1633

EXETER SCHOOL





Exeter School is an independent co-educational school for children aged 7-18. Since its foundation in 1633, it has made a distinctive contribution to the maintenance of high educational standards in the City of Exeter and throughout the County of Devon.

Through much of its history, Exeter School has provided continuous secondary education up to the age of 18 for boys, and Sixth Form opportunities for girls from 1981 onwards. In September 1997, it became fully co-educational, accepting girls at 7+ in the Junior School and 11+ in the Senior School. Boarding provision was phased out in July 2000. Pupils enter at 11+, 13+ or 16+, and from 7+ in the Junior School.

The School draws its pupils from the City of Exeter and increasingly from south, mid and east Devon. In March 2014, the School received an impressive report from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate, which rated the School as 'excellent' in all areas.

At present, the Senior School contains 714 pupils, with 199 in the Sixth Form. The School is divided into nine houses, each run by a Head of House and deputy, to provide a strong supportive pastoral system. There are over 100 full and part-time academic teaching staff, and the School also draws on the services of up to 30 peripatetic music teachers. As a Christian foundation, the moral and spiritual side of school life is emphasised with the support of a full-time Chaplain.
Academic standards are very good and the demand for places is high. In 2016, 18% of all A Level grades were at A* and 84% were graded A*-B. Almost all pupils proceed to honours degree courses at university. Thirty-five Oxford and Cambridge places have been gained over the last six years and a record 16 medical offers were made last year. The 2016 A*-C pass rate at GCSE was 99.5%, with 82% of subject grades at A* or A, of which 49.8% were A* grades.

The School stands in 25 acres within a mile of the centre of Exeter. Its main buildings, dating from 1880, were designed by William Butterfield, the architect of Keble College, Oxford. These have been added to on a regular basis and facilities are extremely good.

In 2013, the Music School was remodelled and expanded by nearly one-third, with a new hall and several new practice rooms. A new Art Studio and two new classrooms for Maths and Science were also constructed. The Sixth Form Centre has been refurbished and expanded by 50%, with enhanced study facilities and a refreshment area allowing pupils to take lunch there as well as snacks throughout the day.

As part of the restructure of Exeter School's Sports Department, the Fitness Suite was enhanced and extended to incorporate a free weights room in January 2015. Thanks to an extremely generous anonymous donation, a new 25-metre, four lane, covered competition pool is under construction and will be ready for use in 2017.

Currently there is a Fitness Suite, PE classroom, Dance Studio and Climbing Wall. The all-weather sports area and the Cricket Pavilion have been refitted and refurbished in recent times and new tennis courts and astro turf built.

The Junior School facilities have increased dramatically over the years. In 2012, the Junior School's single-storey extension to the original school building was replaced by a two-storey extension joined to the Victorian property by a glazed link. Junior School pupils now enjoy additional classrooms, a new Library and enhanced Science and ICT facilities.

A new Alumni Office was created in 2013 to revitalise links with former pupils, staff and parents.







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In addition to the emphasis on academic excellence, the School is particularly keen to encourage aesthetic and cultural activities, especially art, music, drama and creative writing, and the standard achieved is exceptionally high.

There are 23 choirs, orchestras and other musical ensembles and around 20 concerts each year. There are three major play productions every year as well as an annual programme of Art and Design Technology exhibitions. There is a purpose-built Drama Studio.

Physical pursuits are much encouraged, especially Ten Tors training on Dartmoor and the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. The School is justifiably proud of its tradition of very high attainment in several games, the major ones being rugby, hockey and netball in the winter, and cricket, swimming and rounders in the summer. Performances in some minority sports such as canoeing, shooting and squash are exceptional. The School possesses an excellent Combined Cadet Force. The School values community service, charitable work and school service.

Recent major overseas expeditions have included the adventure combined with community service trips to Vietnam in 2015, to the Indian Himalayas in 2013 and to Peru in 2009, the 2009 kayaking trip to Ladakh and to Slovenia in 2012 and 2014, which also involved charitable projects, and the 2016 mixed sports tour to South Africa and Namibia as well as Duke of Edinburgh Gold expeditions to Slovenia, Spain and the Brecon Beacons.

Exeter School has its own salary and allowances scales. All staff are expected to contribute to the life of the School outside normal hours. A candidate's ability and willingness to assist with extra-curricular, including cultural and sporting activities would be a strong recommendation. Individuals who are considering applying for this post might find it useful to spend a little time browsing the School's website, which is regularly updated with news and items of interest.







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