



CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

A life-changing educational opportunity

Founded by King Edward VI in 1552

PROSPECTUS





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King Edward VI
in 1552



I am proud to be following in the footsteps of so many Old Blues who have made a contribution to society in so many different ways.



Head Master's Welcome

Welcome to Christ's Hospital. This remarkable school offers pupils from all walks of life the opportunity to achieve their full academic potential and to develop their interests and talents in a caring and stimulating environment.

Christ's Hospital, which was founded in London in 1552 and moved to Sussex in 1902, has a rich history which is evident in many facets of school life. The most obvious is the Tudor uniform, which is worn with great pride by our pupils. For all that, we have a decidedly modern outlook and our focus is very much on providing our pupils with the best possible preparation for the future.

Academic expectations are high and pupils are given every encouragement to develop a love of learning and to actively pursue academic excellence. Pupils in the Sixth Form have the choice of either the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme or A Levels and a good number each year will go on to Oxford, Cambridge, or top universities overseas.

Our magnificent red brick campus provides the perfect backdrop for the busy lives that our pupils lead at Christ's Hospital. As you would expect from one of the largest boarding schools in the UK, the facilities are first-rate and the range of co-curricular activities on offer is second to none.

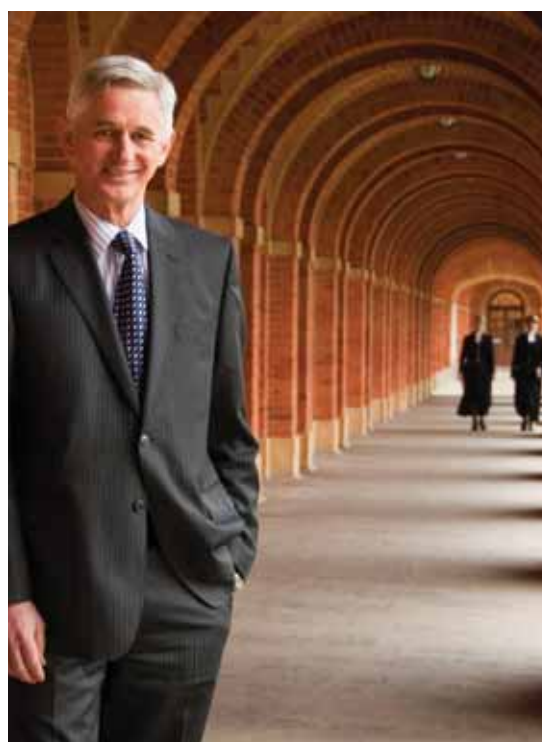
Although Christ's Hospital is predominantly boarding, our day pupils enjoy exactly the same routine as the boarders, apart from sleeping at school. The extended boarding week does allow pupils to make the most of the vast array of day, evening and weekend activities on offer and helps to foster the strong sense of community within the school.

Christ's Hospital prides itself on the outstanding young men and women who move on each year. Friendly, forthright and entirely unpretentious, our school leavers take with them the confidence and the skills that they will need to achieve success at university and to make a worthwhile contribution to society in later life.

If you would like to learn more about the unique opportunities that we can offer your son or daughter, please contact us to arrange a visit.

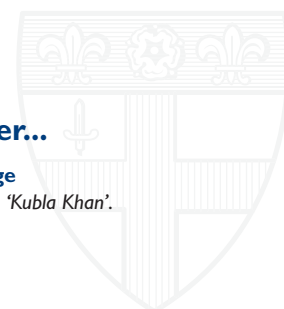
We look forward to welcoming you to our remarkable school.

