



**THE CRYPT SCHOOL**

A Preparation for Life

School Information Booklet 2019- 2020



## **Introduction – Welcome from the Headmaster**

I am delighted that you are interested in The Crypt School for your child's future education. We are an outstanding grammar school where all pupils make superb progress in their academic work. We place the child at the heart of all that we do here and have a reputation as a caring and friendly school, a school in which all pupils can thrive. We also excel across a wide range of sports, in the creative arts and offer considerable opportunities for educational and sporting trips and tours at home and abroad. In 2012 we were judged by Ofsted to be an Outstanding School in all areas, in 2013 we became a National Teaching School and in 2014 we gained the NACE award, recognising our success with more able, gifted and talented pupils.

We have high expectations for all of our pupils. We both challenge and support them to achieve the best they can, so that when they ultimately leave the School, they do so as well-rounded young adults, with the confidence, knowledge and skills required for life in the modern world. I share with staff and pupils a real pride in our School. It is a privilege and pleasure to work here and play a part in shaping the lives of our pupils.

**NICHOLAS DYER, HEADMASTER**

## **Academic Achievements**

As you would expect, our exam results are excellent, and we offer a broad and balanced curriculum. Examination results at A Level and GCSE were very strong indeed in both 2017 and 2018. At A level in 2018 the School achieved 82% A\*- C grades, which enabled our year 13 leavers to progress onto their chosen university courses or other destinations, including higher level apprenticeships with local and national companies, such as Renishaw, Deloitte and GE Aviation. At GCSE in 2018, the School achieved 54% 9 - 7 grades, 79% 9 - 6 grades and 97% 9 - 4 grades. The reason for this outstanding success is the strong focus we have on continually reviewing and improving the standard of teaching and learning throughout the School. All teaching staff are committed to developing their teaching practice to ensure their pupils' learning is outstanding. As Ofsted noted in 2012: "Students' achievement is outstanding; students leave at the end of Year 11 with attainment that is well above average."

The full Ofsted Inspection Report 16th - 17th May 2012 is available to view on our website (<http://www.cryptschool.org/pdf/the-crypt-school-ofsted-final-2012.pdf>)

## **Facilities**

The School has been fortunate to receive considerable funding over the last ten years to bring about improvement to the School estate. Funding has led to the renovation of the changing rooms and the Music department; the old gymnasium has been converted into a new drama studio and a state

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of the art fitness suite. In addition, a food technology room, completed in 2010, has proved to be a valuable and much desired addition to the curriculum. The Sixth Form centre, completed in 2008, gives impressive facilities to help support the learning of our senior pupils and in 2016 we completed the construction of a new Engineering Centre, comprising two science laboratories, 5 maths classrooms and an engineering/robotics study room. In 2016-17 we spent £1m upgrading the Sports Hall and building a three classroom teaching block with additional toilet facilities. This year, a new sports pavilion, together with a tennis and netball court area, will be constructed at a cost of £850,000. We will continue to seek new funding to bring about the further development of our estate.

## Well-being

Whilst we strongly focus on excellence in the classroom to achieve outstanding attainment in exams, we believe it is equally important that our pupils' well-being is placed at the centre of our School ethos. We have developed a caring and supportive environment where boys and girls show respect for each other, and for both their teachers and other adults within the School community. Our pupils enjoy learning, and each is valued as an individual. This positive ethos, in which our pupils come into school looking forward to learning and behave impeccably, is the foundation for our academic success. As Ofsted noted in 2012: *"Students' behaviour and commitment to learning in all lessons are exceptional and this has a highly positive effect on their learning. They feel very safe in school. The pupils rate behaviour highly. They look after each other well and ensure everyone is included."*

Pastoral care is provided by a year based structure. On entry to the School each pupil is allocated to a form group, with a personal tutor who has daily contact with the pupils and is responsible for dealing with day to day matters, as well as monitoring overall progress and providing guidance. Tutors, supported by Heads of Year and the Assistant Headteacher, work closely with parents and other support services where necessary. All tutor groups are part of a House system which also provides opportunity for the wider personal development of pupils.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND) at The Crypt School fall largely into three categories: pupils with a recognised physical disability, pupils who have a specific learning difficulty with additional challenges in reaching their full potential, and very able pupils. Pupils with additional needs are supported by the SENCO and their tutor. Gifted and Talented pupils are supported within subjects taught and monitored by subject leaders.

## Entry for Public Examinations

It is expected that pupils will be entered for all the GCSE subjects they study in Years 10 and 11, at the end of Year 11. In some subjects, such as Maths, the GCSE course enables decisions to be made about the most appropriate level of entry, usually during the early part of the Spring Term of Year 11.

Sixth formers are entered for A Level examinations to be taken at the end of Year 13. Where appropriate

some students in Year 12 will sit AS examinations at the end of Year 12. Some individuals with particular strengths are able to enter for non-timetabled subjects.

