



APPOINTMENT OF GAP YEAR CHORAL SCHOLAR (Tenor)

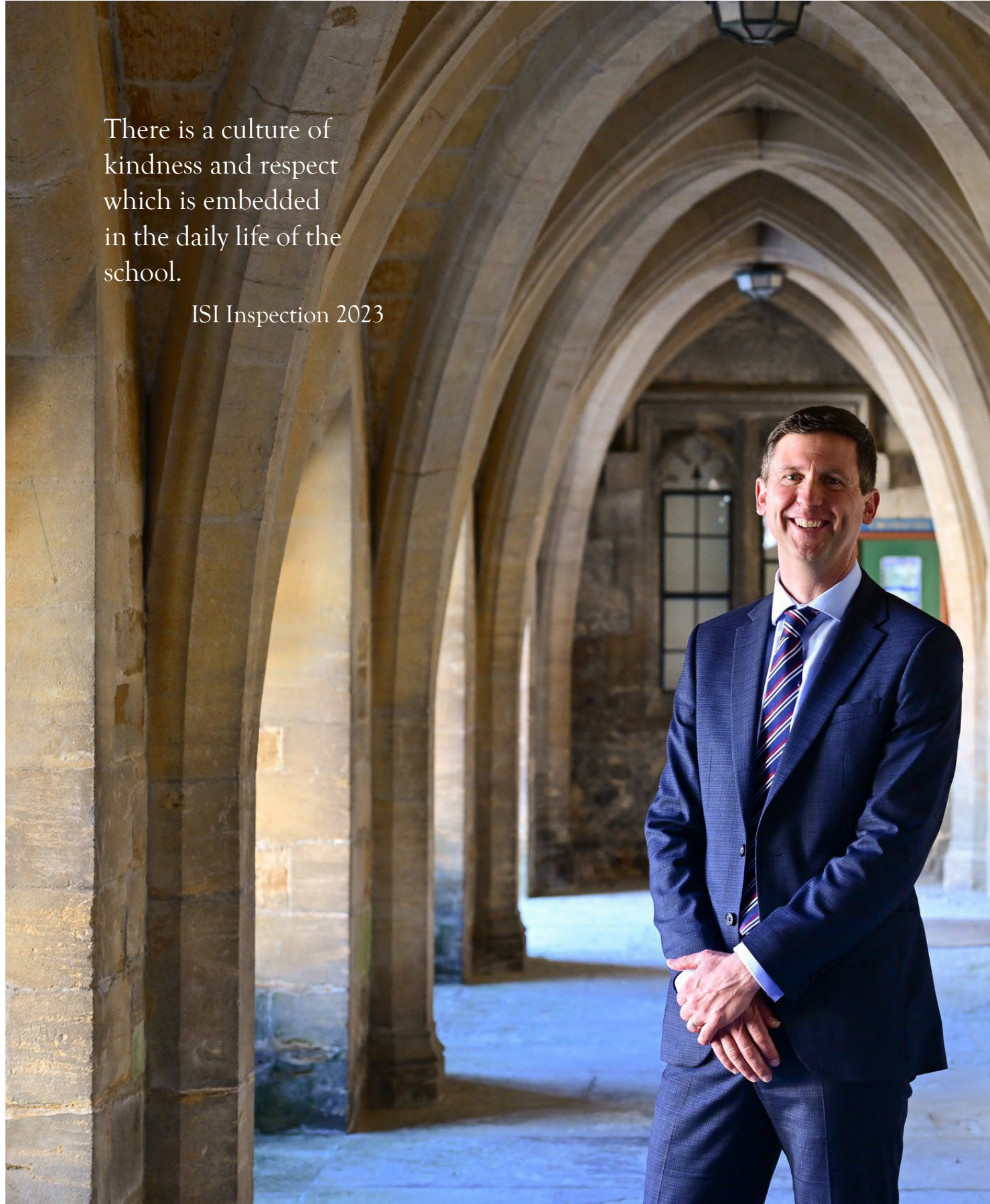
Required from 1 September 2026 to 10 July 2027

SHERBORNE
BOYS



There is a culture of kindness and respect which is embedded in the daily life of the school.

