



AIGLON COLLEGE
Switzerland

School Prospectus



**“Aiglon aims to produce men and women of integrity
– developing the qualities of uprightness, honesty,
tenacity, self discipline, good health in body and mind,
thoughtfulness and service to others.”**

John Corlette, Founder





From the Head Master

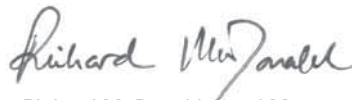
As a parent, one of the most important decisions that you will have to make is the choice of a school for your children. You will, without doubt, want to ensure for them an education of the very highest standard, and to feel confident that they can develop fully and happily in an environment that will make the most of their potential. You will want to know that their welfare in the broadest sense is in the hands of a team of committed to an ethos of care, and that their physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual development will be guided by an able and stimulating teaching staff.

Since its foundation in 1949, Aiglon has established a global reputation for the excellence with which it endeavours to meet these fundamental expectations of parents from all over the world. Firmly rooted in the timeless philosophy of its founder, John Corlette, the school offers the security and stability which are essential to the confident growth of children and young adults. This stability requires a structured, disciplined environment which provides a balance of opportunities for both achievement and personal development.

Underpinning all these important features is the recognition that Aiglon is "home" for its pupils, meeting the particular needs of individuals, as well as those of the community.

These are qualities and priorities to which every first class boarding school should aspire. Aiglon however stands alone in a unique combination of ways. Its fabulous setting high in the Swiss Alps provides an uplifting and challenging educational milieu with obvious benefits for the health of the community.

Furthermore, it offers an unsurpassable range of adventurous opportunities which the school exploits to the full. In addition, the rich blend of nationalities that make up the Aiglon community acts as a catalyst for a formative process of social and cultural exchange, fostering mutual understanding and respect and providing in turn a powerful international springboard for the citizens of tomorrow's world.


Richard McDonald, Head Master



"With the responsibilities of the future in their hands, young people will need the courage to face challenges, the confidence to lead and the humility to serve."

Why study at Aiglon College?

Aiglon College was founded in 1949 by John Corlette, whose commitment to the education of 'the whole person' and belief that young people must be constantly challenged are a continuing influence.



Building on the founder's vision

Aiglon's approach to learning encourages a student's balanced development: not only academically, but also emotionally, morally, physically and spiritually.

At Aiglon, we want to realise the full academic potential of each student. Yet the education we offer is designed to go beyond this, to develop 'the whole person'; to help each individual to become, in the words of the founder, 'truly and intensely alive'.

A sense of community

Aiglon brings together young people from all around the world. Over fifty nationalities are represented within the student body, which encompasses the world's major religions, languages and cultures.

Learning to live and work together in such a diverse community is a powerful experience for young people and one that helps to promote open-mindedness and understanding.

A sense of place

We live in one of the most beautiful natural environments in the world. High amidst some of the most spectacular mountain scenery in Europe, the school enjoys a healthy, safe and inspiring location.

Atmosphere

We work hard at Aiglon to maintain an atmosphere that encourages the practice of honesty, openness, truth and integrity. These qualities are central to our approach to discipline, discussion, relationships and pastoral care.

Lifelong friendships, powerful memories, clear moral values

Behind the scenes of everyday life at Aiglon there is a remarkable transformation at work. This is the subtle but powerful process in which young lives are shaped and moulded, providing the inner strength to face and overcome difficulties; the qualities of integrity, honesty, competence and self-discipline; and the ability to look beyond the material world to more permanent and meaningful values in life.

Junior School

Having a safe place of their own allows both teachers and pupils to concentrate on issues most significant to them, such as creating and developing good habits in a positive and encouraging environment.



Establishing learning skills in the Junior School (9 to 13 year olds)

For children aged between 9 and 11 whose mother tongue is English or French, lessons are taught in either of the two languages. French, Geography and History are taught in French where appropriate, while the other subjects are taught in English. This strong emphasis on a second language is especially beneficial at a time when children are most receptive and uninhibited. In the same spirit, the Junior School also offers English as a Second Language (ESL) programme for all non-English speakers aged 10-12.