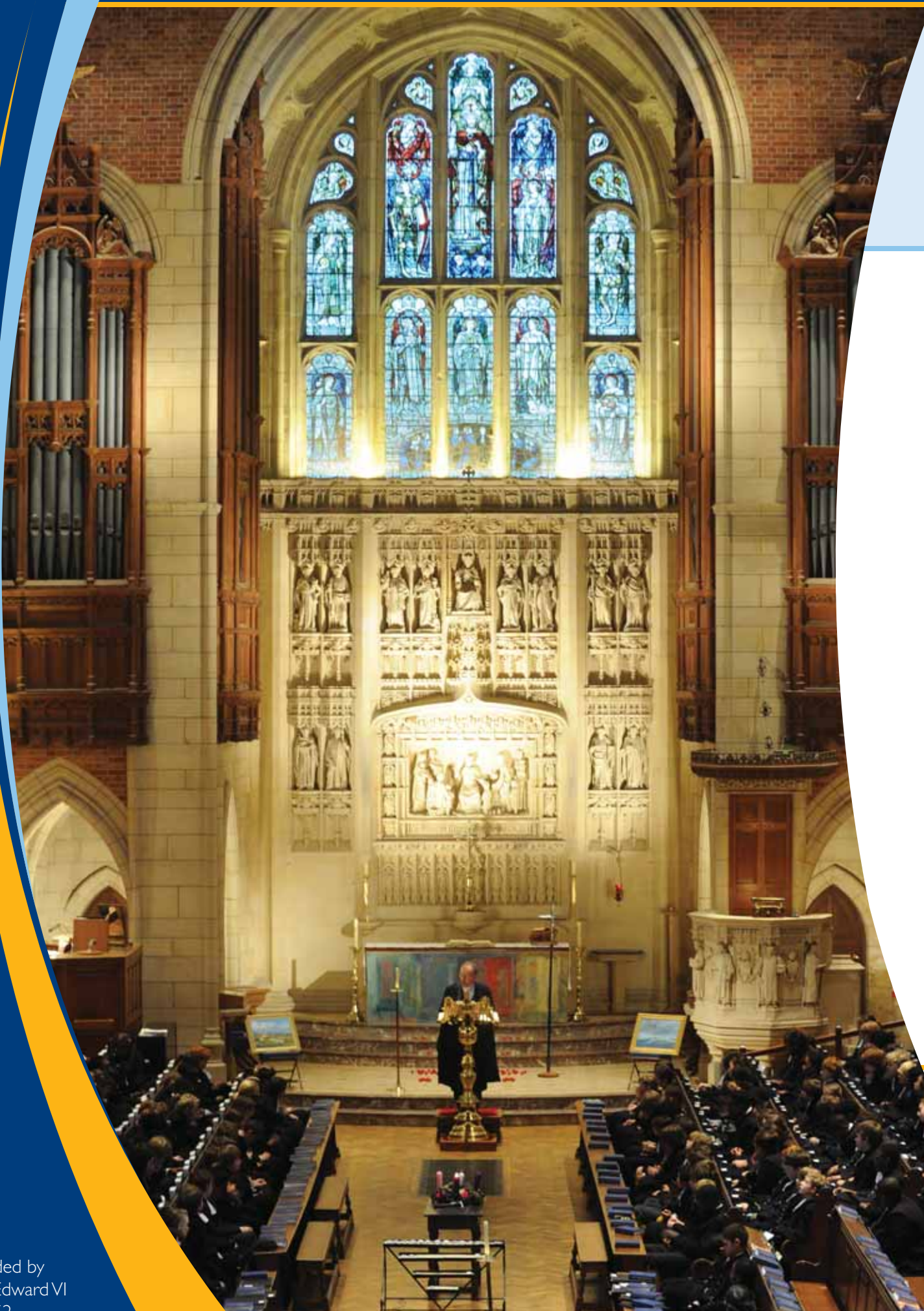
JOHN FRANKLIN
Head Master



Gifted poet & philosopher...

...Old Blue **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**
'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' and *'Kubla Khan'*.





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All the traditions are important because they represent the past, and without the past, we would not have today.



