



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

*An invitation to explore*

**M A R L B U R I A N S**

are well-rounded individuals:  
academically ambitious, open-minded,  
adaptable and socially minded  
with a strong sense of perspective for  
their community and  
the wider world.









## *An invitation to explore*

**C**ONTEMPORARY, CHALLENGING AND ENRICHING IS HOW A MARLBOROUGH EDUCATION IS MOST COMMONLY DESCRIBED.

It is hugely important to us that our pupils have aspiration and that they are socially conscious, keen to make their contribution to and mark both in the school community and, afterwards, in society.

The College's beautiful, historic setting, with a 2400 BC Neolithic mound and the ruins of King John's Palace at its centre, makes Marlborough an inspiring venue in which our pupils live and learn.

At Marlborough, individuality is encouraged and differences are celebrated—we are genuinely excited about the prospect of our community spanning pupils and staff who come from all walks of life and with all types of different experiences. This, in turn, ensures that the College remains a vibrant, diverse and happy place where new perspectives, new ideas, different characters and aspirations flourish.

Academic rigour forms the bedrock of all that we do. Our pupils are bright and they relish a challenge. It is the norm for pupils to combine achieving great grades with making the most of the incredible opportunities that a fully co-educational boarding school can offer. I can confidently say that Marlburians manage their exceptionally busy programmes with great skill and with a sense of independence, and that they are happy, engaged and active throughout their time with us.

We are hugely grateful at Marlborough to have facilities which are of the highest order; and the range of co-curricular opportunities on offer, given that we deliver a genuinely 7 day a week boarding programme, are possibly second to none. Academically, in sport, in the Arts, in service and in leadership, we value individual excellence just as strongly as we encourage and praise wide participation. It is important to us that our pupils relish a challenge and that they work hard to be the very best they can be; and, of course, the College benefits from the fast-paced, mutually supportive environment that this creates.

Marlborough is a happy, flourishing, vibrant community where friendships for life are made. Our commitment is to get to know all of our pupils as individuals and to inspire, support and motivate each one, preparing them for the lives that they will lead in the future. It is our priority to make each pupil's experience an enormously exciting, enjoyable and enriching one.

I hope that you will see something of the remarkable school that Marlborough is from this prospectus and will choose to pay us a visit. ✦

LOUISE MOELWYN-HUGHES — *The Master*



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## *Where potential meets opportunity*

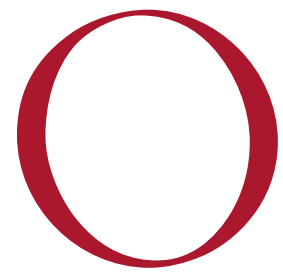
**T***he Marlborough College way of life is one of positive transition and growth. Children arrive at Marlborough with inherent potential.* Some of this they have already started to develop, whilst some is as yet unrealized or even unknown to them. Our role is to provide the opportunity for each child to

find that potential within themselves and to help them fulfil it to whatever level they are capable, supporting them all the way. *There is no one 'right path' through Marlborough College.* Indeed, we celebrate and take pride in the fact that each young person's journey might be different. Pupils thrive here by taking responsibility for their own journey; they want to be the best that they can be and to add the most value they can to our school community and beyond.

Marlborough welcomes the gifted, the enthusiastic and the aspiring. With our steadily increasing bursarial provision, the broadening of access is, and will remain, a central feature of the College's development. ✦



## *Our values*



*Our values are the vital, strong foundations of our community which enable everyone to contribute, to be valued and to fulfil their potential.*

### **COMMUNITY**

Celebrating individuality but appreciating that we move further when we move together; valuing diversity of all kinds and welcoming interaction with others; willing and able to see the world through the eyes of others with humanity, understanding and compassion.



*Celebrating individuality but appreciating that  
we move further when we move together.*



### AMBITION

The confidence and commitment to identify and develop our interests and talents to the full; to seek to be inspired and challenged and to be inspiring and challenging; to take responsibility for ourselves and the quality of our contribution, and pride in being the best that we can be.

### SERVICE

The desire to make a difference to others and to strive for positive change in the wider world; to seek opportunities to have an impact and to do what is right and not necessarily what is easy.

