
BISHOP'S
STORTFORD
COLLEGE

ESTD 1868





THE
MODERN
FACE OF
INDEPENDENT
EDUCATION



bishopsstortfordcollege.org

Welcome to Bishop's Stortford College

We hope in this prospectus to give you a glimpse into our highly successful, hard-working, well-grounded, and welcoming community, which enables each pupil to succeed, and most importantly, be happy. In our increasingly complex world, we offer an environment that is inclusive, caring, and kind, and supports pupils to achieve great things academically, in sport, and in the performing arts.

We believe there are some significant features that separate us from other schools of our type. We do indeed have the huge campus with wonderful facilities and manicured pitches. We have our Pre-Prep School, Prep School, Senior Prep, Senior School, and Sixth Form all on one site, meaning a whole family can be together throughout their educational journey. We have an enviable academic track-record that is already first-rate and is aiming ever higher. But we are different in some important ways.

The feel of the College is always forward-looking, with a sense of innovation and ambition, recognising

from the start the sort of world our pupils will be entering, and the skills they need. Centred around our values of belonging, scholarship, and character, we aspire to nurture well-rounded, moral individuals who have the personal skills, character traits, and academic qualifications to be the leaders of the future.

We are, I believe, the modern face of independent education.

Come and experience for yourself the beating heart of our school; meet our staff and pupils, and let me know if the College is the right fit for your family.



MR JOHN MAGUIRE
HEADMASTER

Our Values

Academic qualifications are a prime focus for us, yet we know that qualifications alone will not suffice for a life fully lived.

Values are also a large part of the ticket to success. We offer a world-class education where every pupil is encouraged to develop our core values of belonging, scholarship, and character.

Together, qualifications and qualities are what an education for today and tomorrow must deliver.



Belonging

Values that strengthen our community and bring us closer together.

Scholarship

Values that promote excellence in academics, sport, art, and performing arts. Through these, a lifelong love of learning and a passion are developed.

Character

Values that nurture morals and ethics within each person, ensuring they are a positive member of society.

The Best of Both Worlds

One of the best things about Bishop's Stortford College is its perfectly positioned location. A hidden gem in the Hertfordshire landscape, our campus is a peaceful, green, and leafy oasis, with lots of space for pupils to study, engage in activities, and relax.



Our campus brings together a wonderful blend of history and the modern, with iconic buildings such as the Memorial Hall, built in 1922, standing alongside stunning state-of-the-art facilities.

