Oldswinford

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1667
VINCE MALUM BONO

OLD SWINFORD
HOSPITAL





Over 300 Years of Educational Excellence

Old Hospitals





Founded in 1667 by Thomas Foley, an ironmaster from the Great Witley Estate in Worcestershire, Old Swinford Hospital opened in the late summer of 1670. Foley's vision was the education and care of 60 boys from 'poor but honest' families drawn from local parishes.

Upon his death, the school was left to a group of trustees, known as Feoffees. This tradition has survived the centuries and the Feoffees, including three direct descendants of the founder, retain an active involvement in the school today.

In the mid-1950s, Old Swinford Hospital became a voluntary aided school, which coincided with a period of expansion, including the addition of a Sixth Form. The boarding provision was extended in the 1980s and in 2004 girls were admitted as Day Students to the Sixth Form for the first time. As a high performing, popular and successful school Old Swinford Hospital expanded further in September 2009 with the completion of a new boarding house and state of the art teaching facilities.

As a testament to the school's stability and success, there have been only six Headmasters since 1882. The latest, Mr Peter Jones, took up the position in 2007, his 19th year at the school.

Our aim is to bring out the very best in all our pupils by providing a well balanced education both within and beyond the classroom. At Old Swinford Hospital, we expect pupils to study hard, acquire a range of skills and to develop the self confidence to enable them to meet the demands of an ever changing world. We set high standards of personal presentation and behaviour and expect pupils to display courtesy and respect for others both within and beyond the school community. We encourage and support individuals in their quest for academic excellence, physical fitness and emotional maturity.

Above all, Old Swinford Hospital is a community committed to excellence, where opportunities, standards and hospitality are important. As a boarding school, we provide a uniquely stimulating, caring and supportive environment in which pupils can grow in understanding, self-esteem and recognise the importance of team work.

There can be no doubt that an education at Old Swinford Hospital is both unique and exciting.

Peter Jones
HEADMASTER


Oldswinford Hospital

Boarding

Old Swinford Hospital is one of the UK's leading state boarding schools and approximately two-thirds of our pupils are boarders who benefit from the unique combination of opportunity, structure and care which a boarding education offers.

The majority of students at Old Swinford Hospital board in one of seven Houses. Weekly boarders return home at weekends, whilst full boarders reside in their Houses over the whole weekend. There are regular sporting fixtures and a wide and varied programme of other activities over the whole weekend.

Boarding gives the school a sense of stability and the House soon becomes a home from home. The House system is central to the outstanding pastoral care at the school, and forms the foundation stones that foster remarkable bonds of loyalty. Each member shares equal responsibility for maintaining its name and reputation.

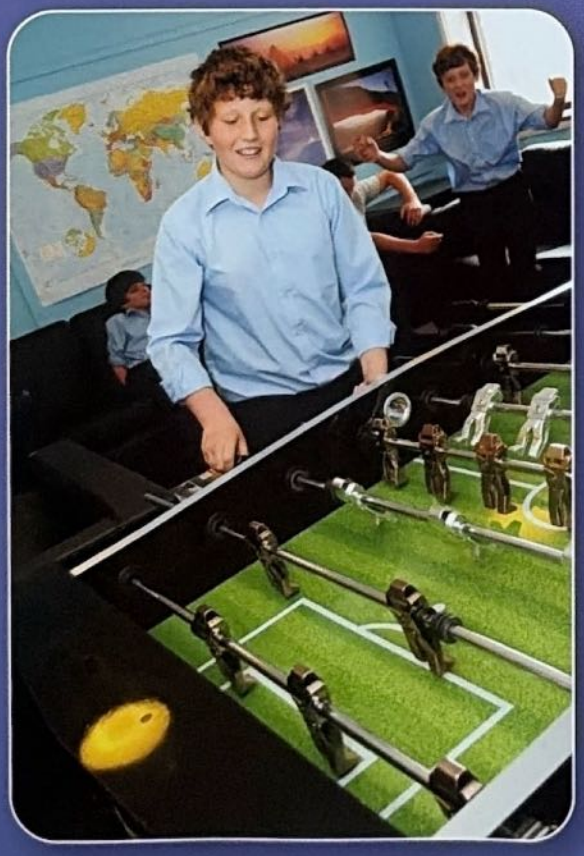
Younger boarders share a dormitory with a small group of other pupils but, for Year 11 and above, single accommodation is the norm. A well-equipped Medical Centre provides twenty-four hour nursing care for pupils who need it. Boarders have access to the facilities of the School in the evening and at weekends. Each house also has social and recreational facilities for members of the house.

Our programme of outdoor pursuits and cultural activities ensures that there is always something to look forward to at the weekends.

Everyone can, and is encouraged to, contribute to the success of the House, either through good behaviour, academic achievement or a sporting or performing talent they may have yet to discover.







"This is my home from home, but with my friends here too. I'm there for them just as they are for me."

PROSPECT HOUSE

All Year 7 (11+) pupils join Prospect House on entry. The House provides our youngest pupils with a secure base from which they can get used to the School and within which they can make the friendships that will often last throughout their school careers and beyond. The emphasis is on a friendly family atmosphere and with extra members of staff on duty, including a live-in Housemaster and two Matrons, it is a unique community within the school, providing an additional level of care and attention.

The attentive and supporting environment of Prospect House helps the boys settle in more quickly, promoting a smooth transition from home to boarding life. It is also the perfect preparation for their move to a senior House the following year, when they will grow in independence and responsibility.

