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**BISHOPSTROW
COLLEGE**
A pathway to excellence



WELCOME TO BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE

Bishopstrow is all about providing a learning environment for international students: learning English, learning how to make the most of a British education, learning about the culture of the UK, and learning to share the wisdom and insights of their own culture with others.

At Bishopstrow, students participate confidently in class, always in English, and they also discover a variety of ways they can enjoy a UK education – through sport, drama and music. They learn a positive approach, and develop skills, to become independent learners - as well as critical thinkers. All this in the supportive, friendly and professional environment that characterises Bishopstrow, helping students at all levels develop for a successful future.

The strength of the reputation of Bishopstrow College meant that I knew of the College before I was appointed Principal, and on my first visit it was clear to me why the College, with its expert staff and the highest standards, is so regularly recommended by those who know it well.

We all look forward to welcoming you to Bishopstrow and for you to see for yourself why Bishopstrow College is so highly regarded.

Stuart Nicholson, Principal

COLLEGE AIMS AND ETHOS

Aims

- To create a safe, warm and exciting learning environment where we prepare students for a seamless and happy transition to a British boarding school
- To ensure that students leave Bishopstrow, not only able to feel comfortable in a classroom with English speakers, but being able to compete academically in their next school
- To provide the building blocks for children to develop a passion for life and learning, encouraging them to set themselves high standards, to fulfil their potential, and grow in self-esteem and confidence
- To create an atmosphere of respect and tolerance for others through promoting British values of fairness, individuality, mutual respect of those from different cultures

Ethos

Bishopstrow College has five core values that are at the centre of everything we do:

- To be hard working
- To be a team player
- To be kind
- To be polite
- To be organised

“My communication skills improved drastically at Bishopstrow College, making it easier for me to make new friends at my next school, Dulwich College”

BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE AT A GLANCE

Established in 2006, Bishopstrow College is the UK's only independent International Boarding School, offering English language and academic pathway programmes to prepare students for entry into the UK's leading boarding schools. We are not affiliated to any individual school, so students are completely free to choose where they continue their education.

The College operates as a traditional British boarding school, but with an innovative four-term academic year, with terms commencing in September, January, March and June. A 5 week Academic Summer Programme provides a further start date in July. The College offers a variety of programmes, with a focus on English language tuition and immersion in the National Curriculum, in a number of subjects including English, Mathematics, Science and History.

Each term, we welcome up to 84 boys and girls, aged 7-17 years, from around 30 different nationalities and a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. This is intentional, since it encourages students to speak English whilst they are with us.

From the moment they arrive at Bishopstrow, students are immersed and integrated into British life and culture. Throughout their stay, which lasts at least one term and up to a year, they receive intensive preparation for entry into their chosen British boarding schools. Students planning to return home to continue their studies make real progress with their English, whilst also experiencing the globally recognised British curriculum and British culture.

All our students share a commitment to study, a strong sense of purpose, high expectations and good manners. Combined with the exceptional skills and dedication of our teaching, boarding and support staff, it makes for a dynamic learning environment, where students can achieve their very best.

The success of the College's innovative approach to English language learning is demonstrated by our latest British Council inspection report and the quality of the 'destination schools' - students go on to enrol at some of the UK's leading Prep and Senior Schools, including Bradfield College, Cheltenham Ladies College, Godstowe, Oundle, Prior Park College, Summer Fields, The Dragon School and Uppingham.



KEY FEATURES

- Set in eight acres of grounds, surrounded by the beautiful Wiltshire countryside
- Superb teaching facilities, including teaching and learning centre, with 8 classrooms, library, science lab and IT suite
- Small class sizes, with a maximum of 8 students for English and 12 students for other academic subjects, allowing very high levels of individual teacher time
- Individual Learning Plan for every student, detailing progress and areas for improvement in English, other academic subjects, sport and boarding
- The College operates as a traditional British boarding school, with a full sport and activities programme, ensuring excellent preparation for entry into a mainstream boarding school
- The College is not affiliated to any other boarding school, providing a stepping stone to top boarding schools and colleges in the UK

PROGRAMME OPTIONS

- English Language Pathways: Junior College, Middle College and Pre-IGCSE/IGCSE Programmes for ages 7-11, 11-14 and 14-17 respectively: 7 subjects studied, with a focus on English
- 1 Year IGCSE Programme (ages 15-17)
- Academic Summer Programme (ages 7-17): 5 week course, offering 7 subjects, with a focus on English
- Exciting programme of extra curricular activities, including sport, creative arts, weekend excursions and the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme
- Four-term academic calendar, with flexible start dates
- Short stay courses providing the opportunity to experience British education for 1, 2, 3 or 4 terms or 5 weeks in the Summer



SCHOOLING IN ENGLAND

Compulsory education in the UK starts at 5 years of age and finishes at 18. At the age of 16, students in England take GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) examinations.

