



Opportunity

- ◆ excellent links with our partner schools, employers and universities to ensure a smooth transition to and beyond Hills Road
- ◆ over 40 AS/A-level subjects which can be studied in virtually any combination
- ◆ An extensive range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities, clubs and societies; many dramatic and musical productions; 30 different sports with 45 teams competing regularly; scientific and business competitions; experience of work in Cambridge and Germany; community service; and links, visits and exchanges with 17 destinations in mainland Europe, the USA, Africa and China
- ◆ parental involvement, including the Parents' and Friends' Association and regular parents' consultation sessions
- ◆ Community Forum promoting equality of opportunity for all students.

Quality

- ◆ a friendly, stimulating and purposeful atmosphere and a strong sense of community within which students are encouraged to think for themselves, take decisions and develop personal and social responsibility
- ◆ strong and effective support and guidance, with students meeting their tutor frequently; all students are given regular opportunities to discuss their progress through individual progress reviews
- ◆ lunchtime 'workshops', run by every department, in which students can seek additional help with any subject problems
- ◆ specialist help from well qualified staff in the Study Skills Centre who offer support for students beyond that which subject departments provide
- ◆ dedicated, enthusiastic and well-qualified teaching and support staff; all staff participate in regular appraisal and staff development programmes
- ◆ carefully planned teaching groups, with an average class size of 19
- ◆ inspection reports in 2002, 2007 and 2008 which judged the College's provision to be 'outstanding' in all areas inspected

- ◆ excellent facilities, including:
 - purpose-built classrooms and laboratories with specialist facilities and resource areas, including many open-access IT areas
 - The Rob Wilkinson Building, opened in 2004, with lecture room and state-of-the-art facilities for Chemistry, Physics and Physical Education
 - specialist guidance facilities in The Margaret Ingram Guidance Centre, opened in 2005
 - Library and Resources Centre and a silent private study area, refurbished in 2010
 - well-equipped Careers Centre, refurbished in 2010
 - Study Skills Centre open to any student needing individual help
 - The Robinson Theatre
 - The Colin Hill Recital Room, Music practice rooms, recording studio and newly-equipped Music Technology facilities
 - Art and Design Centre with specialist studios and newly refurbished Art History and Textiles rooms
 - large Sports and Tennis Centre, and outdoor sports facilities including tennis courts, cricket square, and football and rugby pitches
 - Restaurant, café, and brand new cybercafé, opened in 2010
 - Atrium, opened in 2010, with computer facilities and space for collaborative and independent learning
 - Internet, intranet and e-mail access for all students.

Achievement

- ◆ successes by individual students and groups in a wide range of local and national cultural, dramatic, musical and sporting activities; through these activities and other challenging experiences such as the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Scheme and Young Enterprise, students are able to develop social confidence and personal skills
- ◆ consistently outstanding examination results: in 2010 the pass rate for A-level courses was 99.7%, with 53% grade A*-A, 83% of grades at A*-B and 94% at A*-C. In recent years the College has consistently been placed first in national league tables for A-level results of sixth form colleges
- ◆ significant 'added-value' improves students' examination performance and opens up many opportunities after Hills Road: national measures of added-value consistently place the College in or around the top decile amongst all types of institution
- ◆ extremely high course completion rates, well above the national average, reflecting our determination that students who join us go on to complete their courses successfully
- ◆ strong progression to higher education: around 95% of students who left in 2010 will progress to degree courses, the vast majority to their first choice destination including 70 to Cambridge or Oxford. Over 30% of our students will benefit from a gap year after A-levels, and they are given guidance and support in planning this.