

seen



Longridge  
Towers School



CARPE DIEM

# heard

'I like the friendly atmosphere, meeting my friends, saying hello to the teachers and seeing happy faces.'

Form 4 pupil, aged 14



Situated in rural Northumberland on the outskirts of Berwick-upon-Tweed, with ready access to both countryside and coast, Longridge Towers School believes that its pupils should be both seen and heard.



'The teachers are always there to help and show me how to learn.'

J6 pupil, aged 10

'I always feel safe  
and happy here.'

Form 3 pupil, aged 13



## Longridge Towers School: an overview

Longridge Towers is a happy and successful independent school in rural Northumberland. We have a Senior Department, where we prepare pupils aged 11-18 for GCSE and A level exams, and a separate Junior Department for pupils aged 4-11. We welcome boarders from the age of 8 upwards.

We offer a broad curriculum, suited to pupils with a wide range of abilities and interests. Teaching takes place in small classes which usually have no more than 20 pupils. We encourage all our pupils to reach or exceed their potential in as many areas as possible – including academic subjects, sport, music, art and drama. We regularly figure among the top 25% of schools in the country in the government's Value Added tables, and the majority of our sixth-form pupils go on to university.

**Happiness** We also encourage less tangible achievements. We have a strong ethos of teamwork and mutual respect, and our pupils are highly regarded in the local community, praised for their manners and maturity. Happiness is also high on our list of values – we want every single child to enjoy his or her time at Longridge Towers as much as possible. As the photos in this prospectus show, our children visibly and audibly have fun.

## A backdrop for growth

Children's surroundings make a huge difference to their education. Longridge Towers is set in 80 acres of beautiful grounds, which include woodland, lawns and playing fields. The main school is a large Victorian mansion, which was originally built as the home of the local MP. Both the building and the grounds are wonderful places for learning, playing and growing up.

Amidst the open spaces and freedom of our grounds, the school is equipped to a high standard. We have a fully comprehensive computer network serving all parts of the school, and we have a well-equipped library. Our excellent facilities include a large sports hall, all-weather tennis courts, rugby and hockey pitches, and a separate art department.

**Where to find us** The school is situated on the outskirts of Berwick-upon-Tweed. Our catchment area for day pupils includes Northumberland and the Scottish Borders, and we have a network of school buses for pupils across the area. For boarders there is ready access by road, rail or air.

'Everyone at the school is kind and caring...'

Form 1 pupil, aged 11

'It looks like a castle...'

J4 pupil, aged 8



'I can learn new skills  
which will last all my life.'

Form 6 pupil, aged 17





'I love playing hockey,  
especially when we win!'

Form 2 pupil, aged 12

## The Junior Department

Our Junior Department is for pupils aged 4-11. It has its own Head and its own buildings, and the children have their own fully-equipped playground. Some facilities – such as the sports hall and those for art and music – are shared with the Senior School. In this way our Juniors have the best of both worlds – access to excellent facilities and the friendly, personal atmosphere of their own buildings and playground.

We try to help all our Junior pupils to develop their own interests and talents from an early age, inside and outside the classroom. They follow an enhanced National Curriculum, with an emphasis on reading, writing and maths. All children learn French from Reception onwards. The children also enjoy sport, music, art and drama. Outside the classroom they enjoy other extra-curricular activities and visits.

**Teaching** Each class in our Junior Department has its own class teacher. In Reception to J3, the class teacher does most of the subject teaching. From J4 there is increasing specialisation. We encourage regular contact between parents and teachers, to ensure that each child benefits fully from their time in the Junior Department.

## The Senior School

The Senior School caters for girls and boys aged 11-18. We accept pupils at any stage in their education provided a suitable place is available.

Each pupil in the Senior School has a form teacher and a Head of Year who is responsible for his or her individual welfare and pastoral care. We welcome contact with parents to discuss any aspect of pupils' well-being and personal development.

All pupils' progress is monitored regularly throughout the school year, and school reports are issued twice a year.

'I like Art because I love having my own ideas'

Form 3 pupil, aged 13

**Curriculum** In Forms 1-3 of the Senior School we teach a broad curriculum that includes languages, humanities, sciences and practical subjects.

At the end of Form 3, pupils make their final choice of GCSE subjects, and we are happy to spend time with pupils and parents discussing their different options and preferences. Full details of the GCSE courses we offer are on our school website.

Sixth formers study for AS and A level examinations, and we offer a choice of over 18 subjects. Sixth formers also play a major role in the corporate life of the school, and this helps them gain important social and leadership skills.

'Maths is my favourite subject...'

J6 pupil, aged 10



'Being a boarder means  
I can relax with my friends  
in the evening'

Form 6 pupil, aged 16





'Being a Sixth Former has given me loads of opportunities to develop my own views as well as helping me to plan my future.'

Form 6 pupil, aged 16

## Outside the classroom

Most people's memories of their schooldays are concentrated on their time outside the classroom. Therefore, we have a wide range of extra-curricular activities in the Senior School, including sport, art, music and drama. Trips and visits include sports tours abroad and language exchanges.

We organise all those activities for two reasons. Firstly, they help our pupils develop talents and interests that could last their whole lives. Secondly, our pupils enjoy them!

Major sports for boys include rugby, athletics, tennis and cricket. Girls play hockey, tennis, rounders and athletics. We have a full programme of sports fixtures against other schools, and many of our pupils achieve county – and sometimes national – honours in various sports.

Art, music and drama are popular throughout the school. Individual instrumental tuition is available, and the school's choir and orchestra give regular concerts.

