



## We're Small

It's key to our philosophy. For us, small defines all of the values that are sometimes lost in larger establishments. Small gives us the time for individuals and a personal touch. We foster an independent spirit without losing the essentials of cooperation and partnership. Small is simply a kinder and more forward thinking approach. Small is what we are, but it does not limit us.

*It's our ideas and achievements that are big.*

Tower House is home to just 180 boys. Like a family, we understand that every child is different. Some will be faster out of the blocks than others. But we don't give up on any child. We commit to every boy. We do this because we have no desire to turn education into a process.

*We want to produce individuals. If we are doing that, we've done our job.*



## Our ethos

While preparing boys for a wide variety of future schools, we offer much more than exam-passing skills at Tower House.

We also provide a rich learning environment in which the boys are given time to learn about themselves as learners: – to practise the skills of thinking, debate and enquiry, to modify their views because of another’s reasoning and – not least – to listen, understand and empathise with the experiences of others.

We also place a great deal of emphasis on the development of each boy’s character and confidence – encouraging responsibility, compassion for others and a sense of humour.



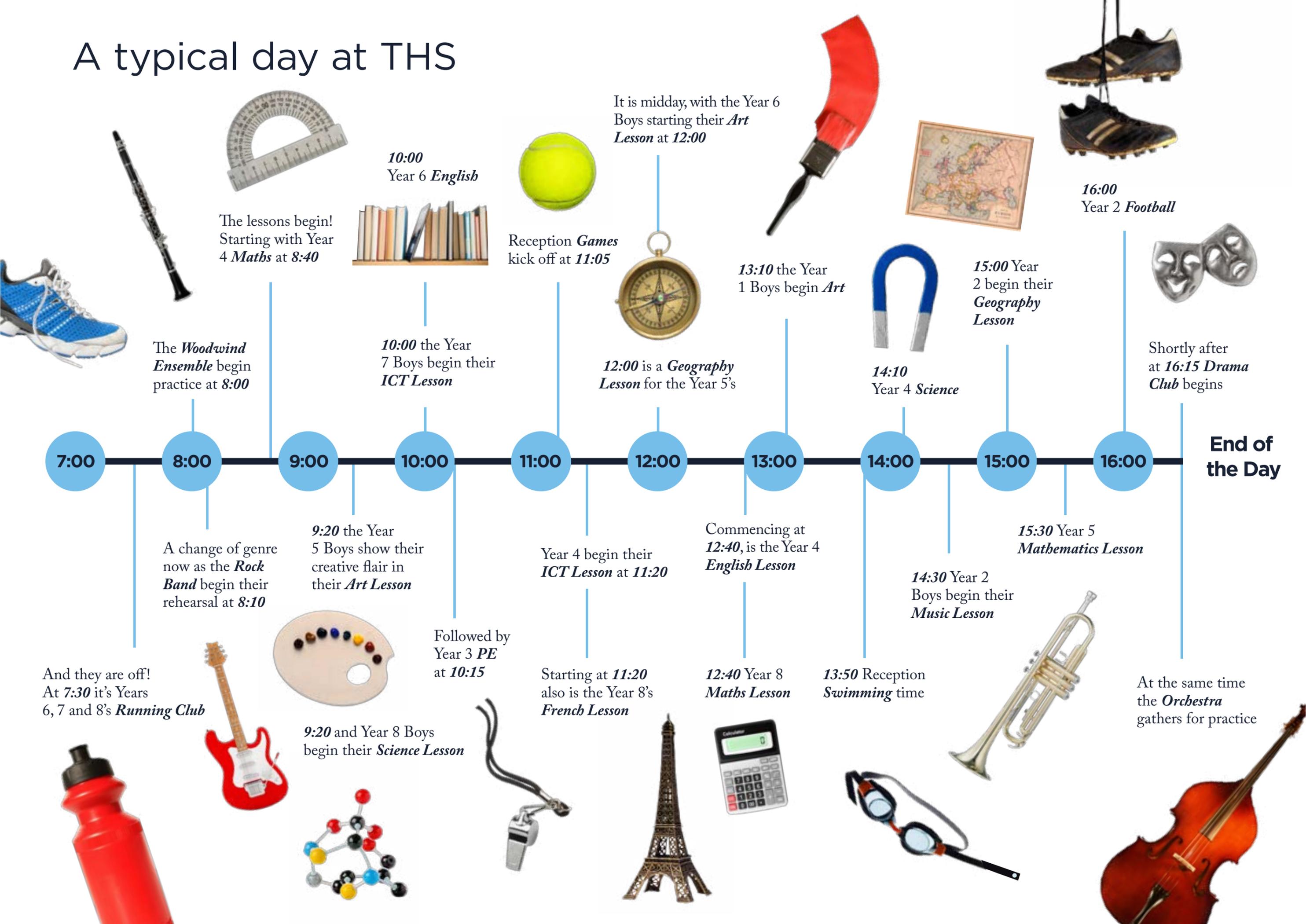
## Our aims

We aim to provide the highest possible academic standards for pupils’ age and ability. We provide high quality, subject specific teaching that meets both the needs of individuals and the ultimate requirements of the Common Entrance syllabus at 13+.

We aim to enable pupils to gain the personal skills and confidence to shape their own futures, and those of others around them, in a rapidly changing world. We aim to help pupils develop an awareness of good manners, a sense of their own self-worth, to value others and to delight in achievement.

We aim to promote positive attitudes of self discipline and encourage pupils to be responsible members of the school community and society at large.

# A typical day at THS





# Morning Run

Going for a run in the early morning is a great way to create a positive routine. Running can help you to start your day in a good mood. Exercise in the morning makes you more alert - being alert in the morning will allow you to better focus on the tasks at hand and this is especially important for our pupils' learning.

Having Richmond Park on our doorstep provides us with a perfect opportunity to encourage the boys to start their day in such a healthy way. As soon as the daylight hours allow, you will see Tower House boys out and about from the 'crack of dawn'!





A typical school day

## 8:20 Senior Choir practice

Music is a major focus at Tower House. Boys can join the choir, rock band, orchestra, swing band and/or jazz group.

They can choose to play an instrument from a wide range including the clarinet, flute, piano, sax, trumpet and electrical/classical guitar.





A typical school day

