

ANNUAL INFORMATION

2008/2009

THE GOVERNING BODY OF OUNDLE SCHOOL

- * Sir Toby Frere KCB, Chairman
- + I McAlpine OBE DL, Vice Chairman
- + J N Cheate
- * His Honour Judge Simon Coltart
- Miss J Gough
- The Countess Howe
- P R Hutton OBE
- M B Mavor
- + D C L Miller
- * G H Mounsey-Heysham
- Dr P Rogerson
- J P Sabben-Clare
- + I L Schmiegelow
- * J G Tregoning

- * R H Ringrose, *Master of the Grocers' Company*
- * A S Dalton, *Second Warden*
- R Macnamara, *Third Warden*

- H J O'Hare OBE, *Secretary and Bursar*

- * *Member of the Court of the Grocers Company*
- + *Old Oundelian*

THE STAFF

<i>Headmaster</i>	C M P Bush, MA (Oxford)
<i>Second Master</i>	R I Briggs, MA (Cambridge)
<i>Senior Chaplain</i>	The Revd I C Browne, MA (Oxford and Cambridge)
Academic and Educational Development	
<i>Director of Studies</i>	M A R Collier, MA (Oxford)
<i>Director of Educational Development</i>	P P Couzens, BSc (London) ARCS
Admissions	
<i>Undermaster</i>	R J Page, BEd (Exeter)
<i>Registrar</i>	G Phillips, BA (Durham)
<i>Head of Laxton</i>	P S C King, BSc (Liverpool) MSc (London)
Professional Development	
<i>Senior Mistress</i>	Mrs A M Page, MA (Edinburgh)
Bursary	
<i>Bursar</i>	H J O'Hare, OBE
<i>Estate Bursar</i>	R M C Tremellen, BSc (Reading) AIMBM
Medical	
<i>Medical Officers</i>	Dr D Clayton, MBChB DRCOG DCH
	Dr R Wilmot, MBChB DRCOG DC
<i>Counsellor</i>	Mrs A Langford, MA
Other Responsibilities	
<i>Proctor</i>	W E Buckley, BSc (Oxford Brookes)
<i>Publisher</i>	Mrs M Smedley, BA (London)
<i>Sanderson Fellow</i>	R J McKim, BSc (Essex) PhD (Cambridge) CChem MRS FRAS

Heads of Department

<i>Art</i>	J D Oddie, BA (Manchester)
<i>Classics</i>	S J Chambers, MA (Cambridge)
<i>Drama</i>	M Burlington, BA (Birmingham) MA (CSSD)
<i>English</i>	T P Hipperson, MA (Durham)
<i>Economics</i>	E M Tweedie, BA (Durham)
<i>Educational Support</i>	Mrs V C Lacey, BA (UEA) MA (Leicester) Cert PSE
<i>Geography</i>	J R Hammond-Chambers, BA (UWE)
<i>Government and Politics</i>	J D C Gillings, BA (Kent)
<i>History</i>	C R Pendrill, MA (Cambridge)
<i>Mathematics</i>	N P Hamshaw, BA (Oxford)
<i>Modern Languages</i>	Miss S J Davidson, MA (Edinburgh)
<i>French</i>	Mrs S R Worthington, BA (London)
<i>German</i>	Miss S J Davidson, MA (Edinburgh)
<i>Spanish</i>	Mrs N M Mola, BA (Durham) MA (London)
<i>Religious Studies</i>	Mrs A E Meisner, BA (Nottingham)
<i>Science and Technology</i>	P C Clark, BSc (London) ARCS CPhys MInstP
<i>Biology</i>	A E Langsdale, BSc (Bristol) MSc (Aberdeen)
<i>Chemistry</i>	D J Evans, BSc (Southampton) MRSC MBA (Aston)
<i>Design Technology</i>	C D Humphreys, BA (John Cass School of Art), Freeman of the City of London
<i>Physics</i>	M N Wells, MA (Cambridge)
<i>Psychology</i>	S R Heath, BA (Leeds) MSc (Manchester)
<i>Information Technology</i>	R I Cunniffe BSc (UEA)
<i>Physical Education</i>	C J Olver, WLIHE
<i>Director of Music</i>	A P Forbes, BA (Open) LRAM
<i>Librarian</i>	Ms L Giurlando, BA (Smith) MSc (Aberystwyth) MCILIP

