



**School Information**



**Reading School**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Combining a distinguished heritage, a positive reputation for outstanding academic achievement and a commitment to high standards of pastoral care, Reading School aims to provide a world class educational experience.

Reading School offers an exceptional all-round education enabling each student to realise his academic, cultural or sporting potential. A Selective Boys' School, Reading School expanded to a five form entry in Year 7 in 2016 and takes both day and boarding students. In November 2016, the school was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> best state school nationally by the Sunday Times.

The governors seek to appoint enthusiastic, well-educated staff to join our School. We offer an exciting opportunity for an innovative, well-qualified and enthusiastic colleague.

A commitment to the principle of academic selection and a genuine resonance with Reading School values are essential.



## **A RICH HISTORY AND A PROMISING FUTURE**

Reading School has a rich history and we wish to build on our impressive past and current achievements and successfully realise the school's ambitious development plans.

Founded in 1125 as part of Reading Abbey, Reading School is the tenth oldest school in England. In 1486 the school was refounded by Henry VII as a 'Free Grammar School'. After the dissolution of Reading Abbey in 1539, the School fell under the control of the Corporation of Reading, its status being confirmed by Henry VIII in 1541. This was reconfirmed in the Royal Charter granted to the Corporation of Reading by Elizabeth I in 1560.

During the Civil War the School was used as a garrison by Royalist forces and in 1665 Parliament, forced out of London by the Great Plague, took over the school house.

After a period of declining numbers, the School was given a renewed lease of life with the passing of the Reading School Act in 1867 which clearly set out its administration and funding. The new buildings designed by Alfred Waterhouse were opened in 1871. The development of Reading School was strengthened following the 1944 Education Act and the school retained its selective status in 1973 after a petition signed by a third of all voters in Reading. February 2011 witnessed Reading School converting to Academy status. Since 2012, there have been improvements to examination results at both GCSE and A Level in addition to the development of a new Refectory, Computer Science facilities and 4 new Biology laboratories and 3 new Chemistry laboratories.



## READING SCHOOL

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Our aim to be a World Class School is shaped by the central importance of academic achievement. We have an outstanding academic track record. Indeed, recent examination results have placed Reading School among the top five performing state schools in the country. In terms of its academic performance, the 'free Grammar School' competes strongly with independent schools costing up to £35,000 per year. For instance, in 2017, 93.1% of Year 13 students were awarded A\*-B at A Level. Furthermore, at GCSE in 2016 90.42% of entries were graded A\*-A, with 60.3% at A\*. In 2017, 23 students have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Regularly, over 70% gained places at Russell Group Universities. A broad and balanced academic curriculum is one of Reading School's greatest strengths. All students study separate science and a modern or ancient language at GCSE. From September 2016, all students have followed a three year KS4 and will be eligible for the English Baccalaureate. The large sixth form of over 300 students offers a wide range of subject combinations covering Maths, Sciences, Humanities, Languages and the Arts.

### BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Whilst academic excellence is important, Reading School also offers a fine all-round education designed to give each student an opportunity to fully explore his talents. The school offers an extensive extra-curricular programme and has an enviable reputation in Music. Students from Year 10 are able to participate in the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) and there is a thriving 'Future Stories' programme through which the School is able to share expertise and resources with Primary Schools.

Reading School is especially proud of the development of International Partnerships and since 2012 we have nurtured links with Schools in Australia, Kenya and Denmark. In addition, our students have represented the UK in competitions held in St Petersburg, Hong Kong and Pittsburgh, USA and look forward to the forthcoming World Public Speaking Championships in Sydney, Australia.

The myriad of enrichment opportunities offered are only possible through the commitment of staff, support of parents and the generosity of the Reading Foundation and the Old Redingensians Association. Learning beyond the classroom, whether it be on a Geography Field Trip in Iceland or a Cricket tour to St Lucia is a crucial component of the experience of Reading School. Enrichment activities complement and extend the experience of academic lessons.

We are fully committed to developing and extending opportunities for students.

