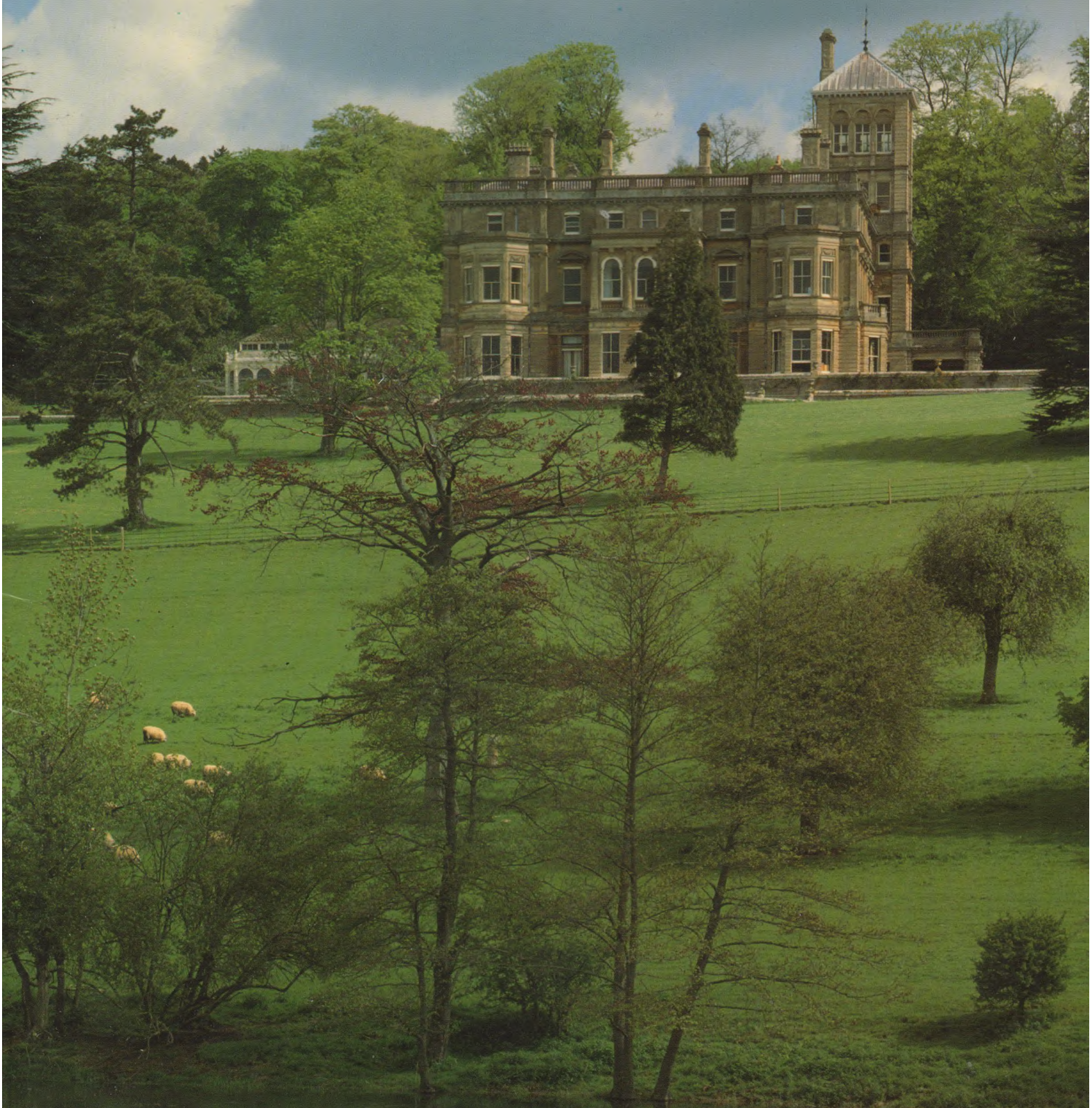


# RENDCOMB COLLEGE





A prospectus is no more than an introduction. This brief account of Rendcomb College is really a warm invitation to visit the school and to judge its quality and atmosphere at first hand.

## RENDCOMB COLLEGE

The College was founded and generously endowed in 1920 by Noel Wills of Miserden Park, Stroud. His original idea was to offer a boarding school education to boys from Gloucestershire Primary Schools, creating a comfortable, cultured and friendly atmosphere for boys leaving home for the first time.

Since then Rendcomb has developed into a Headmaster's Conference School of 260, taking boarders only: boys at the age of eleven or thirteen, and girls into the Sixth Form. A strong academic tradition has been established; some 70% of those leaving go on to a university, a number gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge each year.

