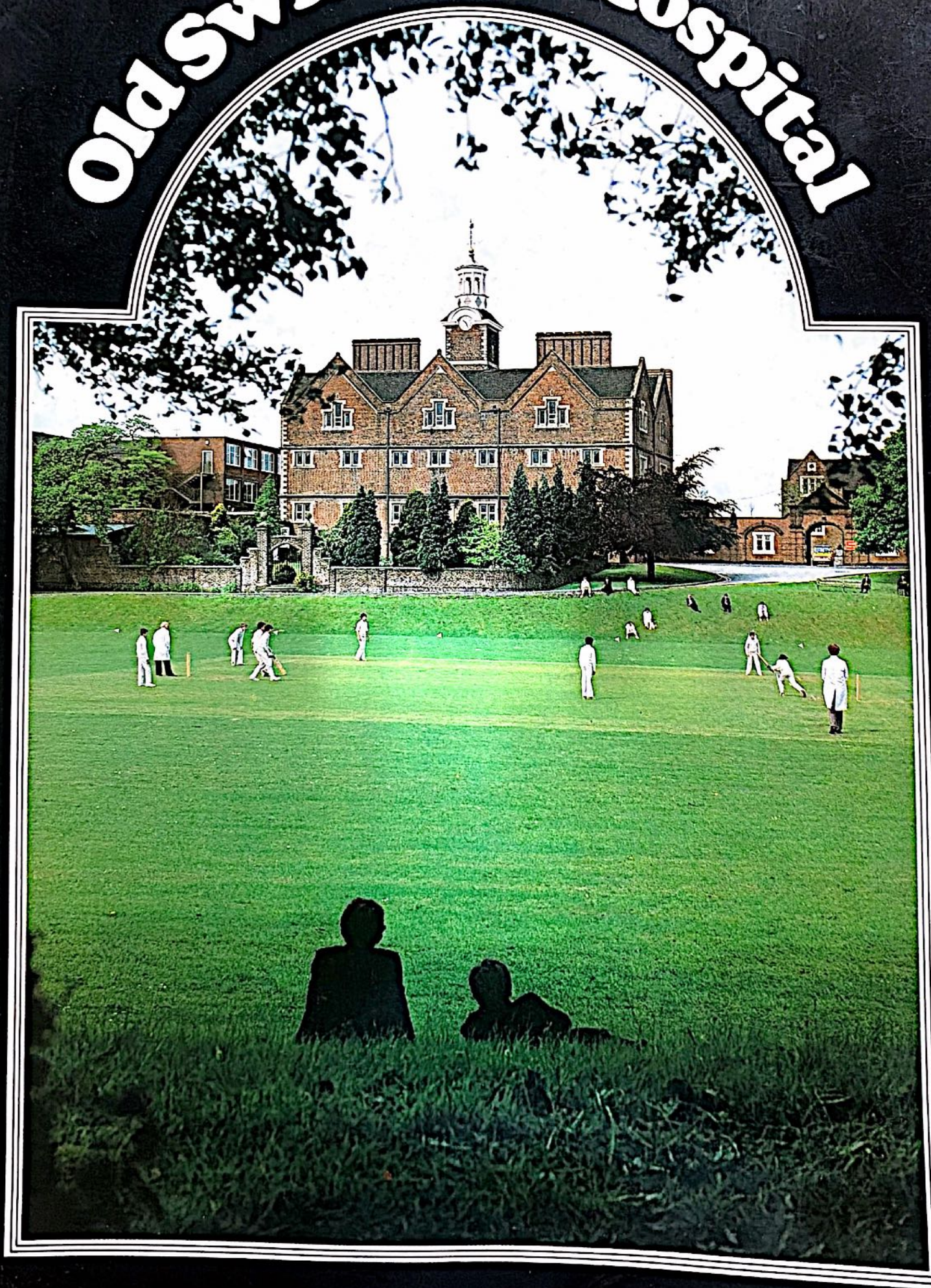
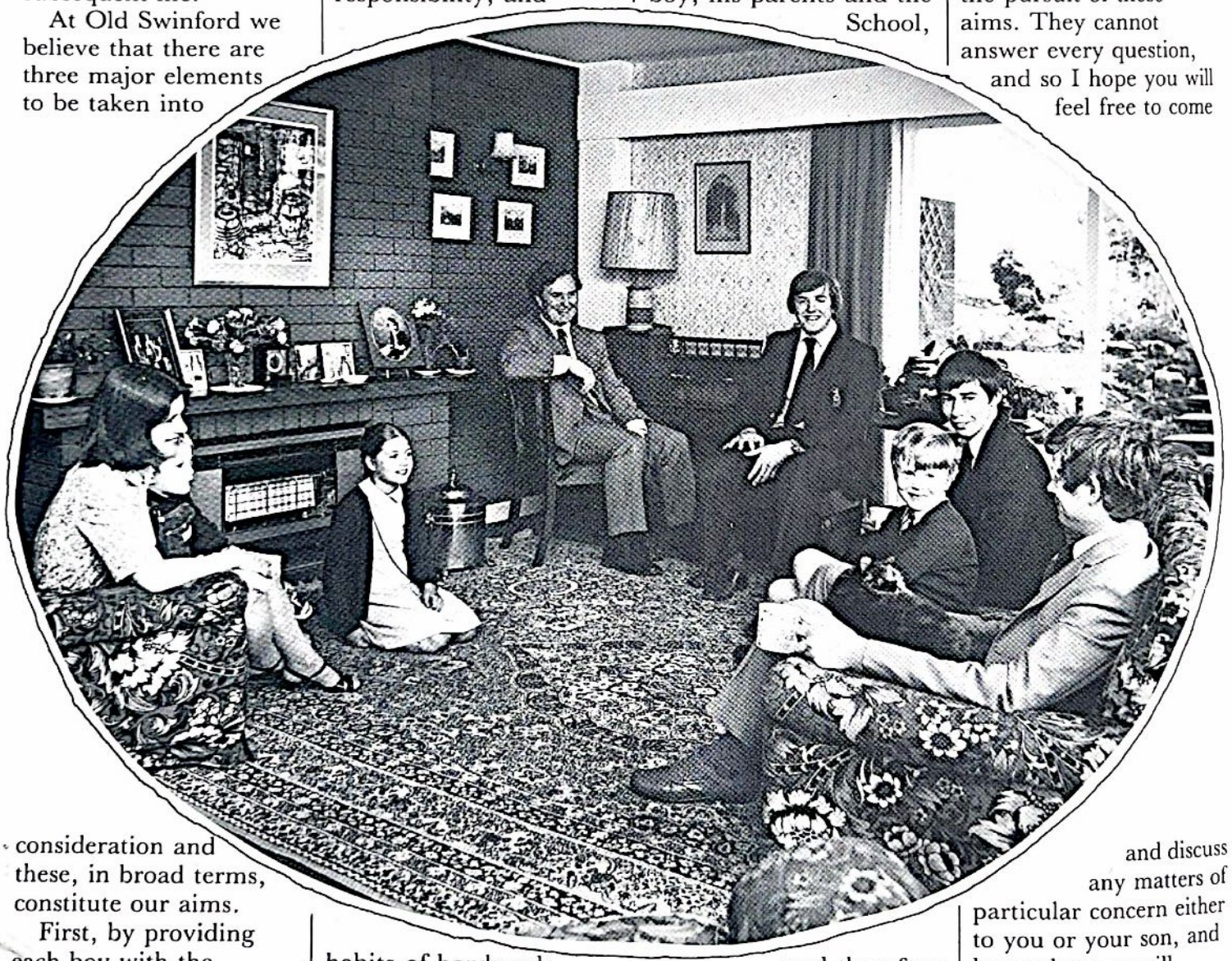
Old Swinford Hospital



to parents

For all parents the education of their children is of great importance and the selection of the right school is a decision which will influence the whole of a child's subsequent life.

At Old Swinford we believe that there are three major elements to be taken into consideration and these, in broad terms, constitute our aims.



First, by providing each boy with the greatest possible individual attention and by involvement in a compassionate and disciplined community, we hope to enable him to attain the initial qualifications for a chosen career; experience and practical skills to match his natural gifts; a sense of community and citizenship; an opportunity to exercise leadership and to accept responsibility; and habits of hardwork and unselfishness.

We next try to help each boy to find something at which he can excel, by providing a wide range of out-of-school activities, for experience shows that the ability to do well at any occupation breeds a confidence which quickly spreads to all other aspects of his life.

Lastly, we see the education of a boy as a joint effort between the boy, his parents and the School, and therefore we place great importance on mutual co-operation.

A particular feature and source of strength for the School is our ability, because of our attractive fee structure, to bring together boys from a wide range of backgrounds to create a social mix which represents all sections of the community.

The following pages illustrate and describe the pursuit of these aims. They cannot answer every question, and so I hope you will feel free to come and discuss any matters of particular concern either to you or your son, and know that you will receive a warm and friendly welcome.

Headmaster's Study
Old Swinford Hospital
Stourbridge.



Old Swinford Hospital is a Voluntary Aided School for about 500 boys between the ages of 11 and 18, the great majority of whom are full boarders, though weekly boarders are accepted. Some day-boy places are available to boys from Stourbridge.

