



# IPSWICH SCHOOL

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## SENIOR SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS





# Experiences, Memories, Friendships.



## Welcome

FROM THE HEAD

**My aspiration for an Ipswich School education is that it will be enjoyed and be enjoyable. It is why I talk regularly of hoping that Ipswich School pupils will acquire “experiences, memories, friendships” during their time here.**

Yes, there will be important things to be achieved and accomplished, notably by way of the outstanding environment of academic success that we are so fortunate to have in place here. However, it will be experiences that help shape the person that an Ipswich School pupil will become; it will be memories of special moments that they will treasure long after they have left us; and they will have created, cultivated and invested in friendships that will support and enrich them in their future endeavours, whatever they might be.

An Ipswich School education will develop in our pupils a sense of gratitude for the opportunities and privileges that they have enjoyed and an understanding of the importance of service and of consideration for others. And, by the time they leave us, they will depart with ambition, with optimism and with self-confidence, equipped with a body of academic knowledge and a portfolio of skills for life.

From that point onwards, their “extraordinary future” is up to them!



**Nick Gregory**  
Head



## ACADEMIC APPROACH

### Where potential meets possibility.

We treat every pupil as an individual; nurturing their talents, sparking curiosity and helping them achieve their very best.

Our curriculum offers breadth, balance and flexibility, with opportunities far beyond the classroom:

- A wide choice of languages
- Enrichment and activities that broaden horizons
- Specialist support for the academically gifted
- Extra clinics for every subject, every day

This is where academic excellence and personal growth go hand in hand, preparing pupils to create extraordinary futures.

20+

subjects at both  
GCSE and A Level

Commitment to  
Latin, Classics and  
Modern Languages  
(French, German,  
Spanish)

BTEC sport and Exercise  
Science available in  
Sixth Form

Individual successes in  
national competitions  
in Computing, Maths,  
Essay-Writing, Translation,  
Science Olympiads,  
Debating etc.

## TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

At Ipswich School, we believe that learning flourishes when curiosity is nurtured and individuality is celebrated. Our teachers inspire pupils to think critically, ask questions, and approach challenges with confidence. Lessons are designed to cultivate resilience, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning. With small class sizes and close teacher-pupil relationships, every child feels seen, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

## BREADTH OF CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is deliberately broad, offering pupils the chance to explore their interests and discover new passions. From modern and classical languages to the arts, sciences, and humanities, every pupil can shape their learning journey. Enrichment activities, clubs, and competitions develop leadership, teamwork, and global awareness. Whether debating, coding, performing, or exploring the natural world, Ipswich School encourages curiosity, creativity, and confidence.

## SUPPORTED LEARNING

Every pupil learns differently, and our approach ensures support is personalised and proactive. Specialist programs assist those with learning differences, while extension opportunities challenge the academically gifted. Extra clinics and one-to-one guidance provide targeted help, ensuring every pupil has the tools to thrive. Pastoral care is embedded alongside academic support, helping pupils build resilience, self-belief, and the confidence to embrace new challenges.



**Our pupils are  
encouraged to  
think creatively  
and courageously.**





## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

**Consistently outstanding results, opening doors to extraordinary futures.**

At Ipswich School, academic excellence is built on the foundation of personalised teaching, breadth of curriculum, and unwavering support. Our pupils are challenged to aim high and inspired to achieve their very best; year after year, our results reflect the success of this approach.

### EXAM HIGHLIGHTS 2025

#### A Level (139 students)

52% A\*–A

82% A\*–B

96% A\*–C

#### GCSE

35%+ grades 8 & 9; 60% at 7 and above; 99% of all 139 pupils secured at least seven subjects at 4 or above.

These results are more than just numbers; they represent the dedication, curiosity, and hard work of our pupils, supported by expert teaching and a nurturing environment. Strong performance across all subjects ensures that every pupil is well-prepared for the next step, whether that's the UK's top universities or exciting opportunities around the world.

### OPENING DOORS TO THE FUTURE

Our pupils' achievements reflect the Ipswich School ethos: personal growth, academic challenge, and the confidence to pursue ambitious goals. With results like these, they leave us ready not just to succeed, but to thrive, making a positive impact wherever their journey takes them.

