



ALL HALLOWS

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

FREEDOM *TO* LEARN



PROSPECTUS

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WELCOME

What more could you want for your child than for them to be happy, fulfil their potential and understand their place in the world? All Hallows meets all these aspirations, offering an inspirational education that will set your child on an exciting path towards the life they want to lead.

Of course we encourage academic excellence, but more importantly we recognise and celebrate the exceptional and exclusive talent in every child - whatever that may be. This helps guide them on their own unique journey, from the tender age of three to the start of their teenage years at 13.

We are a Christian school in the Roman Catholic tradition. Day-to-day this means we work to provide a well-rounded education within a caring and nurturing environment. Your child will benefit from a strong sense of community, one that encourages parental involvement and strengthens the bonds between everyone associated with the school.



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HISTORY OF *forward thinking*

STRONG FOUNDATIONS

The name All Hallows was given by the founder as he started the school on All Saints' Day in 1938. From that year's small beginnings (starting with just one pupil) in West Sussex we moved at the start of the war to the wilds of Dartmoor, before settling in our present idyllic location in the beautiful Cranmore Hall, Somerset.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Throughout our history we have remained true to our founder's vision for a holistic education, cultivating a strong reputation for excellence, innovation and creativity. While we have a certain 'old school' charm, we have always looked to the future and you can be sure your child will enjoy the very latest in technology, teaching practices and facilities.







Our Philosophy

We are focused on providing a secure, happy and inclusive environment where children will develop the inner confidence and self-esteem necessary for them to flourish in our rapidly changing world. Whilst we protect and nurture children, we also challenge and extend them, building their ability to thrive as adults in the future.

Awakening the children, to broaden minds and widen perspectives, is a key principle. We encourage learning, independence of thought and the cultivation of self-belief, skill, wisdom and curiosity.

By preparing each child to live life to the full, we are helping them to live responsibly and thoughtfully and to embrace the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. It is our sincere desire that each will use their compassion, knowledge, passion and energy to make the world a better place.

Every child has an inherent value, which is exceptional and exclusive to them. A message encompassed in our school motto: Sancto cuique sua candela (For every saint there is a candle).

This thought is central to everything we do at All Hallows.

ALL HALLOWS' AIMS

EMOTIONAL

We want our children to develop global awareness and social responsibility, to embrace and contribute to the communities and environments in which they live.

Happiness, confidence and self-esteem are key to living a fulfilled life and underpin great learning. We strive to develop children's emotional intelligence, encouraging resilience, effective communication skills, empathy, forgiveness and respect for others.

INTELLECTUAL


We aim to develop each child's intellectual character, cultivating their capacity to combine thinking skills with knowledge, confidence and self-esteem. We foster intellectual risk-taking and curiosity, independence, resilience and effective learning habits within a supportive community, where individual learning profiles are nurtured and celebrated, and all children are encouraged to achieve their very best.

SPIRITUAL

We aim to awaken the children spiritually through the integration of Catholic Christian principles into the school's everyday life, the provision of warm relationships, prayer, worship and opportunities for reflection and contemplation.







‘My daughter’s whole journey to becoming a brilliant person happened here.’

