



ST. EDWARD'S
OXFORD

‘St Edward’s, Oxford is on fire – academic ambition is at an all-time high but none of the school’s characteristic warmth and roundedness has been sacrificed in the pursuit.’

TALK EDUCATION

‘A positive place ... this is a happy school.’

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

THE WARDEN

Alastair Chirnside, formerly Deputy Head at Harrow and a House Master at Eton, became Warden of St Edward's in September 2021.

Alastair was brought up in Oxford and attended the Dragon School, winning a King's Scholarship to Eton. He took a Congratulatory First in Classics and Modern Languages at Merton College, Oxford, where he also won a Half Blue in Lightweight Rowing. Before embarking on his teaching career, Alastair worked in fund management at Schroders.

‘The Warden, Alastair Chirnside, is a modest powerhouse. He knows what he wants to achieve at Teddies and is unlikely to fail. He's down to earth, kind, approachable and has a genuine interest in the success and wellbeing of his students; he delights in celebrating with them their many achievements.’

A TEDDIES PARENT

‘Ambition, friendliness and fun are the hallmarks of a St Edward's education – and I hope that you will visit us in Oxford to see them for yourself.’

THE WARDEN





‘The friends I have made through sports, societies, plays, lessons, DofE and in House have created the best possible environment for me to live, learn and have fun at school.’

AMBER

The academic ethos at Teddies allows for everyone to be seen and heard, through the support that teachers give you in lessons, in clinics and in many other ways. I opted to study the International Baccalaureate Diploma as I am interested in a wide range of subjects.

What I love most about Teddies is the wonderful sense of community felt by every member of the School. The friends I have made through sports, societies, plays, lessons, DofE and in House have created the best possible environment for me to live, learn and have fun at school.

Teddies has opened every possible door for me and the friendships, experiences and skills that I have gained will support me through my life beyond Teddies.

‘They emphasise kindness a lot. Ambition and kindness don’t often go hand in hand.’

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE



ST EDWARD'S, OXFORD

Founded in 1863, St Edward's is an exceptional co-educational boarding and day school set in 100 leafy green acres in Oxford, the educational capital of the world.

The School educates just over 800 boys and girls aged 13–18, preparing them not only for entry into the world's best universities, but also to lead happy, fulfilling and socially responsible adult lives.

Pupils can achieve at the highest level in every area – in their academic work, in sport, in music, drama and the arts, in outdoor pursuits and in community volunteering. To have access to all those facilities and opportunities and at the same time to be on the doorstep of the intellectually and culturally inspiring city of Oxford is unique, and it provides an unparalleled and transformational educational experience for our pupils. By comparison with other schools, pupils can simply do more at Teddies than anywhere else.

Ambition, kindness and a strong sense of belonging characterise Teddies, as the School is known to its community. Pupils join St Edward's from Oxford and surrounding counties, from London, from the South of England and from all over the world to live and learn together in a thriving international city with excellent transport links to London and beyond.

‘If you want a happy, vibrant, rounded, grounded and successful co-ed school (yes, it's all of those things), look no further than St Edward's, Oxford, our number one choice for both our children. You'll find academic rigour and excellent teaching without the relentless grind and miserable sense of pressure of so many other schools. How does Teddies achieve this? That's the magic!’

A TEDDIES PARENT

RUFUS

I am an international student from Frankfurt in Germany where I attended a state day school. I decided to move to Teddies as I was enthralled by the sporting and academic opportunities available to me.

The School's location in Oxford was one of my main motives for coming to St Edward's. But there is far more to the School than its location. In terms of super-curricular opportunities, we benefit greatly from a variety of incredible lectures by professors and experts from the University itself, which give me a deeper insight into the latest research in the subjects which I might study at university.

Furthermore, I have greatly benefited from the highly professional, compassionate and proactive support provided by my Housemistress, the pupil leadership team in my House and the rest of my peers. While I initially found the transition to an overseas boarding school slightly daunting, the welcoming atmosphere made it easy to integrate and to settle into the thriving school community.

Teddies truly has been, and continues to be, an incredible journey.

‘The School's location in Oxford was one of my main motives for coming to St Edward's.’





ROLI

In every area of school life, there's been something new to learn and an existing skill or interest to develop, which is one of my favourite things about going to school at Teddies.

Academically, I've had societies, events and talks to push me further than just my courses, especially in the subjects I love.

While academic learning is very important at Teddies, my favourite part of life here is the school community. Within my House, we constantly have activities and events across year groups to get to know each other, such as cooking in our 'House families' and mentoring the Fourth Form. It truly has one of the warmest and friendliest atmospheres, and I feel lucky to be part of it.

THE TEDDIES COMMUNITY

Teddies holds a very special place in the hearts of all those who pass through it.

At events and gatherings all over the world, mention of Teddies frequently elicits a warm smile of fond recognition, even from people who have only a passing knowledge of the School.

St Edward's is a diverse school. Twenty percent of our pupils are international, joining us from over 40 different countries and from more than 100 different schools. Eighty-five percent of our pupils board, 15% are day pupils and 25% are from London. Our approach to admissions, to the recruitment of staff and to running the School is focused on creating an inclusive and connected community. Even more than academic excellence and co-curricular achievement, that is the defining feature of St Edward's.

Pupil voice is a strong thread running through the community, with pupils' views influencing management decisions, teaching appointments, menu options and all aspects of their lives at School.

St Edward's is a Christian foundation and the Chapel is at the centre of the School. It is a place where our pupils' sense of togetherness is strengthened, whatever their faith – somewhere to come together for services and events, and to enjoy a moment of stillness and reflection during a busy school day.

