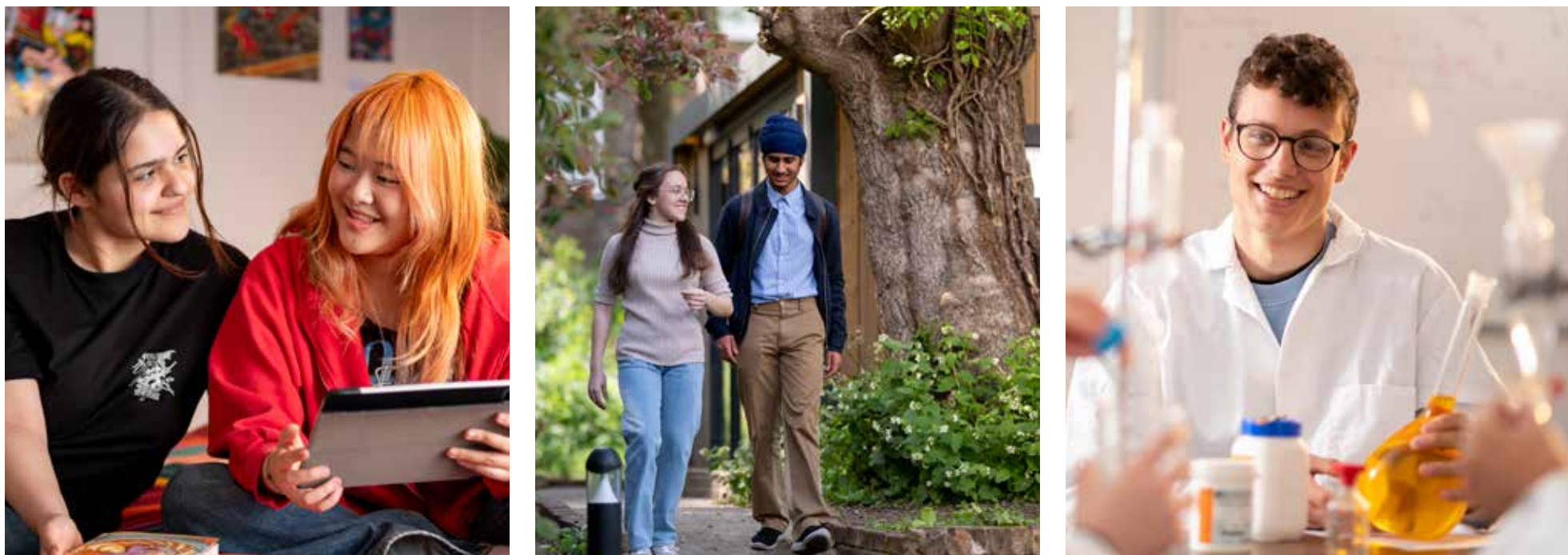


School, but different

Small classes. Creative ambition. Flexible pathways to leading universities worldwide

Rochester Independent College



Come as you are... leave as you want to be



Two very different London institutions remain the most popular university destinations for RIC students: University College London and the University of the Arts London, both with new campuses in Stratford's Olympic Park.



UCL, a G5 university, was the first institution in England to admit students regardless of race, class or religion, and the first to welcome women on equal terms with men.

UAL, described by former Chancellor Grayson Perry as “the world’s biggest factory for making trouble”, is one of the world’s leading creative universities.

IMPERIAL

2026 STEM offers include Materials Sciences at Imperial, Biomedical Science at University of Hong Kong,



香港大學

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Robotics Engineering at Bath, Geology at UCL and Maritime Engineering at Southampton.



Humanities and social science offers include Philosophy and Theology at Oxford, Criminology at Durham, Psychology at Manchester and Education studies at Bristol.

Creative pathways remain strong, with offers from Parsons School of Design in New York, the Maryland Institute College of Art and Hong Kong Polytechnic University.




RIC's Top University Destinations 2020-2025		
Rank	University	No of RIC students placed
1	UAL	31
2	UCL Kent	22
3	Bristol	18
4	Manchester Leeds	16
5	Loughborough Southampton	15

Empowered at Star Hill: Vee Kativhu to lead RIC sixth form graduation



Dr Varaidzo (Vee) Kativhu will return to RIC in May to deliver the address at the Sixth Form Graduation Ceremony at Rochester Cathedral and present certificates to the Class of 2026.

When Vee last visited RIC in 2023, she created



a real buzz. Students were struck by her achievements, warmth and unwavering belief in young people.

A graduate of Oxford and Harvard, she is a Diana Award Legacy recipient and Rare Rising Star. Her advocacy work has taken her to global stages including Teach For All's Global Forum and the United Nations General Assembly.

Her message resonates strongly with RIC's ethos of high aspiration, individuality and the confidence

to shape your own path. As she writes in her book Empowered: Live Your Life With Passion and Purpose:

“Stop asking, ‘What if I fail?’ Ask instead- what if I fly?”

We look forward to welcoming her back to inspire the Class of 2026 as they take their next steps beyond Star Hill.



“Rochester Independent College is a breath of fresh air.”

Muddy Stilettos



Fliers of the year Two year A level

Four RIC students will receive prestigious CIFE Prizes in a ceremony at The House of Lords in April, recognising their academic achievements. CIFE is a group of leading UK sixth form colleges.



Winning the Maths Award is **Andrey**, a two year A level student from St Petersburg who achieved A*A*A* in Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics with the best point scores of any sixth former at a CIFE College.

Now working in the College's Maths department as a teaching assistant alongside studying at UCL Andrey says:

"It is an amazing experience to be able to come to college weekly to observe and to help with maths lessons. It's a great opportunity for my learning and professional development as a future teacher."



Another CIFE prizewinner is **Jiji** who joined the College after GCSEs at British International School, Lagos, Nigeria. Jiji is now in Manchester studying Economics after securing A*A*A in Psychology, Economics and Maths. Jiji says: "My reaction when I received the A*s was a mix of joy and vindication. I was happy that my hard work had paid off, but I knew it was coming because of the faith I have in both God and myself."

RIC are ones to watch



watchword here. Whether you are looking for 1 year GCSE or an A level course, the opportunity to retake exams or a chance to focus exclusively on the Creative Arts or preparing for medical school, RIC offers it. Not only that, pupils can start at different points in the school year, into any year group with any subject combination.

Class sizes average 8 so the style of teaching leans more towards university tutorials. The personalised attention means excellent results with many securing places at top art colleges, and medical schools as well as Oxford and Cambridge. Everyone is on first-name terms and with no uniform the atmosphere is relaxed, friendly and purposeful."

Congratulations as well go to the schools Rochester Independent College is listed alongside in this category- Bedales School, Green School Bali, THINK Global School and Avenues, New York.



Carfax's panel handpicked 25 institutions, acknowledging their unique characteristics. The guide says about RIC: "Flexibility is the

Aim higher with Dukes Plus

Dukes Plus is a family of specialised consultancy services and educational experience providers, including the highest standards of university preparation.

RIC students benefit from advice, workshops and test prep courses from industry experts who provide expertise in university admissions, Oxbridge Applications, competitive US applications with A-List and Medical School admissions with The Medic Portal.



Test driving dream careers

We partner with Dukes Education's InvestIN, offering a range of immersive career experiences, and hands-on workshops alongside top industry professionals.

InvestIN provides RIC students in Years 10 and 12 with a bespoke careers curriculum and a certificate of career-readiness. Students choose

a full day of interactive career simulations in any one of nineteen careers ranging from Software Engineering to Investment Banking, Fashion to Forensics.



One year A levels An alternative to the foundation year

One-year A level courses can save both time and fees while often leading to stronger university outcomes than many foundation programmes.



Designed for academically strong students aged 17+ with a good level of English, RIC's intensive one-year pathway offers a rigorous, focused and highly personalised route into leading UK universities.

Nadia from Hong Kong exemplifies what is possible. Winner of the CIFE Arts Award, she completed A levels in Fine Art, Graphics and Digital Media, achieving A*A*A*. Her creative distinction secured a place at the prestigious Slade School of Fine Art at UCL. "I was really able to explore my own voice in my art and develop a portfolio that showed off my personality. My portfolio to apply to the Slade is now being used as the only example portfolio shown for the course!"

Scan to hear Nadia's story:



Simon from Slovakia (pictured far left) took A levels in Maths, Sociology and History on the one-year fast-track course. One of the valedictorians at graduation in Rochester Cathedral, he reflects: "I chose to study A levels at RIC because it's unusual, welcoming and diverse. I had great support from my subject teachers and personal tutor. I felt really well prepared. It was really good". He achieved A*AB and is now studying Maths at Surrey.

Angel joined from Lifeforte International School in Nigeria, gaining AAB in Business Studies, Sociology and English Literature and a place to read Law at Exeter. RIC students come from many of Nigeria's leading schools including Grange School, Greensprings School, Day Waterman College, British International School Lagos and Children's International School.

Theerakun joined from Triam Udom Suksa School in Thailand to study Maths, Physics and Further Maths, achieving A*AA and progressing to Mechanical Engineering at UCL. Our Thai scholars in recent years have also come from leading Bangkok institutions including Suankularb Wittayalai School.

Daniel from Seoul, secured A*AB in Maths, Further Maths and is now reading Economics at Warwick. Daniel originally came to UK from Newton Academy for a foundation on a university campus but switched to A levels at the end of year 12. He believed this would be better academic preparation for entry to a highly competitive course at a top university.

Year 13 transfers A fresh start

Students sometimes join RIC for their final year of sixth form after beginning A levels elsewhere. Others transfer after the first year of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme or following family relocation. Many come from more traditional independent and grammar schools.

Nam joined RIC from St Olave's determined to combine top-tier academics with elite swimming. A British-Vietnamese swimmer, he won a place at King's College London to study Chemistry.

