



# SELBORNE COLLEGE

2026



**MASTER IN CHARGE: MR J JACOBS**  
**DIRECTOR OF RUGBY: MR D PAGE**

## RUGBY



PALMA VIRTUTI

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# SELBORNE COLLEGE

## RUGBY MORE THAN A SPORT

Rugby has long been a defining feature of Selborne College. It carries the largest participation base and draws the greatest collective support from boys, staff, Old Selbornians and families. As such, it holds a visible and symbolic place within the life of the school.

Rugby at Selborne is more than a sport. It is a vehicle for unity, identity and shared tradition. It is on the rugby fields and alongside them that the Selbornian learns the power of belonging. The traditional songs and War Cry bring the school together, reinforcing camaraderie and strengthening the brotherhood that defines the College.



The game itself demands courage, discipline and accountability. It reflects the school motto, Palma Virtuti, reward to the brave. Within the rugby environment, boys learn commitment to a cause greater than themselves. They discover that progress requires effort, preparation and resilience. Whether in victory or defeat, the Selbornian is expected to show humility, respect for opponents and pride in representation.



Rugby forms character. It challenges the Selborne learner physically and mentally, requiring perseverance, composure and integrity under pressure. In doing so, it contributes meaningfully to the formation of young men who are ready to face life with courage and purpose.



## THE SELBORNE APPROACH

The rugby programme has been strengthened through clear leadership and professional expertise.

Under the guidance of a Director of Rugby, Mr D Page, supported by specialist coaching input in Mr Jake White, and structured strength and conditioning oversight, Selborne continues to pursue excellence while honouring its traditions.

The focus is consistent across all teams, from the Under Fourteen F team to the First Fifteen. Every Selbornian is valued within the system. Coaching prioritises discipline, commitment, pride, honesty and enjoyment of the game.

Professional fitness programmes support physical development, while team coaching and individual skills assessment ensure that each player is guided according to his needs.



Particular attention is given to the development of younger players, recognising the physical growth and progression that take place during adolescence. Specialist coaching support is available to assist boys in refining technical areas and building confidence.

Selborne competes regularly against strong opposition and participates in leading festivals across the country.

The objective is continuous improvement through meaningful competition. At the same time, efforts are made to expand opportunities for lower teams, ensuring broad participation and sustained engagement throughout the age groups.

The aim remains constant. A Selbornian leaves the rugby programme able to hold his head high, equipped with discipline, courage and respect, ready to meet future challenges with conviction.





## EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

Rugby at Selborne has a proud competitive history built on consistency and resilience. The programme measures success not only in results, but in the depth of participation and the quality of character displayed on and off the field.

Selborne teams compete against leading schools and participate in major festivals, testing themselves against high calibre opposition. This exposure strengthens performance standards and reinforces a culture of accountability.

Beyond match results, the programme values growth in confidence, physical development and leadership capacity. The rugby environment produces Selbornians who understand teamwork, responsibility and the importance of preparation. These attributes extend well beyond the playing field.

## BEYOND THE FOUR WHITE LINES

Rugby plays a central role in shaping the broader Selborne culture. It strengthens unity within the House system and fosters school spirit through collective support and shared tradition.

The lessons learned on the field are reinforced off it. A Selbornian rugby player is expected to be respectful, motivated, empathetic and humble. He is taught to strive for excellence without compromising integrity. Courage is defined not only by physical contest, but by the willingness to stand for what is right.

Through rugby, boys find belonging within a tradition that stretches across generations. They build memories, friendships and habits of discipline that remain long after their final match.

At Selborne, rugby is not simply about the game. It is about forming young men of character, conviction and honour.





**SELBORNE**  
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# THE SELBORNE MAN

At Selborne College, we are not merely preparing boys to pass examinations, win fixtures, or collect accolades. We are forming young men.

## **A Selborne man is:**

- **Intellectually Disciplined**  
He thinks carefully. He questions respectfully. He pursues understanding rather than surface familiarity. He is not afraid of rigour.
- **Morally Grounded**  
He understands responsibility. He acts with integrity when no one is watching. He knows that character is revealed in pressure.
- **Courageous in Effort**  
He does not withdraw from difficulty. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or on the stage, he learns to persist.
- **Articulate and Thoughtful**  
He can express his ideas clearly. He listens as well as he speaks. He engages the world with curiosity rather than cynicism.
- **Committed to Brotherhood**  
He understands that strength is built in community. He supports others. He leads by example.
- **Prepared for the Future**  
He leaves Selborne adaptable, capable, and ready to contribute meaningfully to society. Every subject, every sport, every society exists to shape these qualities.

That is the Selborne standard.

