



Wycliffe

GUIDE FOR FAMILIES FROM HM FORCES

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE

DAY AND BOARDING FROM 2 TO 18 YEARS
NURSERY | PREP | SENIOR | SIXTH FORM

WHY CHOOSE WYCLIFFE?

Wycliffe College closely supports HM Forces families in every part of school life from Nursery to Year 13 – ensuring stability, security and flexibility in a strong and caring community.

- Our staff understand the needs and situations of our HM Forces' families. Each child in your family will flourish

at Wycliffe because we nurture every child as an individual.

- If your child needs stretching academically - we are members of Potential Plus - the UK's foremost charity in supporting giftedness in children.
- If your child needs learning support, we have a dedicated Learning Support Centre to overcome barriers to learning and we are accredited by CReSTeD as category DU.
- Our Chair of Trustees is Brigadier (Retd) Robin Bacon, who is also the Chief Operating Officer of ABF The Soldier's Charity. Other Trustee members and staff members have also been in the Armed Forces prior to joining Wycliffe College.
- The Wycliffe College network of HM Forces' parents is a close group in regular contact with each other. We can put you in direct contact with them so you can ask questions about life at the College.
- Prep Parents can join our Boarders' Parents' Forum which meets termly and is chaired by our Head of the Prep School, Mr Palmer.



TWELVE RULES OF LIFE

(also found in our School calendars every term.)

1. Be prompt and punctual, particularly in obeying signals and orders.
2. Let there be due regard to neatness and cleanliness of person and dress.
3. Be respectful to all in authority, considerate to the aged and courteous to everyone, remembering in little as well as in great things to do to others as you would like them to do to you.
4. Observe the strictest honesty with regard to the property of others and carefully avoid every form of damage, litter and waste.
5. Be truthful in all your thoughts, words and actions.
6. Be modest in your speech and manner, taking more concern for your duties than your rights.
7. Shun with the greatest care all irreverence, profanity and indecency.
8. Be always kind, remembering that a gentleman never gives needless pain.
9. Do not grumble and, if you want to criticise, begin with yourself.
10. In your studies, conduct and character, let there be a constant effort to improve.
11. Strive to do what is right because it is right and not from fear of punishment or for hope of reward.
12. Above all things, act as in the sight of God.

G.W. Sibly, founder of Wycliffe College and Headmaster, 1882 – 1912

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

“a pioneering spirit”

Founded by the academic scholar, G.W. Sibly in 1882, Mr Sibly chose the name Wycliffe College after John Wycliffe, an English Philosopher and Theologian. He saw in John Wycliffe the same qualities that he wanted for pupils of Wycliffe College, “including independence, a sturdy protestant attitude towards life and a pioneering spirit...”. These values are very much still upheld today.



WYCLIFFE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

We believe that when children are happy they give their best. Our emphasis is on effort. If the effort is right, the achievement takes care of itself.

On average, the Prep School has around 220 day pupils and 50 boarders. We take children from the age of two who join our Lower Prep. From Nursery to Year 2, the Lower Prep is one form entry and each class has two teaching assistants as well as their teacher. The average class size is 16.

When your child is in Year 3 this is the start of Key Stage 2 and Middle Prep. Housed in the 19th Century Ryeford Hall in the centre of the campus, Middle Prep progresses from Year 3 to Year 5. The children have lessons from specialist teachers across a range of subjects and enjoy games and PE four times a week.

As your child enters Year 6, they join the Upper Prep, heading towards Year 8 who are the top of the School. Year 7 and Year 8 are based in Etheridge Hall (built 2015) with first class teaching facilities and their

own Common Room (where they enjoy a large quantity of tea and toast at break).

With a bespoke Studio Theatre and Music Rooms on-site, Music and Drama play a huge part in Wycliffe life and both are curriculum subjects as well as part of our extensive extra-curricular programme. We have an Astro Turf and sports fields on campus, and our main sports are rugby, football and cricket (for the boys) and hockey, netball and rounders (for the girls). There is also swimming, cross-country, athletics and many other sports on offer. Pupils can also enjoy a great range of activities such as; Grow and Cook, Cryptology and Courtroom Drama.

There are currently Scholarships available for Academic, All-rounder, Music and Sport for those who are moving to Year 7.



MEET THE HEAD

Son of a Major General, **Mr Adrian Palmer**, along with his wife Julie and their two children came to Wycliffe in September 2003 to take up the position as Headmaster, his third Headship in independent education. Mr and Mrs Palmer are teachers and, for many years, were House Parents to boys and girls, aged 6 to 13 years.



“ The key feature of Wycliffe Prep is its happy atmosphere. ”
Good Schools Guide 2016

{effort + happiness} – worry = achievement



BOARDING AT WYCLIFFE PREP SCHOOL

At Wycliffe Prep School there are two boarding houses very close to each other and next to the Astro Turf (great for playing on in the evening).

The House Parents' role is purely to look after the happiness and welfare of the girls and boys in their care. When the children come back to the House after

school it is like a home, where they can relax and talk to their House Parent about their day. We offer full and flexi-boarding from Year 3 (age 7 upwards).

“ Lots of Forces boarders and a few from abroad...
Weekends great fun and, though boarders are allowed out, there tends to be an inflow of day pupils staying for special activities rather than a general exodus. ”
Good Schools Guide 2016



Penwood is the boys' house and can sleep 45 boys in 11 different rooms. There is a large common room, computer workroom and games room along with an open-plan kitchen and sitting area.

Windrush is the girls' house with 40 beds over eight rooms. The house is very cosy with colours and furniture chosen by the girls – a large sitting room with a TV, DVD player, board games and computers.

What do the boarders do?

