



Oswestry School
Founded 1407



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OSWESTRY SCHOOL

Oswestry School was founded in 1407, in the reign of Henry IV, by David Holbache, friend of Owen Glyndwyr, War Treasurer to the King and Crown Pleader for Wales and Member of Parliament for the County of Shropshire, to provide an education *"for children on both sides of the Welsh Marches and so bring all together into a closer union"*.

The School currently has c.350 pupils in the senior school (aged 11-18) on a 55 acre site on the northern outskirts of Oswestry, but within walking distance of the town centre. This figure includes c130 boarders who are accommodated in three distinct, self-contained boarding houses. Bellan House, the Preparatory Department and 'Jewel in the Crown' for children between the ages of four and eleven, currently has c.120 pupils and occupies a fine Georgian building in the main street of Oswestry and is the only such dedicated School in North Shropshire. It provides a feeder to the senior school and, in turn, is supported by a Nursery located on the Bellan site, and operated in partnership with Prepcare Ltd.

Our academic results, from a non-selective intake, annually confirm the School as "a top co-educational establishment in Shropshire". The boarding community is a cosmopolitan one with pupils from a wide international body, as well as Service families.

One of our strengths is that, from the wide variety of backgrounds from which our pupils come - the services, professions, international and local community - there is no arrogance or conceit attached to the School. It is not only academic results which are celebrated, the School motto *"we learn not for school, but for life"* is evident in the quality and quantity of extra-curricular activities.

In our ISI integrated inspection we scored an impressive 6 out of 9 'excellent' and received just one recommendation compared to the usual three. Further information about the report can be found [here](#).





The Governors are drawn from a wide cross-section of the community and include former pupils, current parents along with a representative of the Church and local authority. The Full Board meets twice a term to receive reports from various sub-committees, make final decisions on strategic matters and to ratify the annual budget. The Finance and General Purposes Committee meets with the Head and Bursar monthly to deal with financial and strategic aspects of running the School. Other Committees are dedicated to considering educational, estates, human resources and marketing issues. The Headmaster is a member of Society of Heads the Head of Bellan is a member of IAPS. The Head has sole overall responsibility for all matters related to the management of the whole School, including the Preparatory Department, Bellan House.



The Head is supported by a Senior Leadership Team of Deputy Head Academic, Deputy Head Pastoral, the Bursar and the Head of Bellan House who has a large degree of autonomy but consults with the Head on all major matters.

A full-page background image showing a person in winter climbing gear, including a dark blue jacket with 'marmot' and 'deuter' logos, a black helmet, and a green backpack with 'deuter' and 'Rab' logos. The person is climbing a steep, snowy mountain slope under a clear blue sky. Other climbers are visible in the distance.

SEE THE WORLD FROM A HIGHER PERSPECTIVE

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

On the sports field the girls play netball and hockey and, in the summer, cricket, athletics and tennis; the boys football and rugby plus cricket, tennis and athletics in the Trinity Term, and there is a heated indoor swimming pool. Culture in the form of music and drama also flourish with regular ambitious productions along with a Recital Series famed throughout the county and beyond. There is a flourishing CCF which has enabled the School to organise an extensive and imaginative extra-curricular programme with particularly adventurous expeditions in recent years to the Himalayas, the Andes, and the Atlas mountains. There are regular ski trips, foreign exchange visits, an active Community Action group and an active Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

The School is involved in the life of the local community who use our facilities and make the most of our outreach opportunities. This benefits the School from both a public relations and marketing perspective.



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