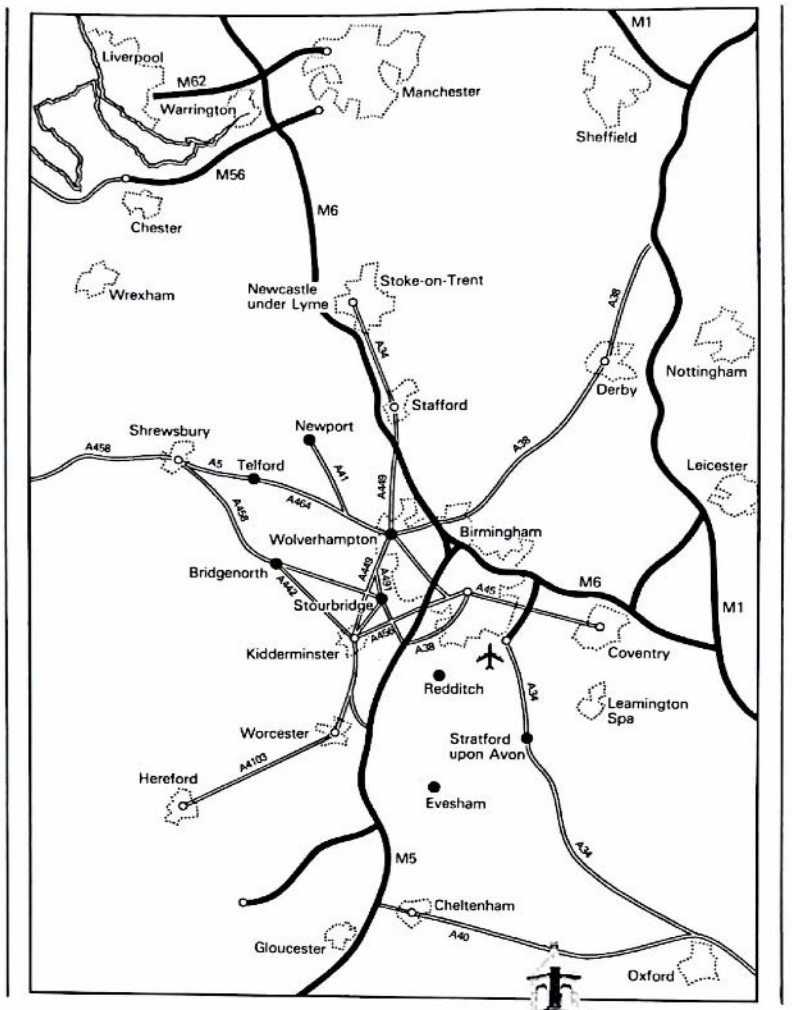
The School was founded in 1667 by Thomas Foley. When he died in 1677 he bequeathed the School to Robert Foley and to his three sons, whose descendants are still ex-officio members of a group of trustees who administer the generous endowments of the Founder. Thomas Foley called them 'Feoffees', a name which they still bear today.

From 1667 to 1949 the School was independent, but in January 1950 it was granted Voluntary Aided Status. Under this arrangement tuition fees are paid by the Local Education Authority. Financial assistance is received from the Department of Education and Science for new building, and the Feoffees continue, under the Trustees Acts, to administer the Foundation's not inconsiderable income for exhibitions and bursaries as well as for other purposes.

Within this context the School enjoys a very large measure of independence whilst still fully participating in the national educational system — an arrangement which can offer substantial financial and other advantages to many parents.

Situation and Buildings

The School is situated in 7½ acres of grounds on an elevated site on the south side of Stourbridge close to the open countryside of Shropshire and Worcestershire. The School is conveniently placed near the motorway system. Trains from London (Euston) to Birmingham (New Street) take approximately 90 minutes and run every half hour, and there is a connecting link to Stourbridge Junction, a few minutes walk from the School.



how the boys live

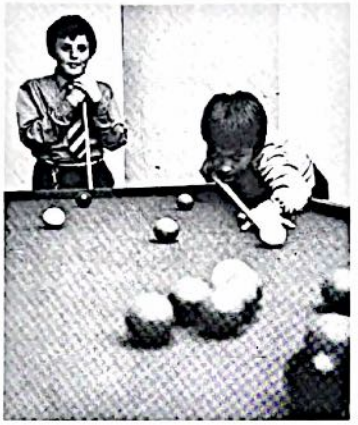
THE HOUSES
Pastoral Care

For the purposes of day-to-day administration and competitive activities all boys whether boarding, weekly boarding, or day, are members of a House. Each House is in the charge of a Housemaster assisted by House Tutors who are concerned with all sides of a boy's education; they also give him every encouragement to participate fully in the activities offered by school societies.

Boarders

All eleven year old boarders are resident in a reception House where they spend their first year together. The House which is in the care of a resident married Housemaster, has its own work and recreation rooms.

Boarders between the ages of 12 and 18 are accommodated in one of the other boarding Houses. Each House has its own recreation areas and study rooms. Increasing privacy is given to Sixth Formers, who normally have their own bedsitting rooms.



At the heart of the system is the Tutor. Each boarder is assigned to a resident member of staff who acts as his Tutor, whom he sees once a fortnight. The Tutor monitors the progress of his pupils in all spheres of school life and helps him with any problem which may arise.

Weekly Boarders

Weekly boarders are full members of their boarding House and their week extends from Sunday night or 8.55 a.m. on Monday morning until Saturday when all school commitments have been met.

Day Boys

There are two day boy Houses each with its own Housemaster and Tutors who, together with the boys' Form Masters, are responsible for their welfare.

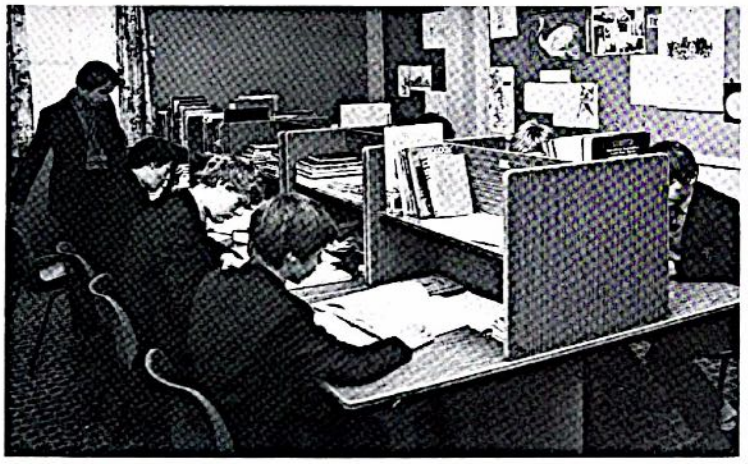
Meals

All boys take their meals in the 17th Century Dining Hall which is run on cafeteria lines. Boarders have three meals a day and a hot drink and biscuits in the evening. The School prides itself on the high quality and variety of food provided.

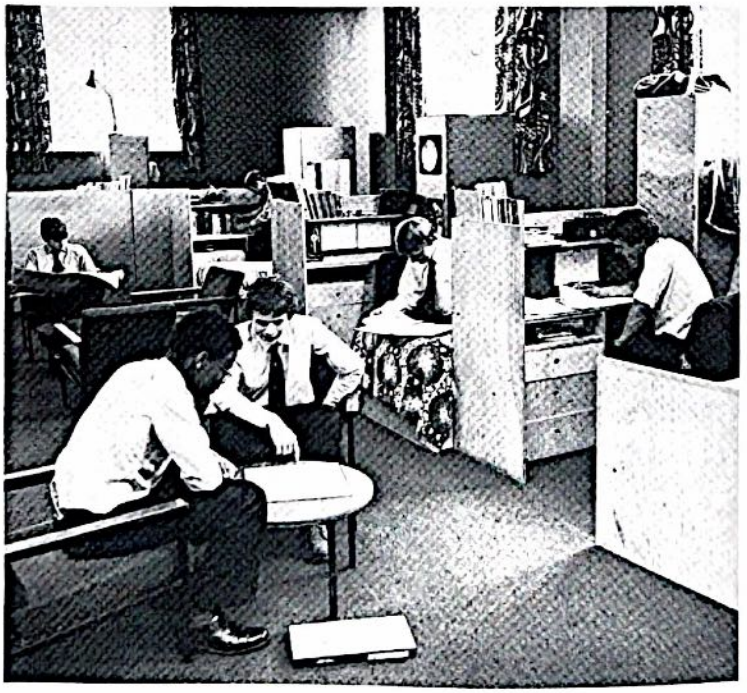
The Sixth Form

The School has a strong and traditionally structured Sixth Form, all boys taking an 'A' level course.

Much attention is given to the encouragement of a









distinct ethos in the Sixth Form, but, at the same time, it is recognized that the involvement of the Sixth in the wider life of the School is of immense benefit to the whole community.

This is not just a matter of granting special and superficial privileges, but rather of providing a special structure within which Sixth Formers, who are essentially developing adults, may prepare themselves for life in the post-school world whilst still participating fully in day-to-day school life.