From age 11, the Junior School curriculum includes English, Maths, French, Science, Art, Music, Drama, Geography, History, Religious Studies, Physical Education and Computer Studies.

Strong pastoral care emphasises such essential skills as learning to live and grow up with peers; listening to and learning from each other; acquiring a thirst for discovery; independence within a supportive environment. The Junior School curriculum is specifically designed to lead seamlessly into the Senior School programme.

The Junior School expeditions programme is especially popular and well-attended. Tailor-made activities are offered to the 9 to 11 year olds five times a term. The tasks become increasingly challenging in the following two years, making sure that our students will be more than ready for the Senior School outdoor challenges.

La Casa and La Baita, the two Junior School houses, provide a warm and family-like atmosphere.

Both houseparents and their deputy ensure that everyone feels their problems and needs will be addressed in the most attentive and caring way. For the boarders especially, the Junior School truly becomes a second family.

“Our priority is to create a friendly, happy and busy atmosphere that will allow children to find their feet without the pressures of the outside world. We aim to help our boys and girls become strong, confident and inquisitive world citizens, with the support of an ever-present team of enthusiastic teachers.”

Didier Boutroux, Junior School Headmaster

The Whole Curriculum

A rich combination of experiences designed to give young people the finest preparation for adult life.



Pastoral care

Good pastoral care lies at the heart of every happy school. When students feel cared for and properly supported, they will develop the confidence and self-esteem to fulfil their potential. At Aiglon we believe that pastoral care is the priority upon which success in other aspects of school life depends.

The spiritual dimension

Aiglon has no formal links to either a particular church or religious denomination (although the school has always acknowledged its Christian tradition) and children of all faiths are welcome. Students and staff alike are encouraged to find their way, through example and inspiration, to an awareness of the spiritual dimension of life.

At the heart of Aiglon's commitment to spiritual development is the belief that true spirituality is measured in the quality of our daily lives: in our relationships with others, in our willingness to serve and in the power of our actions.

Religion can be a search for truth, an exploration and a journey of personal discovery. If, at the end of a student's career at Aiglon, he or she can look back upon a movement from ignorance to awareness, it will have been a journey well worth undertaking. For some students, this may lead to a genuine and deep-seated faith; for others, it may give an insight into the rich world of belief and commitment.

Meditation

Meditation is Aiglon's distinctive morning gathering of the school community. Introduced by the Founder

in the early days of the school, it consists of a shared silence, a short talk (given by a member of staff or a student), followed by a period of silent reflection. Both in the silences and the words, this popular routine allows the students and staff of a busy school the time for reflection.

The academic curriculum

Aiglon has developed an international curriculum designed using the English National Curriculum together with the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, to offer a curriculum breadth and academic rigour.



In the Middle School, students are prepared for (I)GCSEs and, in the final two years, for the IB Diploma Programme and SATs. The academic programme is designed to cater for a wide range of abilities and backgrounds.

Aiglon takes great care to support students in gaining entry to the best possible universities and colleges around the world. Aiglon alumni are currently enrolled in leading universities on both sides of the Atlantic.

Aiglon is proud of its highly qualified and dedicated staff; with its commitment to small classes, taught in well-resourced departmental areas, every student is in the enviable position of receiving personalised attention in a clearly structured and well-disciplined teaching environment.

The Director of Studies, together with a team of experienced Department Heads, ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to challenge today's international students and tomorrow's global leaders. Detailed information on the academic programme is available for parents in a series of studies handbooks.

“Aiglon College strives to be a community of self-motivated, independent learners. We believe learning happens best in an enriching, supportive environment. Aiglon students learn to balance knowledge and a spirit of enquiry with a principled, open-minded and caring approach to life.”

Richard McDonald, Head Master

Expeditions

Powerful lessons for life reside in the challenges of outdoor education.

