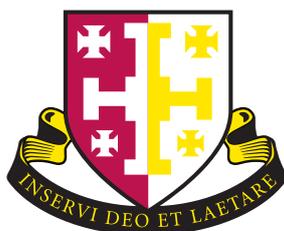


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LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

A co-educational independent school for ages 3-18





Welcome to Lichfield Cathedral School

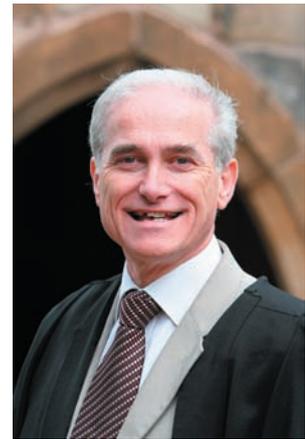
Our school educates and inspires young people, enabling them to become confident, enthusiastic and responsible members of society.

Set in the historic Cathedral Close, we draw upon our substantial heritage to provide an exceptional education. Our approach is based on core values of effort, discipline, excellence and service, grounded firmly in a tradition of Christian principles.

We work hard to deliver an imaginative and wide-ranging curriculum. Our pupils enjoy a stimulating combination of academic excellence, music, the creative and performing arts, sports and service to the community. We are proud to have created a happy and supportive environment nurturing the talents that each child has within.

This prospectus will provide you with an overview of the School and its pupils. However, the best way to understand what we have to offer is to come and meet our pupils and staff and experience our community for yourselves.

I look forward to meeting you.



A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Peter Allwood". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Peter Allwood
Headmaster

Heritage

Lichfield Cathedral School enjoys a long and rich heritage of educational excellence. While the tradition of teaching choristers can be traced back to the sixth century, the School was founded in its current form in 1942. Every day, pupils and teachers take pleasure from the magnificent mediaeval buildings of the Cathedral Close. We are proud to continue the tradition of inspiring and educating young people in such beautiful surroundings.

The writings of St. Augustine and King Ethelbert describe schools of grammar and song at Lichfield in the sixth century. St. Chad died in AD 672 and tradition has it that he kept a song school, but in 1191 there is firm evidence from the Cathedral statutes of a Precentor who had full charge of the choir for admission, education and discipline. By the sixteenth century an endowment and house for the choristers had been established by the Benedictine convent at Farewell, near Lichfield.

In 1935 the Dean and Chapter realised that the reorganisation of the choristers' school was essential. A new prep school, called St. Chad's, with a new constitution was opened on 27th January 1942. The School prospered and in 18 months there were 50 boys, mostly boarders. A system of divisions, or houses, was begun which assisted competitive work. During the summer term of 1946, HM The Queen, later Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, attended the School Festival.

In October 1953, the Right Reverend AS Reeve was enthroned as the new bishop of Lichfield and he generously offered The Palace to the School. During 1954, a School orchestra was formed with a good selection of strings, woodwind, brass and percussion, which played in the Great Hall on Saturdays.

Girls were admitted to the School for the first time in 1974, and a Pre-Preparatory Department was established in St. Mary's School on the far side of Minster Pool in 1982. By 1988, the Pre-Prep had grown so much in size that it was in need of its own premises. This was provided for by the generous benefaction of former teacher Arthur Broadhurst.

Meanwhile, in 1981, the School became a financially independent Charitable Trust and took on its new name, Lichfield Cathedral School. The Dean and Chapter remained in the majority on the Governing Body, of which the Dean is "ex officio" Chairman, but in 2000 the number of Governors was increased to allow for a total of 15, two-thirds of whom are lay members.

In response to popular demand, the Governors took the decision in September 2004 to extend into secondary education and two Year 7 classes began their route to GCSEs in September 2005. The School acquired St. John's Preparatory School in Longdon Green in 2006, and the two schools amalgamated. The Junior School (ages 3 - 7) is now situated on the Longdon site, and the vacated space in The Close has been adapted for older year groups and specialist teaching. In 2009, the Governors decided to extend the secondary education further and create a Sixth Form, which is due to open in September 2010.



