



Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital

Date: MONDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2025
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members: Jamel Banda (Chairman)
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Deputy Chairman)
Jamel Banda (Chairman)
James St John Davis
John Foley
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Deputy Jaspreet Hodgson
Shravan Joshi MBE
Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley
Dr Giles Shilson

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Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

To elect a Chairman for the year ensuing.

For Decision

4. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

To elect a Deputy Chairman for the year ensuing.

For Decision

5. **MINUTES**

To agree the public minutes and non-public summary of the previous meeting held on 21 February 2025.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 10)

6. **IMPACT REPORT**

Report of Christ's Hospital.

For Information
(Pages 11 - 28)

7. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

9. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION - That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

10. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

To agree the non-public minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 February 2025.

For Decision
(Pages 29 - 32)

11. QUESTIONS ON NON-PUBLIC MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

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**COMMITTEE OF ALDERMANIC ALMONERS, COMMON COUNCIL GOVERNORS
AND DONATION GOVERNORS OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL
Friday, 21 February 2025**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of Aldermanic Almoners, Common
Council Governors and Donation Governors of Christ's Hospital held at
Guildhall, EC2 on Friday, 21 February 2025 at 11.00 am**

Present

Members:

Jamel Banda (Chair)
Nicholas Bensted-Smith (Deputy Chair)
Deputy Randall Anderson
James St John Davis
John Foley
Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Jaspreet Hodgson
Deputy Shravan Joshi MBE

Officers:

Sam Bushell	- Partnerships Manager, CH
Rhys Campbell	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies have been received from Alderman Parmley, Deputy Giles Shilson Deput and Ian Seaton in advance of this meeting. Apologies were also received from Nick Bensted-Smith, Deputy Marianne Fredericks and James St John Davis however they attended this meeting virtually.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

There were no comments.

4. IMPACT REPORT

The Committee received a report of the Christ's Hospital relating to the Impact Report.

The Partnerships Manager informed the Committee that Christ's Hospital had been awarded Independent School of the Year for 2024 and the school were

finalists in the School College of the Year UK Social Mobility Awards 2024. £7.4 Million was raised for the school in the past year despite the difficulties experienced whilst fundraising, however the school had developed new fundraising methods such as “Giving Day” and contacting new donors. A new partnership had been established with Morris Upton Foundation which would be supporting a new full bursary for the London Mayor Royal Mathematical School (RMS) Scholarships and this had been done in conjunction with the Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli with the intent to raise money strictly for the school’s raw mathematical school scholarships which were in perpetuity. As a result of this work, six new Livery Companies had been involved with school raising approximately £800,000. Christ’s Hospital also won School of the Year in Performing Arts for the year 2024.

Regarding personal transformation, a survey issued to pupil’s when they leave the school, 96% of pupil’s stated that Christ’s Hospital had a positive impact on their lives.

A-Level results were down compared to the previous year, however with the new Christ’s Hospital Headmaster expected to take post imminently further work on the academic achievements of the pupils were expected to take place. The Deputy Chairman mentioned that it was worth noting that these results included a cohort of students who were studying during the early part of the Covid-19 pandemic which may have impacted their performance. The Partnerships Manager advised the Committee that because of Central Government’s intention to raise VAT on Independent School fees, this would most likely result in schools reducing their bursary funding which consequently would prove beneficial for Christ’s Hospital in the fact that the academic quality of the candidates applying for the school shall rise.

In respect of the Expedition Education Programme, this programme offered pupil’s a chance to get involved in outward bound activities such as Mountain Biking, Canoeing and other outdoor activities to teach resilience and aimed at those who had never experienced outdoor activities prior to arriving at the school. £2.2 Million had been raised for this with a vast majority of these funds received from one donor, an “Old Blue”, who felt very passionate about the programme. The Committee had been advised that a partnership with a London school to take part in the programme.

In terms of outreach to London Primary School’s, the Partnerships Manager highlighted the Christ’s Hospital Math’s Challenge which had taken place in the Great Hall on 10 February 2025 where 236 Year Five students from 57 primary schools attended. This event was well attended with the Deputy Chairman mentioning that it was a great occasion, and it would continue. The event also helped to promote Christ’s Hospital school as well as encouraging parents to feel comfortable with the thought of their children receiving a boarding education.

The Chair congratulated Christ’s Hospital for winning both Independent School of the Year and School of the Year in Performing Arts. A Member agreed and suggested that the Impact Report be shared with all Members of the Court of

Common Council to ensure that the full membership would understand the City Corporation's relationship with the Christ's Hospital. The Chairman agreed and tasked the Town Clerk to circulate the report to all Members, along with a cover letter detailing the City's history with the School, prior to the first Court of Common Council meeting of the civic year. It was also mentioned if Christ's Hospital could be mentioned in the Members orientation following the Common Councillor elections in March 2025.

The Deputy Chair asked if feedback received from previous Impact Reports had led to subsequent changes to the current Impact Report and the Partnerships Manager agreed to investigate further and update Members outside of the meeting.

The Chairman acknowledged the recent trip to visit Christ's Hospital which had taken place in Autumn 2024 and informed the Committee of his intention to make this trip an annual event.

RESOLVED, that - the report and its contents be noted.

5. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Chair asked how best the Committee could leverage on some of the City Corporation's social events to assist Christ's Hospital's fantastic fundraising efforts. Networking to potential donors and providing students with opportunities for work experience were mentioned. A Member was in full support of this and mentioned that coordination between the Livery Companies and the working City were really important. He mentioned that the Director of Development, Christ's Hospital was aware of specific work experience programmes taking place at the Member's firm and the Lloyd's Market, and that given the amount of underspend in Corporate Social responsibility budgets and the 'hunger' of companies looking for community-driven projects this could create work experience opportunities for young people. It could also create a space for both financial and wider support for Christ's Hospital students. The Chair thanked the Member and was delighted to engage with his firm further and, if possible, use it as a test case to gain support from other Members and their places of work. A Member mentioned attending Livery events where Gresham's were in attendance also and mentioned that their presence had been a really good advert for the school. He suggested that Livery Committee Briefings be used as a tool to promote Christ's Hospital School and, if possible, that either the Partnerships Manager or Director of Development could attend briefings to provide further information of the school.

