

# Senior and Sixth Form Guide



Wycliffe



“pupils demonstrate excellent self-knowledge, self-discipline, self-esteem and resilience”

ISI Inspection November 2022, Senior School







Wycliffe has a number of defining characteristics that I think are very important: we are a lovely size, being big enough (c. 400 pupils) to have great facilities and yet small enough to truly know and recognise every single individual; we enjoy a 50/50 balance between Boarding and Day pupils, which creates a real richness of peer group with two-thirds of the school from the UK and one third from 30+ different countries around the world; and we offer an incredibly wide range of academic subjects (especially with 20+ A Levels and three different BTecs in the Sixth Form), allowing every individual to find his or her own academic pathway but also allowing very different siblings to thrive within the same institution.

If you want to understand Wycliffe in the proverbial nutshell, you can't go far wrong if you really focus in on our recently redefined 'Vision Statement' which includes, with the mention of 'pioneering spirit', the very reason that our founders in the late 1800s named us after the 14th century theologian John Wycliffe: "... **Wycliffe will promote a pioneering spirit and encourage individuals to flourish and embrace their futures as global citizens ...**"

N. J. Gregory

Mr Nick Gregory  
Headmaster of Wycliffe

Write your  
own story...

# Round Square

As a Round Square school, Wycliffe is part of Round Square's internationally diverse network of 200 like-minded schools in 50 countries on six continents. These schools inspire pupils to become future leaders and custodians of our planet, and importantly share a commitment beyond academic excellence in terms of personal development, responsibility and understanding through service, challenge, and adventure.

We are developing a unique curriculum which includes facets of the six IDEALS or 'pillars' that make up the Round Square continuum (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service) and these align neatly with Wycliffe's values. They have

provided an opportunity to work in collaboration with schools across the world. Wycliffe has built a special connection with Trivandrum School, in Kerala, India.

The Round Square Committee represented Trivandrum School at our International Fair. They liaised with pupils to find out about their favourite dishes, festivals, national dances, local myths, religion, as well as the local landscape.

Other projects included planting a reciprocal ornamental cherry tree with Trivandrum School, building bug hotels and raising funds for One Million beehives by making and selling 'bee kind', word of encouragement cards, lip balms and candles.



# Embracing Global Citizenship

We prepare our young people to succeed and find their passions in an increasingly interconnected world. At Wycliffe we aim to do this by embracing the school vision of promoting a Pioneering Spirit and encouraging individuals to embrace their future as Global Citizens.

Cultural diversity is an important part of the Wycliffe experience and crucial to our pupils becoming true global citizens. A third of Senior and Prep School Pupils are International, which allows us to share and learn from each other's

cultures. At the same time, becoming a positive citizen of the world, it is vital to understand our own environments and culture.

“pupils value and respect cultural diversity, which they experience on a daily basis given the school's international community”

ISI Inspection November 2022, Senior School

# Pioneering Spirit

The concept of Pioneering Spirit encompasses all that education is about– challenging yourself, working collaboratively, getting through really tough times and sometimes falling over, dusting yourself off and carrying on.

We promote a pioneering spirit by developing critical thinking, enhanced through opportunities in problem-solving and considering perspectives, while shaping a love of learning.





# Our Purpose

Inspire and educate every individual in mind, body and soul.

# Our Vision

Wycliffe will promote a pioneering spirit and encourage individuals to flourish and embrace their futures as global citizens.

# Aims for our pupils

Achieve their full academic, spiritual, physical and creative potential.

Behave with ‘unassuming confidence’\*, showing generosity of spirit, respect for others and appreciation of diversity.

Cultivate social and environmental awareness and an understanding of their role as global citizens.

Develop skills, self-knowledge and resilience to face positively all future challenges.

Exhibit creativity, innovation and independence in their approach to learning and to life.

Feel happy and secure.



# Fostering individuality and helping pupils find their role in life

Wycliffe is the perfect blend of place and culture where pupils develop and flourish in Years 9 to 13.

A 'pioneering spirit', independence of thought and deed, and a global outlook combined with our extensive facilities, perfect-size, and beautiful Cotswold location to ensure every pupil is known and valued.

Above all, in our diverse community, pupils thrive on our commitment to individuality. We inspire and educate every individual – this is not just an acceptance of difference, but an encouragement to be individual.



## The facts:

Specialist overseas and US University SAT and ACT exam preparation and application support.

200 UK Day pupils and 220 Boarders including 140 international pupils from 30 different nationalities.

Over 20 options at GCSE including Business, Computer Science and Japanese.