# 8:30 Registration





A typical school day

## 8:40 Latin

At Tower House, Latin is championed as a subject which can be studied fruitfully by the great majority of boys across the educational spectrum.

Latin is not 'easy', but it can definitely be 'fun' – indeed we believe that its rigour is what gives it value. Boys first meet Latin in Year 5, and Latin proper gets underway in Year 6. Grammatical concepts are drilled comprehensively, and the boys are encouraged to hone their skills with computer practice exercises. Debates, drama, reciting poems and even dressing up are further encouraged, amid the vocabulary-testing, syntax-building and translating – both into and out of Latin.





A typical school day

## 09:00 History

Boys at Tower House experience History through interacting with the source material which builds knowledge, confidence and skills through the years.

In Year 5, the boys study the Victorians and 20th century Britain. This involves working with sources from the Great Exhibition and The Home Front in 1940. Medieval History in Year 6 provides ample opportunity to study some of the great events of British History (For example The Battle of Hastings, Black Death and Wars of the Roses.) The Common Entrance syllabus begins in Year 7, with the Tudors and the Stuarts in Year 8.



A typical school day

**10:15**  
**Break**





A typical school day

## 11:05 Imaginative Play

### *Reception*

We are passionate about promoting learning through imaginative play. All kinds of role play areas can be built - space stations, building sites and castles are examples which have recently inspired the boys' learning. These areas are changed every half term to give boys the opportunity to explore different imaginative worlds. Playing together encourages socialising, taking turns, independence and language development. Role play encompasses all areas of learning: Maths is best learnt in a 'Post Office' sorting parcels by size and weight and our 'Toy Shop' encourages the use of the correct coins.





A typical school day

## 11:20 French

Our principle aim in teaching French at Tower House looks beyond the standard required for Common Entrance – giving our pupils the confidence and knowledge to communicate in a foreign language. By doing so, we lay the foundation not only for the future study of French, but also the study of other languages.

French is introduced in Reception and from this early stage the boys are encouraged in all four language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking using authentic texts and activities to cultivate an enjoyment in language learning.



Every February, Year 6 go to an activity centre in France where they take part in a packed programme combining visits to WW1 battlefields – following on from their study of this in French, History, Art and English that term – combined with the study of French.

In the Senior School, boys have access to the Language Perfect learning software and app to help learn language beyond the classroom, and in Year 7 and 8 the classes are split into smaller groups for learning as they approach Common Entrance.