**278**

students sat A Level  
or GCSE exams  
in 2025

**80%**

of Y13 students  
secured places at their  
First Choice

Average outcome at  
A Level equivalent to

**AAB**

**We want all our pupils  
to help write the next  
chapter of our history.**





## SPORT AT IPSWICH SCHOOL

**Sport is central to life at Ipswich School.**

Our programme nurtures character, confidence, and skill through meaningful, challenging experiences. Pupils compete nationally while developing lifelong qualities such as leadership, teamwork, and resilience. Ipswich School sport is about more than winning, it's about discovering potential and enjoying the journey.

### The Four Principles:

- **Passion** – Love for sport that inspires motivation and well-being
- **Potential** – Nurturing individual abilities and confidence
- **Performance** – Striving for excellence and continuous improvement
- **Participation** – Inclusive, accessible and fun for all students

# Passion, Potential, Performance, Participation.



### RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS:







“I know I’ll be friends  
with this team forever.”

Laila, Year 13



**FOCUS SPORTS:**

- **Cricket:** National titles, year-round fixtures, pathways to county teams
- **Hockey:** Nationally ranked girls’ teams, technical coaching
- **Netball:** Competitive inter-school play, inclusive squads
- **Rugby:** Structured development from Junior to 1st XV

Ipswich School offers a wide range of additional sports, giving students the chance to explore new challenges and interests. Cross country, badminton, tennis, athletics, skiing, squash, table tennis, and fitness classes ensure every student can find a sport to suit their skills and passions.

**OTHER HEADLINES:**

- Two 2025 leavers awarded professional contracts at Northampton Saints Rugby
- Rugby players from all over the globe represent us: Georgia, Italy, The Netherlands and New Zealand
- National titles in Eton Fives for both boys’ and girls’ pairs
- Senior Girls’ Cross Country team were 2025 national finalists

**COACHING EXCELLENCE:**

- Former professional athletes and national-level coaches
- Specialists in performance analysis, strength & conditioning, and injury prevention
- Teachers committed to long-term development, mentoring students on and off the field

Ipswich School provides facilities that support elite performance and inclusive participation: Sports Centre at Rushmere, indoor sports hall, floodlit astro pitches, cricket pavilion, strength & conditioning suite, athletics track, squash and fives courts, swimming pool, and dance & aerobics studio. Students develop their potential in an environment designed for excellence, enjoyment, and lifelong engagement in sport.







## MUSIC AT IPSWICH SCHOOL

**Music is at the heart of school life, from the Lower School to Sixth Form. Pupils of all abilities are encouraged to explore their talents, whether as enthusiastic beginners or specialist musicians.**

Our ensembles, choirs, and individual lessons; across piano, strings, brass, percussion, guitar, keyboard, harp, and woodwind, provide countless opportunities to perform and shine.

With expert staff and outstanding facilities, including the 400-seat Great School concert hall with a Steinway grand piano, and the 200-seat Little School with a Grotrian-Steinweg grand piano, Ipswich School is a place where musicians thrive and passion meets excellence.

**“The brilliance of Ipswich School Music is a jewel to be cherished, preserved and protected.”**







## SPRING CONCERT

Each year, Ipswich School's Spring Concert brings together pupils of all ages at the iconic Snape Maltings Concert Hall. Showcasing a wide range of ensembles, from choir and orchestras to Big Band, this annual highlight demonstrates the school's musical excellence and energy, with performances that rival professional standards.

"The breadth, depth, and sheer quality of music in the 2025 version of Ipswich School is truly extraordinary."



40+

different ensemble or  
group rehearsals every  
single week

3 of our  
quartets/  
trios

making the national semis  
in the "Pro Corda" for  
Chamber Music

Our Senior String  
Trio making the  
**National  
Final**

Circa  
**400**

individual lessons with  
Visiting Music Teachers  
every single week

**Music  
Tour**

to Memphis, Nashville  
and New Orleans in  
October 2025

"Performing with the  
orchestra at Snape gave  
me such a memorable  
experience."

*Tristan, Year 13*







## THE CREATIVE ARTS AT IPSWICH SCHOOL

**Drama, Art, and Design are central to life at Ipswich School, giving pupils the chance to explore creativity to the fullest.**

Our programme encourages experimentation, innovation, and refinement of skills, both inside the classroom and beyond. Students bring their talents to theatrical productions, art exhibitions, and educational trips, developing confidence, resilience, and a love of creative expression. New facilities provide a stimulating environment for learning and performance, ensuring the Creative Arts flourish for years to come.

Alumni of Ipswich School go on to achieve distinction in theatre, television, architecture, and design, reflecting the lasting impact of a rich creative education.