Louise followed her sister's footsteps, transferring from Sir Roger Manwood's Grammar as a boarder into Year 13 before progressing to Leeds to study History. Her sister Georgia made the same move a few years earlier

Oscar from Hong Kong was placed with us by Academic Asia. He transferred from Kent College, Canterbury for Year 13 and secured a place at UCL to study Education and Society.

and later went on to read Biochemistry at Oxford.

She reflects: "I was nervous when I joined that everyone would be secure in their friendship groups, and that teachers might presume I had already been taught certain topics. However, lots of people join for one year making the school a very welcoming environment. Oxford can be a daunting place, but RIC gave me the confidence I needed to succeed here, both academically and socially."

Watch our graduation video here



A level retakes Refresh & reset

At RIC, retaking A levels isn't about going backwards- it's about aiming higher.

Ollie- BBC to A*AA, UCL Retaker Ollie from Canterbury won the Lexden Award for Value Added, recognising not only improved grades but renewed confidence and ambition. Arriving from Canterbury College to retake her A levels, she admits she initially dreaded another year at school. "I was super, super dragging my feet when I first came at the thought of an extra school year," she says. "But having teachers who care and are invested in what you do... it's just transformative." Boarding during the week and

returning home at weekends, she describes the experience as "honestly one of the most fun years of my life." Ollie improved her grades from BBC to A*AA and secured a place at UCL to study History and Politics.

Harper- Retake for Medicine at Sheffield Harper, previously at The Latymer School in North London, joined RIC as a boarder, taking English A level from scratch while retaking Biology and Chemistry. She is now studying Medicine at Sheffield. "RIC gave me a second chance to push myself in a supportive and accommodating environment, coming from a traditional London grammar school setting."





A school for top young economists

RIC is the home of the UK Economics Olympiad



Congratulations to everyone who participated in the British Economics Olympiad, hosted by RIC on behalf of the International Economics Olympiad. An impressive 1,700 students took part online from

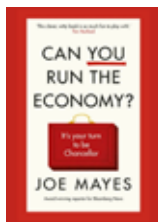


schools including Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Barnet, King's College School Wimbledon, Eton, Harrow, Cheltenham Ladies' College, Pate's Grammar, Gordonstoun, Tonbridge School, Westminster, The Perse, Winchester, Stowe, The Judd School, City of London School for Boys, St Paul's Girls' School, Christ's Hospital and Sevenoaks.

The UK final took place at Rochester Independent College in March, where the top 25 A level economists competed for places on Team GB.



Judges and speakers included Bloomberg journalist **Joe Mayes**, author of *Can You Run the Economy?*, and **Mitchell Palmer**, economist at the Adam Smith Institute and Senior Policy Adviser to the New Zealand Parliament.



RIC's Economics department, led by **David Hodges**, will now accompany Team GB to the International Economics Olympiad finals in Shenzhen, China, this July.



A school for mathematicians and architects

Maths noticed at RIC



At RIC, mathematics is something students are encouraged to see and experience beyond the classroom. Leading this approach is Head of A level Maths, **Adel Kiss Harding**, whose photo-blogging captures patterns in architecture and nature- symmetry, repetition and structure- helping students recognise mathematics in the world around them.



From curiosity to research

That spirit of curiosity continues in the work of Oxford and Manchester graduate **Egor Zaytsev**, who challenges and extends students through teaching and his RIC Maths Appreciation Society.

Egor's own research began with a simple question while studying complex analysis: could Cauchy's Residue Theorem be extended beyond its usual limits? When it appeared to work, he pursued the idea- leading to discussions with mathematicians, study of fractional calculus, and a collaboration with Arran Fernandez.



The result was a co-authored paper published in the Bulletin of the London Mathematical Society, demonstrating how curiosity in the classroom can lead to real mathematical discovery.

A fractional residue theorem and its applications in calculating real integrals

Egor Zaytsev | Arran Fernandez

Abstract
As part of an ongoing effort to fractional analysis, we present a fractional version of the residue theorem, involving pseudo-residues calculated

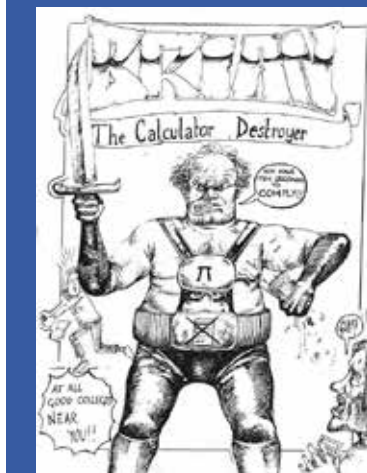
Maths and music

Mathematics at RIC also connects with creativity. Maths and Piano teacher **Rob "Dimblekeys"** has recently released a new album and was interviewed on the BBC. An Oxford Maths graduate and accomplished musician, he has performed widely across the UK and Europe as well as at many RIC events. Alongside his musical career, Rob runs Maths Plus at RIC, where students explore advanced ideas beyond the standard curriculum.



Recent topics have included planetary motion and why planets speed up near the Sun, random

walks and probability, and Markov chains used to model complex systems such as weather and internet behaviour.



In September 2026 RIC will be awarding the inaugural

Brian Pain Maths Scholarship

named after and in memory of the College founder, and open to applications from local potential sixth formers committed to studying both Maths and Further Maths at A level.

Maths teacher Brian founded RIC in 1984.



A school for future doctors, scientists and engineers

Specialist preparation for medical school and STEM



The teaching of medicine at the University of Cambridge dates back to the reign of Henry VIII.



Nearly five centuries later, a RIC student has joined the tradition. **Naemi**, who came to RIC from an

international school in Germany to study Science A levels, has secured a coveted place at the School of Clinical Medicine at the University of Cambridge. Sharing her news, she wrote: "I wanted to thank everyone for your amazing support and the opportunity to study with you. I couldn't have done it without RIC."



Her Chemistry tutor, **Dr Sophie Hilton**, said: "I am so happy for her. She will make an amazing doctor."

Naemi's success reflects both academic excellence and the specialist preparation offered through RIC's Medic Programme.

Led by Dr Hilton, the programme supports aspiring doctors, dentists and vets through weekly timetabled sessions alongside A level study. Students explore the structure and values of the NHS, discuss current issues in healthcare, and examine medical ethics and professional responsibility.

They also develop the practical skills required for medical applications- preparing for the UCAT, practising Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) and crafting strong personal statements. Guidance on work experience and portfolio building forms an integral part of the programme.



RIC students regularly secure places at leading medical schools. In 2025 two retake students also achieved success: **Harper**, from Latymer School in London, secured a place at Sheffield, while **Tom**, from Maidstone Grammar School, will study Medicine at Liverpool.



Another recent success is **Esther**, who joined RIC from Chrisland High School in Nigeria and secured a place at Brunel University of London, home to London's newest medical school.

Her educational consultant, **Mark Brooks**, reflected: "At Mark Brooks Education, we take immense pride in seeing students thrive in the right academic environment. Esther is a bright and determined student who joined Rochester Independent College two years ago and has now secured her place to study medicine at Brunel."

RIC students also benefit from the experiences of former pupils who return to share their journeys.



Last year the college welcomed **Sandra Adele**, an alumna now reading for a DPhil in Clinical Medicine at the University of Oxford. A



member of Christ Church and Junior Dean of Exeter College, Sandra's academic background spans Neuroscience, Pharmacology and Global Health.

Growing up in Nigeria, Sandra recalls being told that there were only two acceptable career choices: doctor or lawyer. "A career in science was not presented to me as an option," she says.

Today that landscape is changing. In 2023, 47% of STEM graduates in Africa were women.

During her visit, Sandra spoke about her journey to Oxford and offered practical advice on navigating the competitive application process and choosing the right college.

Congratulations to two of RIC's flying doctors! **Abi Wong** and **George Hales** retook their A levels together at RIC and won matching places at Exeter University. We bumped into George last year at the Kent County Show and were thrilled to hear that he and Abi have now graduated and are preparing to start practicing as fully fledged doctors!





Around the table: the RIC way



Nearly a century ago, the philanthropist Edward Harkness suggested students sitting together with a teacher around a table, rather than in rows with a teacher's desk at the front, could transform education.

Harkness believed that learning should be collaborative- that students grow in confidence when they are invited to speak, and grow in compassion when they are required to listen. He said: *"I want to see somebody try teaching not by recitations in a formal room where the teacher is on a platform raised above the pupils."*

It turns out that how we sit shapes how we think and how we learn. Harkness's ideas were first adopted by Phillips Exeter Academy and at RIC, this idea feels instinctively right.

Long before we were talking about

"student voice" or "collaborative learning," our classrooms were arranged to encourage conversation with an average class size of 8.

The College's roots lie in the broader tradition of democratic and progressive education, associated with thinkers like John Dewey, who argued that schools should prepare young people not simply to pass examinations, but to participate thoughtfully in a democratic society. For Dewey, education was not about the transmission of facts alone.

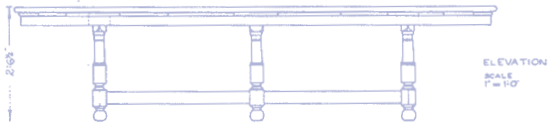
Around a tutorial table at RIC, you will hear disagreement- courteous, evidence-based, sometimes colourfully and quirkily passionate. You will hear a student change their mind mid-sentence because someone else has made a sharper point. You will hear a tutor gently pressing: *"What do you mean by*

that?" or "Can we take that a step further?"

This is democratic education in action- not in the sense of voting on what to study or deciding to climb trees rather than go to lessons, but in sharing intellectual responsibility. Every voice carries weight.

