



# VIKING ACADEMY TRUST

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Dear Year 5 Parents & Carers,

As your child is currently in Year 5 in one of our Viking schools, I am writing to you to share information regarding a **secondary school with a difference...**

The schools in Viking Academy Trust have developed a link with **Christ's Independent School**, which is a co-educational boarding school for 900 pupils aged 11-18 situated near Horsham in West Sussex. Sometimes known as 'The Bluecoat School' - because of the very distinctive school uniform - Christ's is one of the **leading independent schools** in the country. It provides a first class academic education to talented pupils from all over the country and

Christ's Hospital Buildings



offers unparalleled facilities for activities outside the classroom such as Sport, Art, Music and Drama. This is all set in stunning countryside half way between London and Brighton.

What makes Christ's very different to other independent schools is the fact that it **offers many more bursary places than other private schools**. The school was founded in 1552 with the aim of providing

education and nourishment for destitute children in the City of London. Today it remains committed to those charitable aims; educating the financially, socially and otherwise needy for free or at a substantially reduced rate. 14% of pupils pay no fees at all and 35% of pupils pay no more than 10%.

**Christ's Hospital is now looking to recruit more pupils who would benefit from assisted places**, from the coastal areas of Kent: hence the desire to forge links with the Viking Academy Trust. There are tests for entry to the school. These are similar in standard to the selection tests for entry to Kent Grammar School. It is also important to point out that bursary places are offered on a means- tested basis; they are awarded to pupils where there is evidence of financial or social need.

This is our fourth year working in partnership with Christ's. We have a number of Viking families that have taken the brave, bold step to be part of this exciting adventure, with children successful in **gaining scholarships** to attend Christ's as their secondary school.



**Chilton Primary School**  
Mrs Kate Law ~ Head of School  
[www.chiltonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.chiltonprimaryschool.co.uk)



**Ramsgate Arts Primary School**  
Mr Nicholas Budge ~ Head of School  
[www.ramsgateartsprimary.co.uk](http://www.ramsgateartsprimary.co.uk)



**Upton Junior School**  
Miss Darci Arthur  
~ Head of School  
[www.uptonjunior.com](http://www.uptonjunior.com)

With this academic year rapidly drawing to a close, your attention is more keenly focused upon **secondary school choices and the Kent Test**. Your child's school will be sharing information with you regarding the transition to secondary school and the choices available to you. Our link with Christ's Independent School is **another option for you to consider**.

Whilst this is a very personal decision for families, myself and the Heads of School, are obviously available to answer any questions and offer advice. I can be contacted in the first instance to answer questions via email: [eht@vikingacademytrust.com](mailto:eht@vikingacademytrust.com) . I can also be contacted via the school office and would be happy to talk on the telephone if you wanted to find out more about the school and the testing process.

I am sure the parents who already have children attend Christ's would also be happy to discuss their thoughts with you and answer any questions you may have.

Staff from Christ's are keen to visit us in July to answer questions from parents and children. This year, they are happy to travel down to Thanet to attend a 'socially distanced' meeting or alternatively, can make themselves available via a 'virtual meeting' which I can arrange for all parents wishing to find out more.

In the meantime, you can find out more about the school by visiting their website: [www.christs-hospital.org.uk](http://www.christs-hospital.org.uk) .

Christ's motto is, "A school like no other." Having visited the school on a number of occasions, I concur! Could this be the right school environment for your child's secondary education? Only you can decide this but please do not hesitate to contact me to find out more.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me to find out more.

Kind regards



Mrs M Lewis

Executive Headteacher



[www.christs-hospital.org.uk](http://www.christs-hospital.org.uk)



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