From 16 to 18, students can take a two year A Level (Advanced Level) course, which provides qualifications for university application.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB Diploma) is an alternative to A Levels.

Mathematics and English are both compulsory GCSE qualifications for entrance to university.

ENGLISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE PROGRAMME	AGE	NATIONAL CURRICULUM ACADEMIC YEAR	EXAMINATIONS OFFERED AT BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE
JUNIOR COLLEGE PROGRAMME	7 - 11	Years 3 - 6	Internal Assessment Cambridge English Language Assessment Examinations
MIDDLE COLLEGE PROGRAMME	11 - 14	Years 7 - 9	Internal Assessment Cambridge English Language Assessment Examinations
PRE-IGCSE/IGCSE PROGRAMME	14 - 17	Years 10 - 11	Internal Assessment Cambridge English Language Assessment Examinations
1 YEAR IGCSE PROGRAMME	15 - 17	Year 11	Internal Assessment Cambridge English Language Assessment Examinations Cambridge IGCSEs
ACADEMIC SUMMER PROGRAMME	7 - 17	Years 3 - 11	Internal Assessment

TYPICAL ACADEMIC YEAR AT BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE

- Term 1: Mid September – early December
- Term 2: Early January – mid March
- Term 3: End March – mid June
- Term 4: End June – end August

The Academic Summer Programme is a 5 week course available during Term 4, with two start dates.

JUNIOR COLLEGE PROGRAMME

The Junior College Programme consists of intensive English language tuition and academic study for Prep School or 11+ Senior School entry. Daily sports and activities, together with a full weekend schedule ensure that students are fully prepared for boarding school life.

This is suitable for international students who wish to improve their English, whilst following a traditional programme of academic subjects.



Features

AGE

7-11 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Registration form
Copy of passport & birth certificate
Most recent school report
Character reference
Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)

MINIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL

Basic user

COURSE LENGTH

1, 2, 3 or 4 terms

SUBJECTS STUDIED

English, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Geography, History and PSHE

ACADEMIC STUDY

25 hours of academic tuition and 5 hours of supervised study

END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT

Internal assessment
External Cambridge English Language Assessment (where applicable)

PROGRESSION

Prep School entry or 11+ Senior School entry

MIDDLE COLLEGE PROGRAMME

The Middle College Programme consists of intensive English language tuition and academic study for 13+ Senior School entry. Daily sports and activities, together with a full weekend schedule ensure that students are fully prepared for boarding school life.

This is suitable for international students who wish to improve their English, whilst following a traditional programme of academic subjects.



Features

AGE

11-14 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Registration form
Copy of passport & birth certificate
Most recent school report
Character reference
Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)

MINIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL

Basic user

COURSE LENGTH

1, 2, 3 or 4 terms

SUBJECTS STUDIED

English, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Geography, History and PSHE

ACADEMIC STUDY

25 hours of academic tuition and 5 hours of supervised study

END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT

Internal assessment
External Cambridge English Language Assessment (where applicable)