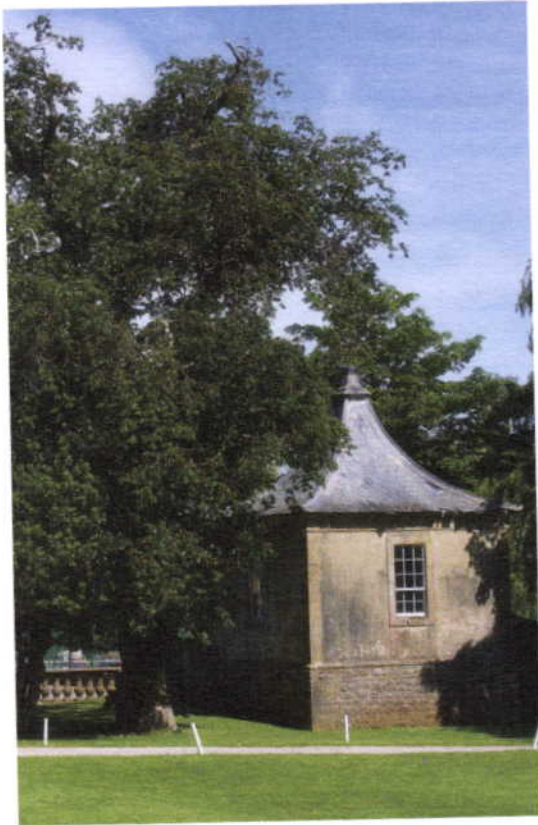
CREATIVE

Children are given free rein to express themselves, collaborate, exchange ideas and build collective solutions to complex problems. Creativity is a vital part of life at All Hallows and we encourage your child to take a creative approach to all he or she does. By connecting children with things that inspire and excite them we foster diversity, critical thinking, imaginative insights and fresh ideas.

PERSONAL

We aim to instil an understanding, appreciation and love of healthy lifestyle choices. We do this by offering a wide range of personal development opportunities through sports, music, drama and an extensive array of activities to supplement and enhance classroom learning. Every aspect of school life is seen as a learning opportunity and a chance to promote the development of the whole child.







A SENSE OF *place*

Our school is situated in some of the most wonderful Somerset countryside, and yet close to the vibrant cities of Bath, Bristol and Wells. In this beautiful landscape your child will develop an appreciation of playing outside, creating their own games and boosting their imagination without resorting to electronic devices. This freedom is something we treasure and having 21 acres on campus plus the bordering nine acres of Scouts Wood to explore, our rural estate setting helps develop a life-long love of outdoor living.





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CREATING A *h o m e*
WITHIN A SCHOOL

*'After the holidays, my son is
always happy to go back to his
'school family' at All Hallows.'*

HOME COMFORTS

All of our boarders live in the main school house - not just a house but also a home. From the minute you walk in the front door you will notice a genuine family atmosphere, with its open fires and kitchen providing a beating heart.

Our aim is to be a 'partner in parenting', helping you deal in the best possible way with the challenges of modern life. Like a family run, homely hotel, the house promises your child fun, support and happiness, providing a secure setting in which he or she can flourish.

Alive with evening and weekend activities, and with staff always on hand if needed, the school house is fully embraced and used by all at All Hallows - creating a tight community that day pupils are an integral part of, often choosing to staying overnight.



HAPPY, *safe*
AND VALUED

'When my son moved from another school his academic work improved straight away. He responded brilliantly to the individual approach and teaching style.'

Our 'whole child' approach ensures our pastoral care is second to none. It is fully supported by systems and communication that help everyone feel confident and secure.

Our House system fosters a strong sense of belonging - not to mention healthy competition. A tutor system ensures children are guided, nurtured and cared for by key staff, whilst the School Council and Boarders' Council give children a degree of responsibility and a say in what happens at school.

With high staffing ratios providing excellent levels of supervision day and night, All Hallows is a safe, child-centred and supportive school, where children grow up happy and confident in their own skins.

Food too is an important part of the quality of life at All Hallows. It is not just healthy but, judging by the empty plates, highly tasty too. Our Medical Centre, located in the centre of the house, is staffed during term time by a dedicated team of two qualified nurses, ably helped by trained house-parents.





BRINGING LEARNING TO *life*

Individualised learning is at the heart of teaching at All Hallows. We personalise learning, taking into account external influences such as wider experiences, personal motivation and natural learning styles.

This principle is adopted at every step of your child's journey through All Hallows. From the Early Years Foundation (nursery and reception), where a happy, calm and safe environment encourages learning, to the Senior school where we regularly achieve 100% success at Common Entrance and at least half of all leavers win a scholarship or exhibition to their next chosen school.

Your child will benefit from an innovative and thematic curriculum. It includes the International Primary Curriculum, designed to engage and inspire children of all abilities, and is enriched by fun visits that maintain interest and broaden horizons.

