



St Edmund's College

University of Cambridge



HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh KG, KT, OM, GBE, PC, Hon. LLD, FRS had been an Honorary Fellow of St Edmund's College since 2002.

His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh has died aged 99, Buckingham Palace has announced today (9 April 2021). Prince Philip had been an Honorary Fellow of St Edmund's College since 2002.

The Duke of Edinburgh brought to St Edmund's the same commitment to young people, education, and sport that characterised his public and private work on behalf of the monarchy. Prince Philip served as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge from 1976 to his retirement from the role in 2011 and visited St Edmund's several times, while Chancellor. He accepted an Honorary Fellowship of the College in 2002.

The Master, Catherine Arnold OBE, said: "It is a great sadness to learn today of the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, whose long association with St Edmund's is marked both in our buildings and in the memories of so many members of our College. His concern for education and the environment, among other interests, affected the lives of people around the world. The Duke's contribution to the life of St Edmund's will be remembered with great warmth, including through the scholarship that bears his name. On behalf of the College, I extend profound condolences to Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family."

The longest serving consort of a reigning British monarch, Prince Philip chose the life of a modern prince consort in the service of the people. He served as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge from 1976 to his retirement from the role in 2011. At a celebratory dinner in his honour the then Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge, and St Edmund's Honorary Fellow, Sir Leszek Borysiewicz said: "the University has been fortunate beyond measure to have had The Duke of Edinburgh as our Chancellor for these past three and a half decades. Prince Philip is held in the greatest respect and affection here: there is hardly a corner of the University and its Colleges he has not visited, always showing the keenest interest in our students, our teaching and our research across all disciplines."



In his role as Chancellor, The Duke of Edinburgh visited St Edmund's on multiple occasions. The Duke unveiled a plaque to commemorate his first visit to the College in 1987, when he also inspected an architectural model of the then proposed development of the College featuring the Okinaga Tower, which was yet to be built. Visiting again in 1996 for the centenary celebrations of the College, he unveiled a plaque commemorating the centenary.



The Duke of Edinburgh formally opened the Richard Laws Building (student accommodation) and The Millenium Friendship Garden, which celebrates Anglo-German reconciliation, on 2 May 2002. In November of that year, he was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of St Edmund's College, which he accepted. The Duke later went on to open three more College buildings, on 8 October 2007: the Brian Heap Building, the Geoffrey Cook Building (both student accommodation), and the Library Building. Flanked by the arms of the University and the College, his portrait hangs in the Garden Room of the Library Building, a favoured backdrop for pre-dinner photographs.



St Edmund's awards The Duke of Edinburgh Scholarship every three years to an outstanding PhD student in any discipline, which covers the University Tuition fee and provides an annual stipend sufficient for a single person. The scholarships are part funded by a legacy and a generous donation from an alumnus, which are then matched by the Cambridge Commonwealth European and International Trust.

The College flag is flying at half-mast from today to mark the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Further details, such as arrangements for a book of condolences, will be shared when they are available.