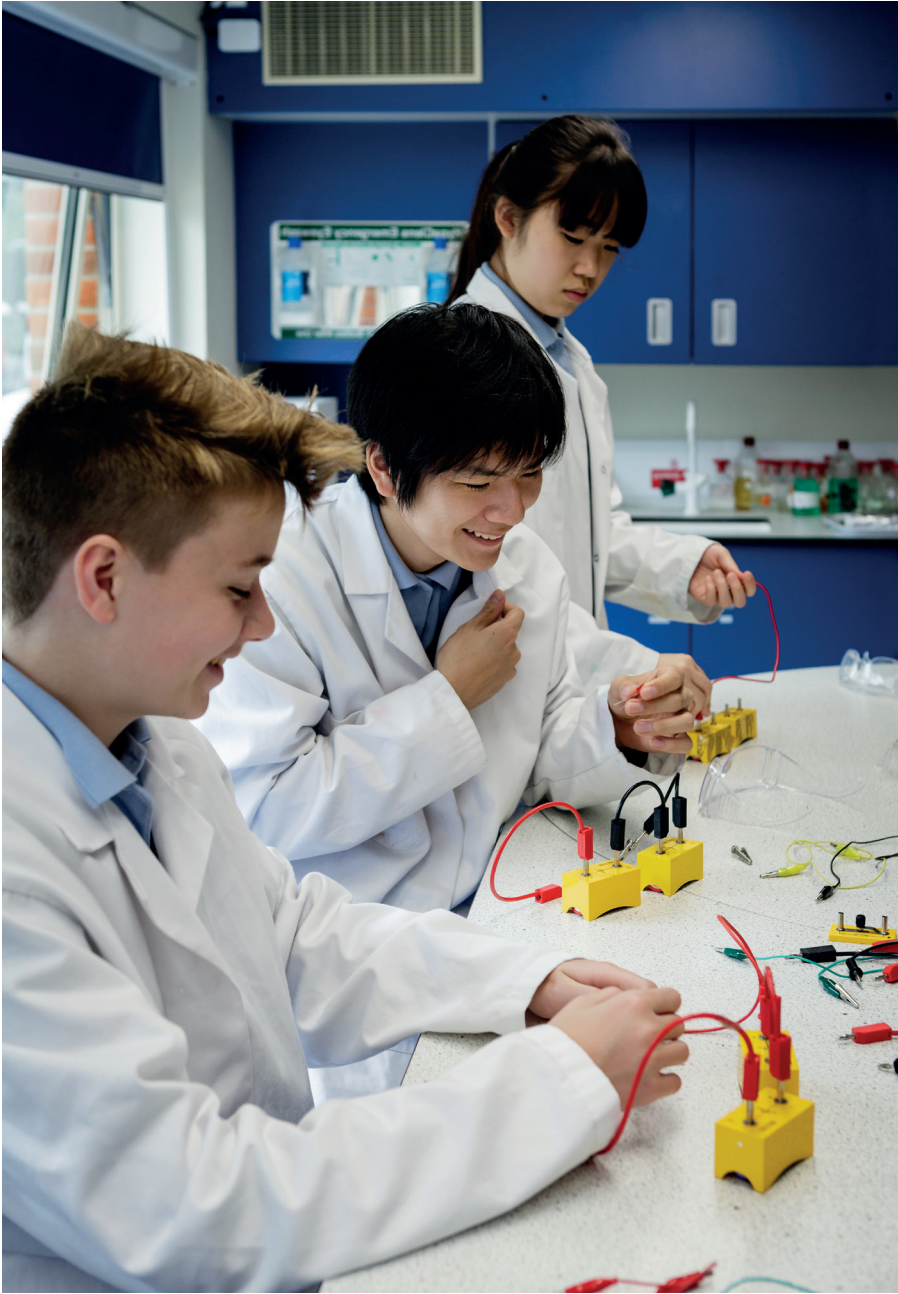
PROGRESSION

13+ Senior School entry

PRE-IGCSE/IGCSE PROGRAMME

The Pre-IGCSE/IGCSE Programme consists of intensive English language tuition and academic study for Senior School entry, including preparation for I/GCSE courses, A Levels and the International Baccalaureate. Daily sports and activities, together with a full weekend schedule ensure that students are fully prepared for boarding school life.

This is suitable for international students who wish to improve their English, whilst following a traditional programme of academic subjects.



Features

AGE

14-17 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Registration form
Copy of passport & birth certificate
Most recent school report
Character reference
Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)

MINIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL

Basic user

COURSE LENGTH

1, 2, 3 or 4 terms

SUBJECTS STUDIED

English, Mathematics, Science, Business Studies, Global Perspectives, History and PSHE

ACADEMIC STUDY

30 hours of academic tuition and 7.5 hours of supervised Study

END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT

Internal assessment
External Cambridge English Language Assessment (where applicable)

PROGRESSION

Senior School entry

1 YEAR IGCSE PROGRAMME

The 1 Year IGCSE Programme offers a range of subjects leading up to 8 examinable subjects and is an excellent preparation for international students before they begin their A Level studies or the IB Diploma Programme.

This is suitable for international students who wish to complete the IGCSE examinations in just one year.



