



the cricketer

SCHOOLS GUIDE 2020

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ST. EDWARD'S OXFORD

ST EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD

Woodstock Road
Oxford
OX2 7NN

Established 1863

Number of pupils 690

Master in charge Peter Swainson

Cricket professional Dave Simpkins (Gloucestershire)

Teams 12 – 1st XI, 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI, U15 ABC, U14 ABC, Girls' senior XI & Girls' Development XI

Girls' cricket Two sides last season with a growing fixture list, playing against Rugby, Marlborough, Bradfield and Wellington home and away. Hoping to arrange a game against MCC. Entered *School Sport* magazine U15 competition in 2019

Fixtures 110 through the ages including Eton, Harrow

Facilities Six grounds, four-lane indoor nets in Douglas Bader Sports Centre, six outdoor artificial nets, six outdoor grass nets, 18-strip cover on 1st XI square, blotters and a Merlyn BOLA bowling machine

Club/county affiliation

Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hampshire – providing a 'satellite' academy for Bucks and Hampshire based at St Edward's throughout the winter. The school is also the home of the Oxfordshire Bulls, an under-11 side consisting of local state school boys who play fixtures against local prep school sides. Neil Pickup, a teacher from The Dragon, was at state school as a boy and works in the Oxfordshire youth set-up. He noticed that state school boys don't get the opportunity at school to progress through the county pathways and can sometimes stop playing altogether. Pickup put together a team of those on



the county fringes at state school and arranges regular fixtures for them. St Edward's host training days and fixtures including an U11 tournament with local prep schools. Oxfordshire have picked this up and are now investing in running a winter programme for the Bulls at St Edward's. It is believed this is the first side of its kind in the country

Best prospect Ben Charlesworth (left July 2019) toured Bangladesh with the England U19s in February and made his first-class debut for Gloucestershire in July. Alex Horton (Year 11) became the youngest player to ever play in a Minor County fixture when he appeared for Wales last June and became the youngest player ever to play for Glamorgan 2nd XI this year

Professionals produced RH

Bencraft (Hampshire), EG Wynyard (Hampshire & England), FW Terry (Somerset & Canada), P Hutchinson (South Africa), AM de Labat (New Zealand), PA Gibb (Yorkshire, Essex & England), RHJ Brooke (Gloucestershire), P Cranmer (Warwickshire), EJH Dixon (Northamptonshire), ANE Waldron (Hampshire), THC Hancock (Gloucestershire), MAH Hammond (Gloucestershire), CM Dickinson (Hampshire), BG Charlesworth (Gloucestershire)

Cultural cricketers Kenneth Grahame (author of *The Wind in the Willows*) played for St Edward's 2nd XI and was the cricket reporter for the school magazine (*The Chronicle*) during his time at St Edward's. Decorated RAF pilot Douglas Bader represented the 1st XI for four years,



Peter Swainson Master in charge

captaining the side in his final year in 1928. John Woodcock, ex-cricket correspondent for *The Times* (1954-88) and editor of *Wisden* (1980-86) played for the 1st XI during the War

Brief history Cricket has always been played at St Edward's, originating in the playground at New Inn Hall Street and then to various parts of Oxford, including Port Meadow, the Meads (now the School's Quad), Keble College and finally Upper 1. The earliest records of results for the 1st XI date from 1873, in which six games were played. Foremost among the alumni is RH Bencraft, the 'father' of Hampshire cricket as their first president, secretary and captain

What sets the school apart? St Edward's 1st XI ground (Upper 1) lies less than a mile from the centre of Oxford and hosted its first Minor Counties Championship fixture for more than 25 years in July 2018

Finest moment on the field Winning the John Harvey Cup for four consecutive years (2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016). Staging Oxfordshire v Wales, the first time Oxfordshire have been able to play a three-day game within the town

Recent progress More teams than ever before now play cricket throughout the summer term. The recent introduction of girls' cricket is showing great promise. Looking to be a satellite academy for Hampshire. If boys live in Hertfordshire they can represent Hampshire without having to circumnavigate through London to attend training. Excellent results against much larger schools

Future plans To continue assisting with the Oxfordshire Bulls initiative. Ensure that more girls can play

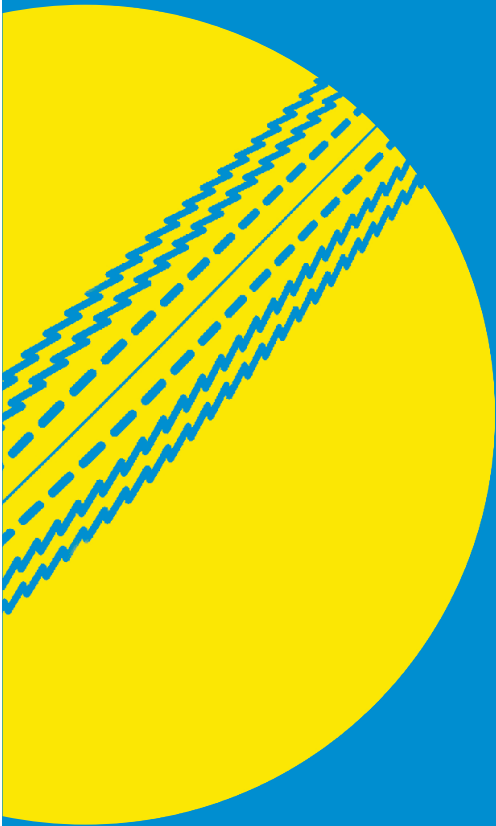
Tours Barbados in 2000, Sri Lanka in 2005, South Africa in 2008 and 2012, Barbados in 2016 and 2019



ST. EDWARD'S
OXFORD

‘Probably one of the top
two or three cricketing
schools in the country.’

JOHN WOODCOCK OSE
TIMES CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, 1954-1988



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