90 minutes direct train from London with the station directly behind the College.

Four out of ten results secured in 2022 were A\* and A grade A Levels.

28 choices of courses at post-16 with three BTec options, including; Digital Production, Sport and Business Studies.





# Academic

Wycliffe invests in both curriculum and staff development to ensure that pupils benefit from the best teaching and learning available. A broad and balanced curriculum gives pupils plenty of opportunity to try new subjects and to realise where interests and talents lie.

Year 9 is a time when pupils learn the skills and knowledge to be able to start public exam courses with confidence. In Year 9, we offer all subjects to all pupils, and then with parental support and guidance, pupils choose the subjects that they will take for GCSE.

With 20 GCSE options, there is a lot of choice to study subjects from many disciplines.

Our value-added is one of the best in the country. This is supported by constant and robust monitoring, tracking and assessment, meaning that pupils' attainment is being continuously reviewed and strategies implemented to help them succeed.

As pupils progress into Year 12, they need to make their post-16 learning choices based on what their preferred career option is, or the subjects where they are likely to do well or that they enjoy.

There are 28 courses in the Sixth Form, including A Levels and BTecs in Digital Production, Sport and Business Studies, and the Extended Project Qualification. Most pupils begin Year 12 with four subjects, reducing to three as they enter Year 13.

**“Pupils are supported in making choices to maximise their learning and development through the synergy between academic and pastoral structures in the school, the sense of belonging to their House, whether as a Boarder or Day pupil, and through the carefully-planned Tutorial programme.”**

ISI Inspection November 2022, Senior School

# Helping you make the right choice

Most of our Sixth Form pupils go on to Higher Education, studying at a range of prestigious universities worldwide. Our Careers Team mentor each pupil with their onward plans.

In Year 12, pupils gain a comprehensive understanding of Higher Education through our programme of lectures and guest speakers. At the Futures Fair, pupils meet top UK and overseas universities, apprenticeship providers and employers. The Year 12 Aspire project encourages pupils to reflect on who they are and research a future objective. These experiences help to support individual's choices and broaden pupils' horizons.

The Curriculum Enrichment Programme includes regular lectures, presentations and workshops from external speakers. These opportunities enable pupils to develop a wide range of skills, from sharpening revision techniques to helping them set and achieve personal goals.

The Scholars' Society Programme gives enhanced learning opportunities to our Scholars. To support pupils who are looking to apply to the most popular courses or the most competitive universities, our Competitive Courses Co-ordinator advises on applications and choices.



Following a day of workshops focused on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Wycliffe hosted a discussion event on the subject with Professor David Olusoga and Temi Akindele Barker.



Simon Armitage, Poet Laureate visited Wycliffe for an evening of poetry.

## Universities in America and other overseas universities

The PSAT, SAT and ACT testing systems are rarely permitted outside the USA and very few places in the UK are authorised to run them. Wycliffe is among the elite, and since 2013 we have had a specialist USA and Overseas University Applications Co-ordinator. Wycliffe is one of only a few host centres for the tests in Wales and South West England.

Wycliffe is able to support US university applicants with SAT and ACT preparation courses, essay writing and differences in application types. Our pupils have been able to obtain offers at highly prestigious universities and have even received very generous scholarship and financial aid packages to further their studies.

“Without the amazing American College programme at Wycliffe, I highly doubt that I would be at Harvard. I received extensive support in preparation for the admission tests and was helped every step of the way. Wycliffe also helped me understand what to expect when I moved to college and their different educational programme.”

Amelia was awarded a substantial scholarship from Harvard where she studies Chemistry and plays for the Harvard Women Varsity Squash Team.







“ Positive pupil-teacher relationships are evident both in the classroom and in Boarding Houses; this promotes an environment where pupils can thrive in their academic development and personal growth.”

ISI Inspection November 2022, Senior School











# Learning outside the curriculum

The Wycliffe experience is more than what happens in the classroom. We nurture mind, body and soul through our diverse extra-curricular programme: we offer a wide range of clubs, such as Beekeeping, Esports, Combined Cadet Force, Yoga and Cryptology. With more than 60 activities running every week of the year, pupils can stretch their 'pioneering spirit' and try something they may never have considered before.