Clockwise from top left: The Queen Mother meets the choristers, 1946; the choristers, 1949; pre-breakfast run around The Close, 1942; choristers displaying the Royal Mail's range of First Class Stamps featuring the Cathedral, 2007; 1952 Second XI Football Team.

School Life

The School comprises a Junior School (ages 3-7) based at Longdon Green, a Middle School (ages 8-13) and a Senior School (ages 14-18), both based around The Close in the heart of Lichfield. Relatively small class sizes (a maximum of 20) enable teaching staff to focus on individuals to greater effect.

Curriculum

Our pupils follow an academic curriculum designed to stimulate, educate and enable them to achieve their full academic potential and develop the skills needed for continuing success at university, in the work place and in all that they do. While academic achievement is the central purpose of the School, we also pursue excellence in music, the arts and sport. We believe in a comprehensive and balanced curriculum that encourages a desire for knowledge and a life-long appetite for learning.

The House System

From Year 3 onwards, each pupil is a member of one of four Houses: Boswell, Darwin, Garrick and Johnson. We are a family school and a family works vertically as well as horizontally. The House system encourages interaction between older and younger pupils, which is vitally important for their social education. Older pupils develop leadership skills, while younger pupils gain immeasurably from their senior role models. The House system fosters a spirit of healthy competition both academically and in sports. Leaders and contributors are all expected to support each other and learn the value of teamwork. Competition demands discipline and encourages pupils to win modestly and lose graciously.

Pastoral care

Pastoral care is so important because only happy pupils will flourish. Our excellent teaching and support staff work hard to develop their most powerful resource: a strong rapport with the children. This is done both formally through our strongly established system of Form Tutors and Year Group Leaders, and informally through the School Chaplain, the Housemothers, the School Nurse and the positive relationships pupils are encouraged to build with all adults in the School. It is a complex web, but it has a shape that everyone understands and is the basis of the personal development of each child in our care.

Spiritual care

We welcome pupils from all religious backgrounds and make provision for their spiritual welfare. The Christian tradition of the School provides a framework for its spiritual life. School Prayers are held in the Cathedral and the Eucharist is celebrated weekly in the beautiful School Chapel. Daily assemblies provide opportunities for gathering and worship and help us to generate a sense of togetherness and fellowship. In Lichfield Cathedral, we are blessed to have such a naturally uplifting and historic place for calm contemplation.

Whatever their faith or denomination, we believe pupils should be familiar with the liturgy and traditions of Christian worship. This provides them with both a spiritual vocabulary to address important ethical and spiritual questions, and a secure foundation from which they can explore their own journey into faith.





Teaching and Learning

We have high academic expectations and we encourage pupils to be ambitious in their academic aims. This ambition extends beyond the accumulation of strong GCSE and A Level grades. We believe we are training children for life by encouraging the desire to sustain learning beyond the School environment. We hope and expect our pupils to maintain that attitude at university and for the rest of their lives.

Underpinning our curriculum is the philosophy that happy pupils relish new challenges and are always excited to learn new things. We believe in reward and encouragement, and we ensure pupils are aware of the progress they are making.

Facilities

Our youngest pupils are taught in their own bright and colourful classrooms, whilst the older ones are taught by subject specialists in well-equipped classrooms and laboratories. Every classroom is networked and, where appropriate, use interactive whiteboards. There are three separate science laboratories and specialist facilities for art and design, ICT and drama. The Broadhurst Building provides dedicated resources for languages. Our music department in Dimble House contains 13 music rooms, each focusing on different instruments. There are three libraries and the Senior Library has networked IT facilities.

Learning Support

Our Learning Support team provides assistance to pupils who struggle with certain aspects of the work and those brighter pupils who need more challenging work and higher levels of stimulation. We have two full-time members of staff plus a whole team of assistants working one-on-one with pupils both in the classroom and separately to help them achieve their fullest potential. The aim of Learning Support is to so encourage, develop and structure learning, that the pupil no longer needs that support. The

team also has the opportunity to support pupils with behavioural issues, which are often closely related to academic issues.

