



BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE

A pathway to excellence

Student Testimonial: Andy

Background Information

Nationality:	Chinese
Age:	19
School (with dates):	Dulwich College (September 2011 - June 2015)
University (with dates):	London School of Economics and Political Science (September 2015 to present)
Period at Bishopstrow College:	September 2010 - July 2011

Key Questions

1. *Why were you attracted to studying at a British boarding school?*

When I first visited England in summer 2010 for summer school at Eton College, I was attracted by the academic atmosphere and the cultural diversity of British boarding school. I also found the lessons and subject syllabuses in the UK more interactive than they are in Chinese schools.

2. *Had you identified which British boarding school or schools you wanted to attend, before leaving your home country?*

No.

3. *How did you learn of Bishopstrow College?*

My agent (British Education) introduced me to the College.

4. *What attracted you to Bishopstrow College?*

Its focus on English language preparation and small size class groups, which means each student gets more attention.

5. *To what extent was Bishopstrow College's independence important?*

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It is important in a sense that new overseas students are 'well-protected' in a totally unfamiliar environment. Not having too many connections with things outside the College (except weekends) means that students in Bishopstrow have a comfort zone to gradually get used to the lifestyle as a pupil in British schools.

6. *To what extent did your time at Bishopstrow College help prepare you academically for entry into your school of choice?*

For me, Bishopstrow helped me a great deal academically for both entry and studies later on. The school prepared me for interviews multiple times and provided me with past entrance exam papers before I take any entrance tests. I was allowed to move up to the GCSE group after my request, though I was only 14 years old, and that helped building my foundation on Science subjects which I hadn't studied previously in China.

7. *Did your time at Bishopstrow College help you prepare for entry in other areas? For example, becoming familiar with a British boarding school education?*

Yes. During the year, I was more familiar with the teaching style of British teachers and was able to adjust my own way of studying subsequently. Learning to have certain habits such as dining manners and being very polite were also very helpful, as the teaching and boarding staff tried to prepare every student to a good standard.

8. *How else has your education and overall experience at Bishopstrow College helped you progress at your mainstream school?*

Having a relatively comfortable yet work-focused year at Bishopstrow gave me some time to blend into the British culture, while the hard work during the year reduced some of the pressure from starting the GCSE course in Dulwich College. My communication skills were improved drastically at Bishopstrow, which made it easier for me to make new friends at Dulwich.

9. *What are your aspirations going forward in terms of the next stage of your education?*

For now, I am only focused on graduating at LSE with a degree in BSc Actuarial Science.

10. *Is there any other information or comments that you would like to share about Bishopstrow College?*

No.