# WORCESTER







# STIMULATING.

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### Welcome

RGS Worcester is inclusive, challenging and academically stimulating. We offer an outstanding education for children aged 11 – 18 years with an extensive range of opportunities both in their studies and in their Co-curricular experience of school life.

Our aim is to deliver excellence in all areas beginning with high quality teaching and exceptional pastoral care. As one of the oldest schools in the country, RGS Worcester combines a sense of history, community and place in the City of Worcester with 'state of the art' facilities, spacious grounds and a determination to see each child achieve their full potential. Our Digital Learning Programme ensures that pupils are well prepared for the future. We are pleased that our pupils attain the qualifications necessary to go on to the leading universities in the UK and abroad, and are particularly proud that they develop the personal qualities of working together, respecting one another and their community, and being open and friendly towards others.

With leading Academic results, an award-winning Careers provision, breathtaking Co-curricular opportunities and exceptional Pastoral Care, RGS Worcester provides an education where each pupil receives individual attention, ensuring a well rounded education that nurtures personal growth and success.

We strongly encourage you to visit us, either on a formal Open Day or on a School day. You will have the opportunity to speak to staff and, in particular, meet our pupils who look forward to showing you their School and all that they enjoy here.

Mr John Pitt, Headmaster



"Welcoming, unaffected and academically on the up and up, while still valuing the breadth of opportunities outside the classroom."

- The Good Schools Guide

"Pupils have an excellent self-awareness, are self-assured, self-effacing and value being allowed to develop as individuals."
- Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) Report



### **About RGS Worcester**

Located in the historic City of Worcester, RGS Worcester lays claim to being the sixth oldest school in the world. The School was originally founded around 685 by Bishop Bosel, with the first written record in 1291.

Our motto 'Cherishing the past, looking to the future' reflects a school that combines tradition with a modern, forward-thinking approach to education. An innovative Digital Learning Programme inspires pupils to be active learners and Co-curricular opportunities provide them with the chance to express themselves and pursue what they love. Pupils run through the School gates in the morning, keen to try something new and exciting.

RGS Worcester is a welcoming and friendly school. Class sizes are small and RGS is large enough to provide a wealth of opportunities, but small enough so that each pupil is treated individually and encouraged. Pupils work closely with their teachers and are well supported. They develop lifelong friendships at the School at whichever stage they begin their RGS journey.







### **Admissions**

We encourage a visit to our Open Mornings or a personal visit on a normal school day. Admission is at 11+ (Year Seven), 13+ (Year Nine) and 16+ (Sixth Form) although pupils can join in other Year groups. At whatever stage you wish your child to join you will receive full support from our friendly admissions team, who will guide you through the process, including details of Entrance Examinations, Scholarships and Bursaries. A full induction programme at all entry levels ensures that pupils feel well settled into the School.

"I joined RGS in Year Seven, despite it being a much bigger School than I was used to I settled in easily and quickly made friends." - New Year Seven pupil

"We are delighted with the School. It is no exaggeration to say it is the best decision we have made."

- Parent of a new pupil

### **Academic**

We want pupils to be fully engaged in their learning, to become active learners, and not to be content with the role of the recipient within the classroom. We blend innovative learning such as the Digital Learning Programme, with the traditional practice of highly qualified and experienced teachers.

RGS has a long tradition of achieving outstanding examination results at A Level, BTEC/CTEC and at GCSE and consistently attains excellent value-added scores, which are calculated once pupils achieve final examination results. Each year, over 90% of our students achieve their first-choice university places with others accepting Higher Level Apprenticeships with prestigious companies.

We provide a wide, varied and balanced curriculum in the Lower School (Years Seven and Eight), and work closely with our feeder schools to ensure we have continuity of development in these important foundation years.

In Year Nine, we provide further focus on the Core subjects (English, Mathematics, the Sciences and Modern Foreign Languages) whilst allowing pupils to maintain breadth with a choice, for example, of Creative Arts subjects, Latin and Classics or Computer Science.

At GCSE (Years Ten and Eleven), we offer a more personalised curriculum with pupils studying their choice of subjects.

The Sixth Form is a time of transition when a pupil in a class becomes a student of a subject. Students have the opportunity to study a wide range of academic subjects (at A Level, BTEC/CTEC and the EPQ), taught by specialist teachers in high quality facilities.





