

Prospectus





*Thank you for your interest in
The Judd School.*

*I hope you find these pages
informative and helpful – if
you should require further
information please do consult
our website
www.judd.kent.sch.uk or
email me at
headmaster@judd.kent.sch.uk.*

Robert Masters
Headmaster

Introduction

The Judd School maintains a long tradition of academic excellence and has exceptional expectations for all its students. Above all, it has a reputation for being a very caring and happy community. It places an emphasis on both individual and group achievement and promotes a full range of activities, which includes a very high standard of sport, music,

drama and service to the community. The expectation is that all students leaving The Judd School will have gained success academically, achieved a well-balanced and confident approach to life and be prepared for the challenges of leadership in the 21st century.

History

The Skinners' Company, out of funds provided by the Sir Andrew Judd Foundation, founded the Sir Andrew Judd Commercial School in 1888 in East Street, Tonbridge. The School moved to its present site in 1896 and became known as The Judd School in 1925. Under the 1944 Education Act the School became the first Voluntary-Aided Grammar School. Today it still has close links with the Skinners' Company whose members make up a significant proportion of the Governing Body.

*“The Judd School is always
developing new ways to help
students learn. The best thing
about Judd is the spirit of the
school. The work/play
balance is perfect.”*

Jamie (Year 10)



Buildings and Facilities

The buildings date from 1896 and have frequently been extended and adapted. The original School Room acts as an Assembly Hall; the stage and lighting have been improved to give a flexible drama facility. There are the usual specialist classrooms, nine laboratories, a gymnasium, libraries, careers room, sixth form common room, art rooms, pottery and design technology areas. Lawtons, a neighbouring house, serves as a sixth form teaching centre for economics, politics and business studies. It also has changing facilities for girls. A £2 million classroom and technology building together with two new science laboratories were opened in

*“I wanted to come to The
Judd School because it
seemed to be the right school
for me. It has very good
facilities and lots of extra-
curricular activities. The best
thing about Judd is the sense
of community.”*

David (Year 8)

Admissions

The Judd School is a selective four-form entry Voluntary-Aided Grammar School with approximately 625 boys in Years 7-11. There are 310 students in the Sixth Form, which includes about 60 girls.

A key enriching facet of the school is its openness to children from all parts of West Kent and beyond. There is no catchment area and admission is based upon academic merit.

A major open evening for prospective parents takes place in early October. The Headmaster and the Head of Key Stage Three are always willing to see parents at other times when they and their children can be shown around the School.

From 2006 the School will admit 125 boys at age eleven. There are always significantly more applicants than places. Pupils are admitted in other age groups only where vacancies occur. There is a separate Sixth Form entry procedure. Offers are made at the beginning of the Spring Term.





Music College Specialist Status with Mathematics

In September 2004 the school was awarded Music College Status in recognition of its outstanding achievements in Music and its robust plans to continue to develop provision in the school and the local community.

Students at Judd give some 40 concerts each year and now benefit from high quality facilities and teaching in Music Technology as well as traditional music.

Judd's prowess in mathematics is also recognised under the specialism.

Outreach work is undertaken in local primary schools and additional resources are deployed in school to support all students.

Community Links

A number of students assist staff in our 'outreach' activities. These include 'Aspirations', - a Gifted and Talented project for Year Four children in Tonbridge, working with disabled adults through the Music College and coaching/refereeing through the Sports Partnership.

Curriculum

The School follows the National Curriculum in Years 7-11 and offers a broad range of 'A' Levels. In this context, the School seeks to provide an environment in which each pupil has the opportunity to develop talents and interests to the full so that he/she is well prepared to lead a satisfying and useful adult life both in work and leisure. Highest standards are expected and achieved in all our activities. The curriculum is aimed at giving a broad education, leaving specialisation as late as possible.

Examination Results

Pass rates are consistently high, both at 'A' Level and in GCSE, and the School has regularly featured in the national newspapers as one of the top State Schools in the country. OFSTED lists the School as 'outstanding'.

Religious Education

The School has no affiliation with a particular religious denomination. Religious Education is given throughout the School and boys may opt to take the subject as part of their GCSE course. Morning assemblies take place and are Christian in nature,

though non-denominational. All pupils are expected to attend a Carol Service or similar occasion. Parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education and assemblies by arrangement with The Headmaster.