Links with parents

We believe that pupils achieve most when their parents are engaged with the educational process. Consultation with parents is vital and participation in all aspects of their child's education is welcomed and encouraged. Each Year Group is provided with regular assessment reports, and there are parents' meetings with academic and pastoral staff to discuss progress and welfare.

Each pupil has their own homework diary containing a space for communications between teachers and parents. End of year progress reports from all teachers recognise both effort and attainment in class.

Many parents join us for School Prayers in the Cathedral and other religious celebrations, and offer support at sporting fixtures, cultural events and social functions. Those living locally are actively involved in the Friends of Lichfield Cathedral School, our thriving parents' association.



Music and the Arts

Music

Given our long tradition of educating choristers, it is no surprise that music is our speciality. We have 24 dedicated music teachers providing 360 music lessons per week on instruments that range from voice to violin, and from the electric guitar to the grand piano. We average 60 concerts a year performed at the School and in professional venues around Lichfield. Individual music tuition starts from age 3 in all orchestral and contemporary instruments. Lessons are held in specialist music rooms in Dimble House with expert teachers and practitioners. Pupils benefit from state-of-the-art music technology to support composition and musical recordings.

Choristers

We are proud of our status as a Cathedral School, and we enjoy working in close partnership with Lichfield Cathedral. The choristers sing (almost) daily in the Cathedral and they enjoy a national and international reputation, built on highly successful concerts, CD recordings, broadcasts and tours at home and abroad. Our choristers board at the School and live particularly full and busy lives. Consequently, they are often among the most committed and high achieving of pupils. All choristers benefit from generous scholarships from the Cathedral Chapter, which opens the doors to those for whom the advantages of an independent school education might not otherwise be possible.

Girls' Choir

Building on our existing reputation for musical excellence, the Girls' Choir performs weekly in the Cathedral and sings Choral Evensong two or three times per term. Supported by their Patron, soprano Emma Kirkby OBE, the Choir takes part in many other rewarding concerts, activities and events, including the hugely successful outreach programme MusicShare, hosted by the School and the Cathedral. Members of the Girls' Choir

benefit from scholarships funded by the School.

Orchestras and choirs

We currently have 5 other choirs and 11 music groups, but their number is constantly growing to accommodate the interests of our pupils.

Senior Choir	Junior Encore Choir
Senior Encore Choir	Vibe Choir
The Palace Singers	Concert Orchestra
Jazz Group	Junior Brass Ensemble
Senior Brass Ensemble	Junior String Quartet
Senior Strings	Drum Corps
Wind Band	Wind Ensemble
Recorder Ensemble	Trombone Choir

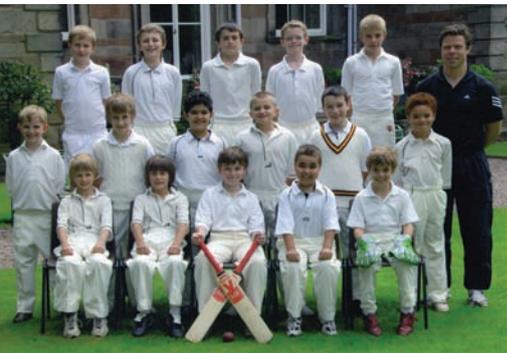
Drama

Drama is about producing a learning environment where pupils can explore the world and their relationship to it, develop their self-awareness and understand others through fictional contexts. Pupils are encouraged to develop on a social, moral, linguistic and creative level. The majority of this work is carried out in lessons where drama is used as a learning medium and the work is part of an ongoing experience, not intended for public display. However, some of the work involves developing stagecraft skills so that drama materials can be polished, rehearsed and presented to a larger formal audience using the School facilities and professional venues.

Art and Design

Pupils will be taught to express and record personal ideas by developing skills in using two and three dimensional materials. They will learn how to investigate possibilities through observation, analysis and experimentation. Pupils learn how to understand the world of art, craft and design and relate it to their own work. Work is project based and each Year Group enhances their learning with an out of School visit.





Sport



We see the teaching of skills in a wide variety of sports as an essential foundation for pupils' long term development of a healthy lifestyle. Outdoor activity leads to a refreshed and active brain, ready for academic work. Therefore, we combine a 'sport for all' philosophy with the promotion and pursuit of excellence.

