



WYMONDHAM  
COLLEGE

# Main School Prospectus

A World Class State Boarding and Day School

Pride • Passion • Positivity

# A World Class State Boarding and Day School

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# Headteacher's Welcome



Welcome to Wymondham College; the highest performing state school in East Anglia with results that consistently place us in the top 5% of state schools nationally. We are a unique community, made up of students aged 11-18; boarders and day pupils and a team of highly skilled and dedicated academic and support staff.

We are justifiably proud of our students' academic success, which is an important aspect of our work. However, College life beyond the classroom is central to our belief in a holistic education. As illustrated in this prospectus, our extensive 'Wymondham Life' programme offers a huge array of activities including charity events, sport, community work and our Combined Cadet Force. The dimension that a boarding school provides adds real value to our outstanding school. Our students are confident, articulate, well-rounded individuals who understand the importance of team work and resilience. We are proud of our high standards of pastoral care and academic success which were recognised by Ofsted in January 2017; "There is a culture of high expectation and high attainment. Many children and young people exceed their academic expectations because of the support that they receive."

Whilst our prospectus gives a flavour of what makes Wymondham College such an amazing 'World Class School', the best way to experience it is to come and see for yourself. I look forward to welcoming you soon.



**Mr Dan Browning**  
**Headteacher**

# Academic Excellence

## Exam Success

Over the last few years the success of our students in their GCSE examinations has been outstanding. They have worked incredibly hard and have gained superb individual and collective results. Year on year, our GCSE results show excellent academic outcomes and progress. Our A Level average point score was the highest of any state school in Norfolk in 2017. Each year a significant number of our students secure Oxbridge places with most others gaining their first choice places in a range of Russell Group universities or Higher Level Apprentices, for example with Rolls-Royce.

## Curriculum

The College provides a knowledge and skills rich curriculum that will both support and challenge our students as well as allowing them to enjoy the process of learning. The main school offers a five year programme, Years 7 to 11, which allows all students to gain a broad experience of a wide variety of subjects before a guided choice of GCSE subjects.

## Years 7 and 8

All students study a comprehensive range of subjects throughout these two years. The subjects covered are; English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Computing/ICT, Drama, Geography, History, Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish), Music, Physical Education, PSHE, Religious Education and Technology. Students are taught in mixed ability groups in most subjects but are set by ability in Year 7 (English and Mathematics) and Year 8 (English, Mathematics and Science).

## Year 9, 10 and 11

Towards the end of Year 8, students have a guided choice for their GCSE options. The compulsory GCSE subjects are English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, French or Spanish and History or Geography. Students then have two 'free subject' choices. In addition to these GCSE subjects all students follow courses in PSHE, RE, Physical Education and Food Technology. In Years 10 and 11 students will continue to study their GCSE subjects in a greater depth and staff will prepare classes for their GCSE examinations.

## Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Wymondham College offers one of the finest Post-16 experiences in the country. We value academic excellence tremendously highly and invest enormous care and energy in making sure students leave school life with outstanding opportunities ahead. The two years spent in the Sixth Form at Wymondham College will be among the best years of student lives and, year after year, students leave having achieved outstanding academic results and with the social skills to face the world with confidence and thoughtfulness.

The Sixth Form is relentlessly focused on students and their future. A broad curriculum enables students to find subjects that will inspire, and an unmatched range of wider opportunities for personal development means that students will always be busy. Life in a dynamic community filled with like-minded peers, with many students joining the College in the Sixth Form from other schools locally and internationally, ensures that terrific friendships become central to academic life.

Students are expected to show responsibility, self-reliance and leadership. This is especially true in the Sixth Form where there is a great deal of emphasis on developing students' leadership potential. The Headteacher's Council is an elected body of senior students which works alongside the Student Council and House Councils to represent the student voice in the College.

For more information about our Sixth Form, please pick up a copy of our Sixth Form Prospectus.

## The Lincoln Lecture

The annual highlight of our visiting speakers programme is the Lincoln Lecture, which is a formal occasion given in Lincoln Hall by a lecturer of national or international renown.

The lecturer does not just arrive to deliver the lecture – he or she spends the afternoon at the College and engages informally with students too.

