

# WEEKLY BOARDING AT ST. HUGH'S

## Frequently asked questions



### **Where will I sleep ?**

You will be allocated a dormitory for the term and a bed within that dormitory.

### **Can I change dormitories / beds ?**

Yes it is possible to make changes with permission from Mr / Mrs Watson if necessary.

### **Can I bring my own duvets / pillowcases ?**

You can bring 1 or 2 sets of your own bedding. These can be any colour or design. If you bring 1 set, a school set will be provided whilst your set is being laundered. All laundry will be done at school. It is very important that every personal item of clothing / bedding is clearly labelled using a name tape.

### **Can I bring posters ?**

You can bring as many 'acceptable' posters as you like. Personalising your space is very important part of feeling at home.

### **What about my personal stereo ?**

As long as it is a personal stereo you can use it during free time using headphones.

### **What about my PSP, IPOD or similar things ?**

As these items are very expensive it is important to realise that the responsibility of you bringing in such items rests with yourself. The school is not responsible though if they are lost, damaged or broken. If you want to bring them in then they are only to be used during boarding hours and not during the school day.

### **What about mobile phones ?**

Weekly boarders are allowed their mobile phones in the boarding house and there are set times within the evening for you to use them.

### **When can I phone home ?**

You can phone home at any reasonable time of the day or night. If you do not have a mobile phone then you can purchase a phone cards and use the boarders' phone. The cost of these phone cards is about £5 and it will be charged to your school account.

### **Can my parents / guardians phone me ?**

Your parents will be able to contact you through any of the numbers below.

Houseparents line: 01367 870712

School 01367 870700

Day Room: 01367 870715

### **Do I need to bring any money ?**

No. There is no need to bring any cash into school. If you require pocket money for school trips you can order this from Mr./ Mrs. Watson. The amount will be added to your account. Please order pocket money by seeing Mr or Mrs. Watson in advance and not as you are boarding the coach for your trip !

### **I play a musical instrument, when can I practise ?**

You can use the music suite whenever you have free time. In addition to this there are allocated slots during boarding to practice as well.

### **How many activities can I do ?**

You can attend as many activities as you like. Weekly boarders are expected to choose at least two after school activities during the week where possible.

### **Roller Blades.**

If you enjoy rollerblading you can bring your blades into school and use them after school. You must wear protective gear, helmet pads etc. Rollerblading is only allowed on the lower hard court area. All pathways are for walking only.

### **Can I watch television ?**

Yes although boarders tend to have a very busy routine during the week and spend much of their free time taking part in activities or playing with their friends. If you do however wish to relax and watch a specific programme and it is before your bedtime then that is fine.

### **Will I have any responsibilities ?**

All weekly boarders will have responsibilities ranging from dorm captain, unlocking the school, table heads etc. Duties are an important part of boarding life and help the boarding house run smoothly. They are not difficult and they help you to prepare for your senior school where you will have similar duties.

### **How much tuck do I need ?**

Most boarders bring in enough tuck to have a drink and a snack per day. It is not necessary though as there are snacks provided for you every day as well through the school's kitchens.

### **Snacks**

All boarders can have snacks after prep. This is usually unlimited supplies of toast with jams / spreads and hot chocolate. Fresh fruit is also readily available.

You are also welcome to bring in your favourite snacks.

### **What if I have a problem ?**

It is possible that at some time you may have a problem. This might be a personal problem, a social problem or an academic problem. It is very important that if you are unsure or unhappy with any aspect of your life as a boarder no matter how small or trivial it may seem that you come and talk quietly to a member of staff about it. Any of the boarding house staff will happily give you as much time as you need. This will help you put things right and will support you if you need to phone home.

### **Tutor System**

All weekly boarders are assigned a tutor for the year. This is usually a member of staff chosen by the pupil. The tutor plays an important role in the life of boarding pupils and is there to offer help, advice and guidance.

### **What if I am going to be out overnight ?**

It is helpful if we are given at least 24 hours notice if pupils wish to stay out overnight during the week. Parents wishing to take pupils out during the week must confirm this with the Houseparents either directly or through the matrons / school / secretary.

### **Examination Revision.**

The vast majority of weekly boarders are boarding because they will be Full/ Weekly boarding at their senior schools. At senior school they will be required to be more independent and self-reliant. Preparation for public examination is an important part of their learning process. Being able to organise revision time and being able to cope when there is pressure to deal with is all part of this preparation.

It is important that pupils achieve a balance between work and play. Too much work for example can be as detrimental as too little work. For this reason the school strongly recommends that boarding pupils stay at school and have the support of the staff and their friends at this time.

We hope these notes have been useful and should you wish to discuss anything please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr and Mrs Watson