

Chigwell School



Find a way or make a way



Welcome to
Chigwell

Pastoral &
Academic

Junior School

Senior School

Sixth Form
& Boarding

Drama & Music



Welcome to Chigwell

I am delighted to take this opportunity to introduce you to Chigwell School, an independent foundation offering facilities for both boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 18.

We offer children a balanced education in a stable, traditional environment, but one nonetheless focused on the future. Renowned for our high academic standards, we set equal store by our wide range of extra-curricular activities, our well developed sense of pastoral care, and the spiritual dimension to our life. Chigwell School is, above all, a community in which children can grow, for we seek to develop the whole person, so that ultimately he or she can enter into the fullness of life.

Working closely with parents, we aim to ensure that when our pupils leave us at the age of 18, they are ready to enter the world outside and to play their part in it. We want Chigwellians to be:

- Academically well-equipped to obtain good grades in public examinations and to succeed at university
- Employable - able to work in teams, get things done, show resourcefulness, communicate verbally, on paper and by modern means of technology - and adaptable, with the capacity to learn new skills
- Capable of developing into good citizens, involved in the community
- Possessed of a soul, secure and confident in their own spiritual beliefs and philosophy of life.

The School is located in the village of Chigwell, only 10 miles from central London and close to the Epping and Hainault Forests. Set in its own beautiful grounds of over 70 acres, our Junior and Senior Schools are able to share a single campus, enabling us to offer an exceptionally stable educational environment. The Junior School caters for children up to the age of 13, the Senior School from 13 onwards. We offer boarding facilities for Senior School and in particular Sixth Form pupils.

The following pages explain how we go about developing the potential of your sons and daughters. If you would like to know more and to see for yourselves how our community works in practice, we invite you to come and visit us. My staff and I would be delighted to meet you and show you our School.

David Gibbs Headmaster

A School with a soul...

Chigwell fosters an environment where children can discover and nurture spiritual values. While the inspiration and ideals of the School's foundation are Anglican, nowadays all the principal world faiths are represented on the School's roll, and we value and respect this important dimension to our life. We believe worship is important and everyone in the School attends services in the Chapel or the Church twice a week. Although these services are grounded in the Christian faith, we draw consciously on the insights and experiences of the world's great religious traditions and are inclusive of all pupils. We delight in what we have in common, but also respect and affirm distinctiveness.

Our Chaplain is Anglican, but he is pastor and priest to the whole community. We mark key moments in the year with special services in which the whole School celebrates its inclusive nature in a Christian context. We celebrate the Eucharist each week and prepare pupils for Confirmation if they wish. Our Roman Catholic community celebrates the Mass once a term and the Inter-Faith Forum is responsible for the organisation of such events as the annual Diwali celebration.

We encourage pupils to take religion seriously and to develop their own spiritual life. We have societies for members of many faith traditions, which pupils attend on a voluntary basis.



...where minds can grow

The classroom is at the very heart of a Chigwell education. The School has a strong academic tradition and a long-standing record of success in public examinations and in Oxbridge entrance.

We encourage our pupils to develop:

- A love of learning
- The ability to think logically and laterally
- The capacity to express themselves coherently both verbally and on paper
- Good study habits and the willingness to take responsibility for their own learning and academic performance.

We have high academic expectations of all our pupils and the pace of work is sustained and challenging. Our pupils work hard and take their studies seriously. Our staff, too, are highly committed and always willing to give individual help and support to pupils of exceptional ability, who may need stretching, and to those who find some areas of the work more difficult.



A single campus ...a sure start

We aim to provide a consistent approach to education throughout your child's school career. Our academic and pastoral structures are designed to develop the seven year-old right through to the end of the teenage years. We encourage a close relationship to develop between staff and parents and we believe that it is essential to establish clear communications between home and School. We achieve this through regular written reports on pupils' work and progress, consultation evenings, School functions and newsletters. We warmly encourage parents to keep in close contact with us at all times.

The Master of the Junior School, is responsible for pupils and is supported by a team of form tutors who monitor each child's academic progress and well-being and are your principal point of contact if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's progress.

Whilst the Junior School operates separately from the Senior School, both share the same educational philosophy, as well as many facilities and teaching staff. Friendships and joint activities also link Juniors and Seniors, giving pupils a sense of continuity as they progress through the School, and everyone can use the School's extensive facilities. We teach French from the age of seven and introduce all pupils to other languages during their school career.