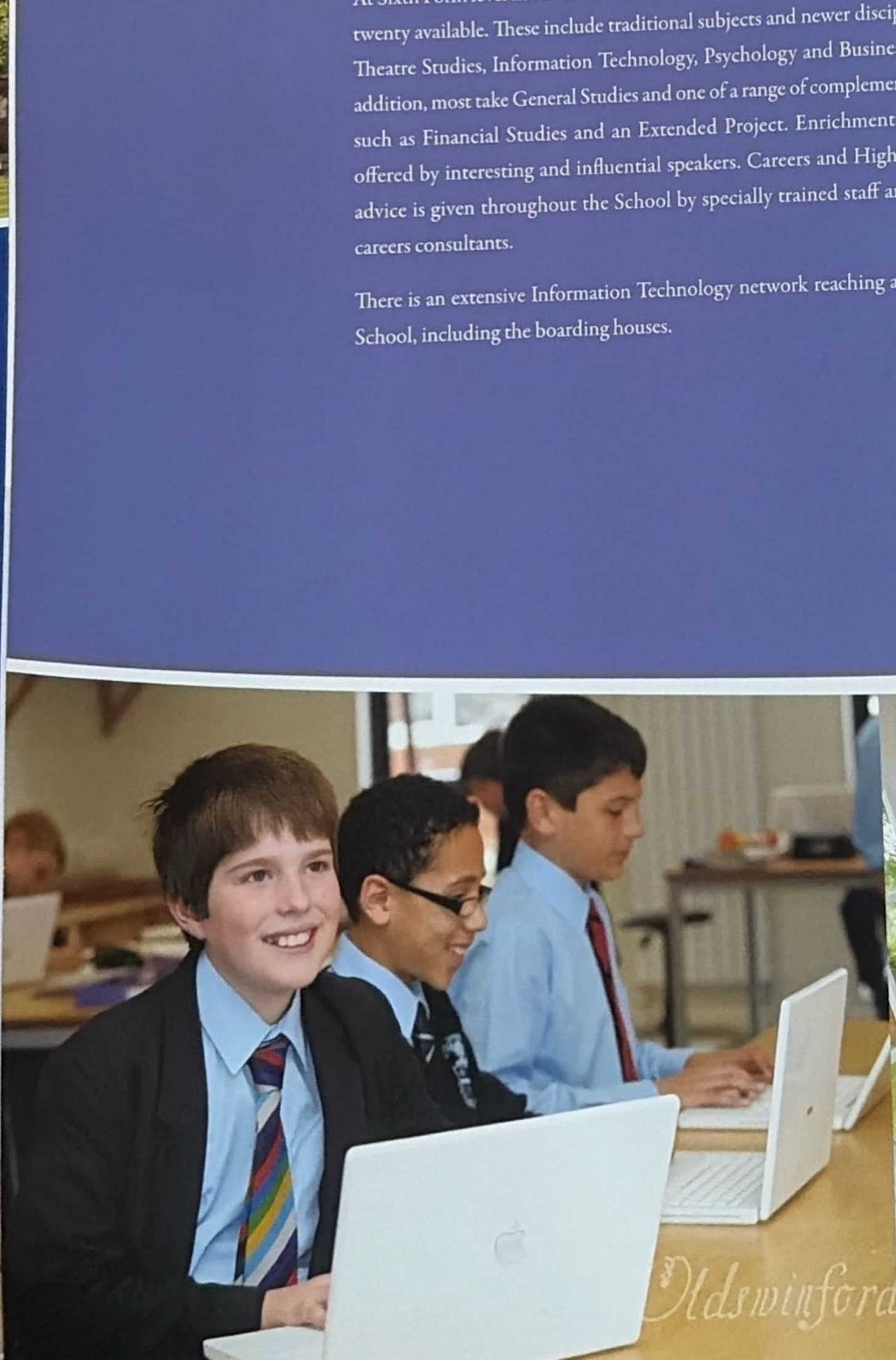
Curriculum

Old Swinford Hospital provides the full range of subjects within the National Curriculum with several notable additions. For example, Classics is available throughout the School and Sport and PE have a larger allocation of time than is suggested by the National Curriculum to enable us to provide a full programme for all levels of sporting ability. There is also a Gifted and Talented programme of extended activities and the school has well established and successful partnerships with a broad range of schools.

Most pupils take nine subjects at GCSE, including English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) plus students follow a Personal Development course with ICT Functional Skills Level 2. Students also opt to study a further three GCSE's from a range of subjects.

At Sixth Form level most students choose four subjects from the range of well over twenty available. These include traditional subjects and newer disciplines such as Theatre Studies, Information Technology, Psychology and Business Studies. In addition, most take General Studies and one of a range of complementary subjects such as Financial Studies and an Extended Project. Enrichment Lectures are offered by interesting and influential speakers. Careers and Higher Education advice is given throughout the School by specially trained staff and by outside careers consultants.

There is an extensive Information Technology network reaching all parts of the School, including the boarding houses.







"The academic standards at Old Swinford are very impressive as is the wide range of sporting and cultural activities on offer to pupils."

Chris Woodhead
Formerly HM Chief Inspector of Schools

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Old Swinford Hospital is designed as a stepping-stone between School and University. Virtually all students go immediately to University, with a healthy number achieving access to the top Universities in the UK such as Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College and University College London. A gap year is an increasingly popular option, but support is offered to those students even after they have left in order to assist with their University application.

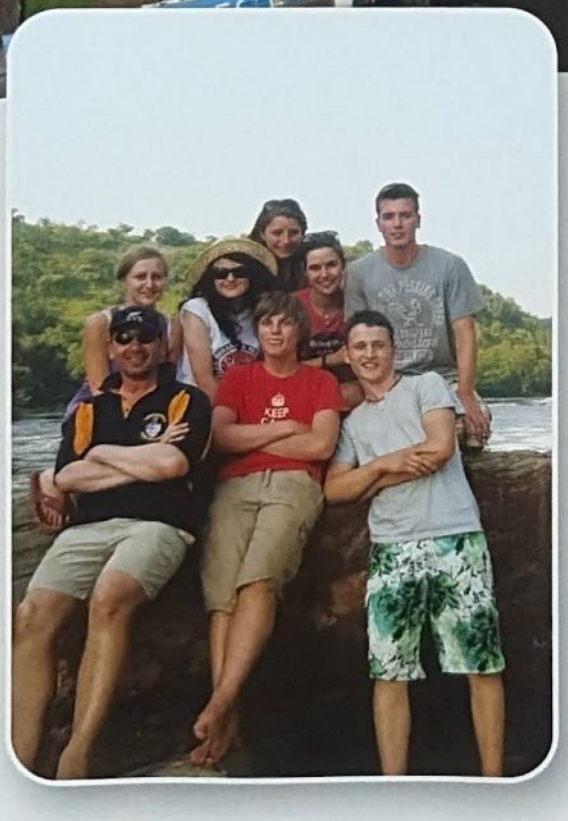
Alongside academic study, sporting, extra-curricular and leadership opportunities are a vital part of the Sixth Form experience. Throughout the Sixth Form there are many opportunities to take part in cultural activities and to play sport of all kinds, from the purely recreational to the highly competitive.

We encourage students to make the most of the many opportunities for service and leadership that the School provides. These range from taking on the demanding role of Prefect or participating in the School Council to working with students from a local special school.

Our students emerge from the school as well-rounded, confident young people, ready to make an impact on the world around them. This is the hallmark of an Old Swinford Hospital student and, whatever their next step, it's a reputation that will precede them.









HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL

Old Swinford Hospital has been designated a high performing school in recognition of our commitment to excellence and our work with business and community partners to broaden and deepen students' understanding of the world of work. Our annual Business Challenge Conference is a prestigious and demanding feature of Year 12 for every student.


Oldswinford at St Thomas Foleys Hospitallers
7
15
8
GILBERT

A Broader Education

At Old Swinford Hospital, education extends well beyond the academic curriculum. Our extra-curricular activities are provided for all ages, allowing students to engage in new experiences and develop a taste for discovery.

Music has an important part in the life of the School and tuition is available for all orchestral instruments, singing, piano, organ and guitar. There are regular concerts featuring soloists, the School symphony and chamber orchestras, the swing band, concert band and a number of other ensembles. Drama takes many forms from improvised pieces to ambitious musicals.