### INITIATIVE

To seek to learn from everyone and every experience; to keep asking important questions and to be fired by a genuine spirit of curiosity, endeavour and independent study; to see and embrace possibilities with an open mind and to be prepared to take action and to lead. ✦

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## *Our aims*

**H***ow can the performance of a great school be judged?* Some important elements of education can be measured and we enable our pupils to gain exceptional examination results and impressive places at universities, colleges and conservatoires. We believe that Marlburians are equipped not only to reach university but also to flourish there and beyond.

Other aspects of our work are more difficult to assess. We would like to be judged by the contribution made by past, present and future generations of Marlburians to the health of wider society throughout the course of their lives. ✦

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## *Living with others*

**A**s one of the few remaining full boarding schools in the UK, we can offer genuinely formative opportunities rooted in our values. In operation seven days a week and full at the weekends, Marlborough is able to provide a distinctive quality of education with pastoral care at its core and we provide a rich programme of primary and creative experience in, around and beyond the academic curriculum which is second to none. Young people at Marlborough thrive through their interaction with adults and peers in a broad variety of activities in both a formal and a social capacity; this builds personal character and a highly developed understanding of other people. It encourages Marlburians to learn the importance of living a well-balanced life. ✦

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## *Academic*

**T**he College has a distinguished tradition of academic achievement and continues to enjoy a pioneering role in education. Through a rigorous academic programme and outstanding, innovative teaching, we aim to instil a love of learning amongst pupils.

The first, or **Shell**, year (Year 9) offers the opportunity to explore intellectual possibility. Within the Shell curriculum, a coherent, integrated course in the humanities (called Form) asks pupils to think for themselves. It embraces English, History and Religious Studies and seeks first of all to give our pupils a sense of their cultural identity and then to lead them to explore new horizons and to question themselves and their teachers. It is a course

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The **Remove** (Year 10) and **Hundred** (Year 11) at Marlborough involve GCSE courses. We require a core commitment of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies and a Modern Language. Beyond these, pupils have free choice from an exciting offering which includes Computer Science, Mandarin Chinese and Astronomy amongst many others.

Pupils choose at least three A level courses in the **Lower Sixth** from a range which guarantees rigour, depth and the choice of continued breadth or specialisation.

In addition to these main courses, pupils have the opportunity to indulge their academic interests further, or discover new ones, through courses such as Arabic, Japanese, Creative Writing and the hugely successful and highly prized Extended Project Qualification.

Pupils of all ages are expected to develop a spirit of scholarly enthusiasm through making the most of the many cultural and academic opportunities available to them beyond formal lessons.

At all times they are supported by a dedicated team in our Guidance Department who offer expert advice on the choice of school subjects, on Gap year placements, on proposed university degrees, and—not least—on the world of work. †

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## *Co-education*

**M***arlborough was the first of the major public schools to pioneer the introduction of girls into its sixth form in 1968 and became fully co-educational in 1989.*

Our embedded co-educational character allows us to prepare boys and girls for lives and careers in a world in which men and women will work together. Academic debates are enhanced by the combination of male and female sensibilities.

Single-sex activities, such as sport, offer a different set of opportunities and challenges. Above all, the Houses provide pupils with secure and supportive pastoral care.

Our community is inclusive and kaleidoscopic: our boys and girls, men and women, form a society unafraid to ask important questions about life, scholarship, service and values. ✦





## *Boarding life & pastoral care*

**T**he Boarding Houses of Marlborough provide the dual strengths of supported independence and of youthful fellowship. From each member of our community we look for kindness and respect for others.

*The House is a home:* it provides a real family atmosphere and an intimate and safe anchorage from which to voyage out into the sometimes uneven currents of life in the College.

Our sixteen Houses provide an *unrivalled system of pastoral care*. They are staffed by teams of adults who work generously to sustain and uphold the health and happiness of the young people in their care. Each House is led by a Housemaster or Housemistress, who is assisted by Resident Tutors, Matrons (called Dames), Visiting Tutors and other members of pastoral and support teams. All the Houses follow the same rules and regulations but

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they each have a distinctive character and vary in composition and location. The College houses the largest independent co-educational boarding community in the country and with this comes great breadth of opportunity.