Housemasters and Housemistresses

<i>The Berrystead</i>	W F Holmström, BSc (Glasgow) PhD (Birmingham)
<i>Bramston House</i>	D R K Robb, MA (Edinburgh)
<i>Crosby House</i>	D R H Edwardson, BSc (Stirling) BD MTh DipEd GME (Edinburgh)
<i>Dryden House</i>	Mrs V Nunn, BEd (Sheffield)
<i>Fisher House</i>	N J T Wood, MA (Cambridge)
<i>Grafton House</i>	A B Burrows, BSc (York) MEd (Open)
<i>Kirkeby House</i>	Mrs D L Watt, MA (Oxford)
<i>Laundimer House</i>	B McDowell, BSc PhD (London)
<i>New House</i>	Mrs M Layden, JP, Cert Ed (Leeds) MA (Open)
<i>St Anthony House</i>	I D Clark, BA (York)
<i>Sanderson House</i>	D A Turner, BSc (Loughborough)
<i>School House</i>	J Hunt, BSc PhD (Bath)
<i>Sidney House</i>	C W Symes, BSc (Edinburgh)
<i>Wyatt House</i>	Mrs L E Kirk, BSc (Nottingham)

CURRICULUM

The Oundle curriculum is complex but flexible. We aim to keep parents fully informed and welcome discussion with them at all stages as choices are made. We encourage parents to discuss academic issues regularly with Housemasters and Housemistresses, and with Tutors, whose brief is to have an overview of individual pupils' progress and commitment. We provide detailed curriculum leaflets, post information online and arrange annual receptions at which parents meet their children's subject teachers. Heads of Department and the Director of Studies are always available to give advice.

At all levels every effort is made to ensure that pupils are placed in the teaching groups best suited to their needs and abilities. Those who will benefit from a slower pace are often placed in smaller sets so that they receive more personal attention. As the curriculum is under constant review, it may be that the subject choices offered will vary from time to time.

First and Second Forms

In the first two years, pupils acquire the confidence to learn for themselves. We try to encourage their natural enthusiasm for their studies. They take a wide range of subjects: Art, Design and Technology, Drama, English, French, Geography, History, Information and Communications Technology, Latin, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies and Science. They may start Greek or German in the Second Form.

Because we are not bound by the constraints of Common Entrance at 13, we are free to be adventurous in our teaching. Even so, we aim to cover the same skills and knowledge so that those who wish to try for a scholarship at 13 are not at a disadvantage.

Third Form

All pupils are taught by subject specialists in the Third Form before they go on to choose their options for GCSE. All pupils study Art, Biology, Design and Technology, Chemistry, English, French, Geography, Information and Communications Technology, History, Latin, Mathematics, Physics and Religious Studies. In order to give meaningful curriculum time to all option subjects we ask pupils to choose two subjects from the following before arrival: one from German, Greek and Spanish and either Performing Arts (Drama, Music and Physical Education) or Electronics / Computing.

Fourth and Fifth Forms

The two-year GCSE courses begin at the start of the Fourth Form, although the foundations are laid in the Third Form. The core curriculum comprises English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All pupils follow a non-examined course in Ethical Issues. In addition, each pupil selects five subjects from Art, Chinese (an Asset or GCSE qualification), Computing, Design and Technology, Electronics, French, Geography, German, Greek, History, Latin, Music, Religious Studies, Spanish and Theatre Studies. All pupils must choose at least one modern foreign language.

The School offers the International GCSE in English Language, Mathematics, the Sciences and Computing at this level because we feel that the courses are more appropriate in terms of content and assessment.

Some pupils take French GCSE a year early and then have an opportunity to study French at a higher level, Arabic or Chinese. Pupils are taught separately by subject specialists in the three Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), and are entered for either the Triple or the Dual Award Combined Science qualification. Our aim is to teach in such a way that all pupils have a strong basis for study in any of their chosen subjects at AS and A Level.

AS and A Level Courses

We teach mostly traditional academic subjects at AS and A Level, as we believe this provides the best possible preparation for university and beyond. Within the boundaries of the syllabus the intention is for our pupils to develop enthusiasm for and genuine interest in their work.

Pupils have a free choice from the following subjects, all of which are available as A Level courses: Biology, Chemistry, Classical Civilization, Design and Technology, Economics, Electronics, English Literature, French, Geography, Government and Politics, Greek, History, Latin, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Spanish, Sports Science and Theatre Studies. The School also offers the Pre-U qualification in Economics, German and Physics.

We also ask pupils to choose one or two Extension Courses. The options are Arabic, Chinese, Critical Thinking, Further Art, Further History, Italian, Literature, Music Performance and Technology, the Origins of Western Thought, Science Research Projects and Study Support. Those subjects which offer the Pre U qualification are given extra time as Extension Courses to prepare pupils for their subjects. A number of Extension Courses offer the opportunity for pupils to enter for the AQA Extended Project Qualification in their discipline.