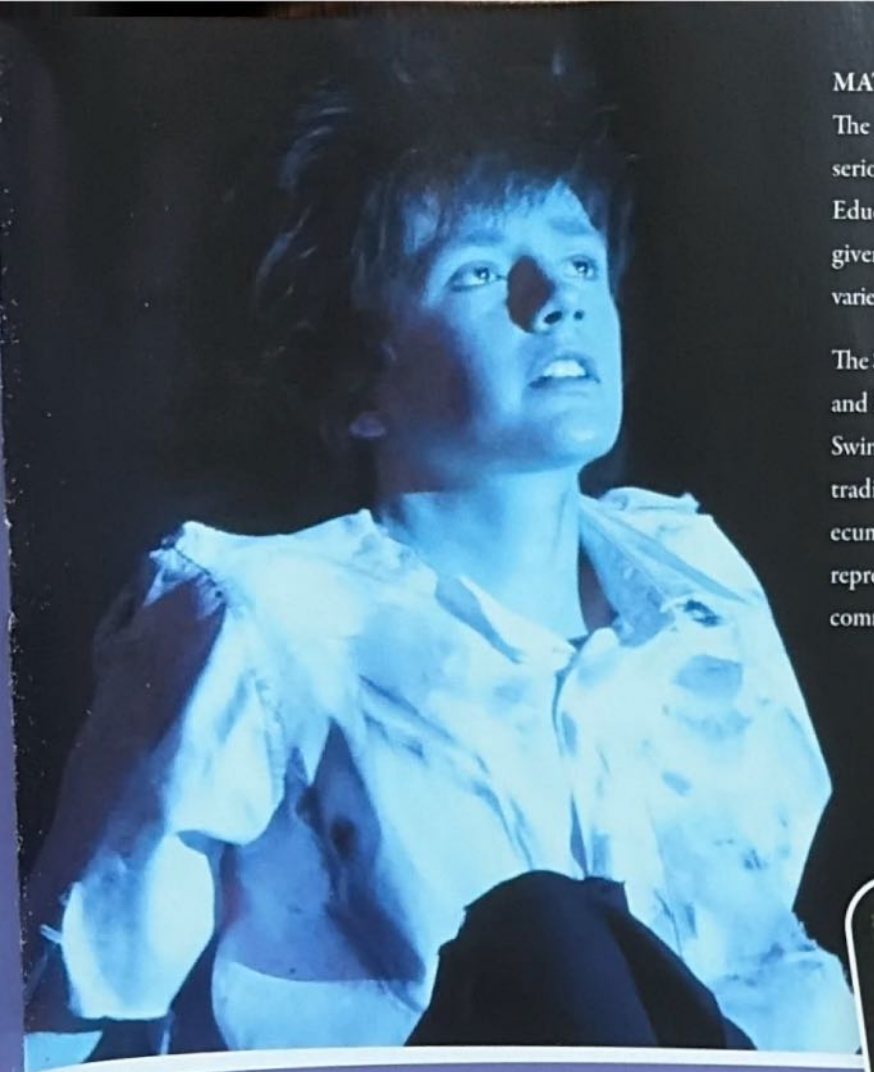


The purpose built Art Studio provides excellent opportunities for individual work in a wide range of media, including pottery and stained glass.

There is a popular Combined Cadet Force contingent and the School is the largest centre in the area for the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. Many pupils also participate in the Scheme at Bronze and Silver levels.

Old Swinford Hospital is linked with a number of other schools around the world, including St. John's Secondary School, Nandere, Uganda. There are numerous other opportunities to participate in overseas visits including those associated with Music, History, Modern Foreign Languages and Sport. Students also undertake challenging expeditions to such places as Mount Kilimanjaro, Honduras and Nepal.





MATTERS OF THE SPIRIT

The School takes its responsibility to nurture pupils' spiritual life seriously. There is a lively and innovative approach to Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education. Pupils are given opportunities to explore spiritual and moral questions from a variety of well-informed perspectives.

The School was established in the traditions of the Church of England and has a close relationship with the parish church of St. Mary, Old Swinford, which has always served as the School Chapel. Whilst this tradition is reflected in School worship, the School's approach is ecumenical in character and there are frequent visits from representatives of other Christian denominations. The School is committed to providing education to pupils of all faiths and of none.



One unusual feature of the school year is the annual Adventure Week. This takes place during the final week of the summer term every year and involves all pupils in a challenging physical, intellectual or practical activity. All these opportunities enable our students to understand more about the wider world around them.







Oldswinford



Sport

Sport plays a significant role at Old Swinford Hospital and in addition to the part played in the Curriculum by Physical Education, there are numerous opportunities to take part in a wide range of sports.

The major games during the Michaelmas and Lent terms are rugby, football, hockey, basketball, netball and cross-country, whilst cricket, athletics and tennis occupy the summer term.

We are fortunate to have access to arguably the best sporting facilities in the region along with the highest quality of coaching talent. Success in regional and national competition is common practice and our teams regularly pitch themselves against the best from other countries during our regular overseas tours. Recent ventures include South Africa, Namibia, New Zealand, Fiji, Chile, Argentina and Australia.









In a busy boarding school sport is very much the focus beyond the school day. Students have the opportunity to engage in a variety of recreational activities including golf, shooting, sailing, squash, kung fu and trampolining to name a few. There is a full programme of inter-house sports in over 15 activities where loyalty and pride comes to the fore with students competing against their peers.

Whatever a students sporting aspirations Old Swinford Hospital believes in giving every student the opportunity to reach their potential and provide the basis for personal fulfilment.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are you an independent school?
No, Old Swinford Hospital is one of 35 schools in the country that offer a boarding education within the state system. Technically, we are a Voluntary Aided School, which means that the Governors and Headmaster have considerable autonomy from the Local Authority and the Foundation Trustees (the Feoffees) appoint the majority of the Governing Body.

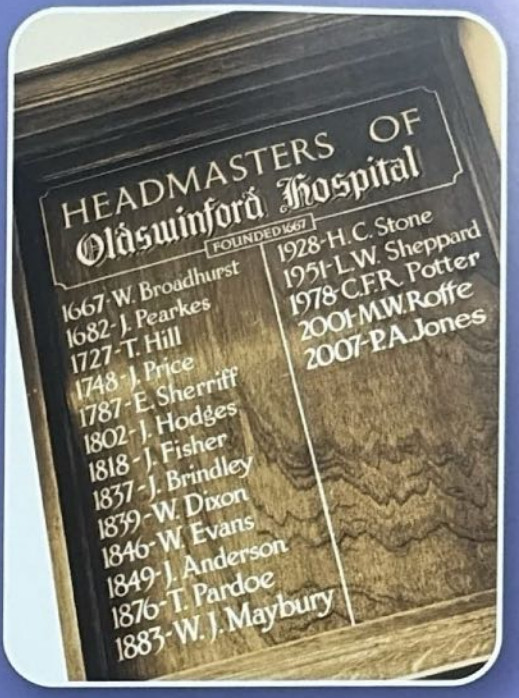
We share with all good schools in the state and independent sectors a belief in high standards of achievement and discipline and a commitment to providing an excellent education in the broadest sense.

What is a typical Old Swinford pupil like?
There is, of course, no such thing as a "typical" Old Swinford pupil, but we are pleased that those who visit the School often comment on the unpretentious friendliness of our pupils and the fact that they are clearly very proud of their school.

Where is Old Swinford Hospital?
Within walking distance of Stourbridge, a medium sized town on the border between Worcestershire and the West Midlands. There are good rail links, we are close to the centre of the motorway network and to Birmingham International Airport.

Are there any free places at the School?
All pupils in Year 7(11+) to Year 11(15+) are full or weekly boarders or out boarders and fees are therefore payable for their accommodation and supervision. However, there are Foundation Places available for boarders entering Year 7 which are worth up to 90% of the fee. Foundation places are intended for boys who have a particular need to board but where the resources of the family cannot meet the full boarding fee.

In the Sixth Form there are places for day students who pay only a nominal Facilities Fee to cover sundry expenses during the year.