7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they relate to functions of the Court of Common Council which are not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

8. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, that - The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2024 be approved as a correct record.

9. CHRIST'S HOSPITAL UPDATE

The Committee received a report of Christ's Hospital and Members were provided with an update regarding the school.

The Partnerships Manager advised the Committee that 94% of pupils at the school were "Full Boarders" and 47% of these pupils were from London. 77% of pupils who attended Christ's Hospital received bursaries which at the time of this meeting was the largest number of bursaries allocated to pupils within a school in the country. She noted that the suspected implementation of Central Government's policies involving Independent Schools, VAT on Independent School fees being mentioned, would impact Christ's Hospital negatively since the school was not in a position to draw more from endowments and would seek to raise further funds via fundraising to cover costs lost, and costs may also be incurred onto parents whose children receive bursaries and this could prove difficult given their situation.

The Partnerships Manager cited the reports request for the grant provided by the City Corporation to be increased by 43%. A Member noted that the decision to approve such a request would be complex as it would be taken in context with other educational matters and noted that there were other schools seeking further funding from City's Estate and ultimately it would be Members' decision to decide if the school shall receive further funding. The Deputy Chair suggested that Christ's Hospital include index linking into their application for further funding, if possible, to ensure that increased funding was secured on a multi-year basis.

The Partnerships Manager provided an update on the City of London Corporation's presentees at the school and Members were delighted to hear of their presentee's progress. In response to a question raised by a Member, the Partnerships Manager confirmed that it was appropriate for Donation Governors to contact House Parents if they felt any concern for their presentee.

RESOLVED, that – the report and its contents be noted.

10. SELECTING A PRESENTEE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Members discussed the applications for the Corporation's 2025 Presentation to Christ's Hospital.

The Chair reminded the Committee that all three candidates were all guaranteed a place at Christ's Hospital but only one would be endorsed by the City of London Corporation.

The Partnerships Manager advised the Committee that Candidate 1 was a "bright" pupil and had a brother attending university and another in attendance at a separate boarding school. She was confident that this candidate would do well at Christ's Hospital despite having a difficult upbringing due to factors such as domestic abuse and instability.

Regarding candidate 2, unfortunately this candidate also experienced domestic abuse and instability, however academically they were doing very well. This candidate was identified as being popular and "bubbly". Although their boarding session noticed that they were quite withdrawn, however the Registrar's agreed that the candidate would do well at Christ's Hospital.

Candidate 3 was involved in a Children in Need plan and their school report detailed that they were doing well academically and had taken part in various school activities. This candidate did well during their boarding session.

Members discussed the candidates broadly and whilst two Members identified candidate 3 as their first choice, the remaining Members whilst noting that it was a difficult decision to make were in favour of candidate 2 since the school's relationship with the Royal Mathematical School.

RESOLVED, that - Candidate 2 be selected as the City of London presentee for the year 2025.

11. DONATION GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

Since there had been no new appointments to the Committee Members agreed to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve the next Donation Governor for the ensuing year.

Members discussed the £150 per pupil per annum allocated to a City of London Presentee for extra-curricular activities and wondered if this amount could be increased since this amount was agreed in October 2008, and the Chair was of the view that this would need to be reviewed and revised. Whilst Members agreed with this, they were in stronger agreement to prioritise the increase of the CoL grant.

All Members recognised that an issue with accessing the £150 allocated to presentees was that those involved were unaware of the method to unlock the fund and some were unaware that this fund was available. The Chair tasked the Town Clerk with providing further information on how to access funds in the next Christ's Hospital agenda.

RESOLVED, that – Members agreed to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to approve the next Donation Governor for the ensuing year.

12. PROGRESS ON CHILDREN PRESENTED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Donation Governors were heard.

13. QUESTIONS ON NON-PUBLIC MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

The Chair acknowledged that the decision to move the second meeting of the Committee to 27 October 2025 did not give the 2025 Gresham an opportunity to speak to presentees at the City Corporation hosted luncheon. The Partnerships Manager suggested that the Gresham could be invited to attend this year's luncheon, permitting that this did not conflict with their studies.

The meeting ended at 12.17 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Rhys Campbell
rhys.campbell@cityoflondon.gov.uk



OUR IMPACT

2023/2024



Christ's Hospital is the UK's leading charitable school and the country's most generous bursary charity. The school was established in 1552 and provides free or substantially reduced cost places to over 670 students each year – more than any other organisation in the UK.

Through first-class education and exceptional pastoral support, Christ's Hospital provides each student with stability and the opportunity to thrive and fulfil their potential. The results for social mobility are extraordinary; 95% of students go onto university; alumni go on to earn three times the household income of their parents and many take roles in society which help to shape tomorrow's world.

**OUR MISSION IS TO CHALLENGE
INEQUALITY BY PROVIDING A NURTURING,
TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS.**



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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

As we reflect on the 2023-2024 academic year, I am immensely proud of our remarkable achievements. It brings real joy to see the hard work of everyone at CH acknowledged by the award of Independent School of the Year 2024.



Recognition like this reaffirms our standing as one of the leading schools in the UK educational landscape – and an engine for social mobility. Additionally, we were proud to achieve first place in the Performing Arts category, a testament to the extraordinary talent and hard work of our students and staff in music and drama.

This year has been one of tremendous impact, driven by our commitment to transformative education and the unwavering support of our generous donors. Another significant highlight was

our provision of
£23M
in means-tested bursary support
The highest among
UK schools

Of our 874 students, 672 received a bursary averaging 85% remission of fees, of whom 114 paid no fees at all. This support is central to our mission, enabling students from all backgrounds to access the life-changing opportunities offered at Christ's Hospital. Our dedication to social mobility was recognised nationally as a finalist in the School/College of the Year category for the UK Social Mobility Awards 2024.

