

PANGBOURNE

— A community where you can flourish —



PROSPECTUS

HEAD'S WELCOME



Schools are about people and Pangbourne is proudly a 'people place'; home to a team of passionate educators with a deep commitment to our pupils.

Since I arrived here in 2005, the world has evolved at great pace. However, against a shifting global landscape our timeless Flag Values of Kindness, Selflessness, Moral Courage, Industry, Initiative, Resilience, Integrity and Respect continue to underpin all that we do.

We are a small, independent boarding and day school with a unique history and a bright future. Our size allows us to get to know each pupil individually, ensuring that they are able to flourish both academically and socially.

I hope that Pangbournians young and old can see the impact our wonderful school has had on their lives. Whether it's the joy of academic and creative discovery, the bonds formed on the sports field or on an expedition, or the collective achievement of College Sunday parades, I know that special memories are made here.

It is a great honour to lead this school and I warmly invite you to see for yourself what makes Pangbourne College such a special place.

Thomas Gornis

Skills & values for life

Teamwork, responsibility, leadership skills, discipline, confidence, resilience, integrity, kindness, selflessness, moral courage, initiative, industry, respect

Academics

Range of subjects, expert teachers, small classes, High Potential Achievers programme, learning support, scholarships, general studies, EPQ, academic enrichment, external speakers, trips and visits

Co-curricular

Sport, art, drama, music, CCF, DofE, activities, parades, overseas academic and sports tours, ski trips, community outreach

'It's small enough to enable everyone to know each other but big enough to be diverse and offer a wide range of activities, sports and clubs. Everyone can shine. Parade offers an extra depth of tradition and values.'

Kelly Waters, Parent



'Pangbourne is unique because of the community. There is something about Pangbourne that makes you feel part of something special. The parades definitely consolidate this.'

Emily, Pupil



ETHOS AND VALUES

Some people may think that we are a naval college or perhaps even a military school, but neither is true! Although we were founded in 1917 by a shipping company to prepare 'cadets' for careers as officers in the Merchant Navy, we have been an all-round, independent school since 1969 and co-educational since 1996.

However, we have retained some of our distinctive ceremonial traditions which include parades seven times a year. These traditions make a big contribution to our ethos and our strong community spirit. They also embed and develop key life skills which are essential for life beyond College, such as teamwork, leadership, self-discipline and confidence.

Our Flag Values are central to our ethos; they drive everything that we do to ensure that our pupils can flourish. And whilst our culture and values are rooted in Christianity, we warmly invite applications from pupils and staff of all faiths and none.

Parents value our authentic, down-to-earth atmosphere and pupils are encouraged to work hard to achieve a healthy balance between attainment and wellbeing. Our aim is to equip Pangbournians with the tools to fulfil their potential and develop the confidence, values and skills needed to make a positive difference to the world.

'We are very lucky at Pangbourne College; we have a raft of Housemasters and Housemistresses, matrons, teachers, coaches, and many other adults who go out of their way to support us. Their support is of great value.'

Callum, Pupil



SUPPORT EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

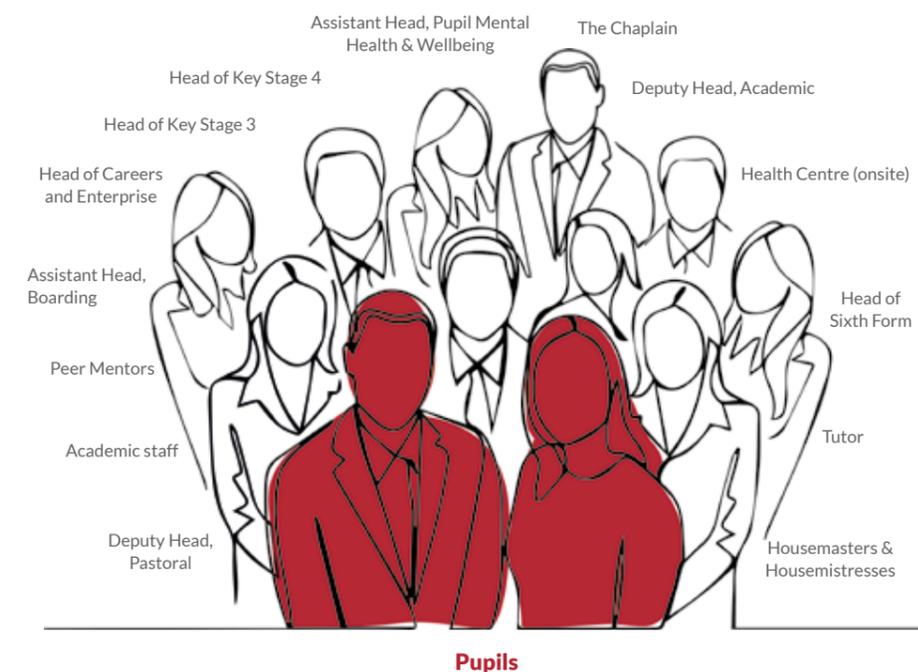
In today's world, the pressures on young people are greater than ever. We put a huge amount of effort into building confidence, resilience and determination in each pupil so that every one is equipped to deal with life's inevitable ups and downs.

