



Wellington SCHOOL

The School

Wellington School was founded in 1837 and now comprises two schools, Wellington School and Wellington Prep School. The Senior School is a fully co-educational day and boarding school with 80% day pupils, 20% boarders, 55% boys and 45% girls and now numbers 600 pupils between the ages of 11 and 18. The purpose-built Prep School, opened in September 1999, occupies an adjacent site sharing many of the facilities of the Senior School. It currently numbers 220 boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 11, including a year-round Nursery from 2. The Headmaster is a member of HMC.

Pupils enter the School either at age 11 or 13 by taking an entrance examination, or through interview or assessment into the Sixth Form. There are three or four Year 7 classes and 160 pupils in the Sixth Form. Class sizes in the Lower School (Years 7 - 8) average 22 pupils and A level sets are seldom larger than 15. Pastorally, the school is divided into six Upper School and four Lower School day houses, three Upper School and two Lower School boarding house.

The school has a strong academic reputation, and in 2017, 33% of A level grades were A*/A grade, comparable with the most academic schools in the country. Over 70% of pupils secured places at Russell Group Universities or equivalent, with several gaining Oxbridge places. 66% of grades were awarded A*-B grade enabling students to meet the challenging offers that were set by universities.

In the GCSE group, 47% of grades were A* or A, almost 27% above the national average. The Mathematics and Science departments follow the more rigorous IGCSE curriculum, and in Mathematics, 84% of grades were A*-B, with the Sciences, Latin and Greek all registering a minimum of 40% A* grades.

The School occupies 35 acres in close proximity to the town centre which has a population of 12,500. The town lies equidistant between Taunton and Tiverton railway stations (both approximately 20 minutes away). The character of the area, situated between the Blackdown Hills (now an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), the Brendon Hills and the Quantocks, has remained largely unaltered for many years. The Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks and the North and South coasts are within an hour's drive away. The catchment area for day pupils extends up to 20-30 miles around the town and buses cover the whole region.

The School has witnessed an extensive building programme over the last twenty years. The new buildings having been carefully and tastefully blended in with existing architecture. Most recent buildings include the John Kendall-Carpenter Science Centre with its state-of-the-art laboratories and lecture theatre and a £2.6m sports complex which was opened by H.R.H The Princess Royal in September 2002. New English classrooms and an examination hall opened in January 2009 and major improvements to music and performing arts facilities were completed in early 2011. A new astro-turf was opened in Autumn 2017. Further building projects, including a new study centre, library and café facility are currently underway.

In addition to the Olympic Standard Sports Complex, there are 5 rugby pitches, 9 tarmac tennis courts, 9 astro tennis courts, 4 purpose-built netball courts, a floodlit artificial turf hockey pitch, cricket pitches and a 300m athletics track, 2 squash courts and a covered, heated swimming pool. Over the years the School has provided members for county squads in all sports as well as several international athletes. Music, Art and Drama are particularly strong cultural activities. We have over 30 different choirs, bands, orchestras and ensembles including an acclaimed Chapel Choir. In both the Upper and Lower Schools, several highly-acclaimed drama productions are staged each year. The School's flourishing CCF and Outdoor Education Programme, which includes Bronze, Silver and Gold D of E, Ten Tors, Kayaking, Canoeing, Climbing and Caving helps pupils develop self-reliance, leadership and a spirit of adventure.

The Memorial Chapel of St Michael and George sits firmly in the middle of the site and follows the Anglican Communion. Many of our parents make significant self-sacrifices for their children's education and, thus, there is a happy blend of pupils from all walks of life and from overseas, to form a well-bonded community.