- Art
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Ceramics
- Charities Committee
- Chess
- Chinese
- Choir
- Christian Union
- Combined Cadet Force
- Cookery
- Creative Writing
- Cryptology
- Debating
- Design Technology
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Equestrian
- Esports
- Fencing
- Fiction Addiction
- Film Appreciation
- Football
- Gardening Club
- Hockey
- Investment Club
- Italian
- Jazz Combo
- Journalism
- Literature Extra
- Mandarin
- Model United Nations
- Netball
- Orchestra
- Philosophy for Life
- Photography
- Pottery
- Raspberry Pi
- Robotics
- Rowing
- Rugby Football
- Rugby 7s
- Running
- Science
- Scrabble
- Sewing
- Squash
- Stage Lighting
- Strength & Conditioning
- String Group
- Student Magazine
- Supervised Fitness
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Ten Tors Expedition
- Theatre Trips
- War Gaming
- Wind Groups
- Wycliffe
- YOGA
- Youth Theatre
- Voluntary work
- VOX
- Young Dragons
- Young Enterprise

“ Music, Drama and Art all offer numerous opportunities for participation, including a Jazz Band, a Youth Theatre Group and a Pottery Club. The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DoE) scheme and the Combined Cadet Force flourish, along with activities as diverse as Beekeeping, Yoga, Cryptology, Fencing.”

ISI Inspection 2018, Senior School

# Leadership and responsibility

Leadership, looking after others and being part of a team are essential aspects of life at Wycliffe. As pupils move through the Schools, we encourage every individual to take on a role supporting others in Pastoral, Academic or Sporting activities – running a club for Prep pupils or leading teaching sessions for Wycliffe STEM Day. The Prefect System gives an opportunity for Sixth Form pupils to lead in official positions at the top of the College.

Leadership skills are developed through a wide range of activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and CCF (Combined Cadet Force); Drama productions; by leading and organising House Events; and by representing the College in academic competitions and in a range of Sport.

“Pupils have a strong moral understanding... [and]... take responsibility for their own behaviour, appreciating that this contributes to the quality of relationships within the school community.”

ISI Inspection November 2022, Senior School

“We as Prefects got as much out the activity sessions as the children. By taking time to prepare workshops based on our chosen themes of Responsibility, Resilience, Respect and Empathy, we learnt and took away just as much.”

Head of School Noah who, with the Prefects, ran activity sessions during a Year 7 camping trip.



Learning to be  
a responsible young  
adult that cares for  
your community is part  
of a Wycliffe education.



# Wycliffe Stories

## Sohil's story



For Sohil, current pupil who comes from a Forces family, life at Wycliffe has given him a home in one place where he can develop strong friendships and be part of a supportive community. Before joining, Sohil had a Taster Day and Overnight Stay to make sure Wycliffe suited him. It did.

“No matter how different you are, you will be accepted” he explains. Sohil wanted to explore and try as many different opportunities as he could fit in. He joined CCF (Combined Cadet Force), Tennis Club, Cookery Club and the Athletics team. Sohil also tried Rowing “though I didn’t think I would like it”. He surprised himself. “I love it”. Now Sohil is a member of the Rowing Club and rows twice a week.

Boarding has provided Sohil with a caring and supportive “family”. “You have your own

space which you can make your own just like your bedroom at home. And although Mum isn’t here to do your laundry you can take it to Matron! The staff in the Boarding House are so friendly. If you are unsure of anything you can ask anyone around the House for help. The buddy system with older pupils really helped me settle in quickly.”

Sohil’s dream is to read Engineering at University to design cars. During his first year in Senior School, Sohil was part of the Wycliffe GCSE team which secured third place in the regional Royal Society for Chemistry Analytical Chemistry competition.

“It’s so friendly here and there are so many opportunities. It helps me to be very socially aware and has increased my understanding of people.”

*Write your own story...*

## Sam's story

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Tenor Sam Dressel (1997-2007) always loved singing and music, though he never dreamed it would be his career. Since joining the vocal group VOCES8, Sam has seen the group's album top the UK's classical music chart.

Sam studied as a Music Scholar at Wycliffe, receiving a full scholarship. He went on to study French and Spanish at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge on a choral scholarship.

With an on-going programme of recordings, videos and live broadcasts, VOCES8 is heard regularly on international television and radio. VOCES8 is passionate about music education and engages in a broad range of outreach work that reaches up to 40,000 people a year.

"I wouldn't be doing what I am doing today if I hadn't gone to Wycliffe. I attended with a full scholarship and was exposed to music that I would never have experienced in a mainstream school" says Sam.

While at Wycliffe Sam did everything he could and was involved in the orchestra, string group, school musicals.