ENQUIRIES AND ENTRANCE PROCEDURE FOR BOARDERS

The Registrar / Admissions Office:

Tel: 01832 277125

Fax: 01832 277128

Email: admissions@oundleschool.org.uk

Pupils normally join the School at 11+, 13+ or 16+.

11+ Entry

Applicants enter The Berrystead, the junior boarding house. Pupils transfer to a senior boarding house after two years. Entry is by written examination in January before entry in September. Applicants take combined entrance and scholarship papers in Mathematics, English, Science and the School's own Ability Test. They also have an informal interview. They normally sit these papers at Oundle and stay overnight although, if necessary, the examinations can be taken overseas at a British Council office.

13+ Entry

Most applicants sit the Common Entrance examination; some enter by Oundle's own entrance tests which they take in Oundle in the January before entry in September. In addition to papers in Mathematics, English, Science and French, applicants take our Ability Test and have an informal interview. (Applicants may take these papers overseas at a British Council office, but it may still be necessary to ask some to come to Oundle for an interview). Applicants from preparatory schools sit the Common Entrance examination in June before entry in September. Various scholarships and awards are available for this age group (information is available in the appropriate section of this booklet).

There are five girls' boarding houses and eight boys' boarding houses, each admitting approximately twelve pupils a year. The Registrar can provide help with choosing an appropriate house. Houses often fill up at least three years ahead of entry.

Sixth Form Entry

Entry is by competition as Oundle takes in relatively few pupils at this level (approximately twelve boys and four girls in a typical year). The minimum entry requirement is three subjects at Grade A and three at Grade B at GCSE. In practice most successful candidates will have A or A* in most subjects. Applicants are asked to provide information in advance and shortlisted candidates are invited to an assessment weekend in November. (Applicants may take these papers overseas at a British Council office, but it may still be necessary to ask some to come to Oundle for an interview). Various scholarships and awards are available for this age group (information is available in the appropriate section of this booklet).

Sometimes entry is possible into other year groups. Further details are available from the Registrar.

Prospective pupils and their families are always welcome to visit the School by attending one of the Open Days that take place each Quarter or by making an individual visit. Either option may be arranged through the Admissions Office. We ask families interested in admission to the School to register on the registration form included with the Prospectus package. A non-returnable fee of £75 is payable on registration. Two years before entry we ask parents of registered pupils to confirm that Oundle is their first choice of school and to pay a fee of £800 (£300 non-returnable acceptance fee and £500 deposit). The deposit is returnable if an applicant fails to meet the School's entrance requirements, but otherwise only in exceptional circumstances. In the case of late applications the fee is payable on acceptance of a place.

ENQUIRIES AND ENTRY PROCEDURE FOR DAY PUPILS

All day pupils join Laxton, the day house of Oundle School, and day admissions take place through the Laxton Office.

Tel: 01832 277265
Fax: 01832 277268
Email: laxton@oundleschool.org.uk

Families of prospective pupils are welcome to visit Laxton individually or on an Open Day.

11+ Entry

Applicants take entrance papers in January of the year of entry. In addition to papers in Mathematics, English and Science, applicants take our Ability Test and have an informal interview.

13+ Entry

Applicants sit either Common Entrance, or Oundle papers in Mathematics, English, Science, French and our Ability Test. They also have an informal interview. Various scholarships are available (information is available in the appropriate section of this booklet).

Sixth Form Entry

In November applicants take a General Paper and papers in two of their chosen A Level subjects. They also have an interview. The minimum entry requirement is three subjects at Grade A and three at Grade B at GCSE. In practice most applicants will be expected to achieve A or A* grades in most of their GCSE subjects. Academic, Music, Art and Technology scholarships are also available at this level. Entry at other levels may be possible after discussion with the Head of Laxton.

Registration

When parents register their son or daughter, they will be asked to pay a non-returnable deposit of £75. When they are offered a place, they will be asked to pay a £500 deposit in advance. They will also be asked to confirm that they accept the Standard Terms and Conditions that accompany the offer.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Bursaries

Financial help towards the payment of fees in cases of proven need is available in some instances. This assistance is available in the form of bursaries which vary in size according to circumstance; some may be as high as 100%. Bursaries are not dependent on scholastic merit but are awarded to pupils who are likely to gain most from an Oundle education and who will contribute fully to the life of the School. The pupils in question must satisfy the School's academic entry requirements and continue to work to capacity as they progress through the School. Parents who feel that they may need the support of a bursary are encouraged to discuss the matter with the School well in advance of the child's due date of entry. Decisions regarding bursary assistance are made approximately two years ahead of entry. Judgements are dependent on a supporting reference from a candidate's previous school, an informal interview and on scrutiny of the family's financial circumstances.