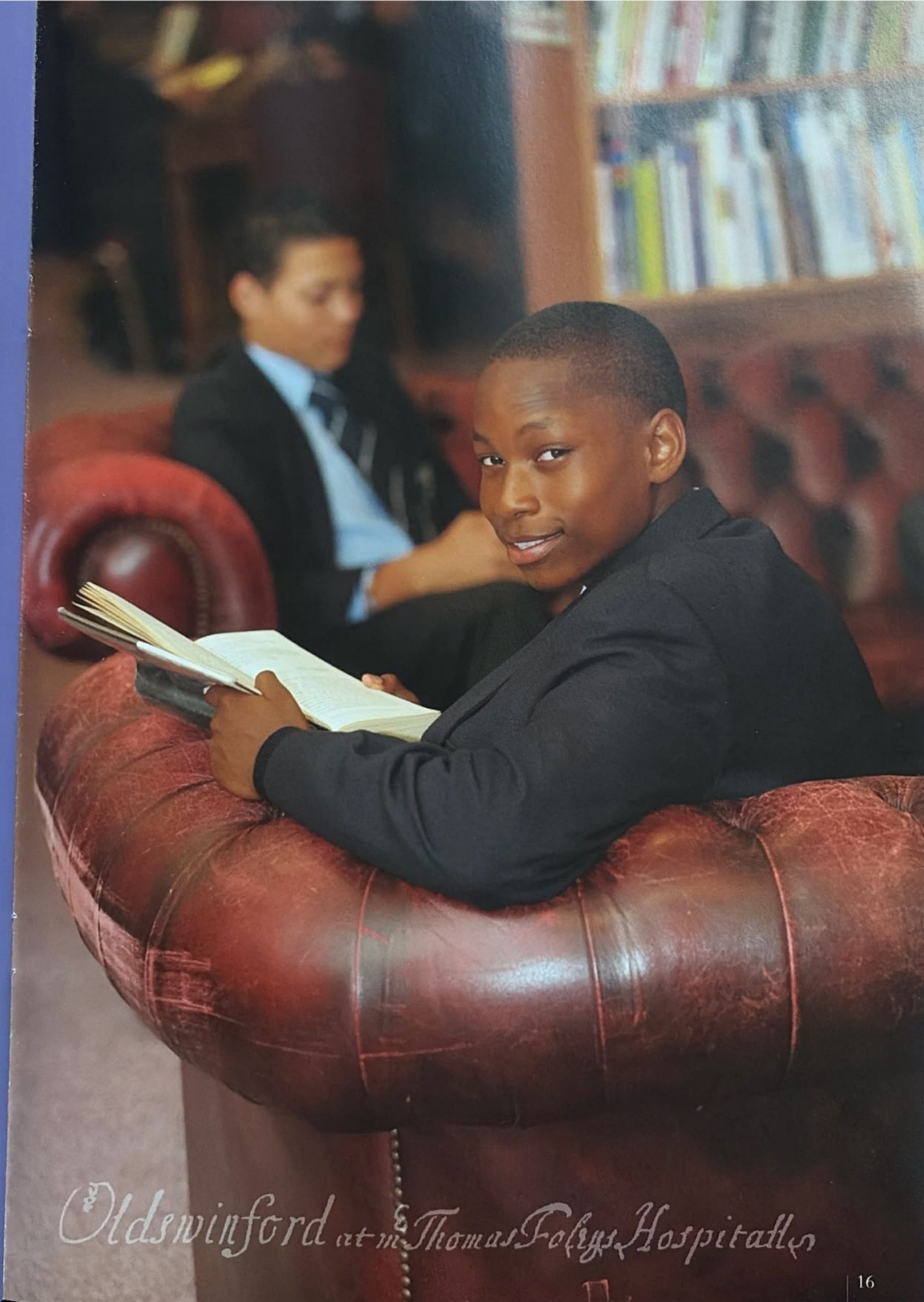


When can girls join?
Old Swinford Hospital is a boys' school but has received special dispensation from the Secretary of State, to admit a limited number of Sixth Form Day Girls.

Are there fees for "extras"?
There are no additional charges for books or materials. Certain trips and extra-curricular activities, weekend and Adventure Week events are charged for separately, but the cost of these is always kept to a minimum and is often heavily subsidised.

Are you a school or a hospital?
We are definitely a School! When we were founded in the seventeenth century, the term "hospital" indicated a charitable institution rather than a medical one and we retain the traditional name as part of our unique heritage.

What does the School motto mean?
Ut prosim vince malum bono.
It is taken from Romans Chapter 12 Verse 21: "Be not overcome of evil: but overcome evil with good."



Oldswinford at St Thomas Foleys Hospitality

Admissions

What to do next

STEP 1: Find Out More
Visit our Website: www.oshsch.com

Contact the Registrar. She will be pleased to answer any questions you may have about the School, eligibility for admission or the admissions process.

Telephone +44 (0)1384 817325 or
e-mail admissions@oshsch.com

STEP 2: Come to Visit Us
You will receive a very warm welcome at any of our informal Open Events, details of which are listed on the website. If you would prefer an individual appointment to tour the School and meet the Headmaster, please contact the Registrar.

STEP 3: Register
A Registration Form is enclosed with this prospectus. Please complete it and return it to the Registrar before the closing dates given. It is never too early to register!

Once you have registered, we will contact you with details of the admissions process.

If you wish, you may register simultaneously for both a boarding and out boarding place. Please refer to the Admissions Procedures booklet for full details.

Pupils from Overseas
Old Swinford Hospital has been rooted for centuries in the local community that it serves, yet we also enjoy an international reputation. Every year we welcome a number of pupils to the school who are normally resident overseas and we recognise that it is not possible for candidates from overseas to attend the school for interview. We are often able to make alternative arrangements to assess their suitability for admission.

Support is provided for those whose first language is not English. All pupils from overseas must have a guardian in the UK.

All information in this prospectus was accurate at the time of publication but we are constantly reviewing our provision. You will find details of any major changes on the enclosures with this prospectus. This prospectus does not form the basis of any contract between the Feoffees or Governors of Old Swinford Hospital and any other party and should not be relied on as a definitive source of information on any aspect of the School.





OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to the Registrar.

Old Swinford Hospital
Registration Form

Child's Details

Child's Surname:

Forename(s):

Please underline the name generally used

Date of Birth: Nationality: *candidates resident overseas please enclose a copy of UK or EU Passport*

Type of Place: *please tick* ☐ Boarding ☐ Out Boarder Year 7 ☐ Out Boarder Year 9

Years 7 & 9 may apply for both Boarder & Out Boarder Status

Proposed date of admission: **September**

Please indicate here the names of any other member(s) of the family attending the school or registered for admission:

Parents' Details

Father's Title:

Full Name:

Address:

Telephone - Day: Evening:

Mobile Number: Fax Number:

Email Address:

Is this your child's main residence? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Mother's Title:

Full Name:

If address is different to the above, please indicate to whom correspondence should be sent: ☐ Mother ☐ Father

Address:

Telephone - Day: Evening:

Mobile Number: Fax Number:

Email Address:

Is this your child's main residence? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Special Educational Needs

Does the candidate have any special need or disability for which reasonable adjustment may be required during the admissions procedure or thereafter?

☐ No ☐ Yes If yes please give details:

Does the candidate have a statement of Special Education Needs? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Present School Details

Please state the name and address of the present school:

Name of Head: Entry date:

Local Education Authority: *If known*

Boarding Candidates

Suitability for Boarding

The School is under an obligation to determine whether or not boarding applicants are suitable to board. This is done by reference to the applicant's present school and (where relevant) Local Authority. In addition, parents/carers of boarding applicants are entitled to name another person, not being the Head of the applicant's present school from whom a reference may be sought. There is no obligation on the part of parents/carers to provide a further referee, nor will the School necessarily seek information from the person named.