Adventure is a special feature of life at Aiglon and the school enjoys a worldwide reputation for its expeditions programme. Weekend expeditions in the mountains, on skis, on foot and on mountain bikes, take place throughout the year. Organised and led by qualified and

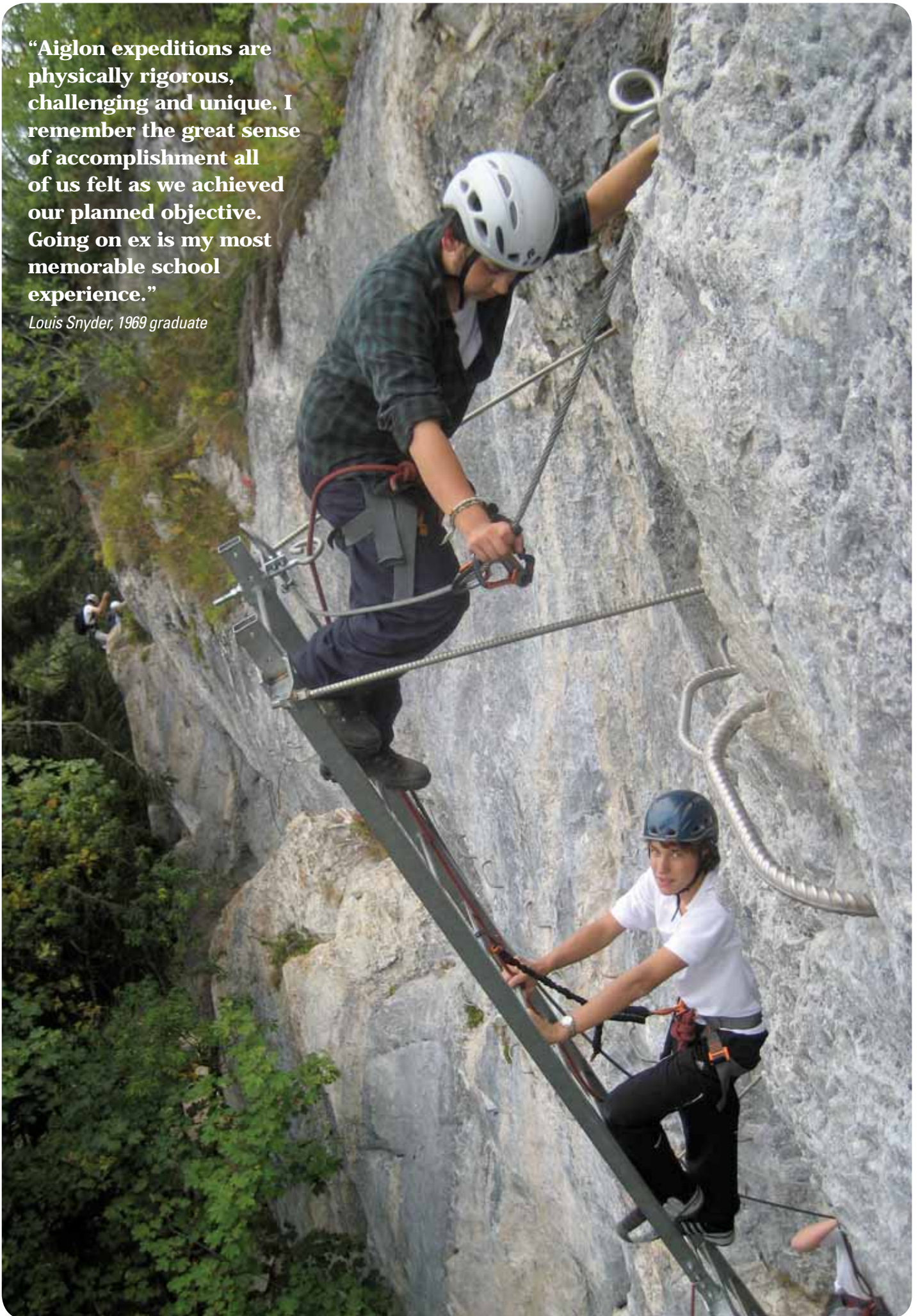
experienced staff, Aiglon's programme of outdoor education gives young people the opportunity to develop initiative, resilience, determination, independence, humility and teamwork. The resulting self-knowledge can be deeply formative and provides a remarkable 'education for life.'