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of Old Blues, parents, friends, trusts and foundations. Your support helped

RAISE OVER
£7.4 million

IN DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

A high point of this was our first-ever CH Giving Day in November 2023, which raised an impressive £164,000 in just 36 hours. Building on this success, I am thrilled that our second Giving Day, held in November 2024, surpassed this achievement, raising over £178,000 from 702 donors. Furthermore, as we marked the 350th anniversary of our Royal Mathematical School (RMS), anniversary-focused fundraising efforts enabled us to launch the Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarship and an Expeditionary Education programme, both offering transformational opportunities for students.

This culture of philanthropy at Christ's Hospital has been crucial in ensuring we continue to offer a first-class education to young people from all backgrounds. The achievements demonstrated in this Impact Report would not have been possible without your support. Thank you.

Looking ahead, we face challenges, including our reliance on the endowment, which currently covers less than 50% of the school's running costs. We must grow our endowment to sustain our mission and ensure that even more young people can access a transformative CH education. Fundraising income will, therefore, remain essential in the months and years to come – especially as we face the impact of VAT on school fees and the removal of charitable relief on business rates.

Despite these challenges, our commitment to student success and our mission remains strong. With the unwavering support of our staff, parents, Old Blues and donors, I am confident we will continue to thrive and achieve great things in the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Simon Reid
Head Teacher



OUR APPROACH TO TRANSFORMING LIVES

WHO WE SUPPORT

We identify **children from disadvantaged or disrupted backgrounds** with academic potential who would benefit from a boarding education at Christ's Hospital. Places are offered following a **needs assessment** of a family's social, economic, educational and environmental challenges. Bursaries are awarded based on a family's financial circumstances.

WHAT WE DO

Academic Curriculum

Providing intellectual challenge through supported and independent learning in and beyond the classroom.

Broader Curriculum

Providing personal challenge through sport, outdoor education (expedition), music and drama.

Social Curriculum

Providing personal development through boarding house experience, pastoral care and mental health support.

Growth Environment

Providing a strong sense of community through equity, unifying traditions and a positive school ethos.

OUTPUT

Improved Learning and Development

Including: an improved attitude to learning; and the development of talents and interests.

Improved Personal Skills

Including: confidence; self-discipline; resilience; and initiative.

Improved Inter-Personal Skills

Including: social skills; empathy; tolerance; ability to integrate; and ability to interact with others from mixed social backgrounds.

Improved Stability and Structure

Including: meeting material living needs; and the reduction of negative environmental factors associated with a challenging home life.

OUTCOMES



Improved Academic Attainment



Improved Emotional and Social Well-Being



Raised Aspirations



Greater Social Capital

OUR LONG TERM IMPACT

Enhanced Career Prospects

Progression to higher education and fulfilling careers.

Greater Life Chances

Reaching an individual's full potential.

Heightened Prosocial Attitudes

Benefitting communities in the UK and beyond.

Systemic Change

Challenging inequality in society.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

“We are ever so grateful for the incredible opportunity, through the generous bursary for Tom’s education at CH. Receiving this bursary has not only alleviated the financial burden of attending such a distinguished institution but has also opened doors to a world of possibilities and learning experiences that Tom could have only dreamed of. At CH, a great faith was reposed in his potential and that has been a driving force in his academic journey.”

- Parent of a CH bursary recipient

BURSARY SUPPORT

We continue to play a key role in increasing social mobility in the UK through transformative education. This year, Christ’s Hospital provided £23 million in means-tested bursary support – more than any other organisation in the UK. Of our 874 students, 672 received a bursary averaging 85% remission of fees, and 114 paid no fees at all.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Christ’s Hospital was honoured to be named Independent School of the Year 2024, chosen as the top school from over 700 nominations submitted by leading independent schools across the world. This award, presented among the winners of all categories, is a powerful recognition of the dedication and collective achievements of the entire CH community. Our additional success as winners in the Performing Arts category further underscores the remarkable talent and commitment within our music and drama programmes, where students and staff alike continue to excel.



UK SOCIAL MOBILITY AWARDS

We are proud to have been selected as a finalist in the School/College of the Year category for the UK Social Mobility Awards 2024. The awards recognise and celebrate UK organisations that are making strides and creating initiatives to advance social mobility.



PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

2023/24 has been another successful fundraising year raising more than **£7.4 million**. This exceptional fundraising success highlights the deep culture of philanthropy at Christ’s Hospital and the generosity of Old Blues, parents and friends. Your support allows us to make an impact on society, offering a first-class education and lifechanging opportunities to young people, regardless of their background, or financial circumstances. Thank you!

VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS

We are delighted to have the support of several trusts and foundations including extended collaboration with the **Maurice Upperton Foundation** which is supporting our first Lord Mayor’s Royal Mathematical School Scholarship for students. Additionally, we are partnering with the **Peter Harrison Foundation** to develop a new outdoor exercise adventure trail making sporting opportunities more accessible to students as well as inspiring members of the local community of all ages to become more active.

Continued support from existing partners including **John Lyon’s Charity** and **Buttle UK** has enabled more young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to benefit from a CH boarding education.

STRENGTHENING CITY LINKS TO DRIVE SOCIAL MOBILITY

We continue to strengthen our historic links with the City of London and together advance social mobility. Partnering with the Lord Mayor of London, Professor Michael Mainelli, we established the Lord Mayor’s Royal Mathematical School (RMS) Scholarship programme which is supported by a collaboration of nine of the livery companies of the City of London. Further support from 24 livery companies has provided bursary support to 29 disadvantaged students. A grant from the City of London will also enable us to broaden our Expeditionary Education programme, offering outdoor learning opportunities to students from two City of London primary schools.

PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION

For the sixth consecutive year, we conducted our annual survey of Grecian (Year 13) students to gauge their experiences of the impact of a Christ's Hospital education.

The results demonstrate that CH continues to have a profoundly positive effect on students' lives, fostering both personal growth and academic success. By nurturing confidence, resilience, and self-esteem, a CH education empowers young people to believe in themselves and pursue their aspirations.

The survey results are compelling:



These statistics underscore the comprehensive impact of a Christ's Hospital education, which extends beyond academics to encompass personal development, social integration and emotional resilience.

What our students said...

“Coming to CH, has been life-changing in countless ways.
Joshua, Grecian (Year 13)”

”CH has made me grow as a person. When I first came I was extremely shy but as I am leaving now I feel much more confident with myself.
Daniel, Grecian (Year 13)”

”It's been a once in a lifetime opportunity.
Summer, Grecian (Year 13)”

”CH has given me the opportunity to try new things and figure out where I want to go. I am grateful for the good teachers and friends I've made and the experiences I've had through living here.
Edith, Grecian (Year 13)”

”CH was the first school to accept me when I arrived to England as a refugee because of war in my own country (Ukraine). This place was welcoming and quickly became a 'second home' to me. Positive academic environment and friendly students and teachers allowed me to adapt to British educational system and achieve good results.
Ivan, Grecian (Year 13)”

”Coming to CH has helped me gain a new perspective of the world and deepen how I value my own impact on the world. The staff here are great, they all push you to be the best version of yourself.
Zaphaneth, Grecian (Year 13)”

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

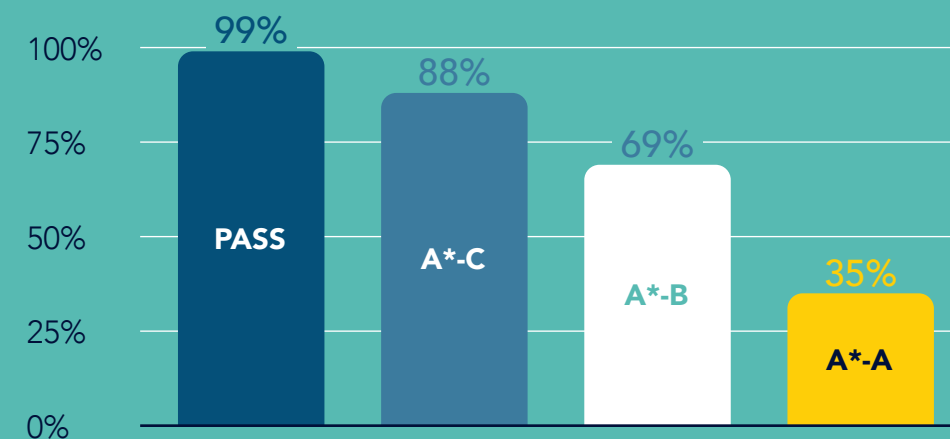
A-level Results

Students at Christ's Hospital should be incredibly proud of their accomplishments. Their results in 2024 are even more notable given the significant disadvantages many of them have overcome in achieving them. On average, the cohort achieved 138 UCAS points, equivalent to AAB with 35% of the grades being awarded at A or above.

Within these results there are some fantastic individual achievements with around 30% of the cohort gaining the equivalent of AAA or higher and 17 students achieving A*, A*, A* or equivalent. The top two individuals secured five A*-A grades.

"We are thrilled that 97% of our leavers who applied to university this year have successfully gained either their first choice or insurance offer. Our students have been accepted onto courses at 'higher tariff' universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol, Warwick, Durham, Manchester, Kings College London, Leeds, Southampton, Exeter, and University College London. I am incredibly proud of our students; they have worked hard and fully deserve their success."

Simon Reid, Head Teacher



GCSE Results

Our Year 11 students should be immensely proud of their achievements with almost two thirds of grades being awarded at level 7 or higher which is a 6% improvement over last year's results.

A stunning 41% of all grades awarded were at level 8 or higher.

Of the cohort of 140 students:

- **31 students** achieved 10 or more grades at level 7 or above
- **15 students** achieved at least five level 9 grades
- **One student** achieved 10 straight level 9 grades

"I am delighted to report that our students have done fantastically well and secured a stunning set of GCSE results. I am particularly proud of our students as many have had to overcome significant adversity and have shown such resilience and an impressive work ethic to obtain these results. Their achievements are a testament to their determination to succeed."

Simon Reid, Head Teacher

350 YEARS OF THE ROYAL MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL

BUILDING A LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE

Christ's Hospital marked the 350th anniversary of our Royal Mathematical School (RMS) this year. Originally founded in 1673 by King Charles II to train young people to become navigators in the Royal Navy and Merchant Navy, the RMS remains committed to offering transformative opportunities through modern education. The anniversary served as a platform to reflect on the school's rich heritage and build a legacy for the future.

Key initiatives were launched to equip the next generation to make an impact in the world:

£800,000
IN DONATIONS TO FUND
TWO FULL RMS SCHOLARSHIPS

THE LORD MAYOR'S ROYAL MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The school introduced this two-year sixth-form scholarship programme in collaboration with the Lord Mayor of London, Professor Michael Mainelli, aimed at providing life-changing educational opportunities to disadvantaged students. With donations totalling over **£800,000** so far, **two** in-perpetuity RMS Scholarships have already been established with a third targeted for 2025. We are immensely grateful to all our supporters, including the Maurice Upperton Foundation and **nine** livery companies of the City of London.

The programme offers a lasting legacy that aligns with the RMS's 350-year history, with a strong focus on promoting social mobility. The engagement with the Lord Mayor and prestigious bodies like the City of London further enhances the programme's reach.