Name & Address of additional referee

Relationship of referee to candidate

Boarding Need

Does the applicant have any specific boarding need? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so please indicate the nature of the boarding need and the appropriate person to whom the School may have reference to provide corroborating evidence. For details of the types of boarding need that will be considered and the qualification of the referee who may provide corroborating evidence, please see the Admissions Procedures Leaflet.

Details of boarding needed:

Name & Address of additional referee

Relationship of referee to candidate

Scholarships/Foundation Awards

Please indicate if you wish your son to be considered for the following *See Admissions Procedures Leaflet.*

School Scholarship ☐
Years 7 & 9
Boarding Only

Foundation Award ☐
Year 7
Boarding Only

Music Scholarship ☐
Years 7 & 9
Boarding & out Boarding

Notes

Registration can be made at any time prior to the closing date. The acceptance of this form does not indicate the promise of a place. Closing dates for the receipt of applications are:-

Year 7 Places:

Out boarding	**September 18th prior to the proposed date of admission.**
Boarding	**November 1st prior to the proposed date of admission.**
	You must also complete and return the Local Authority Common Application Form available from your Local Authority. If you fail to do so your application for a year 7 place will be invalid.
	Late applications will also be subject to the Local Authority procedure.
Other places:	**December 9th prior to the proposed date of admission.**

APPLICATIONS ARE ONLY VALID WHEN THE DECLARATION BELOW IS SIGNED

Declaration

I/We request that the candidate be registered as a prospective student. I/We certify that all the information given is true and accurate and understand that it may be verified by the School.

First Signature:

Full Name:

Relationship to Child:

Date:

Second Signature:

Full Name:

Relationship to Child:

Date:

The following information is not used in connection with the admission procedure but is helpful to the School for marketing purposes.

Please say how you first heard of the School: Local reputation ☐ Present School ☐ Family & Friends ☐

Advertisement ☐ Website ☐

Please state where e.g. which newspaper

Other *Please give details*

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

ID NO: HOUSE: YEAR:



Old Swinford Hospital

Admission Procedure

for

September 2013

Application Calendar 2012-2013

15 September	Open Morning (0900 - 1130)
18 September	Application deadline for Year 7 Out boarding applications
29 September	Year 7 Out Boarder OSHOT Test
6 October	Open Morning (0900 -1130)
11 October	Come on Board - *what it's like to be a boarder* (1730 - 2000)
1 November	Application Deadline for Year 7 Boarder Applications (England only)
3 November	Sixth Form Open Morning (0900 - 1130)
10 November	Sixth Form Open Morning (0900 - 1130)
24 November	Boarding Place Interviews
27 November	Sixth Form Choices Evening (1700 – 2000)
1 December	Boarding Place Interviews
9 December	Application Deadline for other Boarding Applications (including Year 7 Boarder Applications from outside England) and Year 9 Out Boarder Applications
19 January	Boarding Place Interviews
11 January	Sixth Form Day Place Application Deadline
24 January	Sixth Form Admissions Sport Aptitude Trials
25 – 27 January	Boarding Taster Weekend (Year 7)
2 February	Scholarship Examinations and Interviews
9 February	Sixth Form Day Admissions Test and Interviews
1 March	Notification of results of Year 7 applications by Local Authorities in England

Introduction

Admissions to Old Swinford Hospital are regulated by the Governors' Admissions Policy and by the statutory School Admissions Code. In addition, the Feoffees and Governors also have procedures for the award of Scholarships and Bluecoat Entrance Awards which do not form part of the statutory admissions process. This inevitably means that our admissions procedures are somewhat complicated and this leaflet aims to explain how things work in practice. If in doubt, the Registrar will be happy to help you.

To be eligible for admission to the School, applicants (or their parents/legal guardians) must be entitled to hold a full UK or EU passport or have other residential status within the UK. The School does not operate a catchment area.

Types of Admission

There are three different types of admission to Old Swinford Hospital and each type of admission has its own procedures:

- Boarding Places
- Out Boarder Places
- Sixth Form Day Student Places

Boarding Places

The majority of places available are boarding places. Boarding places are available in Year 7 (11+), Year 9 (13+) and Year 12 (16+) but there may sometimes be boarding places available in other year groups. All candidates for boarding places must satisfy the Governors that they are suitable to board and this is judged on the basis of an interview and a school reference. Places are then allocated according to the oversubscription criteria listed in the Admission Policy at the end of this booklet. In brief the criteria are:

1. Looked after children or previously looked after children
2. Sons of members of the UK Armed Force who qualify for MoD financial assistance
3. Children with boarding need
4. Brothers of existing boarders
5. Children of staff
6. Children of former pupils

NOTE: Please see Admission Policy within for full definition of the above.

Further places are then allocated by a random lottery to ensure fairness. The admissions process does not distinguish between full and weekly boarding places and the boarding fee payable is the same.

There is no academic test for boarding places in Years 7-10. All Year 12 boarders must have gained at least 7 GCSE passes at Grade C (or an agreed equivalent for overseas candidates) in order to meet our Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) for the Sixth Form.

If you live in England and are applying for a Year 7 boarding place you must include Old Swinford Hospital on your Local Authority Common Application Form (CAF) for secondary school transfer as well as applying directly to the School. If you do not do so, your son may not be able to take up a place that is offered by the School. Although you will communicate directly with the School for the most part, the formal offer of a place will be made via your own Local Authority in early March 2013.

If you live in any other part of the United Kingdom or overseas or are applying for admission in any other year group apart from Year 7, you only need to complete the School's own Registration Form. All communication will be with the School and the School will also make the formal offer of a place.

Out Boarding Places

Out boarder places are available in Year 7 (11+) and Year 9 (13+) only. Out boarders have an extended day so that they can integrate fully into the boarding life of the school and derive benefit from it. Out boarders do everything that boarders do except routinely sleep in school. They may arrive for breakfast at 0730 (but do not have to arrive until 0820) and depart after the end of Prep. They have full access to the facilities of the boarding house including study areas. From time to time they may also sleep in the boarding house if accommodation is available. A fee is payable for the additional facilities, meals and supervision provided for out boarders.

Out boarder places in Year 7 are allocated solely on the basis of performance in the Old Swinford Hospital Online Test (OSHOT) which is taken in the September before the year of admission into Year 7 (see below for details). In very rare circumstances where it is necessary to determine which of two or more equally placed candidates is allocated a place, the other criteria set out in the Admissions Policy may also be used.

It is essential that Old Swinford Hospital is included on your Local Authority Common Application Form (CAF) for secondary school transfer at age 11. If you do not do so, your son may not be able to take up a place that is offered by the School. Although you will communicate directly with the School for the most part, the formal offer of a place will be made via your own Local Authority in early March 2013.

Out boarder places in Year 9 are allocated according to the following oversubscription criteria:

1. First priority will be given to candidates who are a looked after child as defined in the Admissions Poilcy.

2. Second priority will be given to candidates who do not at the time of the closing date for applications already attend at a secondary school (other than a middle-deemed-secondary school).

3. Third priority will be given to candidates with a brother/sister, half brother/half sister (who share a common parent), step brother/sister, adopted brother/sister or foster brother/sister who is already a pupil in the school.