Scholarships

Scholarships are numerous and highly prized but generally modest in value. They are awarded in recognition of proven talent. Scholarships currently exist to recognise distinctive academic ability or special talent in Art, Drama, Music and Technology. A significant number of general scholarships are offered to reward all-round talent and leadership. All scholarships are won in open competition and are awarded solely on merit. Scholars are expected to provide the School with intellectual and cultural leadership. All scholarships are underpinned by bursary assistance as and when the financial circumstances of the individual family necessitate it.

A detailed information leaflet on scholarships is available from the Admissions Office. Various awards are available to both boarding and day pupils. Briefly, these are as follows:

11+ Junior Academic and Music Scholarships

Four Academic awards at 10% of fees

Two Music awards of up to 20% of fees

11+ awards last for two years and recipients are required to demonstrate their ability in the 13+ scholarship examinations to continue as award holders.

13+ Academic, Music, Art, Drama, Technology and General Scholarships

Fifteen Academic awards at 10% of fees

Ten Music awards of up to 30% of fees (and free tuition in one or more instruments)

Two Art awards at 10% of fees

One Drama award at 10% of fees

Two Technology awards at 10% of fees

Twelve General awards at 10% of fees

16+ Academic, Music, Art and Technology Scholarships

Two Academic awards at 10% of fees

One Music award at 10% of fees

One Art award at 10% of fees

One Technology award at 10% of fees

There are also Old Oundelian Bursaries available for the sons and daughters of Old Oundelians. Full details about these and all other awards are available from the Registrar or the Undermaster's Assistant, Mrs Rachael Wood, on 01832 277116 (fax 01832 277119; email: rcwood@oundleschool.org.uk).

FEES AND VARIABLE EXPENSES

For Boarders	Year 1	£19,245 per annum
	Year 2	£22,395 per annum
	Years 3 to 7	£25,350 per annum
For Day Pupils	Year 1	£12,630 per annum (including lunches)
	Year 2	£14,565 per annum (including lunches)
	Years 3 to 7	£16,515 per annum (including lunches)

Fees include boarding and laundry charges, tuition, games, sanatorium, gymnasium, library, lectures and entertainment (not theatre). A few variable expenses and certain optional extras, including music lessons, are charged on the School Account as necessary. A Quarter's notice is required when music lessons are to be dropped, other than in exceptional circumstances.

Fees are payable in advance before the beginning of the Michaelmas, Easter and Trinity Quarters. As any delay in the payment of fees is unfair to the great majority of parents who honour the rule, the School will make a surcharge on outstanding accounts and will add it to the next account. The School will charge 4% above the Barclays Bank base rate, calculated on a daily basis.

The Governors of the School have the right to raise the fees after giving at least one Quarter's notice.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

A Level Results: Comparison by Cumulative Percentages

Year	A	AB	ABC	ABCD	ABCDE
2008	63	88	98	99	100
2007	63	91	97	100	100
2006	58	84	94	98	100
2005	64	88	97	99	100
2004	50	81	94	98	99

GCSE Results: Comparison by Cumulative Percentages

Year	A*	A*A	A*AB	A*ABC
2008	46	81	96	99
2007	48	84	97	99
2006	43	80	96	99
2005	44	77	95	100
2004	36	75	92	98

Full details are available on our website at www.oundleschool.org.uk

DESTINATION OF LEAVERS

Almost all Oundelians proceed to university. The figures below show the destination of those who applied during the last seven years. More detailed information is available on our website.

<i>The Top Ten</i>								
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	Total
BRISTOL	11	16	21	9	9	5	12	83
CAMBRIDGE	12	7	12	8	4	12	17	72
DURHAM	19	13	12	10	13	7	8	82
EDINBURGH	13	9	11	12	14	25	17	101
IMPERIAL, LONDON	7	6	2	10	7	9	11	52
LEEDS	13	8	19	19	22	15	14	110
MANCHESTER	16	10	7	12	6	6	7	64
NEWCASTLE	16	14	19	24	9	12	11	105
NOTTINGHAM	5	6	6	5	4	8	10	44
OXFORD	12	10	9	19	11	15	10	86