Lord Mayor of London, Professor Michael Mainelli

SPARKING CURIOSITY AND AMBITION

A standout element of the 350th anniversary was a series of inspiring events designed to spark curiosity and ambition in our students. The diverse range of speakers included explorers, scientists, mathematicians and industry leaders, who encouraged students to embrace challenges, strive for excellence and cultivate a love of lifelong learning.

- **Sir Ranulph Fiennes OBE**, Guinness World Record's "greatest living explorer," captivated the audience with tales of extreme adventures, motivating students to push their limits.
- **Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE**, award-winning space scientist, shared her journey of overcoming dyslexia and obstacles to pursue her dreams, inspiring students to follow their own aspirations.
- **Bobby Seagull**, celebrity mathematician, brought maths to life, discussing its relevance in daily life and engaging students with his passion and energy.
- **Linda Blakely**, CH Ambassador for Expeditionary Education, inspired students with her solo row across the Atlantic in early 2024, sharing lessons of resilience and determination.
- **STEM ambassadors from McLaren F1** delivered a workshop, offering valuable insights into careers and engineering in motorsport.

The positive feedback from students reflects the impact of these renowned speakers, with many expressing newfound motivation and a broader perspective on embracing challenges in both personal and academic life.



"Fiennes' talk was a rollercoaster ride of adventure stories and life lessons... He shared his secrets to overcoming challenges, and admitted to not being particularly academically gifted, [which] left me with a fresh perspective on embracing challenges."

Kamsy, GE (Year 11)

"Bobby Seagull was incredibly engaging and managed to keep the whole audience hooked with maths. The way he presented his story was very inspiring, and many mathematicians in the audience felt a wave of motivation."

Jack, Grecian (Year 13)

I have been involved with Christ's Hospital for many years as an Alderman and am passionate about the transformative impact it has for young people's lives and communities around the world. This programme will, in perpetuity, enable young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to have a life-changing educational experience at Christ's Hospital, and be equipped to navigate an increasingly complex world. The Lord Mayor's Royal Mathematical School Scholarships provide an exciting way to have a lasting impact that builds on a hugely successful 350-year track record."

Looking ahead we are excited to extend the Expeditionary Education programme beyond our immediate school community, collaborating with the City of London's Galleywall and Redriff Primary Schools. A generous £24,000 grant from the City of London Corporation will fund a series of two-day camps in 2025, enriching the lives of 210 students through outdoor learning; promoting personal development, teamwork, leadership, confidence and environmental engagement.



“It's truly wonderful to see students, especially those with no prior experience, develop confidence and resilience through these opportunities. The transformation in their attitudes and skills is inspiring and reinforces the value of Expeditionary Education.”

Chris Wlodarczyk-Brickel, Ward Blakely Director of Expeditionary Education

EXPEDITIONARY EDUCATION

The launch of the Expeditionary Education programme epitomizes the spirit of exploration that defines the Royal Mathematical School. A successful fundraising campaign raised over **£2.2 million** to support our programme, which encourages students to embrace challenge through outdoor adventure activities including canoeing, sailing, mountain biking, mountaineering, bushcraft, camping and rock climbing. This programme fosters key skills such as teamwork, leadership, self-confidence and resilience – crucial for thriving in today's world. We were delighted with the extraordinary commitment shown by an Old Blue who made a transformative gift endowing the Ward Blakely Director of Expeditionary Education.

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£2.2 MILLION
RAISED FOR
EXPEDITIONARY EDUCATION

98%

of participants engaged in new and challenging activities

84%
of participants
acquired new
**OUTDOOR
SKILLS**

68 STUDENTS participated in the weekly
**Blues Expedition and
Exploration Society
(B.E.E.S.)**

ALL YEAR
students experienced an overnight
woodland camping adventure
with bushcraft and ecosystem
education

Over **300** students across Years 7, 8 and 10 enjoyed a 3-day "Expedition Week" featuring
CANOEING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, ROCK CLIMBING, NAVIGATION, AND BUSHCRAFT

ALL YEAR
STUDENTS engaged in weekly
Expeditionary Education Lessons

RESIDENTIAL EXPEDITIONS
developed enhanced skills including
YACHTING on the Norfolk Broads,
ROCK-CLIMBING in the Peak District and a 3-day
ADVENTURE CAMP



THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF

PERFORMING ARTS

Christ's Hospital is proud to have been named Independent School of the Year 2024, as well as to have won first place in the Performing Arts category. This recognition highlights our commitment to using the arts as a critical tool for developing well-rounded students and vital life skills. Performing arts are central to life at Christ's Hospital, deeply interwoven with the school's identity, traditions and vision. This award acknowledges the school's dedication to music and drama which not only enhances students' educational experience but also plays a crucial role in social mobility and personal development.

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Performing arts education enhances creativity, confidence and academic performance while addressing inequality. Yet, barriers such as lack of family support, low-income backgrounds and funding cuts, often limit access. At Christ's Hospital, we break down these barriers by ensuring every student has daily access to the performing arts, offering students every opportunity to engage as actors, musicians, directors, writers, singers, technicians or set designers.

The performing arts journey at Christ's Hospital is truly transformative. With 90% of students joining the Second Form (Year 7) from state primary schools and 77% on means-tested bursaries, many students have limited prior exposure to the performing arts and music in particular. Before joining CH, only 29% of students had experience playing music and just 21% had attended a theatre. In the last academic year (2023/24), 83% of all Second Form (Year 7) students participated in music lessons, and 100% engaged in drama, showcasing our immediate and impactful commitment to the arts.