The endowment, supported by generous gifts from the Dulverton Trust and Sir David Wills, enables the Governors to charge a virtually inclusive fee which is appreciably lower than that at most comparable schools. The combination of a high standard of education and a moderate fee, with special arrangements for a number of pupils from Gloucestershire Primary Schools, has attracted people from widely differing backgrounds. Rendcomb pupils unconsciously acquire an ease in dealing with people from environments other than their own for which many of them have expressed gratitude in later life.

Although Rendcomb has more than doubled in size during the last 25 years, it remains a small school. This size allows it to work as a single community, while enabling each boy and girl to make an increasingly valuable contribution. There are no prizes; pupils are strongly encouraged to match their performance against their own potential, avoiding comparison with others. The aim is to create an atmosphere which is socially relaxed and friendly, while intellectually stimulating.







## POSITION

The College stands in a magnificent setting on a hillside overlooking the River Churn, 600 feet above sea level.

It is ten miles from Cheltenham and five from Cirencester, half a mile off the A435, which runs between the two towns.

From London and the South of England the most convenient railway station is Kemble, and from the Midlands and North, Cheltenham. Rendcomb is connected with both Cheltenham and Cirencester by a bus service.

The M4 and M5 motorways run within 18 miles of the school, making it easily accessible from London, the Midlands and the South-West.

**Rendcomb College**  
**Cirencester**  
**Gloucestershire**  
**GL7 7HA**  
**Telephone:**  
**North Cerney (028 583) 213**











## ACADEMIC WORK

Boys entering the school at eleven are prepared for the General Certificate of Secondary Education in five years; those entering at thirteen usually take the examination after three years.

The work at this stage is not, however, exclusively directed by examination requirements. The object is to provide a course sufficiently broad to do justice to the arts, sciences and creative subjects and to enable a boy to make a sound choice of the more specialised studies he wishes to pursue in the Sixth Form.

Regular classes allow the junior forms to become familiar with the potential of computers, as a basis for further study. From the fourth year a modular course in Information Technology and Micro-Electronics enables boys to learn at their own pace and gain certificates of proficiency in such topics as word-processing, data bases, spread-sheets and electronics.

For the GCSE all boys take English Language, Mathematics, French or German and at least one science. Each boy chooses, with guidance from the staff in full consultation with his parents, from the following subjects:

English Literature, Geography, History, Latin, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Music, Art and Design, Design and Realisation, Information Technology.

Provision is made in the timetable for Religious Studies and Physical Education.

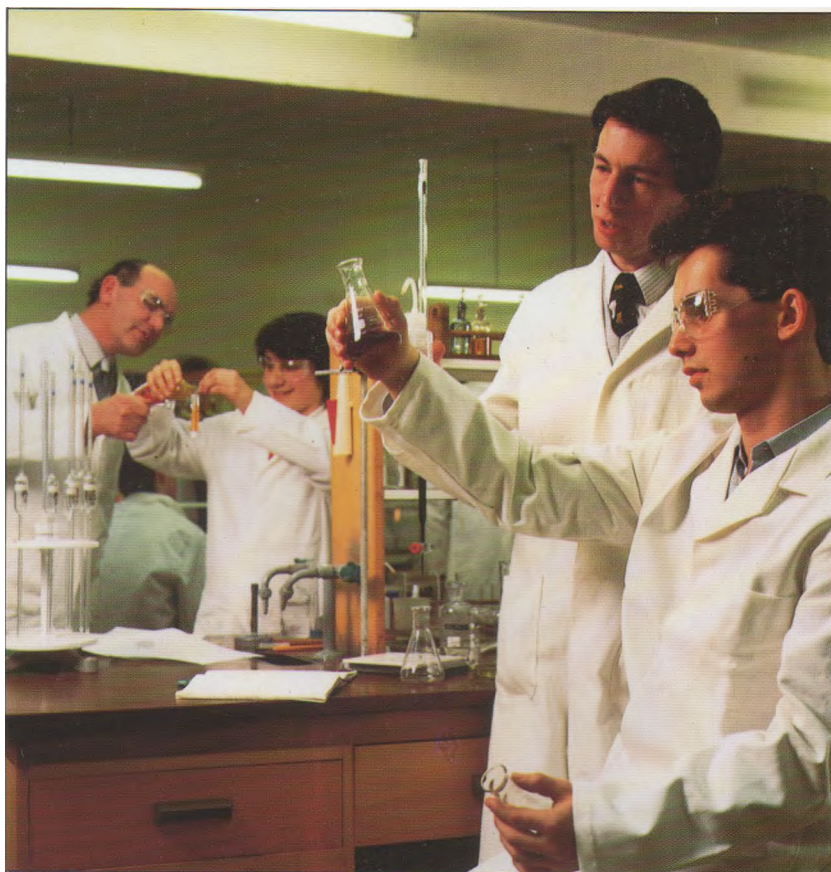


It is normally expected when a boy enters Rendcomb that he will continue his studies in the Sixth Form, and a large majority do so.