### Creativity

The Creative Arts are a crucial and impressive part of an RGS Worcester education, and the pupils are constantly challenged to think creatively and perform at a high level. Through the Creative Arts, our pupils develop an awareness and understanding of culture while also developing skills and confidence.

In Music, we provide opportunities to perform in large concerts at prestigious venues with our numerous choirs, ensembles, and the orchestra. At the same time, we have Big Band concerts, the extremely popular annual 'Cabaret' event and many other less formal opportunities for all pupils to perform. Pupils from RGS have gone on to achieve Scholarships at Music Colleges and develop careers in both classical and modern music.

Similarly, in Drama, our plays and musicals always push the boundaries. Examples include our Senior pupils performing 'Romeo and Juliet' on a beach, and our Juniors delivering 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the open air at an English Heritage site. The breadth of provision is superb and pupils develop confidence and excitement in their Drama at RGS.

"Music and Drama are characterised by impressive levels of ambition and achievement."

- The Good Schools Guide







"The pupils are constantly being encouraged to think creatively and have new experiences, developed by inspirational teachers and visiting speakers, musicians, actors, artists and performers."

- Mr John Pitt, Headmaster







The Artwork at the School is stunning and pupils' work is displayed all around the School and in local galleries and exhibitions at venues such as Worcester Cathedral.

In Design Technology, the pupils are challenged to design and innovate. They develop their understanding through industry visits and compete for national awards such as Arkwright Scholarships. RGS Worcester has a record of more of these scholarships than any other school in the Midlands. Pupils can also extend their knowledge in practical scenarios such as Greenpower racing and have the opportunity to race at Goodwood and Silverstone.

The Textiles department is a creative haven where pupils develop their skills and produce work of the highest quality. RGS Worcester is the Midlands Centre for Young Fashion Designer UK and our pupils win awards annually.

The pupils are constantly being encouraged to think creatively, seize opportunities and take on new experiences. They are inspired by their teachers and peers and always rise to the challenge, producing work of exceptional quality and enjoying every aspect of the creative journey.

Scholarships in the Creative subjects are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+



### **Sport**

Enjoyment, teamwork and commitment are at the heart of RGS Sport and these values are supported by pupils, staff and parents. Some achieve excellence, and all play with pride and enjoyment.

The RGS Sporting Ethos can be split into two main strands: Performance and Values.

At the heart of <u>Performance</u> lies an ambition to ensure each and every child is fulfilling their potential. The majority of pupils play Sport for the School, taking with them the benefits of their sporting experiences into their future lives. Many of our pupils pursue and develop their sport beyond school in local clubs and we are very proud of the many pupils we have represented at a national level across a wide range of different sports.

Our Charter for Sport describes the <u>Values</u> that we promote and look to develop. To join a school like RGS Worcester is to join a community and become part of a team. Like any team, the School thrives on the trust and commitment which its members show to each other and the values that those teammates share. As such, we expect all of our pupils to be <u>Resilient</u>, <u>Gracious</u>, <u>Selfless</u> and <u>Willing</u> and to be proud of 'Being Green' (the School's colour).

With at least 20 different sports available and superb coaching from experts in each sport, as well as bespoke strength and conditioning support, the pupils enjoy the opportunities available to them. Whether it is playing in a Rugby or Football match at Sixways stadium to a sell-out audience at the University Arena in 'Superball' in Netball, at our International Hockey Centre, or our beautiful Flagge Meadow Cricket ground, the pupils enjoy their sport. There is an Athlete Development Programme to assist their sport development and they experience Sports Tours in the UK and abroad. Whatever the sport, we can assist pupils to achieve their potential and enjoy every moment of the experience.

Sports Exhibitions and Scholarships are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+









### **Clubs and Societies**

We are committed to the idea that the more someone is willing to try, the more potential they have to become. Our Co-curricular provision, therefore, encourages pupils to do more and to be more.

Co-curricular activities work hand in hand with each pupil's academic and personal development to encourage confidence and enjoyment of school life. Pupils are encouraged to try something new and develop their interests through a breath-taking array of different Clubs and Societies.

There are over 130 different Clubs and Societies each week at RGS Worcester so there is something for everyone. Creativity and new skills are encouraged through Theatre Spotlight, Textiles Club, learning the Ukulele or being part of a Drama production. Academic interests can be explored through Astronomy Club using the RGS observatory, Reading Club or Literary Society, Science Club or Computer Coding. The School offers the opportunity to build leadership and teamwork skills in the popular Combined Cadet Force (Army, Navy and RAF Sections) and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Pupils can develop presentation skills through Debating in which the School has a national reputation. Whatever your child's interests, they will have the chance to explore and develop through the Co-curricular life of the School.