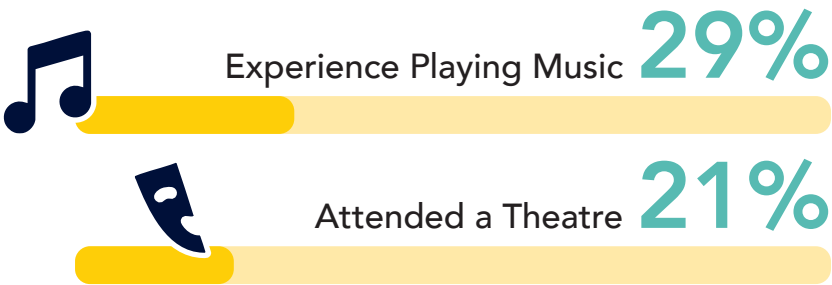


James Bartlett,
Director of Music

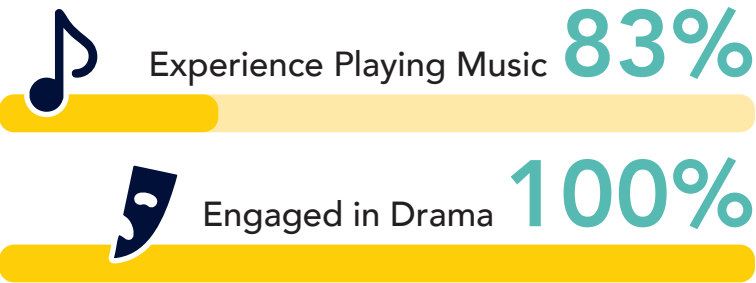
“The ability to play an instrument, or sing or perform with others, undoubtedly equips students with the life skills they will need in the future. Discipline, perseverance and internal motivation go hand in hand with confidence, teamwork and pride in your work. But as a school with students who often come from complex backgrounds, music is a great equaliser. It offers opportunities for success, and it also offers emotional safety.”



Prior Exposure to Performing Arts

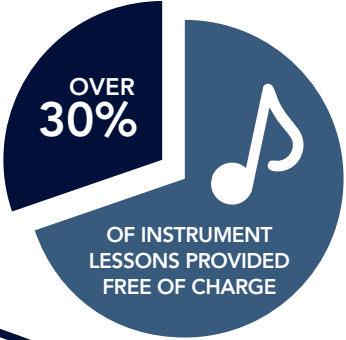


CH Year 7 Participation in Performing Arts



ENGAGING EVERY STUDENT

Music is central to Christ's Hospital, with over 650 weekly music lessons, and more than 60% of students learning at least one instrument. As well as multiple choirs including the Chapel Choir, Gospel Choir and elite Schola Cantorum, CH has four bands and orchestras. The marching band plays a prominent role, performing four times a week and showcasing its talents beyond the school grounds. Most notably, leading the school through the streets of London on St. Matthew's Day and performing at iconic venues including the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace this year. In 2023-24 generous donor support allowed over 30% of instrument lessons to be provided to students free of charge, while many others receive significant subsidies based on family income, ensuring music is available to all. By the time students leave CH, 69% achieve a grade in at least one instrument, with 45% reaching Grade 5 or higher.



69% OF STUDENTS
ACHIEVE A GRADE IN AT
LEAST ONE INSTRUMENT,
WITH 45% REACHING
GRADE 5 OR HIGHER

650+ WEEKLY MUSIC LESSONS

Drama participation is equally robust, with 40 students enrolled in GCSE and A-level drama courses. One of our primary goals is to provide every student with numerous opportunities to engage in professional-level experiences. Students participate in impressive large-scale productions including musicals and plays within our purpose-built theatre, which seats up to 500 people and celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

For many students, drama provides the freedom to step into another's shoes, helping them develop empathy and gain new perspectives. It also cultivates crucial soft skills like teamwork, collaboration and the ability to negotiate differing opinions – skills that are invaluable in any career path. As a teacher, seeing a student evolve from standing in the wings nervous and hesitant, to confidently leading a performance by Year 13 is a truly rewarding and memorable experience.

Dawn Wylie, Director of Drama

A highlight of the year was the production of "Sweeney Todd", featuring a phenomenal cast of 62 students ranging from on-stage performances, production, stage management and technical roles such as sound and lighting. Experiences such as these foster key skills such as teamwork, leadership, confidence, public speaking abilities and creative thinking.



40
STUDENTS

ARE
ENROLLED
IN GCSE
AND
A-LEVEL
DRAMA
COURSES

62-STUDENT CAST IN
SWEENEY TODD
INVOLVING ON-STAGE
& TECHNICAL
ROLES

CH'S THEATRE SEATS UP TO 500 PEOPLE

PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY
TO PERFORM IN A PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

GABRIEL'S STORY

Year 13 student Gabriel has been awarded a highly coveted full scholarship to study Vocal Studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London. This prestigious opportunity is exceptionally rare, especially given Gabriel's young age. Gabriel will benefit from instruction by a distinguished faculty that includes renowned international opera singers such as Sir Thomas Allen and Susan Bullock CBE. Remarkably, Gabriel only began his vocal training at CH two years ago, making this achievement all the more impressive.



“I am lucky enough to have a bursary to study at CH, where music and singing lessons are subsidised. This has given me a gateway into musical education that I would not have had otherwise. It's only through the encouragement of my teachers at CH and taking part in the New Talent Festival that I've gained the confidence to pursue singing as a career. It isn't a career path pursued by many young men, but I can't imagine doing anything else with as much enjoyment.”

Gabriel, Grecian (Year 13)



OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Christ's Hospital is dedicated to building strong partnerships with local primary schools through a diverse range of outreach programmes. By utilising our facilities and resources, we provide enriching educational experiences to the broader community.

Throughout the year, we hosted a variety of innovative learning opportunities where students participated in workshops spanning subjects such as maths, science, music, drama and more. These programmes inspire and support young learners, offering them unique experiences that might otherwise be inaccessible. Our efforts not only strengthen our connections with local primary schools but also expand our educational impact, reaching beyond our immediate school community.



“All pupils came back inspired to become writers and were busy on the minibus deciding whether we could rename Ashurst Primary as Ashurst Spy School!”

Ashurst CE Primary School, Year 5 group

CHORAL WORKSHOP

216 students from 27 schools gathered in the CH Chapel for a vocal exploration and collaborative performance under acclaimed conductor David Lawrence. Students enhanced their musical skills and appreciation for choral music.