A LEVEL  
(2022-25)  
GRADES A\* - B  
**88%**  
ART

A LEVEL  
(2022-25)  
GRADES A\* - B  
**97%**  
DRAMA

A LEVEL  
(2022-25)  
GRADES A\* - B  
**88%**  
DT

GCSE  
(2022-25)  
GRADES 9-4  
**100%**

“I never  
knew I  
could  
feel this  
confident.”





## DRAMA

### Imagination in Action

Drama at Ipswich School is a rigorous academic subject, combining theory and practice. Students study performance techniques, script analysis, and theatre history, while applying their learning in workshops, school productions, and competitions.

Drama develops skills that extend far beyond the stage:

- Communication and presentation
- Collaboration and leadership
- Creative problem-solving and analytical thinking

Our curriculum balances academic study with practical experience, ensuring pupils graduate with confidence, skill, and a deep understanding of dramatic arts.

## ART

### Academic and Expressive

Art at Ipswich School is taught as a full academic subject, not merely a hobby. Pupils can specialise in Fine Art, Photography, or Textiles, developing both practical skills and critical understanding.

- Fine Art: Drawing, painting, mixed-media and study of historical and contemporary practice.
- Photography: Technical and creative photography, digital editing and visual storytelling.
- Textiles: Design, pattern-making, and innovative material use, combining creativity and problem-solving.

Students benefit from dedicated studios, specialist equipment, and small-group teaching that nurtures individual talent. Work is regularly exhibited within the school and externally, reinforcing that Art is academically rigorous and personally rewarding.

## DESIGN

### Creativity meets Innovation

Design is taught as an academic subject, combining creativity with technical skill and problem-solving. Pupils explore product design, digital design, and materials technology, working on projects that require planning, analysis, and innovation.

Lessons integrate theory and practical application, emphasising sustainability, design thinking, and real-world challenges. Students graduate with a portfolio of work that demonstrates creativity, discipline, and intellectual rigour.

**At Ipswich  
School, creativity  
is valued, taught,  
and celebrated...  
academic study  
and artistic  
passion go hand  
in hand.**







## LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE, AND SKILLS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

**At Ipswich School, the CCF offers pupils a unique opportunity to develop leadership, resilience, and teamwork in a structured and adventurous environment.**

Students engage in military-style training across the Army, Navy, and RAF sections, taking part in field exercises, navigation, first aid, and leadership challenges on school grounds, local training areas, and national camps.

The CCF is closely linked with the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award, providing a pathway for students to achieve Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards through expeditions, community service, and skill development. Many cadets combine their CCF training with their DofE activities, gaining recognition for both commitment and achievement.

### **Adventure Beyond the UK:**

- Georgia – Summer 2024: Trekking, mountaineering and cultural exploration in the Caucasus.
- Vietnam – Summer 2026: Expedition combining navigation, community projects, and adventure challenges.

### **On-Site and Local Activities Include:**

- Fieldcraft and camping exercises at local training areas
- Orienteering and navigation challenges in the Suffolk countryside
- Team-building exercises and leadership workshops
- Shooting, kayaking and adventure sports under expert supervision

The CCF and Adventure Programme encourage independence, confidence, and lifelong skills, preparing students not only for academic success but also for challenges beyond school.

**“I know I can  
rely on myself in  
every situation.”**

*Autumn, Year 11*







## BOARDING AT IPSWICH SCHOOL

**We provide a welcoming, home-from-home boarding experience within our safe and beautiful grounds in Ipswich.**

Westwood Boys' Boarding House is a Victorian mansion set in wooded grounds, just a five-minute walk from the main school site, while Anglesea Heights Girls' and Sixth Form Boarding Houses offer modern ensuite facilities, providing an experience similar to a university hall of residence. All our boarders benefit from a friendly and supportive environment, where they can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

We understand that every family has different needs, which is why we offer both full and weekly boarding. Flexi boarding is an increasingly popular choice for families who live within reach of Ipswich School, offering pupils the perfect balance between school and home life. It allows them to stay on top of their academic work, enjoy co-curricular activities, and socialise with friends, while also providing a reliable safety net should family circumstances change.



### A RICH CO-CURRICULAR LIFE

- Explore sports, arts, music, drama, coding and outdoor adventures.
- Ignite curiosity, creativity and collaboration.
- Discover new passions beyond the classroom.