Former pupils remain connected to the community through the lively programme of events and communications run by the Beyond Teddies team, who organise dinners, reunions and get-togethers at every opportunity. All pupils benefit from the Teddies Business Directory of parents, former pupils and friends of the School willing to help them as they plan and shape their careers, during and beyond their time at Teddies.

‘Parents universally told us that they sent their children to Teddies because they reckoned they would be nicer people for it: and what greater compliment?’

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

‘The school values of kindness, integrity and courage are evident everywhere.’

A TEDDIES PARENT



A photograph of four students in school uniforms walking outdoors. From left to right: a boy with curly brown hair, a girl with blonde hair in a ponytail, a boy with short dark hair, and a girl with long blonde hair. They are all wearing dark blue blazers over white shirts. The boys are wearing dark trousers and striped ties, while the girls are wearing plaid skirts. They are walking on a path with trees in the background.

CO-EDUCATION

The first girls started at St Edward's more than 40 years ago, and Teddies has been ahead of the trend towards co-education ever since.

Co-education at Teddies is founded on the belief that young people need to live and learn alongside each other in diverse communities from an early age to ensure that they take mutual respect and understanding into adulthood.

At St Edward's, stereotypes are challenged and moderated, and pupils are encouraged by their shared experiences with their peers to follow their interests, wherever they may take them.

Boarding houses at St Edward's are single sex from the Shell (Year 9) to the Fifth Form (Year 11). Several Houses offer co-educational Sixth Forms, which provide excellent preparation for life at university.

‘The most important skill for our pupils to take from their time at Teddies is the ability to relate to others – and not just to people like them. For the development of that emotional intelligence in our increasingly integrated and complex society, co-education has never been more important.’

THE WARDEN

‘Co-education is the way forward: Teddies reflects the real world and there's no mystery or awkwardness around the opposite sex.’

A TEDDIES PARENT



‘Teddies is a holistic powerhouse striving to open even more doors for its pupils by pushing the boundaries academically.’

TALK EDUCATION

A MODERN EDUCATION

The academic culture at St Edward's is dynamic and ambitious. Academic results are excellent and on an accelerating upward trend.

Teachers are highly qualified, committed and kind. Classrooms are lively, interactive places where pupils discuss, debate and collaborate. Pupils are expected to work hard so that they have as many opportunities as possible open to them for the next stage of their education and beyond.

Pupils' academic ambitions are encouraged in every possible way. Working under the direction of the Housemasters and Housemistresses, Tutors support pupils in all aspects of their lives at Teddies, ensuring that they are fulfilling their academic ambitions, that they are making the most of the co-curricular opportunities available to them, and that the balance in their school lives supports their general wellbeing.

Class sizes are small – around 18–20 in the Lower School and typically 8–10 in the Sixth Form. Overall, the pupil/teacher ratio is just over 6:1 so pupils are assured of exceptional academic guidance and pastoral support. With more than 25 subjects available and an element of choice at every stage of a pupil's academic journey from the Shell to the Sixth Form, pupils can shape their academic programme to suit their interests and aspirations.

HEATHER

Pupils at Teddies benefit from links with the University of Oxford. I was thrilled to be invited to a lecture delivered by the winner of the Kyoto Prize for Science at the Blavatnik School of Government.

Lessons at Teddies are academically challenging without putting too much pressure on us, so we can enjoy our subjects as well as perform academically to the best of our ability.



LOGAN

I lived in Spain for ten years and returned to the UK aged 14, joining a state secondary school in Liverpool. I was fortunate enough to be offered a bursary through the SpringBoard Foundation which enabled me to take up a place in the Sixth Form at St Edward's, and I arrived here last September.

I was naturally quite nervous about the prospect of leaving home and starting not just at a new school, but at a boarding school.

In my House, as in all Houses at Teddies, there is great camaraderie through year group events and house meals. All the pupils in the House are in the same situation and we bond together like an extended family, no matter what our backgrounds are. In my short time here, I have made solid and loyal friends, people I can talk to about any issues, and I have a Tutor to help with schoolwork and to look out for my general wellbeing.





CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY

Choice is available for pupils at every stage of their academic journey at St Edward's, allowing all pupils to play to their strengths.

