



HOLMWOOD HOUSE
SCHOOL



A PUPIL'S GUIDE TO **OVERNIGHT STAYS**

2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

Statement of School's Overnight Stays

Principles and Procedures

Overnight stays at Holmwood aim to be rewarding and enjoyable where friendships are strengthened and independence grows.

Happiness is Holmwood: a true Holm from Home.

Overnight Stays at Holmwood are a good introduction to boarding life for any pupil who wishes to go on to a senior school which offers flexi or full time boarding. All pupils at Holmwood start as day pupils and most pupils have been in the school for 5-6 years prior to staying overnight on a casual basis. Through the experience of staying overnight at the school, pupils are able to benefit from the facilities, to strengthen friendships and begin to learn how to be independent. Maximum contact is maintained with the parents, which is made easier by the close proximity of the parents' homes to the school.

Pupils staying overnight are deemed to be day pupils from 8.15am – 6.15pm. Outside these times, the pupils are referred to as 'boarders'. Continuity for the boarders is maintained through the school's pastoral care system.

The Aims of Overnight Stays

- For all pupils to enjoy their time in the school and to experience community living; developing qualities such as tolerance, flexibility and understanding the needs of others
- To prepare those who are going on to a senior boarding school
- To enjoy spending extended time with their friends



Your Questions Answered



What should I do if I feel unwell during the night?

You can knock on the staff doors during the night should you feel unwell.



When will I be able to have a bath or a shower?

Pupils may shower or bath in the evening before bedtime or in the mornings. You are not allowed to share toiletries or use aerosols due to health and safety reasons.



If I forgot something like my toothbrush or towel, what should I do?

Ask one of the staff and they will provide you with whatever you need.



What if I need clothes washed?

You may give your clothes to the staff at tea-time if it is needed for the following day.



What activities are there?

Every evening, the staff team organise a range of activities in response to requests. These can include swimming, ICT, various sporting activities in the Sports Hall or on the field in summer; tennis; music; dancing; cookery; art activities such as portfolio work, poster, crafts and hobbies; games in the cellars.



What should I bring to school?

- One sets of sensible play clothes (to be kept in your locker)
- Suitable nightwear including a compulsory dressing gown, slippers with hard soles and flip-flops for trips to bathroom
- Wash bag with shampoo and towel
- Hairbrush or comb
- Full set of school uniform (plus a spare set)



What are the expectations for behaviour?

All pupils are expected to show care, courtesy and consideration to others and behave responsibly. Good behaviour is recognised by the awarding of a boy's and girl's dorm of the night every morning, which is recognised with a certificate on the door and extra whisper time for the top scoring dorm each half term. Extra tuck is the reward!

Pupils whose behaviour is not quite what is expected will eat breakfast away from their friends the following morning. Pupils whose behaviour disturbs the sleep of others receive a warning; continued disruption will result in them being moved to a different room, which may mean them sleeping alone.

Serious behaviour incidents will mean nights of boarding will be missed - definitely not a good idea.



Evening Routine



6.15pm Changing upstairs

6.30pm Supper and Tuck, followed by Activities

7.30pm Snacks in the dining room for Year 4

7.45pm Year 4 upstairs

7.45pm Snacks in the dining room for Years 5 & 6

8.00pm Years 5 & 6 upstairs

8.00pm Snacks in the dining room for Year 7

8.15pm Year 7 upstairs



8.15pm Snacks in the dining room for Year 8

8.30pm Year 8 upstairs

8.15pm Snacks in the dining room for Year

8.45pm Year 8 upstairs

8.15pm Lights out for Year 4

8.30pm Lights out for Year 5

8.40pm Lights out for Year 6

9.00pm Lights out for Year 7

9.15pm Lights out for Year 8

9.30pm Lights out for Year 9



Theme Nights will follow a slightly different format due to activities.

The pupils have use of the swimming pool once per half term, on those evening a cold supper is provided after the swimming session.

Facilities and Play Areas



We make the most of the school's facilities that are available including the library, art room and Jubilee Hall and outdoor areas.

The cookery room and swimming pool are used for supervised activities (qualified staff are on hand whenever swimming is offered).

A large cinema-type screen is available for films and sporting events at agreed times.

The Cellars

You can chillout in cellars in the evenings for recreation. There are facilities for playing pool, table football, air hockey, safe darts and table tennis. There is also a television lounge for watching films and television programmes.

Outside

You may play in outdoor lit areas as well as the indoor facilities in winter. In the summer months, you may also use the tennis courts and the games field.

Pupils are always supervised.

Someone to turn to...

What to do if you are worried or unhappy

It doesn't matter what the problem is, whether you feel worried about something, are concerned about the way you have been treated, perhaps someone else is upset or you are feeling homesick or do not understand the work you have to do, **there is always someone to whom you can turn - someone who will listen.**

The most important thing to remember is that if you are worried or unhappy about anything, then you **MUST** tell someone.

Who to see

Please remember, first and foremost, your parents will listen and understand if you want to talk to or confide in them. They in turn may want to talk to your tutor or any other member of staff.

In school, the first person to turn to is your tutor. You can also talk to Mrs Bradbury (Deputy Head). Alternatively, you may prefer to see any of the staff. If you feel that none of these people can help, you can talk to an independent listener (see panel).

There is also, of course, the national free-phone helpline, Childline. Any member of staff can also put you in touch with someone who will visit the school from time to time from the local Social Services department. These are all people who will listen to your worries and try to help you if they can. The important thing is that if something is upsetting you, the sooner you talk to someone, the quicker and easier it will be to sort out the problem!

Current Staff Team

Mr Bond	Mr Cook
Mrs Bradbury	Ms Fenn
Mrs Baker	Mr Hyslop
Mr White	Tia Rawaqa

Telephone Numbers

Childline 0800 1111
(Childline information booklets are available in the phone booth, on the notice board)

Help at Hand 0800 528 0731

Independent Listeners
Georgina Blight
07880 316541

Remember - you will not get into trouble just because you complain about something or someone.

In keeping with national guidelines, the school has sensible policies concerning your safety.



Mobile Phones and other Electronic Devices



Years 7,8&9 may bring mobile phones into school. Any electronic devices with cameras or the facility to access the internet are not allowed. Phones must be registered with the staff and may only be used during specific times. They are handed back to the staff overnight. There are two school mobile phones for you to use & receive calls from parents.

Meals and Tuck

Everyone has a cooked meal at pm. Breakfast is served at 7.30am.

We have a Tuck Shop. No food should be brought in from home.



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