



# OSH

OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL

## sixth form

2021-22 e-Prospectus





# develop... ...who you are



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# Headmaster's Welcome

Your Sixth Form at Old Swinford Hospital is a springboard to your future.

We have been sending capable and confident young people into the wider world for over 350 years. Students at OSH learn to be critically minded and creative problem solvers, grounded and measured communicators and, most importantly, team players.

We feel that the qualities we instil in our young people are the qualities which our world genuinely needs. We know that a successful life after school depends on adaptability, resilience and also compassion. Our Sixth Form has a track record of developing these qualities in people because, like our wider school, it places tremendous value on getting to know you and getting the best out of you as an individual.

Our unique academic and support package offers a rounded programme in a school sixth form setting.

Joining OSH as a flexi, weekly or full boarder may not be on your radar for sixth form but it's a hugely valuable step in developing independence and I encourage you to consider it to make the most of all that OSH has to offer. Weekly tailored boarding, where you choose how many nights you stay in each week, is a popular option for local families.

It is a place that celebrates who you are and what you can achieve. And I hope that you will choose Old Swinford Hospital as the institution to develop your knowledge, skills and character.

This year's prospectus is digitised and I encourage you to look at our website and YouTube webpages to find out further information, or alternatively contact the school directly and we'll be happy to speak to you about your options

**Paul Kilbride MA (Oxon), NPQH, FRSA**  
Headmaster




# Our Entry Options

You can join Old Swinford Hospital Sixth Form in one of three ways:

**Day Student**  
Attend school from 08.30 to 15.45  
for your scheduled lessons  
Attend subject support and certain  
clubs  
No cost

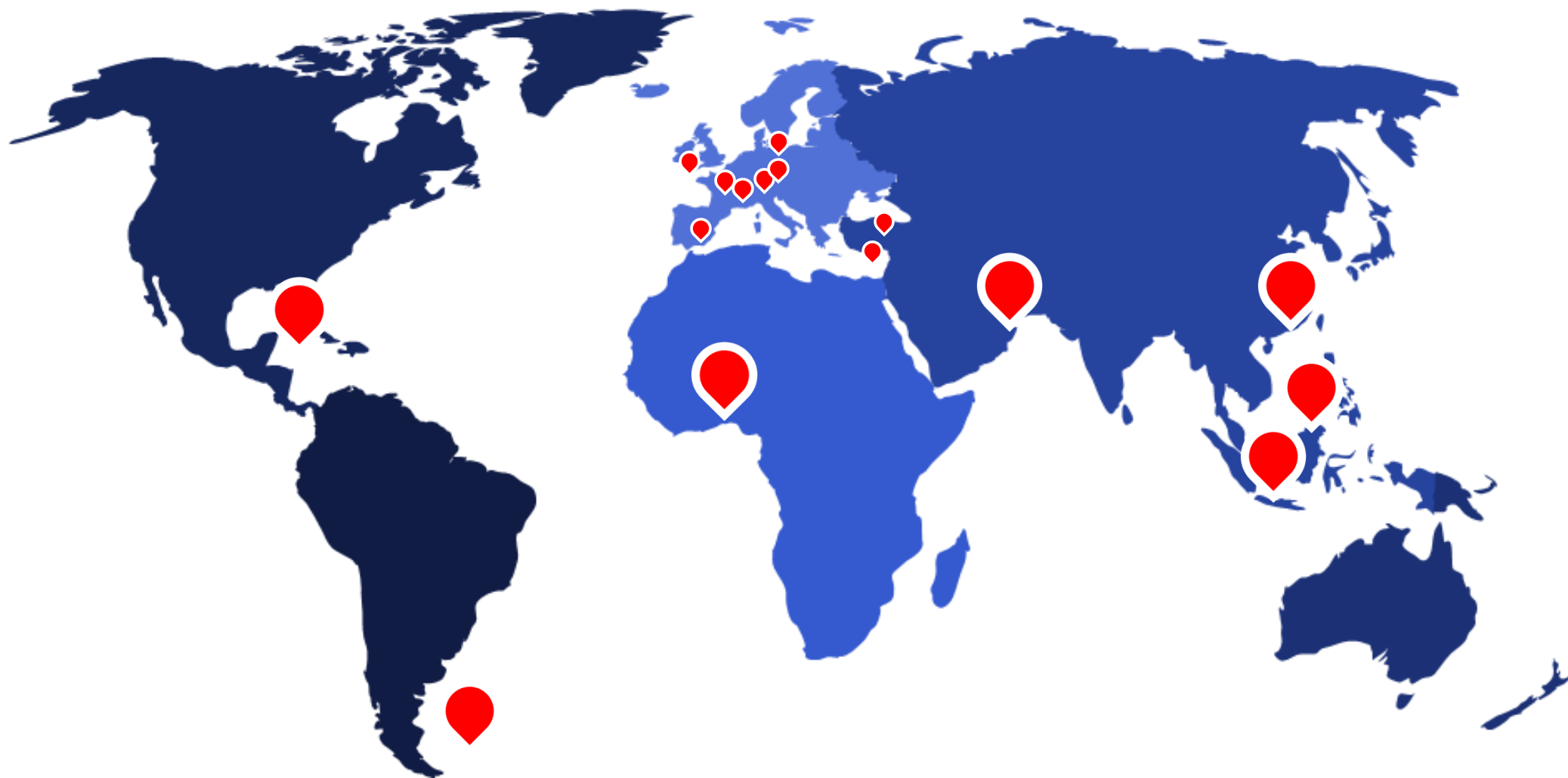
**Weekly/Termly Boarder**  
Present in school during the week or term.  
Access to all support and club groups  
Stay overnight in one of our boarding  
houses  
  