Through sport, our pupils learn about teamwork, reliability and commitment. Inter-House and inter-school matches provide experience of success and defeat, joy and disappointment. Mature young people need to be able to cope with all of these with both generosity and grace.



We are proud of our record of sporting achievement and even count Olympians among our former pupils. Several of our pupils are members of county, regional and national teams.

Boys take part in rugby, cricket and football; girls play hockey, netball and rounders. Everyone has the opportunity to get involved in swimming, cross-country, athletics, martial arts and many other sports.



The recent development of an inspiring formal partnership with Lichfield Cricket & Hockey Club has provided access to professional-level facilities. In keeping with our pursuit of excellence, we hold our annual Sports Day at Tamworth Athletics Stadium. Our extensive playing fields, set next to Stowe Pool in the heart of Lichfield, provide a beautiful location for cricket, rugby, football, rounders, netball and athletics. With a busy fixture list and close links with the local sporting community, there are plenty of opportunities to become involved.

Beyond the Classroom

We encourage our pupils to develop the skills needed to be good citizens in the 21st century: adaptability, flexibility, initiative, leadership and the ability to focus their energies. The many activities, trips and fundraising events that pupils engage in not only build these skills, but also their self-confidence and an understanding of their responsibility to contribute to society.

Clubs and activities

All pupils are encouraged to take part in stimulating activities to enhance the intellectual life of the School. The variety of clubs and activities changes as new teachers and pupils bring their own particular interests to the School. Beyond the wide range of sporting and musical options available, activities on offer include:

Chess	Art
Maths	Netball
Junior Football	Street Dance
Golf	Aikido
Mini-tennis	Dance
Badminton	Table Tennis
Karate	Secret Garden
Debating	Computing
Signing	Cross stitch & knitting
Draughts	Classic Films

Trips

We organise around 80 educational trips a year, planned to support learning for all age groups. Knowledge is consolidated and extended through first hand experiences and pupils return from visits with even greater enthusiasm for their studies. Recent visits have included museums, art galleries, theatres, places of worship, farms, potteries, railways and castles.

Residential visits start as early as Year 3, when a trip to Derbyshire can offer the same thrill of discovery as a visit to Ireland, France, Germany, Spain, the USA or Canada can provide to older pupils. We enjoy an annual ski trip to Gstaad

in Switzerland and our regular programme of language exchanges is constantly expanding.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Our engagement with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, which enables pupils in Year 10 upwards to achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, is flourishing. The scheme is run by a dedicated group of teachers with professional support. Pupils are encouraged to develop initiative, leadership and organisational skills, as well as a sense of responsibility.

The Award is an immensely valuable qualification. It is widely recognised as one of the best programmes for the personal development of young people. Universities and employers acknowledge the commitment, determination and teamwork required to succeed in the Scheme.

Charity and community service

One of our core values is service: recognising that we have a greater purpose beyond ourselves and that to serve others is a privilege. All pupils at Lichfield Cathedral School participate in altruistic activities, including fundraising through sponsorship or events and community action. Each term the School Council of pupils chooses a specific charity to support and activities are held, such as dress-down days, concerts, cake bakes and themed events. Pupils in Year 10 and above undertake work experience with local employers, charities, schools and the Cathedral. Through these and other activities, we seek to be a positive presence in the local community and the wider world.



Junior School *ages 3–7*

Set in six acres of beautiful countryside, the Junior School provides a happy and purposeful introduction to School life for boys and girls. The self-contained campus has been thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of this age group and the children quickly settle in the bright and cheerful surroundings.

Curriculum

Academic standards throughout the School are high and the curriculum has been carefully planned to provide strong educational foundations. With small classes, high staff ratios and learning support available where needed, each child can happily work to extend their ability, developing essential skills in reading, writing and mathematics and enjoying an early introduction to languages.

The School day is full and varied; there is plenty of opportunity for creative and physical activity through sports, drama and music, all taught by specialist staff. Immersed in this busy and constructive atmosphere, every child feels motivated and valued as their imaginations flourish.

