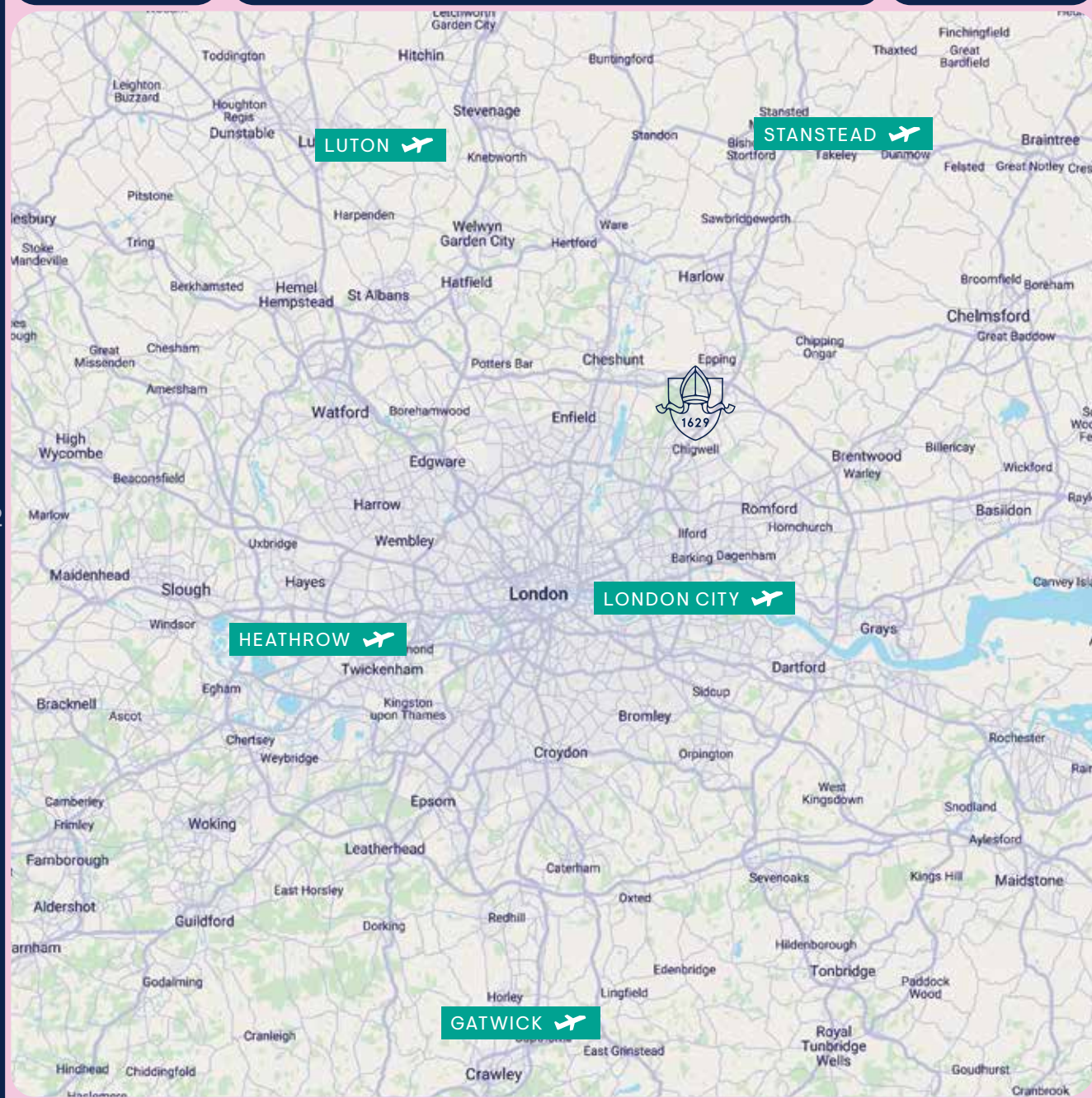




Chigwell School
INTERNATIONAL BOARDING

AGE 16+





Chigwell School is set in the pretty village of Chigwell on the north-east edge of London. It provides easy access to the centre of London (Chigwell is in Zone 4 of the London Underground) and to Heathrow, Stansted, Luton, Gatwick and City airports.

WELCOME TO BOARDING

Boarding at Chigwell is rather different from the traditional model of an English boarding school

We specialise in helping foreign students adapt happily and securely to living and studying A Levels in the UK, and preparing them for successful entry into British universities.

QUINTESSENTIALLY BRITISH SETTING

Our small, friendly international boarding houses provide a secure base for students from different countries to play a full part in an English school.

Here, we create a friendly and supportive home-from-home for 28 international students living on campus.

The students live in four extended family-style houses (two for girls and two for boys). In each house students of different nationalities live together with their house parents who are experienced teachers and academic staff.