Click here to find out more  
<https://www.oshsch.com/boarding-school/>

**Flexi-Boarder**  
Attend school from 07.30 until late into the  
evening for your scheduled lessons, as well  
as extra study space and evening meals  
  
Access to all support and club groups  
Ability to stay overnight on certain days  
  
Click here to find out more  
<https://www.oshsch.com/boarding-school/>

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

June 2019  
Boarding  
Inspection

A map showing some of our recent international boarders homes



# Our Story

1666 was a notable year in the history of our nation. England, recovering from the ravages of Civil War, was the subject of ridicule across the continent following defeat against the Dutch, and with unpopular decisions made by its ruler Charles II now appeared to have few allies among its European neighbours. The year also saw England gripped in an epidemic the size of which had not been seen since the Black Death and when matters looked like they couldn't get any worse a devastating fire tore through the heart of its capital.

Yet, 1666 is recorded in English history as being a *annus mirabilis* or 'wonderful year'. At a time when England was under threat, the academic community made considerable steps forward. Isaac Newton's revolutionary discoveries on calculus and gravitation were made in this year. Parliament, following plague and fire, made crucial developments in civil engineering and architectural planning to prevent further disasters. Samuel Pepys was busy writing diary entries which he wouldn't have possibly considered would hold such an important place in the disciplines of literature and history. This was an era of enlightenment, a time where thinkers were encouraged to break the mould and established practices.

History never repeats itself, but it does often rhyme. The parallels between 1666 and 2020 are clear to see. A nation being forced into adaptation, with the best minds working together to ensure social and economic survival.

1666 and 2020 will also go down as momentous years in the history of this school. As the Great Fire of London burned through London, entrepreneur and politician Thomas Foley lost several of his factories and stockpiles. Kidderminster preacher Richard Baxter persuaded Foley to think about what he could give back, along the lines of Romans 12: if your 'gift is to give, then give generously'. 1666 was the birth of the idea of our school. At a time of great uncertainty and peril, Foley invested his fortune, his time and his knowledge into ensuring that the next generation were better equipped in dealing with problems which came their way. The idea was a new and exciting concept. Build a charitable or 'hospital' school for local Black Country boys. Ensure they were fed and clothed in a safe and secure environment and train them to be tomorrow's leaders.