Virtually all pupils transfer automatically to the Senior School, however, if we feel that an individual will not flourish there, we ensure that alternatives are discussed well before the end of the Junior School.

Junior School







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Senior School

...and a confident future

The focal point of pupils' lives in the Senior School is the four houses - Caswalls', Lambourne, Penn's and Swallow's - and many pastoral, sporting and social activities are organised on a house basis. Each house has a housemaster or housemistress at its head who has a team of supporting tutors.

Every pupil has a house tutor who oversees all aspects of their education, welfare and progress, and is the immediate point of contact for parents. The shared stability and common standards promoted by both home and the School help smooth the passage from childhood through adolescence to adulthood. It is only by working together that parents and teachers can seek to give boys and girls the effective support and direction they need.



Sixth Form ...a stepping stone to university

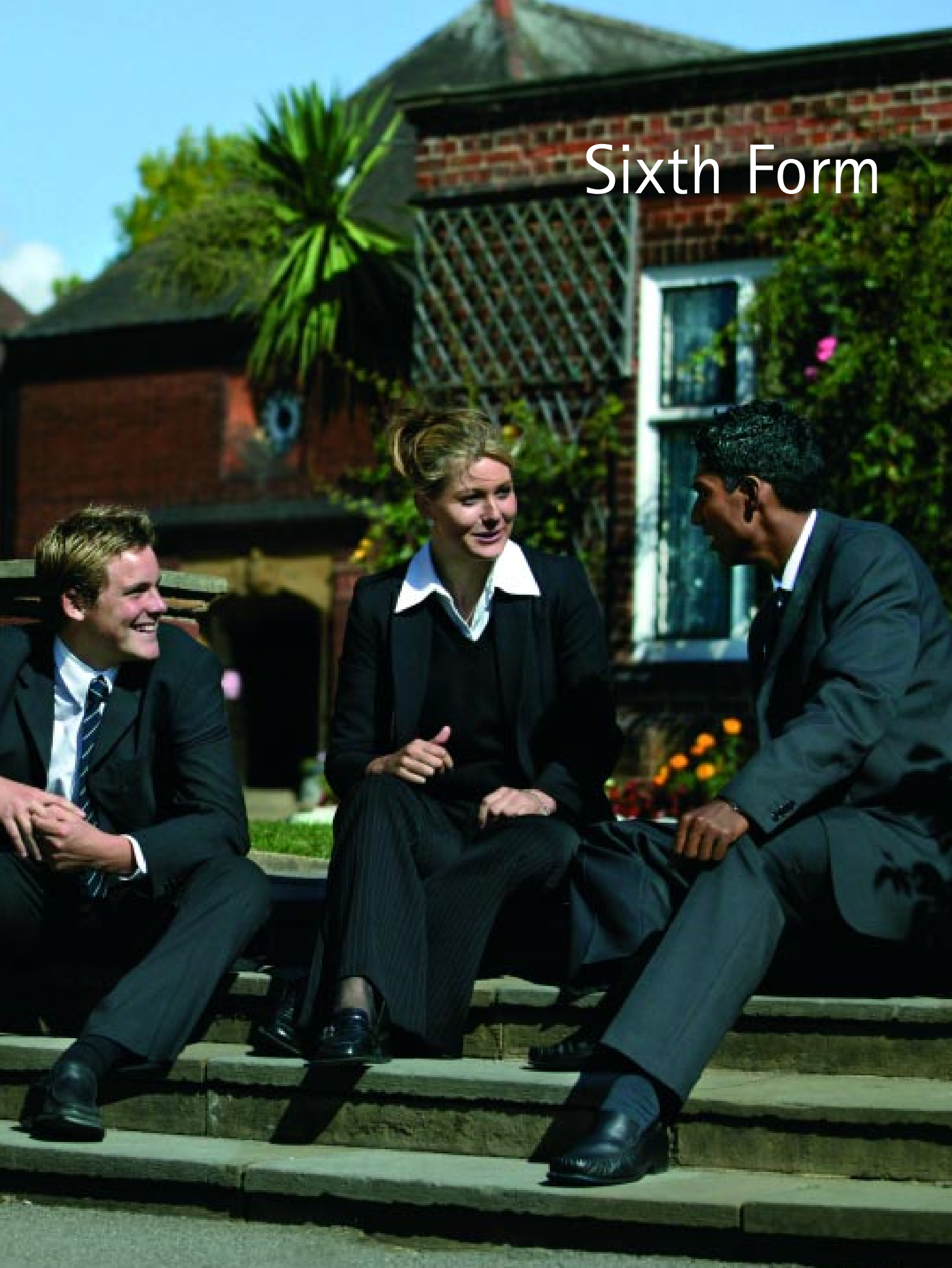
The Chigwell Sixth Form is a vibrant part of the School where students gain a greater sense of responsibility and purpose. Most of our students study four AS subjects in the Lower Sixth and specialise in three of these at A level. Our A level results are impressive: in recent years 99% of Chigwellians have moved on to degree courses at university, or music and other specialist colleges, with 10% entering Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Students can also engage in activities beyond their academic studies. Our General Studies course explores a wide range of issues central to forming a broad understanding of social and political affairs. The Skills and Activities scheme enables them to participate in activities such as voluntary service in the community, sailing, art courses and exploring the history of film.

