

# INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS

# HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

### DEAR PARENT,

Thank you for considering the Royal Hospital School for your child.

Our school has a history spanning over 300 years but is a future-facing school intent on developing the skills and attributes that will enable our pupils to enter the world of work with confidence. We aim to stretch and challenge our pupils both academically as well as developing important personal skills such as collaboration, teamwork and highly effective communication. This is why we balance our curriculum between academic study and a large co-curricular programme.

We are a community which spans the globe but is fortunate to share a wonderfully safe rural campus overlooking the River Stour. Our boarding houses are spacious with at least three members of staff living alongside our boarders and contributing to a vibrant and welcoming community.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Royal Hospital School.

Mr Simon Lockyer Headmaster of the Royal Hospital School



# SCHOOL

### A WARM WELCOME

I am fortunate to work within the International Admissions team at RHS. As the International Registrar, I am here to help your child and family through the admissions procedure, from first looking at the school through to the application process, the test and interview stages, to the moment your child arrives and is happily ensconced at RHS.

Our experienced International Team has assisted many overseas pupils from all over the world to become a part of RHS and to flourish. We can help with any questions or concerns you may have and ensure a relaxed and smooth enrolment process.

If you require any further guidance, please do not hesitate to make contact with me at eallinson@royalhospitalschool.org, or +44 (0) 1473 326179

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Mrs Emily Allinson International Registrar





# ACADEMIC PATHWAYS

RHS is a senior school that offers GCSEs, iGCSEs, A Levels and BTEC courses. As well as offering the courses listed, we also accept pupils for shorter periods of time in order for them to experience life in a British boarding school. This is the perfect opportunity to improve their English before returning to their own school having broadened their skills both in and out of the classroom.

# **YEARS 7, 8 & 9 - KEY STAGE 3**

A good time to join and improve English before Key Stage 4

# YEARS 10 & 11 - GCSE PROGRAMME

A focus on a range of subjects for GCSE examinations

# YEAR 11 - ONE-YEAR COURSE TO STUDY SIX GCSEs

A condensed study period prior to GCSE examinations

# YEARS 12 & 13 - A LEVEL AND BTEC COURSES

A choice of over 28 subjects to study prior to university entry

# **ENGLISH SUPPORT**

If English is not your first language, we provide specialist English lessons alongside your main subjects in the English as an Additional Language (EAL) department. These help with your chosen subjects by providing useful vocabulary and subject-specific support and you can also work towards an IELTS qualification which is needed for entry to university in the UK.

# GCSE MIDDLE SCHOOL (YEARS 10 & 11)

The Middle School Key Stage 4 courses are in line with national priorities in education, with pupils taking nine GCSEs. In Year 10, pupils take the following core subjects: English (most study language and literature as separate GCSEs), mathematics and science (pupils can choose to take the separate sciences or the double award).

Four additional GCSE subjects are chosen from art, business, classical civilisation, computer science, drama, food preparation and nutrition, French, geography, German, history, Latin, media studies, music, PE (academic), product design, religious studies and Spanish. If pupils select separate sciences, then one of their four optional subjects will be the third science.

The percentage of GCSE grades 9-4 has been consistently around 90-97%.

All Year 10 and 11 pupils have one PE lesson and two games sessions each week, one of which is on a Saturday afternoon.

### **REPORTING**

The reporting system exists in order to set pupils realistic, yet stretching, targets in each subject and to keep parents informed of their son's or daughter's progress in relation to those targets. It aims to provide precise and clear information for both pupils and parents using Challenge Grades, Performance Indicators and Attitude to Learning Indicators for each subject. Reports and assessments are issued at regular intervals throughout the academic year.



# A LEVEL SIXTH FORM

(YEARS 12 & 13)

We offer A Levels in art (fine art/photography/textiles), biology, business, chemistry, classical civilisation, economics, English language, English literature, French, further mathematics, geography, government & politics, history, Latin, mathematics, music, music technology, physics, product design, psychology, religious studies, sociology and Spanish.