SOLVING CRIME WITH SCIENCE DAY

80 students from 20 schools applied scientific principles to solve problems, sparking their interest in science and critical thinking.



AUTHOR VISIT

Old Blue Joel Arcanjo inspired 66 pupils from four schools with an interactive talk on *Crookhaven – The School for Thieves*, igniting their creativity and passion for storytelling.



CROSS COUNTRY EVENTS

CH hosted both the Horsham District and Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships which together brought 600 children across 80 schools to participate, promoting physical health, teamwork and sportsmanship, and strengthening community ties.



DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

Christ's Hospital's LE (Year 9) drama programme introduced 148 Year 4 and 5 students to performing arts through original pieces based on global folk tales. Additionally, 160 students attended the CH Junior drama production of *Terrible Infants*, providing an inspiring glimpse of their potential in the arts.



MATHS CHALLENGES

Over 360 students from 93 schools participated in three Maths Challenges hosted at Christ's Hospital and Guildhall, focusing on problem-solving, teamwork and a love for mathematics.





EDUCATION WITH A SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL OUTREACH AND SERVICE AWARD (CHOSA)

The 2023-24 academic year marked the first Christ's Hospital Outreach and Service Award (CHOSA), with over 100 Deputy Grecians receiving the Award. Three of these students were specially recognised by the Head Teacher, having written particularly insightful reflections on how they made a positive impact in their communities. The range of initiatives was broad and inspiring, from running clubs like Eco Rangers and the Anti-Sexism Group, to serving as Peer Mentors for younger students, bringing entertainment to local care homes and raising awareness of global issues through assemblies and fundraising efforts.

As part of the award, students are required to reflect on their service, exploring what makes them feel fulfilled, how they respond to challenges and setbacks and the skills they have gained. This reflective approach is designed to help students develop an understanding of their role in society, their perception of their own sense of self and to promote outward-looking and compassionate young people. Though the task of writing reflections may have seemed daunting, students discovered valuable insights about themselves, growing in confidence as they faced challenges throughout the year. Reflecting on their achievements, they rightfully took pride in their personal growth and contributions.

THE RANK FOUNDATION SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Through our partnership with the Rank Foundation, CH student Paloma has been awarded the prestigious Rank Foundation School Leadership Award. This award provides financial support to sixth form students with exceptional leadership potential from less advantaged backgrounds. It empowers students to hone their leadership skills, gain valuable experience and join a powerful network committed to positive societal change.

Award recipients benefit from mentoring, community action placements at non-profit organisations and access to the Rank Fellowship, an alumni network of 1,500 change-makers tackling society's challenges.

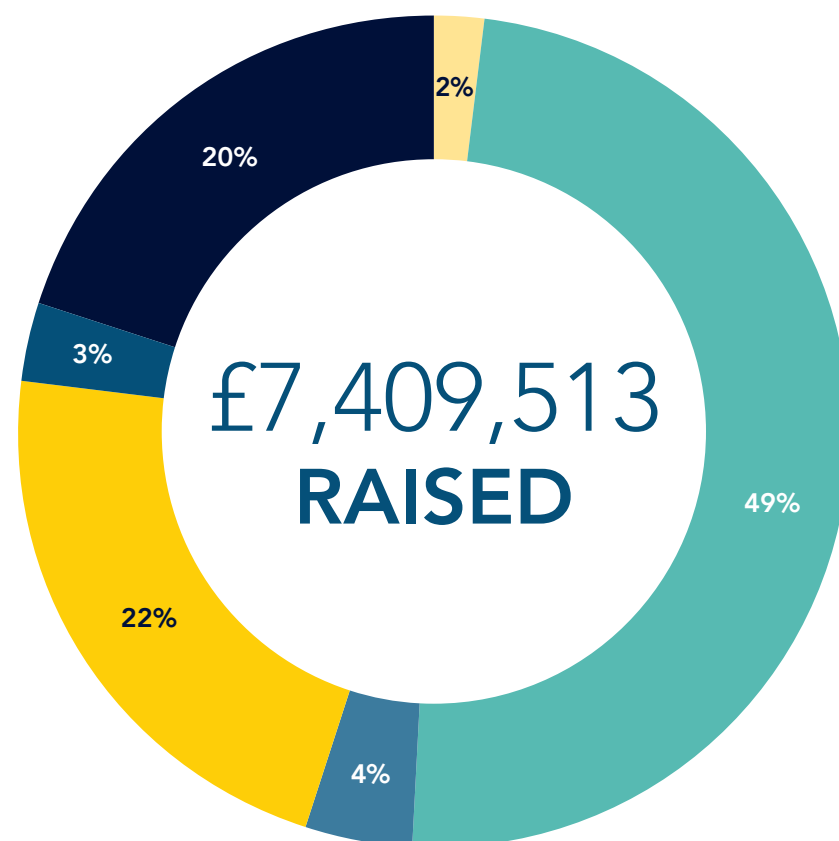
“Paloma’s receipt of this award is a testament to her outstanding leadership potential. She has actively engaged both students and teachers in important societal initiatives, such as addressing body image and gender awareness in response to negative media portrayals of women, and launching a reading group to combat declining access to books among children in the UK. Through her involvement in student committees and councils, Paloma has championed student voices and led fundraising efforts for various charities. This award will further support her impactful work in the sixth form and beyond.”