More detail about the subjects studied by each year group is available on our website.

We believe the most effective learning environment is achieved when the best of traditional methods are combined with tested and proven modern approaches; where children are happy, motivated, challenged and inspired. Children possess varied styles of learning; our teachers seek to adapt their teaching methods to suit individual needs.

There are usually two, sometimes three, parallel forms in each year group. Each class has its own experienced teacher with a full-time classroom assistant as well as additional welfare and special educational needs support. The children are taught according to the framework of the National Curriculum, taking Key Stage One SATs at the end of Year 2.

A supportive atmosphere

From their first days at the Junior School, each child is inspired to explore the opportunities open to them and to discover and extend their unique talents. Whilst individuality is highly valued, children are encouraged to work considerately with others. Great emphasis is placed on pastoral care and a strong and rewarding partnership is maintained with parents. In this safe and supportive atmosphere, children grow in confidence as they develop self-expression and independence. Most of all, they look forward to coming to School and enjoy the adventure of learning.

Early Birds and Owls

At the end of the School day, there is plenty to do with a choice of lively clubs and activities on offer. To support busy parents, before and after School clubs, as well as holiday activities, are provided. From their earliest years, the boys and girls enjoy a wealth of new experiences, extraordinary opportunities and the freedom to express themselves. In the company of their friends, the children progress confidently and smoothly on to the Middle School, eager and well-equipped to discover new opportunities.







Middle School *ages 8–13*

The Middle School is situated within the historic Cathedral Close. The superb buildings, including the magnificent 17th century Palace, are set against the dramatic presence of the Cathedral. In this glorious environment, generations of children have enjoyed an exceptional educational experience.

Structure

To ease the transition from the Junior School, Year 4 pupils continue to be taught in forms, with the valuable input of specialist teaching in French, Music, Drama, PE and Sport. Year 4 pupils study six 50 minute lessons each day from 8.50am to 4.00pm.

In Year 5, two years ahead of the normal educational pattern, pupils begin subject specialist learning. From Year 5 onwards, pupils study seven 50 minute lessons each day from 8.50am to 4.30pm. Pastoral care remains a high priority and every child is assigned a form and a form teacher.

Curriculum

The curriculum for the Middle School is based on the requirements of the National Curriculum up to age 11. All pupils take Key Stage Two SATs at the end of Year 6. From 11 to 13, the curriculum covers the Key Stage 3 syllabus (the 3 year syllabus is completed in 2 years) which provides an excellent preparation for progression onto GCSEs.

Pupils follow a broad curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, French, History, Geography, Religious Education, Art, Design, Music, Drama, Physical Education and Games and Personal, Social and Health Education. ICT skills form an integral part of the curriculum from Year 3.

The separate specialist facilities for Physics, Chemistry and Biology ensure that each subject is clearly defined from an early stage. Latin is

studied in Years 5 and 6. In Year 7, French is set according to previous experience and future potential. An option between Spanish and German as an additional language is given as pupils move into Year 8.

Those with learning needs are assisted either in the classroom or through small group (or one-to-one) lessons in the Learning Support Department.

Before and After School

To support busy parents, the Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am and there are a wide variety of afterschool clubs and activities up to 6.00pm.

Responsibility and rewards

As pupils mature, they are challenged to grow in independence, to establish a greater responsibility for their own learning and to set a good example for younger pupils.

For the Year groups 4-6 and 7-8, pupils have the opportunity to exercise their responsibility through the role of Head of one of the four Houses, or as a Librarian or a Chapel Steward. In Year 8, pupils have the potential to become a Prefect, Pro-Prefect or one of the two Heads of Middle School.

Good work and effort is rewarded with House Points and Headmaster's Gold Awards. Once a year at Speech Day, the highest achievers are more formally recognised with Prizes and Awards.

Senior School *ages 14–18*

Supported by specialist teaching and careful guidance, pupils are encouraged to develop a capacity for self-motivated study, to question and think for themselves and engage with every aspect of their work. Greater independence brings new responsibilities and senior pupils are keen to take on leadership roles and play an active part in the life of the School.

