

THE BUCKSWOOD SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



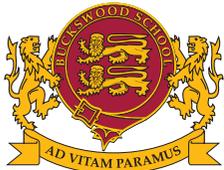
Welcome to Buckswood

As you start to turn the pages of our prospectus I'm sure you will begin to get some sort of a feel for who we are, what we do and why you should seriously consider Buckswood as the school to educate your child. We believe that education is holistic and continuous and that our broad aims complement the overall ethos of the school. We offer: traditional values of right and wrong; common decency; politeness and a respect for others; the principles of internationalism and global citizenship; personalised care and attention; an academic programme which encourages and rewards learning and achievement; a wealth of extra-curricular activities and opportunities for service to others less fortunate; the forging of a culture of success; and a lust for life and adventure.

After reading the following pages I'm sure you will have a fuller picture of what we want every child to try and accomplish during his or her time at Buckswood. Children need to be challenged, stimulated, encouraged and stretched in equal measure. Come and visit; chat to our students, not our staff – then you'll have the measure of us.



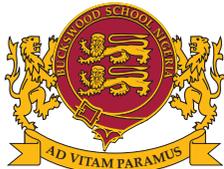
Mr Tim Fish, Headteacher



Buckswood UK



Buckswood St George's



Buckswood Nigeria



Buckswood Georgia



Accredited by the
BRITISH
COUNCIL



THE BUCKSWOOD EXPERIENCE



The Buckswood Education Group

Buckswood School is the cornerstone of the Buckswood Education Group, comprising the boarding school (this prospectus); Buckswood St George's England, a pre-university centre in nearby St. Leonard's; Buckswood Georgia, our sister school in Tbilisi; Buckswood Nigeria, a boarding school located in Abeokuta, near Lagos. In addition to this, there is also our newly-built lodge in Swaziland, which students can visit in the summer to undertake charity work and experience another side of life in this drought-stricken part of the world. Over the course of the two-week stay, students will refurbish classrooms, clear fields for crop planting and then dine with His Majesty The King!

The group philosophy reflects the core principles that define Buckswood School and which are embedded across all of our activities. Respect, Tradition, Integrity, Discipline and Honour are at the heart of everything we offer across the group but each campus retains its own sense of identity and unique approach.







Campus – the global village

Buckwood School students enjoy the beautiful setting of our 40 acre (16.2 Hectares) campus, overlooking the English Channel on the south coast of England.

The campus is located just 10 minutes outside the busy seaside resort of Hastings, famous as 'the birthplace of England' and the point at which the Norman Conquerors landed in the 11th century. Despite its idyllic rural setting, central London is just 90 minutes away by direct train and the major entry points of Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Ashford are all within easy reach.

The school has the feel of an English village about it and includes a working, old English telephone box and a study centre for our A Level students which dates from the 13th century (but no English pub!)

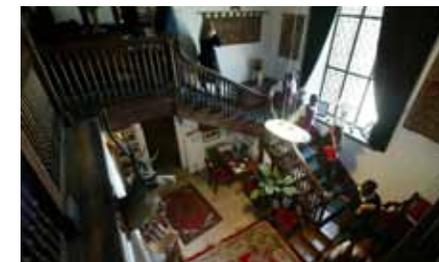
But it's not all ye olde England; we have WiFi in all dormitories and throughout the campus, plus an extensive computer technology suite.

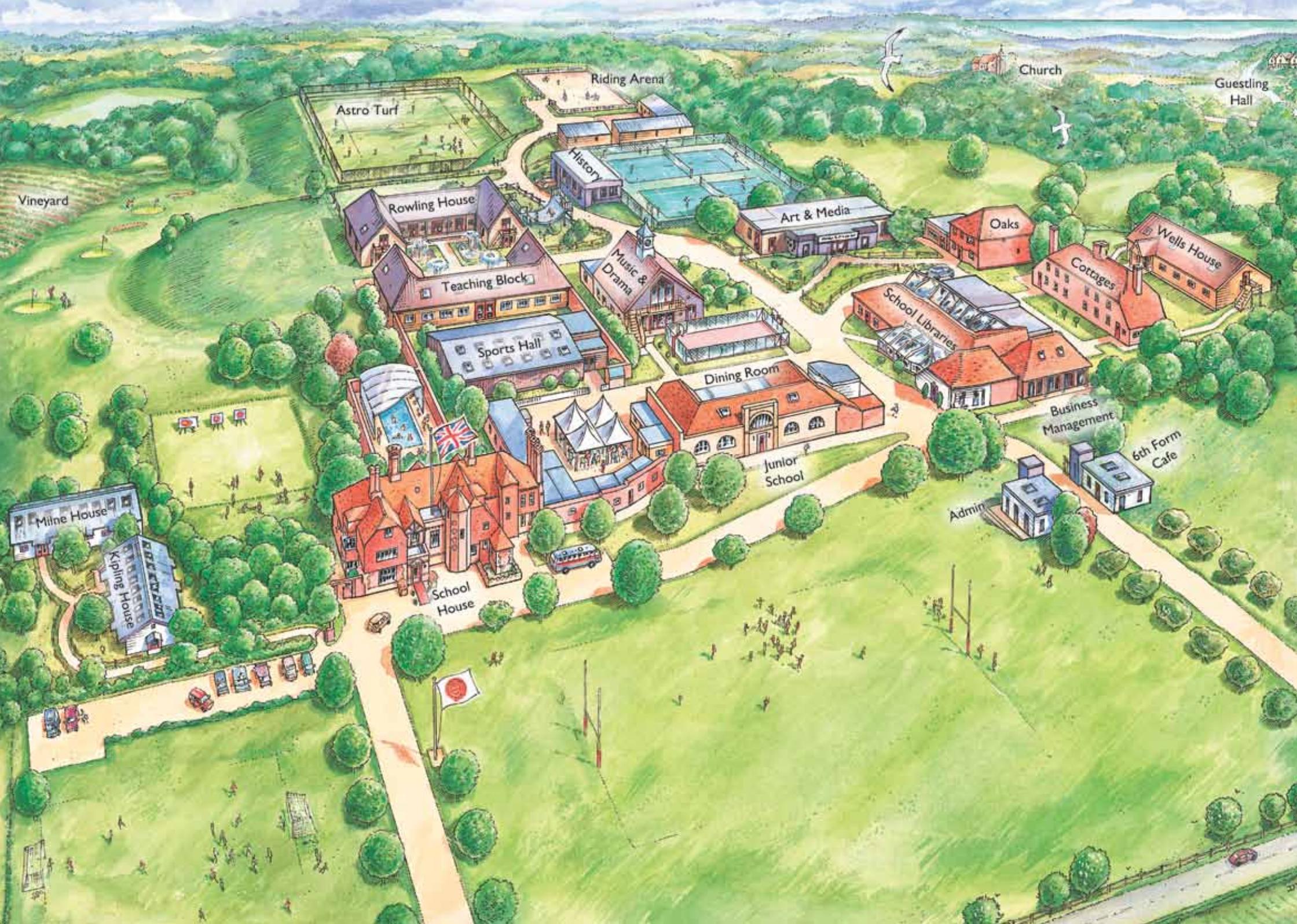
Classrooms are dotted around the campus and so Buckwood students get plenty of exercise and seaside air in between lessons. To keep things fresh for students and staff alike, Mr Sutton is constantly devising new ways to update and improve the school, so nothing stays the same for long!