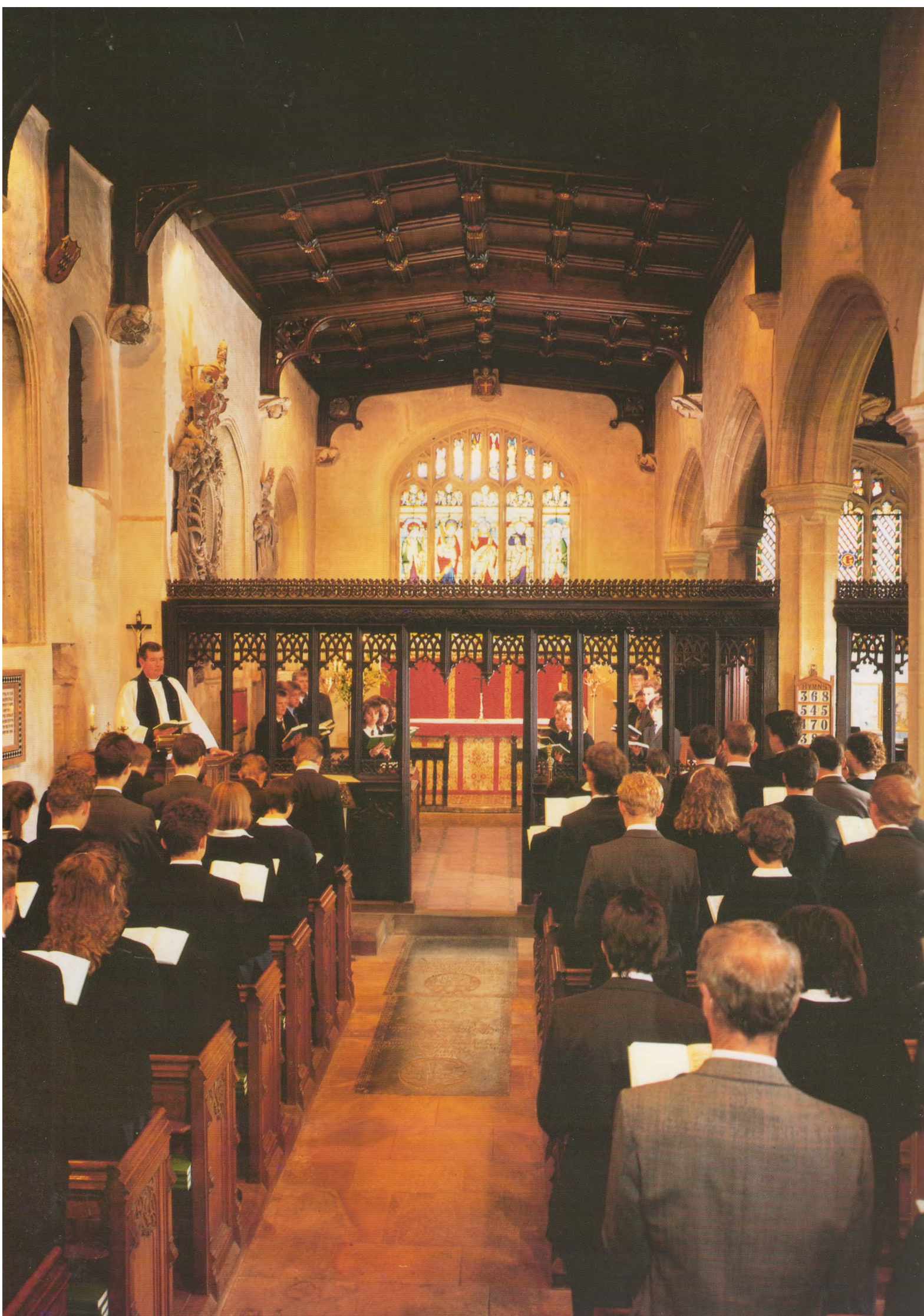
Here boys and girls are prepared for GCE at Advanced Level, leading to University, Polytechnic or other branches of Higher Education, unless they choose to go directly into industry or commerce. Study in greater depth inevitably involves a degree of specialisation, but all Sixth Form pupils spend about a quarter of their time on studies not directly related to their chosen GCE subjects.

