



My time at Perins has flown by. I'm now looking back at the past four years overcome with a sense of both satisfaction and joy. I still remember my first day, sitting with the, now long-gone, head students as a nervous year 7. To now be one of them concludes what has been a journey of ups and downs but always supported by the school. The amazing opportunities Perins has brought me, resulted in an enjoyable and valuable secondary school experience. No other school would have been able to match the sense of community that I felt here. Perins is for everyone.

Each year, hundreds of pupils embark on new sporting journeys within the school. Offering many clubs each day of the week, the sports scene at Perins is unrivalled. Personally, these extra-curricular activities are what helped motivate and encourage me through many aspects of life both inside and outside the classroom. The supportive PE department allow the successes of pupils across the school to be recognised and for every student to get involved. Fixtures and tournaments also play a major role in the development and enrichment of Perins students. Competing in sports ranging from cricket and tennis to rugby and softball allow for fundamental values to be learned on a sports field and then transferred into a classroom setting. I have had the chance to compete in many events over the years such as rugby, tennis and cricket matches to athletics tournaments and squash trips. I am deeply appreciative to have had these opportunities as they gave me goals to work towards and experiences to treasure. I believe this is an excellent way to build up the character of students and set them up for new and difficult challenges that they will ultimately face later in life.

However, not everybody will find the same value that I have in sport. Perins also supports and pushes those who have academia and classwork as their strong points. Being able to choose our GCSEs at the end of year 8 to start in year 9 is something unique to Perins but something which carries significant value to every student. For me, being able to continue doing the subjects which I find interesting allowed me to have a better connection with that field of study and in turn perform better in the classroom. Allowing students to choose what they would like to study means that every lesson is focused and worthwhile leading to improved academic achievements and happier, more satisfied pupils. Perins accommodates for every type of learner as their facilities range from fully equipped science labs to professional DT classrooms and laptops for each student. This way no student is left behind as there will always be something for everyone, there is always a new way of learning, a new way of teaching and a new way of experimenting and Perins School is always at the forefront of these academic endeavours. Without the state-of-the-art laptop scheme, I would never have been able to fully grasp concepts in computer science. Without the regular science practical's, my understanding of the content would have suffered significantly and without all of the woodworking resources, I know many people who would've never discovered a love for design and technology. No matter the

ability or interests of pupils here, there is something for everyone to learn and be inspired by.

One of my favourite parts of going to school at Perins has been the opportunity to go on various trips. Almost all subjects offer excursions to help deepen the knowledge and understanding of students. During my time, I have been able to go to theatre performances with English and History, University trips to Oxford and Bath to learn more about the next steps after college, an activity weekend to Calshot and both to the New Forest and Iceland with the Geography department. Alongside this, I've enjoyed sporting trips to go and watch cricket, rugby and tennis. These are just a few of the many incredible trips that are available at Perins. Other destinations include: Costa Rica, Ireland, South Africa, Belgium, Germany, France, Italy and Canada. Very few schools offer opportunities to go to these places and so being at Perins and taking part in these trips has allowed me to gain knowledge, experience and insight into how the things we learn in the classroom are related to the wider world. This brings education to life, and for me and many others, has demonstrated the purpose to our learning and shown us real-life examples of what we have learnt. **Tom M**