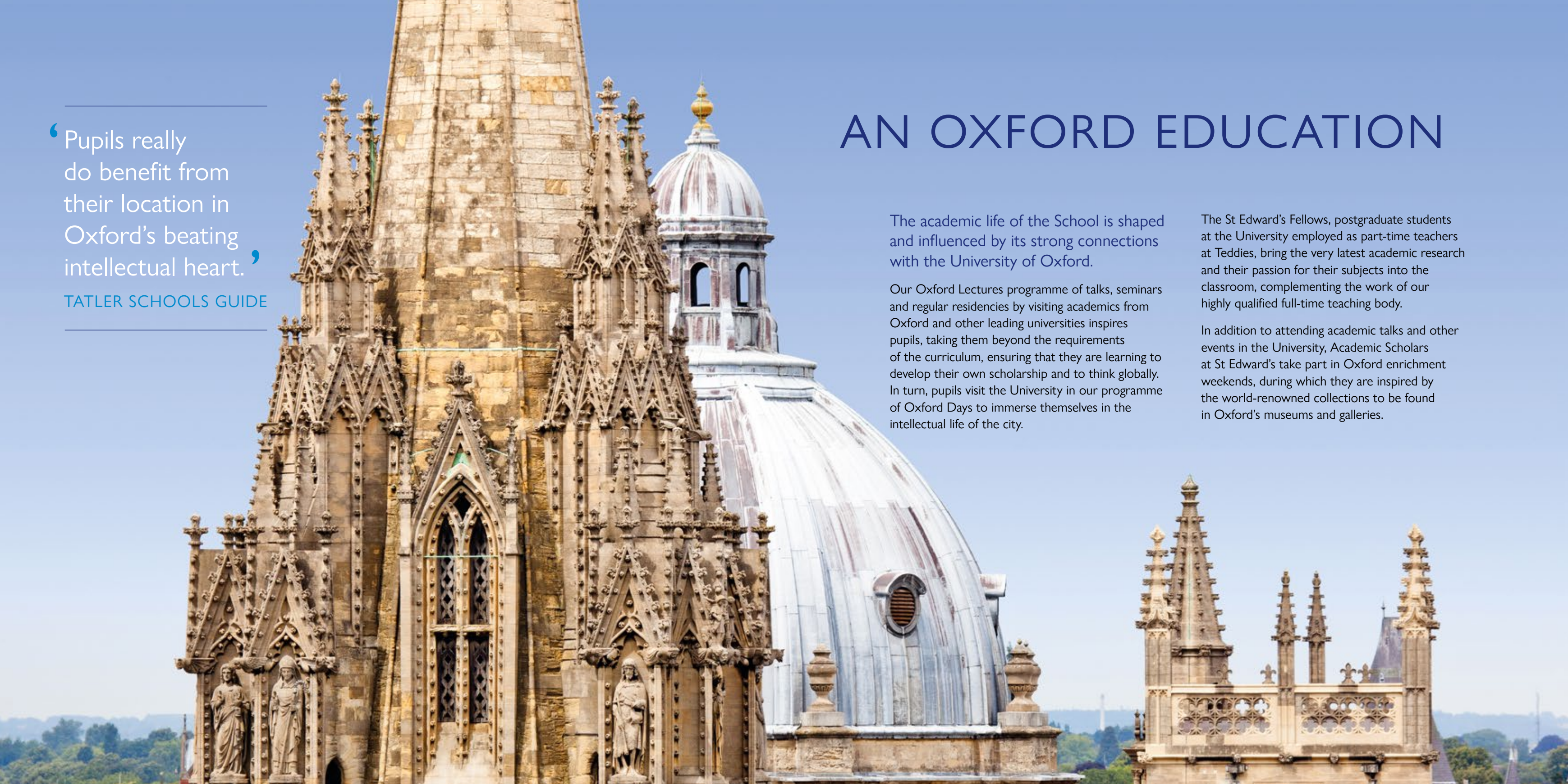
In the Shell (Year 9), pupils follow a core curriculum including English, Mathematics, the Sciences, the Humanities, Classics and one Modern Foreign Language. Uniquely at Teddies, they can then choose their other subjects from a range which includes other Modern Languages, Ancient Greek, Computer Science, Art, Design and Drama.

In the Fourth Form (Year 10), most pupils choose between eight and twelve GCSEs and up to two of St Edward's own Pathways and Perspectives courses, designed by the School in conjunction with the University of Buckingham to provide greater academic challenge, to encourage collaborative working and to inspire original thinking. Pupils can choose from courses covering subjects as diverse as the Ancient World, Sustainability, and Design & Entrepreneurship.

In the Sixth Form (Year 12), pupils choose between A Levels and the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

Pupils looking for academic stimulus outside the classroom and beyond the curriculum can attend regular academic societies on almost any topic: Classics, Computer Science, Biology, Dissection, Design Engineering, Economics, History, Literature, Mathematics, Medicine, Philosophy, Psychology, and many more.

Links with other leading schools in America, India, Australia and Europe extend everyone's horizons, bringing a world view into the heart of the School.



‘Pupils really
do benefit from
their location in
Oxford’s beating
intellectual heart.’

TATLER SCHOOLS GUIDE

AN OXFORD EDUCATION

The academic life of the School is shaped and influenced by its strong connections with the University of Oxford.

Our Oxford Lectures programme of talks, seminars and regular residencies by visiting academics from Oxford and other leading universities inspires pupils, taking them beyond the requirements of the curriculum, ensuring that they are learning to develop their own scholarship and to think globally. In turn, pupils visit the University in our programme of Oxford Days to immerse themselves in the intellectual life of the city.