ISI Inspection 2023



An introduction to Sherborne

Nestled in the heart of the beautiful town of Sherborne, Dorset, with a backdrop of the historic Sherborne Abbey, our school offers a stunning and inspiring teaching environment that combines rich heritage with an academically ambitious outlook. Re-founded by royal charter in 1550, Sherborne Boys' School continues to be a centre of excellence, where tradition meets innovation.

With a highly motivated and inspiring teaching team and a strong emphasis on professional development, we aim to provide our teaching staff with opportunities to grow and pursue their own dreams and professional aspirations. Sherborne is more than just a place to work – it's a community, a place where you will be warmly welcomed and where it is possible to make a lasting and positive impact both inside and outside the classroom.

Our full-boarding school, once the home of mathematician Sir Alan Turing, is a place where boys study and live together during term time, creating a strong sense of belonging and purpose. Time spent outside the classroom allows our students to explore their passions, socialise, and develop their character holistically. The proximity of, and partnership with, Sherborne Girls School as part of the Sherborne

Schools Group, provides a Separate Yet Together quality where the best of both worlds combines the benefits of a single sex education with a plethora of coeducational opportunities for all our pupils. Whether in the classroom, in the concert halls or on the sports field, we are committed to the personal development and academic success of every pupil.

Located in a beautiful, vibrant market town with excellent transport links to London, Sherborne offers the perfect balance of a beautiful, peaceful, safe environment with all the convenience of a well-connected town.

I warmly invite you to consider applying for this role and to consider joining us in a rewarding career in one of the UK's most prestigious schools.

Mr Simon Heard
Headmaster



Sherborne Abbey Choir

Sherborne Abbey Choir is made up of two sets of young choristers (boys and girls), drawn from several different local schools, and 12 'back row' adult singers (soprano, alto, tenor and bass), who sing Choral Evensong and some Holy Communion on Sundays.

The back rows are all volunteers with the exception of the gap-year Choral Scholars and a small number of singers holding Abbey Scholarships. The full choir rehearses weekly on a Friday evening from 7.30pm until 8.45pm. There are five choral services each week during term-time (three with the Abbey Choir, and two with the School Choir) and several extra services around Christmas and Easter. Weddings and funerals command their own separate fees. The music staff in the Abbey consists of the Director of Music: James Henderson, the Assistant Director of Music: Charlie Gurnham, and the gap year Organ Scholar.

Auditions and Interviews - Choral Scholar (Tenor)

The interview and audition is with the Director of Music of Sherborne Boys, Alexander Eadon, the Director of Music of Sherborne Abbey, James Henderson and a member of the School's pastoral team to cover Safeguarding.

Candidates are asked to prepare two contrasting songs, and will have time with an accompanist to prepare their performances ahead of the audition. They should expect some sight-reading which is likely to be taken from a canticle or an anthem, and they will be asked to sing a few verses of a psalm. Some candidates may wish to send in video performances of their singing (and instrumental playing, if applicable) ahead of the Interview and this is encouraged as an 'extra'.

Sherborne Schools Group

Sherborne Schools Group (SSG) offers a unique educational experience for girls and boys aged 3 to 19, spanning both day and boarding provision.

The Group was established in 2024 following the merger of Sherborne Girls and Sherborne Boys, creating a family of four schools: Sherborne Girls, Sherborne Boys, Sherborne Prep, and Hanford Prep.

SSG also comprises Sherborne International, offering short courses to UK and international pupils, and several wholly owned trading companies. Together, the schools provide a cohesive educational journey across the beautiful Dorset town of Sherborne and nearby Hanford.

Each school retains its distinctive character and heritage, with extensive facilities and grounds, while benefiting from the strengths and opportunities of belonging to a larger Group.

The Group also includes Sherborne Schools Worldwide, a joint venture launched in 2017, now with six schools Qatar and Jeddah, and a further school opening in Riyadh in 2026.

The creation of SSG was a strategic move to harness greater possibilities for pupils and staff: shared resources, enhanced facilities, richer collaboration, and a broader educational offering.

Since then, the Board and Group Executive Committee have refined our long-term ambition, setting out three strategic goals. These are to:

deliver a transformational education; ensure financial resilience and growth; and develop and enhance our community culture.