The campus provides the perfect framework in which students can study hard during the working week but also allows them the freedom to let off steam on the playing fields, in the swimming pool or on horseback, when their work is done.

Other facilities on the campus include: riding stables; covered, heated swimming pool and sauna; indoor sports hall; performing arts centre; tennis courts; golf course and cinema.

However, our attractive campus is not simply window dressing. Of course we want clean, comfortable and efficient buildings in which the students can learn and study but we must never forget that it's the quality of the teaching that truly defines the school.





Vineyard

Astro Turf

Riding Arena

Church

Guestling Hall

Rowing House

History

Art & Media

Oaks

Wells House

Teaching Block

Music & Drama

Cottages

Sports Hall

School Libraries

Dining Room

Business Management

6th Form Cafe

Junior School

Admin

Milne House

School House

Kipling House



The Junior School (10-14 yrs old)

The lower years at Buckswood are indeed viewed as the formative years. We encapsulate the values of hard work, respect for others, a sense of right and wrong, and instil an intrinsic internationalism into our junior students. We give them responsibility and a sense of independence but point out the parameters not to be crossed, believing that children thrive on structure, security and opportunity.

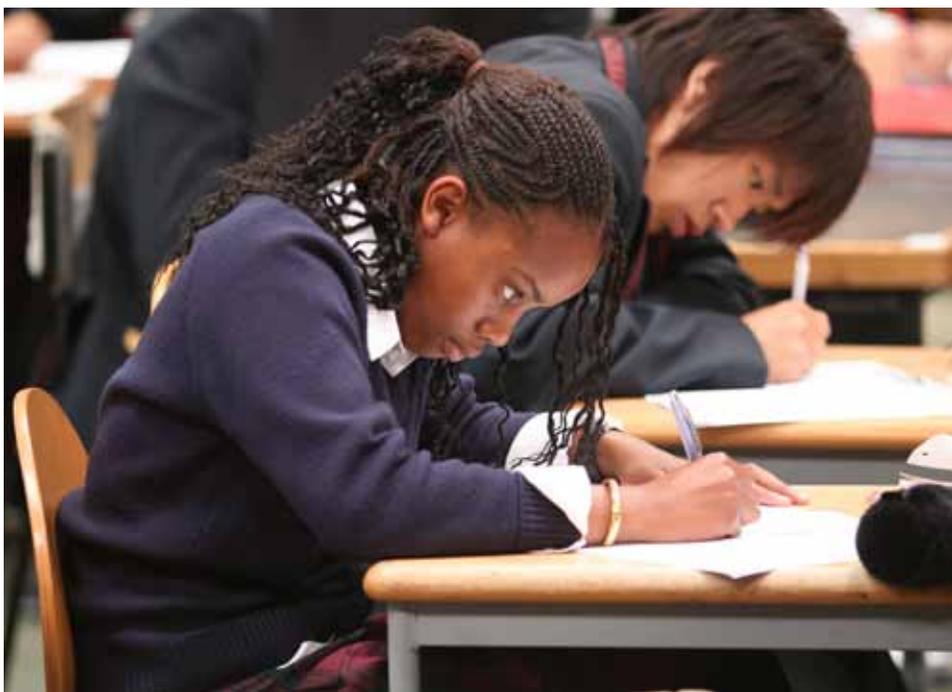
Forms I-III provide the solid basis for success at GCSE but also offer the scope to experiment, to go “off-piste” in academic terms, perhaps by watching a real lambing as part of a science group, or by standing knee-deep in an original World War I trench in Flanders with the History Department. Buckswood offers experimental learning at a young age, believing that bringing a classroom subject to life is the best way to spark interest in a young teenager. Students are taught by specialist teachers in a number of subjects from an early age which kindles interest and excites the inquisitive. The basics are not forgotten, with key staff administering weekly times tables tests and handwriting practice sessions after school.



Form III offers the chance to spend half a term at a partner school in Auckland, New Zealand. We feel that at age 14 yrs our students are old enough to handle the demands of such a programme and are aware enough to appreciate the value of such an experience.

Form III is an academic year preparatory to GCSE and there is still sufficient leeway within the curriculum to be able to teach a similar academic course in New Zealand to that taught at Buckswood UK - though not exactly the same – thereby allowing cultural events, outdoor activities and other elements essential to the New Zealand experience to take precedence at certain times during the 6 week period.





GCSE (14-16 yrs old) (1 and 2 year courses)

We offer a wide range of subject choices (see Academic Handbook). Non native speakers are taught English Language separately from native speakers. Students may add extra subjects such as Music, Drama, Law etc., to their normal timetables. We also offer a reduced one-year GCSE Programme to students in Form V as an intensive course tailor-made to prepare learners for further education (A Level) at Buckswood. Students are pushed to achieve academic potential through a variety of tactics: weekly drill tests in each subject, completing the infamous red file of topic notes at Christmas break in Form V, preparing for mock GCSEs in January and indeed mock re-takes in February. We offer booster sessions and personalised assistance to ensure the timely completion of coursework. Form V is treated very much like a "crammer" and the Form V Tutors exert influence and control over a group of teenagers at a crucial time in their education.