"It sounds like an experiment in alternative education but in fact, the teaching is rigorous and tailored to the best possible exam results."
The INDEPENDENT

At the same time, RIC is, and always has been, academically serious. We teach a traditional curriculum.



The RIC difference lies in how they encounter that rigour.

Rather than absorbing knowledge passively in a formal setting, students grapple with it aloud. The quieter student finds their voice, the confident student learns the equally important skill of listening.

"Students who feel lost in a large school will find its informal atmosphere very supportive and nurturing." Which School Advisor

This is very much the RIC Way. Small classes. First names. Tutorials that feel more like conversations than lectures.



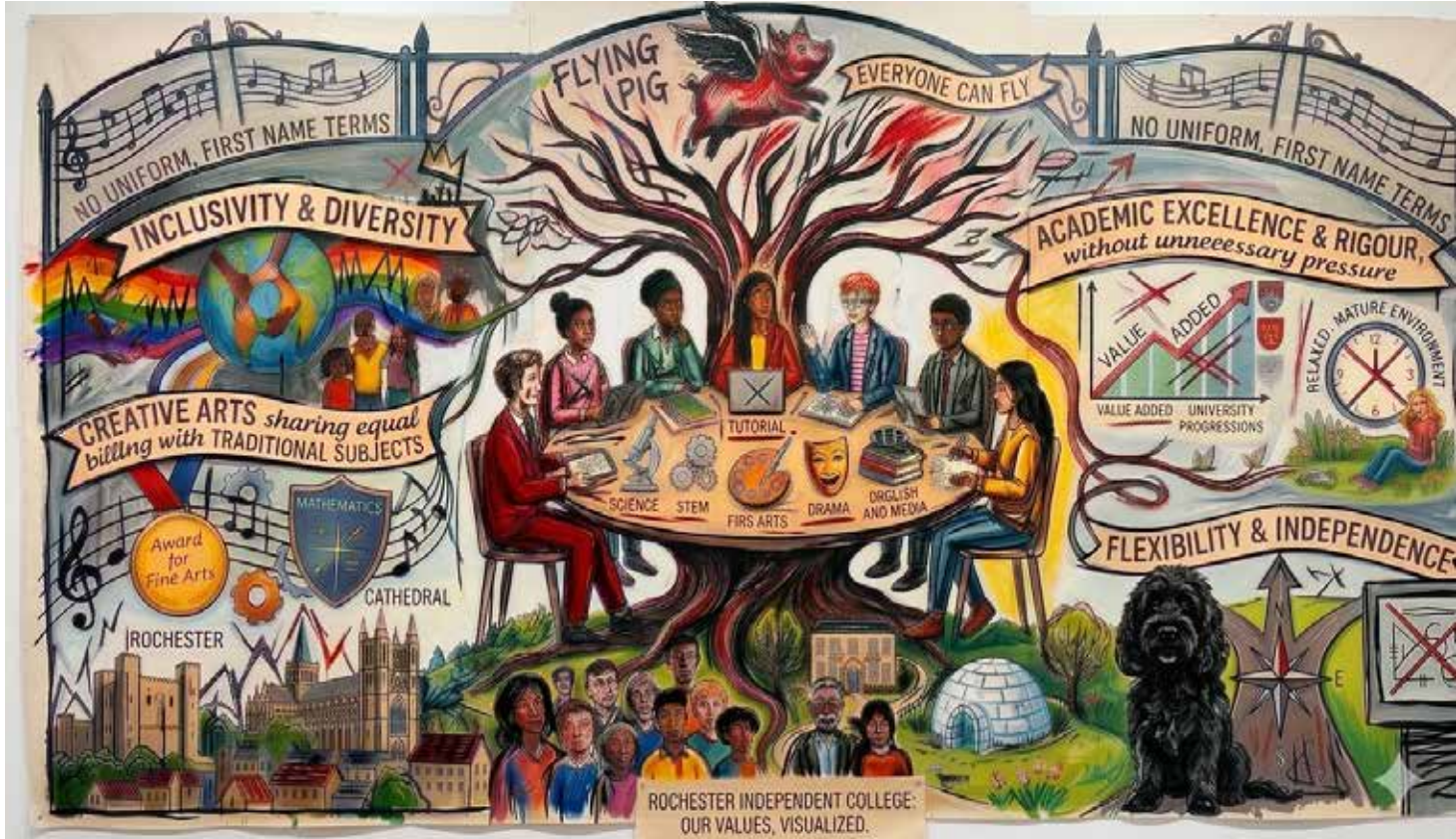
Mathematics requires precision. Science demands method. History insists on evidence. Literature rewards close reading and careful argument. We prepare students thoroughly for examinations, and we expect them to work hard and behave well.

We combine warmth with high expectations. Freedom with focus. Individuality with intellectual discipline. We combine the atmospheric gentleness of the progressive schooling tradition with a focus on exam success and university entrance.

"The approach to learning mirrors the rather creative, grown up- but caring- space. There's no uniform, no school bells and students and staff are on first name terms. The theory being that with the rules relaxed, there's less to rebel against. Certainly, in the right kind of environment, with the right kind of pupils, this approach breeds mutual respect between teachers and students- as I toured the school, this feeling was tangible."
Muddy Stilletoes

When we change the physical and emotional architecture of a classroom, we change the experience of learning itself.

Small groups. One teacher. A table. *"Say goodbye to stiff blazers, imposing facades and hymns echoing around the corridors and hello to a school with a more informal feel of home."*
Good Schools Guide



Credit: image by Peter Holl and Google Gemini



Say hello to Alistair...



RIC Principal **Alistair Brownlow** joined the College in 1997 as a novice English Literature and Film teacher after studying at St Andrews and Glasgow and teaching English overseas.

What first sparked your interest in education?

Because my parents moved around so much, I ended up attending a different school most years throughout secondary education so by sixth form, I'd effectively completed a grand tour of the British education system. It gave me a crash course in school cultures and how much difference a good teacher can make when you're the new kid trying to figure things out.

developed a habit of making my own registers and calling out imaginary names to imaginary classes. At the time, I thought that was entirely normal... In hindsight, it may have been a giveaway.

How did your own teachers influence your teaching style?

The best ones made you feel like your thoughts mattered. They weren't afraid to go off-piste. At RIC, where individuality is a strength, not something to iron out, we don't have a house teaching style and there's a real diversity of approach and personality from our teachers.

What makes a great school?
A great school should feel more like a creative studio or a think tank than a factory, somewhere alive

with scholarship and wellbeing in equal measure. The recognition we've achieved in recent years- industry awards for our creative arts and sustainability curriculums, for our boarding, for our wildlife gardens and for our culture of equality, diversity

Somewhere along the way, I



RIC is Dukes Education setting of the year



With flying pigs overhead, we were quietly chuffed

This is a particularly special achievement given the ever-growing scale of Dukes, and it is lovely the care, imagination, professionalism and humanity shown every single day on Star Hill is recognised well beyond our own garden campus.

Alongside this headline win for the whole community, we were also proud to see individual RIC staff celebrated through a remarkable set of nominations:



Kelly Flatman
Staff Member of the Year (Colleges)
Nicki Komorowski
Pastoral Care
Tanya Adolpho
Wellbeing Initiative



Holly May Treadwell
New Staff Member of the Year

Nicki's calm, creative leadership of the sixth form; Tanya's thoughtful and generous work on student

and early electronic music. That kind of intellectual and creative spark is what we're looking for.

If you could change one thing about RIC, what would it be?
Teleportation pods between our lovely listed Georgian buildings would be nice. Or maybe a secret toy railway tunnel between our main campus and the new Northbank boarding village and arts centre. We're always looking for spaces and garden projects that support creativity and wellbeing- there's already a geodesic dome, musical gates and an underground theatre. One of our students recently asked if we could have an al fresco stage built in the gardens. He designed it and worked with our site team to get it ready for this year's summer festival.

What positive message would you like to give to the world?
Don't worry if you haven't got it all figured out. Nobody does.

I've seen RIC students evolve from retake candidates into fully fledged doctors, from school refusers to top university graduates- proof that when we foster academic rigour and creative curiosity in equal measure, young people can flourish in ways no metric or league table position alone can capture.





RIC arts

Winner ISA Award for Excellence & Innovation in Fine Arts



Kristina, A level Fine Art



Adina, A level Fashion & Textiles



Alexandra, A level Fine Art



Iris, A level Fine Art



Yongyi, A level Graphic Design



Daria, A level Fine Art



Ages, A level Photography



Victoria, A level Fashion & Textiles



Nadia, A level Graphic Design

Wes Anderson and Tim Burton

RIC's Digital Media students recently stepped into the surreal, gothic world of The World of Tim Burton at the Design Museum.

From eerie early sketches to intricate sculptural pieces, the exhibition offered a vivid journey into the creative mind of one of cinema's most distinctive visual storytellers. This year our Film and Graphic Design students explored the museum's celebration of Wes Anderson's unmistakable aesthetic. Carefully curated symmetry, meticulous palettes and playful detail sparked lively discussion about authorship, visual identity and world-building.



The Next 25

Art student **Kristina's** painting 'The Next 25' has been included in the Royal Academy of Arts Young Artist Summer Show. A reimagining of "Las Meninas" by Velazquez, the theme of this painting concerns the value of an artist's skills within society. The painter's imagination is symbolised in the peacock. In the left corner there is a small character resembling a humanoid light bulb which embodies the human spirit and its drive. This painting also won second prize in the CIFE Sixth Forms art prize this year with the judges saying:

"It forces the observer to ask "The next 25 what?" The strong central

figure could be pondering 'What if?' the more pained expression on the left appears to be thinking about what lies ahead after a troubled past, whilst the cartoon gives the impression of asking "Did I really just vote for Christmas" This wonderful piece pushed hard for 1st place as it really makes the observer think."