In the Sixth Form 44 alternative combinations of subjects are available. Pupils may choose one subject from each of the following columns:

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Mathematics	English	Geography
German	History	French
English		Public Affairs









## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Chaplain is responsible for Religious Education, which is included in the curriculum for all forms, and assists the Housemasters in pastoral care.

A celebration of Holy Communion and a morning service for all denominations are held in the Parish Church each Sunday, and all pupils attend one of these. On weekdays short morning services are held, the object of which is to relate Christian teaching to the conditions of everyday life.

The Chaplain prepares pupils for Confirmation in the Church of England.

Separate arrangements are made for those of other religious faiths.

## PASTORAL SYSTEM

A most important aspect of boarding school life is sympathetic and conscientious pastoral care.

Boys entering at eleven live in the Junior House under the close personal supervision of a married Housemaster and the Assistant Matron.

At thirteen, boys who entered at eleven are joined in Godman House by those entering from Preparatory Schools, again in the care of a resident married Housemaster.

Thereafter every boy has a Tutor who is responsible for all aspects of his development, academic, physical, moral and social, for stimulating his interests and helping with his problems.

The Sixth Form House, which is co-educational, has a married Housemaster, and the girls have a Mistress as their Tutor.

In addition every pupil is personally known to the Headmaster.

The Headmaster, Housemasters and Tutors are always accessible to parents and regard consultation with them as an essential part of their job.

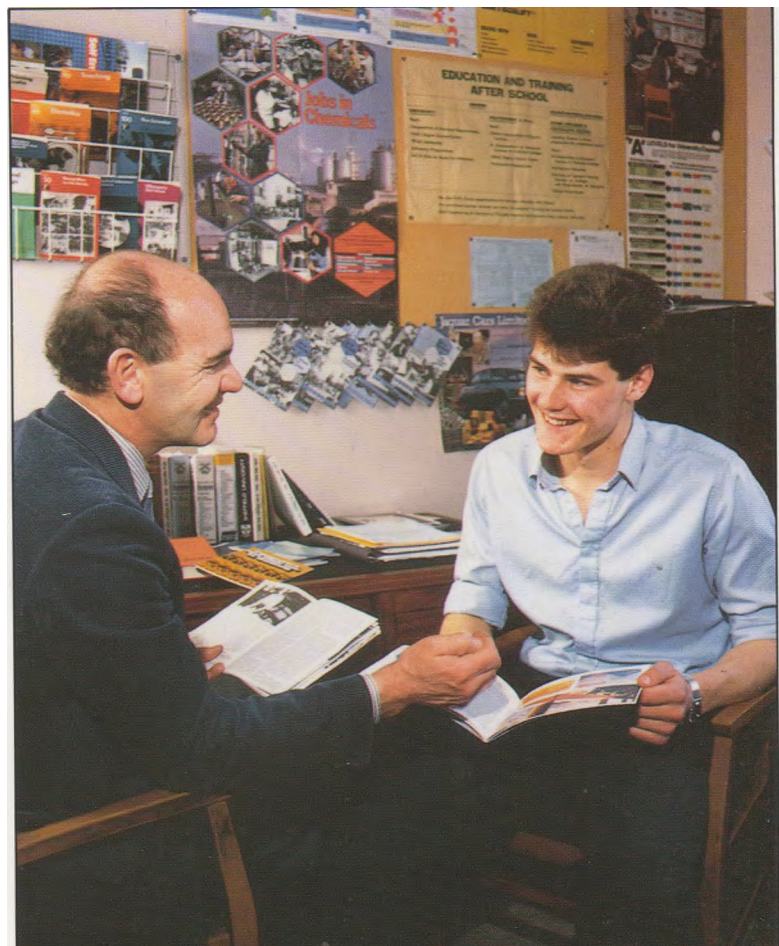
## CAREERS

In today's society many young people need expert advice on the choice of a career. There is a Careers Master always available to advise and a Careers Room in which pupils may find information on any career which interests them.

Each year a Careers Convention is held at the school for Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Form pupils. Some 25 representatives of the professions, commerce, industry and the armed services are available for detailed discussion on conditions and prospects.

The school's booklet giving advice on course choices linked to career prospects is given to all pupils in their fifth year.