History

Christ's Hospital enjoys a rich and deep history. The school was established as a result of Edward VI's vision to provide education to the poor and needy following the dissolution of the monasteries. The King wrote to the Lord Mayor of London asking him to take action and in 1552 Christ's Hospital opened in London's Newgate as a co-educational school for the City's poor and destitute children.

In 1902 the school moved to its current site near Horsham, West Sussex. The girls, who had become separated from the boys over the course of history, joined their male peers in Horsham in 1985, returning the school to its original co-educational roots.

Over four centuries have passed since Christ's Hospital was founded and in this time the world has changed beyond recognition. The school is, however, still committed to continuing its inimitable traditions such as the lunchtime Band Parade which is an important part of school life and the Tudor-style uniform is worn with immense pride.

Present

While proudly acknowledging its rich and historic traditions, within its magnificent grounds and buildings Christ's Hospital is very much a 21st Century school. A very strong academic base is ensured by excellent teaching in modern, well-equipped classrooms and laboratories, all with state-of-the-art technologies. The school has particular strengths in Maths, Music, Science, Classics, English, History and Art.

All eighteen boarding houses have been refurbished providing modern, often individual living spaces and comfortable amenities making them a real "home from home". Houses are run by residential academic staff with particular expertise and experience of pastoral issues. Other facilities include 200 acres of grounds and playing fields, an award-winning Theatre, and a superbly equipped, purpose-built Sports Centre.

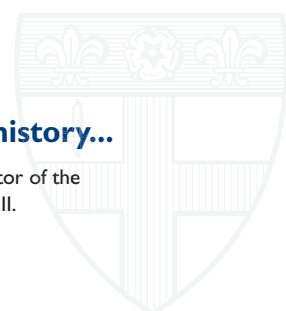
Our small classes (no more than 18 in the lower years and 10 in the Sixth Form), give your child the attention and teaching quality he or she needs to flourish and the valuable opportunity to work with fellow high achievers.

Christ's Hospital provides its pupils with a safe, yet challenging and inspirational time at school, which leaves them prepared to compete and compare favourably with their peers in the world beyond.



Changing the course of history...

...Old Blue **Sir Barnes Wallis**, inventor of the Bouncing Bomb used in World War II.





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I came to Christ's Hospital because I knew the facilities were fantastic and the opportunities so vast. Sport has been my major focus; my major achievement has to be representing England U18s at Rugby.



Campus and Facilities

The remarkable architecture and beautiful setting of Christ's Hospital set it apart from other schools. Situated in semi-rural West Sussex, the school is just over an hour's train journey from central London. With its own railway station, Christ's Hospital is easily accessible from the nearby historical town of Horsham and from London Gatwick Airport.

Pupils and staff of Christ's Hospital are privileged to have at their disposal some of the most exciting and modern resources available in any UK school.

Academia

Due to its excellent reputation, academic record and exceptional facilities, Christ's Hospital attracts some of the most accomplished teachers in the country, who enthusiastically share their vast knowledge with their pupils. The school prides itself on its specialist subject libraries which house a huge collection of multi-media materials comparable to those of many universities.

Music

Christ's Hospital strongly encourages excellence in the Arts and has nurtured many talented musicians. The music department boasts some incredible facilities such as its own recording studio and over 30 practice rooms. It also owns an impressive array of fine and rare instruments including two Steinway grand pianos, four pipe organs and three harpsichords.

Sport

The sporting facilities at Christ's Hospital are second to none. The modern sports centre incorporates a 25m swimming pool, double sports hall, six squash courts and a fitness suite. The 100 acre outdoor sporting area consists of 17 rugby pitches, 19 football pitches, 16 tennis courts, 12 cricket squares and four grass and two all-weather hockey pitches.

Drama

The school has one of the most technically advanced and beautiful theatres in the country in its grounds, providing students with a professional setting in which to perform. Drama students at Christ's Hospital have access to an exceptionally high standard of teaching with two full-time teachers, a theatre technician, box office manager and two actors-in-residence.