24/7 PASTORAL SUPPORT

We are here in “loco parentis”: that is, in the place of parents, and look after the boarders at all times outside the school day; to help and advise, and take care of their safety and welfare.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

We very much value the different insights that individuals coming from other countries bring to our school and are committed to the sharing of these insights, and to a genuine cultural exchange for the benefit of all our pupils. The resulting mix is usually very intellectually stimulating and close friendships are formed across cultural and language barriers.

Boarding at Chigwell is a mature community where independence and personal responsibility are valued and encouraged in all students, so that by the time they leave us they are prepared for the adult world of university and beyond.



Mrs Amanda Goddard B.Sc. P.G.C.E.
Director of Boarding
agoddard@chigwell-school.org

STEEPED IN UNIQUE HISTORY

Chigwell School was founded in 1629 by Samuel Harsnett, the son of a Colchester baker

He was educated in Colchester but went on to study at Cambridge University where he became Master of Pembroke College. He was subsequently Vicar of Chigwell, Archbishop of York and Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University.

Using his savings, Harsnett founded Chigwell’s original Latin and English School, which began with just 16 ‘poor, clever’ scholars.

Over nearly four hundred years, Chigwellians have gone on to make their mark across the world in a whole variety of different ways. William Penn, founder of the State of Pennsylvania, attended school in the 1650s and was said to have had his ‘first sense of God when he was 11 years old at Chigwell, being retired in a chamber alone’, in a room believed to be above what is now the main school reception.

The School has seen many changes since its foundation, including becoming fully co-educational in 1997 and more recent developments such as the Pre Prep, established in 2013, and the Sixth Form Centre in 2016.

Grounded in tradition but preparing students for the future, we are now a medium-sized school of around 970 boys and girls, which allows pupils to be known really well as individuals. Just like all the Chigwellians who have gone before them, we aim to prepare pupils to contribute to the world, now and in the future.

1629

The School was formally founded by Samuel Harsnett, Archbishop of York and Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. The original school building, known as ‘Big School’, is now the Swallow Library.

1795

William Cotton was a student at the School – he later became Governor of the Bank of England. In 1801, he infamously set the Headmaster’s garden on fire, possibly during hay-making.

1914-18

79 Chigwellians were killed in action in the First World War. The School then had a total of only 80 pupils, but remained open.

1981

The Practical Arts Centre (now the Art, Design and Technology Department) was opened by the Queen Mother and ‘Queen Mother Quad’ was created.

1997

The School started admitting girls at all ages, beginning co-education at Chigwell.

2013


Chigwell Pre Prep was opened for boys and girls aged 4 – 7.

2016

The Risham Sarao Sixth Form Centre was opened by Old Chigwellian and TV presenter, Ben Shepherd.

2020

The School digitally delivered more than 10,000 live lessons during the Covid-19 global pandemic, as well as producing 1,000 items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the NHS, local surgeries, care homes and pharmacies.



“Having 4 boarding houses of 7 people allows us to have better relationships between every single boarder.”

YEAR 13 BOARDING STUDENT

FAMILY BOARDING

All boarding schools say their boarding houses are like a family, but ours really are!

Our family boarding system provides a secure home for new students, helping them to adapt to life in a new country. In each house, a group of 7 or 8 students of different nationalities live together with the houseparents and their families – which means our houseparents really can have plenty of time for everyone.

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Most of the students at Chigwell live locally, close to the School. The boarders are able to get to know local students and their families and experience ordinary British life outside School. Our small boarding houses act like ordinary homes and boarders can socialise with their local friends nearby.

The houses have all the essentials for modern family life. Each house has a well-equipped kitchen if students choose to prepare food for themselves, and cosy living rooms to relax and enjoy time together. The houses are all situated on the School's site and share the central School facilities including the playing fields, sports hall and outdoor swimming pool, dining hall, theatre, library and coffee shop. The School has 100 acres of beautiful grounds, but the facilities are in close proximity to each other so only a short walk from each of the boarding houses.

Chigwell's family boarding houses receive frequent visits from past pupils who return to see what they consider to be their 'first home' in England and exchange news with their old houseparents.



“British pupil mentors volunteer for their role in the year prior to a boarder’s arrival.

This contact has a significant impact on the confidence with which boarders settle.”

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Boarding houses are run by highly qualified and senior academic staff

Our house parents include the Director of Studies, a number of Heads of Departments and experienced staff, teaching a range of subjects. Students live in an academic atmosphere and have easy access to support. Each boarding house also has two additional tutors who spend an evening a week in the houses. There is always someone at home to ask for help and to discuss ideas with.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT

The language of our boarding houses is always English as we have so many nationalities and do not have large other-language groups. Because it is so easy to make friends with local British students, our international students quickly find themselves speaking English all the time. There is also English Language Support, taught by individual tutorials with specialist language staff, one of whom is a resident houseparent. Boarding tutors also work with students one-to-one.

