



ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE
Senior School for 11 - 18 years

guide to boarding

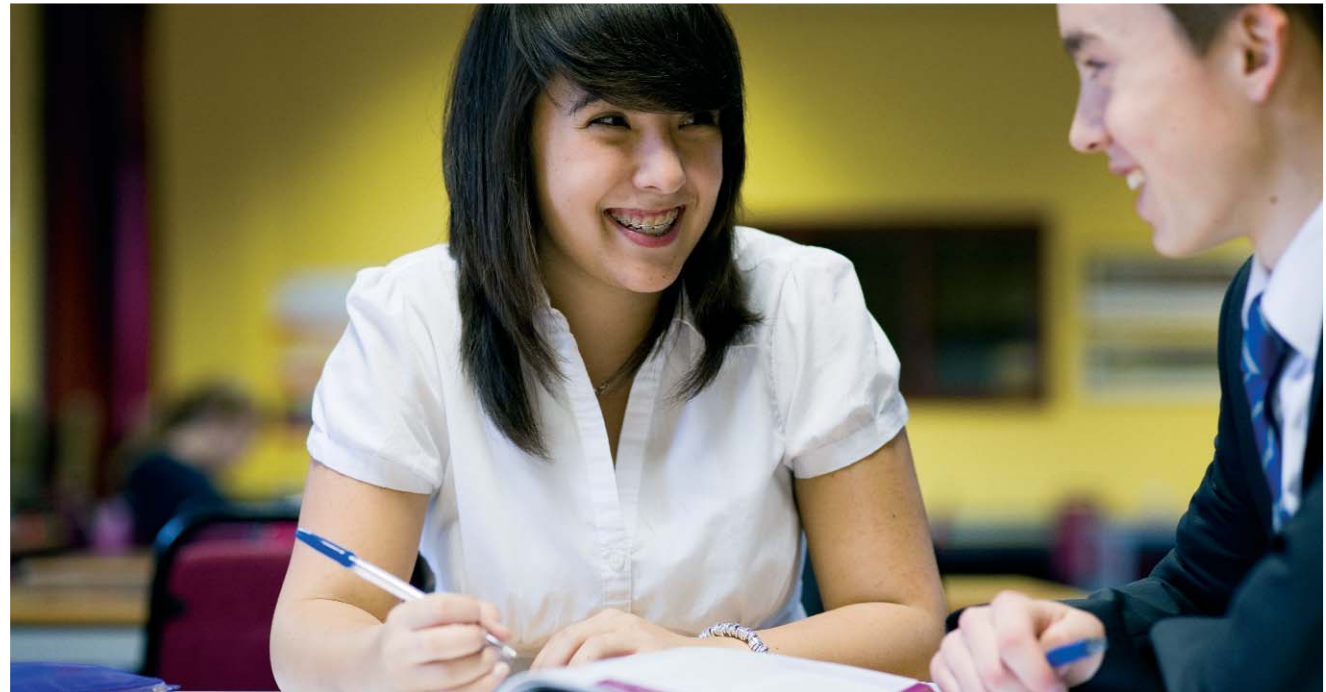


boarding at St Edmund's

St Edmund's has a long and proud tradition of running a happy and successful system of boarding. Our objective is to make boarding as rewarding, productive and enjoyable as we possibly can. This involves providing a safe, supportive environment in which our boarders have the freedom to study, reflect, socialise or play sport, making use of as many of the College's superb facilities as possible.

Perhaps you live a long way from the College or you are based or posted overseas. Whatever your reason for considering boarding, it is an integral part of the educational experience that St Edmund's offers. Boarding enables our students to experience real independence and allows them more time to pursue individual interests and build friendships, preparing them not just for adult life, but for life as citizens of the world.

Boarding at the College is available on a full-time, part-time and occasional basis to suit individual requirements. If you would like to find out more we'd be delighted to show you our boarding houses and explain more about life as a boarder. Best of all, speak to our boarders and let them tell you what boarding means to them.



boarding: the options



We offer three types of boarding:

Full/Weekly Boarding

For any student who boards at least five nights a week. Full boarders generally remain at school over the weekend period.

Part-time Boarding

Part-time boarders tend to live in regularly for three or four nights a week. A permanent place is made available and belongings are left in the room which becomes a fixed base for the student. Part-time boarders pay a percentage of the full boarding fee.