There is a vibrant House system at RGS with all pupils and staff allocated to a House for competitions in a wide-range of activities from Sport, Music, Drama and Dance, to Creative Writing and Chess. The pupils enjoy participating, earning points for their House, and contributing to the competition.

Being a part of our community and contributing to that community is an important aspect of an RGS education. Pupils support local and national charities and participate in activities for local school children and the elderly, raising funds through group and individual challenges.











### **Pastoral Care**

At RGS Worcester, we have the expertise and capacity to deliver a programme of Pastoral Care that is unique and unrivalled. Providing care tailored to the needs of the individual is our core principle and we know each individual child extremely well.

We are fortunate to have numerous ways in which we can help and support the pupils and their families, and our extensive pastoral provision centres upon the team around the child. With highly skilled staff, we offer a holistic approach to help children cope with, and resolve, any issues they face. The team comprises the pupil's Form Tutor, the Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year, the Heads of Lower School and Sixth Form, fully qualified Nurses, School Counsellors and a Relaxation Specialist. Sixth Form students also act as Pastoral Prefects, assisting the younger pupils in Years Seven, Eight and Nine. Senior pupils are also Peer Mentors for younger pupils.



We raise awareness of current issues that our young people have to negotiate during their adolescent years. The School regularly hosts external speakers, often of international reputation, to stimulate discussion on a wide range of topics.

The Learning Development team assists pupils with specific learning difficulties and those individuals who need extra help with revision and other learning techniques. They also offer support to build confidence and social skills.

We understand the challenges of growing up in today's world with its many different pressures. We ensure that our young people have the skills to cope with, and enjoy, their adolescence so that they can look forward to happy, healthy and fulfilling young adult lives.



### **Digital Learning**

The Digital Learning Programme, established in 2014, provides pupils with an outstanding, immersive educational experience. The integration of iPads enhances engagement and interactivity, blending traditional teaching techniques with digital approaches. This results in the very best learning outcomes for the pupils. Teachers are 'Apple' qualified, and fully trained in using technology when it makes a difference to learning. As the only Apple Distinguished School in the region, RGS is regularly used by Apple to demonstrate best practice in Digital Learning nationally and internationally.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, we were able to provide continuity of education for all pupils, teaching over 18,000 lessons online and maintaining provision for Pastoral Care and Co-curricular activities.



Since then, RGS has engaged with Artifical Intelligence in education and is a leading school nationally in the use of technology.

Pupils are given a full induction into using the technology when they arrive at the School and quickly grasp the benefits, as well as understanding the importance of e-safety. They can choose to become 'Digital Geniuses' who advise and assist others.

Pupils leave RGS fully equipped for a modern, technological world and are ready to use technology at University and in the workplace, understanding its advantages and value.

# Joining the RGS Worcester Sixth Form

Life in the RGS Worcester Sixth Form is a busy and enjoyable experience, whether you join us new or have come up through our Family of Schools. Impressive A Level and BTEC/CTEC results and an award-winning Careers provision are two of the many elements which make RGS Worcester Sixth Form rewarding and successful.

In the Sixth Form, key decisions will be made by each student about their future. The Sixth Form Team, together with the Form Tutors, will guide your child towards greater independence and resilience, aiming to facilitate the skills needed to succeed in a demanding and fluid world.

Sixth Formers are the visible example of all that is best at RGS and are well placed to make a significant contribution to the quality of the RGS Worcester experience. They take on important leadership roles across the School, developing and enhancing their life skills. They lead Co-curricular activities, help to coach younger pupils and develop their own confidence, whilst striving for the best possible Academic results.

For further information about the Sixth Form provision here at RGS Worcester, please do request a Sixth Form Prospectus.







### **After RGS Worcester**

RGS has a superb record of supporting pupils to secure places at leading Universities in the UK, including Oxford and Cambridge, as well as other top Universities worldwide. We also support and assist pupils to apply for other courses, including Higher Level Apprenticeships and career opportunities. Our links with Universities, alumni network support and our team of advisers mean that we can make a real difference for each student.