From classic plays to vibrant musicals, the drama department puts on over 30 performances in a year and has received top class reviews from the public and the media.

Chapel

All pupils are expected to attend Full School Chapel. The school welcomes those from different faith backgrounds or with little experience of worship. Whilst the individual's own faith is respected, the style of Chapel services allows the pupils to reflect. On leaving, Grecians are presented with a bible to remind them of their school's continuing commitment to the values embodied in the gospel.



West End actor...

...Old Blue **Roger Allam** played the original 'Javert' in the world famous musical extravaganza *Les Miserables*.





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To me, Christ's Hospital is a second home and my friends constitute a second family.

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Pastoral - Boarding and Day

The majority of Christ's Hospital pupils are boarders. The pastoral system in place is caring, supportive and compassionate, creating a strong sense of 'home-from-home'.

Boarding at Christ's Hospital is a very positive experience which gives students the opportunity to build life-long friendships and enjoy the social scene and co-curricular activities of the campus long after the school day has ended.

Parents of boarders do not have to worry about losing contact with their child as every third weekend is Leave Weekend when most students go home. Parents are also welcome to attend the weekly Family Communion Service and of course to support their children at sporting events, concerts and drama performances.

In their first year at the school children share a study bedroom with two or three fellow students of the same age. In Years 8 and 9 two pupils share a room and thereafter students have the privacy of their own single study bedrooms.

From the ages of 11 to 17 students live in one of the school's 16 single sex boarding houses and with no more than 40 pupils per house. Recently refurbished, the boarding houses provide a sanctuary of privacy as well as being a base for quiet study, socialising and relaxation.

Students in the Upper Sixth Form reside in one of the two mixed university-style houses. With approximately 120 students per house, this provides a homely and calm environment, conducive to study and socialising.

House Parents are staff members who live very close at hand in adjoining accommodation (often with their own families) and ensure that all boarders are well supervised, cared for and made to feel at home. Every week House Parents organise House Events for students which may include a trip to the theatre, cinema or bowling alley.

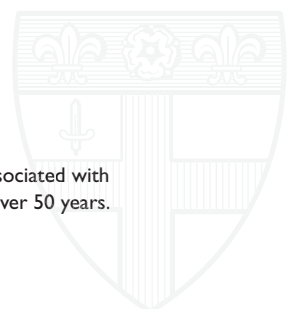
Older pupils use their knowledge and experience to help the younger ones settle in. Each new Year 7 student is assigned a pupil in the year above who, for the first few weeks of term, accompanies the new pupil to lessons, mealtimes and social events until they feel confident that they know their way around. Additionally, each new pupil has a Sixth Former who looks out for their welfare and makes sure they are happy and feeling at home.

Day pupils are encouraged to become completely integrated into school life and, like boarders, are allocated a house where they have their own desk, wardrobe and locker. To ensure that day pupils benefit fully from the magnificent facilities at Christ's Hospital they are encouraged to spend time at the school after the compulsory day has ended. As is the case with most boarding schools, lessons also take place on Saturday mornings.



Musical conductor..

...Old Blue **Sir Colin Davis** has been associated with the London Symphony Orchestra for over 50 years.





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From the moment I attended an Open Day at Christ's Hospital I knew that this was where I wanted to spend my Sixth Form years.



Sixth Form

The Sixth Form experience at Christ's Hospital provides excellent preparation for a university career. Tutorials are highly conducive to effective learning and the specialist talks given by guest speakers from politicians to astronauts ensure that students develop a thirst for knowledge and a strong ambition to achieve.

Life as a Sixth Former at Christ's Hospital is privileged and exciting but it is also challenging. Entrants must display a strong desire to succeed in their academic undertakings and be predicted grades of A or A* in at least 6 GCSE subjects.