Learning support is especially strong. Focusing on language, literacy and numeracy work, we provide short or long-term support in one-to-one sessions, small group work and in class.

While our school is non-selective on entry, we manage to achieve exceptional results for each and every child. As parents have told us: something great happens in the 'machine'.





‘Within 5 minutes I knew this was the right school – because children’s work is jumping off the walls, and everyone is so passionate about the school.’



CHRISTIAN *principles* IN EVERYDAY LIFE

ROMAN CATHOLIC FOUNDATIONS

Mass is held every week for the whole school and each tutor group takes turns to help prepare readings and prayers. At the weekend, the boarders have Sunday Mass at 6pm, which is also open to the wider community.

We are a Christian Foundation rooted in the Roman Catholic traditions and welcoming all faiths. Our school was founded on the simple belief that a faith school provides a strong value system. Even though 60% of our families are not catholic, parents still choose us because integrating Christian principles into daily life can help make the world a better place.

There are a number of ways that children can play an active part in the spiritual life of the school. They can learn to be sacristans or Mass servers, help with the running of the chapel as a Chapel Prefect or join our excellent Chapel Choir. They are also offered preparation classes for the sacraments and can take their First Communion and be confirmed at school.







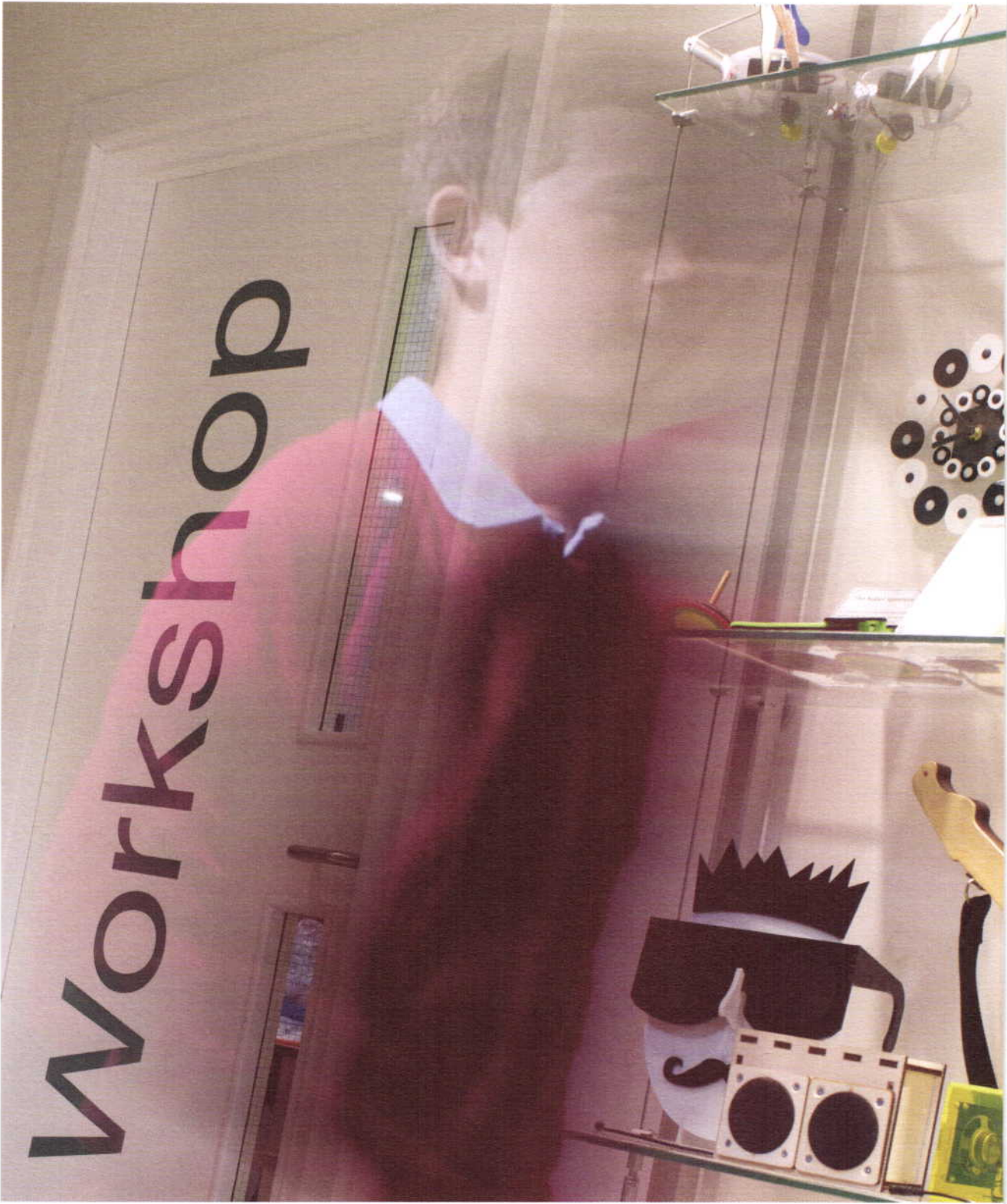
FEEDING THE
i m a g i n a t i o n

‘They make sure the children experience positive outcomes, so they are happy to ‘have a go’ and are not scared to fail.’

MAKING THE MOST OF THE ARTS

