

BOARDERS' HANDBOOK

Welcome!

Welcome to the Sherborne Prep Boarding Family and Acreman House. We hope your time here will be filled with fun and that you will create memories and friendships which will remain with you for life. This booklet is a helpful guide designed to help you find out about boarding. It will give you an idea of what to expect, who to go to when you need help and offer tops tips which you may find useful.

I am Mr Chiappa-Patching (Housemaster) and I live with my family in a boarding flat adjoining the boarding House. I teach Information Technology and Physical Education and am often found on the sports pitch coaching various teams!

You become very much a part of our extended family when you become a boarder at Sherborne Prep.

The Chiappa-Patching family is myself and my wife Michela and our children Fiamma who enjoys cooking and reading, Serafina who loves to bounce, climb and spin around and Emilio who enjoys pottering around, saying hello and offering smiles to anyone and everyone (he's especially keen on biscuits)!



Mr Chiappa-Patching can be contacted by:

House mobile phone: 07711 373223 (this number will call the member of staff on duty)
Email: dan.chiappapatching@sherborneprep.org

BOARDING HOUSE STAFF

We are supported by friendly and committed staff who live onsite; GAP students and a resident boarding tutor. They are very approachable and have lots of ideas and input into our activity programme.

If you ever need to talk to any of us our doors are always open.

We have a separate medical area if you become ill and you will get to know our friendly matrons; Ms MacDonald and Mrs Fisher. We also have a School doctor with whom on-site appointments can be made.

WELCOME to ACREMAN HOUSE

Both boys and girls live in Acreman House which is in the main school building.

There are separate boys' and girls' dorms, each located within their own areas of the boarding house. You will normally be in a dorm with your year group but on Saturday nights we have dorm swaps and den building.

Top Tips

- Keep your room tidy so you can earn dorm points!
- Keep your student planner/Microsoft Calendar up to date with your work and homework to save time.
 - Finish your homework at the right time and ask for help if you are stuck!
 - If you play an instrument you can practice during the week, ask if you are not sure how/when.
- Enjoy your boarders' activities and make time for others. Boarding friends are friends for life, you enjoy highs and lows so always look out for the other boarders in Acreman.
- Call or write home to relatives – it is always nice to receive post and if you send a few letters or cards, you're sure to receive some!
- Read the section on devices carefully so that you are sure on when it is ok to use your electronics and how you should keep them safe.

Food and Mealtimes:

We are very lucky to have a fantastic group of staff working in the kitchen who make lots of great food. The menu is also one of the things that we want to have your input on, and we are always grateful for ideas. Mealtimes are very important to us and we all like to sit together in the Dining Hall.

Tuck:

The School food is amazing and there are lots of treats provided but nothing beats a little bit of tuck! On a Wednesday night we run a little penny tuck shop and on Saturdays our boarders enjoy movie nights with popcorn or hot chocolate and marshmallows etc!

Daily Routine

WEEKDAYS

07:00 Wakeup

07:20 Breakfast

08:00 Room Tidy and Teeth

08:20 Form Time

16:20 Prep Time

17:00 Enrichment

18:00 Home Clothes & Dinner

18:45 Activities and Free Time

19:30 Showers/Snack/Study Time

20:15-21:00 Dorms and Reading Time

21:15 House Quiet

SATURDAY

07:30 Wakeup

08:00 Breakfast

09:00 Saturday Activities

12:30 Sport

15:30 Free Time & Town Runs

17:30 Dinner

19:30 Movie Night/Den Building

SUNDAY

Sunday is more of a home day and timings change dependent on the activity.

09:00 Breakfast

10:30 Activity

16:00 Return

18:00 Dinner

19:15 Showers/Snack/Study Time

19:45-8:30 Dorms and Reading Time

20:45 House Quiet

ACTIVITIES

In the evening there is time for you to play with your toys, read books, write letters to friends and pen pals, watch TV and when the days get longer, play outside. This is your time and it is there for you to relax after a busy day.

At weekends you will enjoy the Saturday Activity Programme and in the afternoon you may have sports matches and/or free time when you can relax, take a visit into town with boarding staff and/or use the facilities onsite such as music practice/art studios.

Sundays have a more relaxed start to the day, but usually then involve heading off site for one of the many exciting activities that our beautiful county provides. From camping, go-karting, waterparks, lazer tag, outward bound adventures and shopping trips to beach outings or just a chance to hit the shops, we're lucky to live in an accessible and vibrant part of the country.

Clothes:

When the school day finishes, you can change into home clothes. It's really important that you're comfortable and although you're still in the school building, it is home time and the boarding House is your home.

Laundry:

Every dorm has its own laundry basket. Remember that everything needs to be named, otherwise we won't know who to return it to.