OUTSIDE EXPERTS

The School’s intellectual society, the Williams Project, hosts visiting academic speakers - providing students with easy access to experts who come to speak at the School.

MENTORING SYSTEM

Each international student at Chigwell is given a mentor – a local English student in the same year, who knows Chigwell really well and helps our new boarders to settle in and meet people. The mentors contact new students before they join, they meet them in their boarding houses when they arrive and take them to lessons on their first day. Student mentors are here to introduce Chigwell’s student life, explain our customs and help students get to know the local community.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We are a very busy school, with a wide range of extra-curricular activities to suit all types of students

SPORT

Sport plays an important part in the life of the School and we are fortunate to enjoy expertly maintained facilities including playing fields, astroturf, a swimming pool, netball/tennis courts, a sports hall and gymnasium. Our boarders enjoy keenly contested sports nights which have included mixed basketball, dodgeball and team badminton, whilst in the summer term rounders' matches played on top field are a feature of sunny evenings. Saturday sport is very inclusive at Chigwell. Football, hockey and cricket are played for one term each. Because there are five football teams for the Sixth Form, regardless of ability, if boarders wish to play competitively and put on the Chigwell football shirt, they can!

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

Academic societies provide the chance to compete in local, national and international competition such as the Model United Nations and inter-school debating. Our boarders have an excellent record in the Mathematics and Science Olympiads, with a past student competing in the final of the Physics Olympiad competition in India in 2015 and Switzerland in 2016.

COMMUNITY & CHARITY

Community service and charity work are two more important aspects of Chigwell life, and boarders have been involved in strengthening the bond of union beyond the School and the local area and volunteering at the Chigwell Riding Trust for people with special needs.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

There is also a thriving music department and drama department with a state-of-the-art 150-seat theatre - where we host our popular classic film nights.



“From arrival day, welcome dinner with parents and boarders, and the day out into London on the first weekend together with the small boarding community, our son was made to feel at home right away.”



PARENT OF CHIGWELL BOARDER




SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Amid all the work, activities in school, invitations from local friends, trips to London and elsewhere, we also take time to be together both as individual boarding houses and as a whole resident community

We celebrate birthdays, hold parties and barbecues, decorate the house for Christmas, and regularly cook a house dinner together on Fridays. Each year we enjoy a number of formal dinners as a community including the Headmaster's Welcome Dinner, the annual Chinese New Year Dinner and Orthodox Christmas celebrations.

DAY TRIPS AND WEEKEND EXCURSIONS

Boarders enjoy regular outings such as ice skating at Somerset House in London, and a weekend visit to Othona on the Essex coast with houseparents and their families, where they visit the oldest stone church in England and have a bonfire on the beach.



“It’s a really easy environment to settle into, so throw yourself into it because you will be so welcomed.”

YEAR 13 BOARDING STUDENT



THE HOUSES AND HOUSEPARENTS

Church House

GIRLS' BOARDING HOUSE

It is not know exactly when Church was built, but the oldest part is estimated to have been erected in 1600. There are many famous stories concerning the house, one being that Charles Dickens once stayed here, writing one of his novels – Barnaby Rudge.

Church house is run by Mr and Mrs Leroux. Mrs Leroux is the Head of French at Chigwell School and also teaches Spanish. Mr Leroux is an adventure tourism guide who has worked across North America and Europe guiding kayak, cycle tours and skiing. Church House aims to provide a nurturing and open environment where different cultures are shared and celebrated. The girls work hard, and we aspire that they feel at home and well supported in their academic journey at Chigwell School.



Mr and Mrs Leroux
Church House Houseparents



THE HOUSES AND HOUSEPARENTS

Hainault House

BOYS' BOARDING HOUSE

Hainault House was built in 1874 in grand Victorian Gothic style and is run by Mr and Mrs Rabbitte, who have a young family. Mr Rabbitte is the Head of Geography at Chigwell School and his wife is a qualified social worker.

Hainault House promotes an environment where students can flourish both academically and pastorally. They practice a firm but fair, and usually fun approach to boarding, to ensure that the boarders get the best support when it comes to their school life and their own personal and emotional safety and wellbeing.

Bright, airy rooms and plenty of room to work and socialise enhance the friendly, family atmosphere that is the hallmark of Hainault House. It enjoys the advantage of being at the front of the School and is surrounded by a large garden, where barbecues are a feature of the summer term.



Mr and Mrs Rabbitte
Hainault House Houseparent

THE HOUSES AND HOUSEPARENTS

Harsnett's

BOYS' BOARDING HOUSE

Harsnett's takes its name from the Founder of the School, Archbishop Samuel Harsnett, Archbishop of York and Master of Pembroke College Cambridge, who founded the School in 1629 as a school for the poor boys of the parish when he was vicar here. Harsnett's is a family home run by Mr and Mrs Saunders, who live there with their three children.