Positive mental health and wellbeing is an important aspect of College life and we promote it by encouraging our pupils to participate in the many opportunities here, celebrating their successes, and providing support and encouragement when it is needed.

Our Flag Values underpin everything we do, from class rewards to staff recruitment. They help to create a secure and respectful environment in which all of our pupils and staff are encouraged to be successful in their endeavours and supported through their challenges.

As a boarding and day school, we have a house structure which provides a firm base for pastoral care which benefits day and boarding pupils alike. Every pupil belongs to a boarding house (Division), staffed with Housemistresses/masters (HOMs), Assistant HOMs, Matrons, Tutors and Housekeepers. They are the first port of call for every pupil, which enables us to provide outstanding pastoral care throughout their time at Pangbourne.

Outstanding support structure



COLLEGE LIFE: BOARDERS AND NON-BOARDERS

Our boarding structure is central to our pastoral care. Every pupil, whether they are a boarder or not, belongs to a Division which is their home for the duration of their time at Pangbourne.

This is a safe and comfortable place that they can go to before and after school, and during breaks. Each Division has well-equipped communal areas, kitchens and quiet spaces, and is supervised by staff made up of Housemistresses/masters (HOMs), Assistant HOMs, Matrons, Tutors and Housekeepers.

Our evening activities are very popular and a great opportunity to spend time with friends. Activities include spin classes, comedy nights, House Bake-off competitions and plenty of options for playing sports such as football, netball and cricket. Weekend trips are a staple, and we continually introduce new opportunities to explore the local attractions, as well as those further afield, and to try new activities.

There are a number of boarding options available to suit your child's needs:

- Full Boarding: Monday to Sunday
- Weekly Boarding: Sunday or Monday to Saturday
- Part Boarding: Monday to Thursday for Years 7&8. Monday & Tuesday nights, plus Thursday & Friday nights for Years 9 to Upper Sixth

International pupils make up a small proportion of our cohort, coming from a wide range of countries and cultures. Our staff are experienced in helping our overseas students to settle in so that they quickly become part of our community.



'Some things I like about boarding are the community we have, the Divisions, the boarding trips, and the time we have to spend with our friends.'

Nicoleta, Overseas Student



The Divisions

In a nod to our nautical associations, our Divisions are named after merchant ships. They are:

- **Dunbar** - for girls and boys in Years 7 & 8
- **Illawarra and St George** - for girls in Year 9 and above
- **Harbinger, Hesperus, Macquarie and Port Jackson** - for boys in Year 9 and above



‘Amazing staff and facilities, set in an idyllic location.’
Tania Bevis, Parent

- Our facilities include:**
- Café
 - Fully equipped DT Workshop
 - Art studio, plus a darkroom for photography
 - The Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel
 - The Nancye Harding Recital Hall
 - Music Technology studio
 - The Jubilee Astroturf
 - 25m heated swimming pool
 - Black Box Drama studio
 - 6km of protected rowing water
 - Boat Club on the River Thames
 - Health Centre
 - Refurbished, fully equipped Gym

CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

Pangbourne College is situated on an historic 230-acre site in West Berkshire in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This is where pupils have the freedom and space to learn and grow as part of a vibrant community that they can call home.