There is a Sixth Form Club and other special Sixth Form facilities.

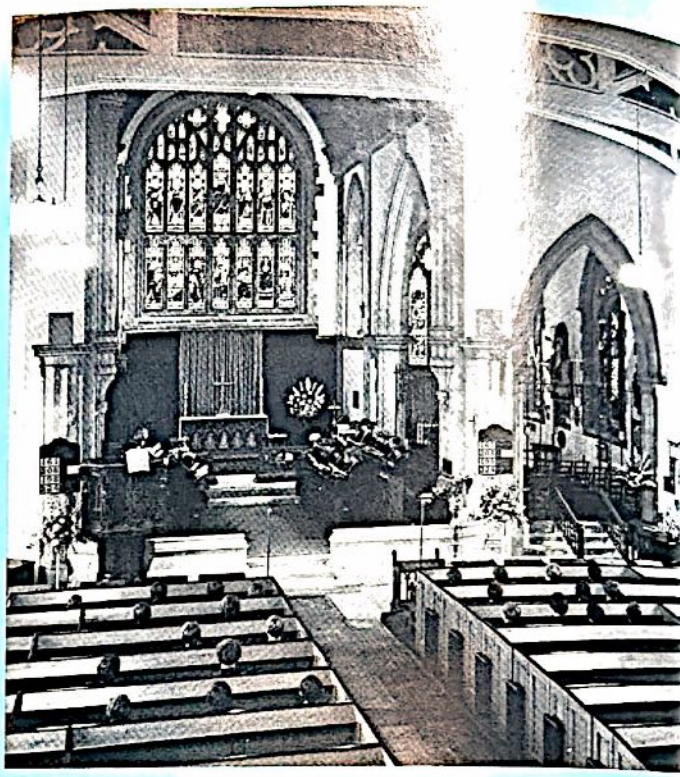
RELIGION

The worship of the School follows the pattern of the Church of England. Boys of all Denominations and Faiths are welcomed and, whenever possible, arrangements are made for them to attend their own places of worship, when this is the wish of the parents.

The Chapel of the School has always been the parish church of St. Mary's, Old Swinford, and the School attends parish communion there at least once a month. On other Sundays a short service is held in Great Hall conducted either by the Headmaster or a visiting preacher.

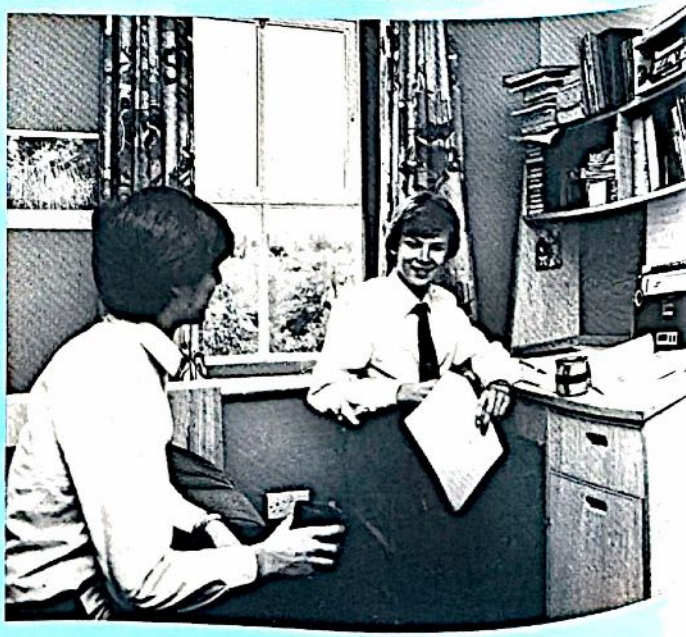
In broad terms our aim is to present religion to boys in an open-minded way, giving them opportunities for worship, for questioning and for discussion. In so doing we hope that they will develop a firm faith which will support them in their day-to-day life; that they will be encouraged to serve others; and that they will develop an awareness of the need for Christian service in its widest sense.

Boys are prepared for Confirmation if and when they themselves feel that they are ready, and appropriate guidance and instruction is given.











how the boys work

academic organisation

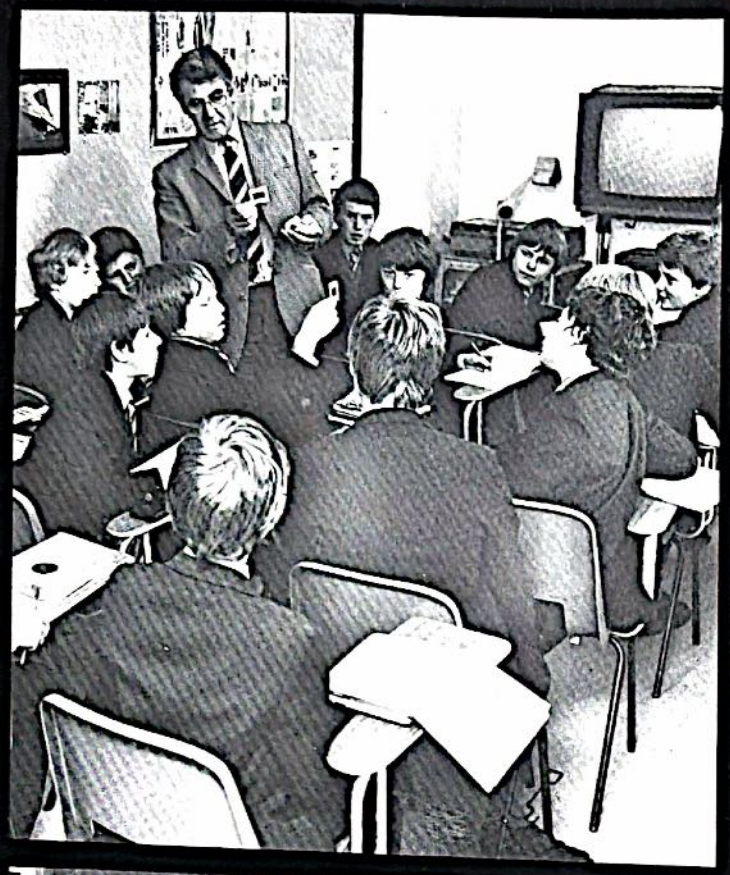
As far as possible the curriculum is designed to suit every boy's talents and to provide the training for entry into the Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education and the foundation for a career in the Services, Industry or the Professions.

The academic organisation of the curriculum, therefore, attempts to provide not only a wide range of options in the traditional academic subjects but also at the same time, to provide first class facilities for the development of a wide range of technological and practical skills.

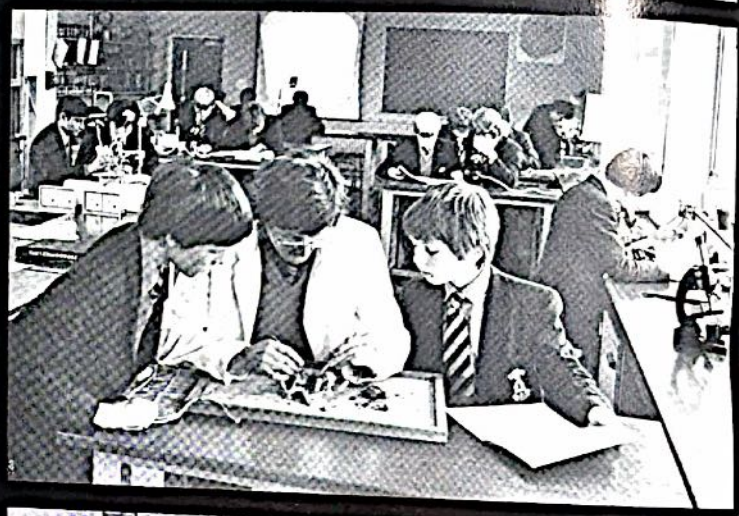
Below the Sixth

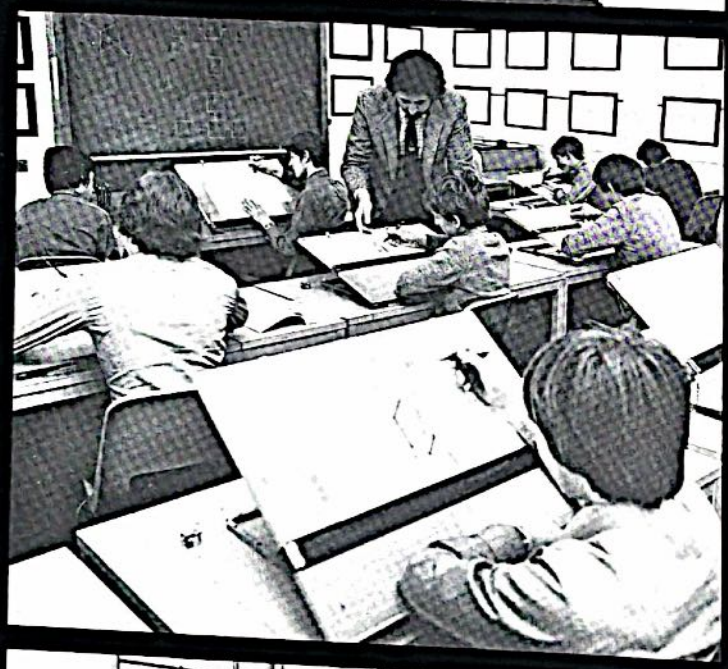
In order to postpone specialisation, every effort is made to maintain as wide a range of studies for as long as possible. At the same time each boy is encouraged to work within his own powers, at the best level of which he is capable.