“ There is a culture of high expectation and high attainment (Ofsted 2017) ”



# Wymondham Life

## Core Values

A core value is a central belief, clearly understood and shared by every member of the College. Our three Core Values of **PRIDE**, **PASSION** and **POSITIVITY** say something of our culture, our ethos and our priorities. As such, they help us to define the type of College we strive to be. They speak also about the kind of young people we wish to send into the world.

By **PRIDE** we mean that everyone

- has a deep appreciation and respect for our heritage, our history and our unique boarding community
- sets exceptional standards, celebrating personal successes and gleaning pleasure from the achievements of others
- has a deep sense of loyalty and commitment to our community, to our Houses, to friendship groups and towards personal journeys

By **PASSION** we mean that everyone

- is enthused and excited by learning, taking initiative and allowing others to do the same, so that every lesson counts
- embraces the wealth of leadership and Wymondham Life activities on offer, so that growth continues both inside and outside of the classroom
- is afforded the opportunity to lead, drive and shape the community in which we all thrive

By **POSITIVITY** we mean that everyone

- welcomes and embraces challenge, accepting that we are at our most productive when stretched
- recognises that effort will lead to growth, that criticism can drive future success
- will foster positive and collaborative relationships will all members of the community



## Extra Curricular Wymondham Life

Wymondham Life is the name for our extensive range of activities that give students the opportunity to grow in the Core Values that underpin the College.

The programme is rich and diverse in opportunity. Our younger students attend a 'Fresher's Fair' at the start of the year to find out about the 65 clubs and societies that run each week, these include our outstanding Combined Cadet Force that has both Army and RAF sections. Staff provide opportunities linked to curriculum subjects such as 'Young Engineers', those that support Wellbeing such as 'Cuddly Critters' and 'Mindfulness', and alternative off site sports such as scuba diving, horse riding and skiing.



Our Sports Department offer daily sports clubs and competitive sports fixtures during the week and at weekends. The College has a strong reputation for sporting success not only regionally, but nationally with students progressing to the English Schools Athletic Finals for the last 3 years.

We are proud of our strong tradition of Drama and Music. Recent performances of 'Annie', 'Grease' and 'Guys and Dolls' are examples of the lavish productions that both enthral and captivate our audiences. "Enjoy and Achieve" is the central philosophy for the College Music Department. In addition to curriculum music lessons, students have access to a huge range of performance opportunities, including ensembles, Jazz Orchestra and Concert Band. The work of the department is supported by visiting music staff and achievement at all ages and in all areas is of an extraordinary standard. Many students each year go on to study music at university or Music College. Additionally, the College offers specialist music places in Year 7 and Boarding Scholarships for musicians in Year 12.



Holiday activities include ski trips, sports tours and sailing holidays as well as more adventurous expeditions to destinations such as the Far East and Kenya. Previous trips have included cricket in the West Indies, football in Spain, World Challenge in Brazil.





## Pastoral Care

We deliver outstanding exam results, it is our core business. However, for parents there is a more subtle yet equal expectation that their children will turn out to be ‘good kids’; well-rounded young people with a sound moral foundation and a sense of purpose and drive.

Pastoral care is not written into our syllabus but it runs parallel to subject learning as it gives support to the emotional and spiritual growth of young people in what can be some of the most difficult years of personal development.

At Wymondham College we pride ourselves on the pastoral support offered to both day and boarding students largely through our House structure. Under the leadership of the Heads of House (Assistant Headteachers), teams of both residential and non-residential staff are trained to support and listen, helping young people make decisions they can own and be proud of. The employment of a Wellbeing Manager, mental health nurse and qualified counsellor, demonstrates a commitment to high quality pastoral care for both staff and students at the College. Pastoral care is not only reactionary but also proactive, reinforced by our strong moral messages through assemblies and throughout the curriculum.

We measure progress not only by academic attainment but also by the journey of children into confident, happy and caring young people. Our Core Values of Pride, Passion and Positivity underpin our belief that the quality of pastoral care is as valuable as the quality of teaching in the classroom.

