



BISHOPSTROW COLLEGE

A pathway to excellence

October 10, 2018

Acquisition of Padworth College by Inspiring Futures Limited, owner of Bishopstrow College, the leading independent preparation-for-boarding college for international students

Effective October 10, 2018, Inspiring Futures Limited (“IFL”) has acquired the business, property and other assets of Padworth College from Padworth College Trust Limited (“PCTL”). IFL owns Bishopstrow College, the leading independent international boarding school offering English language and academic pathway programmes to prepare international students, aged 7-17 years, for entry into top boarding schools.

Padworth College will continue to operate as an independent college, offering a Year 9 curriculum, I/GCSEs, A Levels and the Business Foundation course, whilst enjoying the advantages of being part of a larger organisation. Both Bishopstrow College and Padworth College will benefit from the enhanced educational and strategic opportunities arising from the additional scale and wider reach of the enlarged group.

Commenting on the transaction, Charlie Freer and Mark Jeynes, Directors of IFL said:

“Padworth College shares the educational philosophy that is in place at Bishopstrow College and complements Bishopstrow College’s focus on offering pathway programmes to prepare international students for boarding schools. We are excited by the opportunities to develop Padworth College, as an independent college, offering academic pathway programmes to prepare international and British students for entry into top universities.”

The Acting Principal of Padworth College, Chris Randell said:

“There are many similarities in ethos and vision between Padworth College and Bishopstrow College and IFL will provide an excellent home for Padworth College. Being part of a larger organisation presents many new opportunities for Padworth and what we offer complements the English language and academic programmes on offer at Bishopstrow – we are very much looking forward to the future.”

About Padworth College

Padworth College was established in 1963 by Oxford University tutor, Peter Fison and a group of Oxford dons whose vision was to bring Oxford’s educational philosophy of tutorial teaching to school-level education. Originally a sixth form boarding school for girls, the College became co-educational in 2005. Today, Padworth offers a well-rounded academic and co-curricular programme for students aged 13 to 18:

Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 9HU, England.

T: +44(0)1985 219210 E: enquiries@bishopstrow.com www.bishopstrow.com





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- Year 9: Standard British curriculum.
- Years 10 and 11: I/GCSE.
- Years 12 and 13: A Level and Business Foundation course.

The College is a day and boarding school with capacity for 100 boarders and 20 day students. Historically, about 70% of enrolments have related to students in Years 12 and 13, with a similar mix in terms of international students (70%) and domestic students (30%).

About Bishopstrow College

Established in 2006, Bishopstrow College is an independent international study centre, offering English language and academic pathway programmes to prepare international students, aged 7-17 years, for entry into top boarding schools in the UK and other key Western 'destination markets'. The College operates as a traditional British boarding school, but with an innovative four-term academic year. Students are prepared as quickly as possible for entry into mainstream boarding schools.

Bishopstrow College also offers a 1 Year IGCSE Programme and 5 week Academic Summer Programme. The College has an exceptional academic record, with 100% success in Cambridge English Language Assessment and IGCSE examinations (74% A*-B grades in IGCSE examinations in 2018). Bishopstrow is accredited by the British Council for the teaching of English to international students in the UK under the Accreditation UK Scheme and is the highest ranked boarding school under this Scheme.

How are Padworth College and Bishopstrow College aligned?

Padworth College shares the educational philosophy that is in place at Bishopstrow College:

- Class sizes are small for optimum learning and to encourage student-teacher interaction.
- An individual learning programme is devised for each individual student.
- The international student body, with more than 20 nationalities represented, celebrates cultural diversity.
- Boarding has a strong focus on pastoral care and student welfare, ensuring a balance of academic study, alongside recreational and social activities.
- The challenging and in-depth programme of study ensures students are prepared for entry to top universities.

Padworth College will continue to operate from its existing site in West Berkshire as a separate college, offering the Year 9 curriculum, I/GCSEs, A Levels and the Business Foundation course.

For further information, please contact:

Mark Jaynes, Director at markj@bishopstrow.com or +44 (0)7769 651028

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