Curriculum

The structure of the curriculum in Year 9 is similar to that of Year 8. However, the programmes of study are developed as a preparation for GCSE. During the year there is a carefully structured programme of meetings for parents, and individual tutorials for pupils, which are designed to introduce the GCSE curriculum and assist with option choices.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils will follow a programme through to GCSE designed in three parts: the Core Curriculum, compulsory for all, but containing flexibility for those with Learning Needs; the Optional Curriculum, from which three choices are made; and the Co-Curriculum, which is a programme of educational breadth designed to prepare all young people to make the most of their lives. Most pupils will take 9 GCSEs, but some might take 10 or 11, perhaps having taken one or two subjects a year early.

Sixth Form

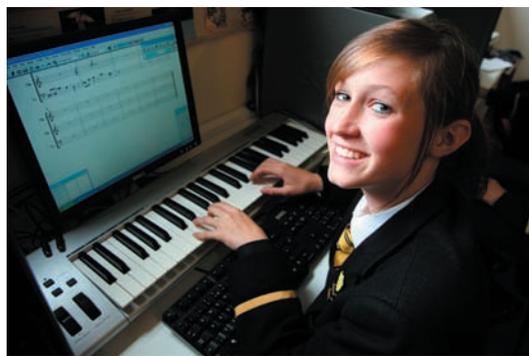
From September 2010 we will expand the Senior School to include a Sixth Form. The School has made a significant investment in new facilities to accommodate the increased number of pupils.

The approach to learning in the Sixth Form is quite different; pupils will develop a capacity for self-motivated study and take increased personal responsibility for their own progress. A broad range of traditional and contemporary subjects, combined with small teaching groups, ensure a high level of personal attention and careful monitoring of progress.

While the Sixth Form pupils are expected to focus more intensively on their studies and work hard to achieve their academic objectives, they are still encouraged to participate in sporting, cultural and community-based activities.

Pupils benefit from professional advice and guidance to make informed choices about their AS/A2 Level subjects, taking into account ability and higher education and career plans, as well as personal likes and dislikes. Intellectual curiosity, self-reliance and a strong work ethic are the foundations for success at university or in employment. The Sixth Form curriculum is designed to prepare our pupils for the challenges ahead.





Scholarships and bursaries

Scholarships and Awards

Choral scholarships are available to members of the Cathedral Choristers and the Girls' Choir.

Other awards are available to both internal and external candidates moving into Years 7 and 9. Awards are made only to those showing outstanding potential intellectually, exceptional musical talent (instrumental or choral), or an impressive range of other talents, such as in sport, drama or art. All successful candidates will possess a good record of academic achievement.

Details of auditions for choral scholarships and other awards are available from the Admissions Secretary.

Inevitably there will be disappointments. The assessments are both of a qualifying and of a competitive nature, and the school is under no obligation to make awards. However, children who have not been successful in the past have not looked upon this as a wasted exercise and have gone on to contribute fully to the life of the Cathedral School. We make every effort to ensure that a child's confidence is increased by the experience, regardless of the outcome.

Bursaries

A limited number of bursaries are made available for children whose parents' financial circumstances make the full fees difficult to afford. Bursaries may be awarded in addition to scholarships and other awards. In circumstances of exceptional need, the school offers bursaries of 100% fee remission, but the value of all bursaries is assessed on a fair means-tested basis and reviewed at least annually by a subcommittee of the Governing Body.

To obtain a means test form, or for further details of the fee structure, please contact the Admissions Secretary.

How to apply

For further information about the admissions process or to arrange an introduction to the School and a tour, please contact:

The Admissions Secretary
Lichfield Cathedral School

The Palace

The Close

Lichfield WS13 7LH

Telephone **01543 306168**

Fax **01543 306176**

Email **admissions@lichfieldcathedralschool.com**

Further information about the School can be found on our website:

www.lichfieldcathedralschool.com

This prospectus is non-contractual and for information purposes only. All information was correct at the time of publication. Parents seeking to rely on any information contained within the prospectus should seek written confirmation from the Headmaster.



LICHFIELD

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

A co-educational independent school for ages 3–18



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