The idea worked.

For over 350 years, Old Foleyans have made notable achievements in an array of fields (have a look at our alumni lists to spot several notable names).

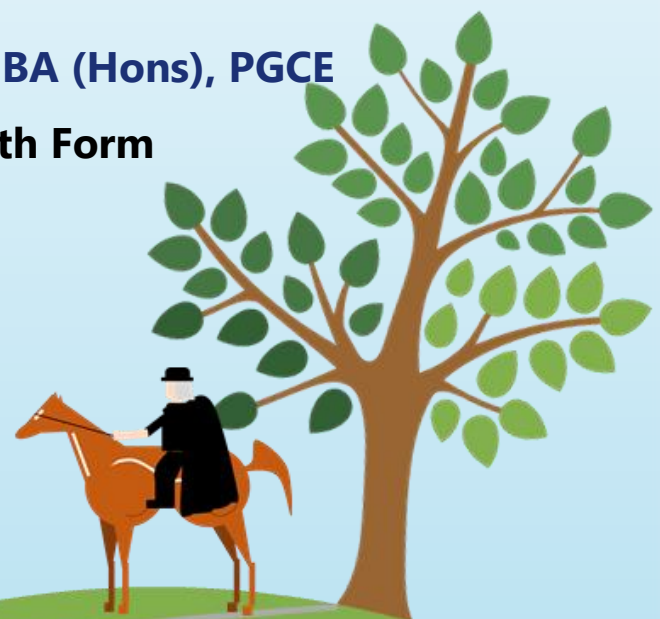
Perhaps the reason for this history of success is that OSH has always had a history of adaptation. Students don't take for granted what has come before and seek to change to meet the demands of the time.

And in 2020 we as a community are embarking on an era of change. The school has had approval to become co-educational for our Year 7 entry so we will be able to offer our full programme to both girls and boys in the forthcoming years. The challenge of Covid-19 has led to staff producing virtual lessons for self-isolating students and understanding how technology can enhance learning has come on leaps and bounds.

On the school's 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Headmaster asked guests, Old Foleyans and current students and staff to consider what Thomas Foley would have thought of his legacy as he looked down from Old Swinford Cross onto Founders building. It is not the brick and mortar of the wonderful Founders buildings, but his values that we live, and that we take out into the wider world that are the legacy of Thomas Foley and I hope that upon consideration you are able embark on your own journey by attending OSH.

**Robert Orr, BA (Hons), PGCE**

**Head of Sixth Form**



# Your Sixth Form Journey at OSH

Students at Old Swinford Hospital complete either 3 or 4 A Level/BTEC subjects in combination.



## Getting in

Along with subject specific requirements, students will need the minimum grade requirement of GCSE Grade 5 or above in at least six subjects, including English and Maths



## The School Day

Students have 5 lessons per week per subject. Students attend tutorials at 8.30am and are expected to be in school during independent study periods.



## Independent Study

Students with no timetabled lesson will work in the sixth form centre, or boarding house if they are boarders.



## Privileges

Students can sign out at lunchtime to get their lunch if they wish and can sign out in the afternoon if they have no more remaining lessons that day.



## Support

Tailored and ranging support available for students seeking clarification or help in their subjects or with their own wellbeing.



## Enrichment

Students are expected to commit to a Wednesday PM Games slot and commit to an academic enrichment offer e.g. EPQ, Thinking Skills, MedSoc etc.



## Prospects

One to one support for applications to competitive pathways from staff and external professionals.



## Academic Rigour

Timed Questions (TQs) ensure regular routine examination practice, as well as intervention and monitoring support.



# Our Subjects

In this year's e-prospectus, you can click on each icon to take you to our website pages for each subject outlining the course structure, entry requirements and pathways you can embark upon by studying that subject.

