



## *Junior School Information for Boarders*

Boarders enjoy a vibrant and caring atmosphere within the boarding house where we create a home from home. There is a dedicated team of staff to care for the boarders and a carefully programmed structure of activities and opportunities for the boarders to enjoy in the evenings and at weekends. Day pupils are welcome to join in boarding activities if there is space, and if they would like to do so, parents may book this through the Houseparent at [juniorschool@gordonstoun.org.uk](mailto:juniorschool@gordonstoun.org.uk)

### **Communication**

You are always welcome to contact your child and they can contact you. Children are able to phone home in the evenings either from their own phone or the house phone, and for international boarders whose parents live in a different time zone, alternative arrangements may be made. If you wish to phone the school in the evening you can phone the house phone.

### **Guardianship**

We ask that all pupils whose parents are living abroad have a guardian or educational guardian resident in the United Kingdom and, preferably, within travelling distance of the school. This is part of the school's responsibility to safeguard and promote the pupil's wellbeing, to be an extra source of security for the pupil, to be involved, in the parents' absence, in school activities (particularly Parents' Days) and to provide accommodation over Leave Out/Open Day Weekends if required.

The school provides an Educational Guardianship Service and, in the event of you not having a guardian/educational guardian for your child in this country, we will select a carefully chosen family on your behalf. The cost of a school appointed Guardian is £605 per term and an additional £84 per night that the student resides with the Guardian. The fee is added to the termly bill and is subject to change. For further details contact [juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk](mailto:juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk)

### **Weekly Boarding**

Weekly boarders are expected to return to school at the same time as full boarders at the start of every term. They should be in school by 1900 on Sunday evening to ensure that they attend the Boarding House meeting and are prepared and ready for the Monday morning start. They are welcome to return at 5pm in order to attend supper. Please inform your Houseparent if you intend to take up this option.

Weekly boarders up to Year 7 may depart after the Friday Service at 1730. They should depart in their school uniform and leave their bed areas neat and tidy for the weekend. Weekly boarders in Year 8 may board on Friday night before departing at 1215 on Saturday after morning lessons. Weekly boarders should have a holdall to take things to and from home at weekends.

### **Occasional Boarding**

If there are spaces available for the term ahead there may be the opportunity for pupils to occasionally board, where they can 'have a go' at boarding, either on a one off or a regular basis, and join in all the boarding activities on the nights they board. There will be a fee per night that will be added to the school bill at the end of each term. If you would like to take up this option then please email [juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk](mailto:juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk)



## **Going Out**

We are often asked if boarders can go out to friends' houses for the weekend and this is always a kind and generous gesture. However, we do wish to take into account boarding numbers staying in at the weekend and ensure that there is a full boarding ethos within the school. In addition, a full boarding programme is always planned and boarders are taken into account in the planning stage. We ask that all requests are put to our Houseparent so that correct permissions can be obtained from both families.

## **Pocket Money and Valuable Items**

Boarding pupils should bring some pocket money with them to last them the term. There will be regular times when children will be allowed to spend their pocket money and we allow children to withdraw a certain amount to teach careful exercises in budgeting. We recommend that children bring no more than £50 per term, ideally in small denominations. We do not allow children to go "overdrawn" and this provides valuable lessons in budgeting and forward planning for the children. All children have a lockable space but important items such as passports must be handed in to the Houseparent for safe keeping.

## **Authorisation for Expenditure**

Although boarders will have some pocket money, it may not be enough to cover expenditure on books, stationery or other exceptional purchases. To avoid confusion and to ease administration, authorisation in advance from parents permitting expenditure up to a set amount will save unnecessary telephone calls. A figure of £30 per term is recommended. Control over expenditure will be maintained and only essential purchases will be authorised. We shall assume you authorise such expenditure. If you do not wish to authorise expenditure please inform your Houseparent at [juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk](mailto:juniorboarding@gordonstoun.org.uk) before the start of the Autumn Term.

## **Bicycles and Skateboards**

Bicycles are useful and an important source of recreation and fun and your child may bring a bicycle to school. Please ensure that it is in good working order. It is not necessary to have a bicycle at school and it may well be a matter you will wish to discuss with the Houseparent. We do not allow the borrowing of bikes and pupils who have bicycles at school will be required to wear helmets at all times when they are riding their bicycles. We are happy for bicycles to be left at school during the holidays but cannot be responsible for loss or damage at any time.

At the start of term there is a bike safety check and all bikes are recorded and labelled for security. Bicycles which are considered unsafe will not be allowed to be ridden. Skateboards and scooters are also permitted and a helmet is required to be worn by pupils who use these items.

## **Linen**

One single duvet and pillow is encouraged and pupils are asked to bring their own bed linen with them, (2 named sets of single fitted sheets, duvet cover and pillow case) which is laundered by the School.

