

Road to RIO

Thanks to top-notch facilities and first-class coaching, independent school alumni will be well represented in Team GB this summer. We meet just a few of the Olympic hopefuls who are sure to blaze a trail...

PHOTOGRAPHY: ISTOCK, IAN WEST, PA ARCHIVE, PRESS ASSOCIATION IMAGES

Hannah started sailing at the age of three in a “Mirror Dinghy” at her home club in Brightlingsea, Essex. Despite being born without a lower right arm, she was able to adapt different techniques to overcome her disability.

In 1995, she joined the Mirror National Squad, an initiative by the Royal Yachting Association to fast track youngsters into the Olympic classes. For Hannah, this led to many events, notably her first World Championships in Canada at the age of 12.

She joined the Royal Hospital School as a boarder in 1998, aged 13, and with the school’s unrivalled facilities for sailing it seemed the most natural choice. She flourished under the guidance of the director of sailing, Mike Hart, who had, himself, represented GB in the World Championships and the school’s location nestled between Alton Water Reservoir



NAME: Hannah Stodel, 30
SPORT: Paralympic Sailor
SCHOOL: The Royal Hospital School, Suffolk

and the River Stour, enabled Hannah to get on the water up to four times a week.

Hannah says, “RHS really gave me the best start I could ask for... I learnt so much and became independent very early in life. The lessons about planning and running campaigns that I learnt from Mr Hart, are still in use today, and it has allowed me to become ‘queen of logistics’ within our team”.

SAILING FACILITIES AT ROYAL HOSPITAL

- RYA Training Centre with advanced Instructors and a Sailing Academy running the Elite Performance Programme
- All pupils learn to sail in Year Seven and around 100 pupils choose sailing as their main sport
- 60 racing dinghies from beginner boats to Olympic Pathway craft
- Team and Fleet competitions and Cornish Shrimpers for weekend cruising
- Training classes with video analysis and GPS tracking facilities

Hannah was selected to trial for one of the Paralympic boats, the Sonar, and in 2001, she was selected for the British Paralympic Sailing Squad • In 2003, she took the European title and was third in the World Championships, as well as being picked to compete in the Admiral’s Cup – achievements that would see her selected for the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens.

Charlie Hayter started at Warwick School, in 2000, age 11. This is where his love of rugby really took off and was fortunate to tour Australia with Warwick in 2006.

One of his proudest achievements while at the school was captaining the winning 1st XV in the *Daily Mail* Cup at Twickenham in 2007, mentored by coaches Mark Nasey and Richard Chapman.

Upon leaving Warwick, Charlie studied at the University of Nottingham achieving a 2:1 BA in geography. Having played professionally for Nottingham Rugby Club



NAME: Charlie Hayter, 27
SPORT: Rugby Sevens
SCHOOL: Warwick School, Warwickshire

during this time, he then joined Worcester Warriors – making his Premiership debut in 2012. After a short spell at Moseley, Charlie joined Wasps before taking up an England Sevens contract in time for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Charlie says: “Warwick School provides an environment which allows pupils to discover and thrive in whatever their chosen passion.

“I was fortunate enough to experience some great life and rugby moments while at school and look back on my time there with fond memories. It was a shame it could only last seven years!” ▶

“One of Charlie’s greatest achievements was captaining the 1st XV in the Daily Mail cup at Twickenham”

FACILITIES AT WARWICK

- Sports pavilion (opened by Lord Coe 2013)
- 25m swimming pool
- Sports hall with climbing wall
- Team base for Japanese team during Rugby World Cup 2015
- Squash courts, high-tech gym, astro-turf



Rio 2016 marks the debut of Rugby Sevens as an Olympic sport • Charlie Hayter is in the England Sevens squad and at the time of going to press is currently preparing for the World Rugby Round Nine in Paris.



NAME: Carl Hester, 48
SPORT: Equestrian
SCHOOL: Elizabeth College, Guernsey

Carl is one of the most highly regarded and successful British horse riders of recent times. The youngest British rider ever to compete in an Olympics, in Barcelona in 1992, he achieved his personal ambition of winning a gold medal at London 2012.

Having also run his own horse yard in Gloucestershire, for many years, and trained numerous successful riders and horses, Carl was awarded an MBE for services to equestrianism in the 2013 New Year's Honours list.

Carl was brought up in the tiny car-free island of Sark, in the Bailiwick of Guernsey, where he developed his love of all things equine, driving horse-drawn carriages for tourists during the school holidays. He joined Elizabeth College as a boarder at the age of 11. **Carl says,** "I was

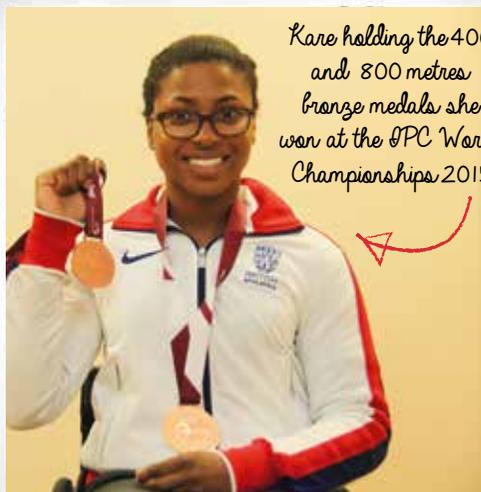
not at all sporty at college although I did enjoy running and was a 100-metre sprint runner for the island. I really enjoyed doing The Duke of Edinburgh's Award but team games were not for me. I loved school and I would not be the person I am today had I not made that journey from Sark."