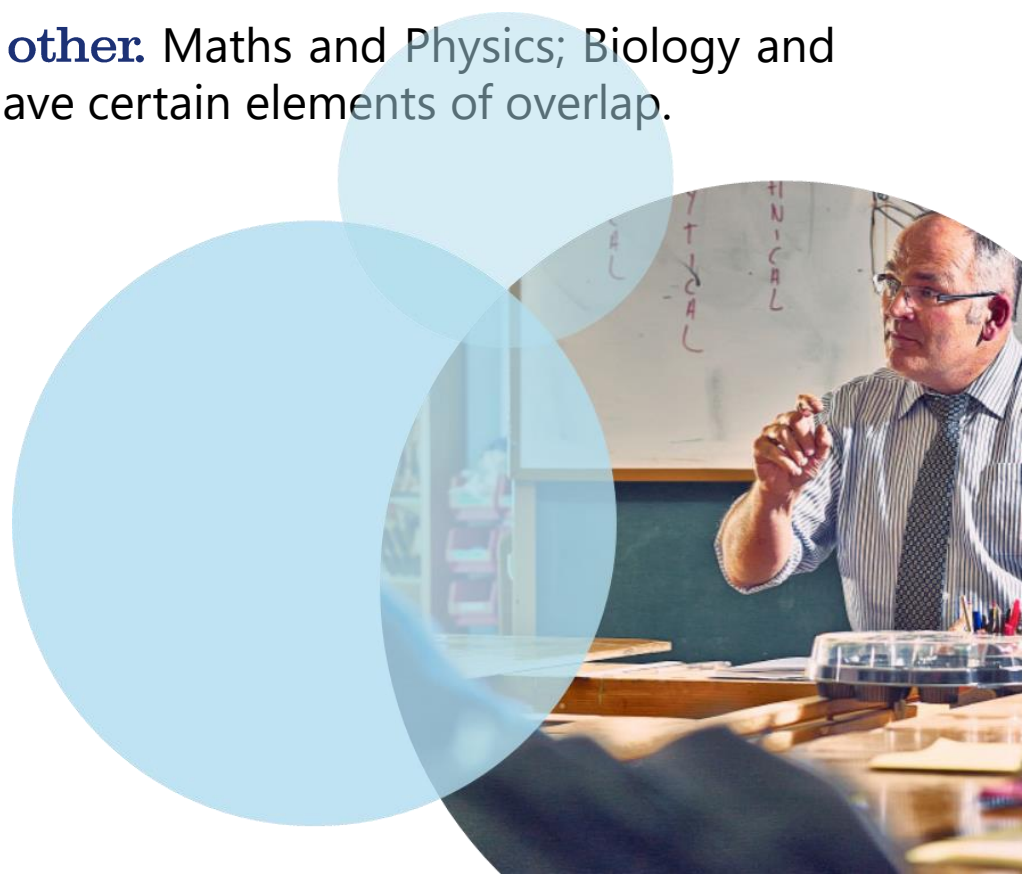




# How to choose your subjects

Working out what options to choose may seem straight-forward for some people but it is crucial for students to pick their correct combinations. Before you decide it is important to consider:

- 1. What you enjoy studying currently.** Remember you will only be studying three or four subjects in Sixth Form. Picking a subject because 'it may look good' or 'it's what someone has told me' is never a good idea.
- 2. What subjects are required for future career aspirations you may have.** For many university courses certain A level subjects are required. For example, to progress to study Medicine, you will almost certainly need to study Biology and Chemistry. For Engineering, you will generally need Maths and Physics. Speak to a member of the Sixth Form team during your applications to find out which subjects may be required. If you're not sure about what you want to do after Sixth Form study, that is completely normal. Make sure you choose what you enjoy and a range of subjects.
- 3. What subjects you are particularly adept at studying.** Our entry requirements list specific needs for subjects. They are there to state your suitability for studying that course.
- 4. What combinations work well with each other.** Maths and Physics; Biology and Chemistry; History and Politics - some subjects have certain elements of overlap.