After taking GCSE all Fifth Formers are given a week's work experience with a local profession or business.















## SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES

Great importance is attached to the constructive use of spare time, while avoiding the repressive effect of over-organisation. Staff are available out of school hours to advise and encourage. Activities currently popular are listed opposite.

Of these, Music, Art and Pottery, Woodwork, Computer Studies and Natural History are also taught as class subjects and receive a considerable amount of time and interest.

Films are shown during the two winter terms and lectures given throughout the year.

At thirteen, all boys take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Most of those who complete the first three sections go on to gain the Bronze Medal. A number of older boys undertake the courses for Silver and Gold Awards.

The College is situated in some of the finest Gloucestershire countryside, in its own grounds of 200 acres of park and woodland. In general no bounds are set beyond those dictated by common sense, and the younger boys particularly enjoy this freedom to the full.

There is plenty of room for safe cycling, and this again is popular with the younger boys. Older pupils are able to go further afield and explore the district.

**Music.** Instrumental lessons are given by the Director of Music and visiting staff. Church services are led by the choir. The Choral Society gives regular concerts, often accompanied by the school orchestra.

**Art, Craft and Design.** Drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and woodwork are all popular; pupils are encouraged to experiment and to develop their own line.

On entry to the Fourth Form emphasis moves to the solving of practical problems, with courses in Design and Realisation or Art and Design.

A number of pupils take Art at 'A' level, some going on to Art Colleges. Annual exhibitions on Founder's Day show work of a high quality.

**Computers.** The Computer Room is open during most of free time, with expert help available, and a great deal of use is made of it.

**Drama.** Tuition is given in class to the junior forms. Plays are produced regularly, involving both senior and junior pupils. As well as acting, there is scope for those interested in stage management, scenery, lighting and make-up.



**Visits and Expeditions.** Regular visits are made to places of cultural, architectural, scientific and industrial interest, and parties go to theatres in Bristol, Cheltenham, Oxford, London and Stratford.

Holiday expeditions abroad take place every year; recently visits have been made to France, Greece, Italy and Russia, with skiing trips to Austria and the Dolomites. Exchanges in France and Germany are arranged for language students.

Every year there is an opportunity for younger boys to camp in North Wales, where they can learn something of hill walking and rock climbing, supervised by a qualified leader.

## SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES

Archery  
Arts Society  
Athletics  
Bell Ringing  
Bridge  
Chess  
Computer Studies  
Cookery  
Cross Country Running  
Debating  
Drama  
Drawing and Painting  
Fly Fishing  
Golf  
Gymnastics  
Industrial Society  
Judo  
Metalwork  
Model Making  
Multi-gym  
Music  
Natural History  
Photography and Filming  
Pottery  
Rock Climbing and Mountaineering  
Sailing and Windsurfing  
Science Society  
Sculpture  
Stockpiler  
Swimming  
Trampolining  
Woodwork

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Part of one afternoon a week is devoted to work of benefit to the school in general: estate work, repairs and maintenance.

A social service group visits local hospitals, children's and old people's homes twice a week and helps to provide riding instruction for the disabled.









## GAMES

The major games are Rugby Football, Hockey and Cricket. Besides senior matches, many of which bring competition on equal terms with larger schools, many fixtures are made for younger boys, giving them a chance of representing the school. Emphasis is placed not merely on the training of the natural games player; every effort is made to help the less skilful enjoy taking part. Other games played are: Badminton, Basketball, Netball, Squash and Tennis.

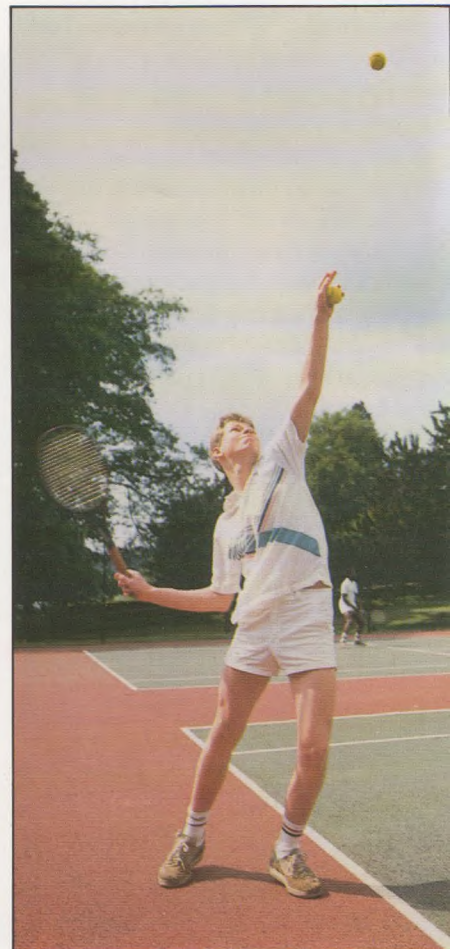
Girls play Netball, Tennis, Hockey and Squash, with matches against other schools in all these games. In spite of the relatively small number of girls, they have enjoyed a remarkable degree of success in their matches.