"Classical music was always my favourite music. It never occurred to me that it would be something I would do for my career. I didn't need motivating but I did need people who knew what opportunities were possible. Those people were my teachers at Wycliffe. I can't thank them enough."

Sam Dressel joined Wycliffe in 1997 and finished in 2007. He has now left VOCES8 to pursue a solo career.

## Olivia's story

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When Olivia started Senior School she was determined to make the most of every opportunity – in and out of the classroom. That pioneering spirit resulted in Olivia discussing the subject she went on to study at University – Geography.

"I didn't like Geography but my teacher in GCSE said 'stick with it' and he was right. I enjoyed my A Level Geography so much, that I now study Geography at University. At Wycliffe, you can go to your teachers or tutors to talk to them and they always listened to you."

Olivia says her confidence grew through the activities she took part in at Wycliffe, including being on a successful Netball team, taking part in the Debating Club and completing her Gold Duke of Edinburgh

Award. "No one judged you if you tried something and it went wrong. The most important thing was to give it a go."

She is fiercely proud of having been a part of Haywardsend House and loved its diverse community. "The best thing about Haywardsend – and Wycliffe – is that everyone knows everyone but you can still do your own thing and just be yourself."

Giving back is important to her. Olivia ran the Eco-Warriors Club at the Prep School, organised games at the local youth club and took part in the Senior School's Make a Difference Day.

Olivia joined Wycliffe in 2009 and left in 2020 as Head of School.

# Pastoral care

The House system provides every pupil, whether a Boarder or a Day pupil, a place to call their own. A space where they can work and socialise. There are eight Houses for Years 9 to 13.

Pupils can be a full Boarder or a Day pupil, whatever suits your family. Flexi-boarding and occasional Boarding are very popular with Day pupils, particularly if they are taking part in a late activity at College.

Each House has its own character and celebrates the diversity of its residents. There is a strong sense of family, with Seniors supporting and ‘buddying’ up with younger pupils. That feeling of belonging and embracing diversity is evident in all the House Competitions, whether it is House Drama, House Song or Inter House Quiz Night.

The Housemaster or Housemistress cares for the pupils in their Houses and is a constant thread through their life at Wycliffe. Tutors, the onsite Medical Staff, the College Chaplain and the Deputy Head Pastoral are always there if they need them.

The Matron is the main presence in the Houses during the day. They are always on hand to welcome pupils into the House at break times, lunchtime and the start and end of the day.

“Parents praise ‘exceptional pastoral element’.”  
“Parents applaud ... [ ] .. prioritising welfare and development over league tables. ‘A lot of schools talk the talk but Wycliffe really delivers’, said one. ‘You could have three children with different interests and abilities and all would be well catered for’, said another. ‘There’s no air of entitlement at Wycliffe; the boys and girls are refreshingly down to earth, kind and supportive of each other.’”

Good Schools Guide 2021







# Our Houses

A pupil's House is their home during their life at Wycliffe. We have eight and each has a strong sense of family and a welcoming Common Room – the heart of the House.

## Collingwood

Is home to 50 day pupils from Years 9-11 where they have their own desk, cupboard and shelf space.



## Haywardsend

This beautiful 18th Century building is home to 35 girls both day and boarders from across all year groups.



## Lampeter

Lampeter is the best of both worlds – a beautiful Victorian building significantly extended to create a Common Room, additional bedrooms, kitchen, and a roof terrace. Lampeter is home to approximately 40 girls.

## Loosley Halls

A home for Years 11, 12 and 13. Loosley Halls is home to 60 boys and girls. The three separate Houses arranged around a private garden.





## Haywardsfield

Haywardsfield is Wycliffe's oldest Boarding House; a grand, bay fronted red brick building situated at the very heart of the campus, and is home to 50 boys.