### GUIDED INDEPENDENCE

- Build confidence, resilience, and time management.
- Make decisions and take responsibility with support.
- Grow personally and academically in a safe environment.

### A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

- Live in a vibrant, multicultural community.
- Develop empathy, communication and cultural awareness.
- Forge friendships across cultures with confidence.



# Ipswich School Boarding is going places!





WHY BOARD AT  
IPSWICH SCHOOL?

Boarding at Ipswich School offers the warmth of a close-knit community and the excitement of extraordinary opportunities every day. Pupils live in modern, comfortable houses where they are cared for by dedicated staff who put wellbeing first. Friendships formed here often last a lifetime.

Living on site gives boarders the freedom and time to make the most of school life; from stretching themselves academically to taking part in sport, music, drama and weekend activities. Boarding nurtures confidence, independence and resilience, giving pupils skills and memories that stay with them long after they leave.

And with excellent transport links, including fast connections to London, Ipswich School is easily accessible for families both in the UK and overseas.

QUICK FACTS:

3  
boarding  
houses

welcoming pupils from  
Year 7 upwards

Rich blend of  
Weekend  
trips and  
activities

Flexible  
boarding  
options

Only  
1 hour

from London  
by train

Excellent  
pastoral care  
staff  
available  
24/7

Almost  
100  
boarding  
pupils



“The friends  
I’ve made have  
been the best  
thing about  
Boarding.”

Alice, Year 10







## CAREERS & FUTURES

### Preparing for extraordinary futures.

The Sixth Form at Ipswich School is about more than academic success, it's about building confidence, independence, and a clear sense of direction. Pupils benefit from outstanding teaching, tailored guidance, and enriching co-curricular opportunities that together create a strong foundation for life beyond school.

**“The School gave me the opportunity, guidance and contacts to do what I now love.”**

*Cara Peters: Bloomberg Degree Apprentice at London Institute of Banking and Finance. Leaver in 2024.*

## PERSONALISED GUIDANCE

Every pupil receives individual support to explore future pathways, whether that's applying to the UK's top universities, prestigious international institutions, competitive apprenticeships, or planning a gap year that broadens horizons. Dedicated staff guide students through the UCAS process, personal statements, and interview preparation, ensuring they feel confident and well-prepared.

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Clubs, societies, and sports enrich Sixth Form life, encouraging collaboration, leadership, and curiosity. From debating to drama, enterprise to volunteering, pupils develop the skills and self-belief that employers and universities value most.

## OLD IPSWICHIAN NETWORK

The Ipswich School journey doesn't end at graduation. The Old Ipswichian network connects pupils to a thriving community of former students across the world. Through mentoring, events and professional connections, it provides ongoing support and inspiration long after school days are over.

Life in the Sixth Form is stimulating, varied, and rewarding; preparing students not only to succeed, but to thrive as they take their next steps with confidence and ambition.







# ADMISSIONS PROCESS GUIDE

## Supporting you every step of the way

We understand that choosing the right school for your child is a big decision. Our admissions process is designed to be clear, supportive and welcoming, helping you navigate each step with confidence. Opposite is a general guide outlining the typical stages for entry into Ipswich School, regardless of year group.

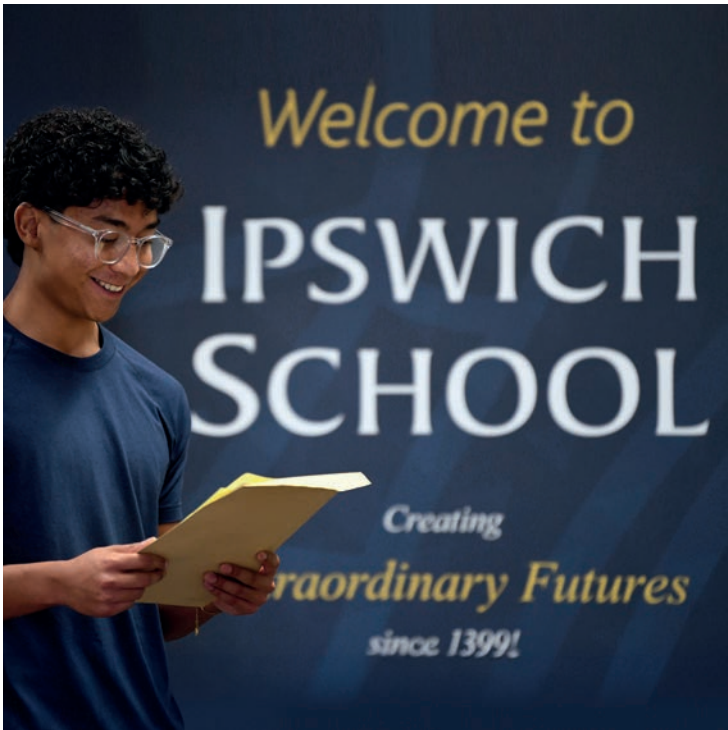
## Need Help?