Careers

The School has an active careers team and the careers library contains up-to-date and comprehensive files on occupations and Higher Education. Careers advice can be obtained at any stage and all pupils receive advice during tutorial time.

Careers conventions are held biennially. All Year 11 are involved in a two-week work experience scheme during the post-examination period and the Lower Sixth have mock interviews and the opportunity for further work experience/work shadowing.

"The teachers explain things really well and the facilities are really good. The opportunities you receive are excellent."

James (Year 9)

Homework

Parents are informed at the beginning of the year of the homework schedule and expected time for study. In Years 7 and 8 this is approximately one and a half hours per night, in Year 9 one and a half to two hours and in Years 10 and 11 over two hours. A homework planner is issued and used as a key form of communication between home and school.





Pastoral System

The responsibility for general welfare and progress lies with the Form Tutors. Heads of Year work closely with Form Tutors to ensure carefully

monitored development. The School encourages parents to keep in close contact with both Form Tutors and Heads of Year and, where appropriate,

the Headmaster. Good relationships between students, staff and parents are highly valued.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The School expects all students to participate in some of the many opportunities offered. There is a very wide range of school clubs and societies such as the Art Workshop, Bridge Club, Chess Club, Christian Union, Computer Workshop, Debating Society, Design & Technology Clinic,

Film Club, French Club, Garden Club, Greek Club, Junior Running Club, Musical Activities, Politics Society, Theatre Club, Voluntary Service Unit, Warhammer Club, Young Engineers' Club and Young Enterprise. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Scheme and many achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

We are also keen that school should not unduly dominate a child's life and we encourage all students to be fully involved with the wider community.

Music

Music is a very strong feature and the Choir, Junior Singers, Chamber Choir, Judd Brass, Big Bands, String Orchestra, Chamber Groups, Concert Band, Symphony Orchestra and Junior Orchestra perform at various functions throughout the year. Instrumental lessons are available through the School, for which a charge is made.

Drama

There is a major school drama production each year and usually one or two productions aimed at particular age groups.

Recent productions have included The Importance of being Ernest, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, All My Sons and Animal Farm (musical).

Combined Cadet Force

The School has its own contingent of the CCF with Army and RAF Sections, meeting after school on Fridays. Membership is voluntary and boys can join from Year 9. Cadets have the opportunity to attend camps and

expeditions as well as Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force courses. The School has an exceptional record of gaining Flying Scholarships in the RAF Section.

Sports and Games



The School enjoys an enviable reputation in sport at national and county levels. Competitive inter-school fixtures are an important aspect of the games programme at all levels. There is a very strong fixture list every Saturday and a high standard is maintained leading to national competitions. At junior level there are regular games for 'A' and 'B' teams, so that many of the students have the chance to represent the School. In

Year 7 there are even 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' rugby fixtures from time to time. There is also an extensive programme of inter-form competitions, including one designed specifically for those who are not school team players.

The main games are rugby football, cross-country running and basketball during the winter months, and cricket, tennis and athletics during the Summer Term. The open-air swimming pool is much used during the summer. There are also opportunities for rock climbing, canoeing, sailing, squash, badminton, judo, golf, table tennis and hockey at later stages in the School.

Top quality coaching continues, even in inclement weather, owing to the versatility of the Sports Hall and All Weather Pitch.

Educational Visits

All pupils undertake fieldwork in Geography and Biology. They may take part in French and German exchange visits or join the School skiing or sailing holidays. Every other year older students have the opportunity to join a World Challenge Expedition to a remote part of the globe. There are also various other residential visits at home and abroad arranged from time to time and numerous day excursions to places of educational, cultural and recreational interest. A feature of the School is the full programme of visits for Year 7 which includes the opportunity to participate in an Adventure Activity week in Dartmoor. The School has two minibuses, which are used for local visits and for transporting teams to away matches.

“*I wanted to come to The Judd School because it strives for excellence, gets good results, has an excellent music department and the nicest atmosphere.*”

Toby (Year 9)





Sixth Form at The Judd

Life in the Sixth Form at The Judd is extremely busy, and not just from an academic perspective. From the moment they join year 12, students are encouraged to participate fully in the life of the community, to develop their talents and to take on roles of responsibility and leadership. Indeed, a significant number of extra-curricular activities rely upon the input from the Sixth Form to run smoothly.

We offer courses leading to AS and A2 in a wide range of traditional, academic subjects. All students, whether internal or transferring from other schools, are interviewed by senior staff who seek to provide guidance and support as 4 subjects are chosen for study. In addition, students follow a course in either General Studies or Critical Thinking, also to AS.