## Reading School



ing high standards of pastoral care. Each student is a member of a  
County, East, School, West and Laud.

or who is also the Head of House. This system helps Heads of Houses

development programme which focuses on nurturing integrity and  
the work of the Chaplain, Learning Consultant and the Special

ng School we believe in the development of the heart and the head.

oric and character of Reading School. The quality of the Boarding  
ing' by Ofsted in March 2014. There are 75 weekly boarders from  
ast Wing and South House. Each House is led by an experienced  
ate school, boarders do not pay tuition fees.

the age of 11 and are required to sit entrance examinations set by  
ats are admitted to the Sixth Form.

ective, state school and is oversubscribed. The Governing Body are  
ocial mobility through the 'Future Stories' project which seeks to  
d backgrounds to apply to sit the Entrance Test.

e School offers good facilities which have undergone improvement  
mputer Science laboratories in 2014, refurbished Lecture Theatre in  
and Chemistry Laboratories.

lop the site, especially relating to Sports and Sixth Form Facilities.

e have sought to increase funding streams and have expanded pupil  
016.



## **LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

### **LEADERSHIP**

The Headmaster is supported by the Senior Leadership Team comprising Deputy Headteacher, two Assistant Headteachers and the School Business Manager. This group meets every morning with a fuller meeting after school every Monday.

### **GOVERNANCE**

As an Academy Trust, Reading School is a charitable company limited by guarantee under the overall authority of the Governing Body and the Headmaster. The school site is owned by a charitable trust, The Reading Foundation, established in 1986.

The Governing Body is chaired by Mr Robert Kenwick and comprises 19 Governors who are Directors of the Reading School Academy Trust Company and is served by an excellent, experienced Clerk to the Governors.

## DETAILS OF THE POST

Mathematics is the most popular subject at Reading School. From the beginning of their time with us in Year 7, boys are taught well beyond the requirements of the GCSE examination. We do not enter boys for these examinations early as our policy is one of enrichment and enjoyment for the subject rather than a constant focus towards assessment and examinations. We currently follow the Edexcel specification at GCSE, and, in the first year of the new 9 -1 grading in 2017 we achieved 72 grade 9s, 38 grade 8s, 7 grade 7s and 3 grade 6s. Under the old grading system we expected all boys to achieve at least a grade A in Mathematics and we have consistently achieved over 100 A\*'s from the current entry of about 124 pupils in year 11. At A-level we currently follow the OCR specification A and have 16 sets across the two years with over 90% of the Sixth Form taking some form of A-Level Mathematics. The number of pupils studying Further Mathematics is very high with approximately 60 to 70 in each of the lower and upper sixth taking either AS or A level Further Mathematics. Last year in 2017, nearly 95% of our A-Level candidates in Mathematics obtained grades A\* - B and 37 of 59 pupils who entered for A level Further Mathematics achieved the top A\* grade. The School as a whole expects 20 or more Oxford and Cambridge places each year, and many of our Further Mathematics candidates will be preparing for entrance to top universities in mathematically based subjects. In 2016/17 5 boys have been offered places to read Mathematics at Cambridge University. Each week the department runs both a clinic to support pupils in achieving their mathematical potential and a mathematical enrichment club for those keen to see mathematics applied in a variety of different contexts and away from the confines of the classroom. Pupils are frequently entered for both the individual and team mathematical competitions and challenges (which are run by the UKMT) and many pupils progress to the later Olympiad and Kangaroo rounds.

The Mathematics department has nine well-appointed classrooms housed over two adjacent buildings and both buildings contain a departmental staffroom. The nine teachers in the Mathematics department cover the whole range of teaching from Year 7 to A Level Further Mathematics and preparation for STEP/AEA. We expect members of the department to teach throughout the School at all age and ability levels. The department provides a very supportive environment in which to teach and members of the department enjoy discussing mathematics and the sharing of ideas and resources with regards to teaching and learning. The opportunities for continual professional development that this affords in being able to work collaboratively with fellow mathematicians and enthusiastic colleagues makes Reading School an ideal place to either begin a teaching career or to continue your enjoyment of the teaching of this fascinating and rewarding subject.

## APPOINTMENT PROCESS AND HOW TO APPLY

Reading School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The successful candidate must be willing to undergo an Enhanced DBS Disclosure.

Please complete the teacher application form and enclose a covering letter. Applications can be sent by email to: [headspa@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:headspa@reading-school.co.uk) or by post for the attention of the Headmaster, Mr AM Robson.

Closing Date for Applications: applications will be considered as they are received.

Please address any enquiries to Miss Caroline Mole, Executive Assistant by email: [headspa@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:headspa@reading-school.co.uk) or by telephone: 0118 9015600.