The Sixth Form is a privileged place, so students enjoy greater freedoms whilst simultaneously taking on greater responsibilities, contributing to the day-to-day working of the School. Many will assume considerable responsibility for the running of different areas of the School's life, in chapel, music, drama, sport, and the social life of the Sixth Form.

We place a great emphasis on preparing our pupils for life after School. We aim to ensure that students are well-informed and that career decisions reflect individual strengths and interests. The Careers and Universities programme helps to open pupils' minds to the importance and scope of university education, and the careers available beyond study. Advice on university entrance plays a central part in our work, as does the wider careers' education programme.

Sixth Form



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Boarding ...learning to live and work together

Our boarding community is based on small, extended family sized houses, where international students and local weekly boarders live together with staff and their families. This creates a friendly, supportive environment which is a home from home for our foreign students and a stepping stone towards wider horizons for our local students.

Although we take boarders from the age of 14, most are sixth formers, preparing for university life. For many it will be their first experience of living away from home and with a group of other young people from many different parts of the world.

Academically, boarding can prove a real advantage, providing a structured study routine during the week, supported by help and advice

from staff. All the house parents of our boarding houses are Oxford or Cambridge graduates and, between them and other teaching staff resident in the houses, the subject range covered is broad.

Students learn to manage their own time and develop sound study habits, with academic staff always available to help with work. They are also able to use the school week more efficiently, avoiding travel and having convenient access to School facilities. Taken together, these features can reduce some of the stress of school life and allow more time for relaxation at the weekend.

Many of our sixth form boarders have met with great academic success.

Our Boarding Houses

The oldest and largest of the three boarding houses is Grange Court, an eighteenth-century mansion offering spacious and varied accommodation for up to 40 boys.

Sandon Lodge, offering accommodation for up to 10 girls, has been the Sixth Form girls' boarding house for over thirty years. It is an early Victorian farmhouse standing in the middle of the School fields, next to an old orchard.

Hainault House, the most recently built of our boarding houses, is a grand, late Victorian house offering accommodation for up to 10 girls.



Creativity ...the power of drama

The School has its own state-of-the-art 150 seat theatre designed for the use of the whole School community. In addition to the main auditorium, it includes a green room, rehearsal and teaching spaces, dressing rooms and a foyer.

We believe drama is key to developing creativity and the inter-personal skills which are so essential in modern life – the ability to speak in public, to communicate with other people, to work in teams and to resolve conflict.

Throughout the Junior School, and in the first year of the Senior School, pupils have formal drama lessons. They use these to explore a variety of issues, building self-confidence and understanding through role-play and improvisation. They also develop personal skills and are introduced to the world of theatre. Many will go on to take Drama and Theatre Studies at GCSE and A level.

Numerous productions take place throughout the year, giving pupils opportunities to experience the demands of developing a role, performing, or working backstage in order to discover the teamwork needed to stage a show successfully. Sixth formers have the opportunity to cast, design and direct their own productions.

There are also drama clubs, drama activities, LAMDA Speech classes, taught by a specialist, and regular theatre trips to the West End and further afield.



"I think its time to resolve matters once and for all"

(Bugsy Malone)



...music for all

The professionally equipped, purpose-built Walde Music School provides Chigwell's pupils with the opportunity to study a musical instrument. It has three teaching rooms, one equipped with modern music technology facilities, eight practice rooms and a percussion room.

The Music Department has a lively, buzzing atmosphere and providing musical opportunities lies at the heart of all it tries to achieve. Giving over 300 lessons per week, it has the benefit of 23 visiting music teachers. All pupils who learn an instrument are encouraged to participate in the many ensembles in the School.