4. Children of staff

5. Children of former pupils

6. The sixth oversubscription criterion shall be a random ballot of remaining candidates.

NOTE: Please see Admission Policy within for full definition of the above.

When out boarders reach the Sixth Form they may either become Sixth Form Day Students or Day Boarders. Day Boarders are also full members of their boarding house but there is greater flexibility concerning their routine.

Sixth Form Day Student Places

Day student places are only available in Year 12. Day students attend the school on exactly the same basis as they would any other school sixth form or college, although they are fully included within the co-curricular and enrichment programme that is available to boarders and day boarders. Both boys and girls may apply for Sixth Form day student places.

Day students are associated with a boarding house but their main focus for pastoral support is the Sixth Form Centre which has its own Housemaster and tutor team. Boys may opt for day boarder status (see above) subject to the availability of accommodation and be fully integrated into the boarding house. **This is not a separate category of admission**.

There are three application routes for day student places and applicants may apply for more than one route if they wish.

1. Musical Aptitude

On average, three day student places per year are awarded on the basis of aptitude in music. This is judged by a musical audition and interview. All applicants should be capable of playing at least one instrument to a standard roughly equivalent to Grade 7 or 8.

2. Sports Aptitude

On average, three day student places per year are awarded on the basis of aptitude in sport. All applicants should be able to provide evidence of high achievement at school/club level and beyond in one of the specified sports. Applicants will also be expected to demonstrate above average levels of achievement in basic fitness and skills tests and have an interest in studying Sports Studies at A Level. The sports considered are as follows:
For boys: Rugby Union, Football, Basketball.
For girls: Netball, Dance.
For boys and girls: Cricket, Athletics, Cross Country.

3. Academic Ability

All other day student places are awarded on the basis of predicted GCSE grades (as supplied in a reference from the candidate's current school) and an academic test taken in February of the year of admission into Year 12. The details of this test will be published separately in January 2013 for admission in September 2013. All candidates for Sixth Form day student places are also interviewed by a member of the Sixth Form team in order to check subject options and provide any other advice or information that the candidate may need. **This interview is not part of the admissions process**.

All Year 12 Day Students must have gained at least 7 GCSE passes at Grade C in order to meet our Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) for the Sixth Form.

The Governors request that parents/carers of day students pay a modest Facilities Fee (currently £164 per year) as a contribution to the cost of the Sixth Form Induction Programme and sundry other items which are not covered by government funding. This fee is not requested where a student is entitled to free school meals.

Entrance Scholarships and Bluecoat Entrance Awards

Entrance Scholarships

A limited number of entrance scholarships are awarded to outstanding candidates entering the school and gives kudos and privileges to the scholar. The financial award is relatively small and is at the sole discretion of the Headmaster. The percentage of the award is related to the degree of talent and is divided into three categories:

- **Major Academic Entrance Scholarship**
  These are for exceptional academic ability and may be granted on admission into Years 7, 9 and 12. These are based upon competitive examination and/or an interview.

- **Minor Academic Entrance Scholarship**
  These are for academic excellence and may be granted on admission into Years 7, 9 or 12. These are based upon competitive examination and/or interview.

- **Music Entrance Scholarships**
  These may be awarded to outstanding musicians on entering the school in Years 7, 9 or 12.

Applications for Entrance Scholarship

Applications for Year 7 and 9 Academic Scholarships are made at the same time as applications for boarding places but parents/carers must complete an additional application and provide an additional academic reference. Candidates for the Academic Scholarships must be British Citizens resident in the UK. Boarders awarded Scholarships must remain full or weekly boarders.

Year 7 candidates must take OSHOT and Year 9 candidates take a test of Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning. All candidates take also take a General Scholarship Paper and have an academic interview

Year 7 out boarding candidates are eligible for Academic Scholarships based on their performance in the OSHOT Admission Test. Awards are made to those who gain the highest placements.

Applications for Music Scholarships

Applications for Music Scholarships are made at the same time as boarding or out boarding places but parents/carers must fill in an additional application form and provide a musical reference. Candidates who are shortlisted for Music Scholarships have an audition and an interview with The Director of Music.

Granting an Award

Those awarded scholarships must first have qualified for a boarding or out boarding place under the general admission procedure. No one candidate may hold more than one scholarship or award at any time. The grant of Entrance Scholarships is based on excellence and not necessarily financial need. The Governors may in their sole and absolute discretion decide not to provide authorised fund for Entrance Scholarships in a particular year and the Headmaster may decide not to grant or continue any Entrance Scholarship.

Bluecoat Entrance Awards

Bluecoat Entrance Awards are available each year to boarders entering Year 7, 9 and 12. These awards are intended for boys who have a particular need to board but where the resources of parents/carers cannot meet the full boarding fee. Those offered these awards benefit from a sum or percentage off the full boarding fee at the discretion of the Headmaster.

Applications for Bluecoat Entrance Awards are made at the same time as applications for boarding places but parents/carers must complete an additional application form giving financial and other information. An additional character reference is also required. Applicants for these awards must be British Citizens resident in the UK.

Those offered Bluecoat Entrance Awards must first have qualified for a boarding place under the general admissions procedure for boarding places.

Tax Credits

The Paymaster General has ruled that eligible parents are able to claim Working Tax Credit in respect of both the boarding and the out boarder fee. More information on the Child Care element of the Working Tax Credit is available at www.direct.gov.uk, www.hmrc.gov.uk or direct from your local tax office.

Old Swinford Hospital Online Test

The Old Swinford Hospital Online Test (OSHOT) has been developed for the School by the University of Durham and is designed to assess academic potential in a more objective and less stressful way than traditional IQ type tests.

OSHOT is taken in school at a computer terminal and thus requires familiarity with a computer keyboard and mouse. It is not, however, a test of computer proficiency.

OSHOT is designed to be novel and engaging for the children who take it. It comprises tests for the following qualities:

- assessing visuo-spatial skills
- assessing speed and accuracy in number skills
- tasks aimed to assess understanding in reading
- assessing abstract reasoning
- assessing vocabulary skills
- applying mathematical skills to novel situations

The nature of the tasks set means that there is little or no advantage to be gained from using commercially available materials to prepare for OSHOT. OSHOT may be taken by different candidates at different times without compromising the integrity of the test.

A rank order of OSHOT results taken by those applying for out boarder places will be sent to parents as soon as authorised by the Local Authority.

The Sixth Form Day Student Admission Test

Applicants for Sixth Form Day Student places (except those wishing to apply only on the basis of their aptitude in music and/or sport) sit a test on the day of their interview. Details of this test will be published in January 2013.

Special Circumstances

Extra time is not allowed under any circumstances for the OSHOT.
Extra time for the Sixth Form Day Student Admissions Test is allowed for candidates with candidates with specific educational needs where a request is supported by appropriate evidence.

Looked After Children

Candidates who are a 'looked after child' as defined in the Admissions Policy, who are suitable to board or who meet the academic selection criteria for out boarder or Sixth Form day places have priority in the admissions process.

Boarding Need

Priority for boarding places is also given to candidates who are able to satisfy the Governors that they have a significant degree of boarding need. In determining whether or not they consider that a particular candidate has boarding need, the Governors will have reference to the following guidelines.

In each case, it is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide the information required to enable the Governing Body to make a determination. In particular, the names and contact details of a person from whom the School may seek corroborating evidence must be given. This person must be appropriately qualified to provide the corroborating evidence as shown below.