GCSE students do not miss out on educational visits, with the History, Geography, Business and Art Departments prominent on the trips calendar. GCSE students are given the chance to hone their debating skills annually with their participation in an International Affairs Day when current global concerns are discussed, often in an animated fashion!

GCSE students are encouraged to participate as much as possible in all aspects of school life: sports teams, prefect duties, after school clubs, the performing arts and community service. Careers and further education advice, including A Level Options presentations and "taster lessons," are offered in Form V.



2-year GCSE Options

English Language	Mathematics	History	Law
Combined Science	Business Studies	Geography	Physical Education
Art & Design	ICT	Graphics	Music
Media	French	Spanish	Other Languages.

Plus the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) and LAMDA awards in Drama

1-year GCSE Options

Core:			
English Language	Mathematics	Biology	Business Studies
Native Language	ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence)		
Options:			
French	Spanish or Drama	Art	





6th Form – A Levels (16+)

We offer a range of A Level choices (see Academic Handbook) wider than in many much larger schools, with the Business Management Department being the biggest faculty, offering not only seminar-style teaching but also complementary trips overseas.

Systematic testing, past papers, weekend work and revision camps (Swaziland revision camp in 2011) are high-profile tactics in our A-Level strategy and well-supported by students. As well as day-to-day contact, all A-Level pupils attend tutorials (fortnightly) where they can discuss all aspects of their school life, most notably academic achievement. During these discussions, pupils are asked to reflect on their learning and set themselves targets for improvement. This reflective approach to learning plays an important role in the social and educational development of pupils at the school.

All A Level pupils are encouraged to complete an invaluable week's work experience in the summer term with the preparatory work and plenary feedback sessions playing an important role in the week's added value and success. All A2 students in the UCAS (UK university admissions) process are counselled by senior staff prior to choosing universities throughout the selection procedure, including mock interviews. In September, the school hosts a 'University Fair' whereby pupils are given the chance to talk to many top universities about the courses they offer. The day also includes many guest speakers, who are there to inform pupils about making the correct decisions in regards to university application and also to inform them about what to expect from their time at university. Later in the year, pupils at AS/A2 level attend a University Fair at Earls Court and are also encouraged to visit prospective universities throughout their time in the Sixth-Form. Buckswood students have gone on to achieve academic success at some of the UK's top universities. However, for those not looking to go to university, the school stages a 'careers day' whereby pupils can research a variety of professions.

The success of the Sixth-Form relies on creating a stimulating learning environment within a well-disciplined culture. At Buckswood we expect

high standards of attendance and performance and when these standards are met, the ability to achieve academically is greatly increased.

As well as a clear academic focus, we believe in creating a Sixth-Form for all: one that offers all pupils the chance to develop not just inside the classroom but outside it too. There is a range of extra-curricular activities pupils are encouraged to become involved with, whether that be sitting on the Sixth-Form Council, writing for the Sixth-Form paper or joining one of the many clubs and societies offered solely to our A Level students.

At Buckswood we aim to create a friendly, accessible and supportive environment in which pupils can achieve academically and develop socially and culturally, preparing them for the next stages in their lives.

A Level Courses and Societies

Maths	Biology	Government and Politics
Economics	Media Studies	IELTS and BEC preparation
Physics	Other Languages	Global Perspectives
Geography	Law	Accounting
English Literature	Chemistry	Sixth-form student council
Art	History	Sixth-form newsletter
Politics Society	Debating Society	Outdoor pursuits club







6th Form – International Baccalaureate

Why the IB?

The International Baccalaureate is a challenging, broad-based diploma wherein students take six subjects over a two year period.

The IB is rigorous and the curriculum makes similar intellectual demands to A Levels, but provides variety AND depth. The IB is a popular choice with international students as the IB diploma has a reputation for thorough assessment, giving diploma holders access to the world's leading universities in over 100 countries.

An IB score of 38 (Out of a maximum of 45) is cited as being the equivalent to 5 "A" grades at 'A' Level by UCAS. Students must be 16 years old by 31st August in the year of entry.

The academic subjects on offer:

Students doing the IB take three subjects at Higher Level and three at Standard level. Students select these subjects from the following six areas: English Language; Second Language; Individuals and Society; Experimental Science; Mathematics; Visual Arts (or a second subject from Group 2,3,4.)

Students must also study the Theory of Knowledge (TOK.) This provides a broad introductory overview of the various types of human knowledge, the means by which it is acquired and communicated, and its reliability and limitations.

The Extended Essay: students produce a 4000 word essay on a subject of their own choice. Students investigate a topic of special interest whilst learning about independent research and writing skills that are necessary at university level.

Creativity, Action & Service (CAS)

This is a compulsory element of the IB. It provides experiences for students to develop self-confidence, a willingness to help others and empathy.

Students may be involved in a community activity, at a local, national or international level. The service element develops respect for others and responsibility.

The IB is assessed through a combination of internal course work and externally marked final exams taken at the end of a student's second year.

The maximum overall diploma score is 45 points (24pts is a pass) with the descending grade scale in each subject being 7pts – 1pt.

Students must also satisfactorily complete each of the three diploma requirements: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), the Extended Essay, and CAS activities. In 2010 100% of our Buckwood St. George's campus students passed the IB diploma with the vast majority entering top UK universities. Students cannot drop any aspect of the course.

The Academic Route:

- Own country's school system (up to min age 16yrs)
- International Baccalaureate
- UK University or University in home nation or elsewhere in the world

International Baccalaureate: subjects offered

Group One: First Language; English

Group Two: Second Language; French; German; Spanish

Group Three: Individuals and Society; History; Psychology; Economics

Group Four: Experimental Science; Biology; Chemistry

Group Five: Mathematics; Standard Level or Maths Studies

Group Six: Visual Arts







EFL – English as the Global Language

Integration Programme

Buckswood was originally founded as an English school in the early part of the 20th century, and since the 1980s has been recognised across the world as a centre for internationalism. We have students from all continents on one campus, a truly global community, living together and learning from one another. Integral to an international student's programme is English as a Second Language.

All international students must achieve a minimum level of English Language fluency before entering the main school, and they will then continue to have EFL lessons and sit Cambridge International Examinations. It is possible to come to Buckswood to study an intensive English Language Programme from a month's duration to a year within our EFL Department. An EFL student's formal language work is complemented by regular study visits and multi-media learning.