## **Non-examination Courses**

As important as exam results are, we also want our pupils to develop the qualities, skills and values which will enable them to contribute richly to society. Our curriculum is therefore supported by a wide range of enrichment activities, trips and visits, and extra-curricular clubs. This breadth of opportunity enables our pupils to gain leadership and teamwork skills, and to develop attributes such as tolerance, compassion, resilience and determination. In Year 7 and 8 we have introduced a wellbeing programme to help pupils develop just those sets of attributes which will support them to both settle in and to thrive.

## **Religious Education**

Religious Education is an important part of our pupils' education. Courses are based on the requirements of the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus and are developed around key questions.

## **Assemblies**

Assemblies also play an important part in school life. Often these assemblies take the form of celebrating achievements by groups or individuals; frequently they are planned and presented by pupils. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship by writing to the Headmaster.

## **Personal and Social Education including Sex and Relationships**

The School places great emphasis on the value of Personal, Social and Health Education. Our Personal Development programme is designed to ensure continuity and progression throughout the School. Moral and emotional questions are addressed through a planned scheme which aims to develop the skills and attitudes necessary to cope with relationships within a rapidly changing society.

## **Co-educational Intake**

In 2018 we admitted our first co-educational cohort of 150 boys and girls into Year 7; by 2023 we will be a fully co-educational school. This change has created Gloucester's only co-educational selective school, offering a wonderful additional choice to parents and children of the city and region.

## **Proposed Admissions Policy for September 2020 Intake**

The Crypt School is an Academy and the Governing Body is the admissions authority. As such the School is responsible for determining its admissions arrangements, and will be administering its own admission test for entry in September 2020. Entry into Year 7 in September 2020 will be mixed gender. Those wishing to register for the Grammar School Test should complete the Grammar Test Online Application Form by the date listed. Registration Forms for our test are available from the School Website or School

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Office. Under the DFE School Admissions Code, parents apply to the Local Authority in which they live for places at their preferred schools. All preferences are collated and parents then receive an offer from the Local Authority at the highest preference school at which a place is available.

**Open Day & Evening:** Wednesday, 17th October, 2018

**Open Day:** Wednesday, 27th March, 2019

**Open Mornings:** Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th June 2019

**Registration:** dates to be confirmed

**The test will be held on:** date to be confirmed

**Preference Forms must be returned to the LA by:** 31st October, 2019

**Offer of places made by LA:** March 2020

**Appeals:** April 2020 onwards

**In order to safeguard the credibility of the test, where a candidate (whether or not registered in two or more authorities including Gloucestershire) undertakes the same test on more than one occasion, then the first sitting shall be taken as the test score and any place offered in accordance with the admission arrangements shall be on the basis of that score. For the avoidance of doubt where a place is offered on the basis of a fraudulent or misleading application the School may withdraw that offer. There is no opportunity to re-sit the Entrance Test.**

## Policy

Candidates who attain the required standards in the prescribed criteria will be eligible to be considered for admission to the School. Meeting the academic requirements for entry to the School is not in itself a guarantee of an offer of a place.

## Admissions criteria for entry into year 7 in September 2020

The School's Admissions Number is 150. The number of intended admissions for the year commencing 1st September 2020 is 150. The Local Authority will allocate places based on The Crypt School's admissions criteria to those children who meet the qualifying standard and whose parents express a preference for The Crypt School in their Common Application Form (CAF). Places will be allocated to qualifying children in the order set out in our oversubscription criteria below.

Oversubscription: During the normal admissions round, where applications from pupils who have met the qualifying standard exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit :

### **1. Looked After Children / Previously Looked After Children**

A 'looked after child' ( 1 ) or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption( 2 ) child arrangements order (residency order) ( 3 ) or special guardianship order ( 4 ) .

(1) A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. In Gloucestershire, such children are referred to as Children in Care.

(2) This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

(3) Under the provisions of s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amend section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders.

(4) See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

### **2. Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium who have met the qualifying standard.**

Children attracting Pupil Premium are those who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the six years prior to the closing date for registration for the Test. The Crypt School will require independent and verifiable evidence of Pupil Premium entitlement in the requisite period from a reliable source such as a local authority. The Crypt School will make such enquiries as are necessary of GCC (or the relevant Local Authority) as to the entitlement of any children who have qualified when notifying GCC of the test results.

### **3. Children whose parents are members of staff provided that they have been employed for a minimum of two years and / or are recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.**

### **4. All other children**

Ordering within the Same Criteria: measured in a straight line from the ordnance survey point of the child's home address (including flats) to the Main Entrance of the School Building, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the School receiving the higher priority.

Tie breaker : In the event that two children have the same score and live the exact same distance away from the School, or in the event of a tie between two or more children when applying the strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance, a process of random allocation will be followed by the Governing Body witnessed by an independent person.

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The child's home address is their usual place of residence. Where there are shared custody arrangements then the home address is where the child spends the majority of school nights (i.e. Sunday to Wednesday inclusive).

**Waiting Lists** : If the School is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held for entry into Year 7. The waiting list will be prioritised in rank order of ability. The tie break procedure will apply if necessary. The waiting list will be held until the end of the academic year.

Waiting lists for entry to the School in any other year group will be held until the end of the academic year. Priority will be given according to our admissions criteria.