"It's hard to imagine better provision for the artistically inclined." Good Schools Guide



Adina, A level Graphic Design



Adaeze, A level Photography



Sasha, A level Graphic Design



Clara, A level Photography



Emily, A level Fashion & Textiles



Polina, A level Graphic Design



Farah, A level Photography



Lorenzo, A level Photography

West End front row

With London's theatreland so close RIC students have enjoyed another year of great trips including musicals like Into The Woods, Cabaret, Hamilton, Mamma Mia, Wicked and Six and plays like Clarkston, All My Sons and Othello.



Celebrating stories and poetry

RIC has a new fiction library. There's a collection ranging from 100 must read Penguin Classics that break boundaries and challenge conceptions to graphic novels and vintage Marvel comics. We also host visiting teen fiction writers. Year 7-9s will be welcoming poet John Julian Sedgwick, author of Carnegie

Medal shortlisted Tsunami Girl. We were excited to sponsor the 2025 Faversham Literary Festival. Our students attended events alongside bestselling authors, rising stars, and local talent. Another highlight was a trip to see punk performance poet John Cooper Clarke in Tunbridge Wells.



Around the world with RIC



RIC's flagship international trip this year took students to Vietnam.

From the vibrant streets of Hanoi's Old Quarter to the dramatic limestone seascapes of Ha Long Bay, they explored architecture, culture and contemporary life in a nation shaped by reinvention.

In 2025 the College travelled to India for its most ambitious art and design expedition yet, from Le Corbusier's modernist Chandigarh to Lutyens' Imperial Delhi, the Golden Temple of Amritsar and a tiger safari. The year before, Japan offered a striking blend of tradition and

hyper-modernity, from the Shinkansen between Tokyo and Kyoto to Harajuku street and the digital installations of teamLab Planets.



With recent Arctic adventures in Sweden, flaneuring in Paris and a classical Easter in Rome RIC on the road shows the College at its most adventurous.

Art shows in China

Last summer we showcased our award-winning students' art, photography, textiles, digital media and graphic design and connected with the RIC community in China.

In Beijing the exhibition took place at the Longfu Cultural Center, one of the capital's most iconic cultural venues, often called the "Little Forbidden City," where imperial heritage meets contemporary creativity. Visitors explored student work, met Principal **Alistair** and heard from **Sarah**, a former RIC student now studying at UAL's Central Saint Martins and currently interning in our art department.



Turning up the volume



RIC is bursting with talent- whether it's on stage or in the recording studio. **Charlie** was the creative engine behind our music scene last year, putting it firmly on the map.



From planning lunchtime master-classes on forming bands and gigging- to inviting speakers to talk about design in the music industry,

Charlie is making things happen. His advice to aspiring musicians: "Your personality will carry you much further than your skill. Be nice, stay positive, and always bring the good vibes."

RIC is now home to a newly refurbished music department complete with practice rooms, a recording studio and a corridor decorated with vintage gig posters and iconic album covers.

Meanwhile, year 11 student **Cilla**



had the unforgettable honour of performing at Glastonbury with Mercury Prize-winning Ezra Collective on The Other Stage and RIC's Christmas Jingle Jam packed out local venue Poco Loco! And Drama students performed set pieces from Shrek in our own underground theatre!



The Good Schools Guide said: "Pupils describe the music here as "sick" and rave about the music technology opportunities."



Ven tal como eres, sal como quieres ser • Come as you are, leave as you want to be



Launching RIC's UAL Art Foundation Diploma



RIC is delighted to launch a brand-new one-year UAL Art Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, providing a dedicated pathway to the UK's leading creative universities for students aged 17+.

This course offers a purposeful bridge for those whose passion lies in art and design, giving them time, space and expert mentorship to develop the breadth and depth of a strong creative portfolio.

Taught in RIC's new Gowers Art Centre in Northbank, the multidisciplinary diploma prepares students for undergraduate study at top creative arts institutions, including the world's leading art and design universities. It is built around three core units requiring students to:

• **Explore a wide range of creative practices and techniques, from drawing and print to photography and moving image.**

• **Specialise in their creative interests and refine skills in their chosen media.**
• **Produce a final major body of work culminating in a public exhibition.**

Alongside practical studio time, students receive personalised tutoring and university application support, ensuring their portfolios stand out for competitive art courses.

This new pathway builds on RIC's long-standing reputation for



excellence in creative education, enhancing what was already described by Good Schools Guide as "hard to imagine better provision for an artist."



Head of Art **Robin Macintosh** has taught at RIC since 2007.

He is an accomplished artist and Fine Art and History of Art teacher who has inspired many students over the years who have gone on to study creative arts subjects at leading universities and art colleges.



Head of Photography **Michael Daks** joined RIC in 2017 from Paris College of Art. An internationally published fashion and portrait photographer, he has also taught at Istituto Marangoni. His clients include Vogue, The New York Times Magazine and Harper's Bazaar, and his work is held in the National Portrait Gallery.



Director of Studies, **Rachel Letchford-Beg** is a multidisciplinary artist. Working across photography, objects, installation and moving image, her practice explores memory, chance and the significance of overlooked moments. She has over 17 years' experience teaching HE and FE, encouraging critical thinking and experimentation.



Graphic Design teacher **Joe Warrell-Becci** completed his A levels and GCSEs as a student at RIC, before his degree at UCA.

He is an illustrator and conceptual artist with an undying love for creating fantastical characters and worlds.

RIC Steadman scholar shines at UAL



Former RIC student **George** is making waves in the contemporary art world. Recently named Made in Bed magazine's January 2025 'Emerging Artist', George has already begun to establish a unique creative voice that spans painting, sculpture, pattern and textiles- a remarkable trajectory for a young artist now studying Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art.

George's artistic journey took a pivotal turn at 16, when he was awarded the fully funded Ralph Steadman Fine Art Scholarship to study at RIC.

Reflecting on his time here, he credits the creative freedom and support he found as transformative: "**Robin was truly brilliant. He just let me sit, think, draw, and work.**"

During his time at RIC, George's paintings often depicted lone male figures interacting with dynamic urban spaces, influenced by his first real encounter with London's skyline- a stark contrast to the flatter horizons of Kent, where he grew up.

He also developed a strong interest in Bauhaus principles, favouring geometric forms and clean lines over decorative excess, a sensibility that still informs his work today.



Now based in Peckham, George finds himself immersed in a vibrant cultural mix. The neighbourhood's multi-layered blend of British, Nigerian, Taiwanese, Thai and other influences feeds



directly into his creative process. This contrast from his Kent upbringing- where high-rise buildings were few- became a source of inspiration and thematic exploration. His first major university project took this context as its subject. Drawn to the patterned market bags ubiquitous in Peckham, George- a self-confessed textile enthusiast since his RIC days, saw in their bold geometrics, clashing colours and everyday presence a metaphor for cultural convergence, a powerful visual reflection of his own creative journey.



มาในแบบที่คุณเป็น จบออกไปในแบบที่คุณต้องการ • Come as you are, leave as you want to be





Thai ties



Since 1991, RIC has welcomed exceptional scholars supported by the Royal Thai Government, guiding them from A Levels to top UK universities and beyond.

Many of our graduates earn doctorates and step into senior roles in academia and government. Our students consistently excel in STEM subjects and international Olympiads, while also showcasing talents in art, music, and chess. For instance, **Jirayus** (Gems), an International Maths Olympiad Gold Medallist, joined RIC in 2019 before Trinity College, Cambridge.

He recalls, "With small classes and expert teachers, I got the support I needed to excel."



Similarly, **Jeans** earned a distinction in the British Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad last year. Recently, we also celebrated **Purin's** achievement, a First-Class AI degree from Imperial College London after achieving A*AA on RIC's one-year A Level course. Purin, pictured here with his Computer Science teacher Peter Holl shared, "I would recommend RIC to other students. The campus is very friendly, cosy, and comfortable, and the teachers helped me get into Imperial on a competitive programme."



Thai Government Scholarship Students at RIC Top University Destinations

2024	Nartkamon Theerakhun Kanitin Krittin	Kent UCL Bristol Edinburgh	Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Maths and Computing Astrophysics
2022	Suppaset	Imperial, London	Physics
2021	Preeyaporn Suankularb Nutthanon Waritsara Monai	Manchester UCL UEA Manchester Southampton	Biomedical Sciences Physics Environmental Sciences Engineering Geology
2020	Jirayus	Cambridge	Mathematics
2019	Thanawitch	Oxford	Chemistry
2018	Warach	Cambridge	Mathematics
2017	Kiatmeta Varit Adisorn Pattaraporn Pinphong Rapee	Nottingham Cambridge Oxford Queen Mary, London Cambridge Southampton	Mathematical Physics Mathematics Physics Maths and Economics Natural Sciences Physics

Third culture kids



Globally grounded, cosmopolitan kids from all over the world find a home at RIC. British students whose parents are in the forces or based overseas as expat workers often join after taking their GCSEs at international schools.

Joining in year 7 was **Addison** whose picture 'Third Culture Kid' hung in the Young Artists' Summer Show at the RA.

She says: "I am mixed-race British Nigerian but have grown up in Tanzania, Kenya, Egypt and I now live in England. This picture is about everything that experience and love in my life."

Also pictured is artist **Catri** who came to RIC from Sibiu in Romania and went to study Fine Art at the University of Groningen.



Welcoming Tiago to RIC



This programme supports talented Angolan students through their A level studies at Dukes Education schools and continues to sponsor them through university.

Tiago is also a keen music fan- especially of the Arctic Monkeys- and we look forward to welcoming him to RIC and seeing the contribution he will make to our international community.