Progress is monitored closely by tutors and students are expected to meet high standards and adhere to deadlines. Despite this, the need for Sixth Formers to have freedom to arrange their own social activities and private study time is respected. Life as a Sixth Form boarder provides an excellent stepping stone towards a university career where, in order to be successful, students must have the initiative and discipline to organise their own study responsibly.

There are two routes of study available to Christ's Hospital Sixth Formers: A Levels and the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB). Pupils choosing to study A Levels select four AS subjects to study in the Lower Sixth, three of which they will continue to study as A2 subjects in the Upper Sixth.

Alternatively, the IB has a strong international focus and requires the study of a language as well as a humanities subject, mathematics, science and the Arts. This broad approach to study cultivates strong lateral thinking skills which makes IB students particularly appealing to employers.

The national average for 18-23 year olds going on to higher education is approximately 35%. At Christ's Hospital 95% of students choose to take this route, illustrating the school's commitment to helping all students reach their full potential.



Renowned lawyer...

...Old Blue **Baroness Deech** former Principal of St Anne's College Oxford.





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The atmosphere created by staff and students at Christ's Hospital is one where you are actively encouraged to try new things.

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Co-curricular

In today's competitive culture it is important for young people to be well-rounded and possess a variety of skills and talents. Pupils from Christ's Hospital often stand out from their peers thanks to the skill set they acquire during their school life.

The co-curricular activities on offer include Scouts, the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, Combined Cadet Force and Community Action, not to mention a myriad of theatrical, musical and sporting opportunities. An appreciation for the wider world is gained through overseas exchanges, study visits and work experience, widening students' horizons and teaching them to greet life with an open mind.

Students are encouraged to initiate their own groups and events and are given full support to do so. There is no pressure at Christ's Hospital to undertake every activity available, just positive encouragement to ensure that even the quietest pupils maximise their potential and leave the school as confident, sociable and balanced young adults.

Christ's Hospital recognises that all children are individuals with different interests and talents, but one thing that all the pupils have in common is that they leave the school ready to take on the world and get the most out of life. It is no coincidence that many notable academics, scientists, musicians and sports people were educated at Christ's Hospital; success which is in no small part due to their excellent education.

Young people who are given the remarkable opportunity to learn at Christ's Hospital will not only receive the very best in academic excellence but will also be surrounded by adventure, opportunity and enthusiasm at every stage of his or her school life.



Sporting hero...

...Old Blue **Dennis Silk**, international cricketer and past president of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).





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The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

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Vision

Since we opened our doors in 1552 Christ's Hospital has been offering children from all backgrounds the chance to experience a life-changing educational opportunity. Today our facilities are more modern and our resources more abundant than ever but our ethos remains unchanged – we are committed to providing children from all walks of life the opportunity to enjoy a first-class education.

By becoming a pupil of Christ's Hospital your son or daughter will be following in the footsteps of people who have made remarkable contributions to the world we live in. He or she will be encouraged and supported at every level and provided with the best teachers, resources and facilities to help them shine in whatever academic and co-curricular areas they choose to pursue.

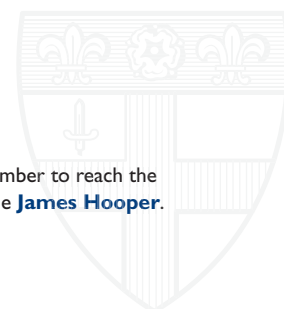
Our vision is to nurture confident, intelligent and broad-minded young adults. Fortunately this is a vision we see realised year on year when our pupils leave Christ's Hospital and go on to fulfill their ambitions in their chosen studies and careers.

We look forward to welcoming your children into our unique school where they will enjoy a remarkable educational experience as pupils of Christ's Hospital have done for hundreds of years before them.



On top of the world...

...Old Blue **Rob Gauntlett**, youngest climber to reach the summit of Mount Everest with Old Blue **James Hooper**.





CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

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