The vast majority of Judd students stay on at the end of Year 11, and they are joined by a further thirty or more

students from other schools; these include a number of girls.

Pastoral Care is very important, and the Director of Sixth Form is supported by a team of experienced Heads of Year and Tutors. All students are allocated to a Tutor Group of approximately 20 students, with a Tutor who manages the day to day pastoral care. Clear systems are in place to ensure that students and parents are kept informed of progress, and we welcome informal contact with parents/guardians.

Students are provided with a Common Room shared by both year groups, which has a canteen facility, open for most of the working day. There is a vending machine for hot drinks available all day. Each student is also provided with locker space.

Further information is available at www.judd.kent.sch.uk/Curriculum/sixth_form.htm



“In addition to spending an important two years studying for four A Levels in a competitive, stimulating and friendly atmosphere, I have been able to benefit from the amazing range of extra-curricular activities on offer: from CCF and MUNGA to voluntary service and music clubs. Judd has been an excellent place for me to develop as an adult and take on responsibilities.”

David (Year 13)

Parents

A close liaison is kept with parents, and Parents' Evenings are held during the year to provide an opportunity for parents to meet members of the staff who teach their child.

A guide for parents containing more details is issued to those joining the School.

A small voluntary subscription is collected annually by the School to help finance the costs of the Magazine, Year Book and Calendar, team transport, games teas, other school activities and inter-school competitions.

The Judd School Parents' Association

There is an active Parents' Association (JPA) which gives valuable support to the School as well as offering social occasions for parents and staff and providing a means of communication over current issues.

In recent years, the JPA has provided extensive funds for refurbishment of the Sixth Form facilities and the School Room, as well as acquiring specialist equipment for subject areas.

Old Juddians

The School has a very strong record of university entry, including Oxford and Cambridge (10%), and nearly 100% of Upper Sixth leavers each year enter universities for degree courses. The Governors award a major scholarship and up to four leaving exhibitions to outstanding Sixth Formers going on to university.

Each year, two or three students are apprenticed to the Skinners' Company. All students are encouraged to join the Old Juddian Society and to keep in touch with the School through the newsletter, the OJ Website and attendance at social events.

“As soon as I saw The Judd I knew it was the right school for me because it is good all round, combining sport and the academic.”

Will (Year 7)

“I wanted to come to The Judd School because I knew it would be a challenge and because everyone that I knew at Judd gave me positive feedback.”

James (Year 7)

“Judd introduced me to some great people and its opportunities gave me a great start in life. From the sports I played, to the languages I learned, to the prefect I became, Judd was the place that shaped the man I am today, and I will always be grateful to the staff and to my peers for the time I had there.”

David Fulton
(OJ 1982-1990)

“The Judd School provides a sixth form which challenges pupils to stretch and better themselves. The expectation to be the best fuels pupils' desire to succeed, and have fun in the process.”

Emily (Year 13)





Development Fund

Existing Judd students are benefiting from £5 million of investment over the last fifteen years, with over £2million being given by friends of the school through the Development Fund.

A ten year plan has been approved by the Governors to further develop the school's facilities for the present and future generations. It is hoped that parents will want to give generously to the Development Fund to make these plans a reality.



