

HEAM SCHOOL •• eadley, Newbury, rkshire RG19 8LD

ebsite cheamschool.com **ad** William Phelps **Pupils** 394 and boarding: 220 boys, 174 s Ages 3–13 Term Fees Day: 475; weekly boarding: £10,865 he coronation year of Cheam nnus King Charles III, it is fitthat this sparkling Berkshire should celebrate royally. In our of His Majesty, Cheam has ched the King Charles III ership Academy, whose speakll explore 'leadership' with the s – and staff too, to engender sional development. Founded 5, this institution still abides motto of 'Omnia Caritate' l things, be charitable'), not y supporting an initiative supplies to victims of the ian war, but also by offering r cent bursaries. There's still of time for fun, though; lly for flexi-boarders, who out 'Wild Wednesday' and oky Halloween trail'.

AM PREP DL •

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CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL SCHOOL ••

Brewer Street, Oxford OX1 1QW Website cccs.org.uk **Head** Richard Murray Pupils 150 day and boarding: 140 boys, 10 girls Ages 3–13 Term Fees Day: £6,896; boarding (choristers only): £4,815

Described by one visitor as the 'Réal Madrid of the chorister world', this higgledy-piggledy school with a piano in every classroom welcomes all boys – and 10 girls – tuneful or not. But make no mistake: music is hardwired into the close-knit CCCS. Founded by Henry VIII in 1546, it's the only school in the country with three professional boys' choirs; and with Christ Church Cathedral at its heart, parents relish attending assemblies, as well as private tours of the Christ Church Library. Sport is played opposite the meadows, with a new pavilion only increasing the site's charm. What's more, as head Richard Murray confirms, being small is a huge plus, ensuring 'pupils feel included and nurtured'.

COTHILL HOUSE •

Cothill, Oxfordshire OX13 6JL

Website cothillpst.org

Head George May Pupils 170 day and boarding boys Ages 8–13

Term Fees Day: £7,330;

boarding: £11,280

Surrounded by acres of green, open Oxfordshire space, Cothill is full of cheerful, kind boys who enjoy camping in the school's own woods as much as writing their own songs in rock band club - and making the most of the unbelievable, recently-unveiled, £6 million sports centre). With Duncan Bailey leaving – after leading the community for 12 wonderful years - all eyes are now on new head George May. Joining from Radley College; he has big shoes to fill - and a lot on his plate, with a new performing arts centre and pre-prep on the way. Meanwhile, there's a focus here on finding the right destination school for each individual child and not – opines the head of the junior school - 'crowbarring the chap into somewhere just

COTTESMORE SCHOOL ••

Buchan Hill, Pease Pottage, West Sussex RH11 9AU

Website cottesmoreschool.com Head Tom Rogerson Pupils 200 day and boarding: 110 boys, 90 girls Ages 4-13 Term Fees Day:

£7,032; boarding: £10,528 With a rock-star head who's been known to leap into the school lake in his finest suit, this place is seriously fun. But as one parent tells us, 'it's not all Hogwarts and spaniels'. Taking a lead on key issues, last year Cottesmore not only invited 60 local primary school pupils to COTT27, its 'Sussex Schools Sustainability Summit', but hosted a thought-provoking AI conference. In keeping with its holistic approach is the creation of Cottesmore Croft, a farming project with an eye on recycling. (Its rescued, ex-battery chickens roost in an old bookcase.) Academic performance is strong, boarding is cosy and inclusive, and parents are delighted that their little ones



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