"Bishopstrow College allowed me to move up to the IGCSE cohort and this helped me build a foundation in subjects that I had not studied previously in China, such as Science"



Features

AGE

15-17 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Registration form
Copy of passport & birth certificate
Most recent school report
Character reference
Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)

MINIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL

Intermediate user

COURSE LENGTH

3 terms (September entry)

SUBJECTS STUDIED

English as a Second Language, Mathematics, Additional Mathematics (for more able mathematicians), Science – Single or Double Award, Business Studies, History, Global Perspectives (not examined) and PSHE (not examined)

ACADEMIC STUDY

30 hours of academic tuition and 7.5 hours of supervised Study

END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT

External IGCSE examinations

PROGRESSION

Sixth Form entry

EXAMPLE TIMETABLE

TIME	JUNIOR COLLEGE	MIDDLE COLLEGE	SENIOR COLLEGE
07.15	Wake-up	Wake-up	Wake-up
07.30 – 08.15	BREAKFAST FOLLOWED BY MORNING CLUBS		
08.45 – 09.00 09.00 – 10.00	Assembly	Assembly	Assembly
	Geography	Mathematics	English
10.00 – 10.25	MORNING BREAK		
10.25 – 11.25	Mathematics	Geography	English
11.25 – 12.25	Drama & Literature	Drama & Literature	English
12.25 – 13.25	LUNCH FOLLOWED BY CLUBS THEN REGISTRATION		
13.25 – 14.25	English	English	History
14.25 – 15.25	English	English	Chemistry
15.25 – 15.50	AFTERNOON BREAK		
15.50 – 16.50	Sport	Sport	Mathematics
17.00 – 18.00	Prep	Prep	Sport
18.15 – 19.50	DINNER		
19.00 – 19.45	Activities	Activities	Prep
19.45 – 20.15	Free Time		
20.15 – 20.30	Bedtime	Free Time	Free Time
20.30 – 21.15			
21.15 – 21.30		Bedtime	
21.45 – 22.00			Bedtime

ACADEMIC SUMMER PROGRAMME

The Academic Summer Programme is aimed at international students who will be joining British boarding schools in the Autumn or those who wish to sample British education in the Summer. There are two start dates at the beginning and mid-point of Term 4, with the programme lasting 5 weeks.

FEATURES			
	JUNIOR COLLEGE	MIDDLE COLLEGE	SENIOR COLLEGE
AGE	7-11 years	11-14 years	14-17 years
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	Registration form Copy of passport & birth certificate Current school report Character reference Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)	Registration form Copy of passport & birth certificate Current school report Character reference Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)	Registration form Copy of passport & birth certificate Current school report Character reference Interview (face-to-face or via Skype)
MINIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL	Basic user	Basic user	Basic user
COURSE LENGTH	5 weeks	5 weeks	5 weeks
SUBJECTS STUDIED	English, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Geography, History and PSHE	English, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Geography, History and PSHE	English, Mathematics, Science, Business Studies, Global Perspectives, History and PSHE
ACADEMIC STUDY	25 hours of academic tuition and 5 hours of supervised Prep	25 hours of academic tuition and 5 hours of supervised Prep	30 hours of academic tuition and 7.5 hours of supervised Prep
END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT	Internal examinations	Internal examinations	Internal examinations
PROGRESSION	Return to existing school (in home country) Prep School entry 11+ Senior School entry	Return to existing school (in home country) 13+ Senior School entry	Return to existing school (in home country) Senior School entry

DESTINATION SCHOOLS

Bishopstrow College is proud that its students secure places at some of the most prestigious schools in the UK and overseas.