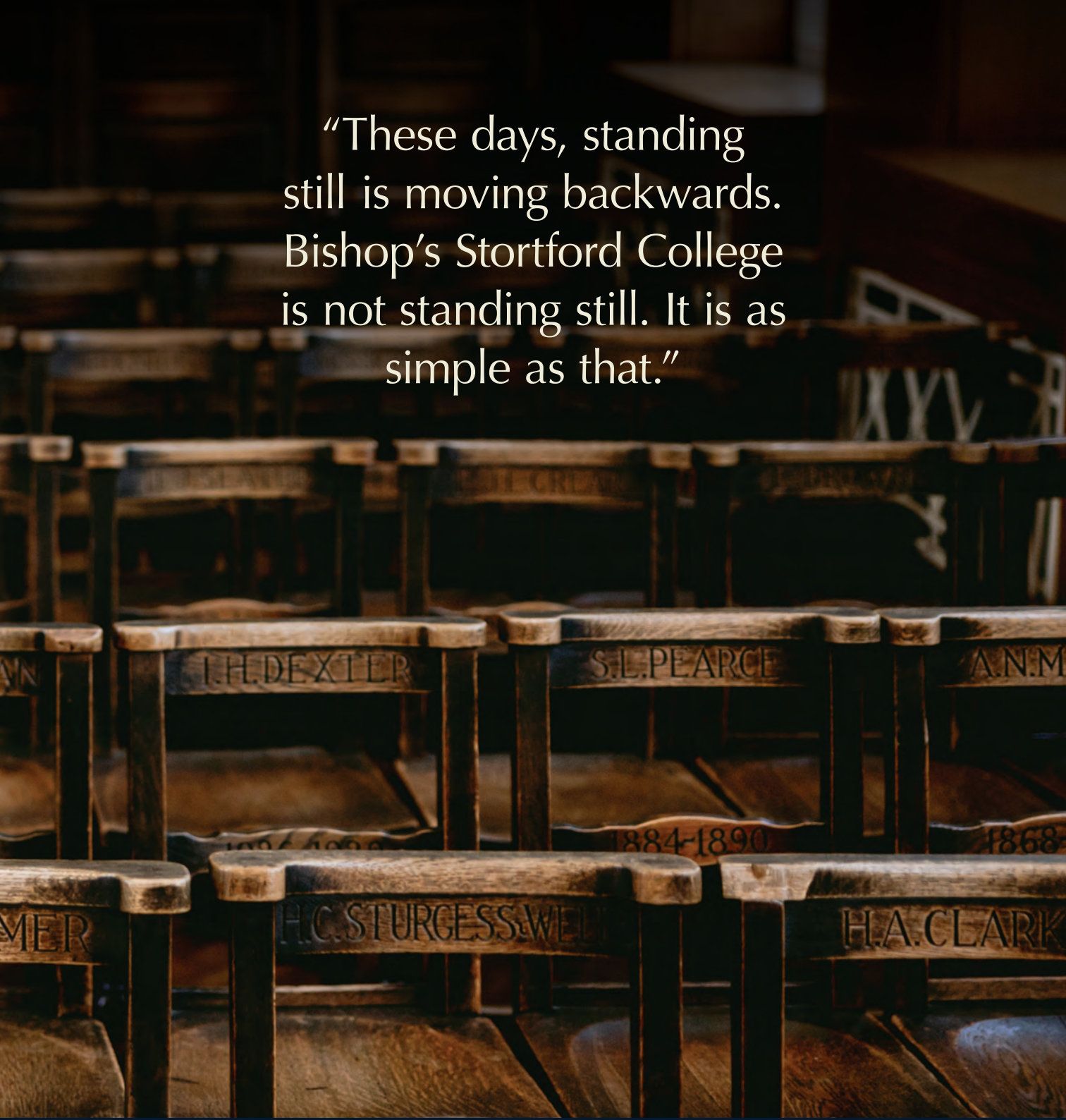
With all sections of the College on one site, from Nursery through to Sixth Form, as well as our boarding houses, pupils benefit from dedicated learning spaces, as well as shared specialist facilities for sport, music, drama, and 3D design.

Just 10 minutes' walk away, the safe market town of Bishop's Stortford provides all the amenities your child needs. From cafes and restaurants to the cinema and shops, the quaint town centre provides an easy environment for your child to explore as they gain their independence throughout their time at the College.





Bishop's Stortford College is a dynamic, forward-thinking, vibrant all-through school that drives global educational development and prepares pupils for their future in an ever-evolving world.



“These days, standing still is moving backwards. Bishop’s Stortford College is not standing still. It is as simple as that.”

We promote academic excellence, equipping pupils with the skills and character necessary for future success, whilst emphasising value-added education, scholarship, strong character-forming values, and community, ensuring that every pupil develops confidence and a sense of belonging.

We are the modern face of independent education.

"The down-to-earth atmosphere here,
offers my child the perfect launch pad
for outstanding performance."



THE NEST
(Age 3+)

The Nest

Our Nest nursery class provides your child with a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment in which to start their educational journey.



Here your child will be welcomed into a world of discovery and wonder. They will grow as an independent learner, as they explore and develop their personal, social, and emotional qualities.

Throughout the day your child will be engaged in open-ended, hands-on exploration inside and outside the classroom, to spark imagination, critical thinking, and a love for discovery.



“The College has fired her imagination
and given her the skills she needs to make
her way in a world where we do not
know what the opportunities will be.”