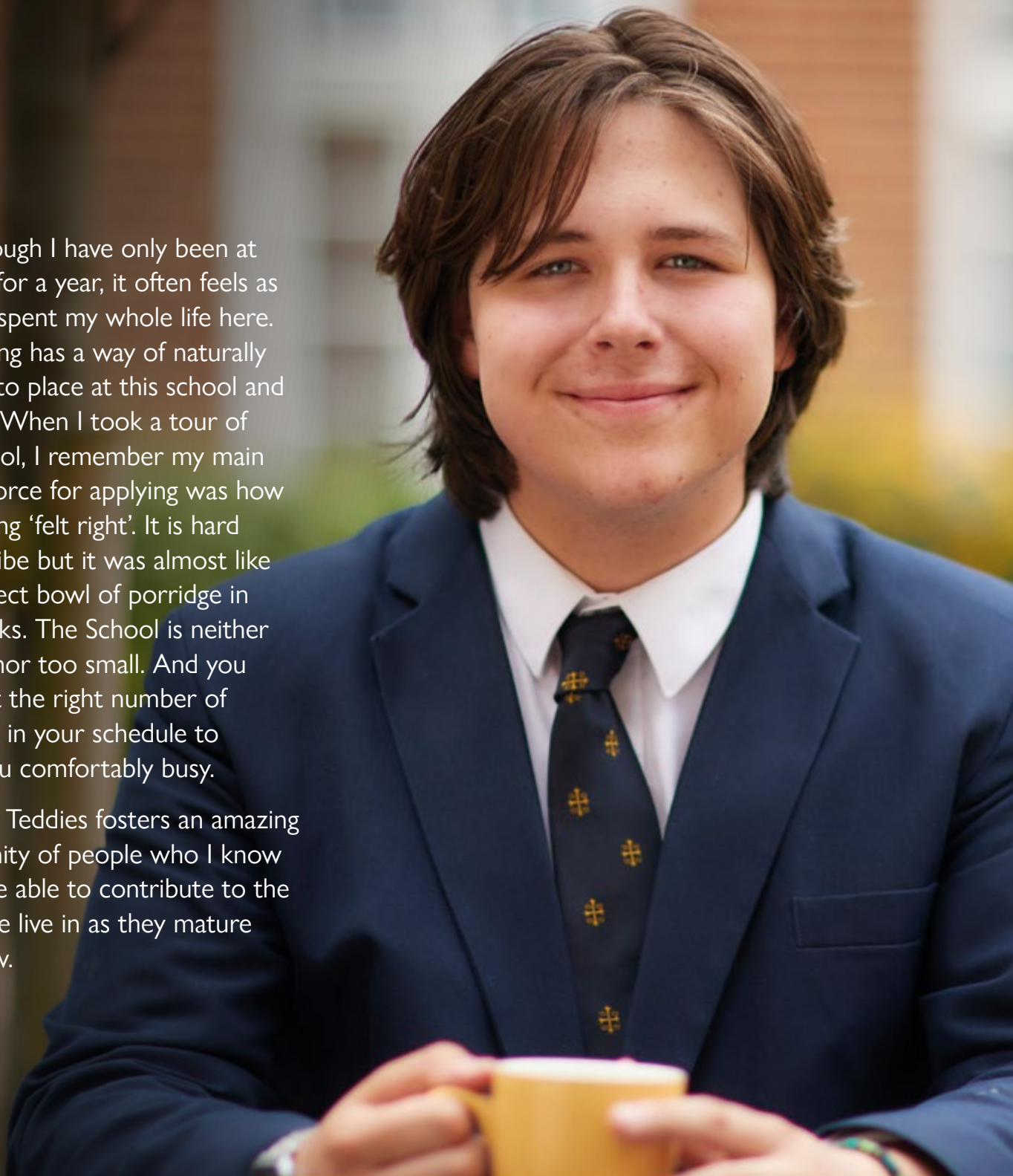
The St Edward’s Fellows, postgraduate students at the University employed as part-time teachers at Teddies, bring the very latest academic research and their passion for their subjects into the classroom, complementing the work of our highly qualified full-time teaching body.

In addition to attending academic talks and other events in the University, Academic Scholars at St Edward’s take part in Oxford enrichment weekends, during which they are inspired by the world-renowned collections to be found in Oxford’s museums and galleries.

PIPS

Even though I have only been at Teddies for a year, it often feels as if I have spent my whole life here. Everything has a way of naturally fitting into place at this school and I love it. When I took a tour of the school, I remember my main driving force for applying was how everything 'felt right'. It is hard to describe but it was almost like the perfect bowl of porridge in Goldilocks. The School is neither too big nor too small. And you have just the right number of activities in your schedule to make you comfortably busy.

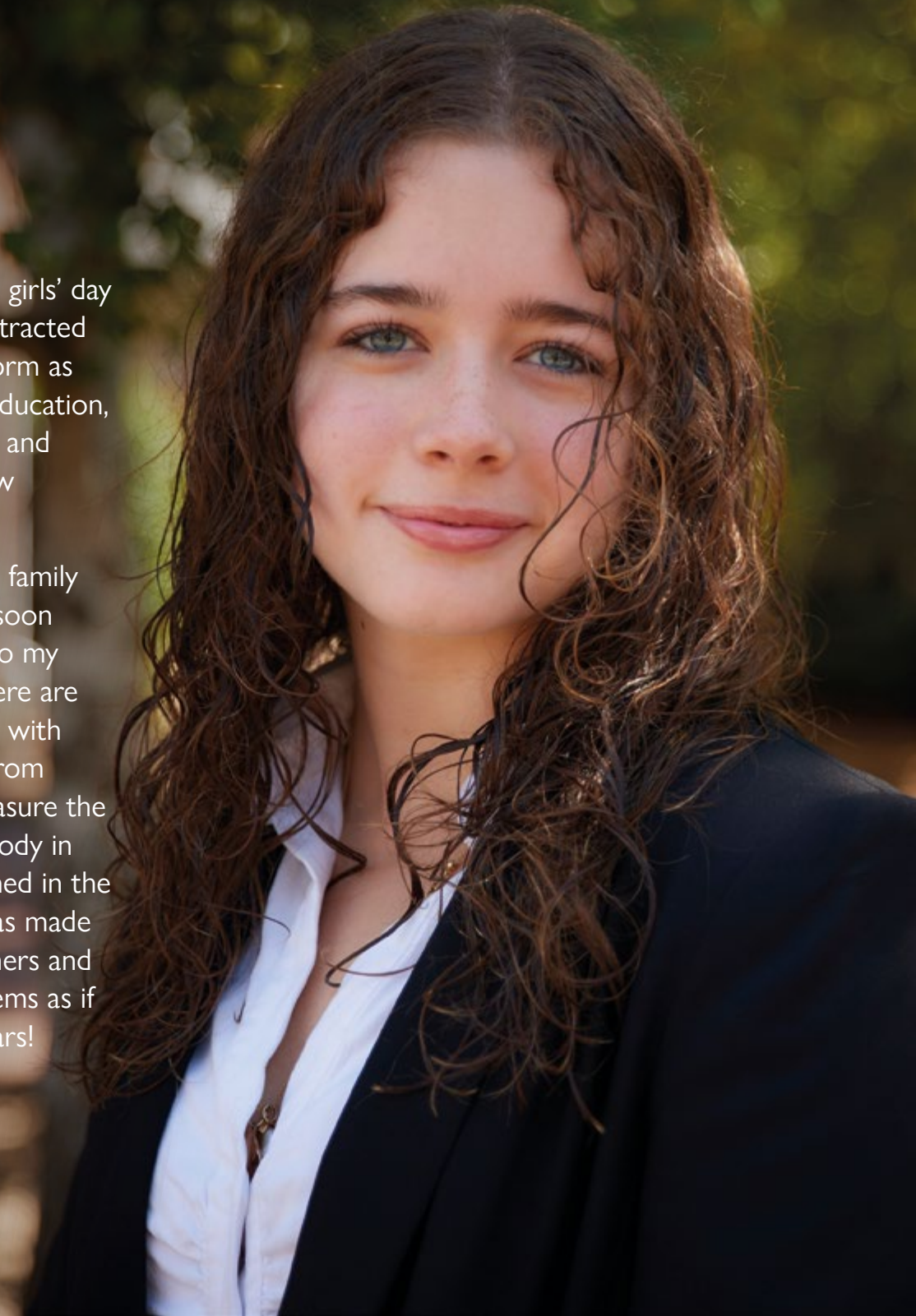
All in all, Teddies fosters an amazing community of people who I know will all be able to contribute to the world we live in as they mature and grow.