PREP SCHOOLS	SENIOR SCHOOLS		
All Hallows	Abingdon School	Glenalmond College	Roedean School
Ashdown House	Abbots Bromley School	Godolphin School	Royal Russell School
Aysgarth School	Ashbourne Independent College	Gordonstoun	Rugby School
Caldicott	ACS Cobham	Haileybury	Ruthin School
Cothill House	Aldenham School	Hampshire Collegiate School	Rye St Antony
Cottesmore School	Badminton School	Harrogate Ladies College	Seaford College
Eagle House School	Battle Abbey School	Harrow	St David's College
Edge Grove	Bearwood College	King College, Canterbury	St Edmund's Canterbury
Elstree School	Bedales	King Edward's School Witley	St Edward's Oxford
Foremarke Hall	Bede's Senior School	King's Bruton	St George's School, Ascot
Godstowe School	Bedford School	King's Canterbury	St Lawrence College
Junior Kings	Beechwood Sacred Heart	King's Schools Taunton	St. Mary's Ascot
Lockers Park School	Bellerby's College	Kingswood School	St. Mary's Calne
Maidwell Hall School	Benenden	Lambrook	St Mary's School, Cambridge
Millfield Prep School	Bethany School	Lancing College	St. Mary's Shaftesbury
Packwood Haugh School	Bilton Grange	Leighton Park School	St Swithun's
Orwell Park School	Bloxham School	Leweston School	St Teresa's Effingham
Papplewick School	Blundell's	Lime House School	Seaford College
Port Regis	Bosworth College	Lord Wandsworth College	Sedbergh School
St Andrew's Prep, Eastbourne	Bradfield College	Luckley House School	Sevenoaks School
St John's Beaumont	Bredon School	LVS Ascot	Sherborne Girls
Sandroyd School	Brighton College	Malvern College	Shrewsbury School
Summer Fields	Brockenhurst College	Malvern St James	Shiplake College
Sunningdale School	Bromley School	Marlborough College	Stonar School
Swanbourne House	Bromsgrove School	Mayfield School	Stonyhurst
The Dragon School	Bruton School for Girls	Merchiston Castle School	Stover School
The Downs Malvern	Bryanston	Millfield	Stowe School
The Elms School	Canford	Mill Hill School	Strathallan School
Windlesham House School	CATS College	Milton Abbey	The Harrodian
	Charterhouse	Moir House School	The Ley's School
	Cheltenham College	Monkton Combe School	The Oratory School
	Cheltenham Ladies College	Monmouth School	The Mount School York
	Christ Church Cathedral School	Moreton Hall School	The Royal High School, Bath
	Clayesmore	Oakham School	The Royal Hospital School
	Clifton College	Oundle School	Taunton School
	Concord College	Oxford Tutorial College	Tonbridge School
	Dauntseys	New Hall School	Trinity School
	Dean Close	Padworth College	Tudor Hall
	DLD College	Prior Park College	Uppingham
	D'Overbroecks	Prior's Field School	Warminster School
	Dover College	Queen Anne's School	Wellington College
	Downe House School	Queen Ethelburga's College	Wellington School
	Downside	Queen Margaret's School	Westbourne School
	Dulwich College	Queen's College Taunton	Westminster School
	Earlscliffe	Queenswood	Westonbirt School
	Eastbourne College	Radley College	Winchester College
	Ellesmere College	Reed's School	Woldingham School
	Epsom College	Rendcomb College	Worth School
	Eton College	Repton School	Wycliffe College
	Fairley House School	Richard Huish College	Wycombe Abbey
	Felsted		
	Gresham's School		

SPORTS AND SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The College's extra-curricular programme includes a range of sports, morning and evening clubs and activities, designed to foster team spirit and the confidence to integrate with others when students move on from Bishopstrow.

Sports include traditional British sports such as athletics, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, netball and rugby, as well as badminton, basketball and football.

Morning and afternoon clubs include 'The Crazy Scientist Club', Chess Club, Debating Club, Netball Club and Fitness Club. Weekend activities include country walks, outdoor cooking and survival simulation games.

Other activities include the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme.

Like most British independent schools, we have a House system, with students competing in multinational teams for trophies in debating, drama and sports.

The College is able to arrange other activities such as horse riding and golf on request, for an additional charge.



THE CREATIVE ARTS

For all students, the more formal English and academic classes are complemented by a programme of Creative Arts, including Art and Drama Clubs. There are also opportunities for individual Music lessons and one-to-one tuition in Art (on request).

These activities encourage speaking and listening and help build confidence and develop self expression.



"Being able to pursue a wide range of subjects at Bishopstrow, including Drama and Music, helped prepare me for the broader curriculum that I would have access to at my next school"



TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS

As well as our on-site activities, we organise a stimulating and varied programme of fully supervised trips and excursions at weekends. Some allow students to discover places of cultural, geographical and historical interest; others encourage students to sample the great outdoors, through walking, hiking, cycling and other physical pursuits.

Sightseeing, cultural visits and even shopping provide contexts within which speaking and listening skills are put to the test; they are also great fun and provide memories to last a lifetime.

The College makes full use of the importance of Bath as a local cultural centre (and UNESCO World Heritage Site), with regular visits organised for students.