The School's tradition for music has grown enormously in the last few years building a fine reputation in the local community. We give performance experience at the School to orchestras, choirs, bands and a number of chamber groups over the year, and we cater for a wide range of music, including jazz, rock and pop. The Swing Band entertains at many social functions.

We also give regular concerts both at School and in other venues, notably the huge annual choral concert at the Walthamstow Assembly Hall. The Chapel Choir has performed recently at Pembroke College, Cambridge, Chichester Cathedral and Southwark Cathedral in the annual Evensong cycle.





Art, design and technology for life

Creativity is a difficult concept to define, for it applies equally to the scientist and mathematician as it does to the artist, designer or performer. We encourage our pupils to explore their unique abilities by developing creative solutions to real tasks.

Art

The Practical Arts Centre has three large art and design studios, a workshop for ceramics and sculpture, a photography darkroom and an exhibition area and is available to all pupils after school and at weekends. There are regular trips to art galleries in London.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology prepares pupils to participate in today's rapidly changing world. They learn to think and intervene creatively to improve the quality of products, systems and environments, becoming innovators and informed, discriminating users of products.

Pupils learn to become creative problem solvers, both individually and as members of a team. They combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetic, ergonomic, social and environmental issues, technology and industrial practices. They analyse and evaluate existing products as well as producing their own designs and practical work.





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Resources for learning

We believe it is essential that pupils have access to appropriate resources for learning and in this, as in all aspects of School life, we seek to combine the best traditional methods with a forward-looking and modern approach.

Libraries

There are several libraries in the School including the main Swallow Library (which is well-stocked with reference works and periodicals), the Junior School Library, and specialist libraries within the different departments. A full-time, trained Librarian has overall responsibility for these resources.

Information and Communication Technology

We aim to use ICT to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom, and to build confidence and familiarity in the use of technology amongst our pupils so that they will be at ease in a modern world.

We provide networked computing facilities across the School, including in the boarding houses, and have high-speed Internet access (which is securely controlled). There are three dedicated ICT classrooms which are used for general subject teaching, ICT specific courses and for individual pupil study.







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A place in the team

Sport plays an important part in the life of the School. We have outstanding facilities, including 50 acres of expertly maintained playing fields, a fully equipped gymnasium, a modern sports hall, including a multi-purpose area, separate rooms for weight-training and cardiovascular exercises, a heated outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts and outstanding cricket nets.

We teach all pupils the basics of a wide range of sporting activities in time-tabled lessons, introducing them to concepts of teamwork and self-discipline, and encouraging them to develop fitness and physical competence.

In the winter terms, the main sports are soccer, hockey and netball, while in the summer we concentrate on cricket, athletics, swimming, rounders and tennis. Chigwell enjoys a national reputation in soccer, cricket and girls' hockey, and there is a comprehensive and challenging inter-school fixture list at all levels for all major games.

As well as full-time PE teachers, many members of staff help in running teams and work alongside professional coaches in hockey, cricket, swimming and tennis.

We also teach individual and less traditional sports encouraging all pupils, regardless of physical ability, to develop skills that can lead to enjoyable and healthy life.

Personal development... broadening horizons... in the world beyond

A particular feature of Chigwell is the large number of clubs and societies operating outside the classroom. We encourage all pupils to take full advantage of the activities available.

All Junior School pupils are involved in the Adventure Service Challenge scheme. Our thriving Scout Troop, with an Explorer Scout Unit for older boys and girls, meets regularly and is involved in a variety of out-of-school events.

We participate in The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme through to the Gold Award level and a number of sixth formers work voluntarily during the Summer holidays helping underprivileged children in London.

An energetic and creative Charity Committee, consisting of parents, pupils and staff, organises a wide variety of events – the well-established Christmas Fayre, sponsored walks and swims, fashion shows, the annual

Flower Festival and balloon races among others. Many pupils come into their own helping to run such activities, developing new skills, building confidence and gaining an awareness of the needs of others.

The School also has a close relationship with the neighbouring Winged Fellowship, a residential holiday home for physically disabled people, and many pupils undertake voluntary work with them.

We encourage pupils to learn to travel enquiringly, understanding and appreciating different customs and cultures.

There are well-established and regular exchanges with the Waldoerfer Schule in Hamburg and the Collège Saint Gabriel, Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre in the Vendée region of France. The most recent scout camps took place in the Isle of Man, County Kerry, the Scottish Highlands, the Derbyshire Peak District

and Cornwall. The South Downs is familiar territory to all Chigwellians who have undertaken the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Geographers do field work on the North Norfolk Coast and on occasion in New York. Historians visit World War I battlefields and Berlin as part of their GCSE and A level courses.