OLIVIA

I moved to Teddies from a girls' day school in London. I was attracted to Teddies for the Sixth Form as I wanted a well-rounded education, to grow my independence and to experience as many new opportunities as possible.

I have absolutely loved the family feel that I experienced as soon as I took my first steps into my co-ed boarding house. There are friends wherever I turn, all with diverse personalities and from various backgrounds. I treasure the closeness between everybody in the School. Although I joined in the Lower Sixth, everybody has made me feel so welcome, teachers and pupils alike, and now it seems as if I have known them for years!



SCHOOL LIFE

The Teddies community is bound together by an extraordinary spirit which stretches around the world and across the generations.

The size of the School is one of the reasons why such strong bonds are formed. With just over 800 pupils overall and only 140 in the Shell (Year 9), St Edward's is big enough for there to be an extraordinary range of opportunities but small enough for pupils to know each other very well.

The Teddies spirit is created in the Houses, which are at the heart of pupils' experience of the School. Each House is home to around 65 pupils from all year groups, and is run by a Housemaster or Housemistress, supported by a core residential team, a Matron and a House Nurse. Each pupil has a personal Tutor in House, with whom they meet several times a week for individual guidance on all aspects of their lives at St Edward's.

House teams are supported by the wider pastoral network including a Governors' Safeguarding and Wellbeing Committee, senior pastoral and safeguarding leaders, the School Doctor, Psychologist and Counsellor, the Director of Wellbeing, and the Health Centre and Chaplaincy teams. The Deputy Head Welfare has particular responsibility for our international families. School Prefects, Heads of House and specially trained pupil Peer Listeners play an important part in the support network too.

As well as the wide range of school-wide opportunities, each House has its own pattern of events and activities, which build a strong and supportive House community.

‘Happiness at school doesn't happen by itself. It happens because pupils support each other, because they work together, because they are there for each other. It happens because we work hard at bringing our community together. That's why friendliness is such a defining characteristic of St Edward's.’

THE WARDEN



ENNO

At Teddies, there are countless activities to explore: trying new sports, joining societies, attending Oxford lectures, going into town with friends, taking part in plays, and much more.

As you navigate these incredible experiences, you become part of a lasting community within both the School and your boarding house. Whenever I faced personal or academic challenges, there was always someone available to talk to – teachers, friends or housemates.

The support from your House is particularly significant. Each House is made up of inspiring individuals from all year groups, each with their strengths and weaknesses. This diversity fosters mutual support and acceptance. For instance, when I struggled to learn my lines for a school show, my housemates stepped in to help. What would have taken me two weeks alone, we accomplished in just three nights together.