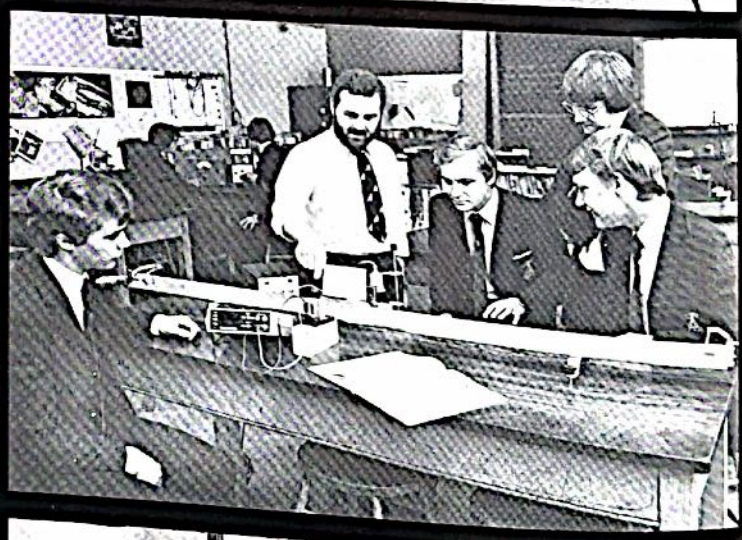
In the fourth year a two-year course leading to the General Certificate of Education examination at Ordinary level is begun and a balanced set of subjects is offered which includes Mathematics, English and a Science, together with additional optional subjects which may include: Engineering Drawing, Design and Technology, Computer

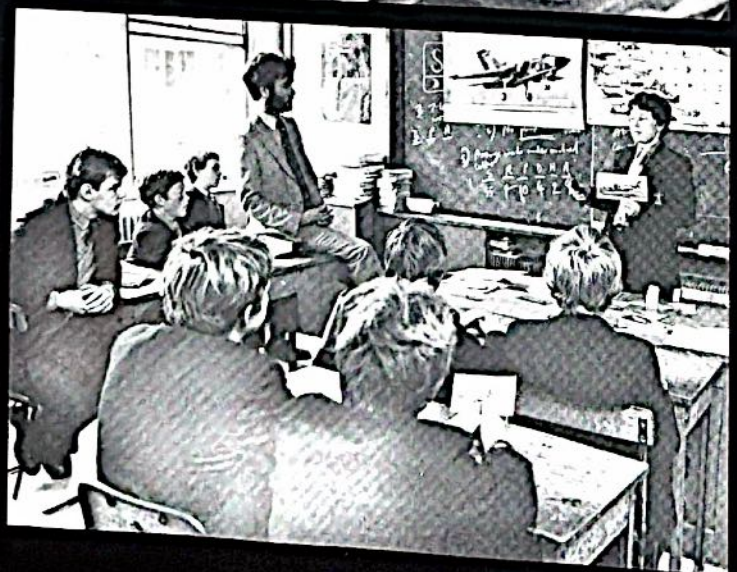


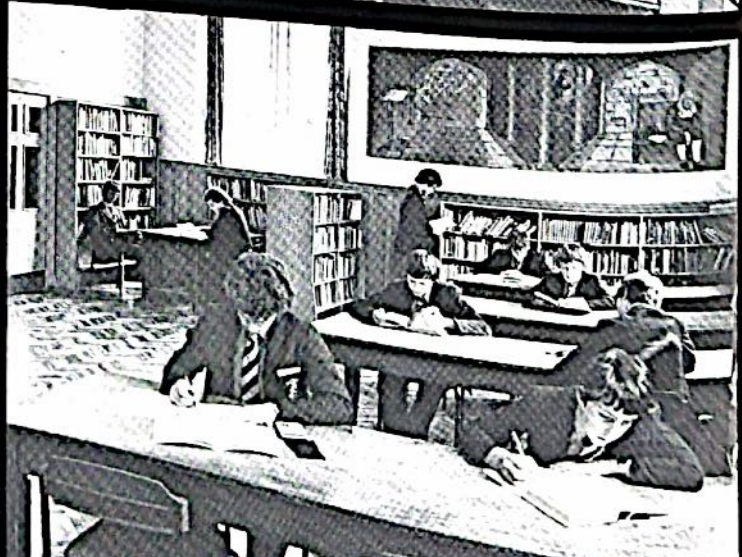












Science, German, Electronics, Latin, Ancient Greek and Archaeology.

Although all boys attempt at least some 'O' levels, the number taken is tailored to their ability, the best taking ten, the weakest only a few. In the latter case, where a different examination or syllabus seems appropriate, the School will try to provide it.

Distinguished Work Prizes

Any boy may gain a "distinction" for a particular piece of work or a constantly high standard over a period of time. When he has gained 3 distinctions he will win a £5 book token awarded by the Feoffees.

The Sixth Form

All courses in the Sixth Form last for two years and lead to the G.C.E. examination at Advanced level.

The majority of boys take three 'A' level subjects, and in addition, follow a course of General Studies to 'A' or 'AO' level standard.

The subject options available are:
English Literature, French, German, History, Geography, Economics, Geology, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science, Archaeology, Art, Design and Technology.

Special arrangements can often be made for 'A' level courses in Law, Surveying, Religious Knowledge, Classics etc.

In addition "minority time" courses are provided for boys in Computer Science, Electronics, French for Business, Applicable Mathematics.

'O' level classes are provided for "re-sit" examinations.

Field Trips and Visits

Field Trips are arranged each year and are seen as extensions to work in the classroom. They are primarily associated with courses in Geography, Archaeology, and Biology.

Careers

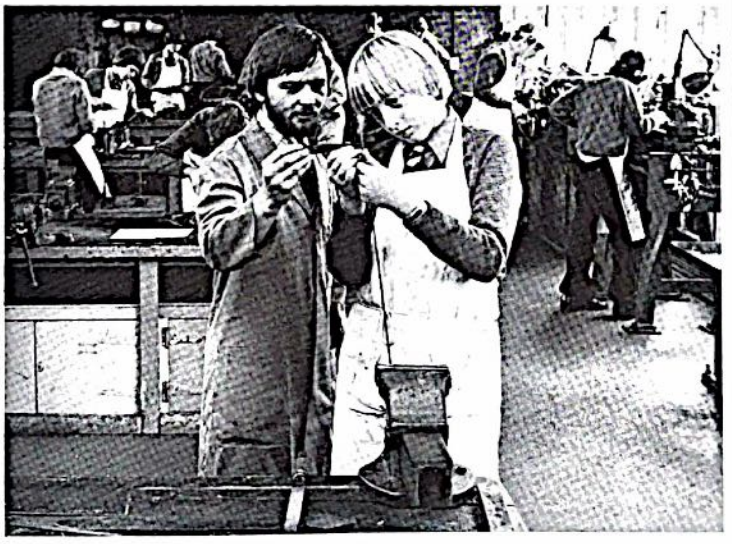
The School is very much aware of the problems of career selection in a changing society, and not only is there a Careers Master on the staff, but also there is close co-operation with the Careers Officer of the Local Authority. The School also uses the expertise and knowledge of Old Boys and Parents in various walks of life to advise boys. The Feoffees provide funds to have regular Conferences at the School by such organisations as the Industrial Society or Understanding Industry, and the School has a policy of deliberately forging links with Industry by regularly inviting industrialists to visit the School.

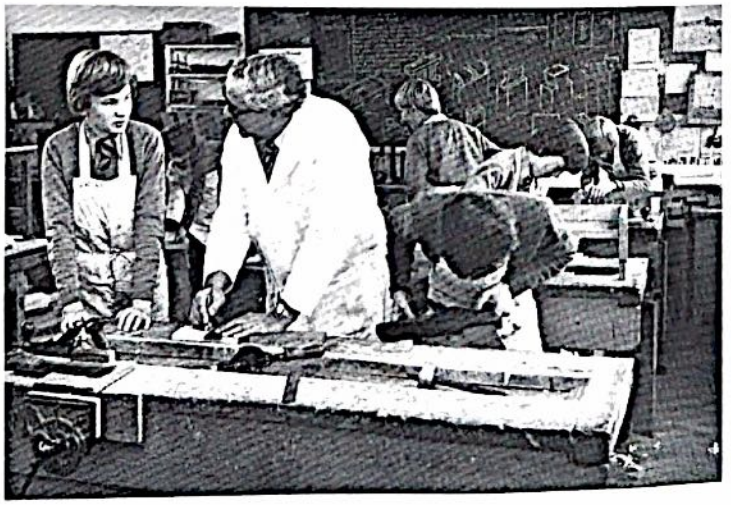
To develop their awareness of the world of business, in the Sixth Form boys have an opportunity to take part in such schemes as Young Enterprise as well as the Business Game and Stock Piler.