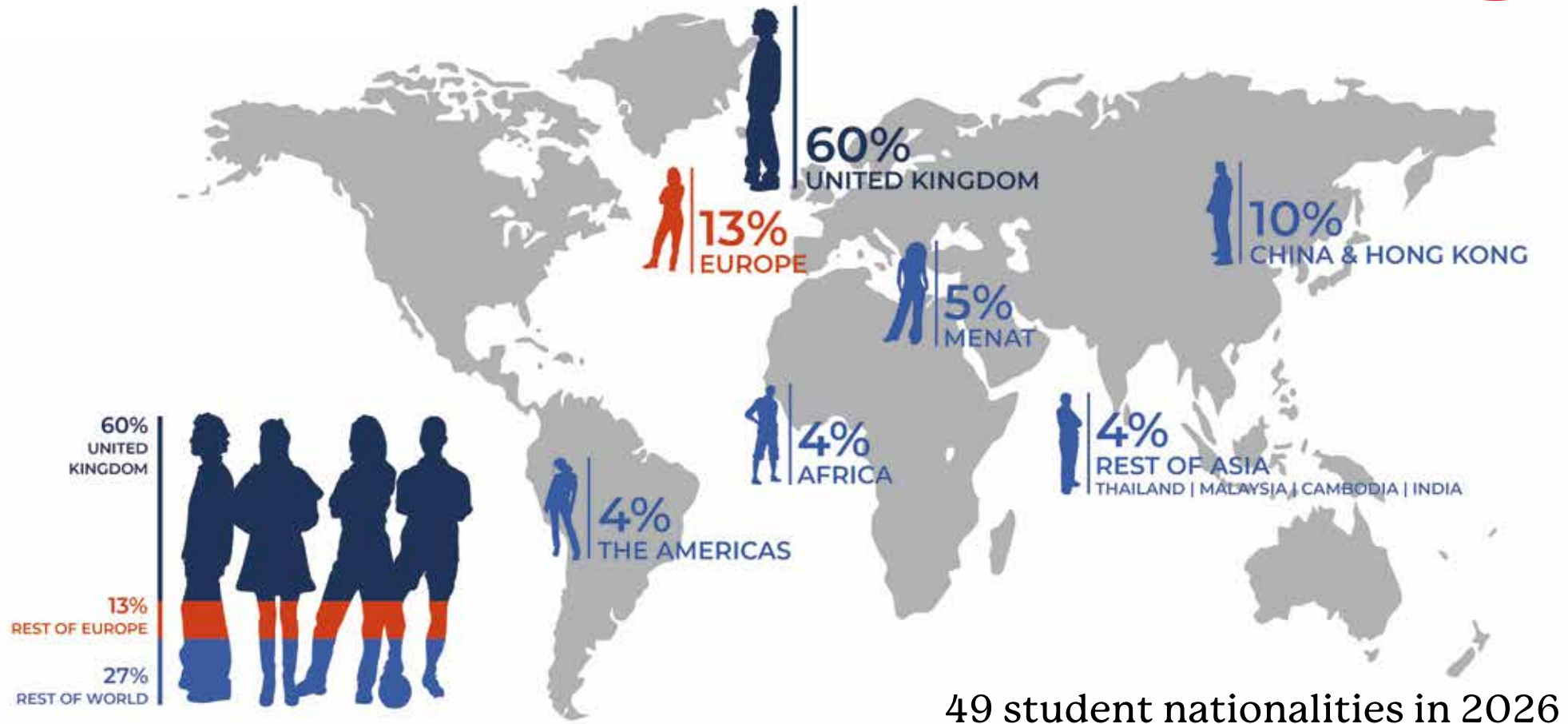
RIC has welcomed several students in recent years from the Lusophone- the Portuguese speaking world- including Brazil and Mozambique.

Tiago, a talented student from Angola, will join RIC in September as the first Rochester scholar from the Brilliant Minds scholarship programme. The competition, supported by Moharra's Education and Dukes Education, received 2,564 applications.

In his application, Tiago wrote: "I believe that education is an essential tool for individual growth and for making a positive contribution to society."



Bringing the world to Rochester



49 student nationalities in 2026



Described by The Good Schools Guide as a "place for individuals" where "the campus is as unique as the school" and where "the students are a strikingly nice bunch and there's a lovely air of tolerance and warmth," Rochester Independent College has always done things a little differently: a community shaped by the dynamic mix of local students from Kent and inspirational young people from across the world.

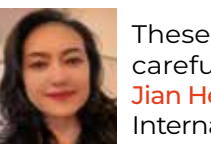


Nicolò, from Genova in Italy, captures the academic difference he has found at RIC: "A strong point of this school is its great diversity. The subjects are studied with a different method compared to the Italian one. Having come from a Classical high school I am studying Politics, Sociology and History and here we feel that the opinions of individual students count for a lot."

His classmate **Camilla**, from Biella, reflects on the atmosphere: "Since I've been here, I've immediately found myself at ease with the teachers. They are very



interested in the personal growth of the students." Throughout the year, students organise and enjoy international food evenings Brazilian, Nigerian, Turkish and many more. Recently, boarding students hosted a Japanese movie marathon dedicated to the wonderful world of Studio Ghibli. Pyjamas, sushi, ramen and animated storytelling created an evening that perfectly captured the warmth of boarding life.



These experiences are carefully supported by **Jian He**, RIC's International Coordinator,



who remains closely connected with families, particularly in China, via WeChat, ensuring that parents feel informed, reassured and part of their child's journey.

The strength of RIC's international community is increasingly recognised worldwide.

Curtis Fountain, educational consultant, says: "I have long been a strong supporter of this outstanding British college, and I'm incredibly proud to say that



we now have a growing number of Cambodian students studying there. Watching their journeys unfold- from arrival in the UK to securing impressive university offers- is something that never gets old. What makes the difference, particularly for international students, is the quality of support during that critical transition into UK education.

Rochester Independent College consistently delivers exceptional pastoral care, academic guidance, and personalised support- and that is exactly why we continue to entrust more and more of our students to them."





Meet the students...

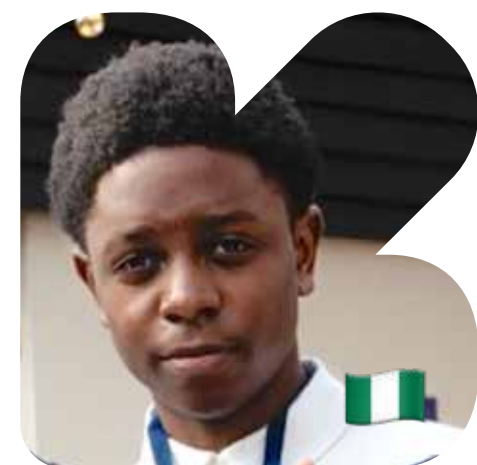


Letting our students do the talking
Find out what life at RIC is really like from our ambassadors. At RIC we have a team of student ambassadors from all over the world who are happy to chat with potential students about what life is really like at the College. Some are still students with us, others are recent graduates at university.



Hi, I'm **Dylan**. I am a day student at RIC and live in Rochester. I joined RIC in year 10 to do my GCSEs. I am now in year 13 studying Politics, Sociology, Psychology, and History. I am also chair of the student council.

Interests: Politics · Reading · Sports



Hi I'm **Osahar**, I'm a year 12 boarding student from Nigeria. I joined RIC for sixth form from Children's International School, Lagos. I'm studying Fine Art, Photography, Digital Media and Graphics. I'm also Deputy Chair of the student council. Feel free to ask me any questions.



Hi I'm **Stephanie**, a year 13 boarding student studying Economics, Business and English Literature at RIC. I'm also a bass guitarist studying grade 8 here. I moved to the UK from Hong Kong in 2023.



Andrei was a star music scholar from Romania and is now studying at ACM London. He was a memorable character in this year's Oliver! He is a singer, pianist and music producer and making waves in the London music scene and on TikTok and is still sometimes spotted busking with his accordion on Rochester High Street.



Hi I'm **Kamilya** from Almaty, Kazakhstan. I joined RIC from Taunton International for a 2-year A Level course. I took all creative subjects and was awarded a scholarship at UAL:LCC campus to study Graphic Branding and Identity. Interests: Art · Reading · Cooking · Socializing



Sophia joined RIC from Ukraine and studied Philosophy, Art History and Textiles. She runs an experimental poetry night in Brighton- 'Redemption Rhymes.' Sophia is now studying Philosophy and Art History at UCL, returning to RIC at the weekends to work in our boarding as a Pastoral Assistant.



Angelina from Moscow joined RIC from Queen Ethelburga's. Frustrated that there wasn't an Economics Olympiad in the UK she contacted the International Economics Olympiad and worked to help accredit RIC. The GBEO now serves as the national qualifier for the UK team. Angelina is now studying Economics at KCL.

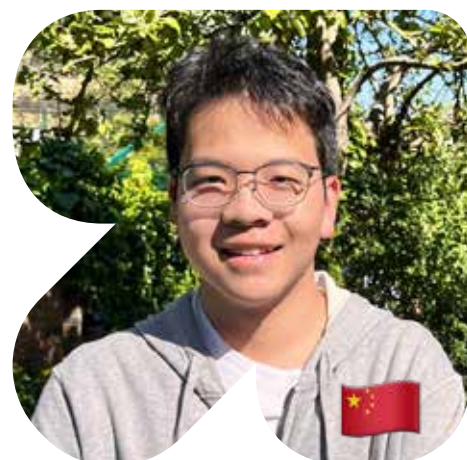


Hi I'm **Lorenzo** I'm from China but I was born in Italy. 嗨我是Lorenzo我来自中国但是我出生在意大利这是我第一年

在RIC
Last year I won the national Boarding Schools Association photography prize. Interests: Badminton · Photography



Ethan joined RIC for A levels from King's Rochester, taking English Literature, Business Studies, Film and Digital Media. He led the student council during his time at RIC. Ethan's interests include sports, digital marketing and entrepreneurship. He is now studying Games Design at Ravensbourne University, London.