The Governing Body may consider that a candidate has boarding need if:

1. He satisfies at least ONE of the following criteria in that:		**Appropriate person to provide corroboration**
a	His main parent/carer is, or will be at the date of admission, a member of HM Armed Forces liable for deployment overseas (whether or not eligible for receipt of the Continuing Education Allowance) or frequent changes of posting within the UK.	Commanding Officer or other authorised Service Officer
b	His main parent/carer is, or will be at the date of admission, serving with or for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office or other UK Government Department on terms which may include either deployment overseas or frequent changes of posting within the UK.	Line Manager or Head of Department/Service
c	His main parent/carer is, or will be at the date of admission, serving with or for an institution of the European Union, United Nations or other international body of which the United Kingdom is a member.	Line Manager or Head of Department/Service
d	His main parent/carer is, or will be at the date of admission, employed by a UK based company which requires the parent to travel overseas or be resident overseas for a period of more than one month per year.	Line Manager or Head of Department/Service
e	He is the subject of a voluntary agreement between the Governing Body and a Local Authority or Charitable Trust to provide a boarding place for reasons of boarding need.	LA Lead Professional or Trust Officer
f	His home is in a remote rural location and appropriate education is not available within a reasonable daily travelling distance.	Current Headteacher or LA Officer
g	His home is in a remote rural location and he lacks social interaction with boys of the same age.	Current Headteacher or LA Officer

OR

2. He satisfies at least TWO of the following criteria in that:		**Appropriate person to provide corroboration**
a	He is in the care of a grandparent or other person, whether or not a relative, other than his natural parent, step parent or adoptive parent.	Teacher, Medical Practitioner, social worker or other professional person who knows the family
b	He or his main or only carer has been the victim of a serious crime or reasonably fears that he may become the victim of a serious crime.	Police Family Liaison Officer or social worker
c	His main or only carer has been diagnosed with a medical or psychological condition which is life threatening or which seriously impairs the carer's ability to care for the candidate.	Medical practitioner or social worker
d	His main or only carer also has the main responsibility for the care of another member of the candidate's close family or household who has been diagnosed with a serious medical or psychological condition and the care of whom seriously impairs the carer's ability to care for the candidate.	Medical practitioner or social worker
e	His home circumstances prevent social interaction with boys of the same age.	Teacher, Medical Practitioner, social worker or other professional person who knows the family
f	He has a particular gift or talent which can be developed at Old Swinford Hospital but not in his home area.	Teacher, sports coach or similar person who knows the candidate and his circumstances.
g	Has a brother (sharing at least one parent) who is already a boarder at Old Swinford Hospital*	Parent/carer
h	His main or only carer is a lone parent/carer.	Teacher, Medical Practitioner, social worker or other professional person who knows the family
i	He is homeless.	Teacher, Medical Practitioner, social worker or other professional person who knows the family.

* Note that criterion (g) may be combined with all other criteria except criterion (h)

Transfer of Status

The rules governing admission to the school also limit the extent to which students who have gained admission may change status once they have taken up their place. The following table summarises the general position:

Transfer To	Transfer From						
		Boarder Y7, 8, 10, 11	**Boarder Y9**	**Out Boarder Y7-11**	**Sixth Form Boarder**	**Sixth Form Day Boarder**	**Sixth Form Day Student**
	Boarder Y7-11			Apply to Headmaster			
	Out Boarder Y9		Apply to Headmaster				
	Out Boarder Y7, 8, 10,11	Not Permitted					
	Sixth Form Boarder	Achieve MQS*		Apply to Headmaster if MQS* achieved		Apply to Headmaster	Apply to Headmaster (Boys only)
	Sixth Form Day Boarder	Pass Test and Achieve MQS*		Automatic if accommodation available and MQS* achieved	Not Permitted		Apply to Headmaster (Boys only)
	Sixth Form Day Student	Pass Test and Achieve MQS*		Apply to Headmaster if MQS* achieved	Not Permitted		

*MQS = Minimum Qualification Standard for the Sixth Form. This is 7 GCSE passes at Grade C or above (or an agreed equivalent for overseas candidates)

Appeals

If your son/daughter is unsuccessful in gaining a place at the School you have a right of appeal to an Independent Panel whose decision is final.

Admission Policy for Admissions in September 2013

Introduction

Old Swinford Hospital is predominantly a boarding school for boys aged 11-18 and the majority of places are therefore designated as boarding places for boys of those ages. However, places are also available for a small number of out boarders aged 11-16 and for Sixth Form day students. Girls are admitted to the Sixth Form as day students only. Not more than 25% of the students in the Sixth Form may be day girls. The school currently consists of 670 students which comprises of 60 students in years 7 and 8, 90 in years 9, 10 and 11, and a Sixth Form of up to 280.

In order to be admitted to the School, all candidates must have full United Kingdom or other EU/EEA nationality, or have other approved residential status in the United Kingdom.

Admission Numbers

The Admission Numbers for each category for each year of entry shall be as follows:

Year of Entry	Boarders	Out Boarders	Day Students
7	44	16	
9	30	12	
12	13		47 (incl 31girls)

Most students at Old Swinford Hospital continue their education into the Sixth Form. Year 12 in a normal year comprises of approximately 70 day students and 70 boarders.

Admissions Procedure for Boarding Places

Suitability for Boarding (Old Swinford Hospital recognises its responsibility under the Children Act to safeguard and promote the welfare of boarders).

Candidates for boarding places are assessed to determine their suitability for boarding. This assessment includes the following:

- An interview
- A reference from the candidate's present school and/or a previous school where the candidate is not currently at school or has recently changed school
- Consideration of any other information that the parent/carer of the candidate may wish to provide to support the candidate's application or which may be provided at the request of the parent/carer by another person
- Information provided by a Local Authority (or equivalent authority outside England and Wales), where relevant.

In determining whether or not a candidate is suitable to board, the School has regard to the following questions:

- Does the candidate wish to board?
- Does the candidate have experience of staying away from his parents/carers whether or not he is currently a boarder?
- Does the candidate show evidence of self reliance and independence?
- Does the candidate show evidence of understanding and relishing the challenges of a communal life?
- Does the candidate show understanding of the responsibilities of a member of a boarding community?
- Is there any medical or psychological reason why boarding would not be appropriate, or any need that could not be met by reasonable adjustment to the boarding accommodation, routine and practice?

Oversubscription Criteria for Boarding Places

Places will be allocated to those deemed suitable for boarding according to the following oversubscription criteria:

1. First priority will be given to candidates who are a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order[iii]. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Pursuant of their responsibilities under the Children Act 1989 (as amended), the Governors will not admit candidates who cannot satisfy them that they are suitable for boarding whether or not they are a 'looked after child';
2. Second priority will be given to candidates who are the sons of members of the UK Armed Forces who qualify for Ministry of Defence financial assistance with the cost of boarding school fees;
3. Third priority will be given to candidates who have satisfied the Governors that they have a significant degree of boarding need, including candidates who are the sons of Crown Servants serving abroad and candidates whose parents are temporarily resident outside the United Kingdom for other work purposes;
4. Fourth priority will be given to candidates with a brother, half-brother (where they share one common parent), step brother, adopted brother or foster brother living at the same address who is already a boarder at the school;
5. Fifth priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
6. Sixth priority will be given to children of former pupils.
7. The final oversubscription criterion for boarding places shall be a random ballot of remaining candidates.