The creative arts, drama and music are given centre stage here, offering a chance for your child to express themselves in their own unique way. They build confidence, develop imaginative thinking and satisfy the need for self-expression. Our teaching in all these areas is designed to give every child the chance to find their personal creative outlet and to appreciate the joy that the arts, drama and music can bring at any level.







‘The school offers a rounded education in all aspects... and it allows your child to be an individual.’

THE CREATIVE ARTS

The Art Department provides an exciting, innovative and stimulating environment. In fact our new Creative Arts Centre is more like a London design studio than a school facility, offering advanced technology, such as 3D printing, CAD and CAM design as well as animation and enhanced digital photography.

Your child can take part in conventional fine arts, a range of creative crafts and ceramics. It's all about learning through experience and enjoyment, across a range of lessons, activities and visits, irrespective of ability.



*'I was so nervous,
but when the
audience applauded
at the end, I wanted
to do it all again.'*

DRAMA

Drama helps children express themselves with confidence and ease - a valuable life skill. We offer a wide range of dramatic opportunities to pupils across the year groups and spanning all abilities.

In Years Five, Six and Seven, drama is written into the curriculum with formal lessons alongside drama activities and subject based productions. We offer extra curricular speech and drama lessons (e.g. LAMDA) for Year Three upwards, while children in Year Six and Seven can work towards large-scale productions as part of the Saturday Enrichment programme.