# Our Enrichment Programme

The following video links offer a flavour of the co-curricular opportunities available at OSH.  
Please note this is only a small selection.









# How to Apply

## 1 Find out more

- **Visit:** [www.oshsch.com](http://www.oshsch.com)
- **Contact:** Our Registrar will be pleased to answer any questions you may have concerning eligibility or the admissions process.
- **Tel:** +44 (0) 1384 817325
- **Email:** [admissions@oshsch.com](mailto:admissions@oshsch.com)

## 2 Register

- **Deadlines: Boarding Place - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**Day Place – 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**
- Please register using the online form which is available on the website:  
[www.oshsch.com/registration-form2/](http://www.oshsch.com/registration-form2/)
- Once you have registered we will contact you with details of the process.
- Admission to OSH is regulated by the Governors' Admissions Policy and the statutory School Admissions code, which support our commitment to provide a supportive, stimulating and caring environment in which all our students are able to grow, both individually and as part of a community.
- To be eligible for admissions to OSH at time of printing, all applicants must have full UK or EU/EEA, Swiss, Norwegian or Icelandic nationality or have other approved residential status within the UK.

## 3 Come and visit us

- With current social distancing measures this might not be possible at specific points. We are however aiming to offer smaller tours and will notify applicants when it is appropriate.



# Testimonials from former students

## Kat Holmes, graduate of 2018

I threw myself in to life at OSH – it is so much more than a place to study for A-Levels. During my time there, I was a part of six different music groups; started a mentoring scheme for A level Maths; and took part in foreign trips – a music tour of Germany and a physics trip to Geneva to visit the CERN research facility. Not only did all of these co-curricular activities make my day to day life more enjoyable, they strengthened my friendships and gave me lots to talk about on my personal statement, making my university application a much easier process! I did so much during my time at OSH, I couldn't possibly pick a favourite moment. In my opinion, OSH is the perfect choice for anyone who wants a sixth form experience in a real community, and if you're eager to learn and willing to give things a go and put in some effort, your time there will be spectacular.

Kat is currently studying Physics at the University of Birmingham after achieving A\*A\*A\* at A-Level



## Johnson Tam, graduate of 2012

Looking back at OSH, the teaching was always of a high standard and teachers used their experience to get the best out of each student. I was in an environment where I was motivated to learn and a lot of this derived from the passion shown by the teachers on their subject. One of the most memorable moments in my A level studies was when I struggled to understand a topic which impacted my AS exam result. My Biology teacher knew my ambitions; and not only did she give me extra teaching materials, she also took the time after classes to help me identify my weak areas. I have taken recently to returning to OSH during their careers events to advertise the benefits of working in the medical field

Johnson has just completed a Medicine Undergraduate degree at the University of Bristol (MBChB)

## Adam Finch, graduate of 2018

During my time at OSH I was given valuable extra support and guidance from teaching and pastoral staff alike to enable me to achieve my cricketing ambitions. From long distance support to help me study while I was overseas with the England Under 19 squad, to guidance around my chosen A levels, the staff enabled me to make the best of my time at OSH Sixth Form. Since leaving OSH I have continued with my cricketing career, I am currently under contract with Worcestershire County Cricket Club and have taken part in the England Under 19 ODI and test series based here in England.

Adam is currently playing professional cricket for Worcestershire CCC



## Jack Davis, graduate of 2019

I believe that Miss Sparks, our Sixth Form supervisor, was the first to open my eyes to options for the future. Her advice during UCAS week began my research into higher apprenticeship opportunities. I think the main thing that helped me in my subjects were the teachers who made themselves available through support sessions or one to one help. In particular, the Maths and Physics departments were open to help with any of my queries or worries no matter how simple they were.