Degree Courses

The majority of Sixth Formers apply for degree courses at University or Polytechnic, and advice is available on choice of University. One of the Feoffees, Dr. G. Fleet, is a lecturer in Chemistry at Oxford University and visits to Oxford are arranged through his good offices and he visits the School to talk about University life and courses.





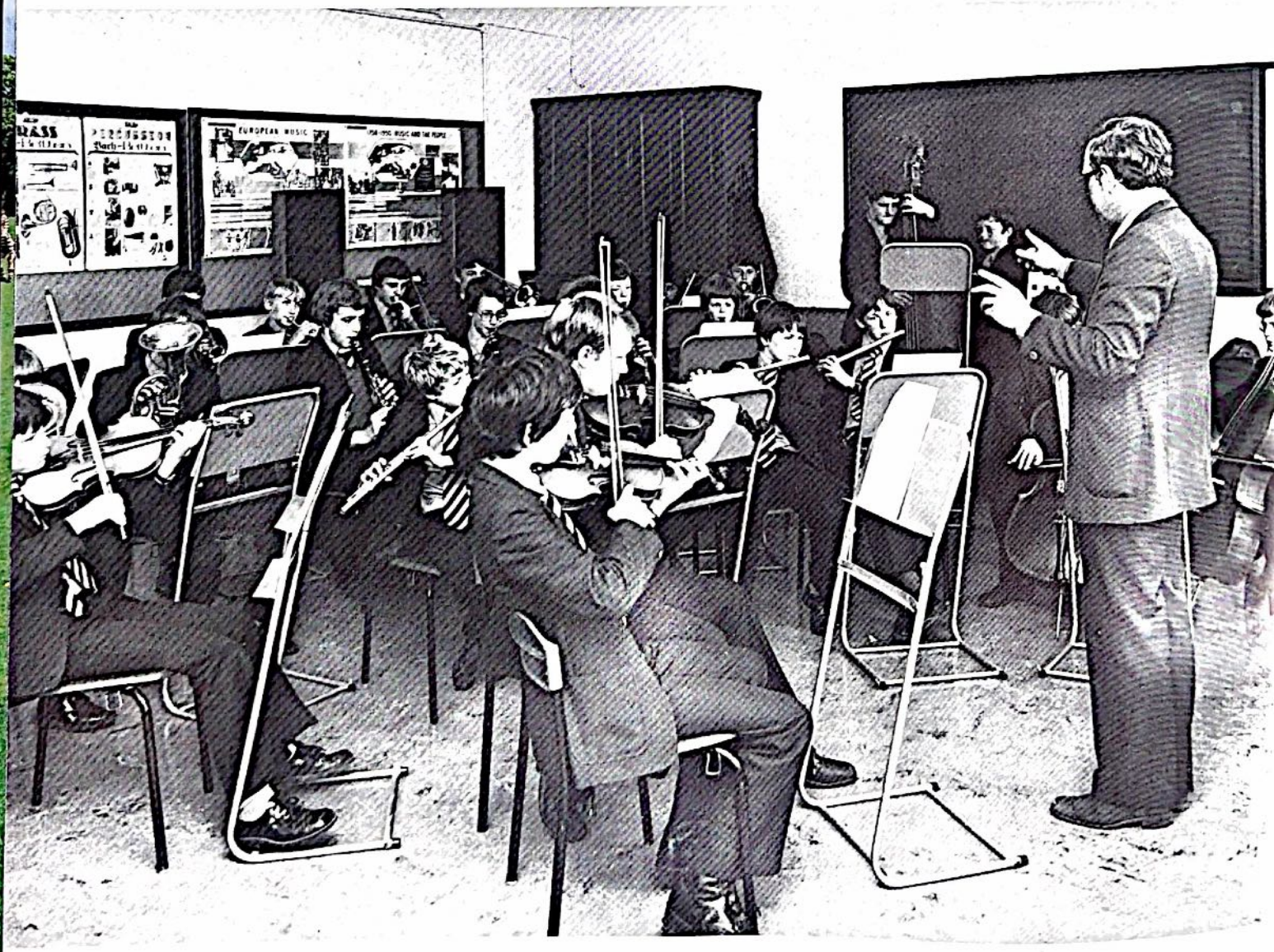





1. Sanatorium
2. Tennis Courts
3. C.C.F.
4. Squash Courts
5. Gymnasium
6. Great Hall
7. Woodwork
8. Metalwork
9. Commemoration Room
10. Rifle Range
11. Music
12. Swimming Pool
13. Visitors' Car Park
Hagley Road
Front Field
Boarding Houses
Teaching Areas
School Houses
Maybury
Founders
Prospect
Witley
Dudley
Foley
Sheppard
Top Field
Headmaster's House
Foster
Heath Lane



the arts



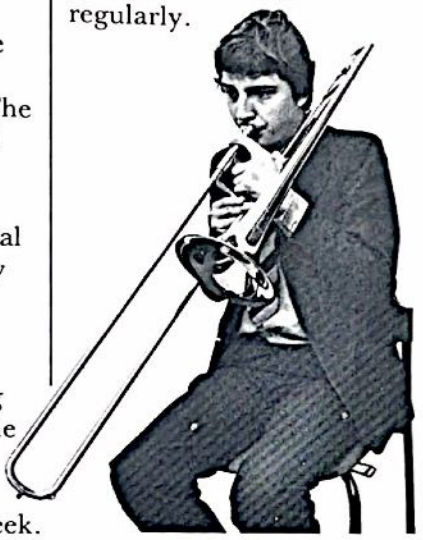
Many boys learn a musical instrument, e.g. Violin, 'Cello, Double Bass, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Flute, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Horn, Euphonium, Piano, Guitar. Tuition is provided by the Local Authority free in all instruments except Piano, Classical Guitar and Percussion, and here the School makes its own private arrangements. The School has a Junior and Senior Brass Band, an Orchestra and a Choir. There are regular musical concerts, etc., and many boys also play in local orchestras.

Drama

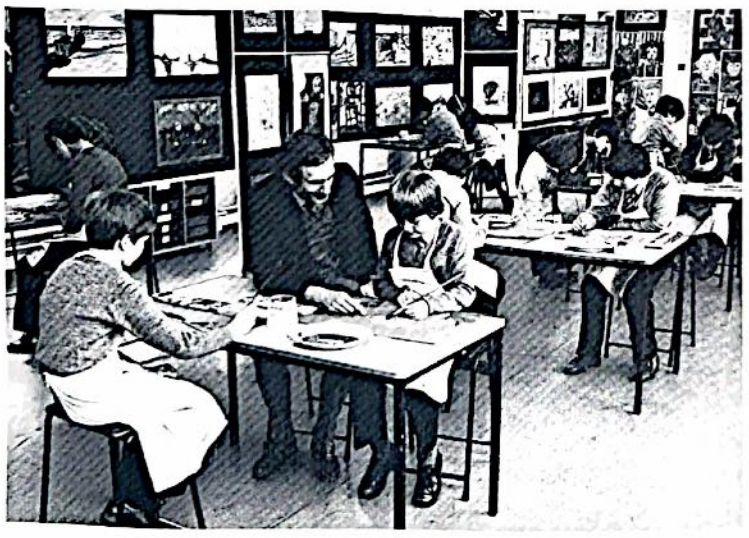
There is a long-standing tradition of Drama at the School and some boys have a time-tabled period of Drama each week. Productions of the Drama Club usually take place at the end of the Autumn Term.

Art

A new Art Centre was opened in September 1982, and this is part of the Design and Technology Department. There is a separate Pottery Workshop and the Design Club meets regularly.











games and physical education



While Physical Education is part of the curriculum for all forms, our general approach is to make games as enjoyable as possible and to provide the widest possible variety of activities commensurate with the maintenance of high standards.

Each year group has a games afternoon every week and the P.E. Instructors are fully qualified. The main game in the winter is Rugby Football and Cricket in the summer.

A great number of matches in a variety of sports is played against other schools, often on Saturday afternoons.

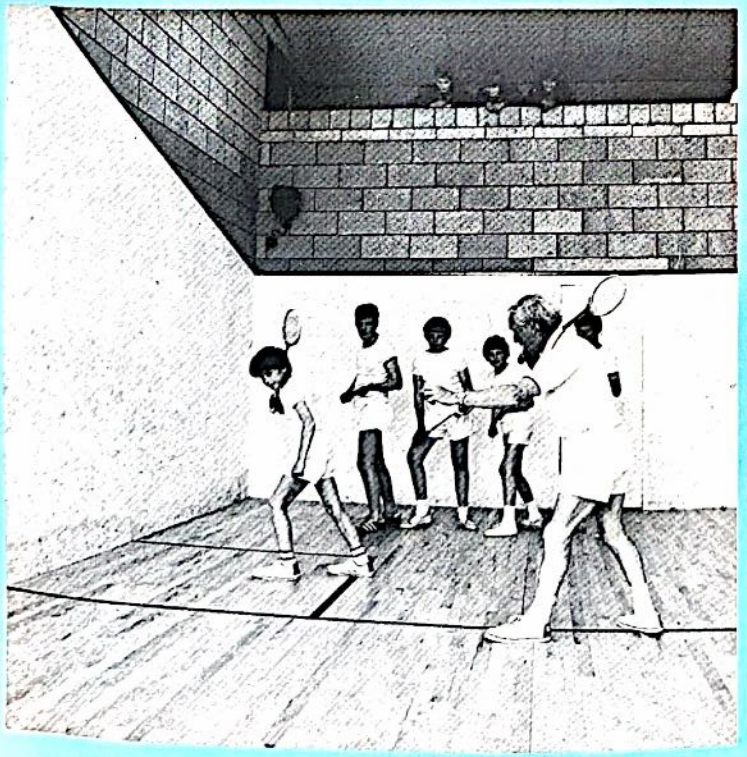
In some sports e.g. Fencing, Table Tennis, Squash (two new courts), Judo, special coaching is done by visiting instructors.