Our Admissions Team is here to support you throughout the process. If you have any questions or would like to speak to someone about your application, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Specific dates for each stage and entry-specific details are available from the Admissions Team.



**Laura Trainer**  
Admissions Manager



CONTACT DETAILS  
**admissions@ipswich.school**  
**01473 408328**



# OUR ADMISSIONS PROCESS





# GETTING TO IPSWICH SCHOOL

Ipswich School is easy to reach, with excellent transport links by road, rail and air. Whether travelling daily or from further afield, families find our location convenient and well connected.

## DRIVE TIMES

- Cambridge  
75 minutes
- Stansted  
60 minutes
- London  
60 minutes
- Heathrow  
120 minutes



Creating extraordinary travel!

## BY CAR

Ipswich is just minutes from the A12 and A14, with direct routes from London, Cambridge, Norwich and the Midlands. On-site parking is available for visitors.

## BY TRAIN

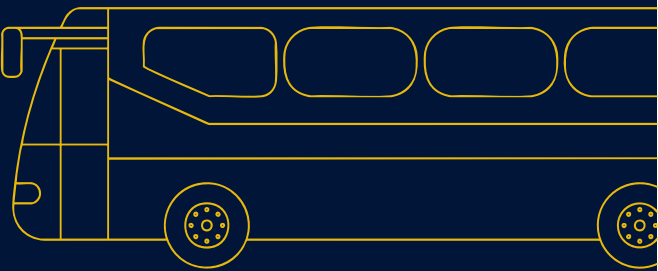
Fast and frequent trains connect Ipswich to London Liverpool Street in under an hour. There are also direct services to Norwich, Cambridge and Peterborough, with connections across the UK. We run Shuttle Buses to and from Ipswich Station.

## BY BUS

Our extensive school bus network (see opposite) covers much of Suffolk and north Essex, with routes designed around pupil journeys. This makes daily travel to and from school straightforward and reliable.

## BY AIR

For international families, London Stansted, London City and Heathrow airports are all within easy reach, providing a wide range of national and international flights.



# BUS ROUTES







## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

Ipswich School has been in existence since at least the 1300s, with a Royal Charter from the 16th Century (initially from Henry VIII and then re-issued by Elizabeth I in 1566), and is the only school mentioned in Shakespeare by way of a reference (in his play “Henry VIII” published in 1613) to Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, perhaps the School’s most famous former pupil: *“Those twins of learning that he rais’d in you, Ipswich and Oxford!”*



# The only school mentioned in Shakespeare!

OURS IS A HISTORY  
PRESERVED IN TIME



## Our Motto: “Semper Eadem”

**“Semper Eadem” was the motto of Queen Elizabeth I who, in 1566, renewed the School’s Royal Charter, previously granted by her father, King Henry VIII.**

William Camden’s 1597 biography of Elizabeth provides an insight into her choice of motto, explaining that she aspired “... to hold an even course in her whole life, and all her actions; whereupon she tooke for her Motto, SEMPER EADEM, that is ALWAYS THE SAME ...”.

Ipswich School’s contemporary interpretation of this motto is “always constant”, with the intention of conveying that we see the motto as generating within us a steadfast sense of purpose, serving as a foundation-stone of our identity, and providing a guiding set of principles that continue to offer direction and inspiration as the School looks into the future.





## CONTACT DETAILS

Inspired? Why not get in touch to book a visit and find out about your extraordinary future!

Contact our Admission Team at **admissions@ipswich.school** or call on **01473 408328**



## WHAT THEY SAID...

“Choosing Ipswich School was the best decision for our family; our child thrives here every day.”

*Ipswich School Parent*

“There’s always something exciting to get involved in, and the teachers genuinely support you to succeed.”

*Ipswich School Student*

“It’s inspiring to teach motivated, curious students in such a supportive and collaborative environment.”

*Staff Member*





# IPSWICH SCHOOL

Creating Extraordinary Futures Since 1399



IPSWICH.SCHOOL