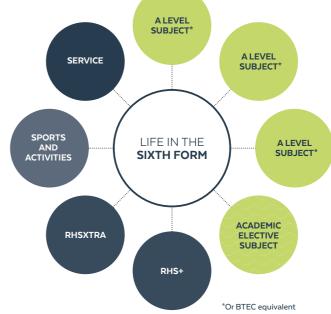
We also offer the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Creative Digital Media Production (equivalent to one A Level), the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport (equivalent to one A Level) and the BTEC National Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (equivalent to two A Levels).

Pupils select three A Level subjects (or the equivalent) and these three core subjects are supplemented with an elective academic subject which could be:
A Level Further Mathematics; a Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ); a Level 3 Certificate in Higher Sports Leadership; an IELTS qualification; the Cambridge Technical in IT, a Level 2 qualification; or a BTEC Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts.

A third of all grades achieved are  $A^*$  or A grade and an average of 97% of pupils go on to a university of their choice. Of these, 50% gain places at Russell Group or other top universities.

To complement the core curriculum and the elective subjects, we have devised a programme for Year 12 pupils, RHS+, which is aimed at preparing pupils for the independence of university and the world of work. It provides a carousel of lessons which cover careers advice; digital effectiveness and online safety; coping with stress; mindfulness; financial management; and cooking on a budget.

All pupils have the opportunity to get involved in voluntary work, leadership and service, as well as balancing their academic commitments with sport and physical activity (two games sessions each week, one of which is on a Saturday afternoon). We believe that we offer an excellent all-round sixth form education which prepares our pupils for life beyond school.





# A PASSION FOR LEARNING







# INSPIRING ARTSAND D&T



# OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

















# JUNIOR **BOARDING BLAKE HOUSE** (YEAR 7)

This co-educational entry house has routines and pastoral care which focus specifically on the needs of 11-12 year olds. The house provides a caring, well-managed environment, which enables easier progression from primary to secondary school. Boarders sleep in rooms of six or eight beds, all of which are located on the first floor of the house together with shower and bath facilities and the laundry. The boys are in one wing and the girls in the other. Day pupils have lockers for both books and sports kit on the ground floor of the house as well as changing facilities. Both day pupils and boarders share the large common room areas which have television, games, computer and quiet rooms.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

The general pattern of the day is as follows but this may change subject to age group and personal commitments:

07:45 Breakfast for boarders.

08:20 Day pupils arrive by this time.

08:25 House meeting and roll call.

08:40 Assembly, Chapel or tutor meeting.

09:00 Lessons.

10:50

11:15 Lessons.

13:05 Lunch.

14:05

Roll call. 14:15 Lessons or games.

16:10 Prep sessions, practice sessions and activities.

Day pupil transport departs. Supper for boarders.

House meeting for boarders followed by prep (or activities for Year 7 boarders).















# SENIOR BOARDING HOUSES

(YEARS 8-12)

Year 8 full and weekly boarders moving up from Blake House, or new pupils joining the school in Years 8-12, enter one of three boys' (Collingwood, Hawke and St Vincent) or two girls' (Anson and Hood) senior houses, each for around 60 boarding pupils. There are leisure facilities that include day rooms, table tennis and pool tables, kitchens, television rooms and a house library. Each boarder has their own self-contained working and sleeping accommodation. Normally, Year 8 and 9 pupils will be in four-bedded rooms with bath and shower facilities nearby and those in Years 10, 11 and 12 will be in double or single study bedrooms with en-suite facilities. All boarding houses have their own laundry facilities.

# **ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME**

A wide range of activities are held after school and everyone is encouraged to try something new. The list below gives an indication of the activities which may take place but these vary from term to term and are subject to numbers, age groups and the availability of suitable staff.