Kevin transferred to us from No.1 High School of Fujian, in Xiamen, China, and was placed by our partners at Britannia Study-Link HK. Since joining, Kevin has won an abundance of awards- from Gold in the British Physics Olympiad Online Senior Challenge, to First Place in the American Mathematics Competition.



Hi I'm **Marina**. I'm from Minas Gerais, Brazil and it's my first experience in a boarding school. I am always here to answer your questions and help you. Don't hesitate to write to me if you are curious or want to know more about our school. Interests: Drawing, Graphic Design, Fine Art



60% UK, 40% international



Finding your place at RIC



Vice Principal **Leighton Bright** has reflected on his own journey towards inclusive education.

Having attended a traditional grammar school, he recalls a culture that was not deliberately unkind, but inherently narrow. In hindsight, he recognises that "tolerance" is not enough: **"Tolerance implies putting up with difference. At RIC, we aim higher. We celebrate and champion difference."**

Scan the QR code to read his full article.



At RIC inclusion is not a line in a handbook or a poster on a corridor wall. It is who we are. From the moment students walk through our Flying Pig gates- a symbol of creativity, individuality and possibility- they enter a community built on the belief that young people thrive when they are free to discover who they really are.

In our 2025 Parent Survey, parents described RIC as a **"safe environment for my trans child"** and a school that **"educates children in respect and in the possibility of being themselves."** One parent wrote: **"RIC genuinely cares about students' mental health- this shines through."** Another praised our **"very good support"** for neurodiverse students. Inclusion here is not theoretical; it is something families feel.

Students say it best. **"I didn't feel like an outsider,"** one alumnus reflected. A Year 13 student told us: **"RIC helped me find my voice. It gave me back my confidence."** A Year 10 pupil summed it up perfectly: **"It's a place where it's not weird to be different."**

Our commitment extends to SEN and mental health. Many parents of SEN students arrive having already fought long battles for recognition and support. We understand that process and meet it with empathy.

The ISI noted that **"relationships between pupils are totally inclusive. Pupils both respect and value the diversity."** The Good Schools Guide highlighted that there are **"no cliques and no 'casual racism'... and the LGBTQ+ community is well represented."**

Crucially, inclusion at RIC is woven into the curriculum. In English, students read bell hooks and Edward Said alongside Shakespeare. In



High school term abroad



Our short courses give international students a true taste of life at RIC- immersed in British culture, improving their English, and studying alongside UK students. Unlike standalone international programmes, RIC fully integrates short-course visitors into lessons, activities, and day-to-day school life.

Just 37 minutes from London, students enjoy a safe, vibrant environment with easy access to one of the world's most exciting cities. With small group sizes, we tailor each programme to academic, artistic, and cultural interests, including sports, group activities, and trips across Kent and the South East. Returning home? No problem. RIC has extensive experience co-validating courses, ensuring a seamless transition back to your school system. We've welcomed students from Italy, Germany, Mexico, Brazil, and beyond- helping them make the most of their time abroad.

samiralcbr Valentina loved her experience with you all! Thank you very much @rochesterindcollege 🇬🇧

Hanging up the phone

Jack White and Alicia Keys recently found a solution to the problem of phones disrupting shows- a lockable pouch into which guests at gigs are required to place their mobile devices. The pouches are made by San Francisco startup Yondr to allow music venues, schools and businesses to create phone-free zones.

Yondr is now coming from the Bay Area to the Medway towns as RIC is rolling out the system, tackling one of the biggest challenges in education today - managing mobile phone use. While phones keep us connected, they can also pull attention away from what truly matters:



learning, growing, and connecting with others. This digital detox isn't about punishment; it's about minimising distractions, maximising learning potential and creating a space where everyone can thrive. With phones tucked away snugly in Yondr pouches, students can refocus on what matters.

chrispoole1401 It's a great move. Nothing but positive feedback from my son and his friends 🙌🏻



Politics, History and Global Perspectives, they explore questions of identity, inequality and representation. In creative subjects, students tell their own stories through film, artwork and digital media.

Inclusion is also embedded in our staffing and leadership. Staff are inducted into inclusive practice and complete Show Racism the Red Card training. We advertise in the Medway Pride programme and were shortlisted for the Rainbows Over Medway Award for LGBTQ+ visibility and allyship.



What we promise every student and parent who walks through our gates is this: an open-minded, flexible school where difference is celebrated, voices are heard, and young people are supported to become fully themselves.





Helping every mind find its voice

Literacy and Neurodiversity at RIC

It was encouraging to welcome over 50 parents to our recent online Literacy and Neurodiversity session- around a quarter of the RIC parent body. The level of engagement, curiosity and openness made it a genuinely thoughtful and positive evening.

We explored a challenge many young people face: the gap between confident verbal expression and effective writing. Students are often able to articulate complex ideas aloud but can feel overwhelmed when

asked to translate those ideas onto paper. We discussed the importance of oracy as a foundation for writing, recognising that structured talk, discussion and rehearsal are essential steps towards clarity and confidence in written work.

The session focused on the literacy challenges that neurodiverse students may experience, particularly in developing spelling, reading fluency and comprehension. Drawing on evidence-based practice, we shared practical strategies to support these areas, while also considering how sensory processing differences can affect focus, stamina and organisation.

Understanding these needs allows us to respond with empathy and adapt our approaches effectively.

A key theme was helping students make meaningful connections between ideas. When learners see how knowledge links together, they move beyond memorisation towards deeper understanding and greater independence.



We also shared practical approaches for use at home, including personalised spelling strategies, reciprocal reading techniques and ways to support self-regulation. Small, consistent adjustments can have a significant impact on confidence and progress. Above all, the evening reinforced the importance of

partnership. When school and home work together, sharing insight and strategies, students benefit enormously.



Ellen Crozier
Vice Principal,
Academics and
Sustainability

Biophilia at RIC



Awards for Excellence in Sustainability- recognition of a whole-community commitment to environmental responsibility and regenerative thinking.

At RIC, sustainability is not an add-on initiative; it is embedded

in teaching, co-curricular activity and the everyday life of the campus.

A Living, Learning Landscape
From composting organic waste to nurturing biodiversity in its award-winning gardens, environmental care at RIC is both practical and purposeful. Pupils recycle organic waste into soil-enriching compost, helping to boost biodiversity across the campus. Wild areas have been created, hedgerows and trees planted and habitats preserved within the College's Kent Wildlife Trust award-winning gardens.

A recently installed blast chiller saves around one tonne of food waste each month, supporting the College's Soil Regeneration Zone. Students also take their learning beyond the campus gates. They track beaver activity along the River Stour, conduct ecological surveys at Wildwood, and work with conservation experts to explore rewilding and biodiversity in practice.

Regenerative Thinking
A distinctive feature of RIC's approach is its sustainability curriculum for Years 7-9, where pupils have two timetabled lessons each week exploring themes such as water, biodiversity, soil and waste. Vice Principal Ellen Crozier has developed the College's regenerative design curriculum, encouraging students to think in systems and consider long-term ecological responsibility. Plans are underway to introduce formal certification in regenerative design. Across the curriculum, environmental thinking continues to flourish. David Hodges recently organised the UK final of the International Economics Olympiad, focusing on how economic innovation can address environmental challenges.



Recognised Excellence
RIC's work has received national recognition, including the Eco-Schools Green Flag with Distinction. The College also offers a fully funded Sustainability Scholarship, awarded every two years to a student in Years 7-11 who demonstrates exceptional commitment to environmental change.



Community Impact
For families, the impact is tangible. As one parent reflected, the sustainability curriculum is "what all schools should be doing," highlighting its relevance and importance for the future. The Independent Schools Inspectorate similarly praises the College's environment, noting pupils' appreciation of its greenery, wildlife and sense of calm within an urban setting.



Award winning boarding

RIC's Northbank Campus

RIC marked its 40th anniversary with the opening of Northbank, a striking new addition to its city-centre campus. Combining creative facilities with innovative boarding provision, the project won local and national recognition, receiving the Boarding Schools' Association Award for Excellence in Boarding-Refurbishment or New Building and

At its heart are specialist studios for Fine Art, Textiles, Photography and Graphic Design, including darkrooms, design labs and professional equipment. Boarders can work on portfolios in the evenings and at weekends, creating an environment closer to an art school than a traditional boarding house.



the City of Rochester Society Conservation Award.

Northbank adds 47 en-suite single study bedrooms, increasing the college's boarding capacity to 180 and bringing the total student population to 425.



Clara, a Year 13 boarder from Romania, said: "Our school's new building isn't just a place to live- it's home. You're surrounded by art and a community that feels like family." Amelia, a UK student, added: "I love that my room is fully accessible- it gives me the space I need for physio, and I've even fitted my keyboard in there." Marco, from Italy, remarked: "The art studios downstairs are amazing. It feels like a real art college- everything's on another level." Landan, from China, said: "It's stylish, comfortable, and designed with us in mind. I love the attention to detail."



That attention to detail runs throughout the building. Architecture nerds will recognise nods to Le Corbusier's Unité d'Habitation, with colour-coded floors, communal spaces and a focus on wellbeing, alongside design touches such as Isokon Penguin Donkeys and Eames House birds. A central wellbeing garden echoes the wildlife gardens on the existing campus.



Northbank also plays a role in Rochester's regeneration. Situated in the Intra creative quarter, it is surrounded by independent galleries, studios and music venues. Window galleries display student and local artwork, turning the building into a cultural space that connects the college with the creative community around it.



Creativity, climate and the future at RIC

At Rochester Independent College, creativity is never separate from responsibility. Across our Art and Textiles department, students are engaging with one of the defining issues of their generation: climate change - and they are doing so with imagination, skill and purpose.