We seek a partnership with parents, based upon agreed values which will work to elevate the prospects and well-being of young Marlburians. Communication with parents is frequent, visits are encouraged and exeat weekends mean that pupils return home every third weekend for quality family time.

The working week at Marlborough is full and weekends also offer a rich programme of structured activities, social occasions and of course down-time.

As a full boarding school, we are privileged to have much greater influence over the lives of our pupils than that enjoyed by day schools or weekly boarding schools. We see the character of a pupil in the round and our experience offers direction throughout the occasionally difficult and testing journey of adolescence. Members of the College learn to differ and to reconcile differences in the context of a caring and supportive community. Pupils question, enquire, converse, form views, test the boundaries of ideas and actions, establish values and develop the honesty, confidence, courage and integrity to stand for them. Marlburians come to appreciate the creative tension between independence and interdependence and they do so with energy, empathy and an open mind.

Our disciplinary expectations are high: our policies aim both to protect individuals and also to foster self-discipline. Pupils are encouraged to treat each other and all members of the community with kindness, sensitivity and respect. †



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## *The setting*

**M***arlborough College is a beautiful school.* Founded in 1843, the College is situated at the western end of the small market town of Marlborough and occupies 286 acres of rolling and historic land. The school is built around the former mansion of the Dukes of Somerset and around the Marlborough Mound, a neolithic edifice where some say Merlin is buried and whose Norman castle saw medieval kings hold court.

Our buildings complement the ancient countryside and include some stunning facilities. Marlborough has an outstanding architectural heritage which makes an impression on all who live and learn here. The Chapel (1886) is a Gothic Revival masterpiece. The Memorial Hall (1925) is unique

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in being a theatre and assembly space built in the neo-classical style. The Hony Centre (2001) provides Drama and Music with the most modern of facilities for teaching and performance, and the Art School (2005) offers a light and distinctive contemporary home to the visual arts. Our sports grounds must be some of the most striking venues in the country. Recent years have witnessed impressive investment in our built environment and facilities, and our state-of-the-art Innovation Centre is the newest addition, opening in April 2021. The College campus possesses a collegiate atmosphere which many universities would envy.

Our location enjoys the advantages of being within easy reach of Heathrow, London and indeed many other parts of the country, with excellent road links. ✈

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## *Spirituality*

**E**ducation cannot be complete without a considered approach to spiritual life. Young people need to acquire a spiritual vocabulary which will enable them to explore the world and to make their own way, if they choose, towards faith.

We are an Anglican foundation and many of our pupils opt to be confirmed as members of the Church of England; we are equally proud of our pupils who belong to other denominations and religions or who wrestle with philosophical questions. Discussion of these matters is lively, important and, at times, passionate. All faiths are welcome and celebrated.

The Chapel is a vital place where the school meets regularly to reflect upon and appreciate our community and history. ✝

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## *Energy & enrichment*


**A**cademic excellence at Marlborough is matched by an extraordinarily broad Co-Curricular provision. As we move further into the twenty-first century, the skills and experience acquired through activities beyond the classroom become increasingly valuable.

Pupils gain so much from sporting involvement: teamwork, the willingness to commit wholeheartedly to a contest, the challenges of handling victory and defeat with grace, the disciplines of training and the opportunities to represent others in a fitting manner. Our facilities are modern and our venues beautiful. We are also fortunate in the calibre of our coaching staff. Results have, in recent years, been strong.

The performing and creative arts form an equally valuable part of our community life. Music enriches so many occasions, both large and small;

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players and performers work with outstanding teachers in order to hone their skills, rehearse pieces and, ultimately, to face the challenge of performance. Drama is both exuberant and rigorous; standards are high and much is expected of those who undertake this testing but fulfilling process. The Art School buzzes with creative energy, and the quality of the work of our young artists is extremely impressive.

The College's successful Combined Cadet Force and our Outdoor Education Department provide many chances to develop valuable leadership skills and to grow through challenging experiences.