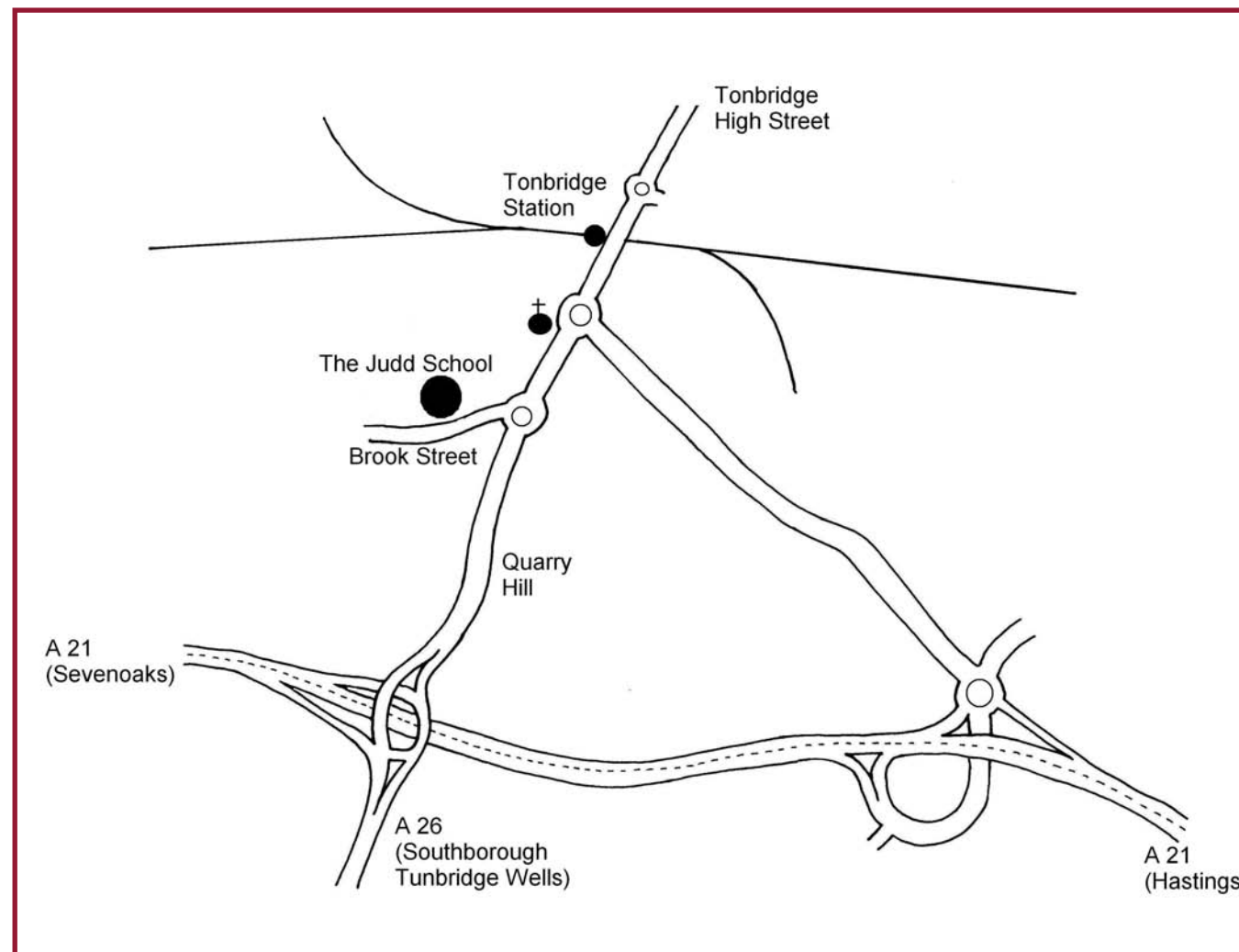
“As soon as I walked in on open day I had a feeling that it was the right school for me.”

Patrick (Year 8)

VIEWS OUT OVER PLAYING FIELDS - GOOD QUALITY NORTH LIGHT TO CLASSROOMS

BOWLE-HELLY ENTRANCE SPACE BRACK TO MATCH COHEN BUILDING

Development Fund successes over the past fifteen years



Directions to the School

By Rail: 5 minute walk from Tonbridge Station.

Turn right on leaving the main exit of the Station. Continue past the shops and St. Stephen's Church to Second roundabout, turn right into Brook Street. The school is 200m on the right.

By Road: From A21 (N) – Ignore 'Tonbridge North' sign. Take next exit 'Southborough and Tunbridge Wells A26', keep in right hand lane and follow directions to Tonbridge around loop, down steep hill, on roundabout turn left into Brook Street.

From A21 (S) – Take Tonbridge sign at roundabout, follow road into Tonbridge, turn left at roundabout to Tunbridge Wells and right into Brook street at next roundabout.

From A26 (N) – Through Tonbridge, past Railway Station, towards Tunbridge Wells. Second roundabout turn right into Brook Street.

From A26 (S) – On entering Tonbridge down steep hill, take turning left at roundabout into Brook Street.



design: www.hamiltonpaige.co.uk

“*The best thing about Judd is the teacher’s attitude towards ensuring a good learning environment.*”
Ashley (Year 9)

“*I wanted to come to The Judd School because it had a high reputation and welcomed me when I looked around the school. The best thing about Judd is the variety of after school clubs and activities available to pupils.*”
Cameron (Year 8)

The
JUDD
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