There are nineteen acres of playing fields, three grass and five hard tennis courts, two squash courts and a large, modern Sports Hall with a wall designed for training in rock climbing.

For golf practice there are four holes in the park, and pupils are eligible for junior membership of the Cirencester Golf Club, three miles away.









## ACCOMMODATION

Junior boys live in common rooms, fifth year boys in studies; they sleep in small, pleasant dormitories. All Sixth Form pupils have single study bedrooms, and there is a Sixth Form Common Room in the Sixth Form House. Pupils eat in a central dining hall.

There is a reference and fiction library of eight thousand books, to which additions are constantly being made. The library is available for private study at all times. Next to it, a large and attractive reading room provides a selection of newspapers and periodicals.

Classrooms include well-equipped science laboratories and a recently remodelled language laboratory. There are excellent facilities for art, craft, woodwork and metalwork.

The main computer room contains twelve interlinked BBC micro-computers and monitors. Adjoining it there is a computer project room, and a further room allows for pupils who wish to bring their own computers to school.

## HEALTH

Health is supervised by a qualified School Matron. The School Doctor visits regularly and has a surgery within a few minutes' walk from the school.

Meals are provided on a self-service system run by a professional Caterer, affording a balanced diet with an element of choice. There is a shop in the village which sells confectionery and soft drinks. Large amounts of pocket money are neither necessary nor desirable, and parents are asked to limit it according to age.

Rendcomb has a healthy situation away from large town, and epidemic infections are rare.

## CONTACT WITH PARENTS

Although Rendcomb accepts only boarders, it is not its policy to isolate children from their parents or parents from the school. Clearly interruptions to term routine must, in the interests of the pupil, be limited, but the process of education is greatly assisted by close co-operation between parents, pupil and school.

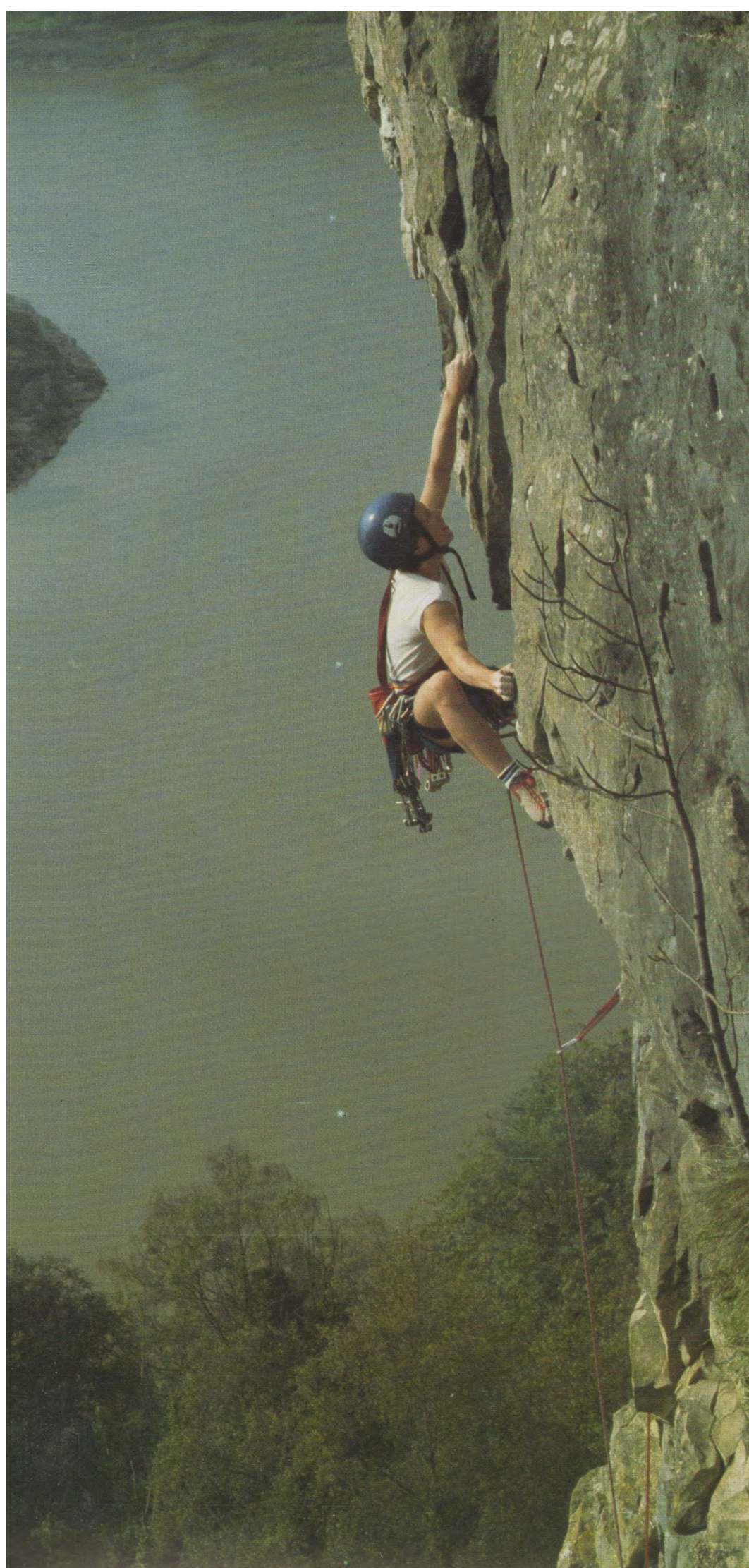
At half-term in the Christmas Term there is a week's break, a long weekend in the other two terms. During each term there are also two exeat weekends, when pupils may spend Friday and Saturday nights at home.