Mr Saunders teaches Mathematics and is the Director of Studies.
Mrs Saunders teaches French, German and Spanish, and is responsible for English as an Additional Language (EAL) for Year 12.



Mr and Mrs Saunders
Harsnett's Houseparents





THE HOUSES AND HOUSEPARENTS

Sandon Lodge

GIRLS' BOARDING HOUSE

Sandon Lodge was built in 1870, and has a beautiful setting in the middle of the School's 100 acres of grounds. It is run by Mr and Mrs Lord, who met while they were students together at Oxford University.

Mr Lord is the School's Head of Classics. A graduate in Classics and English, he has also recently completed an MA in Philosophy at Birkbeck College, London. Mrs Lord is research scholar at London University and the author of several books on music and cultural history.

Mr and Mrs Lord have lived in Sandon Lodge since 1998. They have known many generations of international students at Chigwell and have a big network of friendships with former students and their families all over the world.



Mr and Mrs Lord
Sandon Lodge Houseparents

DESTINATIONS: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS LEAVING CHIGWELL 2020

International students at Chigwell are very successful and the vast majority go on to study at top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge


COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	DESTINATION	COURSE	GRADES
Ukraine	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	Chemistry	CBE
China	University of Hong Kong	Architecture	A*A*A*A*A
China	King’s College London, University of London	Physics	A*AA
China	University of Nottingham	Medicine	A*A*A*A*A
China	University of Surrey	Automotive Engineering	BBB
China	University of Cambridge	Engineering	A*A*A*A*A*A
Poland	University of St Andrews	Mathematics	A*A*A*
Moldova	UCL (University College London)	Biochemistry	A*A*A*A*B
Montenegro	IE University, Madrid	International Relations	A*AA
Ukraine	University of York	International Relations	A*AB
Poland	UCL (University College London)	Medicine (6 years)	A*A*A*A*A*
Kazakhstan	Dundee University	Geography and Economics	CCD
China	University of Hong Kong	Economics	A*A*A*A*



“Outcomes for boarders are excellent and meet the aims of the School.

Boarders are happy, confident, polite and engaging.”



A photograph of three male students in school uniforms standing in front of a brick building. The student in the center is smiling and looking towards the right. The student on the left is seen from the back, looking towards the center. The student on the right is seen from the side, looking towards the center. They are standing in front of a brick building with a large arched doorway and a crest above it. The crest features a shield with a central emblem and the date '1629' below it. The building has a red brick facade and a white window frame is visible on the left.

“It’s the little things that
make a big difference
and you would never
find it in any other large
boarding school with
their big dormitories and
hundreds of boarders.”

YEAR 13 BOARDING STUDENT

APPLYING FOR A PLACE

Before you apply for a place, you should consider the following points, these will also assist you during the application process:

RESEARCH YOUR A LEVEL SUBJECT CHOICES

What interests you, where do your skills lie, and what do you hope to study in the future? Be sure to view our website (www.chigwell-school.org) and see what subjects we offer.

RESEARCH UNIVERSITY COURSES

Having an idea of what course you would like to study or institutions you would like to go to after Sixth Form will help you research your A Level choices. It is important to consider the entry requirements for each course as well.

DRAFT YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

This is your chance to shine! Tell us what you can do, what you have done, and what you will bring to our unique school community.

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY

You will need to complete our registration form. We require certain documents in order to support your application, so please make sure you have the following:

- Your IELTS report (or equivalent)
- Your current and previous school reports
- Personal statement
- Registration fee
- Copy of your passport.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Please do feel free to ask us any questions you may have about any part of the application process. You can email us at 6thform@chigwell-school.org



Miss Roxanne Darkin
Head of Careers and Sixth Form Coordinator
rdarkin@chigwell-school.org

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Every applicant must sit entrance tests, usually in English and Maths, and an additional chosen A Level subject. These can be sat whilst visiting us, but can also be sat at one of our authorised Education Agencies or a British Council office. Please contact us if you have any questions about this. All applicants also have an interview with the Head of Sixth Form, either in person while visiting the School, or conducted by Skype or other real-time video conferencing program. We understand that visiting the School may be difficult, but we do encourage you to come and see us if possible. It is important to see the place where you are considering spending two years living and studying, to help you decide if it is right for you. We look forward to welcoming you and giving you as good an idea as we can about school life at Chigwell.

We will acknowledge receipt of your application and request any further documentation we may need. You will need to return your acceptance form along with your first terms fees and your deposit to confirm your place. If you require a visa to study with us we will send you an email detailing the Tier 4 visa application process.

FEEES

For information on our fees, as well as our full terms and conditions, please visit www.chigwell-school.org



Chigwell School

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Incorporated Charity No. 1115098