“The Refectory provides an excellent range of freshly cooked, healthy meals, including an extensive salad bar.”  
(Ofsted 2017)



Our Campus



## Boarding

The exciting and unique blend of young people is one of the many reasons why Wymondham College is a dynamic, successful and fascinating place to be. However, our true strength and uniqueness comes from boarding which forms the very essence of College life. Our boarders come from a wide range of backgrounds. The College's outstanding reputation means that we have students coming to us from across the UK, Europe and elsewhere in the world. We are committed to giving our very best at all times, courageous and resilient to embrace change and welcome challenge, whilst maintaining the high standards we expect from one another.

Wymondham College has always been a fully co-educational school and since the 1970s we have had mixed boarding houses. This means that whilst sleeping accommodation is entirely separate, boys and girls mix naturally in the social and work areas. Our five main school boarding houses (Kett Hall, Peel Hall, Fry Hall, Cavell Hall and New Hall) have similarly high quality facilities such as a satellite TV, games, computers and common room/sofa areas. However, each of our houses has its own distinct ethos that is underpinned by our overall Wymondham College Core Values. Students eat together in the College Refectory where there is a wide range of hot food on offer every day plus a salad bar.

**“The children and young people receive outstanding care and support in the boarding provision (Ofsted 2017)”**



Another key aspect of boarding at Wymondham College is the range of staff who are available to support and guide our boarders. The plethora of trained and experienced staff dedicated simply to boarding in each House far exceed the national minimum guidelines established for boarding schools. Teaching and non-teaching staff willingly give up their time in the evenings and weekends, with teaching staff recognising the great benefits boarding brings to the classroom. With Heads of House having overall pastoral and academic responsibility for the progress of students in their care, the boarding houses lie at the centre of life at the College.

“Highly trained and experienced leaders and managers lead the boarding provision effectively and efficiently. They inspire not only the children and young people but also the staff. Their approach nurtures collective ambition and children and young people make progress as a result. (Ofsted 2017)”

As a state boarding school, education is free for all. This means that parents who choose to send their children to board with us, only pay for the cost of boarding, which equates to an annual fee that is approximately two thirds less than the cost of independent boarding education.

“Boarding is an integral part of the whole college. Heads of houses are qualified teachers and have responsibilities linked to academic study.” (Ofsted 2017)





## Our Unique Heritage

Wymondham College was established in 1951 on the site of a wartime US Air Force Hospital. The College continued to be housed in wartime Nissen huts until the 1990s. Only one Nissen hut remains, our Chapel, which is at the heart of the College. We are proud of our links with the United States and a Heritage Trail around the campus tells students and visitors the story of the development of the site before, during and after the war. We remember the sacrifice of those who fought and fell during the Second World War and who sadly lost their lives in the 231st United States Air Force military hospital (1943-45) during our Remembrance Day service and wreath laying ceremony. This is held at our war memorial and is attended by our own Combined Cadet Force and a Senior member of the US military.



Wymondham College was the brain child of Sir Lincoln Ralphs (Chief Education Officer, Norfolk County Council 1950-1974). His vision to build a state boarding school with exceptionally high academic standards, that also provides a huge range of opportunities, remains the central aim of the College to this day. We continue to have a close friendship with the Ralphs family that this is celebrated in our annual Founders' Day Service.

**Floreat Sapientia.**  
**Let knowledge, faith and courtesy**  
**Our triple inspiration be,**  
**That we may say with constancy**  
**Floreat Sapientia**

Wymondham College song, Sir Lincoln Ralphs, 1951

Throughout the days of history  
 Our kinsmen fought for liberty,  
 That truth might conquer tyranny  
 And justice only frame our laws.  
 The Pilgrim Fathers' sons returned  
 And Wymondham's verdant acres tilled

Let Wymondham College students see  
 That they fulfil their destiny,  
 In triumph or adversity  
 Floreat sapientia.  
 Let knowledge, faith and courtesy  
 Our triple inspiration be

## Our Community

Students come to us with a wide range of skills, talents and enthusiasms – many of which you don't yet know about. The College's taught curriculum and the extra-curricular programme (Wymondham Life) are designed to give every opportunity to develop creativity, refine skills and express unique views of the world around us.

The College is non-denominational and a broad Christian ethos is fostered in all aspects of our work. An Anglican Chaplain and services in our Chapel have a central place in College life.