Keeping clean!

As you are running around a lot, we do expect you to have a shower every evening before getting into your pyjamas and dressing gowns. You will be allocated a shower time which you should stick to so that everyone is able to use the showers each day.

What should I do if I don't feel well or hurt myself?

Please tell an adult immediately. If you get hurt or feel unwell during the day or early evening, you need to come upstairs to matron with a friend. They will look after you and make sure that you receive the care and treatment that you need.

If it happens later in the evening or at night, please don't worry, you will know where Mr Chiappa-Patching and the resident tutor live. They both wake up really easily when you ring the doorbell, and they don't mind getting up to look after you. They both want you to feel well and are happy to help at any time of night or day!

Pocket Money:

You don't need much money, no more than £5 a week, and Matron will look after it so you don't lose it. If you need to buy souvenirs or birthday presents, we can arrange this with your parents. As you'll read in 'Tuck', you'll be able to use pocket money for tuck should you wish to.

Homework/Prep:

Prep is completed during form time at the end of the day, so your evenings are left free. If you need any extra help though, do ask, we are always happy to offer guidance.

Communications:

If you want to talk to your parents or friends, you may bring in your own phone or Internet Enabled Device or you can use the house phone, do come and chat to a member of the boarding team and we are very happy to help.

Mobile Phones & Smartphones:

If you have your own mobile phone it must be kept in the locker in the Common Room. You have access to it from 18:45 - 20:30, Saturday after sport and on Sundays. If it has a data connection, it must be switched off when in school.

Tablets & Internet enabled devices:

These are also allowed and must be kept safe in the locker. Like your mobile phones, you may have them in the evenings, after activities and on Sundays. We think that they are fantastic pieces of equipment, but you must be safe when using them. The internet gives you unlimited access to the world - which is amazing; but also, a little scary. If you want to use internet in the school, you will need to be aware of the school electronics policy to show you understand why we have a few rules. All internet enabled devices must use the school network and not their own data connection.

Having your say:

The most important part of the whole boarding life is you. And we encourage you to help us. Which is why you will be able to have your say in our Boarding Committee, through your Boarding Committee members. Whether it's something you'd like to see on the menu, an evening activity that you'd love to do, or even an idea for a trip - tell us. You can also tell the senior students and Head Boarders who will tell us. We're not promising that you'll get your ice-cream machine for breakfast, but at least you're thinking about how we can all improve boarding!

Faith:

Sherborne Prep has a Christian ethos, and assemblies are held three mornings per week during the school day. However, if you are from another faith, we will make sure that you can observe your own religious practices as far as possible.

Equality & Diversity:

Sherborne Prep is lucky to have staff and families from diverse countries and cultures. We think this is great as it shows that we are now part of a global community, develops our appreciation of each other's differences and similarities, and helps us value and respect everyone.

Time for reading:

We love a good book and think that it's a great idea to have a little reading time before we turn out the lights. We have plenty of books to choose from here at school, but please do bring your favourites in with you. Sometimes you find such a good book or story that you want to share it with your dorm! When this happens, we love to read it to you all whilst you snuggle up in bed.

Signing Out:

Now more than ever, it is vitally important that we know where you are. You must not leave the school site without permission from school and on leaving you must sign out in the Sign Out book outside the school office, as well as telling the duty staff member where you are going, and with who. If you are going out for a weekend stay, we must have permission from your parents and your hosts. We will need to know by Wednesday night if you are going to be missing the Sunday activity. Do ask us if you are not sure.

Mistakes, strikes and early nights:

There may be a time when you make a mistake in the boarding house. Don't worry, mistakes are part of life and we learn from them. In a boarding House similarly to being at home, we need to be considerate of others. If mistakes are not learned from, you may be asked to have an early night or speak with Mr Chiappa-Patching, but the most important thing is making sure you have a chance to talk about it – which we encourage. We want you to thrive at Sherborne Prep as a boarder.

Finally:

There are always people you can talk to, whatever the time of day or night. At Sherborne Prep there are lots of people who support our pupils and who you can ask for advice. Our list of Round The Clock Support is below, have a read and remember 'no problem is too big or too small, it's good to talk'.

ROUND THE CLOCK SUPPORT

Your Form Teacher

Your Independent Tutor

Boarding House Staff

Matrons - Ms G MacDonald

Teachers and other Staff

Designated Safeguarding Officers

Lead – Mr Bowden
Deputy - Mr Treavett

Children's Commissioner
020 778 38330
childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

NSPCC Helpline
0808 800500
help@nspcc.org.uk

Childline 0800 1111 childline.org.uk

Independent Listeners

Pupil Listeners

