

Selwyn House History

Selwyn House, named after Bishop Selwyn, had a unique beginning in that it was sited first not at Middlemore but in the City. An unusually large entry of boarders in 1945 made it essential for the College to obtain additional accommodation and consequently a house in Epsom was rented for one year.

This together with 26 first year boys and a Prefect loaned from St John's, became the first Selwyn House, with A Thomson as Housemaster. In the same year the present building in Mangere Road was acquired and altered for use as a Boarding House. The House was originally the Trenwith residence and the first common room had been designed as a ball room, complete with chandelier and organ. By 1947 an additional dormitory enabled the roll to be raised to 40 while further construction work in 1950 lifted the total to 73, approximately its present size. At this point, P W Day was Housemaster. He was followed by:

- * J H Evans 1954-1956
- * J A Whelan 1957-1969
- * I D McKinnon 1970-1978
- * T J R. Sinclair 1978-1984
- * R A Fleming 1985-1991
- * C Stevens 1992-1995
- * M Karpik 1996-2000
- * S Curnow 2001-2004

The current Housemaster is Mr Graeme Syms.

The private road to the College was opened in 1961 making travel to and from school comparatively safer and more convenient. In 1967 Selwyn suffered its second fire: the first in 1965 had caused some damage in the common room but the second blaze completely destroyed the annexe. The building was replaced in 1969 with an extension containing a common room, four prefects studies, a dormitory and a Tutor's flat.

Selwyn House was designated weekly boarding in the mid-eighties.