Each Buckswood EFL student is rigorously coached and monitored with progress tested and reviewed on a weekly basis. Our expert staff place each EFL student on a personal study path, targeting certain Cambridge Examinations as benchmarks of progress. We have a highly-qualified and experienced team of teachers with a range of specialisations, including young learners, examinations and teacher training. Buckswood is accredited by the British Council.

How good is your English?

CEF	CAMBRIDGE	IELTS	IGCSE	TOEFL	BUCKSWOOD LEVEL
C2 Mastery	CPE	7.0		276+	5
B2 Vantage	FCE	6.0	Grade C	176-235	3
B1 Threshold	PET	5.0	Grade D or E	126-175	2
A2 Waystage	KET	4.0		96-125	1
A1 Breakthrough		<4.0			





The Business Management Department

The Business Management Department is the largest faculty at Buckswood, offering an expanding portfolio of business-related qualifications. Associated with high calibre, internationally recognised institutions, the Business Department equips students with the skills, knowledge and experience to be able to realize their full potential. The department welcomes speakers from the worlds of business, politics and academia and has a full programme of student conferences and industrial visits. Business Department students will also conduct a research project on a short placement within an independent commercial organisation and visit a global international business centre.

Most schools will offer their Business and Economics students the chance to help run a small business concern on campus but, forever seeking to offer 'the Buckswood Difference', we like to offer that bit more.

Our new eco-café, TJ's, will be managed by members of the 6th Form Business Management Department and will be an active member of the Food For Life Partnership, a network of schools and communities across the UK committed to transforming food culture for young people.



Students will also be responsible for renting out the school's 1932 Rolls Royce Phantom motor car for social events such as weddings, as well as overseeing the grape cultivation, production, bottling and marketing of the school's own wine. In true Chateau Rothschild style, Buckswood's Art Department will provide students' winning designs for the bottle labels.

In addition, the Buckswood Business Management Department offers a range of professional training programmes for aspiring and practicing business executives and develops individually tailored courses for local and international businesses.



Courses offered by the Business Management Department

GCSE	
Business Studies	Law
A Level	
Accounting	Business and Economics
Law	Government and Politics
Other	
Young Enterprise Scheme	Cambridge Business English Certificate
CIM Professional Certificate in Marketing	ILEX Certificate in Law
Dale Carnegie Youth Training Schemes	Executive development training courses
Chartered Management Institute (CMI) Certificate in Team Building	
Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) Intro. Certificate in Marketing	



Art

Nowhere is the rich multi-culturally diverse nature of the school so evident as in art and design. Our aim is to use art to foster the creativity, awareness and self-expression of our pupils through creating work from experience, memory and imagination. We aim to increase practical ability and critical and contextual understanding in art and design.



'Every good painter paints what he is.' **Jackson Pollack.**

Pupils express themselves using the following media: painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing and collage, textiles, computer graphics, digital photography and film. The atmosphere in the studios is both informal and industrious.

Art is a popular and important subject in the school and enjoyed by many pupils who gain a high level of visual literacy. The curriculum is enriched by bi-termly art trips which include visits to London galleries, photography projects at Dungeness and beach sculpture and movie-making days at Camber Sands.

There are regular exhibitions and competitions to celebrate the talent of our pupils and exam results are good. The A-level pass rate for the past few years is 100%. At GCSE, pupils can study Full and Short Course Art, Craft and Design, Graphic Communication, Textile Design or Photography: lens based and light based media. At A Level they can study Art, Craft and Design, Fine Art and Photography. The examination board used is AQA. Excellence is the cornerstone of everything we do.



'I believe in working hard. Painting is serious. A vice not a play thing.' **Bernard Buffet.**





Music, Drama & Speech

Music at Buckswood is enthusiastically geared towards the practical. Apart from singing lessons, a complete range of instrumental lessons are available. Choose anything from piano to bagpipes, percussion to bass guitar; flute to violin. Annual successes with choirs, rock bands and soloists at the Hastings and Worthing Music Festivals ensure the school's high reputation and the Pipe Band is a popular visitor to various events in the locality. The Music Department now boasts a new home (with Drama) in the Phoenix Arts Centre.

In the Drama Department, GCSE has been sidelined in favour of a full-time practical approach, concentrating on acting, devising, voice training and movement skills, as well as experience in television and film production. Buckswood is intent upon training students to be confident communicators and insists upon instilling lifetime techniques for speaking in public and in interviews. Excellent English, articulation, voice projection and presentation skills are the goal, and to this effect, LAMDA acting and ESB speaking exams are taken at least once a year, earning UCAS points for the future and practical skills for the present. The emphasis for A Level students remains upon practical acting skills and performance and the in-depth practical study of some of the world's greatest plays.

Outside the classroom, there are termly productions or performance workshops for all age groups, ranging from devised sit-coms to Christmas pantomimes and musicals.







ICT – the future is here

When a student enrolls at Buckswood School he/she automatically gains access to our secure network, and is issued with a school email address and login for the online Rosetta Stone languages programme.

ICT is a core part of the curriculum. Every student has the opportunity to gain a formal ICT qualification from entry level to Business Professional certification, ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) and A level ICT. Students use bespoke educational software as well as industry standard applications.

Collaborating closely with all departments we aim to equip students with the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to support their learning, specifically with coursework.

ICT is not limited to our well equipped computer suite. All classrooms have projectors that can be linked to teachers' laptops. Online and other curriculum specific ICT resources are used to enhance teaching and learning throughout the school.

The balcony houses a number of Apple Mac computers that students can use at any time to access the internet, complete and print work. The campus is WiFi equipped enabling students and staff to have wireless on-line access anywhere at Buckswood.



AQA	A Level ICT
BCS (British Computer Society)	ECDL Essentials (European Computer Driving Licence) <i>IT User Fundamentals, Using Email and the Internet, Security for IT Users</i> ECDL Extra <i>Word Processing, Spreadsheet Software, Presentation Software, Improving Productivity Using IT</i>
OCR	Entry Level Certificate in ICT, Speed Keying Entry Level Award, Initial Text Processing Entry Level Award and Text Processing Business Professional <i>Units offered for this qualification include: Speed Keying, Text production, Word Processing, Business Presentations, Computer Keyboard Skills, Mailmerge</i>

Knowledge is Power (KiP) – *Life is competitive*

The Knowledge is Power (KiP) programme at Buckswood has been developed to expose our students to a wide range of topics that might not traditionally be encountered in the regular classroom setting. The goal of the KiP programme is not only to increase the knowledge base of our students, but also to expose them to different ideas and professions. The end result of such exposure is to give the students more power to make decisions about the direction their lives will take, as well as giving them some perspective on the world at large.