Craft, climate & curriculum
Textiles teacher Francesca Baur grows flax for linen, forages for plants to create natural dyes, and shows students

how design can respond to climate change.

After studying printed textiles Fran built a freelance career in London before training to teach. Now based in Whitstable, her practice is rooted in sustainability. She revives traditional craft techniques to produce contemporary, eco-conscious textiles, demonstrating that high-level design and environmental

responsibility can go hand in hand.



At RIC she teaches GCSE and A level Textiles, supporting students into leading destinations including Fashion Design Menswear

at Central Saint Martins and Costume for Theatre and Screen at Wimbledon College of Arts. She has also completed her own MA in Sustainable Design at Central Saint Martins.

From Russia with hope



Compass Project, bringing her expertise to national conversations about how schools can respond to climate anxiety.

That approach is reflected in the work of Diana, an RIC student from Russia. Her art explores hope in a time of environmental



uncertainty. Acknowledging climate anxiety, she imagines regeneration, resilience and transformation, suggesting that envisioning a better future is the first step towards creating one.



Beyond the Classroom
RIC hopes to deepen this commitment through involvement with Woodsell Farm, established by College founder Brian Pain who first put the gardens at the heart of our school. The 180-acre site in the Kent Downs National Landscape is a rewilding project designed to encourage biodiversity. Plans include woodland enhancement, regenerative farming, hedgerow restoration and tree planting. For RIC students it potentially offers a living classroom where sustainability, science and creativity intersect.



University destinations 2024



Year	Previous School	University Course	University
2 year A level	Liceul De Muzica, Romania	Music production & sound	ACM, London
2 year A level	Staatliche Realschule Gauting	Fashion Design	AMD Munich
2 year A level	Home Educated	Modelmaking	Arts, Bournemouth
Year 13 transfer	Dartford Girls Grammar	Business and Social Science	Aston
Year 13 transfer	Oxford Sixth Form College	Business Management	Barcelona Business
2 year A level	Sevenoaks School	Music Production	BIMM
2 year A level	Gads Hill	Musical Theatre and Dance	BIMM
2 year A level	Home Educated	Biological Science	Birmingham
2 year A level	GEMS Metropole, Dubai	Business & Marketing	Brighton
2 year A level	Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong	Data Science	Bristol
Year 14	Suankularb Wittayalai	Maths & Computer Science	Bristol
Year 13 transfer	Home Educated	Engineering Design	Bristol
2 year A level	Chrislands Abuja	Medicine	Brunel
Year 14	Franciscan Kreuzburg	Medicine	Cambridge
Year 14	Home Educated	Classics	Cambridge
2 year A level	Anglo American, Moscow	Game Design	Canterbury Christ
2 year A level	Lycee Moliere, Belgium	Psychology	Canterbury Christ
2 year A level	St. Joseph Convent School	Creative Writing	Canterbury Christ
2 year A level	Luyfe Rivas, Spain	Digital Design	Centro Universidad
Year 14	Borden Grammar School	Finance	City
2 year A level	d'Overbroeck's	Mechanical Engineering	City
2 year A level	Cia First, Cambodia	Game Design	East London
Year 14	Suankularb Wittayalai	Astrophysics	Edinburgh
Year 14	British School Of Brussels	Business Management	Erasmus, Rotterdam
2 year A level	Greensprings, Lagos	Sociology	Essex
Year 14	Radley College	Chemistry	Glasgow
Year 13 transfer	Cardiff Sixth Form	Business	Glion, Switzerland
2 year A level	Box Hill School, Surrey	Graphic and Digital Design	Greenwich
2 year A level	Moscow Central Art	Digital Animation	Hertfordshire
2 year A level	Abbotsholme School	International Business	INTO Manchester
2 year A level	Lucton School	Fashion: Design, Branding	JCA London Fashion
Year 14	Kaennakon Wittayalai	Mechanical Engineering	Kent
2 year A level	St John's Catholic	Architecture Foundation	Kent
Year 13 transfer	Dover College	Business/Marketing	Kent
2 year A level	Cobham Hall	Clinical Psychology	Kent
Year 14	Mayfield Grammar	Economics	Kent
Year 13 transfer	Babington House	Law	KCL
2 year A level	Faith Montessori Ghana	Neuroscience	KCL
Year 14	King's Canterbury	Molecular Genetics	KCL
Year 14	CTK St Mary's	Pharmaceutical Science	Kingston
2 year A level	Wellington School	Photography	Kingston
2 year A level	Solefield School	Maths, Statistics, Economics	Lancaster
2 year A level	Trinity, Sevenoaks	Chemistry with Foundation	Leicester
Year 14	Dartford Grammar	Biomedical Science	Leicester
2 year A level	Vilniusuzupio Lithuania	Filmmaking	London Film
Year 13 transfer	Cesare Balbo, Italy	Interior Design	London Met
2 year A level	Trinity School	Biological Sciences	Loughborough
Year 14	Sedbergh School	Psychology	Loughborough
Year 14	The Perse, Cambridge	Philosophy and Economics	LSE
2 year A level	Botswana Marv-a-Pula	Political Science	McMaster, Canada

RIC Course	Previous School	University Course	University
2 year A level	Loretto, Musselburgh	Film & Media	Newcastle
Year 14	Kent College Pembury	Business and Finance	Newcastle
Year 13 transfer	Simon Langton Boys	Economics	Nottingham Trent
2 year A level	Holcombe Grammar	Criminology	Nottingham
2 year A level	Canterbury Steiner	Engineering	Oxford Brookes
2 year A level	Reddam House	Architecture	Plymouth
2 year A level	Valley Park School	Music Production	Point Blank
Year 14	St John Fisher	Law with Business	Portsmouth
2 year A level	Rochester Grammar	Linguistics	Queen Mary
2 year A level	King's Rochester	Game Design	Ravensbourne
2 year A level	King's InterHigh	Animation	Ravensbourne
Year 14	Cranbrook	Economics and Finance	Reading
2 year A level	Chong Gene Hang, HK	Finance Foundation	Reading
2 year A level	CIA First, Cambodia	Business	Regents
Year 14	Santa Theresia, Jakarta	Biovetinary Sciences	Royal Vet College
Year 14	Judd School	Dentistry	Semmelweis
2 year A level	British School, Manila	Medicine	Semmelweis
2 year A level	Children's Int, Lagos	History	SOAS
2 year A level	Marina School, Gambia	Global Development	SOAS
Year 14	Gads Hill	Sports Coaching	South Wales
Year 13 transfer	David Game	Medicine	St George's
2 year A level	Utama, Malaysia	Civil Engineering	Surrey
2 year A level	Weald Of Kent	Psychology	Sussex
2 year A level	Children's Int, Lagos	Psychology	Sussex
2 year A level	King's InterHigh	Mechanical Engineering	Sussex
Year 13 transfer	Rochester Grammar	Pharmacy	Swansea
Year 14	Merchiston, Edinburgh	Computer Science	Swansea
2 year A level	King's Rochester	Photography	UAL, Camberwell
2 year A level	Valley Park School	Fine Art	UAL, Chelsea
Year 13 transfer	Fachklasse Grafik, Luzern	Film Practice	UAL, LCC
2 year A level	Beijing New Talent	Interaction Design Arts	UAL, LCC
2 year A level	Agora Sant Cugat, Spain	Computer Animation	UAL, LCC
Year 13 transfer	Oswestry School	Music Production	UAL, LCC
2 year A level	Felsted School	Documentary Photography	UAL, LCC
Year 14	Triam Udom Suksa	Mechanical Engineering	UCL
Year 13 transfer	British Int School, Ukraine	French and English	UCL
2 year A level	Optima School, Ukraine	Philosophy & History of Art	UCL
2 year A level	Istituto G&Q, Biella, Italy	Creative Arts & Humanities	UCL
2 year A level	Hundred Of Hoo	Psychology	UEA
Year 14	Simon Langton, Boys	Psychology	West London
Year 14	Newton Academy, Seoul	Economics	Warwick
2 year A level	Santa Theresia, Jakarta	Architecture	Westminster
2 year A level	Trinity School	English Literature	Westminster
2 year A level	Tonbridge Grammar	English	York



