



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS

MCS Archive Mission Statement

The MCS Archive exists to collect and preserve records produced by the school, or relating to the school and its community. It aims to maintain and augment the collections in a variety of media in its dedicated archive space. It exists wholly within the school, and assists the school in fulfilling its legal requirements by supporting good record-keeping, thus good governance. The Archive sits within the Waynflete Office, reporting to Governing Body via the Development Committee.

The MCS aims are listed below, followed by text, which explains how the Archive seeks to support these objectives:

- *To facilitate a full and rich intellectual and moral education in a liberal community, fostering a joy in learning which enables each pupil to develop an independent and searching mind.*

The MCS Archive supports this objective by engaging with pupils and staff through providing original sources for teaching and learning. The Archive seeks to provide the foundation for a connection to the history of the school and its individuals, illustrating the universality of school experience across the centuries. Pupils can have first-hand experiences in interpreting a variety of original sources through independent research, as well as with the taught curriculum. Through these activities, students learn how to critically analyse both source material and research methodology. Archive Club gives senior school pupils regular hands-on access to the collections.

- *To nurture confidence and a willingness to embrace a challenge, developing each individual's participation in and enjoyment of a broad range of pursuits, both within and beyond the classroom.*

Members of the MCS community have an impressive variety of interests, both in and out of the classroom setting. Some of the extra-curricular programmes at MCS are among the longest running of their kind in the country, and the associated items in the collection have valuable historical significance.

The archive collects items that reflect the diversity of our community and celebrates the historical context of these activities, interests and achievements – connecting the past to the present in a variety of settings: displays, events, talks, teaching sessions and via the school's website.

- *To provide a safe, friendly and supportive environment in which individuality is valued through mutual support, respect and toleration.*

Individual experiences are valued in an inclusive collecting policy that seeks to provide for the historical record material that represents a wide range of perspectives. School days are a formative period in a child's development and the archive provides an opportunity for reflection and contextualisation. In addition, the Archive Room is an engaging space for regular pupil use, and the Archive Club very welcoming and inclusive.

- *To equip pupils to make a positive and lasting contribution to their communities, both now and in the future.*

The MCS Archive strives to document the development of the school's history as well as record information about individuals from the school community. The Archive seeks to collect and preserve a broad and inclusive view of success in an independent school setting. Current and former students and staff can use the archive to engage in their own history, and life-long learners can conduct research in the collections, which promotes scholarship in the wider community. Pupils learn skills in the archive that they can apply to work in a local context. The archivist and outreach coordinator seek to develop additional resources for use in partnership schools. In addition, archives are an information asset for the school and support good governance and planning.