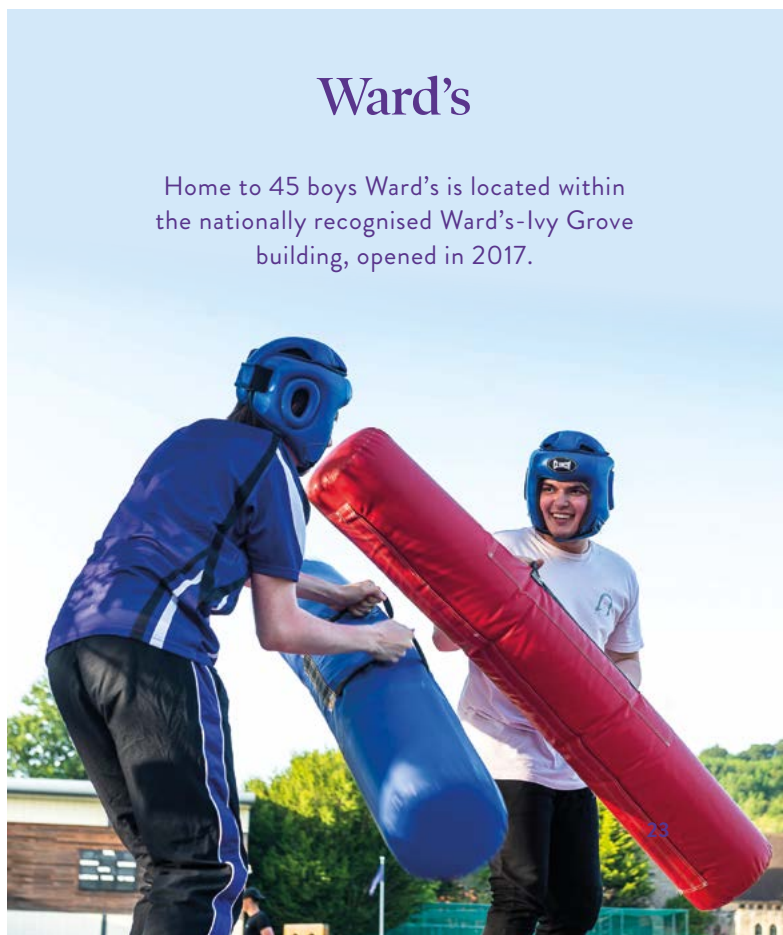
## Ivy Grove

Situated in the new Ward's-Ivy Grove building, this award winning facility opened in 2017, and is home to 40 girls.



## Robinson

A boarding house full of energy and enthusiasm. Home to 70 boys, the modern building is situated close to the sports field.



## Ward's

Home to 45 boys Ward's is located within the nationally recognised Ward's-Ivy Grove building, opened in 2017.



# Size, facilities and location

A secure campus next to the small village of Stonehouse in Gloucestershire, Wycliffe is a medium-sized school of just over 400 pupils with superior facilities and genuine individual attention to every child in its care.

With London just 90 minutes away, pupils can enjoy the countryside but know they can travel easily by train (the station is a five-minute walk away) or by car (five minutes from the M5).

From Victorian-period houses to brand-new buildings, the College has a wide range of teaching and Boarding spaces, giving the campus a unique character.

Pupils enjoy a new spacious Sports Hall, Squash Courts, a Fitness Suite and extensive outdoor and indoor communal areas. The Art rooms are large, light and airy, and the Design Technology workshops have Computer suites and 3D printers alongside practical resources.

The Library is a well-frequented light space in the School House with individual pop-up PCs and a quiet room. It sits next to a series of teaching rooms, including a media lab equipped with Macs.

The Science and ICT block is self-contained and modern, with a series of labs catering to the Separate Sciences and Computer Science.

The Boat House is two miles away with its own gigs, and pupils from Year 11 upwards.

Food is a crucial part of everyday life for each pupil, and Wycliffe Hall is a purpose-built dining hall which offers a range of options for each meal. Special diets can be catered for, and the recipes are from worldwide.







# Joining Wycliffe

Our Admissions process is simple, whilst still being robust, thorough and fair. We work on the basis that each application is highly individual and therefore we treat each one as such. We can take applications at any point in the academic year – there is no formal deadline to submit an application.

## Five Steps to Joining Wycliffe

- 1.** Come and see Wycliffe – at an Open Morning or book a tour, either in person or virtually. Head of Lower School, Deputy Head of Lower School or Head of Sixth Form.
- 2.** Complete and send the Registration Form.
- 3.** Send copies of your two most recent school reports (for those who require additional support, please send your most recent Educational Psychologist's Report).
- 4.** Sit the online CAT assessment – to be done under invigilation.
- 5.** Wycliffe inform you of the decision regarding an Offer of Place.

To apply to join Wycliffe, please contact:

Fiona Lawson-Best, Senior School Admissions Manager – [Fiona.lawson-best@wycliffe.co.uk](mailto:Fiona.lawson-best@wycliffe.co.uk)  
01453 820412 or 07738 107073





*Bold & Loyal*  
1882...

[wycliffe.co.uk](http://wycliffe.co.uk)