The academic ability and aptitude of candidates for boarding is not a criterion, however for Sixth Form boarding places, candidates will need to obtain GCSE Grades A*-C in 7 subjects in order to take up a place offered. Boarding places are not available to girls.

Admissions Criteria for Out Boarder [i] Places in Year 7

Sixteen Out Boarder places in Year 7 will be awarded on the basis of academic ability as determined by an assessment test taken in the Michaelmas Term before the year of entry. The Governors determine the qualification level for the test each year and in the event that more candidates attain the qualification level than there are places available the following oversubscription criteria shall apply:

1. First priority will be given to candidates who are a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order[iii]. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Second priority will be given to candidates with a brother/sister, half brother/half sister (who share a common parent), step brother/sister, adopted brother/sister or foster brother/sister who is already a pupil in the school.
3. Third priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Fourth priority will be given to children of former pupils.
5. Fifth priority will be given to candidates whose normal place of residence[iv] as determined by a straight line measurement in meters lies closest to the Main Entrance to the School in Heath Lane.

Admissions Criteria for Out Boarder [i] Places in Year 9

Twelve Out Boarder places in Year 9 will be allocated according to the following oversubscription criteria:

1. First priority will be given to candidates who are a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order[iii]. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Second priority will be given to candidates who do not at the time of the closing date for applications already attend at a secondary school (other than a middle-deemed-secondary school).
3. Third priority will be given to candidates with a brother/sister, half brother/half sister (who share a common parent), step brother/sister, adopted brother/sister or foster brother/sister who is already a pupil in the school.
4. Fourth priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. Fifth priority will be given to children of former pupils.
6. The final oversubscription criterion shall be a random ballot of remaining candidates.

Admissions Criteria for Day Student/Day Boarder[ii] Places in Year 12

Six Day Places in Year 12 will be awarded on the basis of aptitude in sport or music.

1. First priority will be given to candidates who show suitable aptitude for sport or music and who are a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order[iii]. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Other places will be awarded according to a rank order determined by taking into account the candidates' performance in trials and auditions held at School. Places will be awarded to sport and music candidates in turn. In 2009 the first place will be awarded to a music candidate and in 2010 to a sport candidate. This order will alternate each year thereafter. Boys and girls will be considered equally for the award of these places.

Places Awarded on the basis of Ability (41 Places)

The remaining Day Places in Year 12 will be awarded on the basis of academic ability as determined by an assessment test taken in the Lent Term of the year of entry and predicted GCSE grades.

1. First priority will be given to candidates who demonstrate a suitable ability and are a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order[iii]. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Other places will be offered according to a rank order of marks awarded until the number of places offered to girls (including any awarded on the basis of aptitude in sport or music or to children looked after by the local authority) equates to 25% of the projected total number of students in Year 12. No further places will then be offered to girls. Should there be no further suitable boy candidates; remaining places will not be filled.

In the case that more candidates qualify as a result of the test than there are places available the following criteria will apply:

1. First priority will be given to candidates who are already boarders at the school;
2. Second priority will be given to candidates with a brother/sister, half brother/half sister (who share a common parent), ~~or~~ step brother/sister, adopted brother/sister or foster brother/sister who is already a pupil in the school.

3. Third priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

4. Fourth priority will be given to children of former pupils.

5. The fifth priority will be given to candidates whose normal place of residence[iv] as determined by a straight line measurement in metres lies closest to the Main Entrance to the School in Heath Lane.

All candidates will need to obtain GCSE Grades A*-C in at least 7 subjects in order to take up a place offered.

Transfer to the Sixth Form without changing Categories

The transfer into the Sixth Form of all pupils already in the School is subject to achieving GCSE Grades A*-C in 7 subjects.

Transfer between Boarding, Out Boarding and Day Boarding and Day Student Categories

There is no automatic transfer between categories for pupils already in the School. Those admitted as out boarders or day students may transfer to take up a vacant boarding place at the beginning of an academic year provided they meet the "suitability for boarding" criterion. They may transfer at other times if there is boarding need and they meet the "suitability for boarding" criterion.

Those admitted as boarders may apply to transfer to out boarding status at the beginning of Year 9, or day boarding or day status at the beginning of Year 12. They will be offered places using the criteria listed above in competition with applicants who are not already members of the School. There is no guarantee of a place being offered.

Out boarders may transfer to day student status at the beginning of Year 12 on giving one term's written notice to the Headmaster. Otherwise, they will automatically transfer to day boarder status subject to accommodation being available. If day boarding accommodation is not available they will be deemed to be day students.

Boys admitted as day students may apply to be day boarders subject to accommodation being available. Day boarder status is not available to girls.

Waiting List Procedures

Parents of candidates who are unsuccessful in obtaining a place will be asked to indicate whether they wish to remain on a waiting list. Waiting lists are maintained the September of the year after the one in which admission was originally sought. For example, unsuccessful candidates for admission in September 2012 would be eligible to remain on a waiting list until September 2013. The length of time on the waiting list is not material to whether or not a place is finally awarded. It should be noted that new candidates are not admitted to Year 11 or 13.

Candidates on the waiting list for a boarding place will be considered along with any new applicants at the point when any vacancy arises. The place will be awarded according to the stated oversubscription criteria. Candidates judged to be unsuitable for boarding will not be kept on a waiting list. They may, however, reapply and be reassessed for each year of entry.

Vacancies for the selective Out Boarder places in Year 7 or Sixth Form Day Places will be filled by the next available candidate in the rank order of the admissions test, audition or trial or the other oversubscription criteria listed above, subject in the case of Sixth Form Day Places to the maximum number of places for girls not being exceeded. No further applicants will be considered.

Vacancies for Out Boarder places in Year 9 will be filled by applying the oversubscription criteria to those on the waiting list and to any other candidates who may have applied at the point when the vacancy occurs.

i. *Out Boarders in Years 7 to 11 do everything that boarders do except routinely sleep in school. They may arrive for breakfast at 0730 (but do not have to arrive until 0820) and may depart after the end of Prep. They have full access to the facilities of the Boarding House including study areas. From time to time they may also sleep in the Boarding House if accommodation is available.*
The Out Boarder fee relates solely to after school hours provision. It is not a charge for education and so many eligible families may be able to reclaim at least part of the Out Boarder fee as a Working Tax Credit. Parents should consult www.hmrc.gov.uk for details.

ii. *Day Boarders in the Sixth Form are equivalent to out boarders but there is greater flexibility concerning their routine.*

iii. *An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'residence order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).*

iv. *The normal place of residence is considered to be the child's (along with their parents') genuine principal place of residence at the time of the allocation of places i.e. where they are normally and regularly living. If a child is resident with friends or relatives (for reasons other than guardianship), the friends or relative's address will not be considered for allocation purposes. Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the school week, then the home address will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week. Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes. At least one item of proof must demonstrate where the child lives.*

This Policy was approved by the Governors' at their Quarterly Meeting on 20 March 2012

Fees from 1st September 2012

	Per Term	Per Annum
Boarders (Years 7 – 13)	£3,475	£10,425
Overseas Boarders	£3,500	£10,500
Out Boarders (Years 7 – 11)	£1,738	£5,214
Day Boarding (Years 12 and 13)	£1,738	£5,214
Day Student (Year 12)		£164



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