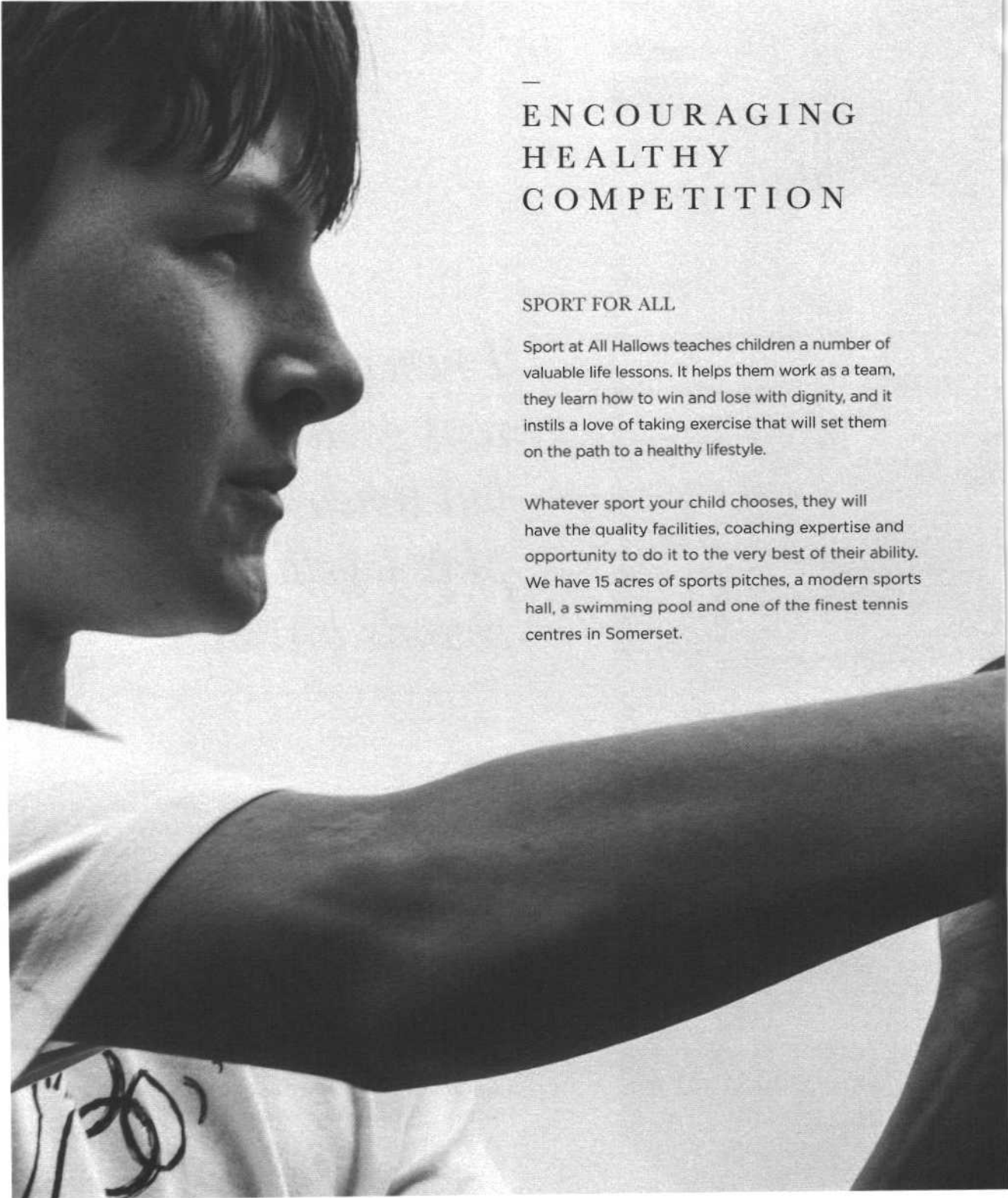
'I never thought I was good at music but when we all play together it sounds brilliant.'

MUSIC

There is a wide range of musical opportunities for children at every stage of their musical education. There are also plenty of performance platforms which provide valuable moments in the spotlight.

Lessons are music-making opportunities, with voice, instruments or computer, supported by written topics ranging from The Blues and Graphic Scores to Indian Music. Twelve visiting teachers offer lessons in everything from the piccolo to the piano, while the Chapel Choir sings at Mass and in recent years has been heard at the Vatican, Westminster Cathedral and Wells Cathedral.





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ENCOURAGING
HEALTHY
COMPETITION

SPORT FOR ALL

Sport at All Hallows teaches children a number of valuable life lessons. It helps them work as a team, they learn how to win and lose with dignity, and it instils a love of taking exercise that will set them on the path to a healthy lifestyle.

Whatever sport your child chooses, they will have the quality facilities, coaching expertise and opportunity to do it to the very best of their ability. We have 15 acres of sports pitches, a modern sports hall, a swimming pool and one of the finest tennis centres in Somerset.

FINDING AN ACTIVITY TO SUIT

We offer a wide variety of sporting options, with every child taking part in the core sports of rugby, hockey, cricket and athletics (boys), and hockey, netball, rounders, athletics and cricket (girls). There are also year-round opportunities for tennis, X-country and swimming.