Jack has begun a Higher Apprenticeship with Price Waterhouse Cooper after achieving AAA at A level

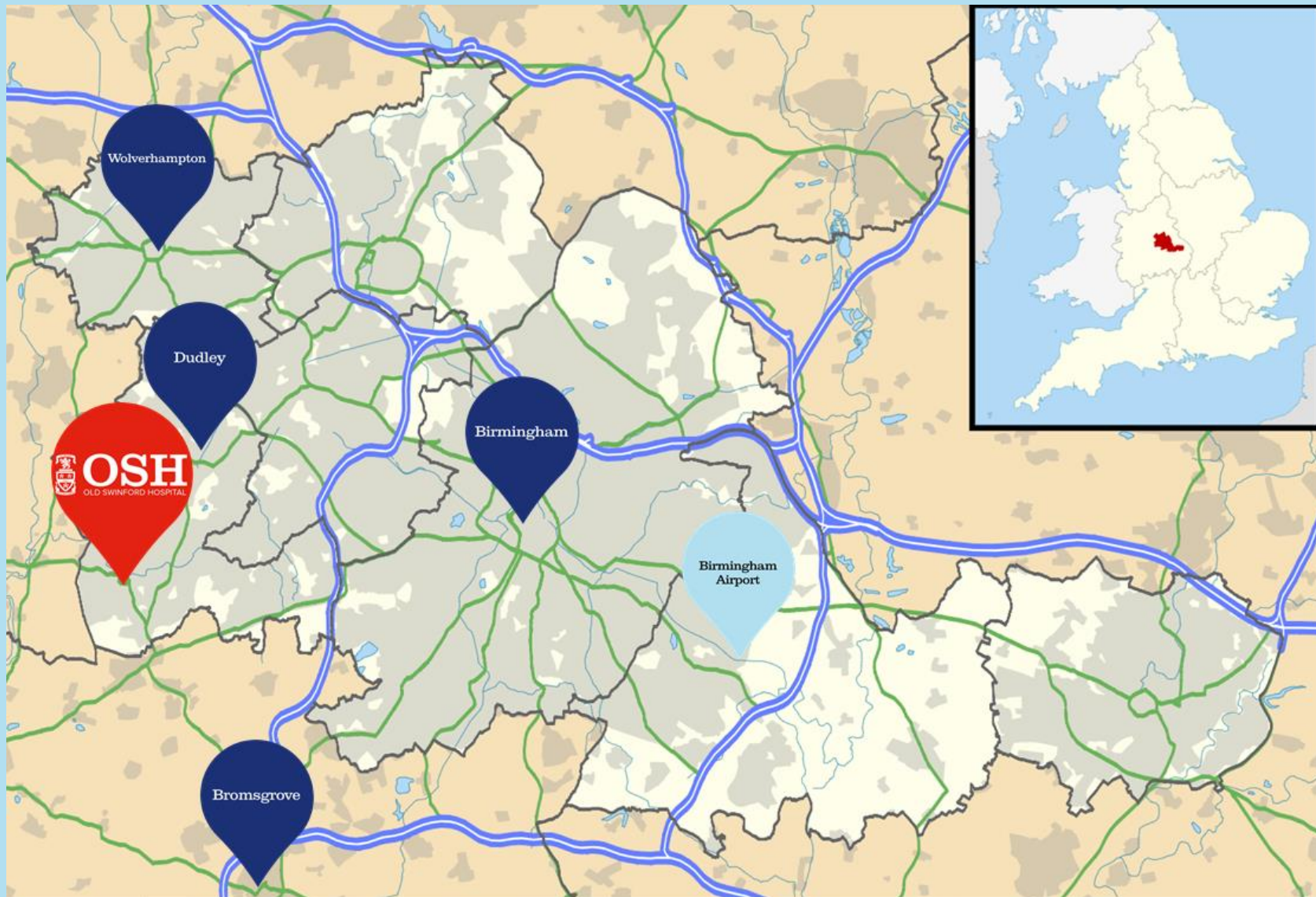
## Pippa Grossett, graduate of 2014

My time at Old Swinford was socially enriching, academically challenging, and the perfect preparation for both my A-levels and further studies at university. I joined OSH from the Isles of Scilly and stayed with a local host family which allowed me to enjoy all that OSH had to offer and to continue my education away from home. With a strong focus on community, I was able to play an active role in the boarding houses with house plays, musical performances, and even the odd sports day appearance! Alongside the rigour of the A-level syllabus, the Duke of Edinburgh award, house duties, and prefect commitments ensured that whilst I did my best academically, I would also leave the school a well-rounded individual.

Pippa has recently achieved a first class honours degree from the University of Greenwich