PRE-PREP
(Reception to Year 2)

Pre-Prep School

We understand those first steps into school can be daunting. Under the care and guidance of our experienced and friendly staff, your child will settle with ease to become a happy and secure learner.

In a modern atmosphere which inspires creativity, imagination, and curiosity, your child will discover the wonder of learning, whilst developing core social qualities which will see them through life. They will be encouraged to become independent learners, creative thinkers, and to develop the confidence to try new things.

An education that encompasses all this, gives every pupil the chance to excel and achieve their full potential.

Here is where their journey begins.



A place where your child is nurtured from
the moment they walk through our door.



PRE-PREP (Reception to Year 2)



Early Years
awarded
**'SIGNIFICANT
STRENGTH'**
by ISI*

Inside or outside the classroom, your child will be immersed in experiences which encourage them to expand their horizons, learn new skills, ask questions, voice their opinions, and consider their thoughts.

First-hand experiences, purposeful interactions, alongside carefully planned activities, are the foundations of our curriculum, before your child progresses to explore a wide range of subjects and strengthen their skills.

Our Forest School is integral to the holistic approach we take, ensuring your child develops the attributes required to become a successful and resilient learner in an enriching and stimulating environment.



*Independent Schools Inspectorate. April 2024

"So many opportunities. In the classroom,
in play, on the sports fields, through clubs
and activities. The chance right there in
front of you to get involved."



PREP
(Years 3 to 6)

Prep School

Our Prep School is a busy, thriving community full of possibilities.

It facilitates an education which encompasses breadth of curriculum and educational rigour; one that inspires, challenges preconceptions, and drives achievement. We want your child to enjoy coming to school and to develop a love for learning.

We cultivate enquiring minds, encourage independent thought, and enable intellectual development through the pursuit of skills relevant to today's world. Here, your child will receive the time and attention needed to prepare them for the future, and to reach their full potential.



Committed and innovative teaching allows pupils to build their skills.

We're about more than just academic study. Our wide-ranging opportunities beyond the classroom give your child the chance to develop those key personal and social skills which will set them up for life.

It could start with music, or drama, which could then lead to debating. We know the wide range of activities we offer will build resilience, open mindsets, and give your child confidence in themselves which will translate into their work in the classroom.

Your child will quickly find things they enjoy and become good at. Here, becoming good at things and enjoying doing them becomes the norm.



PREP
(Years 3 to 6)



50+

Co-curricular
clubs offered in
the Prep School

"Senior Prep enables us to develop independence,
leadership, and effective study skills before we join
the Senior School."



SENIOR PREP
(Years 7 and 8)

Senior Prep

Our Senior Prep offers your child the perfect combination of support and independence.



It provides the stability and nurturing environment of the Prep School, but with greater independence, opportunities for leadership, and the chance for your child to grow as they prepare for their next steps into the Senior School.



“There are so many opportunities open to us through the Diploma that are arming us with skills for life. It is a brilliant bridge to the Senior School.”



SENIOR PREP

(Years 7 and 8)



Our inclusive, modern curriculum, with real world connections, provides your child with learning opportunities and personalised pathways that cater to their strengths, interests, and future aspirations. Our focus on wellbeing and growth, emphasises our commitment to your child's holistic development as well as their academic achievements.

Inspiring classrooms, outdoor spaces, and our innovation hub, provide an environment in which your child can work both independently and collaboratively.



Our Year 7 and 8 Diploma focuses on the College's three main values of belonging, scholarship, and character. A carefully crafted programme of co-curricular provision and curriculum projects come together in a character forming offer, that will equip your child with the skills they need for the future.



"A world class education through which I'm encouraged to develop core values of belonging, scholarship, and character."



SENIOR SCHOOL
(Years 9 to 11)

Senior School

An exceptional learning community.

We believe we offer breadth of opportunity, and depth of academic enquiry, both within a future-orientated climate of endeavour that recognises tomorrow more than yesterday.