The three-day 'Long Expedition' in the Winter and Summer terms challenges students' endurance and gives an opportunity to explore new horizons. The school is also a centre for the International Award Scheme (Duke of Edinburgh.)



“Aiglon expeditions are physically rigorous, challenging and unique. I remember the great sense of accomplishment all of us felt as we achieved our planned objective. Going on ex is my most memorable school experience.”

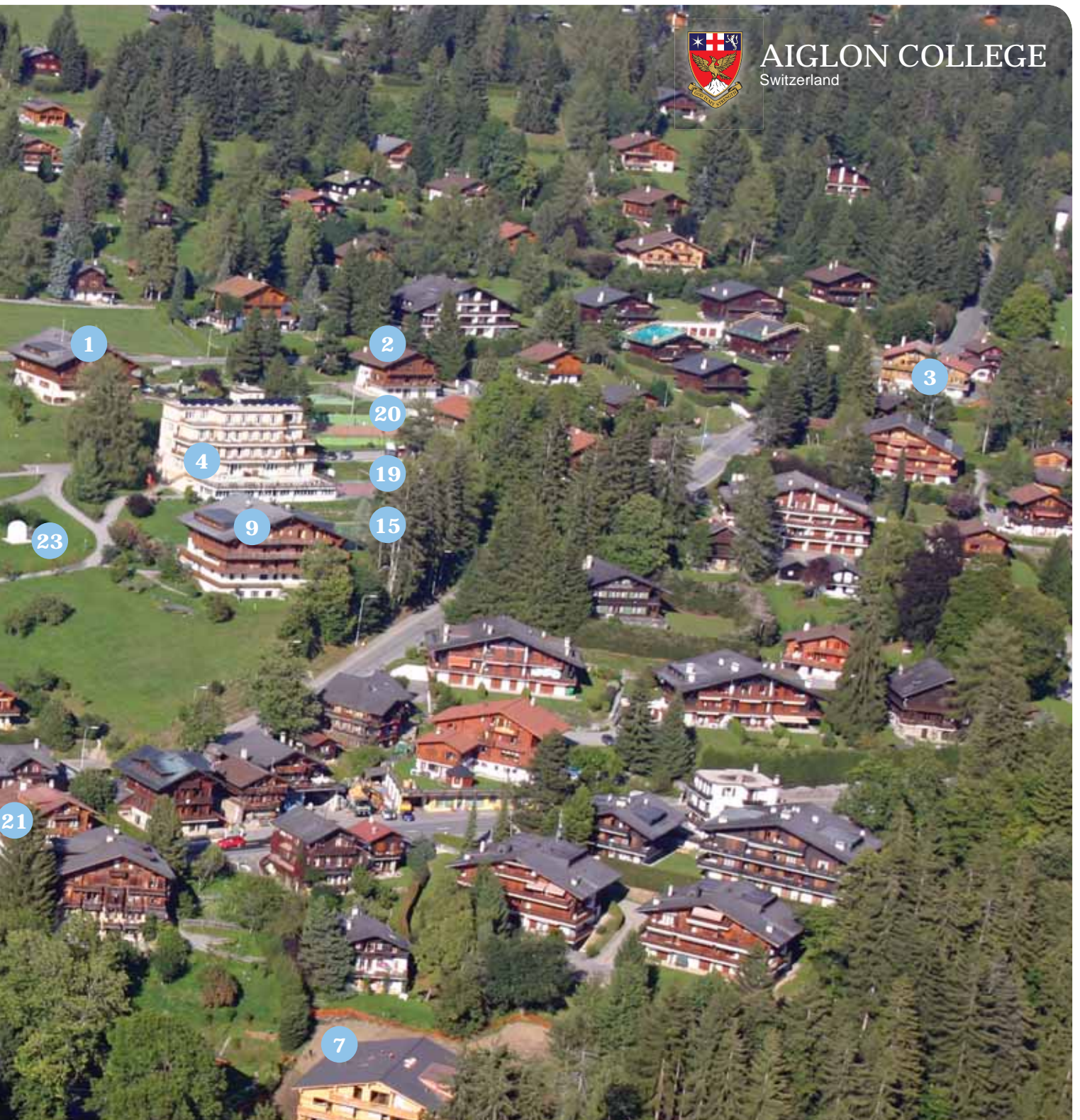
Louis Snyder, 1969 graduate



The Campus

Aiglon's campus combines the traditional charm of chalet-style buildings with modern classrooms, well-equipped laboratories and a campus-wide computer network.





Junior School

- 1 La Baita (+ Dining Room)
- 2 La Dacha
- 3 La Casa (+ Social Suite)

Senior School Boarding Houses

- 4 Alpina (+ Art)
- 5 Belvedere (+ Dining Room)
Le Cerf (not shown)
- 6 Clairmont (+ Library)
- 7 Delaware
- 8 Exeter (+ Humanities)

Teaching Buildings

- 9 John Corlette Building
- 10 L'Ancienne Poste
(+ Fitness Suite)
- 11 La Dépendance
(also with Social Centre)

Administration

- 12 Les Collonges
- 13 Forbes House
- 14 La Calèche (Expeditions)

Sports Spaces

- 15 DS Football Pitch
- 16 Exeter Court
- 17 DS Volleyball Court
- 18 School Field
- 19 Alpina Basketball Court
- 20 La Dacha Court

Other

- 21 School Shop
- 22 Pré Vallon (Health Centre)
- 23 Kalouti Observatory
Aiglon Chapel (not shown)

Sports

Sports play a vital part in personal development and well-being and Aiglon has an outstanding programme of physical education.

A wide range of sports and activities is available and all skill levels are catered for: beginners may enjoy the thrills of skiing, swimming or mountain biking for the first time; experienced athletes can strive for excellence and competitive success.