The environment at Pangbourne is perfectly designed to support learning. We are blessed to have the infrastructure and range of facilities to support pupils of all abilities to reach their potential. These include our team of committed staff, comfortable boarding houses, well-equipped classrooms and areas for creative and performing arts, and our sporting facilities, such as the refurbished Astroturf and gym, and a heated swimming pool.

Our Boat Club is just a five-minute drive from the campus, situated on the River Thames, enjoying access to 6km of some of the best rowing water in the UK.

We are just 10 minutes from Junction 12 of the M4 motorway, and on the mainline rail network between Oxford (30 minutes) and London Paddington (45 minutes). London Heathrow airport is less than a 60 minute drive away. Daily school transport services for pupils are available from several locations. For full details visit: pangbourne.com/bus-routes

'I have had so much help with my goal of going to medical school through HPA meetings and an academic scholarship, which has broadened my interest and knowledge into related topics.'

Julia, Pupil



OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING

We have a distinct set of Academic values which inspire all of our teaching: **Aspiration, Collaboration, Engagement, Progression, Purpose and Relevance.**

Alongside our Flag Values, these inform our approach to teaching which is adapted to ensure that every one of our pupils receives the support they need to reach their full potential.

Pupils learn best in small classes where staff can provide individual attention. Whilst there is no set formula for our class sizes, they are generally below 20 in Years 7 to 11. In the Sixth Form, the maximum class size is 16, but the vast majority are considerably smaller.

Our High Potential Achievers programme (HPA) has been developed for those who are more or exceptionally able across the board. Part of this initiative provides mentoring to these pupils along with specialised activities and masterclasses which are designed to challenge their abilities. HPA pupils include our Academic Scholars and are celebrated members of the College community.

We want our pupils to develop the skills and strategies needed to become confident and independent learners. Whilst this might come easily to some, we recognise that some students require additional support.

Led by our experienced Learning Support Department, we take a whole-school approach to identifying and supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND), English as an Additional Language (EAL) and those who require additional exam preparation support.



YEARS 7 & 8

Pupils who join our community in Years 7 or 8 begin their journey in Dunbar, our friendly, co-educational Division.

The key purpose of these school years is to settle pupils into Senior School life. During their time in Dunbar, pupils receive a grounding in all the key academic subjects which are taught by subject specialists, and a wide range of sports. Pupils will participate in Physical Education (PE) once a week and in games almost every day.

Pupils from Prep and Primary schools are fully integrated into the school and our aim is to ensure that every child has the right skills and attitudes to progress into Year 9. Where pupils demonstrate high academic abilities, they are invited to work towards the Dunbar Project Qualification (DPQ). The qualification includes a project on a subject of the pupil's choice along with Theory of Knowledge lessons. The DPQ offers prospective Academic Scholars in Year 7 a pathway to our HPA programme.

Dunbar is located separately from the older pupils' Divisions, and has its own extensive grounds called the 'Piggeries'. Whilst they have access to the same learning facilities as the older pupils, this arrangement helps with the smooth transition from junior into senior education. Our friendly, experienced staff are dedicated to making sure that this considerable change is as easy as possible for your child.

Dunbar pupils have lots of opportunities to get involved in school life, including music and drama productions, as well as sporting and academic competitions. There are also lots of opportunities for parents to get to know each other with regular social events, such as the Dunbar Family Quiz.



'We joined at Dunbar and felt it was the perfect middle ground between our previous school and senior school. Dunbar is excellently run.'

Iлона Herbert, Parent

Dunbar pupils study 14 subjects:

- Art
- Computing
- Design Technology
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Music
- Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
- Physical Education (PE)
- Religious Studies
- Science

'Pangbourne has a strong family ethos, creates a great sense of community and encourages individual children to flourish.'

Helen Keeble, Parent



YEARS 9 TO 11

These are the years in which pupils become GCSE-ready in preparation for the examinations at the end of Year 11.

Our Year 9 cohort is made up of those pupils who move up from Dunbar and a larger group of pupils who join us from Prep schools. Pupils continue to study a range of subjects taught by subject specialists, before choosing their GCSE options with the support of our academic and pastoral staff.