Opportunities for parents to meet the staff and discuss their children's progress are provided for each form every year.

A Parents' Association, formed in 1985, exists to foster parents' interest in the school and to allow them to meet the staff socially. Its Committee has regular meetings with the Headmaster, providing a channel of communication on matters of common concern, and the Association meets at least once a year.







Growing up is largely a matter of getting to know oneself, and then having the confidence to be oneself. It is our job to foster both these stages, helping the individual to play a full part in the community and at the same time giving encouragement and guidance towards personal fulfilment.

This prospectus has presented the bare outlines of an active and thriving community. We hope that you will come and see it for yourself, and we look forward to meeting you.

*Photography*

John Wright, Warwick  
W. L. Entwistle, Canterbury  
John Willson  
Chris Wood  
Chris Sowe

*Design*

Michael Knott, Canterbury

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Kembrey Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire SN2 6NY







## METHODS OF ENTRY

For entrants from Primary and Private Schools at eleven the College holds its own examinations in February. Preparatory School entrants, at thirteen, normally take the Common Entrance Examination, but a special examination can be arranged in exceptional circumstances. Girls are accepted on the result of a short written test, taken when they come for interview, and the grades they obtain in their trial GCSE examinations.

Each year the Gloucestershire County Council is prepared to support places on grounds of boarding need, and the College provides one or two grants of up to 90% of fees for pupils from Gloucestershire or Avon Primary Schools; information may be obtained from their Headmasters.

The following scholarships are offered in 1988:

### *ENTRY AT ELEVEN*

Noel Wills Scholarship	one free place
Rendcomb Foundation Scholarship	one assisted place, up to 90% of fees
Two Junior Open Scholarships	one at £3,000 p.a. one at £1,000 p.a.

### *ENTRY AT ELEVEN OR THIRTEEN*

Two Bursaries for sons of members of HM Forces	£1,000 p.a.
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### *ENTRY AT THIRTEEN*

Two Open Scholarships	one at £3,000 p.a. one at £1,000 p.a.
Music Scholarship	one at £2,000 p.a.
Art Scholarship	one at £2,000 p.a.

### *ENTRY AT SIXTEEN*

Girls' Scholarship	one at £2,000 p.a.
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Scholarship entry forms may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary.