Students need a good understanding of a variety of topical issues, an exposure to cultural media they would not ordinarily come across and be able to take a position on the most unlikely of subject areas in order to make their mark, whether that marker is to be put down at an interview at the LSE or for a summer placement with J.P. Morgan. The more well-rounded the individual, the more likely it is they will be offered such places, in preference to the hundreds of others also on the application list.

Life is competitive and knowledge is power.

Topic
The future of the world
Disaster relief and philanthropy
The Holocaust
Famous artists and art appreciation
Philosophy
The importance of cinema – 10 films you need to see!
The environment
10 books you need to read!
Health and nutrition
The global financial picture – what caused the recession?
Architecture and design – why do we build higher and higher?
Musical appreciation
Garden design





Specialist Coaching – Pro Coaching

At Buckswood each child is affiliated to one sports team. This sport becomes their 'major' sport in which they specialise. As well as this they must also choose at least two other sports to participate in. Therefore, pupils will, for example, take five weeks' tuition per term in their major sport and three weeks each in their 'minor' sports. It is the school's policy that pupils are encouraged to compete in at least one sport but must participate in as many as possible. All sports at Buckswood are taught by qualified coaches.

CHRISTMAS TERM: Boys Major Sport - Football, Hockey, Rugby; **Girls Major Sport** - Hockey, Netball, Football; **Minor Sport** - Basketball, Cross Country, Horse Riding, Fencing, Dance, Archery, Swimming, Cricket.

EASTER TERM: Boys Major Sport - Football, Hockey, Rugby; **Girls Major Sport** - Hockey, Netball, Football; **Minor Sport** - Basketball, Cross Country, Horse Riding, Fencing, Dance, Archery, Swimming, Cricket.

SUMMER TERM: Boys Major Sport - Cricket, Athletics, Tennis; **Girls Major Sport** - Rounders, Athletics, Tennis; **Minor Sport** - Football, Badminton, Horse Riding, Fencing, Dance, Archery, Swimming, Water Sports.







Football Academy

Perfect for the scholar who is also a serious football player. The Football Academy programme combines high-level academic study with a Premier League standard football programme.

All players receive 6 structured football sessions a week delivered by our Academy Director, Jim Colston, who has been coaching and scouting at Premier League academy level for 15 years. Jim has worked alongside the late Bobby Robson and Kevin Blackwell and has produced players for many clubs including Chelsea, Arsenal, Tottenham, Luton Town, Charlton Athletic, Gillingham and Brighton with a large number of them making the grade as a pro. So he knows what it takes to be the best.

The academy programme works on three facets of the game and all sessions are delivered on the following topics: Monday's session

is fitness-based. Tuesday's session is technique-based and Friday's session is tactics-based. Ensuring that not only does the scholar become fitter and enhance their technique but they also become more knowledgeable about the game in general.

All scholars attending the academy also receive a number of 'special' trips unique to the programme. Examples of these are free tickets to Premier League games.

We also offer tours of stadiums, training at a Premier League academy and a football development tour to a venue in Europe such as Ajax in Holland or Inter Milan in Italy.

For further details of the programme and the entrance requirements Email - football@buckswood.co.uk.







Riding Centre and Polo

Whether you see it as “the sport of kings” or just good exercise in the traditional countryside spirit, horse riding has its special place at Buckswood. We are fortunate to have our riding centre and stables on-campus, so students can walk to the centre – no minibus required. We have a sand school and a jumping course for different seasons and abilities. We have access to acres of ‘hacking’ in the woods and fields adjoining the school to give child and horse that sense of freedom.

Our highly-experienced Riding Instructor, Karen Prebble, coaches both beginners and champions. The school’s Equestrian Team has secured some notable results in recent years, helped by the weekly internal competitions held at the school. Karen offers British Horse Society courses and awards to more able riders as they progress through the school.

Our riders enjoy the highlights of the British equestrian calendar with fabulous days out at the Royal Ascot race meeting, the Hickstead Derby (jumping) and at beautiful Badminton House for the famous three day eventing competition.

We have recently introduced polo to our equestrian portfolio for those wishing to learn a new sport on horseback. Polo requires different riding skills and of course is a team game, which requires a different mindset altogether. Trips to polo matches at Guards Polo Club, Cowdray Park, Hurtwood Park and nearby Brightling offer an experience of high-goal competition and also polo as a social, club sport for all ages.





BUCKSWOOD
SCHOOL





Buckswood Dance Academy

Buckswood Dance Academy runs in partnership with Splitz Dance Academy, a highly reputable school directed by Stacey Caister.

Splitz Dance Academy currently teaches a large number of students in Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and International Dance Teaching Association (IDTA) syllabi, both of which are world-leading in dance associations.

Director of Dance, Stacey Caister, began her own career at a young age winning many accolades, one of which was the prestigious All England Dance competition at the age of 12. Having achieved honours in all of her exams in each discipline Stacey went on to gain places at numerous professional schools but instead chose to further her career as a dance teacher qualifying with both boards of examination.

Dance students can choose to follow the Buckswood Dance Academy (BDA) programme in which they can earn Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum awards. Students achieving the highest level of attainment will be selected for further advancement with the ISTD and IDTA. The basis of all of our dance training at BDA is variety. Our teaching methods are designed to motivate, encourage creativity and further dance education.

TYPES OF DANCE AVAILABLE AT BDA	Accreditation Available
Ballet	ISTD-primary/advanced2
Modern	ISTD-primary/advanced2
Tap	ISTD-primary/advanced2
Jazz	ISTD-Bronze, Silver, Gold

TYPES OF DANCE AVAILABLE AT BDA	Accreditation Available
Latin Jazz	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Cheerleading	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Street	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Jive	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Hip Hop	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Hula hoop aerobics	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Quick Step	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum
Ballroom	BDA certificate of excellence bronze, silver, gold, platinum

What make us different?

In addition to the BDA programme, specialist dancers, West End performers and teachers are invited to enhance all training and education for all Dance Academy students. Lessons are also available in performance and stage school audition techniques, hairstyling and make up for West End productions and advice is also given on nutrition. Private dance tuition is available on request.