Our coaches are hugely experienced, many having represented the country and counties at various sports. They encourage a love of exercise in every child, naturally sporty or not, running a number of teams across the age range from Year Three upwards. These take part in appropriate competitive fixtures, giving every child the chance to represent the school.

Tennis is a particular focus and we are an LTA Academy and centre of excellence. Over 260 children, both day pupils and boarders, as well as staff, parents and members of the local community train and compete here on a weekly basis.





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THE *w o r l d*
IS OUR CLASSROOM



AN ENRICHED EDUCATION

Often we find the experiences children have outside the classroom are just as influential as those inside. That's why we look at 'enrichment' as more than an activity programme; it's central to our ethos and approach to learning.

Of course children are encouraged to pursue their strengths and interests but more importantly, we help them embrace opportunity and to step out of their comfort zone without fear of failure. Our Saturday Enrichment Programme, evening enrichment and post Common Entrance programme are all chances to do this.

As well as timetabled activities children can also go on off-site visits, listen to fascinating and entertaining speakers, as well as take part in an outdoor education programme that includes ever-popular camps and the Exmoor Youth Challenge.

Far from being supplementary to his or her education, enrichment provides a cornerstone, helping your child grow into a happy, confident, resilient and compassionate young adult.



A MUDDY KNEES SCHOOL



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LEARNING FROM NATURE

We were the first prep school in the UK to be awarded Forest School status and it has become integral to the curriculum at All Hallows. It plays an important role in supporting all the topics covered in the classroom and children (and adults) of all ages can't wait to get involved.

The idea of a Forest School is to provide activities that help the children develop personal, social, problem-solving and emotional skills, at the same time as learning about their natural environment and the world around them. Our facilities include open-air classrooms, pizza ovens, outdoor kitchens, fire-pits, water pumps and a Saxon Roundhouse. This is designed to give your child positive experiences, a spirit of adventure and a real sense of achievement in an inspirational woodland environment.

Of course we are fortunate to have the beautiful surroundings that make this a uniquely enjoyable facility and are proud to have become the South West Training Centre for Forest School practitioners.

'Our daughter always comes back glowing with a sense of achievement after Forest School.'



SETTING THE MORAL *compass*

WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We are all part of a world community, which brings with it certain responsibilities and challenges. Our children are mindful of this and are taught to believe that every child, every school and every community can make a difference.

The international aspects of the curriculum help to broaden children's horizons, and there are many examples of how we help your child understand their role regarding community, social responsibility,

stewardship and global awareness. Our environmental awareness and teachings have led to us being awarded the Eco Silver Award as part of the Eco-Schools initiative.

Many children are also involved in our charity work. Our link school in Sang'a, Kenya is the main beneficiary of this, but we also support a number of local charities through 'House' fundraising events, as well as national initiatives such as Children in Need.





'It's so important that the children think about others — and they're never too young to start.'



PREPARING FOR THE WIDER *w o r l d*

TEACHING SKILLS FOR LIFE

The term 'preparatory' means we are preparing your child for senior school - and for life. It's almost impossible to predict what that life will be like, but what we do know is that change is faster than ever and they will be entering a truly global environment. Our international boarders help us to appreciate that we are now living in an easily accessible world, one that requires new skills, quite possibly for jobs yet to be invented.

All Hallows provides the foundation for these skills. Your child will leave with more than excellent academic qualifications; we aim to teach tolerance, understanding and imagination, as well as high levels of emotional intelligence to build resilience and strength of purpose.

Underlying all this, children also need the anchor of a strong faith, belief in the power of God to hear their prayers, to support them in difficult times, to guide them through the jungle of decisions that lie ahead.