A typical school day

## 12:05 Lunchtime

At Tower House our Catering Manager designs a weekly menu which is varied, balanced and interesting. Meat, fruit and vegetables and dairy products are delivered daily to school by local suppliers. We often have themed lunches plus we also show our support of British Food Week each Autumn. Fruit is always available as an alternative to pudding.



A typical school day

## 12:40 English

At Tower House, the English Department encourages initiative, individuality, independence, creativity and enquiry. We encourage and celebrate our students' ability to use adventurous vocabulary, to write in original and interesting ways and to read for meaning beyond the literal. We also encourage active participation in class and group discussion, allowing pupils to ask and answer questions freely. We want Tower House boys to be confident communicators.

We seek to enable every student to develop their ability to read, write, speak and listen and to do so with pleasure. The Department aims to engender a love of literature through class and independent reading.



A typical school day

**13:05**

**ICT**

At Tower House from Reception to Year 8, we teach ICT every week. In Reception our boys learn the basics of opening and closing documents, simple web browsing and using graphics programmes.

From Year 4, the boys take a more detailed approach to programming, design and control, becoming involved in many projects including:

- **Design/CAD: Google Sketchup, Photoshop, Dreamweaver and Flash**
- **Video editing and multimedia work**
- **Animation software**
- **Sound manipulation and music technology**
- **Espresso coding.**



We also provide extracurricular ICT facilities so that boys can develop their skills outside lessons during breaktimes.

We have stringent systems in place, with a full-time ICT technician, ensuring online safety is always observed.



A typical school day

## 13:50 Swimming

Sport is very important at Tower House. Each week, every boy in the Junior School has a PE, Games and Swimming lesson. We are very fortunate to have the excellent facilities of the Bank of England sports club, just a short drive or brisk walk away.

*“The school encourages every boy to have a go and do their best in a supportive, friendly environment.”*





A typical school day

14:30

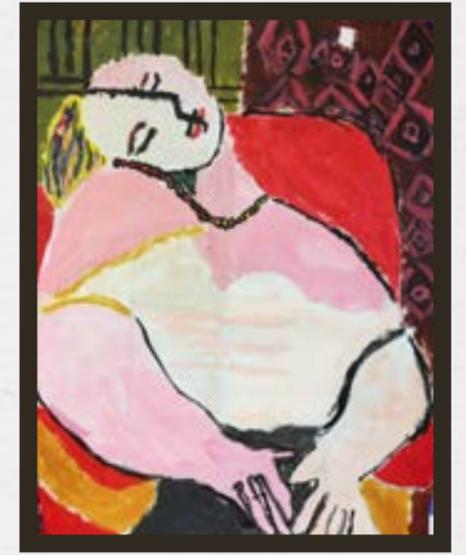
## Art

Art can be a fun subject it is after all where you can get covered in paint and not get told off for doing it (so long as you are wearing an apron!).

At Tower House, we believe it is important to capture and maintain this fun while forming a strong foundation of artistic skills. These skills are not confined to drawing and painting. In addition, we offer ceramics, textiles, print-making, animation, film making and sculpture.

Throughout their years at Tower House, the boys will get the opportunity to get out of the classroom and visit a range of places and galleries to broaden their knowledge and understanding. These include Tate Modern, Kew Gardens and local sculpture gardens.

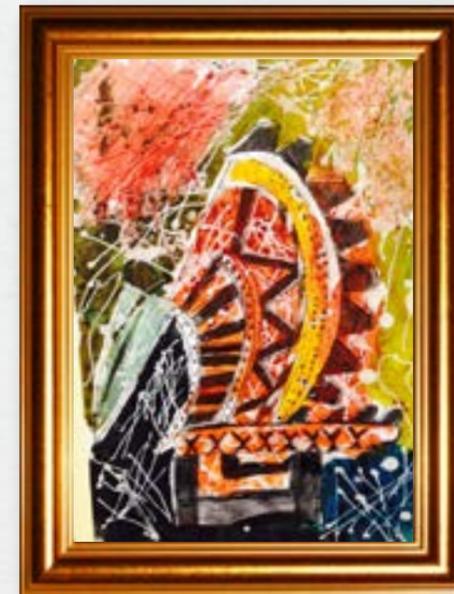




## *Pictures at an exhibition*

Since 2013 both Art and DT have hugely benefited from a newly built wing. The spacious feel of the full length windows and new furniture have inspired the children who enjoy designing and creating.