Recent additions to the campus include a fitness suite and all-weather surfaces for volleyball, tennis and five-a-side football. Local amenities include a swimming pool and skating rink as well as three indoor tennis courts and two squash courts.

The school is located only minutes from the ski slopes and in the winter, students ski or snowboard a minimum of four hours per week on the neighbouring pistes. This includes two hours of lessons with a qualified ski instructor. We also have an active and competitive ski race team.



“Aiglon students are competitive. There is little room for complacency. We have high expectations of the students and those who aim high reap the rewards.”

*Chris Chalcraft
Second Master*



The Arts

Aiglon offers a broad programme of art, music and drama in addition to more specific activities such as classical ballet, media studies and music technology.



Art

Evidence of the imagination and creativity of Aiglon Art is exhibited around the campus. At the top of Alpina Hill, and marked by a striking metal sculpture, the Art School provides an environment in which students can develop their skills of drawing and painting, graphic design or 3 dimensional art.

Music

In addition to its curricular provision, Music is on offer through a range of activities and there is the opportunity for everyone to participate. Regular lunchtime concerts and Parents' Weekend events showcase the enthusiasm of the youngest Junior School students through to the Sixth Form musicians. Over half of the students receive individual music tuition in a range of instruments and singing.

Drama

Drama is naturally a popular part of the Aiglon curriculum. As a subject that promotes self-discovery and self-confidence, it encourages teamwork and teaches a variety of practical skills. Students of all ages can involve themselves in acting and directing and there are performances throughout the school year.