Aerobics Amnesty International Art & Design Badminton Ballet Band Baroque Group Basketball Big Band Blues Band **Board Games Club** Bookworms Brass Ensemble Canoeing Ceramics Chamber Choir Chapel Choir Chinese Calligraphy **Choral Society** Classics Club

Climbing

Combined Cadet Force

Community Action Team Computing Contemporary Dance Cookery Crafts CREST Silver and Gold Cricket Nets Debating Society Design Technology Drama Dry Skiing Duke of Edinburgh's Eco Warriors Film Club Five-a-side Football Flute Ensemble Football Free Swim Geography Club

Jewellery Making Judo Kickboxing Land Yachting Lifesaving Literary Society Medical Society Model United Nations Multi Gym Music Technology Club Musicianship Surgery Orchestra Paired Reading Racketball Robotics Club Rock Group Rugby Sevens Running Club Sailing Saxophone Ensemble

History Club

Horse Riding

Scouts Scuba Diving Club Shooting **Show Choir** Singing Sports Leadership Sauash STEM/CREST Club Strength and Conditioning String Ensemble Studd & Riddle Society Swim Sauad Table Tennis Tennis Lessons Textiles Trampolining Tycoon in Schools Woodwork Yoga Exercise

Science

# NELSON BOARDING HOUSE (YEAR 13)

In their final year of Sixth Form, both boys and girls, boarders and day pupils, are accommodated in Nelson House, where pupils are encouraged to be more independent, with the aim of preparing them for life beyond school. One wing of the house is for girls and the other for boys, with central common room areas, kitchens, a laundry room and quiet study rooms for day pupils. All boarding pupils are accommodated in individual rooms.



For overseas students like me this school offers a lot of help and care, especially because of the diversity and a very welcoming community. At first my main concern was my English, because it is my second language but here, people make a lot of effort to help you and to understand you.

The hardest thing was missing my family and of course my friends and country, but here to my surprise I feel like Anson is my second home and I love being here.

I feel like it is a big sleepover with my best friends every day. So I really recommend this school to anyone out there, no matter what country or language, that is feeling adventurous and open for new experiences.

REGINA YEAR 9 BOARDER









# HOWTO

Our admissions process is simple and straightforward. The main points of entry are Year 7 (age 11), Year 9 (age 13) and Year 12 (age 16). We are conscious that a number of families arrive to settle in the UK outside of these standard entry points and we will consider applications on a flexible basis.

# SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS

We encourage prospective pupils to manage their own applications which comprise a visit, interview, provision of current school report and predicted grades. Offers are provisional upon the applicant achieving the required GCSE results.

Around 12% of pupils at the Royal Hospital School are from overseas with some 30 nationalities represented. Everyone is encouraged to appreciate differences in culture and societies and develop a global outlook.

Our international pupils are, of course, full boarders and are mainly in the senior part of the school. We normally accept around 20 international pupils into the Sixth Form each year and these are spread across the school, ensuring that no one nationality is over-represented in a year group or house.

# **TRAVEL**

Getting to and from school is an important factor for our international pupils. Our dedicated Pupil Transport Officer can help with airport transfers and travel to guardians where necessary.



# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Our admissions process is simple and straightforward, with support for parents and pupils at every stage. Although each application is different, the usual process looks like this:

- Send through two copies of recent school reports, a completed registration form, a copy of the pupil's passport and birth certificate, along with the required registration fee.
- Online tests in English and mathematics to be completed at the pupil's current school, or at a solicitors.
- Interview conducted by the Head of Year or Head of English as an Additional Language (EAL) either in person or via Skype.
- $\cdot$  References are requested from current school
- Offer letter is signed by the Headmaster and sent to the pupil's parents.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Guardian and medical information must be provided.
- Acceptance letter and deposit are returned.
- The joining pack is sent online to the family with all the necessary forms.
- All pupils who require a Tier 4 Visa to study in the United Kingdom will be put in touch with TTP Law who will manage the visa process and release the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS).

### **VISIT US**

Although sometimes not physically possible, we would always recommend a tour of our amazing campus. There's really nothing like seeing the school in person to understand what the school offers. If you would like to book a visit or to find out more about RHS please do not hesitate to make contact with Emily Allinson, our international registrar, by email to eallinson@royalhospitalschool.org, or +44 (0) 1473 326179



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