Flexi-boarding

Sometimes it makes life easier for students to board occasionally or perhaps, on busy days, for one or two nights each week. Flexi-boarding requires booking in advance to ensure a bed is available. Parents are charged a set rate per night when their children flexi-board.



boarding life



Faith and Worship

As England's oldest Catholic school, faith and worship are central to the College's ethos. All faiths and denominations are made equally welcome. Boarders meet as a community every morning and evening for prayers and on Sunday High Mass is celebrated in our historic Pugin Chapel.

A Beautiful Parkland Location

One of the great attractions of boarding at St Edmund's is its fantastic location in the middle of the Hertfordshire countryside. Much of the 400-acre site is occupied by playing fields and sports facilities for boarders to enjoy whenever time allows: a secure and healthy environment where children can flourish.



International Boarders

Our boarders come from all over the world, creating a cultural mix that enriches and enlivens our whole community. Taking lessons in English is obviously a benefit for those for whom it is not their first language. Otherwise, they enjoy the same full curriculum and belong to the same day Houses.



Boarding Accommodation

Although all boarders belong to one of the College's five 'day' Houses, they also belong to one of the separate boarding Houses: Garvey's for the girls and Allen Hall for the boys, both located in the very heart of the College. Whilst House areas are segregated, our boarding programme is fully co-educational.

Bedrooms and Private Study Areas

All bedrooms are either twin or single and are comfortably furnished. There are bathroom facilities on every floor. All rooms have wireless internet access enabling students to connect their laptops to the internet and to the College network (with suitable controls). Accommodation areas are supervised by residential staff who oversee the students' welfare.

Taking Good Care

We take great care to ensure that all our boarders settle in quickly and happily. There is an induction programme for all new boarders to acquaint them with the facilities and routines, to introduce them to the staff and to make new friends. Our Boarding Council of students and staff meets regularly to discuss boarding life and suggest how it can be enhanced.



A Healthy Lifestyle

Boarding is hungry work so we make sure that boarders are well fed with plenty of freshly prepared meals. A cooked English breakfast is served daily with hot and cold dishes (including vegetarian options) on offer at lunch and supper time. There is a fully-staffed and equipped infirmary should anyone feel unwell.

Evening and Weekend Activities

We make every effort to provide as wide a range of activities as possible to ensure that boarders are fully occupied. All the College's sports facilities including the swimming pool, gym and playing fields are made available. In addition, sightseeing and educational trips are organised at weekends to London, Oxford, Cambridge and elsewhere; our boarders can also expect to be offered Go-Karting, Snowboarding and other similar activities as part of their programme. There are also themed events such as Pizza and Film, Asian New Year and musical evenings.



in their own words: our students

Xenia

My parents looked at boarding schools around the world, including America, and chose St Edmund's. When I arrived last year I couldn't speak a word of English. What I loved was making new friends of all nationalities and learning to communicate with them. I like it here so much I plan to stay in England.

Emmanuel

My mother was concerned that at home I might be too easily distracted. Boarding has given me the time and space to focus on my work - and I really like finishing off my day in the gym.

Stuart

I arrive at school on Monday morning and go home on Friday evening. I live in North London so I could go home every day but it would take up so much time. I really enjoy the friendliness of boarding and meeting people from other countries - you learn so much.





in their own words: our parents

"Cassie has been at St Edmund's College for three years with two years Flexi-boarding. Like any mother, I miss her not being at home during the week. But boarding has been beneficial and rewarding in many ways.

Academically Cassie has improved because the formal evening study periods have instilled a discipline of completing homework and undertaking extra revision and music practice in a way she would not be able to do at home. Additionally her maturity and self-confidence have increased as evenings are spent in a caring and developmental environment with students of all ages. Yes, I miss her - but boarding gives her a much more rounded education."



"We were obviously very anxious to ensure that we chose the right boarding environment for our children. Pastoral care was just as important as academic provision. I was heartened when I saw the pictures of boarding on the College's website, particularly those rooms where students had added their personal touches, ranging from bedlinen, to posters on boards, to dozens of furry toys! To me, it demonstrated that boarding provided a very relaxed environment, making clear it was very different from 'school'.

This was also evident in the activities programme and both my children were excited at the prospect of visiting theme parks, cinemas, and bowling alleys even before they started the term!"





Avita Pro Fide!

Rooted in Christ and Catholic tradition and under the guidance of our patron, St Edmund, we aim to realise the God-given potential, in body, mind and spirit, of all members of our community through service and leadership.



ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE

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