Central to achieving these goals is our aspiration to be recognised as the leading, must-consider group of schools for our transformative education, expressed through The Sherborne Difference.

Core to The Sherborne Difference is our commitment to the personal development of each pupil and encouraging them to make a positive contribution to society, both at and beyond school.

These are already key principles that underpin our educational philosophy across the Group, ensuring our pupils develop the character and disposition to be able to navigate and contribute positively to a rapidly changing world.



The Sherborne Difference

Sherborne Schools Group aspires to deliver a forward-thinking, transformative education that balances rich tradition with bold innovation. Grounded in academic excellence, character development, wellbeing and creativity, our aim is to prepare pupils not only to succeed, but to shape the future as leaders, innovators, and changemakers in a global context.

Our vision is brought to life through five strategic pillars: Character & Wellbeing, Academics & Futures, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Partnership & Community, and Sustainability & Humanity. These priorities guide our daily practice and long-term ambitions, helping pupils develop resilience, ethical awareness, and the skills to solve complex challenges.

We seek to embed leadership and wellbeing across school life, weaving character education into academics, co-curricular activities, and boarding. Our Separate Yet Together model enhances social and interpersonal learning while retaining the benefits of single-sex education.

Academically, we aim to offer personalised pathways, interdisciplinary curricula, and digital fluency, supported by career readiness initiatives that prepare pupils to thrive in a fast-changing world. Innovation and entrepreneurship are key priorities, with scaffolded programmes, student ventures, and industry partnerships being designed to foster creativity and real-world application.

Through ambitious collaborations, we aspire for pupils to engage in meaningful service, mentorship, and transformative projects. By integrating sustainability, ethical leadership, and global citizenship across learning, we prepare them to confront the world's most pressing challenges with courage and conviction.

Supported by talented staff, integrated systems, and a culture of collaboration, Sherborne Schools Group strives to set the benchmark in transformative education, nurturing globally-minded, confident, and socially responsible leaders ready to define the 21st century.

Group Structure

THE SCHOOLS

Sherborne Boys

Founded by King Edward VI in 1550, Sherborne Boys is a leading independent full boarding and day school for boys aged 13-18. Sherborne Boys' unique and strong partnership with Sherborne Girls offers the best of both worlds: single-sex education with a vast array of social and co-curricular collaborations.

Shirburnians are kind and compassionate yet eager to make their mark on the world. Proud of its nurturing full-boarding environment which is busy yet purposeful; Shirburnians create friendships for life.

Sherborne Girls

Sherborne Girls is an independent boarding and day school for girls aged 11-18. Founded in 1899, we are proud to be one of the leading full-boarding girls' schools for all-round personal development and academic fulfilment. Our close proximity and unique collaboration with Sherborne Boys offer the best of both worlds: single-sex education alongside a wealth of joint opportunities and social normality.

Sherborne Prep

Founded in 1858, Sherborne Prep is an independent day and boarding School for boys and girls aged 3-13 years. Sherborne Prep prides itself upon its strong community where all pupils are supported to become the best version of themselves. Sherborne Prep sits between Sherborne Boys and Sherborne Girls and benefits from enhanced curriculum and co-curricular links and opportunities.

Handford Prep

Handford Prep is an all girls boarding and day independent prep school set in glorious Dorset countryside where girls are encouraged to find new interests and pursue their passions. Year on year they achieve impressive scholarship results both in the classroom and on the pitches.

The Sherborne Schools Group, through Sherborne Schools Worldwide, has schools in Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

EXCO STRUCTURE

The ExCo comprises the Heads of the four schools, the Director of External Affairs and the COO. The Head of Hanford reports to the Head of Sherborne Girls, and the Head of Sherborne Prep reports to the Head of Sherborne Boys. The senior school heads, COO and Director of External Affairs report to the Executive Chair.

Alongside the Executive Chair is an experienced and dedicated Board of Governors, further information about whom can be found on the schools' websites.

SOG is more than a group of schools – we are a community cultivating ethical, innovative, and globally-minded leaders prepared to navigate and shape the challenges of the 21st century.