Other sports are Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cycling, Sailing (the School holds its own Regatta), Golf (the School owns the land of the local Golf Course), Soccer, Swimming and Tennis.









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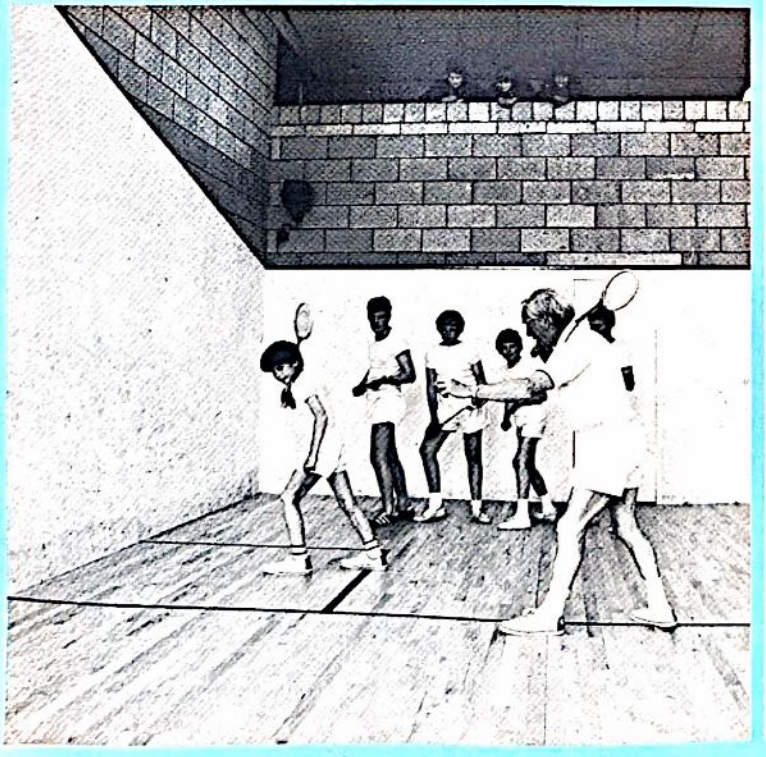
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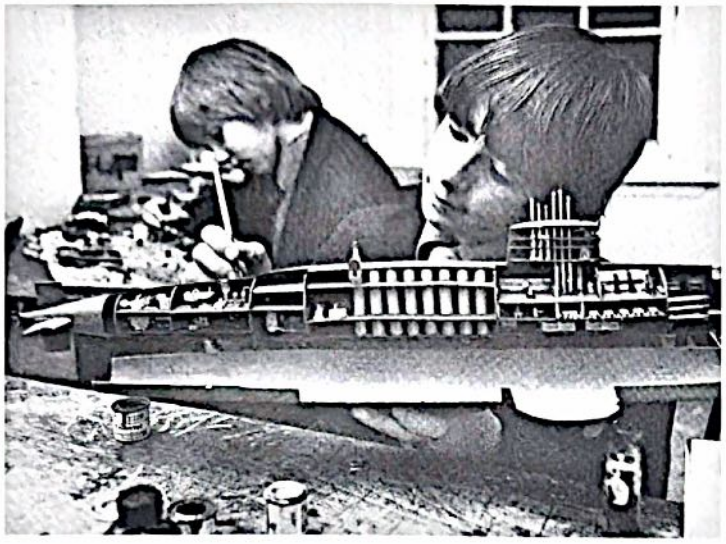
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other activities

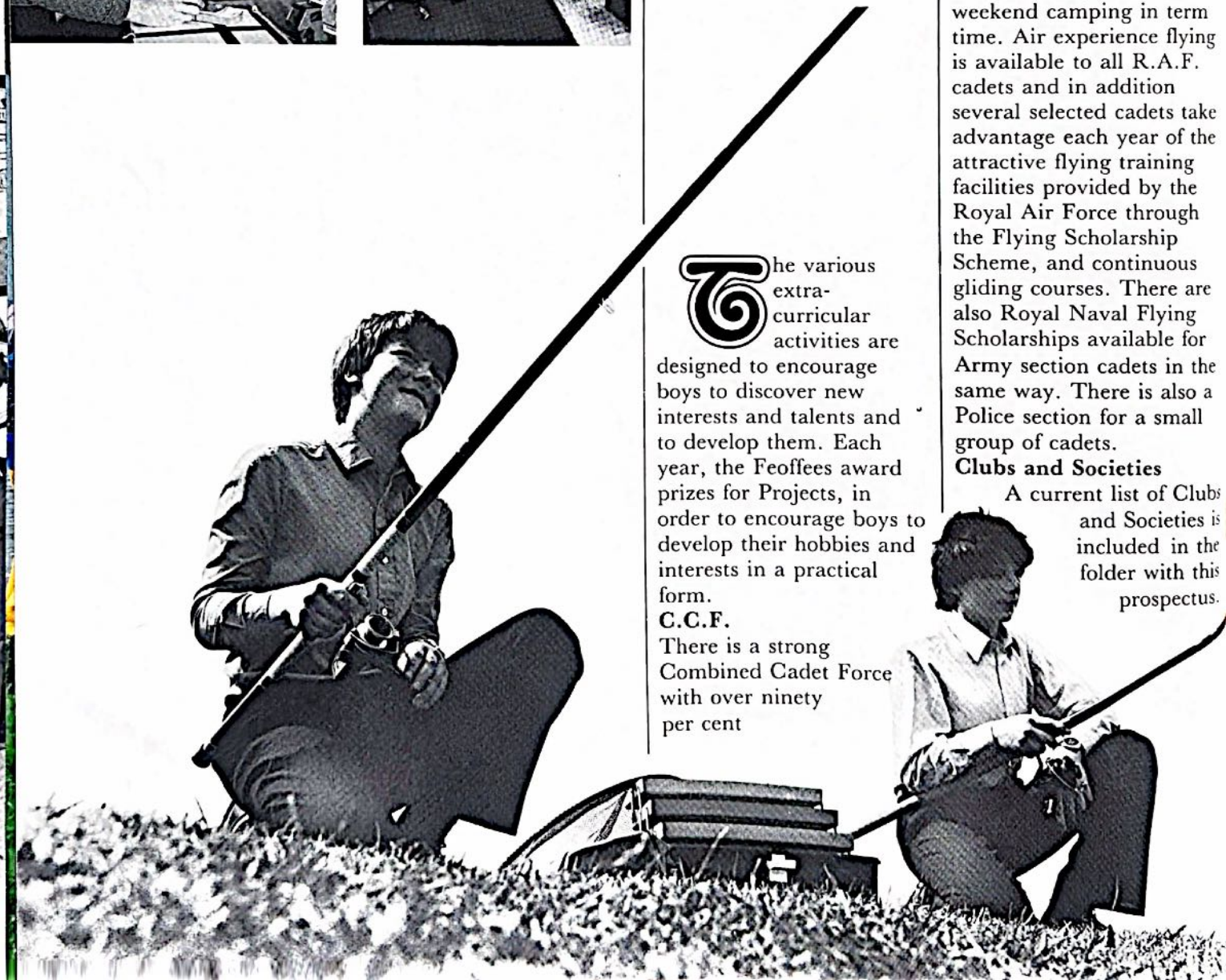
The various extra-curricular activities are designed to encourage boys to discover new interests and talents and to develop them. Each year, the Feoffees award prizes for Projects, in order to encourage boys to develop their hobbies and interests in a practical form.

C.C.F.

There is a strong Combined Cadet Force with over ninety per cent of the boys over thirteen members of either the R.A.F. or Army sections. There is an imaginative training programme which includes such activities as signalling, bridge building, car maintenance, the Band, shooting and orienteering. There are annual camps in the holidays and weekend camping in term time. Air experience flying is available to all R.A.F. cadets and in addition several selected cadets take advantage each year of the attractive flying training facilities provided by the Royal Air Force through the Flying Scholarship Scheme, and continuous gliding courses. There are also Royal Naval Flying Scholarships available for Army section cadets in the same way. There is also a Police section for a small group of cadets.