We aim to ensure all-round growth; academically, morally, spiritually, physically, and creatively. Through their time with us, your child will be supported to become a confident, well-rounded, and interesting young person.



Pupils grow steadily in self-confidence and independence, well supported by the curriculum and teaching.

Academic qualifications are the gateway into the future your child will wish to pursue. As such they are a prime focus for us. Small classes, an emphasis on individuals, and passionate teachers with outstanding subject knowledge, will ensure that your child receives the time and attention they need. Encouraging your child to reach their full potential is key to everything we do.

By being immersed in an environment of discovery and wholehearted participation, your child will flourish.



SENIOR SCHOOL
(Years 9 to 11)





“The College appreciates
what’s different about
every student and works
on allowing that to grow
and flourish.”



"The Sixth challenges me to take initiative, try new things, and think seriously about how I want to contribute to the world beyond school."





(Years 12 and 13)

The Sixth

Our Sixth Form offers your child the best possible preparation for a happy and successful future.

Academic success is the foundation of everything we do. We combine this with a future-focused programme, recognising that academic results alone are not enough to stand out from the crowd as your child looks to university, degree apprenticeships, and the world of work.

Our Stortfordian Diploma is a bespoke programme, tailored to each student, which enables them to try out new activities, to develop skills, and build up experiences, in preparation for life beyond the College.

Students leave with a wealth of happy memories and confidence to embrace the future.



"The Stortfordian Diploma has been a meaningful part of my time here, and helped shape who I am."

Your child will be stretched and encouraged by expert teachers to be intellectually curious and a critical thinker. We will prepare them for success not only at A Level, but also to develop qualities that will make them successful as a prospective university undergraduate and in the world of work.

Independence, emotional intelligence, and leadership skills are honed across an array of activities on offer, including an extensive co-curricular programme. As your child looks to make decisions about their future they are fully supported by a team of careers professionals, tutors, and teachers.

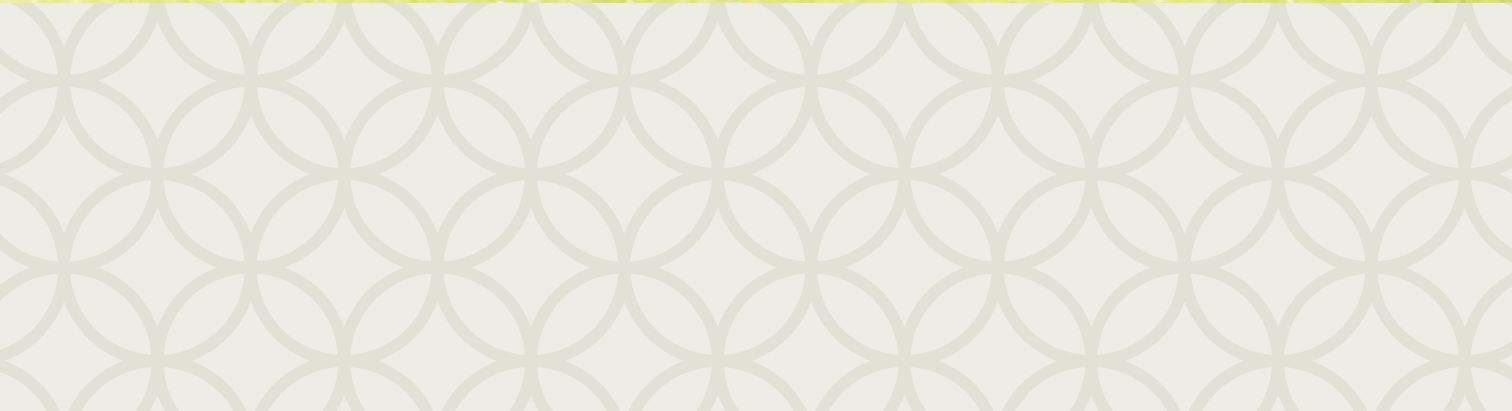




(Years 12 and 13)



Whatever level their ability, we want every child to experience the joy of participation, and the satisfaction of achievement.



