

St Swithun's

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England



Contact Details

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Summary

School type	Students	Boarding
Prep School up to 11 (linked to senior school)	Girls	Age Range
Senior School 11 - 18	Girls	11 - 18
Sixth Form (linked to school)	Girls	Age Range Boarders
		11 - 18
		Total Boarders
		198
		Int'l Boarders
		96

Educational Programmes

2 year GCSE, 2 year iGCSE, A levels-2-years, Long term boarding,
Short term boarding

Boarding fees

Full boarding fees per term
£18,332 - £18,332

Registration fee
£350

Deposit
£1,500 - £5,000

General description

St Swithun's is an 'appropriately academic' school which means that we celebrate intellectual curiosity and the life of the mind, but not to the exclusion of all else. We expect our pupils to develop individual passions and through them to acquire a range of skills and characteristics.

These characteristics will include a willingness to take risks, to question and to debate, and to persevere in the face of difficulty. In the words of Samuel Beckett: "Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better." If a girl can immediately excel at everything we ask of her, we as educators must set the bar higher.

We want all girls to learn about life beyond the school gates, to appreciate the rich variety of our world, to develop an understanding of compassion and to value justice. We encourage all pupils to become involved in fundraising and community work. They should appreciate how their decisions and their actions can affect those around them.

St Swithun's was founded by Anna Bramston, daughter of the Dean of Winchester, and Christian values underpin our approach to education. We provide a civilised and caring environment in which all girls and staff are valued for their individual gifts and encouraged to develop a sense of spirituality and of kindness. We believe that kindness and tolerance are at the heart of any fully functioning community.

Aims

The school's aims are as follows:

Academic

To prepare girls for public examinations and higher education in a stimulating and scholarly environment in which the girls develop intellectual curiosity, independence of mind and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning. They are encouraged to achieve their personal best.

School community

To provide a happy, safe and supportive community based on Christian values in which all girls are given the space to develop their spirituality and are encouraged to understand and celebrate difference, and to be kind to others.

Co-curricular

To provide a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom so that girls can discover individual passions and develop a range of characteristics such as resilience, initiative, creativity, perseverance, self-confidence, the ability to work in a team and to honour one's commitments. To encourage habits to ensure good physical and mental health both at school and in the future such as exercise, healthy eating and the art of relaxation.

Beyond the school gates

To teach the girls compassion, an understanding of the wider world and their role in it, a sense of duty and a desire for justice.

Looking towards the future

To provide high-quality higher education and careers advice and a supportive old girls network.

Keeping in touch

To communicate in a timely and constructive fashion with parents and other members of the St Swithun's family in order to develop relationships conducive to offering the best possible education.

By the time a girl leaves St Swithun's she will be well-educated, courageous, compassionate, committed

and self-confident with a love of learning, a moral compass and a sense of humour.

What the school is known for

St Swithun's is a boarding and day school which is unashamedly academic but not academic to the exclusion of all else. We strongly believe in the concept of being 'appropriately academic' which means working hard in class, working hard on homework, but then shutting your books and doing something else. After all, there is no point in being young if you spend all your time at your desk.

Our academic results are outstanding, but our prevailing ethos is one of every girl striving to break her own personal best rather than competing with her classmates. We want our girls to understand that their ability is not fixed but will change over time when they receive good teaching and when they respond to feedback. They will not do everything perfectly straight away and they will make mistakes, but that is often when the best learning takes place.