

Boarding Handbook

Advice and Information



PRIOR PARK
COLLEGE
BATH



INTRODUCTION

Prior Park is known as a strong community school, which is welcoming, positive and cheerful with great stress on pastoral care and mutual support. The school has academic strength across the curriculum, complemented by a reputation for excellence in the arts and high standards in sport and outward bound activities. Pupils joining the school will be supported, encouraged, challenged and very much welcomed.

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ST PAUL'S HOUSE

Allen Housemaster: Mr Anthony Lovat
E: alovat@priorparkschools.com

Roche Housemaster: Mr David Holmes
E: dholmes@priorparkschools.com

ST MARY'S HOUSE

Housemistress: Mrs Lisa Seward
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BOARDING LIFE

BOARDING AND PASTORAL CARE AT PRIOR

Prior Park boarding has existed since 1830 and we believe that the family atmosphere of the school is enhanced greatly by its boarding community. Boarding is mainly either full or weekly, but we offer flexi and some occasional boarding if we have availability.

The ethos of the school is one of inclusion, nurture and challenge, based firmly on the principles of a Catholic Christian education, with boarders given high quality pastoral care in defined House units run by specialist boarding staff. Each House has a dedicated live-in Housemaster or Housemistress, a deputy and a team of tutors, to ensure the pastoral care and organisation essential to the community and to every individual. Junior boarders (Years 7 and 8) have their own House parents.

ADMISSIONS TO BOARDING

Normal entry points are at 11+ (Year 7), 13+ (Year 9) and 16+ (Year 12), involving interview, tests and school reports. Provision is made for pupils with language development needs through our EAL (English as an Additional Language) and Language Support programmes. A range of awards are available. All registrations and admissions occur through the Registrar.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

Pupils whose mother tongue is not English sit the Prior Park College entrance test in English. Parents will be advised about how much EAL support we feel that the pupil will need. There is a charge for this help. In Years 10-11 international pupils study IGCSE in EAL and no charge is levied for this course. EAL workshops are also given as an activity, in the Michaelmas Term, for international students which include debating, role-play, tasks and quizzes.

THE HOUSES

There are three boarding Houses, each with their own dedicated space and facilities. Junior boarders have their own communal areas within the boarding Houses. The wider facilities of the campus are also available to all boarders, including sports and music resources.

The school has a rich programme of extra-curricular activities and there are frequent concerts and drama productions. The local shops of Combe Down village give easy access to any necessary provisions, whilst Bath offers sightseeing, shopping, cinema, theatre and sport.

Allen House and Roche House (for boys) are both housed in St Paul's, a large Georgian building. The girls House, St Mary's, is situated in a considerably extended 18th Century lodge. Routine dining takes place in the Mansion dining hall (breakfast, lunch, dinner) and an evening snack is taken in Houses.

The Houses are supported by resident House Matrons, a Lay Chaplain, an on-site Health and Wellbeing Centre and a central provision for catering.

BOARDING ETHOS AND PRINCIPLES

Boarding Houses provide a term-time home for pupils and give a tremendous opportunity for positive development.

We believe boarding is a highly worthwhile pursuit, offering countless opportunities for pupils in a positive, close-knit and supportive community.

Within boarding we recognise:

- The development of the whole person and the communication of values are vital
- Being an open and trusting school, boarding is based upon mutual respect for all its members
- Each boarder has the right to be able to work, play and relax free from abuse, intimidation, harassment, teasing and bullying
- There is equality of opportunity and respect for all boarders, regardless of ethnicity, culture, gender or disability
- Each boarder and each member of staff is to be treated as an individual and with respect by other pupils and by staff
- Each boarder has a right to privacy. Boarders and staff acknowledge the right of each other to privacy
- Each boarder has the right to extend his or her intellectual growth in an atmosphere of positive encouragement and in conditions that are conducive to learning



- All boarders should be able to develop physically, spiritually, intellectually, morally and socially
- Despite the distance separating boarders from their families, links with parents are seen as an indispensable part of the support and development of boarders.

The House is a vital unit in fostering the development of the whole person and communicating positive values, creating attitudes and behaviour which means every member of the community can flourish and feel safe and at ease. High expectations will be set and all pupils will be encouraged to strive for excellence in whatever they do.