Clubs and Societies

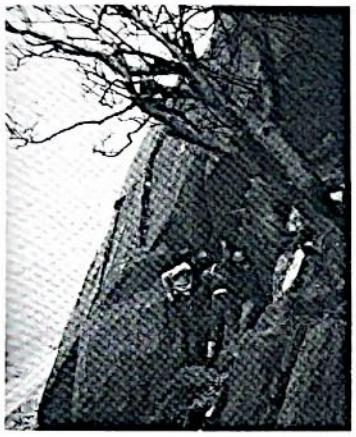
A current list of Clubs and Societies is included in the folder with this prospectus.



All boys are encouraged to join some Societies. The Computer Centre is normally available out-of-school. Regular visits to Theatres and Concerts are arranged.

Community Service

There is a Community Service Group which is affiliated to the Dudley Young Volunteers Group. In their own time boys carry out projects which include such activities as gardening and decorating for old and handicapped people, and helping with surveys in conjunction with the Social Services Department.



Adventure Week

Towards the end of the Summer Term, after Examinations, Adventure Week takes place, and as many boys as possible are encouraged to take part in some activity away from the School. Expeditions often include a week on the Foudroyant, the training ship in Portsmouth harbour; outdoor pursuits in North Wales; fell walking in the Yorkshire Dales; expeditions to Germany and France; Outward Bound Courses (for Lower Sixth boys).

Tuck Shop

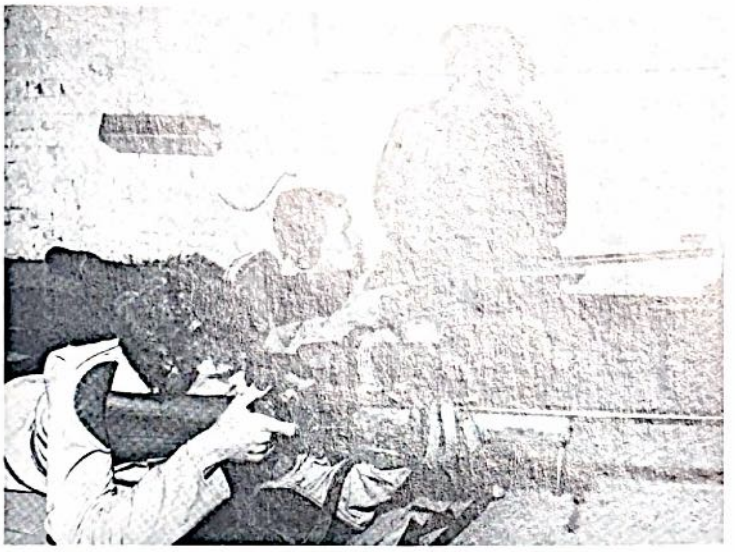
There is a Tuck Shop in the School, where boys can go in free time and buy hot meals as well as the usual confectionery.

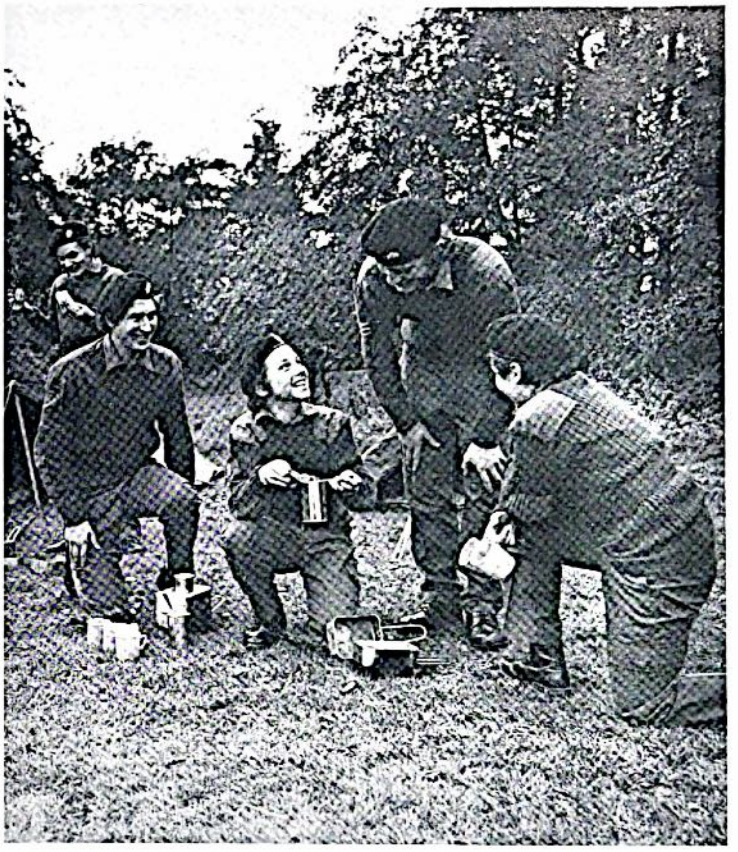
The Weekend

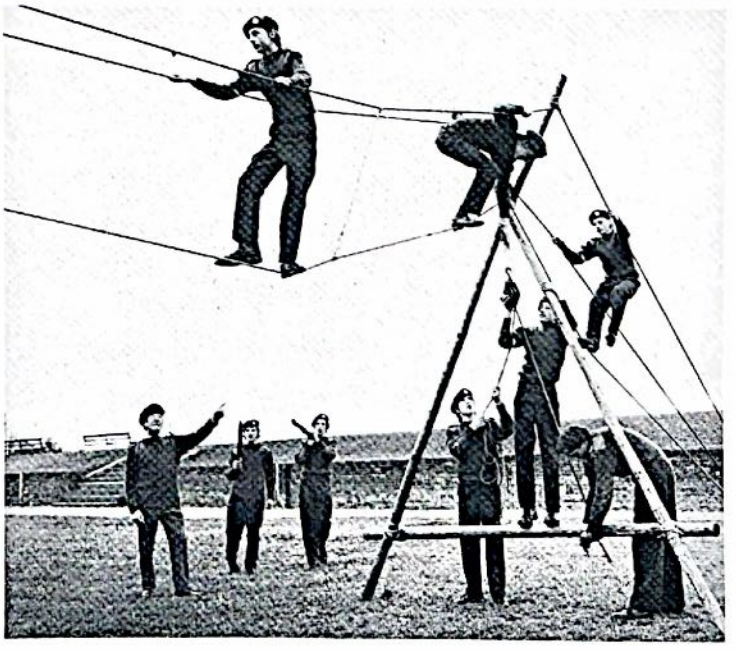
There are lessons on Saturday morning until 11.40 a.m. and there are usually inter-school matches on Saturday afternoons. However, for those full boarders not representing the School, there is a session of organised games and activities during the afternoon. On Saturday evening there is frequently a video film in each boarding house. Boys are also free to use the facilities in the School, e.g. Squash Courts, Table Tennis, Badminton, Computers.

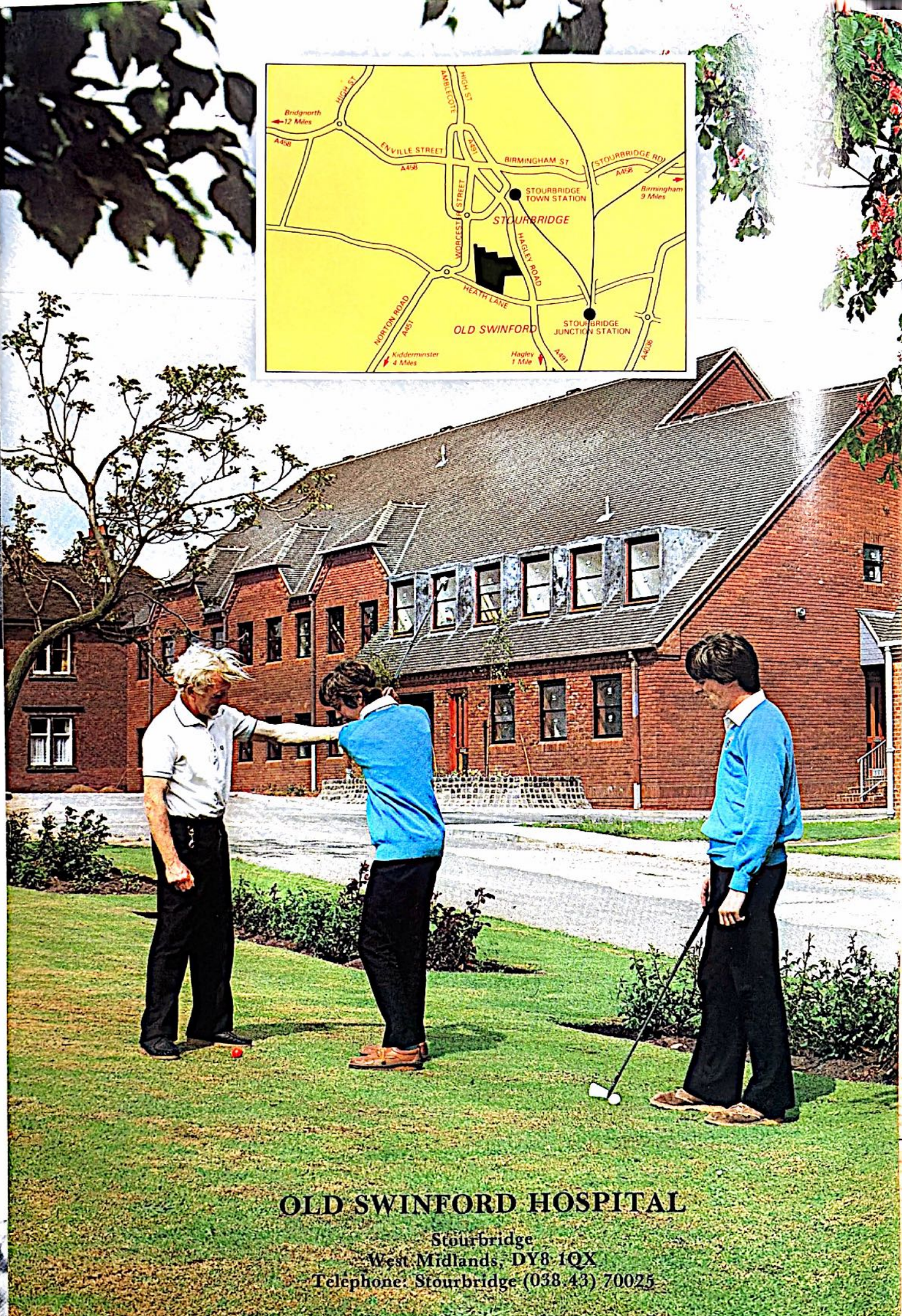
On Sunday morning there is a service, either in our own Great Hall or a visit for service at St. Mary's, Old Swinford. For the younger boys on Sunday afternoon there is again an organised session of games and activities. Weekend activities are often organised e.g. C.C.F. Camps in the Black Mountains, hill walking in North Wales.











OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL

Stourbridge
West Midlands, DY8 1QX
Telephone: Stourbridge (038 43) 70025

Health
The health of the boys is in the overall charge of a resident Sister and an assistant Matron. There is a well-equipped Sanatorium with its own surgeries and convalescent room. The school Doctor visits the School twice a week or whenever required. In the case of emergency there are excellent facilities at the Corbet Hospital, Stourbridge.

In the case of infectious illness or contact with infection, the Headmaster must be informed immediately, and a certificate signed by a doctor must be produced before a boy may return to the School. A written note of explanation signed by a parent or guardian must be brought after a boy has been absent for a temporary indisposition.

In order that the best use may be made of the facilities and services provided under the National Health Service every *boarder* must be registered on the school Doctor's list throughout his time at the School. During school holidays medical treatment can be obtained either privately or under the National Health Service Act as a 'temporary resident'.

If a boarder requires special medical treatment every effort will be made to obtain the prior consent of the parent or guardian. Should this be impossible in an emergency, the Headmaster, acting *in loco parentis*, will give consent to such treatment (including anaesthetic or operation) as may be recommended by the school Doctor.

Throughout the time that a boy remains at the School, the school Doctor shall have the right to give to his parents, or guardian, or the Headmaster, any confidential information about the boy if he considers it to be in the boy's interest, or necessary for the protection of other members of the school community.

Leaves of Absence
There is a half-term holiday in each of the three terms: a week in each term.

In addition there are two fixed leave weekends (from Saturday afternoon to Sunday night) one on either side of the half-term.

The dates and times of Leaves are announced termly in advance.

No cause except illness is considered a sufficient reason for absence from the School unless permission has been previously obtained in writing from the Headmaster. Consent for absence can only be granted in cases of urgent necessity, since, when lessons are missed, not only is the individual handicapped but the work of the whole class suffers.

Clothes
The School uniform is kept as simple and inexpensive as possible. The Bursar runs the school clothes shop and all clothes are supplied below shop prices.

If the entire uniform is purchased from the School, the School will obtain the clothes, on receipt of measurements, supply and sew on name tapes.

Only at certain times at the weekend may boys wear "civvies". The School has its own laundry for school uniform, and washing machines are available in the boarding houses for boys to wash their "civvies".

Overseas Parents
The School does all it can to help parents who live overseas. Arrangements can be made for the booking of tickets and the renewal of passports, vaccinations, transport arrangements, escorts to and from the mainline stations and airports, and short or long stays at 'holiday' establishments. Luggage can be stored at the School during the holidays.

Courses of dental treatment can be supervised.

It is important, however, that overseas parents specify a guardian, preferably within easy travelling distance of the School, who will have power to make decisions on behalf of a boy if there is any emergency.

Admission
The majority of boys enter the School at eleven years of age, though another large group of places is available at thirteen, when a considerable number of boys enter from Preparatory Schools.

There is also a Direct Entry into the Sixth Form.

Interviews for boarding places are normally held in January and February for the following September's entry.

However, special arrangements can be made to interview candidates at other times. Places will be awarded in March but successful candidates from Preparatory Schools will be expected to sit Common Entrance in the summer term so that they can be "streamed" and "setted" appropriately on their arrival.

Registration Procedure
Parents who wish their son to be considered for entry as a boarder should complete the Registration Form and send it together with the Registration Fee (as specified on the Fees sheet) to the Headmaster's Secretary.

Normally parents visit the School with their son before registering.

Parents may be required to pay a small confirmation of entry fee which is refunded at the end of the boy's last term in the School.

Fees
Parents of boarders are responsible for the boarding fee and details of these are set out on a separate sheet.

As an Aided School, the "education" or "tuition" costs are paid by the Local Authority. Under the 1980 Education Act, the home Local Authority is legally required to pay these, and the

general information



School can therefore accept boys from any part of the country.

All fees are payable on or before the first day of the term for which they are due.

The School reserves the right to refuse to allow a boy to be admitted, or to return to the School, if at any time the payment of fees is wholly or partially overdue.

Whilst every effort is made to give at least one full term's notice of any intended fee increases, the Governors reserve the right to increase fees without such notice.

Bursaries and Exhibitions
Bursaries A substantial fund is available to provide Bursaries related to boarding fees for parents in need of help. These are means-tested, but may be as much as two-thirds of the boarding fee. They are awarded to parents of Sixth Formers without a means-test at the Headmaster's discretion.
Exhibitions These are worth £150 a year, the first thirty pounds of which goes to the boy. Exhibitions are awarded at any time during a boy's career at School, and are given to those who show promise or excellence in any educational pursuit whether it be academic, musical, artistic, technological or sporting.

Many Exhibitions are awarded during the 'O' level year and therefore can be gained by boys entering direct into the Sixth Form.

Lord Foley's Awards
The Feoffees have established a scheme whereby selected boys at the age of 12 or 13 are invited to compete for academic Awards. The value of the Award will be offset against boarding fees, if relevant. Awards may be worth up to two thirds of the fees, regardless of parental income. A boy is only eligible to compete for a Lord Foley's Award if he is already in the School, or has been awarded a place for the following September. The examination is held at the School every March.

Withdrawal
In the event of a boy's withdrawal for any reason, a full term's notice in writing must be given to the Headmaster. A full term's fees are payable unless such notice has been given.

The Headmaster reserves the right to require the removal of any boy:
(i) who, in the opinion of the Headmaster, is not likely to profit from a further stay at the School.
(ii) who, by his conduct has, in the opinion of the Headmaster, forfeited his right to membership of the school community.
(iii) whose fees are not paid.

In this event no claim shall arise for the remission or return of any portion of the fees payable for that term.

Old Boys' Association
The Old Foleyans, founded in 1929, exists to foster and maintain a vital link between present and past pupils of the School and to help the School wherever possible. Full details of the Association are available from the Headmaster.

Insurance and Fee Payment Schemes
(i) *Fee Insurance* Remission of fees in case of absence from school through illness can be arranged through an Insurance Scheme, details of which are sent to parents of boys before entry. The School cannot grant remission apart from this voluntary Insurance Scheme.
(ii) *Insurance of property for boarders* The school insurance covers the essential items of clothing and other necessaries each boy brings back to school, but does not cover anything else. Parents are therefore advised to insure their boy's other belongings (e.g. cameras, watches, etc.) whilst at school.
(iii) There are a number of fee payment schemes linked with Life Assurance policies. The younger the child, the more advantageous are the schemes. Parents are advised to consult their brokers or the School Administrator, who will be pleased to put them in touch with firms who specialise in this service.

Parents
Close links with parents are felt to be vital so that there can be consultation on common problems and on the needs of a particular boy. Parents are always welcome to visit the School particularly when there are home matches.

On the academic side there is continuous consultation with parents regarding the selection of subjects, the choice of career, and the progress a boy is making as he moves up the School.

Detailed reports of a boy's progress and conduct are sent out at regular intervals, and meetings are held for parents to discuss their son's progress each year.

Individual consultation about particular problems is always welcomed.

Parents are advised to keep in touch with their son's Tutor, and Housemaster. The Headmaster is always willing to discuss any problem with parents, and an appointment should be made through his secretary.

The terms and conditions set out in this prospectus may be amended from time to time, and its provisions, subject to any such amendments will apply during the whole of the period while a boy continues to attend the School irrespective of age. Admission to or retention in the School of a boy is conditional on acceptance of them.

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