BDA students will receive all the necessary clothing required to enable them to perform at the highest level, as footwear is unique to the dancer. BDA provides an ordering and fitting service with a small administration charge.

Dance Events	Date
Traditional Dance Week	W/C October 4th
Cranbrook Dance Festival (academy only)	October
End of term show	November
Tunbridge Wells Dance Festival (academy only)	February HT
Trip to MOVE IT LONDON (academy only)	March

Dance Events	Date
Hastings Music Festival (academy only)	March
Easter Show	April
Trip to a London Musical (academy only)	April
Ore Dance Festival (academy only)	May HT
End of Year show	June







Boarding – Pillows and iPods

Life as a full-time boarder at Buckswood is about being part of a real community, or a family, where each member has responsibilities and duties but support and help are all around you. If you speak to parents of current or former pupils (ask us to put you in touch with some!) they will all talk about the family atmosphere as one of the reasons why their child stayed for so long and why they were so successful.

With few exceptions, all of our boarders stay on campus seven days a week and so, in our view, what happens at the weekend is every bit as important as the regular Monday to Friday week.

As an international boarding school, Buckswood prides itself on its broad spread of nationalities and is committed to promoting global understanding and co-operation within the community.

When you come to Buckswood as an international boarder you will not share a room with someone from your own country, thereby you are encouraged to speak English at all times, be it in the classroom, on the sports field or even on school excursions. The first week or two can be difficult but we will allocate another student who speaks your language to be your 'buddy' and guide you through the first days as a boarder away from home.



You will share a purpose-built lodge with other students from all parts of the world and for most this will mean a twin room. We do provide single rooms for many 6th Form students, while the juniors will share with three or four others. Each lodge has a live-in Housemaster (for the boys) or Housemistress (for girls) and they are on hand to manage the lodge and be a first point of contact for the students. Our staff can all list patience, energy, good humour, common sense and discipline amongst their strengths and so can offer a great deal to students of all ages and backgrounds.

No two weeks are the same at Buckswood but the one constant is that boredom is not on our list of options! Weekday evenings include academic prep sessions and one-to-one access time with Form Tutors but we also offer non-academic activities for those who have the time. Weekends are busy too, with a range of additional academic sessions, sports fixtures, activities and excursions so there really is something for everyone. Saturday could be a combination of a session of extra Mathematics in the morning, followed by a football match against another school in the afternoon and then rounding the day off with a group trip to ten-pin bowling! Luckily, we do allow our students a lie-in on Sunday morning, before a relaxed brunch.

And yes, we do allow you to leave the school on Saturday afternoon and visit nearby Hastings and enjoy its many facilities. Younger students will be accompanied but older ones are free to go unaccompanied, providing they adhere to the rules and return to school at the agreed time! So give yourself an advantage in this competitive world and come and try the Buckswood experience.





Laddettes to Ladies!

Throughout the year the Guestling Hall girls follow an etiquette programme which we call 'Laddettes to Ladies!'

This programme culminates in being treated to afternoon tea at the George Hotel in Rye:

"What a wonderful way to spend an afternoon. All the girls dressed up and what a transformation, from girls to young ladies. Manuel dropped us all off in the town and we walked up to the Hotel. Everyone stopped to look as we walked through the town. It was such a good feeling as the shop keepers asked who we were, what we were doing and how lovely we looked.

The Hotel Ball Room had been prepared for us and upon arrival we were greeted with a glass of Bucks Fizz. Mr Sutton gave us a few hints on how to drink afternoon tea (remember the little finger!) and how to eat a scone (is it jam or cream first?) and other useful hints and tips about the ancient tradition of the 'Great British Afternoon Tea Ceremony!' Mrs Carter also gave us a few hints on deportment. We learnt to walk with a book on our heads (not sure what this was about) but it was good fun. We were also given a little hint on how to get in and out of a sports car with elegance. After tea we walked up to the church, looked around and slowly strolled back to the bus." **Marcia, 17yrs**





(10-18yrs)

GUESTLING HALL

A Buckswood School Halls of Residence

Phone
01424
813 813



Half Term – *recharging your batteries*

In the middle of each term, Buckswood closes for one week, to allow students to have a break and see their families, and provide time for teachers and pastoral staff to catch their breath!

Needless to say, not all of our students can (or want to) make the long journey home, so for each half term break we offer a choice of week-long excursions. Destinations can range across the UK (Scotland, Manchester or to Cornwall for surfing) but also include trips to continental Europe. We do not offer host family stays, as we believe that a fun and educational week away with friends is more beneficial for the students.

On these trips, Buckswood Housemasters and Housemistresses lead the groups and the very affordable prices include all travel, accommodation, food plus, of course, all of the activities.

And as we head towards the important A Level exams in June each year, our May break also includes a study camp on the Buckswood campus, with students and teachers working together for some last minute 'power revision.'







Charity - *Helping Others*

The Swaziland charity was founded and started in April 2006. Buckswood teachers, parents and scholars return each year for two weeks in July to a village school in the drought-stricken south of Swaziland.

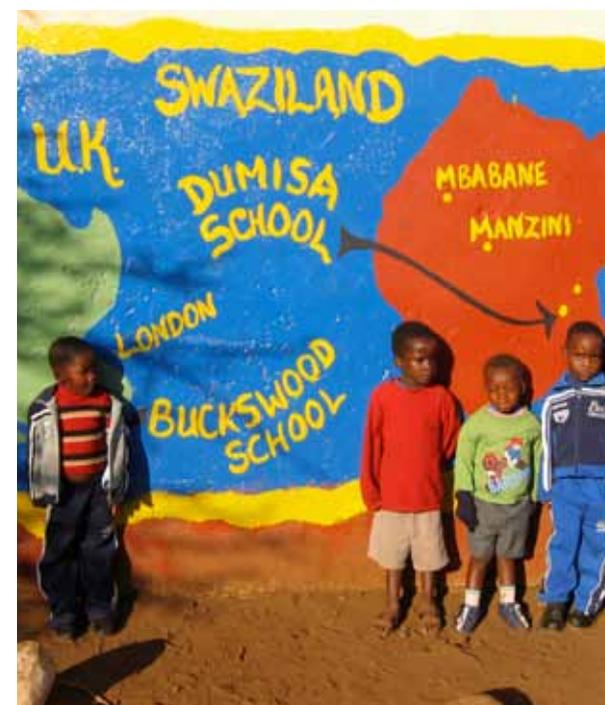
Over 80 scholars have raised money and travelled out to Africa already. Refurbishing classrooms, play areas and providing sports facilities. Buckswood's school nurse also provides medical assistance. This is a life-changing experience for most and a welcome and long lasting effect on all.