From Year 6 onwards, selected children will get the opportunity to focus on their skills in art and aim for a senior school scholarship.





A typical school day

## 14:10 Science

Science is a general term used to cover three main disciplines studied at Tower House: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Together the learning of these subjects helps to form a comprehensive understanding of how things work in the world around us, and builds an essential understanding of our existence, our lifestyles and how we interact with this world.

All senior boys study Science in our dedicated science laboratory. The Science department fosters an interest in and awareness of Science and prepares the boys to pass the Common Entrance examinations as appropriate to their ability.





A typical school day

## 14:30 Drama

A legacy of challenging, interesting and unique productions have become a hallmark of Tower House Drama over the past ten years.

We were recently the first prep school ever to produce a full-length production quality feature film with our boys' version of *The Hobbit* in 2012. Huge media interest from around the world created a wonderful sense of pride among the cast and crew. Once again, something that will stay with them forever. We have since kept the ball rolling with ambitious stage productions of *Braveheart*, *The Magnificent Seven* and most recently, *Bodyline*, the cricketing story of the controversial Ashes Series of 1932/33.

Future landmark productions are already in the pipeline for both



stage and screen, ensuring that any boys taking part in drama at Tower House School in the near future will be destined for another roller coaster ride of unparalleled excitement and exclusivity.

The Tower House staff have also taken to the stage on a regular basis. Productions have been over two nights and performed to parents and friends of the school. Performances such as *Fawlty Towers*, *Father Ted*, *Only Fools and Horses*, *Allo Allo* and *Carry on Doctor* have been extremely well received and appreciated – showing the great camaraderie among the teachers at THS.



A typical school day

## 15:00 Music

Music is enjoyed and celebrated at Tower House School and all of our children are taught Music as part of their curriculum. We strive to create the very best atmosphere that will give every boy the opportunity to develop their musical skills by providing many diverse and stimulating experiences practically, creatively and academically.

In Year 1 children learn to play the recorder and in doing so learn to read treble clef notation. In Year 2 and 3 boys develop their rhythmic, composition and listening skills through whole class holistic activities. In subsequent years, boys have many opportunities to showcase their talents in major and/or minor productions.





A typical school day

## 15:30 Geography

Geography at Tower House is taught as a discrete subject with timetabled weekly lessons throughout the school year. Boys in the Junior School alternate their Geography topics with History studies on a half-termly basis while in the Senior School every year group is allocated two to three lessons and one homework period each week.

In the lower years the syllabus largely follows the National Curriculum, but expands on and broadens the scope of the themes. In Year 6, the emphasis changes as preparation for Common Entrance begins and the ISEB (Independent Schools Exam Board) syllabus commences.



A typical school day

## 16:00 Sports

We believe that there is a sport for every boy and that the more varied experience we can give them the better. We also arrange many matches and tournaments with other schools and Tower House's sporting achievements are truly excellent regardless of our small size. Most importantly, we ensure that all boys get the chance to experience the thrill and challenge of playing as team members, irrespective of sporting ability. Fixtures begin in Year 3 and remain a high-profile part of Tower House.

We are very fortunate to have the excellent facilities of the Bank of England sports club, just a short drive or brisk walk away. Here we use the swimming pool, sports halls, squash courts, tennis courts and of course football, rugby and cricket pitches.



Sport at Tower House has become an everyday part of school life. The Headmaster can often be seen down at the sides of rugby, football and cricket matches and a vast array of enthusiastic and trained staff take the boys for two games sessions/fixtures every week. Feedback from 'old boys' and current pupils and parents have encouraged us to keep the curriculum varied to allow the boys to find their niche in sport and allow opportunities for every boy to try something new and exciting.

In PE lessons boys will experience health related fitness, squash, hockey, cross-country, basketball, gymnastics, athletics and tennis in their time at the school. Outside of everyday school life, we run after school clubs for boys of all ages. Health and fitness has proved an increasingly popular choice and due to the enthusiasm of staff and boys the before and after school running/fitness clubs have thriving numbers.



Major sporting events at Tower House include the junior swimming gala, whole school sports day, house football matches and the whole school cross-country race in Richmond Park. Also recently added to the mix is a biennial sports tour to a foreign country. Previous tours have included a cricket tour to Barbados and a rugby tour to northern Italy. Touring is now a regular feature of sport at Tower House and boys, staff and parents alike all look forward to the next trip. Like everything else at Tower House these tours have become known for their all inclusive nature. All boys in the senior years are invited to attend regardless of sporting ability and will either form part of a media team or play some part in matches.