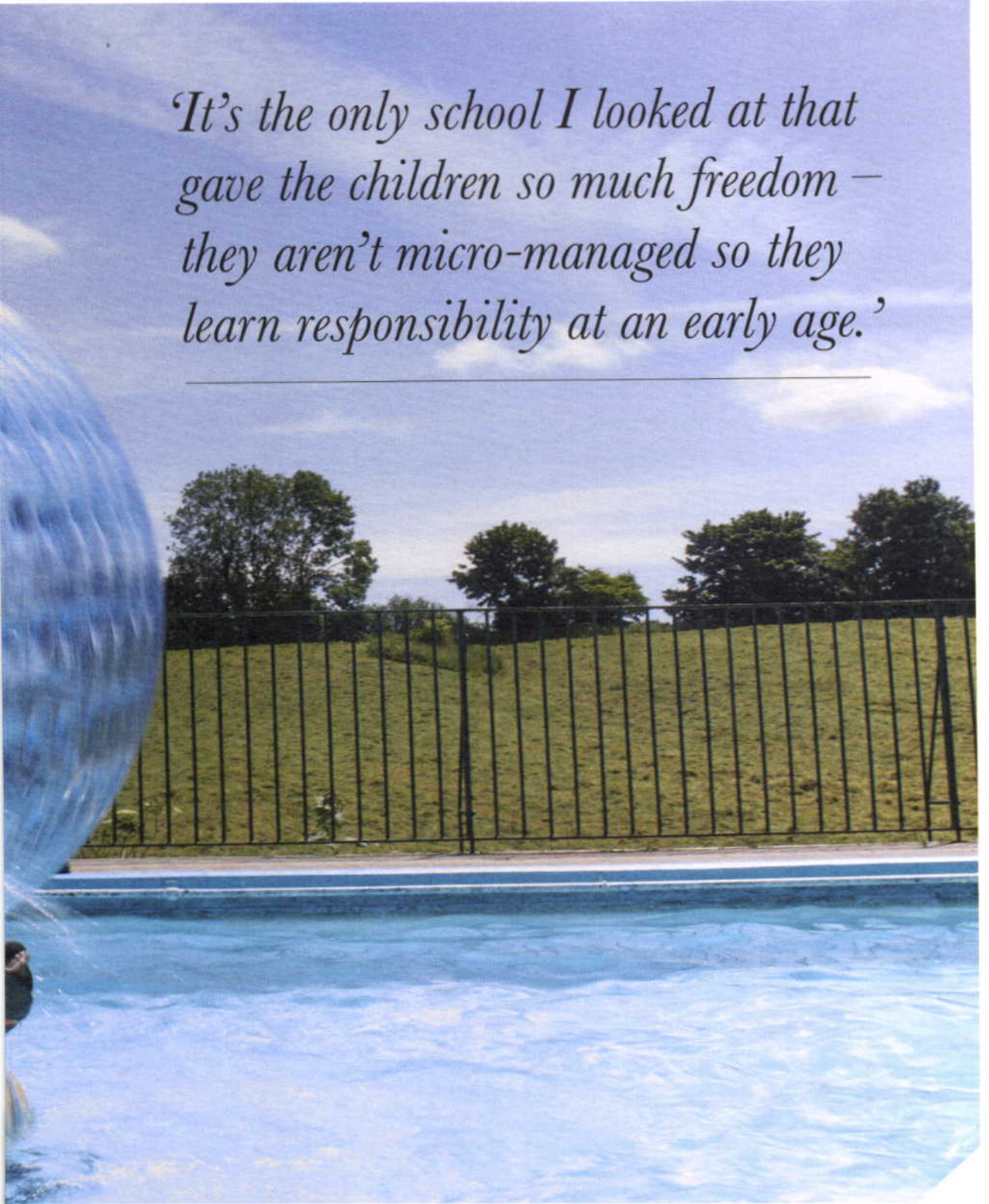
With a close collaboration between home and school, we also seek to achieve the successful transfer to the most appropriate senior school for each of our children, taking into account their interests, strengths and character.







'It's the only school I looked at that gave the children so much freedom — they aren't micro-managed so they learn responsibility at an early age.'





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Sancto cuique sua candela