SPORTS FACILITIES AT ELIZABETH COLLEGE

- 20 acres of sports fields including two cricket grounds, several football pitches and two pavilions
- Floodlit astro-turf pitch
- Purpose-built sports hall including climbing wall and Fencing Salle
- Sports options for pupils include sea kayaking, sailing, surfing and a host of outdoor pursuits



2009 European Championships, Windsor Team Dressage, Silver • 2010 World Championships, Kentucky Team Dressage • 2011 European Championships, Rotterdam Special and Freestyle Dressage, Silver • 2011 European Championships, Rotterdam Team Dressage, Gold • London 2012, Team Dressage, Gold • 2013 European Championships, Herning Team Dressage, Bronze • 2014 World Championships, Normandy Team Dressage, Silver • 2015 European Championships Aachen Team Dressage, Silver



NAME: Kare Adenegan, 16
SPORT: T34 Wheelchair Racer
SCHOOL: Bablake School, West Midlands

Kare was inspired to get involved in wheelchair racing after watching athletes with similar disabilities race in the 2012 Paralympic Games. Very soon after, she had a trial session on an upright racing chair. It was at this point that her natural talent for the sport shone through as she completed her first attempt at the 100 metres in a very impressive 27 seconds, (18.82 current time). **After a tough winter's** training, in a three-mile race, in 2013, she was placed 2nd in the Mini London Marathon. She won the mini marathon from 2014-16.

As a result of these performances, she was

"Bablake School wishes her all the very best as she sets her sights on bringing home 'gold' at Rio this summer"

invited by the British Paralympic Association to attend a camp for young athletes. This was followed by a call up from the GB wheelchair lead coach to join the Futures Programme for wheelchair athletes with the potential to win medals at the 2020 Paralympic Games in Tokyo. She has exceeded her own expectations by being in the frame to represent Team GB at the Rio Paralympic Games. ▶

FACILITIES AT BABLAKE

- Sports hall with fully equipped fitness room, dance studio, multi-purpose sports hall and climbing room
- Three floodlit (blue!) netball courts which accommodate four tennis courts
- Games field with four full size and three junior rugby pitches, football pitch (winter), three cricket squares, five rounders pitches
- Double astro-turf, swimming pool



2014, 2015 Winner of U15 Girls London Mini Marathon • 2014 Glasgow Diamond League 100m Bronze • 2013 Youth World Championship, 100m and 800m Silver, 400m Bronze • 2013, 2014, 2015 U20 Women's National Champion for 100m, 200m, 400m, 1,500m Bedford Age Championships • 2015 IPC Italian Grand Prix Champion, Gold in T34 100, 200, 400, 800m races • 2014 Coventry and Warwickshire Sports Awards Finalist • *This is a selection as Kare has achieved many awards to date!

Glastonbury boy, Cameron's progression over the last few years has been exceptional as he has propelled himself firmly on to the International swimming scene. In 2015, he won his first national youth titles in the 200m and 400m freestyle, and as part of the Millfield 4 x 100m free relay, and secured Under 18 wins in both the 200m and 400m freestyle at the British Open Championships, which earned him a call-up to the British swimming team for the European Games held in Azerbaijan.

Exposed to the intense competition of an international event for the first time, Cameron excelled and came away with gold in the 4 x 100m relay and an individual silver medal in the 200m freestyle. This chain of success led to Cameron's selection to the World Junior Championships in Singapore, in August



NAME: Cameron Kurle, 18
SPORT: Swimmer
SCHOOL: Millfield School, Somerset

2015, where he secured finals in both events.

In April, Cameron was selected as one of the youngest in the 26-strong Team GB swimming squad for the Rio 2016.

He says: "Without Millfield, I wouldn't be in this situation – all of my coaches from Millfield Prep to now, have been amazing. I just can't wait to get going!"

FACILITIES AT MILLFIELD

- Olympic-sized swimming pool
- International standard Fencing Salle
- Three 3G pitches and state-of-the-art floodlighting
- Top-of-the-range gym facilities spread across four high-tech gyms
- Top quality athletics track



2015 British Open Championships U18 Gold 200m, 400m freestyle • 2015 European Games Gold 4x100m relay, Silver 200m freestyle • 2016 British Champions Silver Target Tokyo U21 400m freestyle

Will Satch with his mother at London 2012



NAME: Will Satch, 26
SPORT: Rowing
SCHOOL: Shiplake College, Oxfordshire

Olympic rower Will Satch attended Shiplake College, which sits on the banks of the River Thames, just upstream from the world-famous Henley Royal Regatta stretch. It was here that Will, who will turn 27 in June, found his passion for rowing. Arriving at Shiplake on a rugby scholarship, **it quickly became** apparent that this talented sportsman was a fish out of water. Satch started training under the guidance of coach Athol Hundermark, as well as joining local prestigious rowing organisation the Leander Club, in Henley-on-Thames. Being at a college which boasts such proximity to the Thames was instrumental in helping Will recognise and develop his talent in the boat. **Following his Olympic breakthrough** in 2012, Satch has gone from strength to strength; with two European Championships under his belt and a host of World Cup Golds, being selected for the Mens' VIII crew for Rio has been a dream come true. Will commented that, "We were underdogs

[at London] and were there for the thrill of it; I'm not sure that anyone expected us to actually win a medal!" But win a medal is exactly what they did: Will and his partner George Nash walked away with Bronze. And Will is now on his way to the Olympics again. "We're very focused on getting to Rio. Going to the London Olympics was an adventure, but we're going to Rio to win Gold. That's the aim."

FACILITIES AT SHIPLAKE

- School on the banks of the River Thames
- Three cricket squares
- Six grass pitches
- Swimming pool
- Strength and conditioning gym
- Onsite boathouse



2010 World U23 Men's Eight Bronze • London 2012 Men's Pair Bronze • 2013, 2014, 2015 World Champion Men's Eight • *Selection