We actively encourage former students to play a role in the development of current students, sharing their knowledge and experiences with younger generations. With their genuine affection, pride and enthusiasm, our 'Old Wymondhamians' are delighted to return to the College, reminiscing on a past life and willing to give something back to the place which, for so many, influenced and shaped them.

As you would expect, Wymondham College is ambitious for its future and appreciates the need to constantly develop the campus and invest wisely for future generations. The Wymondham College Trust is committed to supporting these developments through raising funds for capital projects whilst supporting individual students with bursaries.



Plan of The Peter Rout Centre



Plan of Cricket Pavilion



## Our Facilities

We have a spectacular 83 acre site which includes extensive sports pitches, a flood lit AstroTurf, new tennis courts, an indoor swimming pool, modern classroom buildings and specialist teaching spaces, five main school boarding houses and Lincoln Hall (winner of the South Norfolk award for Design Excellence 2008). Our Sixth Form centre is home to 400 Post-16 day and boarding students. In 2018 building work will begin on a new £2.4million Maths and SEN building which includes a lecture theatre. By 2021 we hope to build a new state of the art Cricket Pavilion in time for the 70th anniversary of the College.

We are the founding school of the Sapientia Education Trust (SET). SET have been granted funding to build a new Primary Free School on the Wymondham College site that will give us the opportunity to educate children from age 5 through to 18. Our new Primary School will also offer boarding places for Year 5 and 6 students and we hope that this will be open in September 2020.



## How to Apply

To apply for a boarding or day place at Wymondham College please visit our 'Admissions' section on our website [www.wymondhamcollege.org](http://www.wymondhamcollege.org)

Alternatively you can contact our Admissions team by phone, email or post. They will guide you through your application process.

**Tel:** 01953 609000

**Email:** [admissions@wymondhamcollege.org](mailto:admissions@wymondhamcollege.org)

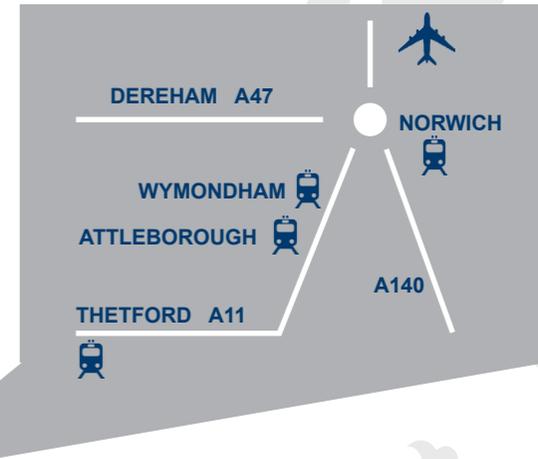
**Post:** Wymondham College, Golf Links Road, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 9SZ



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|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Reception                     | 9. English, Humanities & Drama               | 15. Science                          | 21. Peter Rout Centre (opening late 2018) | 27. The International Centre      | 33. Pavilion                                  |
| 2 & 3. Lincoln Sixth Form Centre | 10. Combined Cadet Force                     | 16. Business Studies, Law & Politics | 22. Refectory                             | 28. PSA Shop                      | 34. College House                             |
| 4. Peel Hall                     | 11. Estates Yard                             | 17. New Hall                         | 23. Library                               | 29. Sports Centre & Swimming Pool | 35. Sapientia Education Trust Central Offices |
| 5. Fry Hall                      | 12. Kett Hall                                | 18. Well Being Centre                | 24. Chapel                                | 30. Tennis Courts                 |   |
| 6. Cavell Hall                   | 13. Memorial Garden                          | 19. Staff Houses                     | 25. Maths                                 | 31. Astro Turf                    |   |
| 7. Pond                          | 14. Staff Room, SLT Offices & College Office | 20. Medical Centre                   | 26. Water Tower                           | 32. Music                         |   |

# How to Find Us



Wymondham College is close to major roads and rail routes. Norwich International Airport offers connections via Amsterdam to a full range of international destinations. London Stansted Airport, with low cost direct flights to locations across the UK and Europe, is easily accessible by road or rail.



## Wymondham College

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**bsa** | BOARDING  
SCHOOLS'  
ASSOCIATION



**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
School