Marlborough believes in enabling and encouraging pupils to reap the benefits from training and preparation, and we prize the fulfilment that comes through performance and self-expression. Friendship and the appreciation of the talents of others are deepened by teamwork and by individual achievement, and they are supported by skillful coaching. Sport, Art, Design, Drama, Music, Outdoor Activities and CCF—all of these work to foster confidence, to broaden horizons, to offer opportunities for healthy enjoyment and to help pupils to grow both as individuals and also as members of the community. ✦



## Friendship

**C**ompanionship is one of our greatest strengths. Pupils develop friendships which will enrich and sustain their lives beyond the College.

The chance to live and work alongside people from varied backgrounds and countries is a genuine privilege. Our pupils hail from over 250 different schools from around the world, which only serves to enhance our community, making it interesting and diverse. With so many different characters at Marlborough, everyone fits in. Full boarding means that pupils integrate across the year groups and work with teachers and other members of the adult community in ways that go beyond the formulaic relationship imposed by the classroom or laboratory.

*The quality of human relationships throughout our community is something we take great pride in.*

You are a Marlburian for life and the Marlburian Club acts as a centre and resource for the vibrant, worldwide Old Marlburian community. ✦

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## *Leadership & service*

**W**e are conscious of our duty to equip young people to exercise leadership not as an expression of personal ambition but as a form of service to others. Marlburians across generations have a strong record of leadership and service in many spheres of human endeavour.

Our pupils are asked to *look beyond Marlborough and to understand their responsibilities to broader communities and a wider society*. They develop this perspective through charity work and fundraising, community service, mentoring, partnership and outreach.

Opportunities for pupil-led initiatives are many and all year groups are encouraged to air their views and make things happen. Captaincy of teams, debating, quizzing, public speaking, positions of leadership within Boarding Houses and school-wide roles as prefects, sacristans, charity representatives and in running societies allow many of our pupils to play an active part in the running of the College.

Our pupils are expected to be ambitious to develop their potential as fully as they can as scholars, artists, actors, musicians, athletes, friends, neighbours and citizens. ✦



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## *The future*

**F**or all its past glories and present success, *Marlborough is keenly future facing.* We look constantly to adapt and improve the ways we enable our pupils to draw on the richness of our ethos and our tradition so that they may meet the challenges of a new century. If our pupils are to be leaders who will enrich a global society, they will need not only academic strength and good character, but also inventiveness, empathy, an open mind and an adventurous spirit.

Our curriculum is vibrant and ambitious: our teachers investigate and offer demanding, enriching courses which promote intellectual curiosity and the excitement of rigorous, scholarly engagement. We aim to spark Marlburians to think for themselves, to risk an opinion, to listen, respect and evaluate the voices of others: in the words of Louis MacNeice (C3 1921–26), we want them to appreciate ‘the integrity of differences’.

We look to foster artistic, cultural and political societies which will promote the range and topicality of our discussions and we welcome scholars and artists of international reputation to speak and perform



regularly at the College. We attract to Marlborough teachers of great talent and ability, and we strive to increase the diversity of the pupils who join us each year and who bring with them fresh views and different experiences.

Internationalism is a constant in our lives. Alongside Marlborough College Malaysia, we are part of an international family of schools, sharing common values and ownership whilst offering exciting opportunities to collaborate with fellow pupils and teachers from other backgrounds and traditions. A community such as ours must connect with the wider world in order to prepare our young people to lead professional and personal lives which will transcend borders and boundaries.

Our motto is *Deus Dat Incrementum*—“God gives the increase”—a reminder that we are proud of but humbled by our achievements.

At Marlborough College, our pupils learn that they have the potential and the opportunity to make the world a better place; we give them the skills to lead that mission and the life-long support and friendship of our worldwide Old Marlburian network to help them on that journey. ✝

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MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

*provides an exceptional, contemporary education  
set in a beautiful environment steeped in history.*

*It is a welcoming community  
where ambition and scholarship are highly valued,  
creativity is celebrated, diversity is embraced  
and where each pupil is encouraged  
and challenged to be the best  
that they can be.*

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