The School continues to support former pupils after they have left RGS and can provide continuous Careers assistance, as well as organising a number of reunions, networking and other alumni events throughout the year.

Our Foundation and Alumni Association provide opportunities for former pupils to meet up, share experiences and continue to support one another, maintaining lifelong friendships and enjoying being a part of the RGS Worcester extended family.



"We are aiming to develop young adults who are confident but not arrogant, able to stand on their own two feet, proud of what they have achieved at school, and excited about what they will go on to achieve in their future lives."

- Mr John Pitt, Headmaster

> "By the time they leave school, pupils are articulate and confident; they have a purposeful sense of what they want to do next and are ready to meet the challenges of adult life."
>
> - ISI Inspection Report

### **Transport**

Transport need never be an issue for anyone considering applying to RGS Worcester.

The School is extremely well connected by school transport, bus, rail and road. It is only 15 minutes from Evesham and Droitwich and 30 minutes from Bromsgrove and Malvern by train and the station is a five minute walk from RGS Worcester.

Pupils attend RGS Worcester and The RGS Worcester Family of Schools from a very wide area stretching north of Birmingham to beyond Cheltenham in the south.

### **RGS School Minibus Service**

The RGS Worcester Family of Schools has a large transport network using our own RGS transport and is monitored using a state-of-the-art transport app. This is available to all of our pupils across the four RGS Schools. In addition, we operate a regular shuttle service between our Schools.

If you have any questions, would like us to consider a new route, or for more information about our transport network, then please do get in touch by contacting: transport@rgsw.org.uk

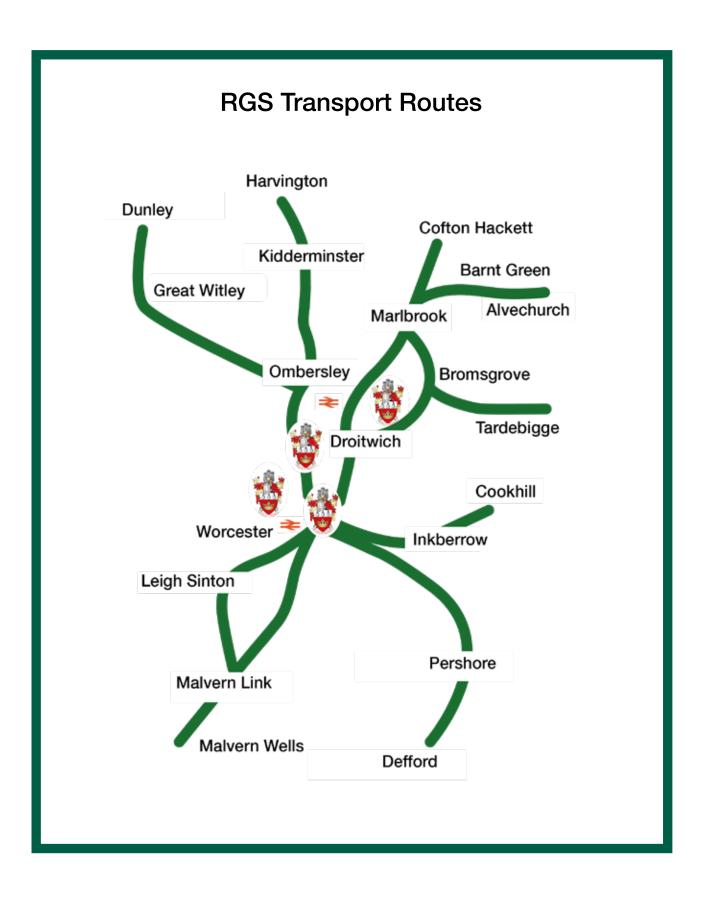
### Rail and Bus Travel

RGS Worcester is a short walk from Worcester Foregate Street railway station or the bus station. Shrub Hill railway station is a ten minute taxi drive from the School.

West Midlands Railway offers student rail tickets, valid per term, at significantly discounted rates.

For more information visit West Midlands Travel.

If you need further advice about Transport, please do contact the Registrar (admissions@rgsw.org.uk) who will be able to advise and help.



## IT'S A FEELING...



"Certainly, the ISI is convinced; branding the school 'excellent in all areas' whilst these standards also characterised our conversations with both students and staff; reflective of an assurance, but not an arrogance, that only genuinely outstanding schools achieve."

- The Good Schools Guide

### RGS WORCESTER

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