In Years 10 and 11 pupils focus on their GCSE subjects which are taught in classes of 20 or fewer. The benefits of our small class sizes are most evident during this period as staff have ample time to prepare pupils for their first experience of public examinations.

Throughout these years, pupils meet with their academic tutor every day to ensure that they are on track with their studies and making the most of the opportunities available to them.

During this time pupils will also get involved with our exciting Adventure Curriculum and participate in weekly parade practice for our six College Sundays and annual Founders' Day. These ceremonial events are key to our ethos and bring the whole community together.

Pupils will start to get involved in serving and leading the younger pupils as they increasingly represent their Division in all sorts of activities which include parades, music and drama productions and team sports.



SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form is the time when pupils transition into students who take ownership of their own learning and shape their future beyond school.

Life inside and outside of the classroom takes on a different, more independent and more rewarding perspective. It provides a firm foundation for higher education and the workplace, enabling students to hone their individual talents and discover their place in the world.

There are many opportunities for students to develop life skills in areas such as teamwork and leadership. These include the opportunity to take up important roles in the College, such as Chief Cadet Captain, Peer Mentor and Captain of Sports, which involve leading and supporting younger pupils. By developing these skills, our students grow in confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

Looking beyond College, we provide plenty of support for students to explore their next steps. From UCAS applications to interview preparation, we help our students to identify the right career path for them and to achieve their goals and aspirations.

We have a diverse and knowledgeable community made up of staff, parents and alumni (Old Pangbournians) who are able to help individuals find their paths and succeed. Being such a close-knit community with a broad range of connections in many career fields, we can offer a range of interesting and useful opportunities.



Download our Guide to Sixth Form subjects



‘The Pangbourne experience gives us so much more than just academic support. I do think that Pangbourne has formed me as a person and prepared me well to go out ‘into the world’ by pushing me out of my comfort zone and encouraging the development of new skills and interests.’

Tim, Sixth Form Student

'If you enjoy your sport and play to the best of your ability, you are a winner.'

Sam Hewick, Director of Sport



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: SPORT

The philosophy of sport at Pangbourne is a simple one: enjoyment, participation and excellence – not mutually exclusive, but a happy co-existence.

Sport, and especially team sports, play a very important role in life at Pangbourne. They enhance our fantastic community, create the spirit of 'Team Pangbourne', demonstrate our Flag Values and help pupils to develop positive characteristics and life skills.

Pangbournians are able to specialise in a sport of their choice whilst supplementing it with other activities. Our broad programme caters to all goals and levels of ability whether your child is looking to get involved in fitness and recreation, or is on a high performance pathway.

Physical activity takes place four times a week including fixtures on Saturdays or Wednesdays. Competitive matches are offered throughout the year and we have a particularly strong reputation for rowing, rugby, hockey and horse riding.

Any pupils who achieve a Sport Scholarship are invited to join our Sports Performance Programme (SPP) which is designed to develop your child's life skills as much as their sporting performance. The programme fits in and around the school day, with the level of support increasing from Bronze level through to Silver and Gold, as the level of performance increases.

The programme is also available to other pupils who may discover sporting skills later in their school career.



Sporting activities include:

- Athletics
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Cricket
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Riding
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Sailing
- Swimming
- Tennis

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: CREATIVE ARTS (DRAMA & MUSIC)

Creative opportunities outside of the classroom encourage pupils to further explore the arts. A range of facilities and experienced staff enable our community to get the most out of their pursuits.

For drama enthusiasts, theatrical productions enable pupils to showcase their talents, both onstage and behind the scenes. There are a number of productions every year, including a whole school production, a Dunbar play and a Year 9 production.

Each year, trips are organised to attend a variety of productions to develop your child's enthusiasm for performing. Pupils are also able to take Trinity exams at a variety of levels.

Musicians of all abilities are able to develop their skills and we are fortunate to have a state-of-the-art Music Centre with a recital hall. We are also an All-Steinway School with three grand pianos, six upright pianos and a host of other instruments. As you would expect, we have a large number of visiting music teachers who provide instruction in various instruments and singing.

Regular trips are organised to see professional performances, and pupils are encouraged to participate in our choirs and bands which perform at informal recitals as well as formal events and services. These include our College Sundays, Christmas Carol Services and the annual memorial service held onsite in the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel. We are also invited to help lead the annual National Service for Seafarers at St Paul's Cathedral in London.