SCAN THE QR CODES
TO WATCH
TEDDIES TV



THE WARDEN



MUSIC



SPORT



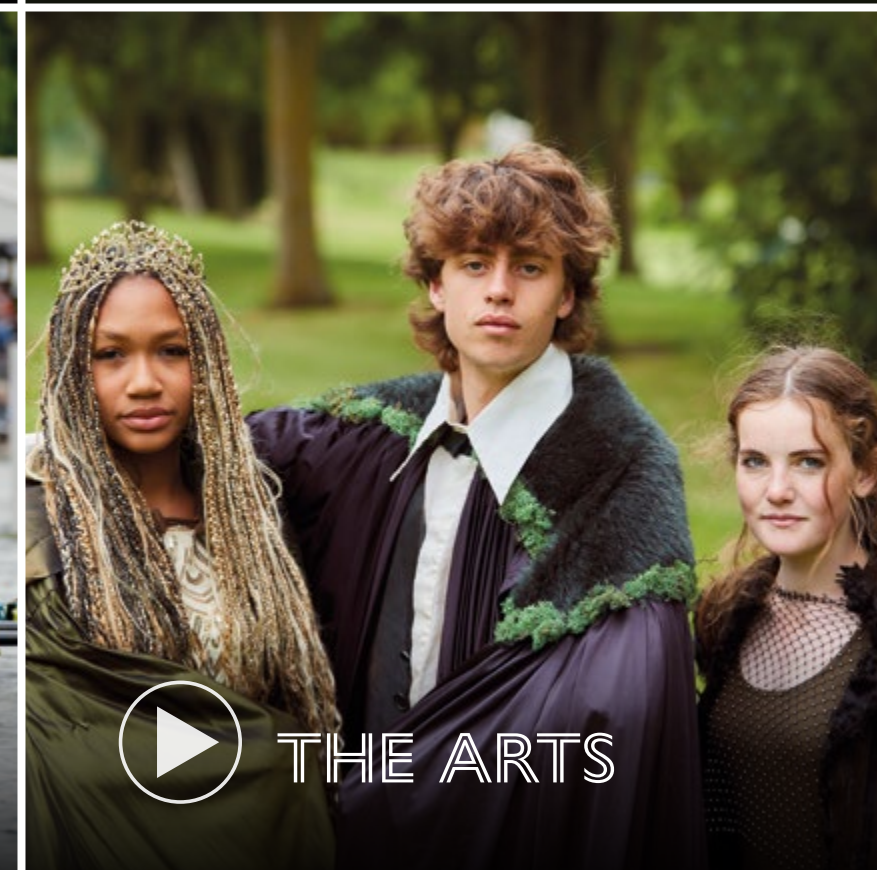
HOUSE LIFE



OXFORD



ROWING



THE ARTS

SURI

I have most definitely enjoyed my time at Teddies so far. I have been able to try sports that I had never played before, like hockey and netball.

The teachers at the School are genuinely nice and really enjoy their jobs. They strive to make sure every pupil does the best that they can. The atmosphere in the classroom is fun and inclusive and everybody has an opportunity to answer questions and to take part in discussions.

Cricket means the world to me and I couldn't have asked for anything more from last season. We made it to the top four cricketing schools in the country, making history for Teddies at the same time. I am incredibly happy and proud of what we achieved as a team, and of my first half-century for the 1st XI. I really enjoyed being with my team and having fun.



BOARDING AND DAY

St Edward's recognises the needs of modern family life and the practical complexities of international boarding. We therefore offer a wide range of boarding and day options.

Our weekly and full boarding arrangements mean that pupils can choose to go home on Saturday afternoons after sport or other commitments, but there is so much going on at weekends that around 40% of our boarders opt to stay at School. On some weekends, especially when there are house dinners or social events for the whole year group, many more will choose to stay at Teddies. Weekends always provide opportunities for sports fixtures and rehearsals. They also provide time for a change of pace and a chance to relax with friends and to discover the benefits of being at school in a great university city.

Weekend activities include ice-skating, trampolining, paintballing, cinema trips, quiz nights, giant inflatables, BBQs, house events – and much more!

School coaches run to and from London (Dulwich, Battersea, South Kensington), Beaconsfield, Maidenhead, Winchester, Newbury and Cheltenham every weekend. See the website for full route details.

Day pupils may leave school at 6.30pm, or earlier if they have no later school commitments, but many choose to stay until 9.00pm or even later for supervised prep, for co-curricular activities, to enjoy the evening talks programme or simply to spend time with their friends. On Saturday, day pupils go home after sport or other commitments in the late afternoon.

Day pupils have their own space in Houses alongside their boarding peers and are seamlessly integrated into the school community.

‘It’s fantastic. Teaching staff have no idea whether my son is a day boy or a boarder. I think it’s really wonderful. They are so well integrated that it makes no difference. This is unusual.’

A TEDDIES PARENT





DIGITAL WELLBEING

From our own observations and from our reading of the latest research, we are clear that it is in our pupils' best interests for them to be present in the moment at school – focusing on their studies, fully committed to their activities, talking to and spending time with their friends. It is this thinking which informs our robust policy on mobile phones.

For pupils in the Shell and the Fourth Form the school week is entirely mobile free, with pupils given access to their phones after commitments on Saturday and during the day on Sunday. Phones are handed in overnight, and day pupils hand in their phones on arrival and collect them as they leave.

From the Fifth Form onwards, access to mobile phones is allowed at specified times during the week with the Sixth Form enjoying greater freedoms.

Pupils in the Shell, Fourth Form and Fifth Form use school-issued Surface Pro laptops, which are managed by the School to protect our pupils online and to allow them to concentrate on their work without distraction.

Pupils are able to contact parents using Zoom and WhatsApp on their Surface Pro laptops or by using one of the House phones. [Read the full policy here.](#)



DRAGOS

Teddies is completely out of this world. Even though I have only been at Teddies for a year, it already seems like ages because of all the different activities and fun things that I get to do every day.

At first, I did not know what to expect of Teddies since I am an overseas pupil from Romania and I had never boarded before. It was hard at first, but the Teddies staff made me feel at home within a week. The huge number of activities such as rowing, rugby, football, cricket, athletics, dance, music ensembles, societies and many more make it impossible to be bored. You can feel as if time is playing tricks on you because of how fast it goes by, but when you look back at how many things you have done, it feels like so much longer.

‘TEDDIES IS
COMPLETELY
OUT OF THIS
WORLD’



BREADTH OF EXPERIENCE

Opportunities at St Edward's are greatly enhanced by the size of the campus and the outstanding facilities in all areas of school life.

The Christie Centre is a versatile, contemporary academic centre. Whether pupils need a quiet reading room for research, a modern, busy library where they can share ideas, a stimulating view from the study deck overlooking the Quad, or the social study space of the ground floor café, pupils have countless ways in which to work together, to think together, and to be together.