University destinations 2025



Year	Previous School	University Course	University
2 Year A level	Cardiff Sixth Form College	Architecture	AA, London
2 Year A Level	Sabis Int School, Kenya	Biomedical Science	Aberdeen
2 Year A Level	Sch №548 Tsaritsyno, Russia	Interior Architecture	Bournemouth
Year 14	The Judd School, Tonbridge	International Management	Bath
Year 14	Garden Int School, Thailand	Sports Management	Bath Spa
2 Year A Level	Fort Pitt, Rochester	Architecture	Bath Spa
2 Year A Level	Kings InterHigh	Photography	Bath Spa
2 Year A Level	Grange School, Lagos	Undergraduate Programme	Baylor, USA
2 Year A Level	Radnor House Sevenoaks	Popular Music Performance	BIMM
2 Year A Level	Maidstone Grammar School	Popular Music Performance	BIMM
Year 14	Rochester Grammar School	Pharmacy	Birmingham
2 Year A Level	Sutton Valence School	Communication & Media	Bournemouth
2 Year A Level	Instituto Lux, Mexico	Architecture	California State, USA
2 Year A Level	Beechwood School	Game Design	Canterbury CC
2 Year A Level	Radford House, South Africa	Game Design	Canterbury CC
2 Year A Level	Home Educated	Games Design	Canterbury CC
2 Year A Level	Madginford Primary School	Graphic Design	Canterbury CC
2 Year A Level	Ashford School	Engineering	Cardiff
2 Year A Level	Haberdasher Monmouth	English Literature	Cardiff
2 Year A Level	SSHL, Sweden	History and Politics	City St George's
2 Year A Level	King's Rochester	Int Political Economy	City St George's
Year 13 Transfer	Bishopstrow College	Economics	City St George's
Year 14	Cranleigh School, Abu Dhabi	Finance	Durham
Year 14	City of London's Freemans	Psychology	Durham
2 Year A Level	Maidstone Grammar School	Game Design	East London
2 Year A Level	Open School Center, Russia	Sociology	Edinburgh
2 Year A Level	Dartford Grammar	Mechanical Engineering	Glasgow
2 Year A Level	Kent College Pembury	Sociology with Criminology	Goldsmiths
2 Year A Level	Bishop Challoner School	Fashion Design & Branding	JCA Fashion Admty
Year 13 Transfer	Doha College, Qatar	Psychology & Criminolog	Keele
2 Year A Level	East China Normal Uni	Digital Media & Culture	KCL
Year 13 Transfer	St Olave's Grammar School	Chemistry	KCL
Year 14	EKC Canterbury Sixth Form	Neuroscience & Psychology	KCL
2 Year A Level	Kang Chiao School, Taiwan	Art Foundation	Kingston
2 Year A Level	Soft Uni Svetlina, Bulgaria	Design Marketing	Kingston
2 Year A Level	The Howard School	Fashion Promotion	Kingston
2 Year A Level	Farnham College	Fashion Promotion	Kingston
2 Year A Level	Gads Hill School	Interior Design	Kingston
2 Year A Level	Sackville School	International Law	Kingston
2 Year A Level	George Emil Palade, Romania	Architecture	Kingston
2 Year A Level	Sibford School	Creative Degree	Kuala Lumpur
2 Year A Level	King's School, Rochester	Psychology	Lancaster
2 Year A Level	Sir Roger Manwood	History	Leeds
2 Year A Level	Gravesend Grammar School	Economics	Leicester
2 Year A Level	Chattenden School	Sound & Music Production	Lincoln
Year 14	Gymnasium № 91, Russia	Engineering	Liverpool Int College
Year 14	Weald of Kent Grammar	Geography	Liverpool
Year 14	Maidstone Grammar School	Medicine	Liverpool
Year 14	Farringtons School	Art & Design Foundation	Loughborough
2 Year A Level	Rugby School	International Relations	Loughborough

RIC Course	Previous School	University Course	University
2 Year A Level	British Int School, Nigeria	Economics	Manchester
Year 14	Nelson Mandela, Berlin	Biosciences	Manchester
2 Year A Level	Shanghai Unite, China	Economics	Melbourne
Year 13 Transfer	Farzanegan 1 School, Iran	Electrical/Electronic Eng	Newcastle
2 Year A Level	National Stage, Bulgaria	Fine Art	Norwich Arts
Year 13 Transfer	Doga Koleji, Alanya, Turkey	Games Art	Nottingham Trent
Year 14	Holcombe Grammar	Medicine	Med Uni Plovdiv
2 Year A Level	Oundle School	Computer Science	Purdue, USA
2 Year A Level	Gad's Hill	Applied AI	Queen Mary
2 Year A Level	Kazgasa, Kazakhstan	Fashion Management	Ravensbourne
2 Year A Level	King's InterHigh	Agricultural Business	Royal Agricultural
2 Year A Level	Kibieda Int School, Sudan	Law with Criminology	Royal Holloway
2 Year A Level	Wrekin College	International Business	Royal Holloway
2 Year A Level	Maidstone Grammar	Politics, Philosophy, Econ	Royal Holloway
2 Year A Level	Aiglon College, Switzerland	Psychology	Royal Holloway
2 Year A Level	Chase Grammar School	Graphic Design	Rome Academy
Year 14	Ripplevale	Mechatronics/Robotic Eng	Sheffield
Year 14	The Latymer School	Medicine	Sheffield
2 Year A Level	Sutton Valence School	Social Anthropology	SOAS
2 Year A Level	Rayan Private, UAE	Computer Science	Southampton
2 Year A Level	Farhang School, Iran	Psychology	St Andrews
Year 14	Bilingválne Gym, Slovakia	Mathematics	Surrey
Year 13 Transfer	Home Educated	Business Economics	Surrey
2 Year A Level	Mayfield School	Media Communication	Sussex
2 Year A Level	Invicta Grammar School	Sociology	Sussex
Year 14	Children's Int Sch, Nigeria	Liberal Arts	Sussex
2 Year A Level	Beijing Chaoyang, China	Games Art	Teesside
2 Year A Level	Holcombe Grammar	Dentistry	Tbilisi State
2 Year A Level	Mayfield Grammar	Medical Sciences	UCLAN
2 Year A Level	Nanjing Jinling, China	Foundation Fashion	UAL: LCF
2 Year A Level	Brighton Grammar	Advertising	UAL: LCC
2 Year A Level	Taunton School	Graphic Brand & Identity	UAL: LCC
2 Year A Level	St Lawrence, Ramsgate	Graphics & Media Design	UAL: LCC
Year 13 Transfer	Int School of Creative Arts	Graphics & Media Design	UAL: LCC
Year 13 Transfer	Beijing New Talent, China	Immersive Media	UAL: LCC
Year 13 Transfer	Kent College Canterbury	Education, Society, Culture	UCL
Year 14	CSVPA	Art & Technology	UCL
2 Year A Level	Ulink College Beijing China	Humanitarian Studies	UCL
Year 14	Canterbury College	History & Politics	UCL
2 Year A level	Bosworth	Mathematics	UCL
2 Year A Level	Brainy Bairn, Accra, Ghana	Modern Languages	Warwick
Year 14	Simon Langton Grammar	Chemistry	Warwick
Year 13 Transfer	Queen's College Taunton	Music Production	Westminster
Year 13 Transfer	Int College, Kazakhstan	Film	Westminster
Year 14	Cardiff 6th Form Cambridge	Business Management	Westminster
2 Year A Level	Maths School, Rochester	Marketing	York
Year 14	Simon Langton Grammar	Data Science	York
Year 14	Caterham School	Economics & Finance	York
Year 14	St Joseph's, Singapore	Psychology	York



Rochester- where history meets hipster haven

Rochester is 37 minutes away from the capital by train. Kent, known as the garden of England is home to great beaches and historic cathedral cities, a tourist hotspot with Lonely Planet listing it as one of Europe's best holiday destinations.

Rochester is a small town with a rich heritage, flourishing contemporary arts scene, a vibrant student buzz and an eclectic blend of old-world elegance and trendy vibes.

It's famous for Dickens connections with a magnificent Norman cathedral and a striking castle that can be

viewed from some RIC classrooms. It offers a range of quirky vintage shops, museums, second hand bookstores and great restaurants and coffee houses. Whether you're in the market for vintage threads or craving a flat white with a side of avocado toast, Rochester has you covered. Our students- and staff- benefit from a discount scheme offering money off many of the High Street's hot-spots.

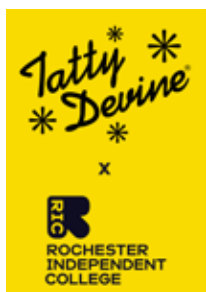
"Every time I go to Rochester it surprises me. I forget how ravishingly beautiful it is."

Tom Dyckhoff,
The Guardian



Tatty Devine x RIC

We're excited to announce that Rochester Independent College has partnered with Tatty Devine to create something very special:



50 pink flying pigs, each featuring the Rochester Independent College logo on the back.

The Flying Pig is the unofficial mascot of RIC and

encapsulates the College mission of helping our students achieve impossible things. Our students will be given an insight into the Tatty Devine supply warehouse in Medway, gaining first-hand insight into the full creative journey - design, make, market and supply- learning how an independent creative brand turns ideas into iconic jewellery.



Tatty Devine began in 1999 with a DIY approach, an anarchic streak and roots in punk. At a time when the market was dominated by mass-produced jewellery, the founders created something radically different, turning scraps of leather, guitar plectrums and everyday objects into bold jewellery pieces. Their distinctive style quickly caught attention, with a shop in Covent Garden London, appearing in Vogue and building a loyal global following.

RIC is where intellectual ambition meets creativity, a place for brilliant young people who think differently but still aim high.



Scan to take the first steps on the road to RIC

And finally...



We're delighted to share that **Oscar**, RIC's much-loved Head Dog, wagged his way to a place on the shortlist in the Boarding Schools Association Bruffs Competition, People's Choice category.

A hypoallergenic Cavapoo and a true campus icon, Oscar is part of the social ecology of RIC. From bounding across Star Hill to supervising boarding life with Warren and the team, he brings joy, calm and companionship wherever he bounds. Oscar has performed panache, appearing on stage alongside students in RIC's full-scale production of *Oliver!* as Bullseye, Bill Sikes's dog.

You'll often find him:

- As a doctoral thesis in taking it easy- snoozing peacefully through his favourite A level Sociology lessons with Kamila and being the poster pooch for Durkheimian social cohesion
- Modelling elegantly for still-life sketches in the Art Department, participating happily in the dialogic process between observer and observed while quietly auditioning for a runway casting.
- A softly breathing antidote to panic- escorting nervous students to big Maths exams
- And waiting (with a very polite trademark tail wag) for Tracy to treat him to his beloved homemade sausage rolls at the garden horsebox

More than just a mascot, Oscar represents what makes RIC tick: warmth, wellbeing, community, quirky individuality and care. Scan the QR code to see his video!



RIC production of *Oliver!* with an international cast from year 7 to sixth form directed by Sally Harmer and performed over two nights at Chatham Central Theatre. Filippo from Italy (pictured above as Fagin) studies at UCL, works at RIC boarding as a weekend Pastoral Assistant and can now call himself a working actor appearing in Flute Theatre's *King Lear* at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith and *Twelfth Night* at Craiova Shakespeare Festival in Romania.