The Music School



The Music Department is led by the Director of Music. He is supported by a team that includes the Deputy Director of Music; the Head of Academic Music & Keyboard Studies; the Head of Instrumental Studies & Music Timetables; a Teacher of Music Technology/Rock & Pop; and the Music School Manager. Additionally, there is a part-time Head of Strings, part-time Head of Brass, part-time School Organist, gap year Organ/Choral Scholars and 30 Visiting Music Teachers.

A stand-alone purpose-built Music School was opened in 2010. All rooms are sound-proofed and facilities include two recording studios linked to a well-equipped Control Room, and a Recital Hall to seat 120 people. In addition to several other performance spaces around the School, the state-of-the-art teaching facilities include three suites of Apple iMacs running Sibelius Ultimate, Ableton and Logic Pro X, and a fleet of grand and upright pianos. There are four organs: there is access to the Abbey organ

for School Services as required, a two manual neo-classical mechanical action instrument in the School Chapel, a Hauptwerk instrument running the Hereford sample-set, also in the Chapel, and a Viscount electronic instrument in the Music School. Sherborne boasts among the best music facilities in the South of England.

The department runs a busy programme of recitals and other performances. There are frequent formal and informal concerts, including weekly lunchtime recitals that are very well attended by the local community. Instrumental music is exceptionally strong, with particularly large numbers of pupils performing in ensembles that rehearse in a partially ringfenced time on two days a week after lunchtime (known as 'Q Time') and at 8.50 p.m. on four evenings a week. The very large TTBB Choir (currently 104 singers) sings Evening Prayer twice a week in the Abbey. The Chamber Choir, of around 22 singers which sometimes begins the year as an SATB

(trebles) choir, is comprised of many ex-cathedral choristers from Salisbury, Winchester, Exeter and elsewhere. It sings an Introit each week in the Abbey, visits cathedrals, and tours Europe with selected instrumentalists every other year.

There are currently 50 Music Scholars, many of whom have Grade 8 Distinction and a significant number of whom hold ATCL performance diplomas with one current pupil holding an LTCL. Two orchestras are run jointly with local schools including Sherborne Girls and play regularly in Bristol, Oxford and London. There is also a solely Sherborne Boys Chamber Orchestra, a [BBC-style] Radio Orchestra and a Concert Orchestra which sometimes tours with the Choir. Orchestras rehearse for an hour and a half on Tuesdays at 5.30 p.m., but attendance by musicians is by negotiation with other School events on the basic premise that the Orchestras get priority.

There are many chamber music groups, particularly amongst Lower School Music Scholars & Exhibitioners who have considerable instrumental skill. The Swing Band is nationally considered to be a very fine 'big band' and undertakes many concerts a year, having additionally visited Barbados on tour every other year since 2010. An annual open-air 'RocSoc' concert in the historic main Courts welcomes enthusiastic audiences of up to 800.

Class Music is taught to Third Formers (Year 9) who have opted for Music before arrival at Sherborne. Numbers studying GCSE Music range from 14-20 in each year group, and there are usually around five A Level candidates (there are currently four in the Upper Sixth) and up to five Music Technology candidates in each of the Sixth Form years. Several boys go on to read Music at university, including Oxbridge.



“Pupils show an excellent level of maturity in their relationships with each other and the staff and demonstrate respect and tolerance for all.”

ISI Inspection 2023

Person specification

Tenor Choral Scholars are expected to be good sight-readers as the repertoire of both choirs is wide and varied and in both cases rehearsal time is limited.

The working week is 40 hours during term time (34 weeks) plus at least two weeks over each of the Christmas and Easter periods, in addition to the weekends during Half Terms and 'Exeat' weekends. Working hours during term-time are divided between duties within the Music School and singing / performing in musical ensembles.

Duties include record-keeping for music lesson absences, collecting pupils for music lessons, setting up rehearsals, stands and putting out music. Light administrative tasks are also asked of the Choral Scholars and an understanding of Sibelius software is particularly useful.

There are two services with the Abbey Choir on Sundays, and one on Thursday evenings. The weekly Abbey Choir Practice is on Friday evenings until 9.00pm, and the school choir practices are on Monday and Friday evenings (making two rehearsals on Friday evenings).