In their free time, the boarders use the school facilities including the Astro Turf, tennis courts and swimming pool. They have designated times for prep so that their school work is always up to date. The House Parents (in consultation with boys and girls) organise different activities at the weekend, e.g. bowling, pizza and movie nights, trips to nearby attractions and cities. Boarders celebrate

their birthdays with their day and boarding friends.

Communication

You will always be able to contact your son or daughter (and vice versa). Children are allowed mobile phones in the houses and they can Skype and Facetime as well as calling and texting - so you can see how they are doing.

“ A personal experience we have really enjoyed is that individual teachers are willing to email us with updates. With an average of 10 in a class, this has been awesome! ”

Current parent



WYCLIFFE COLLEGE – A SEAMLESS TRANSITION

Progress from Year 8 at the Prep School to Year 9 in the Senior School is a seamless transition with no entrance exam required. Most of our Year 8 pupils follow this path.

Scholarships are available at Year 9 and Year 12 in Academic, Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music and Sport. The Senior School has around 220 boarders and 180 day pupils.

- 21 subjects are offered at GCSE including less common ones such as Computer Studies and Japanese.
 - In Year 12, your son or daughter can choose from 29 options available across both A Levels and BTECs.
 - We offer first-class careers advice delivered by a bespoke Careers Team
- from Year 9. Your child works through what they want to do (or not) ready for a world with ever-growing options.
- With over 60 clubs and activities across the year, your child will have the opportunity to try something different or perfect an existing talent.
 - CCF, Ten Tors and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award enable the Year 9s and upwards to explore the great outdoors, develop leadership skills and learn what it means to be part of a team.



MEET THE HEAD

Mr. Nick Gregory became the tenth Head in the College's 130+ year history in September 2015.

Prior to that he had been Deputy Head (Pastoral) for seven years at Mill Hill School in north London. After a banking career with Barclays throughout the 1990s, Nick made a career change into education in 2000 starting as a French and Spanish teacher at Barnard Castle and then Merchant Taylors' Northwood and, after that, running a senior boys' boarding house as a Housemaster at Old Swinford Hospital.

His experiences both as a linguist (he has lived and worked in Madrid and Buenos Aires), and also in boarding, prepare him very well indeed for the challenges of leading Wycliffe College forward, given the key roles played by our boarding community.



“Pupils’ achievement in extra-curricular activities is often excellent, as is apparent from the extensive list of their individual and team accomplishments. Their success in sport is strong, with regional, national and international representation. They also achieve significant success in music (including membership of The National Youth Choirs of Great Britain), drama and film-making, poetry and creative writing, and chemistry and mathematics challenges.”

ISI Inspection, 2016

BOARDING AT WYCLIFFE COLLEGE

For Years 9 to 13, the boys' boarding houses are Haywardsfield, Robinson and Ward's, and for the girls there is Lampeter, Ivy Grove and Haywardsend. Haywardsfield and Haywardsend are older buildings with period features and modern facilities, whereas Lampeter is less than ten years old. In September 2017 Ward's and Ivy Grove moved to a custom-built brand new boarding house with superb en-suite facilities and modern style fixtures and fittings.

““ The outcomes for boarders are excellent. Parents responding to the questionnaire overwhelmingly believe that boarding helps their children's progress and development. Boarders are polite and friendly, confident, sociable and articulate, speaking appreciatively about their boarding experience and of the staff who look after them. ””

ISI Inspection, 2016



In addition there is Loosley, a Sixth Form only boarding house on the edge of campus. Collingwood is our day house, and every pupil has their own desk and shelves, along with a communal social space. After Saturday School, which finishes at lunchtime, unless they are involved in sporting fixtures, boarders can enjoy their free time. Sometimes this is being with their friends making use of the campus facilities (basketball is very popular), or catching up on prep or taking part in an activity or excursion with other boarders. Campus life at the weekends is busy.

Each term at both the Prep and Senior School there are exeat weekends, but your son or daughter can stay at school if it is not possible for them to come home.

How much does it cost?

If you are eligible for the CEA allowance,



Ward's - Ivy Grove opened in September 2017

you pay only 10% of the schools fees (you can find these on the website). In addition we offer means-tested bursaries and scholarships. Please talk to us about your situation and we can see how we can help.

Flexi-boarding

We recognise that circumstances change and to meet the needs of your family we have a range of flexible boarding options - your son or daughter can board for just one, two, three or four nights a week, or be a full boarder.

“Pupils are unassumingly confident, self-aware and emotionally mature. Their spiritual development is strong. It is supported by the ethos of the school, which recognises and celebrates pupils’ successes and talents.”

ISI Inspection, 2016



WHERE ARE WE?

Wycliffe College is based in Stonehouse at the foot of the Gloucestershire Cotswolds. The College is two minutes' walk from the train station which has a direct link to Paddington London – you can be in central London in 90 minutes and at Heathrow Airport in two hours. On the map, you can see that we are within easy

reach of some of the main south-west MOD locations. Plus we are 20 miles from Bath and Bristol, and an hour from Birmingham and Cardiff. Whether you are based in the UK or posted overseas we are easily reachable by train, car or aeroplane. We organise transport at the beginning and end of holidays to any airport.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

Come and visit and take a tour of the Schools at any time (we recommend term time when you can see the pupils in action) – you can meet pupils and key staff and see our facilities.

Make a Buddy

We can set up a Taster Day for your son or daughter where they will experience school life with a buddy from their year group. This can be done before any commitment is made.

For Nursery to Year 8

Please contact our Prep School Admissions Manager, Briony Armstrong
Tel: +44 (0)1453 820471
Email: briony.armstrong@wycliffe.co.uk

For Years 9 to 13

Please contact our Senior School Admissions Manager, Fiona Armstrong-Best
Tel: +44 (0)1453 820412
Email: fiona.armstrong-best@wycliffe.co.uk