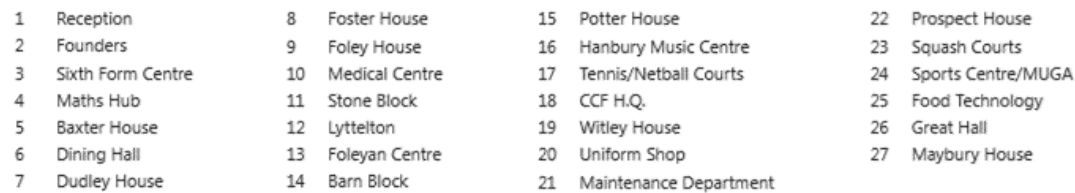


# Our Location



- ✓ 10 minute walk to Stourbridge Junction Train Station with direct lines to London, Birmingham, Stratford, Kidderminster, Droitwich, Worcester, Malvern
- ✓ 10 minute walk to Stourbridge Bus Interchange with lines to Kingswinford, Dudley, Wolverhampton and many more
- ✓ 45mins by car to Birmingham International Airport
- ✓ Within commutable car distance from all across the West Midlands





Follow us –



@osh sch



@OSH6th



## Old Swinford Hospital

**View us** – look at our YouTube channel at [Old Swinford Hospital Sixth Form](#) and [Old Swinford Hospital](#)

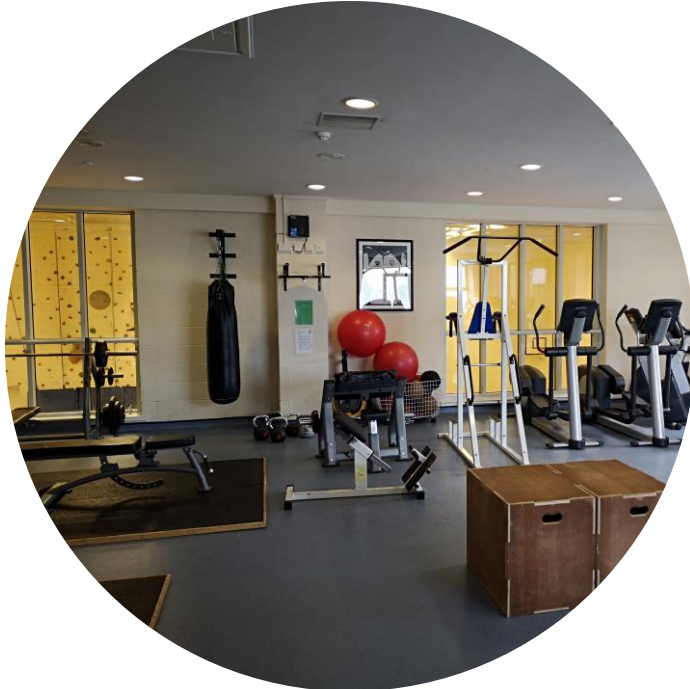
**Visit us** – arrange a meeting with our registrar once social distancing allow for effective tours

**Join us** – By visiting our website or speaking to our Registrar <https://www.oshsch.com/admissions-2/>













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