## **Applicants with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities**

The School admits pupils with SEN and disabilities who can meet the entry requirements determined by the admissions policy, whenever those special needs and disabilities can be reasonably accommodated. The applicants may be with or without statements (or education health and care plans). The School is committed to Equality of Opportunity.

When registering for selective testing, parents are asked to specify any special educational needs or disabilities which might require reasonable adjustments to the testing process, in accordance with the procedure available from the County Council's website. The School will then consult with appropriate professionals to determine the most appropriate adjustments to make (if any) to ensure that testing arrangements are accessible.

## **Gifted and talented Students and Admission out of Chronological Age Group**

The School will consider an application for early admission to Year 7 of an exceptionally Gifted and Talented candidate provided it is supported by a recommendation from the child's current Headteacher. They must meet the entry criteria. A decision by the School to refuse a place carries with it a right of appeal.

## **Appeals**

Appeals against non-admission will be held in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code and regulations that are in force at the time. The School remains responsible for the formal appeals process. Appeals against non-admission are heard by an independent appeals committee. The School publishes its admission criteria on the website.



## Registration Process

To register for Gloucestershire Grammar School Entrance Test please visit our website from the beginning of June 2019, [www.cryptschool.org](http://www.cryptschool.org) where you will find an online registration form to register your child to sit the test. Registration must be completed by the end of June 2019.

## Testing Arrangements

The Entrance Test takes place on a Saturday in September 2019. On or before 1st September 2019 details of the testing arrangements will be sent out from the Test School. Information will also be updated on each of the Grammar School websites. For specific testing arrangements you should contact the Test School.

## Results

Parents / Carers will be informed of their child's result either by email or post (email is preferred) depending on which option was selected on the Registration Form. Results will be sent to arrive in time to ensure parents / carers have time to make a decision on which schools to put on their Local Authority Common Application Form. If parents / carers have elected (on the Grammar School Registration Form) to share their child's result with more than one school, a separate result email or letter will be sent for each school.

## Common Application Form *(Managed by the Local Authority - 31st August 2019)*

The Common Application Form (CAF) is the form which must be completed to enable the Gloucestershire County Admissions Team to offer you a secondary school place for your child. This form can be completed online or by completion of a paper copy.

## Numbers on roll at 03.09.2018

**1006**

## Pupil Absence – 2017 – 2018

Total number of pupils of compulsory school age on roll for at least one session

**685**

Percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through authorised absence

**2.92%**

Percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through unauthorised absence

**0.18%**

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SUBJECTS	ENTRIES	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	%9-7	%9-4	%9-1
Art	16	1	4	2	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	44%	100%	100%
Biology	80	18	30	21	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	86%	100%	100%
Chemistry	80	24	22	21	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	84%	100%	100%
Computer Science	25	3	11	3	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	68%	100%	100%
Drama	10	2	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	50%	100%	100%
English Language	124	5	17	19	38	32	10	2	1	0	0	33%	98%	100%
English Literature	124	8	5	21	49	23	13	3	2	0	0	27%	96%	100%
French	55	0	3	4	12	8	13	14	1	0	0	13%	73%	100%
Geography	95	11	24	24	23	9	2	2	0	0	0	62%	98%	100%
German	42	1	2	7	12	12	5	3	0	0	0	24%	93%	100%
History	45	1	6	11	9	8	6	2	1	1	0	40%	91%	100%
Mathematics	123	17	27	26	29	18	5	1	0	0	0	57%	99%	100%
Music	14	5	2	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	86%	100%	100%
Physics	80	20	25	20	10	4	1	0	0	0	0	81%	100%	100%
Philosophy & Ethics (RE)	44	9	14	11	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	77%	100%	100%
Sports Science	55	1	8	13	15	12	6	0	0	0	0	40%	100%	100%
Total	1012	126	202	209	238	142	62	27	5	1	0			
% of Total		12.5	20.0	20.7	23.5	14.0	6.1	2.7	0.5	0.8	0.0			
Combined Science	Entries	9-9	9-8	8-8	8-7	7-7	7-6	6-6	6-5	5-5	5-4	4-4	%9-7	%9-4
	44	1	0	7	5	6	7	5	4	8	0	1	43%	100%
SUBJECTS	ENTRIES	A^	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	%A*-A	%A*-C	%A*-G
Business Studies	69	N/A	16	28	21	3	1	0	0	0	0	64%	99%	100%
Design Technology	23	N/A	0	7	13	2	1	0	0	0	0	30%	96%	100%
Design Technology	23	N/A	0	7	13	2	1	0	0	0	0	30%	96%	100%
Further Maths	24	2	7	11	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	83%	100%	100%





**I am the master of my fate:  
I am the captain of my soul.**

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**INVICTUS** *by* WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY  
THE CRYPT SCHOOL ALUMNUS 1867

**ADDRESS:**

The Crypt School, Podsmead  
Road, Gloucester, GL2 5AE

TEL: 01452 530291

EMAIL: [enquiries@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

WEB: [www.cryptschool.org](http://www.cryptschool.org)