment, whether they are boarders or day pupils.



ISSY HARTNELL,
ADMISSIONS OFFICE



“ AT DOWNSIDE, PUPILS ARE ENCOURAGED FROM THE START TO LOOK OUTWARD, BEYOND THEIR OWN CARES. THIS IS EVIDENT IN THE HOUSES WHERE THE OLDER PUPILS SEEM TO RELISH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THE YOUNGER ONES. TOGETHER WITH A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY, PUPILS LEAVE WITH A UNIQUE CARING QUALITY THAT ENDURES FAR BEYOND THEIR SCHOOL DAYS.

Current Day & Day Plus Parent



INDIVIDUAL VISITS TAKE PLACE DAILY, AND OUR OPEN DAYS TAKE PLACE IN MARCH, MAY AND OCTOBER.

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RADSTOCK, BATH, BA3 4RJ

admissions@downside.co.uk

www.downside.co.uk

Tel: **01761 235103**