SPORT

Sport

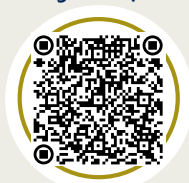
Founded on the principles of excellence and positivity, our sporting ethos is both inclusive and ambitious.

We take great pride in our sporting heritage, encouraging a lifelong love of physical activity in every pupil, while developing elite athletes who compete at the highest level.

Our 100 acre sports fields and superb sporting facilities, alongside expert coaching, will ensure your child benefits from the best sporting provision across all our core sports including hockey, cricket, netball, rugby, swimming, and tennis. A modern gym, a fully equipped sports hall, astro pitches, and all weather surface courts, also offer opportunities in basketball, volleyball, badminton, and football.



SPORT



Discover more

Sports Scholarships,
Performance Sports
programme, and view
our sports facilities.



Performing Arts

Your child will have numerous opportunities to explore their musical talents, learn to play instruments, and participate in concerts and plays.

Whether your child enjoys playing an instrument as a hobby or decides to study music at university, they will thrive with guidance from our music team. From House Music competitions and carol services to regular ensemble concerts and our spectacular open-air Summer Music Live event, your child will have every chance to be involved.

In drama, your child will be exposed to a rich tapestry of artistic and theatrical development.

They will engage in enriching academic experiences, work with specialist staff, collaborate with professional theatre companies, and watch theatre come alive at professional performances. They will also have access to a wide range of high-quality practical and technical theatre resources, introduced in lessons and applied in performance workshops.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Co-curricular

Outside of the classroom there is a vast range of activities for your child to engage in, to ignite new passions. Whether that's on the pitch or in the studio, there is something to interest everyone.

Across our school your child will be exposed to a range of co-curricular opportunities aimed at supporting their personal development and wellbeing. Our activities programmes in our Prep and Senior Schools, offer an exciting range of opportunities, from archery to cookery, and film making to water polo. Educational trips enrich our pupils' experience too, from local historical sites to action-packed activity weeks, and exciting expeditions overseas.



We are a diverse and inclusive learning community, committed to ensuring your child has the support they need to fulfil their potential. Our Learning Support team work closely with you, and your child's teacher, to ensure support needed is tailored to meet their specific needs.



Pastoral

Your child's wellbeing is of the utmost importance to us. We want them to be happy and thrive, and enjoy their learning in an environment that is inclusive, caring, and kind.

We teach all our pupils, from the youngest years, the importance of wellbeing and mental health.

In our Pre-Prep School, staff foster an awareness of the wellbeing and feelings of every individual, in an environment where pupils think of others, respect themselves, and learn from mistakes.

Our Prep School pupils' wellbeing is supported by a wide range of activities, with new pupils being paired up with a 'buddy' from their first day.

In our Senior School and in the Sixth, our House system is at the heart of our pastoral care, with dedicated staff providing the main point of contact for pastoral issues and support.

Our online Wellbeing Hub also helps both you and your child navigate their mental health and wellbeing.



Discover more

Means tested financial
assistance available



Our Houses

At the heart of our community is our House system. Here your child will develop a sense of belonging. They will forge lifelong friendships, learn to respect one another, and learn from each other, all whilst having fun and making memories.

Regular House competitions, including debating, music, and sport, bring everyone together in a competitive, yet friendly atmosphere. This is how we build confidence in every individual.

It is here that learning to collaborate, to be a team player, to become friends with diverse, different people, will happen. The strong sense of belonging and the level of care between pupils across the year groups, and staff, make the College a very special place.

Here there is a togetherness where none of us is as important as all of us.





"The friendly teachers and the House system are my two favourite aspects of College life because you feel supported no matter where you are in the College."



“The College is a beautiful environment.
I love the people here and the independence
that boarding gives you.”



BOARDING

Life as a Boarder

Boarding provides the highest octane of College life. It offers an inclusive and friendly environment where the diverse backgrounds of our boarders are shared and celebrated, and lifelong friendships are made in our modern 'home away from home' boarding houses.