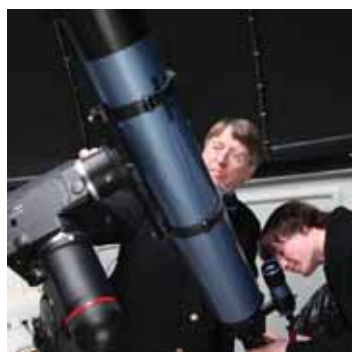
“Aiglon offers its students the opportunity to work in a creative, hardworking and trusting environment in an extraordinarily beautiful and inspiring setting.”

Alexander Boyd-Williams, Head of Drama



Beyond the Classroom

Students are encouraged to use their leisure time purposefully in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, clubs and societies.



Service and Leadership

Learning to lead and to serve is an important feature of the Aiglon experience, and all students will contribute in some way to the greater community while they are at the school. They may choose to become an Expedition Group Leader, or be offered the post of House or School Prefect; equally they may volunteer for local community work or participate in fund-raising events during the school year.

Round Square. Senior School students may also join the regional and international service projects organised by Round Square; a worldwide association of schools which share a commitment to personal development and

responsibility through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding (see www.roundsquare.org for more information). Projects regularly take place worldwide.

Options. Activities on offer range from ballet and bee keeping to website design and yoga.

Middle School students choose their options, in consultation with their Tutor, so as to include at least one new skill and one service activity each academic year.







Residential Life

Each student belongs to a house, and it is here that they live, relax, sleep, work and make friends. Houseparents are in charge of each house.

The life of the school is centred on the boarding houses which play a vital role in the pastoral care of each child. Students develop a strong identity with their house which provides a warm family atmosphere as well as a basis for positive competition.

Houseparents are responsible for the welfare of all the students in their care and are supported by a Deputy Houseparent and an Assistant Tutor, as well as a team of visiting Tutors. There are eight houses. In the Junior School, boys are in La Baita and the girls are in

La Casa. In the Senior School, from the 3rd form upwards, there are three girls houses, Clairmont, Exeter and Le Cerf, and three boys houses, Alpina, Belvedere and Delaware. The houses are all within a few minutes' walk of each other and the classrooms.





Cultural and Vacation Activities

Throughout the school year, groups of students are able to take advantage of cultural opportunities offered locally at concerts, art exhibitions, historic sites and museums.

A feature of our Wednesday evenings is the 'Culture.' This may involve visiting lecturers, professional musicians or an academic seminar or debate involving the students.

Students have the opportunity to explore, experience and enjoy the cultural attractions of regions near and far. Swiss cities, major European landmarks and destinations on other continents are all part of the tradition of Cultural Long Expeditions, broadening the experiences of the Aiglon student far beyond the classroom.

During the school holidays, we offer a diverse range of trips. In recent years this has included: sailing in the Aegean sea, scaling volcanoes in Ecuador as well as service projects in Burkina Faso, Peru, and India.



AIGLON COLLEGE

1885 Chesières-Villars
Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0)24 496 6161
Fax: +41 (0)24 496 6162
Email: info@aiglon.ch
Web: www.aiglon.ch

How to reach us

Aiglon College has excellent road and rail links to Geneva, Zurich and Paris international airports. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us on admissions@aiglon.ch or telephone +41 (0)24 496 6126

By car

110kms from Geneva airport / 210kms from Zurich airport.
Take the motorway A9 (Vevey - Simplon), exiting at Aigle and then follow signs for Ollon and then Villars.

By public transport to...

Aigle mainline station then Chesières by local TPC bus.
Information about timetables is available on www.cff.ch

Hotels

To book hotels in Villars, please contact the hotel of your choice directly. A helpful list of hotels with contact information can be found on the Tourist Office's website at www.villars.ch.

From Aiglon to:

Geneva: 110km / 90 mins
Bern: 125km / 90 mins
Zürich: 210km / 3 hrs
Lausanne: 52km / 50 mins
Montreux: 30km / 30 mins
Aigle: 12km / 15 mins