The Christie Centre sits next to the magnificent Olivier Hall, where the whole community can meet for assemblies, performances, talks and concerts. An impressive venue in its own right, the Olivier hosts a growing public programme of notable external speakers and performers, from which our pupils and the local community benefit.

Beyond the Quad, 100 acres of grounds, courts and pitches, a boathouse on the Thames, the high-specification Music School, the North Wall Arts Centre, art studios, an apiary and the Nuffield Health Fitness and Wellbeing Gym mean that pupils have every opportunity to pursue their passions and interests. Plans for a major project to transform the Field Side of the School, including the building of an athletics track alongside a new sports and community centre, are being developed. The additional facilities will include indoor pitches for hockey, netball, badminton and basketball as well as a rowing tank, a strength and conditioning studio, an ergo suite, a climbing wall, a video analysis suite, facilities for spectators and an outdoor 3G pitch under lights.



CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

A strong thread running through a St Edward's education is the culture of enthusiastic and joyful participation across all areas of school life.

Exceptional facilities, warm encouragement from Tutors and the framework of the St Edward's Award all steer pupils into making the most of all the opportunities available to them.

Pupils come together on the sports fields, on the river, on stage, in musical and dramatic ensembles, in performances and concerts, in community volunteering and in close to 60 societies covering all areas of interest – from beekeeping to debating, from crochet to coding, from ecology to the Model United Nations.

School life is busy, purposeful and energising; young people learn to take part, to become involved and to try new things.

‘There isn't a Teddies type: you can be a maths genius or great at rowing, a musical prodigy or a budding thespian. A wealth of talent is celebrated within all realms of academia, sport, drama, music and art. Teddies pupils are confident and articulate without being showy.’

A TEDDIES PARENT



NOAH

I joined Teddies as a Shell (Year 9) from the Dragon. Even as a day pupil, life as a Shell started at breakneck speed! So much happened from the very first day. I quickly made new friends, not only in my own year, but also with those in other years in my House. During the first term, the whole school takes part in the annual Steeplechase and then the rehearsals start for the Shell plays, which are great fun. One of the big highlights for me is cake night on a Wednesday evening! We are also allowed to go into Summertown sometimes, which I really enjoy.

My first lesson at Teddies was an introduction to Greek, taught by the Warden himself!

Life as a Shell is very busy, but it is rewarding in so many ways. There has not been a single day where I have not laughed with my school friends and learnt something new. There is a lot of support, encouragement and kindness. Teddies is a very happy place to be with so much to offer and so many opportunities.

‘There has not been a single day where I have not laughed with my school friends and learnt something new.’



THE ARTS

The dazzling and uplifting arts programme is a hugely important aspect of life at Teddies.

The stunning Music School houses all the facilities any ambitious young musician could want or need and over 500 individual music lessons take place every week. The elegant Weston Recital Room at the heart of the building is surrounded by practice and ensemble rooms, dedicated music classrooms, the Fenton Recording Studio, a Rock Room and the Ferguson Music Library, an invaluable resource for those pursuing academic music qualifications.

The Drama Department and the School's North Wall Arts Centre combine to offer outstanding opportunities in drama. Varied and challenging school productions are complemented by an annual trip to perform at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Over 200 boys and girls are involved in the exhilarating dance programme. The annual dance shows and recitals are spectacular displays featuring everything from exquisite ballet sequences to hip-hop and acrobatic breakdance.

Art and Design are taught exceptionally well at St Edward's, with the departments' facilities and expertise more akin to those of an art or design college than a school. All of the staff are practising artists, designers and makers, and many pupils go on to further study in both disciplines.



‘Stunning facilities for music and the arts.’
THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

SPORT

Sport has always been at the heart of the Teddies experience. Pupils choose between 22 different sports, from rowing to cricket, rugby to hockey, athletics to tennis, football to netball – and they can choose their level of participation.

For some, sport is a driving passion and will be a big part of their week. For others, sport is about the camaraderie of being part of a team, a chance to be outdoors, or an opportunity to unwind away from the classroom.

The School's programme, facilities and coaching set-up allow elite sportswomen and men to achieve great glory – internationally, nationally and at regional level. In the last three years, girls' and boys' rowing crews from Teddies have won Championship gold medals at the National Schools' Regatta; the boys' 1st VIII have won the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup for men's junior eights at Henley; girls' hockey teams have reached national quarter-finals; the boys' rugby 1st XV has been ranked among the top 30 independent school teams nationally; Teddies has been recognised as one of the top schools in the country for cricket, for girls and for boys; and our netball, football and athletics teams have enjoyed record-breaking seasons.

Pupils are inspired to develop their sporting talent by the exceptional facilities. In addition to the 100 acres of pitches and courts, two floodlit AstroTurf pitches, two sports pavilions, badminton and squash

courts, a Boat House on the Thames, a swimming pool, an outdoor obstacle course and all the facilities of the Nuffield Health Fitness and Wellbeing Gym on school grounds mean that every interest is catered for. Our athletes currently use Oxford University's Iffley Road running track, though plans are underway to build a new athletics track and an adjacent sports centre on school grounds, creating more opportunities for our pupils and for the wider community.



The boys' 1st VIII after their historic victory in the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta

ALLEGRA

From the moment I joined St Edward's in the Fourth Form, I was enveloped in Teddies' incredibly warm and supportive House system. The older pupils took me under their wing, guiding and supporting me until I found my footing. We cheer each other on in inter-house competitions across sports, music, dance and drama, fostering a close-knit community. It's the ideal setting to explore new interests, to discover new passions and to develop a huge range of skills.