During the two-week experience we ensure that the pupils focus on five main areas: providing water and a sustainable garden for a community; personal achievement; experiencing the cultural differences between us all; learning humility; spending some time looking at the spectacular scenery and



wildlife of Swaziland. Pupils are also lucky enough to receive a personal thank you visit from His Majesty King Mswati III.

*The trip includes visits to:
Museums, The Game Parks, The Cultural Village, The Royal Swazi Sugar Corp, The Good Shepherd Hospital and White River Rafting*







101 Things To Do At Buckswood

Throughout this prospectus we talk about the extra-curricular activities and broader educational opportunities to which our students are exposed, but how do we make sure everyone takes advantage of this unique situation?

Every full-time student receives a book in which we list 101 challenges, experiences and objectives for them to at least attempt to complete. Some of the experiences are low-key and easily attainable, such as learning to sew a button on a shirt, or cooking a pasta dish. Others require a little more time and effort, such as learning to speak Mandarin to a certain level, or completing the London Marathon. Then we have the 'gold standard' challenges, which require time and dedication, and this list will include the charity trip to Swaziland.

We would expect that the number of students who are able to complete all '101 Things To Do At Buckswood' will be very small and is probably only for those who are with us for two or more years but we will reward students as they pass each milestone number of completed tasks, so it is not an exclusive challenge.

The real purpose of producing the book is not for the school to show how much it offers but for students to be able to focus on what they want to achieve and set their sights accordingly.

Academic achievement is always the number one priority for Buckswood Students but every child should appreciate the opportunity their parents have granted them.

The '101 things' book serves as a constant reminder of the 'Carpe Diem' philosophy.







Buckwood Travel

For many of our students, just arriving at school for the first time, involves a lot of travel but we certainly don't believe the journey should end at the front door!

Seeing different parts of the UK, Europe and the greater world are all crucial elements in a student's broader education and so we have our own dedicated Travel Office to provide transportation for a range of purposes.

For local day students we offer daily bus runs, safely collecting and dropping off students each day of the term. Our fleet of coaches and minibuses are also kept busy taking students on educational trips, sports fixtures, or a cultural/shopping trip to London and other locations.

During the half-term breaks, we offer one-week excursions for students who can't (or don't want to!) return home and include Scotland, nearby continental Europe and other locations on the list of options.

And then there are the more exotic destinations that can often prove to be life-changing, such as our study centre in Swaziland, our sister school in Tbilisi, in the former Russian state of Georgia, and Buckwood Nigeria, our boarding school in Abeokuta, near Lagos .



Buckswood Nigeria



The campus in Abeokuta, Ogun State (an hour from Lagos) is a little corner of Britain providing a fabulous physical environment in which to provide British schooling to Nigerian and other West African pupils determined to succeed in an evermore competitive world. Pupils study a UK curriculum and prepare for UK university entry assisted by their knowledgeable teaching staff. The school is a full boarding facility offering extensive extra-curricular opportunities, including the chance to meet other Buckswood pupils in the UK and Tbilisi, either on revision programmes or at sports competitions. Buckswood Nigeria is the first such venture by an established British independent school.

Buckswood International School, Tbilisi, Georgia



High on a hill, in the leafy suburb of Tskneti, overlooking Georgia's capital Tbilisi, lies this established day school, originally founded by the United Nations Association of Georgia, and still led by its forward-thinking management team and founder. Georgian pupils have the chance to access a bi-lingual curriculum and to visit Buckswood UK each year. This school is operated according to the principles and mantra of our UK school, with its regulations, prefect system, Football Academy and daily timetable mirroring its Guestling counterpart.

The Buckswood Study Centre, Swaziland



This purpose-built lodge facility offers all the amenities of a small hotel (ie swimming pool) along with the necessary functions of a mini-school (ie classrooms and resource area). Students from all Buckswood schools are welcome to use the Study Centre for project work in southern Africa and indeed as a pre-examination place of retreat and guided revision. Game tours and charity projects can also be organised.



Sports & Speech Day

Buckswood is many things to many people but, in order to function and succeed as it does, it has to be a dynamic community. It is a community that, by its very nature, is spread all over the world and so when it is time to bring that community together in one place, we have to make it a very special event indeed.

Buckswood School's Sports & Speech Day is a glorious celebration of the academic year that has just passed, where parents from across the globe come to meet and mingle with students, teachers, pastoral staff and other parents. It's a chance to compare experiences, enjoy champagne and strawberries and, most importantly, to applaud the achievements of the young people who are the lifeblood of the school.

Together; we celebrate the 'graduation' of Form V and Sixth-Form students in style. A formal black tie cocktail party is held on the Friday night and on the Saturday we drive our leaving Sixth Formers to a dinner and dance in a chauffeured limousine.

All are welcome to attend, whether you are the parents of a former student, an educational consultant, or you are considering Buckswood as the next step in your child's education. Make a note in your diary and make sure you don't miss out on our hospitality.

Buckswood students are united by their successes, their sense of community but also by their differences. Sports & Speech Day is a great opportunity to see the Buckswood world coming together.





Old Buckswodians

– Alumni Testimonials

University Success at Buckswood

A school is inevitably judged on its performance and the university destinations of Buckswood's Sixth Formers in recent years tells an observer that much good work is being done at A Level. Just as GCSE students enter the final few furlongs of their course and are pondering their next move it's good for them to know that they are in safe hands with Buckswood's A Level teaching staff, who always go the extra mile to give our students the best opportunities possible to get the highest A Level grades they can, and ultimately enter the best universities they can. This is ever more important in order to stay ahead of the chasing pack in the jobs market in what will become an increasingly competitive environment for graduates.