'I have been given countless opportunities to express myself and to feel included in the Drama community at the College. Being part of the Drama department at Pangbourne has helped me to create memories I will never forget and friendships that will last for years.'

Imogen, Pupil



'Being an Art Scholar has really allowed me to flourish. I enjoy the interaction with my teachers and the additional support that they have given me.'

Pupil and Art Scholar



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: CREATIVE ARTS (ART & DT)

Developing ideas and creating objects for practical use, to provoke discussion, or simply to be admired; these are the principles which are at the core of our Art and DT offering.

With two studios and three specialist classrooms to explore print, ceramics and photography, our Art department is always buzzing with activity. From pupils catching up on prep (homework), to those exploring the subject in more depth to develop their skills, there's always something going on. The department is open during activity slots, during prep and after prep in the evenings.

Competitions and artwork displays are held as part of College life throughout the year. Pupils are also supported in taking their craft further, particularly our Art Scholars.

Our well-resourced Design Technology department is available to pupils throughout the school day including during free lesson slots and enrichment periods. Our resident technician maintains the equipment for our pupils to use, which includes three 3D Printers, a CNC router and a Vinyl Cutter, as well as sewing machines for our textiles classes.

DT clubs and competitions include the Classic Car Club where pupils help restore a 'Bond Equipe', furniture upcycling challenges and contributing to costume creation for the College productions.

Design-based trips provide opportunities for pupils to observe problem-solving through product design and creation in real life situations. Destinations include the 'Clerkenwell Design Week', The Design Museum and even backstage access to Land Rover, Morgan and Mini production plants.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: ADVENTURE CURRICULUM

Given our beautiful surroundings and shared love of the outdoors, perhaps it's no surprise that we offer a range of adventurous opportunities to challenge pupils outside of the classroom and grow their characters.

These opportunities enable pupils to demonstrate our Flag Values and add depth to their personal and academic development in areas such as teamwork, leadership, resilience and taking responsibility.

We are licensed to offer the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of The Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award Scheme. Our 230-acre campus offers ample space for pupils to train before expeditions which usually take place in Wales, The New Forest and the Lake District. All pupils in Year 9 will undertake the Bronze Award, after which they can choose whether to continue into Silver and Gold.

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) programme is split into the Army, Royal Marines and Royal Navy sections. Each provides self-discipline and teamwork skills, as well as enabling pupils to achieve formal qualifications and develop leadership skills. All pupils in Year 10 participate in the CCF, after which they can choose to continue it into Year 11 and onwards.

Each term, a field day allows opportunities for the DofE groups to undertake practice walks and the CCF sections to visit military training areas, which allow them to broaden their experience.

We also run regular trips to the Nabugabo Community Learning Centre in Uganda; a school that we have supported for many years.



'The combination of volunteering, physical activities, skills-based exercises and expeditions provide an all-round experience which is fun, rewarding and recognises a young person's successful journey of self-discovery and development.'

Thomas Garnier, Head



'Pangbourne is a place where the individual matters and as such I believe that we nurture and encourage young people to participate in a wide variety of activities and experiences.'

Rupert Bancroft, Deputy Head, Pastoral

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

Our extensive Activities Programme offers our pupils lots of opportunities to pursue their interests and to develop new ones.

Academic societies include the Geography Society, Euler Society and Abelian Group (Maths) and English activities including book clubs, creative writing clubs and the 'Student Voice' journalism society.

In addition, the whole school community is encouraged to get involved in supporting local, national and international charities. In the past, fundraising events have included the 100% Colour Run, a fashion show and our annual Classic Car Show which supports the Nabugabo Community Learning Centre in Uganda and Footsteps Foundation in the UK.

To enable pupils to explore the wider world and bring subjects to life, we also offer a number of trips, tours and expeditions which are arranged by relevant academic departments to a range of destinations, both in the UK and abroad. Pupils visit theatres, lecture halls and museums, and boarders go on weekend trips to a variety of exciting locations across the south of England.