The Chaplain has led Chigwellians on extended visits to the Holy Trinity Ashram in Tamil Nadu state in India. Our Hockey team has toured Holland and we have enjoyed winter sports in Bulgaria, Andorra, Switzerland, France and Norway.

Activities Week in the summer term enables all the Upper Twos (Year 6) to spend a week in France or Spain, and all the Fourth Form (Year 8) to experience challenge and opportunities at an outdoor activities centre in Wales.



A community that cares

Chigwell School is a community in the widest sense dedicated to the teaching and learning of its pupils. A committed and hardworking support staff works alongside the teachers and all help to create a caring and supportive atmosphere for the young people in our charge.



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Chigwell – past, present and future

Founded in 1629 by Samuel Harsnett, Archbishop of York and Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University, Chigwell School has been at the centre of learning for nearly four centuries. It has been a member of the Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference (HMC) for over a century, joining in 1897 when there were fewer than 100 members. Eligibility to join the HMC depends

on a school's degree of independence and its academic standards, so membership is an important endorsement of our reputation.

While we are proud of our long history – indeed, the original school room, now the library, has been in continuous use for 375 years – we are equally focussed on the future. To enable us to offer the best possible facilities, we have undertaken an extensive building and modernisation programme over the past 25 years, yet at the same time have ensured that

modern developments blend with the traditional buildings that still form the nucleus of the School. In this way, a sense of history is preserved, which, in a changing world, provides an important background and sense of stability to the day-to-day life and work of our boys and girls.

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, is our most celebrated former pupil, but generations of Chigwellians have made their mark in all walks of life – in government, the City of London, law, medicine, teaching, industry and commerce, and as citizens.



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Our Founder

SAMUEL HARSNETT was the son of a Colchester baker. He was Vicar of Chigwell from 1597 to 1605 and subsequently rose to high position in the land. His requirements were demanding, as illustrated by his Statutes for the Headmaster, who was to be 'of a sound religion, neither Papist nor Puritan, of a sober and honest conversation, no tippler nor haunter of ale houses, no puffer of tobacco'.

Our Houses

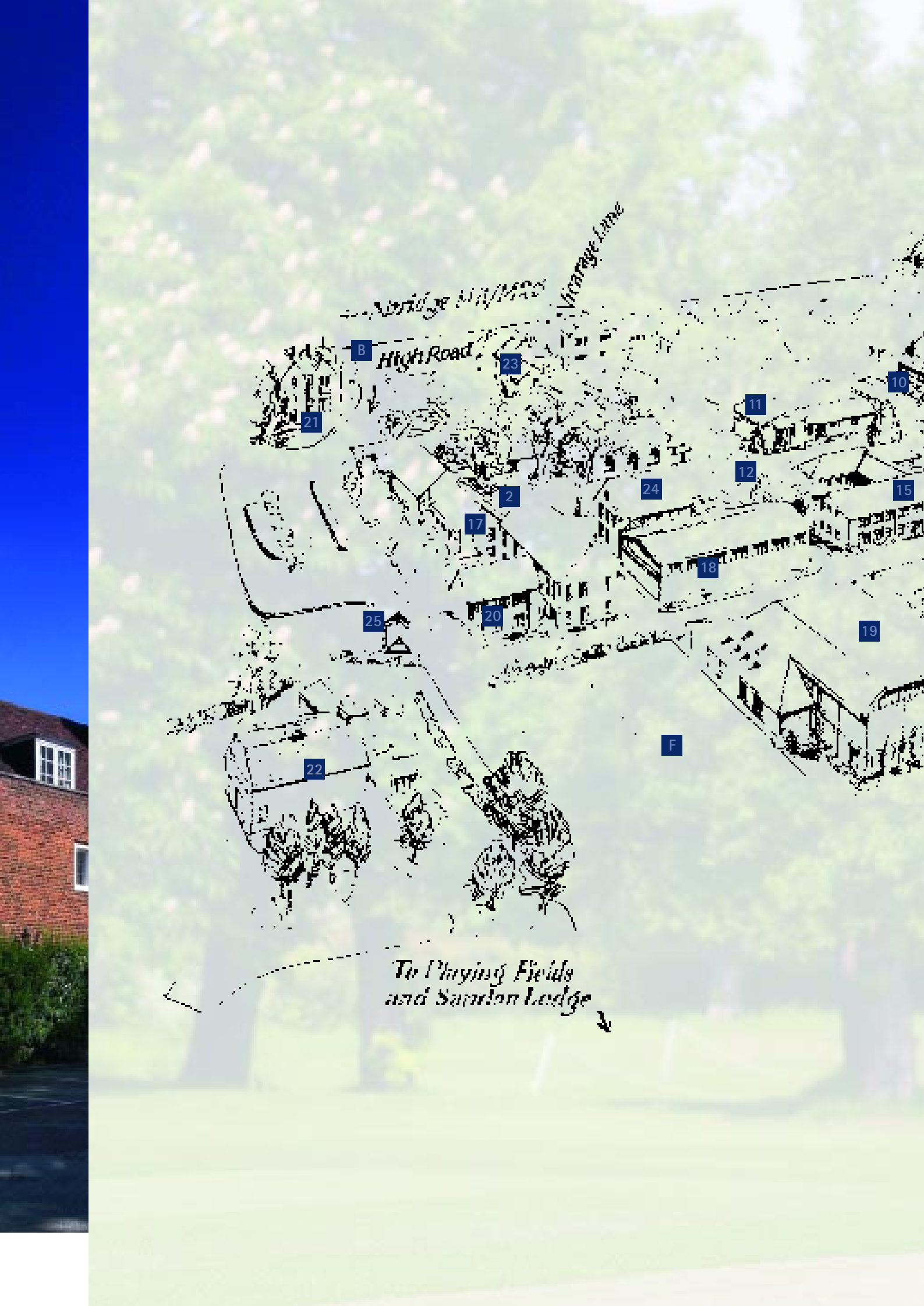
PENN'S - William Penn (1644-1718), was a pupil from 1653 to 1656. Well connected, he became a Quaker and renounced a promising career at Court in order to dedicate his life to propagating his vision of a tolerant and humane society in which war and conflict would play no part.

