



ARE YOU  
QE READY?

YEARS 3 TO 5

# WELCOME

from the Head of Student Wellbeing

A very warm welcome to QE, we are all looking forward to your son/daughter joining our boarding community. We hope that they are ready to join a diverse and happy community where they will have many opportunities to not only study but get involved in a wide range of activities, try new experiences, take on leadership roles and most importantly make lifelong friends!

To help us ensure your son/daughter has the best possible experience please take the time to complete the questionnaire below so that our house parents can prepare fully for their arrival.

<https://forms.office.com/e/w9LD1DqXre>

Below you will find additional information that is important to help ensure your son/daughter has everything they need ready for their arrival.



# WELCOME

from the House Mistress  
Wensley Years 3 to 5 boys and girls

Welcome to Wensley! I am Miss Brewer, and I am the Housemistress for Wensley house.

I hope your child is as excited as we are for the new academic year. Wensley house is all about friendships,



making memories and having a magical time led by boarder ideas and their interests. We look

forward to meeting you and your families and working together to make your child's time with us as fun as possible. This year we're going to have a real focus on boarder led approach through our prefect programme, as well as learning some new life skills. If you are worried about your child joining us, this is a normal feeling, but we are here to support you and your child with any issues or worries that you may have. We look forward to your child embarking on their new adventure with us.



# What to bring for your stay in boarding with us

It is important that your child brings items that will make their stay in boarding a comfortable and homely experience. It is recommended students will only need a maximum of two normal size suitcases worth of clothing for a half term; this should comfortably fit in the storage space provided.



## Please find below a useful list of items to bring

- Full school uniform (All property needs to be clearly labelled with the student's full name)
- Stationary for school
- Casual clothes (Including underwear, sportswear, pyjamas, dressing gown, swimwear)
- A couple of smart outfits for social events during the year
- Comfortable trainers, slippers or sliders (to be always worn in and around the house)
- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, roll on deodorant, sanitary products, toothpaste, toothbrush, hairbrush)
- Photographs and posters (to personalise your room)
- Own bedding (to personalise your room, but this is also provided for you)
- Electronic Devices – parents will need to complete a declaration form on arrival to the boarding house so we have a log of your child's valuable possessions)
- Tuck (Dry foods only such as crisps, chocolate and sweets). Students will need to hand in their tuck and are provided with it weekly.

## The facilities in each bedroom include:

- A bed with duvet, pillow, bed linen and towels provided.
- An en-suite bathroom with a shower, toilet, shelving units, mirror, sink and toothbrush holder.
- A wardrobe space with hangers provided.
- Storage space to keep items.
- A safe for each student to keep valuables in (All students are strongly encouraged to use the safe provided for all valuables they have possession of)
- Each room is accessible by secure key card system.

All rooms are either two, three or four bed and rooming is allocated by the boarding staff at the start of the year. All students are provided with the opportunity of a room change at October Half Term and are encouraged to wait until this time for friendships to be established before changing.



## Cooking at QE

Our students love to cook at QE, sharing family favourites and cultural specialities – we have fully furnished common rooms with up-to-date facilities and so there is no need for your child to bring any cooking equipment onto site. This allows us to ensure all items meet health and safety standards so that our students can enjoy meals together.

### Items that are not allowed in boarding

To ensure the safety of all boarders there are some items that are not allowed to be brought onto site. Please note that this list is not exhaustive:

#### Electrical items:

- Electric Blankets
- Multi-Plug Adaptors
- Kettles
- Electrical Cooking Equipment
- Wax Melts
- Plug-in Air Fresheners

### Other items not allowed in rooms:

- Chewing Gum
- Medication
- Aerosols
- Nut Products
- Protein Powder
- Energy Drinks
- Gym Supplements
- Humidifiers and Diffusers  
(If there is a medical reason for this, then it will be considered on an individual basis)



## The day in the life of Boarder

At Queen Ethelburga's we have 12 established houses, which are set up with a House Master or House Mistress along with a team of outstanding houseparents. Each house has a unique house routine which is tailored to the needs of the student for their age.