The creative arts are my greatest passion. I take two instrumental classes each week and I have the amazing opportunity to be part of the Chapel Choir, with which I recently had the honour of singing at Windsor Castle!



DAVID

One of the things I love most about Teddies is the fact that support is available whenever it is needed in any area of school life. If you have a question or an idea, the School will try their best to help you.

When I first came to the School, there was no Fencing Club. But when I requested it, it appeared as an additional club, and the School worked hard to enter us into the biggest fencing tournament in the UK which was a great experience for us.



‘Kindness is key: the students volunteer with various local charities and schools in the Sixth Form, instilling qualities of selflessness and generosity of spirit.’

A TEDDIES PARENT

Pupils from nearby Cutteslowe Primary School enjoying a fun run at Teddies



BEYOND TEDDIES

The academic and cultural opportunities afforded by the School's location in Oxford are defining features of a Teddies education. Just as important, however, is the grounding of our pupils in the local community. Being at the heart of a city means that our pupils stay connected to life beyond school, running activities for primary school children and supporting local charities.

A pioneering initiative, Teddies Collaborates, provides dedicated space in the timetable for every Lower Sixth pupil to work once a week for a year in partnership with a local school, charity or organisation. Younger pupils prepare for their time in the Collaborates programme by taking part in training and partnership days.



‘One of my most memorable activities is Teddies Collaborates, the Lower Sixth service programme, where everybody volunteers at a workplace in the Oxford area every week – at a care home, in a primary school or for a local charity or organisation. I absolutely loved my service placement at the Fairfield Care Home. Teddies really opened my eyes to the benefits of serving the wider community, as both the residents and I looked forward to the hour I spent at the care home each week drawing, playing card games and just having lovely conversations.’

OLIVIA, UPPER SIXTH

LYDIA

There are many things I love about Teddies: the sports, the co-curricular activities, the teaching, friendships, and my House community. On Tuesday evenings in House, we have cake night where we do things together and eat delicious cake made by our caring Matron. In the summer, when it gets lighter, we go out onto the fields and play games, making the bonds in our House even stronger.

CCF in the Fourth Form was a year to remember. It was exciting to learn so much about what life was like in the Army, and how it was so different to how I live every day. There were so many highlights – learning how to march, playing hide and seek smothered in camouflage paint and, of course, receiving the first ever Fred Tao Award for kindness, generosity and selflessness. That was a very special moment.





‘St Edward’s introduced me to the US college system, which was something I had never even considered before joining the School. I am now a Mechanical Engineering major at Harvard University, rowing as part of a great squad and pushing myself to be the best that I can be.’

JOSH BRANGAN OSE

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREERS

Pupils go on to the very best universities in the UK, the USA and all over the world. Some choose to go straight into work or to take up apprenticeships.

The opportunities presented by the School’s location in the world’s most famous university city contribute greatly to pupils’ success. They are ambitious in their applications and around 80% of pupils secure places at their first choice university.

Wherever their aspirations lie, pupils are supported by a large team of specialists.

All pupils are given comprehensive advice on their university applications and pupils applying to elite universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London or the US Ivy League, or for highly competitive courses such as Medicine or Veterinary Science, have access to the Elite Universities Programme. This includes tuition support for SAT/ACT testing, direct support from a subject specialist, interview practice, and Oxford reading and discussion weekends.

Interest in studying overseas is high and increasing. Around a quarter of the year group looks to study outside the UK, with the US the most popular

international destination. A dedicated US guidance counsellor supports pupils with applications to a wide range of American universities.

For those with a strong athletic or creative profile, introductions are made to sports coaches or creative directors from US and other universities to facilitate access to scholarships.

The Careers and Employability programme begins in the Shell (Year 9) with a carousel of events and opportunities running across all year groups to help pupils make the best choices for their future lives.

Talks by inspiring and successful individuals from a wide range of sectors are complemented by careers fairs and events focusing on traditional and emerging industries.

ADMISSIONS

In selecting young people to join St Edward's, we are looking for academic ability, of course, but also for ambition, energy and a sense of purpose.

We want to be sure that pupils joining the School will enjoy their time with us because they feel at home at Teddies and because they derive satisfaction from their contribution to the School. Some will contribute by leading the academic life of the School, others through their participation in sport, the arts or community volunteering, and all through their willingness to involve themselves in the lives of their Houses and the wider school community.

Pupils are admitted at three entry points: approximately 140 into the Shell (Year 9), around 20 into the Fourth Form (Year 10) and some 60 into the Sixth Form (Year 12).

‘My parents gave me *The Good Schools Guide* and I chose Teddies. It lived up to everything in the review but especially on the friendship and friendliness front.’
FORMER PUPIL

Entry to all year groups is via academic entrance examinations and all pupils must be registered to sit the admissions tests. For all year groups the assessment is in two parts. Pupils whose test results and reference indicate that they are suited to our demanding academic curriculum and our rich co-curricular offering will be invited to the second stage for interview.

Sixth Form candidates must achieve a minimum of six GCSEs or equivalent, including three at Grade 7 or above in the subjects which they hope to study at A Level or at Higher Level in the IB. Candidates wishing to study Mathematics or one or more of the Sciences are required to achieve Grade 8 in those subjects.

For further information about admissions processes, scholarship opportunities and fee support, please visit:

stedwardsoxford.org

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‘Academic extension’
‘A culture of respect’
‘New opportunities’

St Edward’s inspection report in November 2025 awarded the School a coveted ‘significant strength’ collectively for the academic curriculum, the co-curriculum and the super-curriculum.

98% of parents said that their children were happy at school

98% of parents said that their children were making good progress

READ THE FULL REPORT [HERE](#)



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