CASWALLS' - five distinguished Caswall brothers who attended Chigwell School in the 1820s, the most eminent being Edward, poet and famous hymn-writer.

LAMBOURNE - Colonel Mark Lockwood, MP, who later became Lord Lambourne, Chairman of Governors from 1893 to 1922, he was a local landowner and reformer.

SWALLOW'S - Canon Richard Dawson Swallow was Headmaster from 1876 to 1911. The reputation of the School was much enhanced by Swallow, who is often described as the first headmaster of the "new regime".





High Road
Vicarage Lane

B

21

23

11

10

2

24

12

15

17

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20

19

25

F

22

To Playing Fields
and Sarsden Lodge



Key to map

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| A Main School Entrance | 11 Walde Music School |
| B Hainault Entrance & Main Car Park | 12 Queen Mother's Quad |
| C King's Head | 13 New Hall |
| D St Mary's Church | 14 Browning Building |
| E Top Field | 15 Science Building |
| F Hard Play Area | 16 Art & Technology Centre |
| 1 Main School Office | 17 Junior School |
| 2 Junior School Entrance & Office | 18 Gymnasium |
| 3 Swallow Library | 19 Sports Hall |
| 4 Dining Hall | 20 Stanmore House |
| 5 Swallow Room | 21 Hainault House |
| 6 Chapel | 22 Drama Centre |
| 7 Church House | 23 Haylands |
| 8 Harsnett's House | 24 Thompson Building |
| 9 Grange Court | 25 School Shop |
| 10 Swimming Pool | |



Chigwell at a glance

- Independent Co-Educational. Established in 1629
- 730 Pupils
- 330 Boys and Girls in the Junior School (7-13 year olds)
- 400 Boys and Girls in the Senior School (13 -18 year olds)
- 90% day, 10% boarding
- 160 Boys and Girls in the Sixth Form

Chigwell School is represented on the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) and the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS)

Arrival

The main ages of entry are:

- 7+, 8+ and 11+ when children enter the Junior School as day pupils either from primary or preparatory schools
- 16+ when they enter the Sixth Form from a wide range of schools both from this country and abroad, either as day or boarding pupils
- We set our own entrance exams for children joining below the age of 16, while potential sixth formers are offered places based on interview and a report from their present school.



CHIGWELL SCHOOL

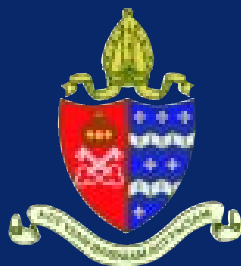
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