Just some of the activities on offer include:

- Art
- Classic Car Restoration Club
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Drama
- DT
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award section work
- Film Club
- Fitness
- French culture
- Golf
- High Potential Achiever meetings
- Horse riding
- Indoor hockey
- Mindfulness and meditation
- Music
- Orienteering
- Rifle Range
- Rocket Building
- Rowing and Sculling
- Rugby Sevens
- Science Club
- Street drumming
- UCAS support



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Our admissions process is designed to identify potential and establish whether we can meet the needs of your child. We want your child to flourish through a balanced and well-rounded education which enables them to make a positive contribution to our community and beyond.

Our standard entry points are Year 7, Year 9 and Lower Sixth. Admission may be possible at other entry points depending on place availability. The main steps in the process are:

Visit

We recommend that you visit our beautiful 230-acre campus to get a real feel for our wonderful school. There are a variety of ways to visit, and details are available on our website: www.pangbourne.com/visit

Register

All applicants are required to complete a Registration Form and pay a registration fee.

Registration is recommended as early as possible, but no later than the end of September in the year prior to entry for Year 7 and Lower Sixth and three years prior to entry for Year 9 (the Autumn term of Year 6). Key admission dates for each entry point are available on our website.

Assessment

Entrance for all pupils for Years 7-9 is via computer-based assessment tests together with observation in group activities. We also review up-to-date school reports and request a confidential Head's reference.

For Sixth Form entrance there is an assessment day consisting of a computer-based assessment and an interview with a senior member of the academic team. School reports and a Head's reference which includes predicted GCSE grades will also be requested.

No specific preparation is required for the entrance tests.

Decision

On receiving an offer, you have time to reflect on whether you feel that Pangbourne is the right place for your child to flourish. Our friendly Admissions Team will be on hand to answer your questions, provide further information or enable you to visit us again, ensuring you have all you need to make your decision with confidence. Upon accepting your place, a deposit will be required.

Join

Starting a new school is a big step for the whole family. Our Admissions Team will guide you through the process up to the point of starting in September. We also hold 'welcome' events and 'connect' events to provide plenty of opportunities for families to get to know the College community and one another.

STANDARD ENTRY POINTS:

The following timelines represent our standard processes, however, late applicants may be considered depending on place availability.

Year 7 entry:

Year 4-6 Various dates available	Year 6 By end of September	Year 6 End of September	Year 6 October	Year 6 Mid November	Year 6 Early December	Year 6 First Monday in March	Year 6 June	Year 7 September
Visit the College	Register	If a means-tested Bursary is required, submit application	Dunbar Experience Day	Entrance Assessment at Pangbourne College	Decision letter sent	Closing date for place acceptance	Welcome Event for parents and children	Induction and join

Year 9 entry:

Year 4-5 Various dates available	Year 6 By end of September	Year 6 November	Year 6 January	Year 6 By end of March	Year 6 By the May half term break	Year 7 By end of September	Year 7 June	Year 8 June	Year 9 September
Visit the College	Register	Sit ISEB Assessment Exams (at current school)	Activities-based assessment at Pangbourne College	Decision letter sent	Closing date for place acceptance	If a means-tested Bursary is required, submit application	Connect Event for parents and children	Welcome Event for parents and children	Induction and join

Sixth Form entry:

Year 10-11 Various dates available	Year 10 June	Year 11 October	Year 11 October	Year 11 Mid November	Year 11 End November	Year 11 December	Year 11 February	Year 11 August	Year 12 September
Visit the College	Sixth Form Information Evening	Sixth Form Taster Day	If a means-tested Bursary is required, submit application*	Register	Assessment and Interview Day at Pangbourne College	Decision letter sent	Submit subject choices	Place confirmation following GCSE Results	Induction and join

* Although the closing date for registrations is in November, any applicants who wish to submit a Bursary application must already be registered with the College

'The professionalism you have displayed throughout this process has been excellent and you give prospective parents ample opportunity to meet with staff.'

Prospective parent





‘The underpinning history alongside high academic expectations and fantastic pastoral support has meant that our son has found purpose, confidence and friendship.’

Lucinda Powell, Parent

For lots more information, including details of the admissions process, bursaries, scholarships and visit options, please visit: www.pangbourne.com

Alternatively, our Admissions Team is available to answer your questions

email: admissions@pangbourne.com

tel: 0118 976 7415