Rendcomb College  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 7HA  
Telephone:  
North Cerney (028 583) 213



## GOVERNORS

### *Chairman*

T. P. A. Norman

K. D. Anderson, BA, Dip. Ed., FRSA  
Mrs Elizabeth Bonham, MA  
Prof. The Revd. Canon G. R. Dunstan  
MA, Hon.DD, Hon.LLD, FSA  
M. H. Fisher, MA  
P. N. H. Gibbs, MA  
The Revd. Canon R. Grey, AKC  
M. D. C. Jenks

John F. McGill, FCA  
S. R. Merrett, MA, FCII  
A. O. H. Quick, MA  
A. R. R. Tenty  
D. G. Vaisey, MA, FSA, FRHist.S.  
Miss Catherine Wills, BA  
M. D. H. Wills  
Major M. T. N. H. Wills  
The Hon. R. I. H. Wills

## STAFF

### *Headmaster*

J. N. Tolputt, MA  
St John's College, Cambridge

### *Second Master*

K. J. Knapp, B.Sc.  
Bristol University  
*Mathematics*

W. J. D. White, MA  
Trinity Hall, Cambridge  
*Latin*

C. C. Burden, DCL  
Loughborough University  
*Woodwork and Geography*

J. W. R. Willson, B.Mus.  
*Housemaster of the Senior House*  
*Music*

J. N. Holt, MA  
Wadham College, Oxford  
*English*

D. S. J. Price, MA  
Hertford College, Oxford  
*History*

R. Kelsey, B.Sc., C.Chem., FRSC  
Sheffield University  
*Chemistry*

Mrs C. A. Holdaway, BA  
Reading University  
*German and French*

D. A. Hawkswell, B.Sc.  
Manchester University  
*Physics and Computer Studies*

G. J. Smith, B.Sc., D.Phil.  
Salford University  
Keble College, Oxford  
*Physics*

C. J. Wood, MA, C.Chem., MRSC  
Exeter College, Oxford  
*Housemaster of the Junior House*  
*Chemistry and Physics*

M. J. Newby, B.Ed.  
Loughborough University  
*Housemaster of Godman House*  
*Physical Education and Biology*

T. J. Lane, GRSM  
Royal Academy of Music  
*Music*



P. Sykes, B.Sc.  
Loughborough University  
*Mathematics*

R. C. Hannaford, B.Sc., M.I.Biol.  
Durham University  
*Housemaster of the Sixth Form House*  
*Biology*

C. P. M. King, BA, FRGS  
Durham University  
*Geography*

L. J. Haslett, BA, D.Phil.  
Lancaster University  
Ulster University  
*French*

M. C. Craddock, BA  
York University  
*English and Drama*

M. H. Graham, MA  
Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge  
*History*

*Chaplain*  
The Reverend P. J. Sudbury, BA  
Open University  
Salisbury and Wells Theological College

D. E. O'Connor, MA  
St Andrew's University  
*History and English*

M. S. Griffiths, BA  
Wolverhampton Polytechnic  
*Pottery and Design*

Miss W. E. Musto, BA  
Leicester University  
*French*

T. F. C. Denny, DA  
Edinburgh College of Art  
*Art*

Mrs E. J. King, B.Sc.  
London University  
*Geography*

Mrs V. M. Pogson, B.Sc., MA  
Loughborough University  
Lancaster University  
*Computer Studies*

Mrs H. E. Leigh, B.Sc.  
Southampton University  
*Mathematics*

*Bursar*  
Commander E. T. Thring, RN

*Medical Officer*  
Dr S. W. Drysdale, MB, Ch. B., MRCP

*Matron*  
Miss J. Rogers, SRN

*Headmaster's Secretary*  
Mrs A. Purdon

*Visiting Music Staff*

Mrs J. Morris  
*'Cello and Piano*

Mrs M. Ellis  
*Flute*

G. Adams  
*Oboe*

Mrs M. Frewer  
*Clarinet and Piano*

Mrs L. Vernon  
*Piano*

P. Dunn  
*Guitar*

C. Green  
*Brass*

H. Dearnley  
*Violin and Viola*



## FEES

The termly fees from September 1987 are as follows:

<i>Years 1 and 2</i>	£1,710
<i>Years 3, 4 and 5</i>	£1,870
<i>Years 6 and 7</i>	£1,970

Fees are payable *termly in advance, by the first day of term*. The Governors reserve the right to charge interest at up to 2% per month on fees not paid by this date.

The difference between the fees and the actual cost per pupil is borne by the College endowment.

The premium for a pupil's personal accident insurance scheme is included in these fees.

The registration fee is £25. £10 of this fee is returned if a boy is unsuccessful in the entrance examination, but no money is returnable if a boy or girl is withdrawn by the parent.

## THE RENDCOMB DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In 1987 the Governors decided to improve the accommodation and facilities still further. A carefully prepared development plan, designed to make the school highly competitive in the 1990s and involving the building of two new boarding houses, is due to be completed in September 1989. Among other improvements, it will raise the number and standard of classrooms and will provide single study bedrooms for all boys in their fifth year.