Our boarding community is fully integrated with our day pupils in order to provide an authentic British boarding experience, whilst benefiting from some of the best boarding facilities in the East of England.

Our British culture weekend programme brings together a mixture of fun and team-building activities, and the opportunity to acquire new skills. The aim is to enrich boarders' time at the College and enable them to relax after a busy week.



Discover more

A range of boarding options are available from Year 9.

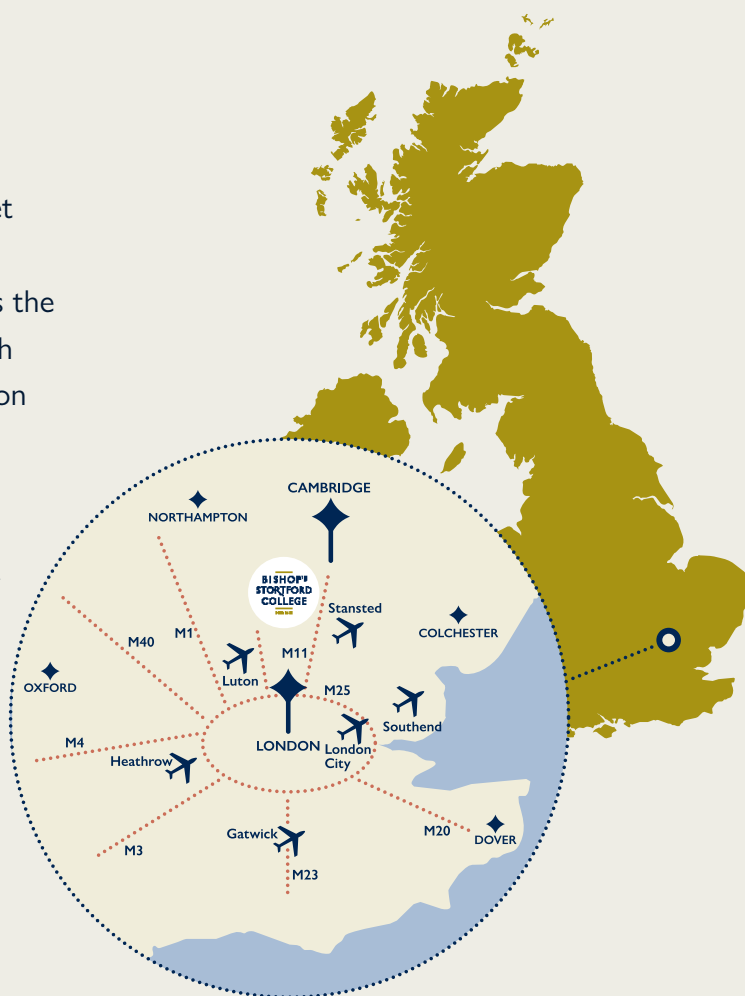
OUR CAMPUS AND LOCATION

Our Location

Set in 130 acres of beautiful grounds, located only 35 minutes from London, Bishop's Stortford College is a co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged 3 to 18.



Bishop's Stortford is a historic market town in Hertfordshire. It is situated between two cities; 23 miles north is the city of Cambridge, and 27 miles south is central London. This central location means the town is well connected to the rest of the UK via both road and rail network, and internationally with London Stansted Airport under five miles away, and other London airports within easy access.



TRANSPORT LINKS

10 minutes
drive to London
Stansted
Airport

15 minutes
walk to Bishop's
Stortford train
station

25 minutes
by train to
Cambridge

35 minutes
by train to
London
(Liverpool Street)

90 minutes
drive to London
Heathrow
Airport

Daily
bus routes to
north London

Campus Map

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School House, Maze Green Road
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire
United Kingdom CM23 2PQ
T: 01279 838575

E: general.enquiry@bishopsstortfordcollege.org

bishopsstortfordcollege.org

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