Simon Reid, Head Teacher

OUR IMPACT MADE POSSIBLE

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What we
raised
together



- Leadership Gifts (1-10k) (2%)
- Major Gifts (£10k+) (49%)
- Regular and Single Gifts (up to 1k) (4%)
- Trusts and Foundations (22%)
- Corporates/Organisations (3%)
- Legacies (20%)

Donors who helped us raise this

£3,937,741 **OLD BLUES**

£106,471 **OTHER FRIENDS**

£38,274 **PARENTS**

£1,875,236 **TRUSTS, FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATES**

£1,451,790 **LEGACIES**

£7,409,513 **RAISED IN TOTAL**

218 **FIRST-TIME DONORS**

837 **REGULAR DONORS**

1,399 **DONORS IN TOTAL**

This year, Christ's Hospital was proud to receive support from 1,399 donors, with 218 making their first-ever gift. An incredible 837 of our supporters chose to give regularly, either monthly, quarterly or annually, strengthening our ability to provide consistent, life-changing opportunities for our students.

THANK YOU!

We are hugely grateful for the generosity of our donors, without whom Christ's Hospital simply couldn't achieve what we do. Your support enables more students from underprivileged backgrounds to attend CH and achieve their fullest potential.

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

GIVING DAY

Our first-ever Giving Day in November 2023 was a particular fundraising highlight. For 36 hours, our community of Old Blues, parents, students, staff and friends came together to support and celebrate CH, raising £164,000 to support our Blue Fund Bursaries, Expeditionary Education and our Student Hardship Fund.

Building on this success, our second Giving Day in November 2024 was even more remarkable. Once again, the CH community united to make an extraordinary difference, raising over £175,000 from 688 donors – a testament to the enduring generosity and commitment of our supporters.

In just 36 hours in 2024:

- We raised over **£178,000**
- **702 members** of our CH community donated
- **197 gifts** from first-time donors
- **189 parents** donated
- **400 Old Blues** donated

LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

Legacies are vital to our ability to fund transformational bursaries for the neediest of students at Christ's Hospital and we are grateful to those who have remembered the school through a gift in their will. Last year over £1 million was raised for the school through legacy gifts, 15% of all donations. We recognise that many people have demands on their finances that prevent them from giving a gift to Christ's Hospital during their lifetime. A legacy gift can be a lasting tribute; an acknowledgement of what the school has helped Old Blues achieve in their lives. The 1552 Society was established as a way of saying thank you to those who intend to leave Christ's Hospital a legacy gift and is always pleased to welcome new members. This year members were invited to a buffet lunch followed by the Senior Production of the musical Sweeney Todd, an event much enjoyed by all who attended.

JOINING FORCES TO SUPPORT BLUE FUND BURSARIES

Thanks to the generosity of over 540 parents, Old Blues and friends, we have successfully funded a seventh Blue Fund Bursary student starting in September 2024. While the Blue Fund Bursaries are just one of the many bursaries CH offers, they stand out due to the collective support from our community, who come together to make a significant impact. These bursaries embody our school's ethos. With your continued support, we can open doors to new opportunities, shape futures and transform lives.



YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION:

TOM'S STORY

“

The Blue Fund Bursary at Christ's Hospital has been a life-changer for me. Boarding life taught me invaluable lessons in independence and organisation, challenging me to manage my time and responsibilities. It's been a journey of self-discovery and personal growth. The impact of the Blue Fund Bursary on both my academic and personal development has been truly unique. Access to the Art School facilities and the stunning CH buildings sparked my love for architecture, a path I hope to pursue at university.

Participation in drama performances boosted my confidence and communication skills. Additionally, CH introduced me to cricket, a sport that has become a passion and representing the school's first team fills me with pride. The unwavering support and accessibility of my teachers has been incredible, not only in academics but also in navigating personal challenges. Their dedication and encouragement have made a significant difference in my educational experience. Furthermore, the diversity here is amazing. It's a place where absolutely anyone can belong. But what's even more special is the sense of family. CH isn't just a school; it's a second home.

Being appointed as a Monitor is a tremendous honour. Christ's Hospital has given me so much, and serving as a Monitor allows me to give back to the community that has shaped me into the person I am today.”



Reflecting on his journey,
Tom acknowledges the pivotal role of donor support:

“Without the Blue Fund Bursary, I would have missed out on so much. CH opens doors to experiences and resources that are unmatched, truly living up to its motto: ‘A school like no other’.”



SUPPORT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

Discover how you can make a difference and transform lives through your support. Here's how you can get involved:



Make a Regular Gift

Your monthly donation via direct debit creates lasting impact, providing continuous support for students throughout their entire Christ's Hospital education. Your regular commitment makes bright futures possible.



Make a Single Gift

A one-time donation offers immediate assistance, enabling us to address urgent needs and enrich the educational experience at Christ's Hospital.



Become a Donation Governor

For those who wish to make a substantial contribution, becoming a Donation Governor is a deeply fulfilling way to help. This role supports students in greatest need not only financially but also through mentorship and guidance to help shape a student's future.



Leave a Gift in Your Will

A bequest in your Will creates a lasting legacy, ensuring that future generations benefit from a transformative education at Christ's Hospital. Your gift will continue to impact lives for years to come.



Share Your Expertise

Contributing your skills and knowledge can be immensely rewarding. Consider offering internships, work experience or professional advice to students and Old Blues. Your expertise can open doors and offer invaluable guidance.

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“

CH has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Joining as a music scholar in the Second Form (Year 7), I have been pushed to excel in music and found support in the warmth of the Music Department. Academically, I felt supported to achieve my best in all subjects, with departments taking time to enable me to achieve beyond the curriculum. In LAMDA, MUN and sports, I have been able to experience leadership and gained confidence. The boarding experience taught me much about people and most importantly myself... CH offers a plethora of opportunities to develop, and you are never short of something to do..”

Manuela, GR (Year 13)

For more information, please contact the Development Team on:

☎ 01403 246570
✉ development@christs-hospital.org.uk
➡ support.christs-hospital.org.uk



OR SCAN THE
QR CODE

Support Christ's Hospital

**Your support shapes the future –
join us in making a lasting impact**

You can transform the lives of more young people by supporting Christ's Hospital. For more information contact the Development Team:

☎ 01403 246570
✉ development@christs-hospital.org.uk
🖱 support.christs-hospital.org.uk



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