**Careers** From Form 5 all pupils receive careers guidance from ISCO (the independent schools careers service) as part of our careers programme. This programme includes interviews, careers profiling and access to the ISCO website, and is included in the Senior School fees.

**Special needs** We have some provision for pupils with special needs. Details are given in our Special Educational Needs Policy.

## Boarding

We have boarding places for boys and girls aged 8-18. We offer both weekly and full boarding places.

Boarders are cared for by houseparents and a resident matron. All of these staff are non-teaching, so pupils have a sense they are going home to a family atmosphere when school is finished. We make a huge effort to ensure that all boarders – particularly young and first-time boarders – are secure and happy.

Accommodation for the boarders is inside the main building. Bedrooms are single or shared by two or three pupils, and each bedroom has study facilities. There is also a games room and a large common room with kitchen facilities, comfortable sofas and TV.

There is a programme of weekend activities for boarders, including trips and visits outside the school, and we also encourage the pupils to join local clubs and societies.

'Being a boarder is like having a second family.'

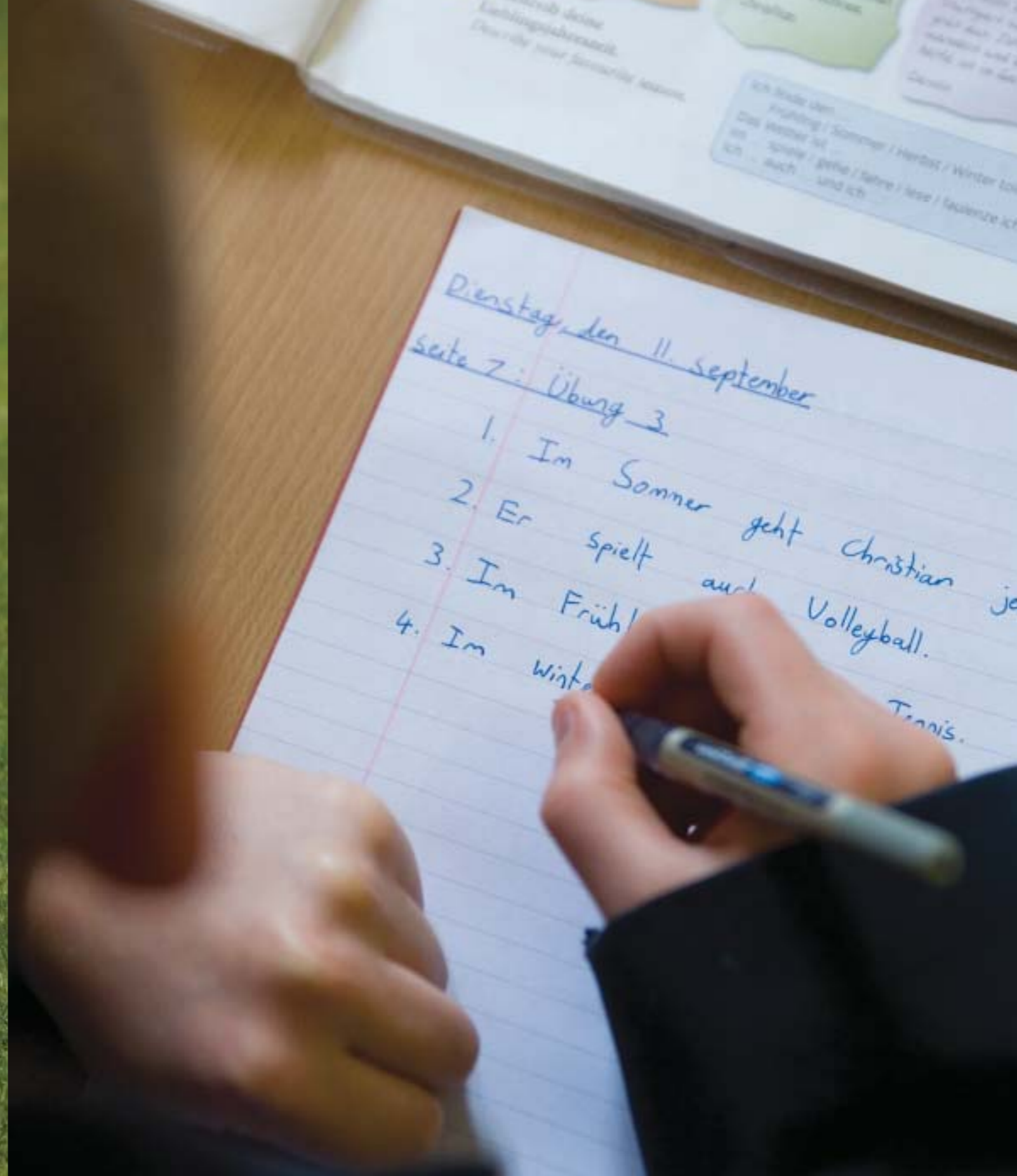
Form 5 pupil, aged 15

'The best thing about Longridge is making new friends and being given the chance to try lots of different things.'

Form 1 pupil, aged 11

'The best thing about being in a team is knowing that you are representing a great school.'

Form 5 pupil, aged 15



'You make loads  
of friends.'

J3 pupil, aged 7



Anthony Clemit  
Headmaster

I could write much more about the atmosphere and achievements of Longridge Towers School, but I would rather you saw and heard for yourself. We welcome visits from all prospective parents and pupils, and would be delighted to let you sense and be part of our very special atmosphere.

To arrange a visit to see (and hear) our pupils and staff for yourself, please contact the Admissions office on 01289 307584.