Generally Saturdays are free. Weddings and funerals carry their own fee.

Whilst the work at Sherborne Boys may be tailored to the strengths of the successful candidates, it is expected that successful Choral Scholars will be drawn from those singing with courses such as the Rodolfus Choral Course and the National Youth Choir and who will go on to sing as choral scholars at Oxford and Cambridge Colleges or other similar universities and colleges. Previous Sherborne Choral Scholars are currently holding Scholarships at King's College, Cambridge, Christ Church, Oxford, Clare College and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and Royal Holloway College, London.

Any offer of appointment at Sherborne Boys is conditional upon the provision of a self-declaration of physical and mental fitness to discharge the responsibilities of the post.

Please note that all areas of the School, both internal and external, operate a no-smoking policy (including accommodation and company vehicles).

Pay and Accommodation and Holiday

The salary for Choral Scholars will be £16,840.00 per annum, which includes payment for 38 working weeks, plus 4.1 paid holiday weeks (pro-rata of 5.6wks).

Accommodation is provided in the town and one main meal per day is available for free in the School Dining Hall during term time.

Choral Scholars are generally free of commitments during the School holiday periods with the exception of singing and playing in services during the week before Christmas, including Christmas Day itself, and in services during Holy Week which ends after Eucharist on Easter Day; holiday cannot be taken during Sherborne Boys term time.

Safeguarding

All young people deserve the right to live and learn in a safe and happy environment.

All Sherborne Boys staff share the responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people for whom they are responsible or with whom they come into contact. In doing so, staff are expected at all times to adhere to and ensure compliance with the School's Safeguarding Policy. If any member of staff becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the School, they must report any concerns to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Headmaster.

We have a strong Safeguarding culture and all staff are required to attend regular training and updates.

As Sherborne Boys is registered to ask 'exempted questions' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, successful applicants will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service before this appointment is confirmed. This will include details of cautions, reprimands or final warnings. This post is also subject to receipt of two satisfactory written references, one of which must be from your current or most recent employer.



A unique education in a unique location

Living and working at Sherborne

Located in one of Dorset's most picturesque towns and set amidst rolling countryside, our School is inseparable from the town that shares its name.

Working in a boarding school is a privilege but it is also demanding, with days that sometimes extend into the evening. In some ways however, the pace is more gentle than in a day school and there is time within the day to meet friends for a cup of coffee or do some shopping in the shops of Cheap Street.

The Common Room is enormously supportive and we have a comprehensive induction programme for new staff which extends throughout the first year. We run an NQT programme accredited by ISTip and a PGCE course in conjunction with the University of Buckingham.

A unique education in a unique location The School has its own generous salary scale and all staff are entitled to reduced fee membership of the gym and swimming pool and access to loyalty rewards at the School's Hub cafe.

During term time, staff are able to take lunch in the Dining Hall.



How to apply

A letter of application together with a completed Sherborne School's Group application form and the names, with contact details, of two referees should be sent to the HR Department at Human Resources HR@sherborne.org for further information please contact followed by school address, telephone and email.

Electronic applications should be sent to:

hr@sherborne.org

Applicants selected for interview will be informed within a week of the closing date for application. Applicants who have not heard from the School by this time must assume that, on this occasion, their application has been unsuccessful. Candidates short-listed for interview will be required to bring to interview proof of ID, qualifications and their right to work in the UK.

Closing date:

9.30am, Thursday 28 May 2026

Interviews to take place on

Week commencing 1 June 2026

IN THE EVENT OF ANY QUERIES PLEASE

CONTACT:

Human Resources
 Sherborne Boys
 Abbey Road
 Sherborne Dorset
 DT9 3AP
 01935 810502
hr@sherborne.org



Many things here are simply world class. High academic expectations and outstanding pastoral care are, and must remain, the bedrock of a Sherborne education. Our musical, artistic and sporting provision is outstanding and all our boys have access to an extraordinary range of co-curricular opportunities.

Mr Simon Heard, Headmaster

For further information please contact

Sherborne Boys

Abbey Road

Sherborne Dorset DT9 3AP, UK

+44 (0) 1935 810502

hr@sherborne.org