Trips and excursions may include:

- London museums and art galleries
- Cycling and orienteering in local forests
- Outdoor activity centres
- Trips to the beach and coastal walking
- Visits to neighbouring towns and cities, including Bath, Bristol, Salisbury and Oxford



"Rudi regained his self-esteem and is happy and motivated. I believe that Bishopstrow College is a wonderful place for international students to start an English boarding school education. We will be pleased to update you on Rudi's experiences in the future"



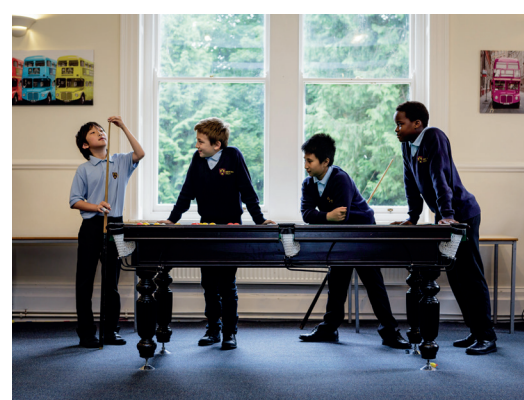
BOARDING AND PASTORAL CARE

We take our students' safety and welfare extremely seriously, with pastoral care an area of strength.

Fully-qualified staff are always available to discuss personal and health matters with students. All boarding staff have first aid training and where necessary, students are taken to the local doctor for medical treatment.

Most students live in Barrow House at the heart of the main campus in shared rooms of between 2 and 6. Senior College students live in shared rooms of 2 or 3. Senior Girls have a separate floor within Barrow House and there are also three further Senior boarding houses located a short distance from the College.

All students have access to indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, common rooms, study spaces and Wi-Fi. All meals are served in the main dining room in Barrow House. We also provide a laundry service.



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



Saeid From Iran

Programme: Junior College Programme

School Destination: Le Rosey

Comments from Saeid: Before I came to Bishopstrow I knew very little English but over time my English has improved greatly. I was at school with my younger brother and we have learnt to play lots of new sports, how to live away from home but more importantly we have experienced a British environment. We enjoy all our academic subjects and love all the activities and trips throughout the week. The classes are very small and this has given us the opportunity to progress academically with all the teachers supporting us.



Chanya from Thailand

Programme: Middle College Programme

School Destination: Lancing College

Comments: Bishopstrow has been instrumental in helping me improve my English, both written and spoken, and my academic subjects. I have learnt specific vocabulary in Science, Geography and History, and benefitted from some excellent interview practice for my next school. Bishopstrow has given me everything I need to ensure that when I start at Lancing, I will be fully prepared academically, socially and culturally and I am able to adapt.



David from Hong Kong

Programme: Senior College Programme

School Destination: Concord College

Comments: Bishopstrow has been the best preparation for me because it has not only prepared me academically for my next school, but given me the opportunity to experience boarding school life. The school has taught me British sports, academic English as well as British culture, especially the food. I have had many opportunities to communicate with other students from different countries as this is my first time abroad. I am now excited about making the next move to Concord.



Elizaveta from Russia

Programme: 1 Year IGCSE Programme

School Destination: King's Canterbury

Comments: Bishopstrow has taught me British culture and traditions as well as how to behave in and outside of the classroom. I have become a more independent person, which has given me the confidence to achieve my dream of going to King's Canterbury. As well as learning how to play different sports like netball and hockey, which we don't do in Russia, I have become familiar with the British system of education and its standards. Bishopstrow is not just a school, it is more like a family and staff really care about the students.



Tom from Vietnam

Programme: 1 Year IGCSE Programme

School Destination: St Edward's Oxford

Comments: With Bishopstrow's help, I was able to adapt quickly to improve my subject grades to enter a top school. The teachers have helped me with my entrance exams in order to gain entry to St Edward's Oxford. They have encouraged me to work hard and given me all the tools I need to go on to Sixth Form.

LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS

Bishopstrow College is set in 8 acres of beautiful grounds, with extensive gardens and playing fields, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Surrounded by clean country air and green space, students are encouraged to spend plenty of time outdoors. We are near the ancient market town of Warminster, with many places of interest within easy reach, including Stonehenge and Bath (both UNESCO World Heritage Sites) and the cathedral city of Salisbury.



Bishopstrow College is easily reached by road (M3, M4 and M5) and is close to UK gateway airports.

Trains from Warminster railway station (5 minutes from the College) run directly to London Waterloo and London Paddington stations.

FURTHER DETAILS

For information or to arrange a visit to the College, please contact Tessa Howard-Vyse, Director of External Relations

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Or visit our website for an online Registration Form www.bishopstrow.com