



REIGATE ST MARY'S  
PREPARATORY AND CHOIR SCHOOL

## **General Information on Reigate St Mary's Preparatory & Choir School**

Reigate St Mary's is an independent day school for approximately 340 boys and girls aged from 2 years 9 months, to 11 years. It was formed in 1950 by the merger of the preparatory department of Reigate Grammar School and the choristers of St Mary's Church. In 2003, the school returned to its former status as the nursery and junior department of Reigate Grammar School.

The school is set in 15 acres of beautiful parkland and sports fields in the centre of Reigate, a pleasant market town in Surrey. Proximity to Gatwick airport, the M25 and rail links to London make this a popular area for parents with young families. Families are able to take advantage of a coach service provided by Reigate Grammar School, enabling children from a wide geographical area to attend the school.

Reigate St Mary's is one of a small number of schools with a traditional choir of boys and lay clerks led by a full time Master of Choristers. The Godfrey Searle Choir sings regularly in school and church services, and performs in concerts throughout the UK and Europe, with music from the 15th to the 21st centuries and texts in several languages. Recent events have included services at Chichester Cathedral, Lambeth Palace and a number of professional recordings for Disney and Hollywood. The Godfrey Searle Choir Trust offers a choral scholarship which can be subsequently transferred to Reigate Grammar School.

The staff comprises a Headmaster, Deputy Head (Pastoral), Deputy Head (Co-Curricular), RSM Bursar, Director of Studies, Key Stage 1 Coordinator, Head of Early Years, and approximately thirty other teaching staff, assisted by a number of teaching assistants and also support staff. Financial and other services are provided by the Bursar of Reigate Grammar School.

The majority of pupils leave the school at age eleven and transfer to Reigate Grammar School, following an internal assessment and recommendation. However, a small number each year move on to other senior schools which have included Caterham, Box Hill School, Hurstpierpoint College, Worth School and Ardingly College.

The school is non-denominational, but is based on Christian values and all pupils in the Upper School attend church services twice each week. Music, sport and drama play an important part in the life of the school.

Reigate St. Mary's was inspected in November 2009 and the judgements were all good or outstanding.