### School Days – including Sunday night

- Students are woken up for School by a Houseparent.
- Students to attend breakfast in the Undercroft – this is compulsory for all Chapter House boarders.
- Before students attend school
  - Students who take regular medication to seek support from House Parent.
  - Students who hand in electronics to collect after breakfast.
  - Students to tidy their room before leaving house for School.
- Boarding house is locked for the School day from 08:25 until 16:10.
- Students return from School and hand in uniform to house staff
- Students to attend dinner in the Undercroft or Atrium.
- Curfew for all students at 19:00 - 20:00 to engage in Power Hour.
- Student house meetings are held (Sunday only)
- Toast Time in the common room
- Students to hand in all electronic devices before going to their own rooms
- Own Rooms at 8.20pm and lights out for all students 8.30pm.

## Friday Night and Weekends

- Students are checked on quietly and the common room and house are unlocked.
- Breakfast is available in the common room.
- Students can collect their electronics from a Houseparent.
- Students who take regular medication can seek support from a House Parent throughout the day.
- Students to attend Brunch in the Undercroft from 11:30.
- All students who are onsite must roll call with a member of staff at 13:00.
- Students can attend organised house activities or attend offsite trips.
- Students to attend Dinner in the Undercroft from 17:00 until 18:00.
- Students to have free time until their curfew.
- Toast Time in the common room
- Students hand in all electronic devices before going back to their own rooms.
- Own Rooms at 8.30pm and lights out for all students 8.45pm.



## Setting up a Bank Card for your Child

From September 2024, our campus will operate as an entirely cashless system for all purchases. This means that all transactions, including all food and drink outlets on campus, our school uniform shop, vending machines and boarding sweet shop will be cashless for all purchases. Therefore, it is imperative that your child has access to banking facilities which will enable them to pay by card or via contactless payment whilst on campus.

We would be grateful if you would arrange to set up an account suitable to your and your child's needs before they join us.

With banks now offering ever increasing services for young people, with accounts including bank cards that parents can control from their mobile phones, for example, Go Henry, Rooster, Monzo, and Revolut cards we are encouraging all parents to look at these services and choose an option suitable to them.

### What are the benefits?

Adopting a cashless system for pocket money benefits both you and your child. Not only do you have more direct control over your child's pocket money account to oversee their spending, but you will also be able to top up your child's pocket money direct from the comfort of your own home.



## Party Packages

We are pleased to offer parents and guardians the ease of planning for their child's birthday or celebration via a booking form.

We are offering various packages from £20 - £50 which include cake, snacks, decorations and more. We can tailor the packages to suit your requirements and we will try our best to be able to fulfil any special requirements. If you wish to book a party package, please log onto the [Portal](#) and then click on this link [Party Packages](#). All bookings must be made 14 days before the event.

## Boarding Bites!

An initiative that has been successful and we are continuing to use is [Boarding Bites](#) which is a company purely focused on providing healthy snacks and treats in boxes for students at boarding schools. To simplify the process, they have created bespoke tuck boxes your friends and family can send to your loved ones anytime or automatically through the subscription service 4 times a term. Each healthy snack tuck box contains both well-known brands, as well as crafted snacks. Some are vegan or allergen free, but most of all they are a healthier alternative. <https://boardingbites.co.uk/pages/our-boxes>

## Uniform

We take great pride in the appearance of our students and encourage parents/guardians to purchase uniform via our online shop [School Shop \(square.site\)](#) prior to their child's arrival to ensure that they are ready for school right from the very start!

Online school shop orders have never been easier, and we continue to receive lots of positive feedback from our students & their families.

Please see the website for details of what uniform is required for your child.



## Boarding Management Team



**Jemma Holroyd**  
Head of Student  
Wellbeing



**Elizabeth Gibson**  
Enrichment Lead



**Michael Howard**  
Pastoral Lead



**Joseph McAnerney**  
Health and  
Safety Lead



**Natalia Popovics**  
Academic Lead



**Kieran Jones**  
Staff Development  
Lead



**Beth Wilcox**  
Admissions and  
Marketing Lead

We hope you find this information useful and that it helps you and your child prepare for boarding at Queen Ethelburga's. It might seem like a long way off, however your arrival day, the 2nd September, will come around much quicker than you expect! We hope that you have an enjoyable Summer as a family, and we look forward to welcoming you very soon.

If you have any questions about boarding, then please email [studentwellbeing@qe.org](mailto:studentwellbeing@qe.org)