The boys here thrive off competition, but we always ensure that participation for each and every child is the top priority. The school actively seeks to give every boy an opportunity in every subject and sport is no different. We strive to teach and coach boys to reach their potential, but also to enjoy and participate with a smile on their faces.



## Good Afternoon

We believe that good manners are essential in maintaining the friendly and respectful atmosphere within our school. It is often said that one can spot a Tower House boy by observing his excellent manners. These values are reinforced throughout the day especially at meal times. At the end of the day all boys, without fail, will shake hands with the member of staff on the gate, make eye contact and bid them 'Good Afternoon'.

*Manners Maketh Man  
William of Wykeham  
(1324-1404)*





# Trips and outings

Four walls do not a classroom make. The greatest lessons can come from the physical experience of new places, different environments, and historic venues. The Senior School classes all experience a residential trip every year. There are also several day trips. We have five of the former every year and the boys stay at a variety of venues. Recent trips have included York, Dartmoor, Flatford Mill, North Devon and France to name but a few.

Every trip is designed to not only show the boys the wider world, but to get them to understand the benefits of team work and cooperation. These are valuable lessons that are gained in all weathers and in all circumstances.

*“Four walls do not a classroom make.”*







## Parents

The school gates are not closed to parents. There are many ways for you to keep in close contact with the goings on in school. At the start of each year we hold 'Parents' Welcome Meetings' for all classes as well as regular parent/teacher evenings; less formal 'forums' also allow many aspects of housekeeping to be sorted out. The school greatly appreciates the support that parents provide. This may range from accompanying a school trip or singing in the adult choir to simply cajoling your son to do his homework to the best of his abilities.

We are a very social community and the extremely active Friends of Tower House (FOTH) organise several events each year – allowing parents to get to know each other. This all helps to foster the family atmosphere of the school – which we believe is essential.

*“We pride ourselves on our visibility”*

# The Governing Body

Tower House has governors who are experts in education and business. Some are ex-parents who still live locally. They are all fully supportive and take an active role in the life of the school.

# After School Clubs

In both Junior and Senior School we run after school clubs that are driven by the interests of both the boys and the staff. They include Art club, Drama club, debating, chess, board games, squash, fitness, cooking, tennis, orchestra, choir, and football. There's no limit to the activities we welcome. If it's possible and enough boys are interested, we'll do it.

# Charities

Class charities – all boys choose charities that they wish to support. By giving their time and effort they raise money for those that need it, both locally and internationally.



# Life after Tower House

*Boys leave Tower House having completed their Common Entrance Exams in the summer. They move on to the top UK schools in the country, including:*

## LONDON DAY SCHOOLS

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St Paul's  
Kings College School, Wimbledon  
Hampton  
Reed's School  
The Harrodian Senior School  
Radnor House  
Emanuel  
Kingston Grammar  
Dulwich College  
City of London

## BOARDING SCHOOLS

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Charterhouse  
Wellington College  
Eton  
Marlborough  
Harrow  
Winchester  
Bradfield College  
Epsom College  
Tonbridge  
St. Edward's  
Stowe  
Brighton College





## History

The School was founded in September 1931 with 3 boys. Tower House was previously a School of Music. The first head was George Frederick Edwards B.A. (Lond). In 1954 he went into partnership with John Forrest Martin-Hurst. Mr Martin Hurst joined the staff in September 1953 as Senior Master with 20 years' experience of teaching French. He succeeded Mr Edwards as Headmaster and Proprietor in 1955 when he bought the freehold. Antony J. Beale joined Tower House in 1958, went to do a 3 year degree in East Anglia University and returned to Tower House as Associate Head in Summer 1963.

Tony eventually became headmaster and sole owner of the school. Before he retired he set up a Charitable Trust to ensure the future of the School.

Headships passed to James Wall, Jacqueline Compton-Howlett and the current headmaster Gregory Evans MA, BSc, PGCE.

## Why boys only?

In their early years, boys and girls learn at a different pace. At various times boys may be on a faster track while girls are slightly slower and vice versa. This is not a criticism of either. Essentially boys and girls arrive at the same educational destination, but often their journeys take different paths.

To combine the two can often hamper the development of both. To maximise the opportunity for our boys, Tower House has been a single sex school since its creation in 1932.



*Prospectus 2016*