Universities

University of Durham
 University of Warwick
 University of York
 University of Loughborough
 University of Aberdeen
 University of Liverpool
 University of Reading
 University of Kent
 University of Royal Holloway
 University of Plymouth
 University of Coventry
 University of Greenwich
 University of Greenwich
 – School of Management
 University of Cambridge APU
 University of Kingston
 University of Brunel
 University of Southampton
 University of Newcastle
 Imperial College, London
 University of Cardiff
 University of Sheffield
 University of Keele
 University of Hertfordshire
 University of Bradford

University of Essex
 University of De Monfort
 University of Hull
 University of Harper Adams
 University of Manchester Met
 University of Brighton
 University of Heriot-Watt
 University of East Anglia
 University of Cesar Ritz
 – Switz.
 University of Kent institute of
 Art and Design
 University of Christ Church,
 Canterbury
 University of South Bank
 University of Liverpool Hope
 University of West of England
 University of Regents Business
 School
 University of Houston, Texas
 University of Chichester
 St. Mark & St. John University
 College
 University of London
 – College of Fashion
 University of Bath



Because life is a journey, and we are not alone...

"The foundation of my character and formation as a person, apart from my parents, was received from all of you. I want to give a testimony of appreciation and all those teachers who guided, supported and patiently seeded the values and the so called rules of life to make of me what I have become."

Fabian Castaneda

"My time in Buckswood and in particular your attentive presence in the lives of students can single-handedly be accountable for my success not only in the professional life but also on the personal level. It has given me the grounds for belief in myself and in the ability of a person to achieve whatever he or she sets out to accomplish. I attribute my acceptance to Oxford University to Buckswood, as personal attention and quality of personnel as well as the indescribable atmosphere had not only developed the discipline, which is essential for students at Oxford but also strength of character. The friendly, cosmopolitan environment in the school has taught its students a respect for other cultures and importance of reverence in interaction with others. I attribute the years I have spent in Buckswood to the years of character formation and hence to every achievement in the years thereafter. Since graduating from University, I have gained experience in the financial institutions around the world, like Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley in London and ABN Amro in Hong Kong. I have subsequently started my own businesses. Currently I own the largest oil and gas engineering company in Kazakhstan having offices in Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, the US and London."

Gaukhar Ashkenazi (seen above with Prince Andrew)





How to get to Buckswood

From Heathrow:

Take M25, south/east, A21 towards Hastings; before going into the town of Hastings take the B2093 then the A259 towards Rye. A few miles out of Hastings you will find Buckswood School on the right, at Guestling.

From Gatwick

Take M23 to London to join M25 eastbound, take A21 to Hastings; before going into the town of Hastings take the B2093 then the A259 towards Rye. A few miles out of Hastings you will find Buckswood School on the right, at Guestling.

From Ashford

Take A2070 southbound to Brenzett, join A259 to Rye and Hastings. Before reaching Hastings, you will come to the village of Guestling. Buckswood School is on the left.

If you require assistance with your journey, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

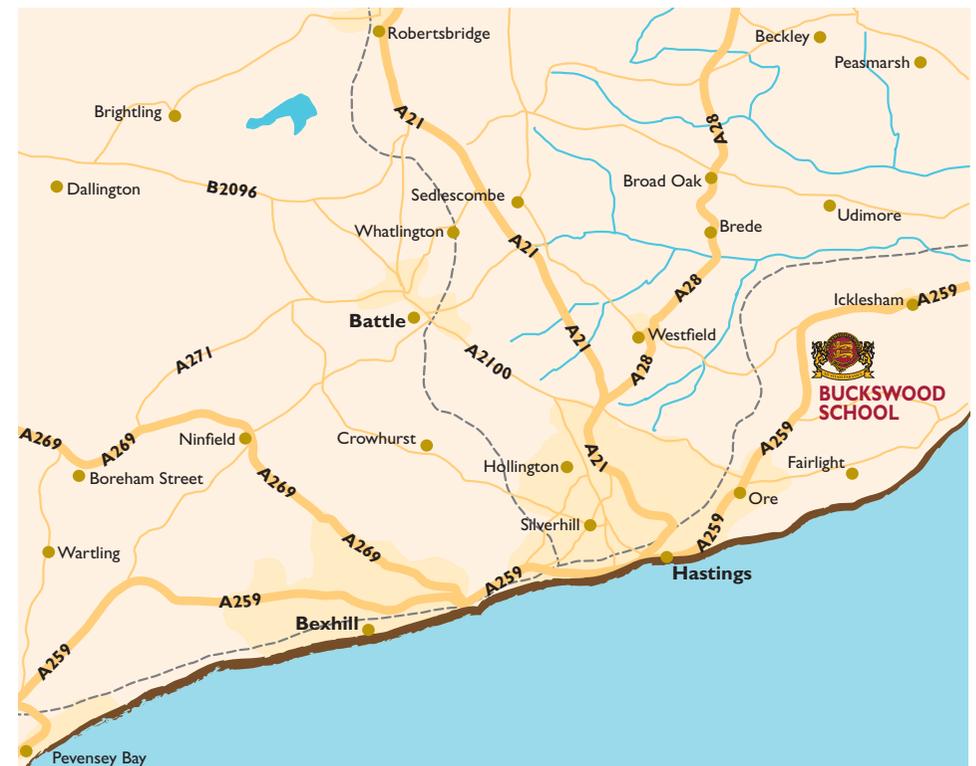


About Hastings and Rye

Hastings is the premier Cinque Port and is home to the largest beach-launched fishing fleet in Europe, a magnificent Old Town and the first castle that William the Conqueror built in England. The town has also played host to the likes of Lewis Carroll, Charles Dickens and Catherine Cookson. Hastings is now a large seaside town offering all the amenities that students want: shops; restaurants; cinemas; theatres; nightspots; supermarkets and the usual seaside attractions.

Rye rises up from the flat marshland like a haunting reminder of things past. Its winding streets, full of medieval and Georgian buildings, dominated the dreams of writers Henry James and E.F. Benson. Rye is surely one of the prettiest towns in Britain. This historic town, now a fishing port and tourist centre, was once a seaport of great importance, especially during the 13th and 14th centuries when opposing Kings ruled on both sides of the Channel.

Both Rye and Hastings offer a wide selection of hotels and guest houses for parents and visitors to the school.



BUCKSWOOD SCHOOL

GUESTLING, NR HASTINGS, EAST SUSSEX TN35 4LT

TEL: +44 (0)1424 813813

FAX: +44 (0)1424 812100

EMAIL: ACHIEVE@BUCKSWOOD.CO.UK

WEB: WWW.BUCKSWOOD.CO.UK