Conduct of boarding Houses follows the stipulations of National Minimum Standards for Boarding, the ISI framework and the principles of Children Act Guidance. For example, "The maintenance of good discipline is paramount for the growth, welfare and development of pupils... success in producing a well-disciplined atmosphere will depend on the complex interaction of a wide range of factors and will be rooted in the overall ethos of the school."

Some of these factors include:

- The quality of relationships between boarders and staff. There needs to be a mutual respect and understanding between boarders and staff
- The quality of the relationships and the need for mutual respect between boarders is equally important.

By complying with such vital guidance we will produce successful House communities.

PASTORAL CARE

WELCOME AND INDUCTION

New boarders are welcomed to the College the day before existing boarders return. House staff are on hand to help familiarise students with routines and procedures. Details of the House systems, from prep to laundry, are explained to ensure all pupils know their way around.

Planned Tutor time allows easy access to information and duty staff are always visible and available.

CONTACT AND INFORMATION

Pupils can easily contact parents using email or mobile phones. A landline exists in all Houses and opportunities to use Skype also exist. Surface mail is sent and distributed daily from Reception. Pupils are allowed to use mobile phones in Houses, but use around the school is restricted. Please do not contact pupils during lesson times (see details in the Community Handbook). Use of all electronic media is governed by the Prior Park College ICT Acceptable Usage Policy, which all families agree to on arrival. This Policy commits boarders to thoughtful, considerate and sensible use of ICT.

Parents will find it easy to contact children or House staff by email or telephone. The school information system, SchoolBase, will enable parents to access reports and progress (you will be given a password and log in details).

The Housemaster or Housemistress offers a clear point of contact for boarding parents and the Tutor is ideal to contact for any routine matter.

HEALTH PROVISION

Prior Park College has a central Health and Wellbeing Centre. All boarders are required to register with the Centre and parents must alert us to any medical conditions and need for medication. All medication and treatment plans are administered by the Health and Wellbeing Centre.

The School Medical Officer (from the local Combe Down Medical Practice) visits the school and conducts surgeries every week.

The Health and Wellbeing Centre can also coordinate necessary visits to the local surgery, dentists, hospital and to counsellors as required.

The Community Handbook details the hours of Health and Wellbeing Centre opening. It also provides a range of useful contact numbers, including Childline (T: 0800 1111) and Children's Rights Director (T: 0800 528 0731).

DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS

SECURITY

Pupils should keep all possessions neatly and tidily in their rooms, taking responsibility for the security of their own possessions.

The College augments personal responsibility with the following measures:

- CCTV monitoring of entrances to the school
- Monitoring of the premises by a site security manager
- Use of coded locks on the doors of all Houses, so that only members of the House enter freely (with codes changed periodically)
- Provision of lockable boxes or cupboards to secure possessions when out of the House (please provide your own padlock)
- Deposit of larger sums of money with the House banks (and locking in the House safe)
- Careful badging and supervision of personnel visiting the House or College
- Routine patrolling by House duty staff and House domestic staff
- Duty staff ensure a security and locking procedure is completed at the end of duty
- Travel documents or passports should be lodged securely with the House Matron for ready access when end of term or half term comes
- Valuable items such as personal computers, cameras, iPads, etc, will be covered under your personal home insurance unless you opt to participate in the College insurance scheme (explained in the Community Handbook and/or Joining Instructions)
- We take security very seriously and breaches of good order are very grave - any theft by a pupil will encounter major school sanctions.

FIRE SAFETY

Houses are equipped with extensive fire safety equipment, including smoke detectors and fire retardant doors. If a fire bell rings pupils must evacuate buildings. During the school day everyone gathers on the Mansion bank. Before or after the school day, people gather immediately outside their House in the specified area. Two fire drills are held every term to ensure safe compliance. Any pupil discovering a fire should shout "FIRE", activate the nearest fire alarm and leave the building.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

All staff at the school are recruited with care and are subject to the necessary Disclosure and Barring Service checks and detailed interviews.

Staff are trained in Child Protection awareness and procedures in the event of any concern. The school Child Protection Policy is available on the College website (see the Policies section). The College has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Deputy Head Pastoral) and a Deputy (Lead Nurse).

HOUSE MATRONS

All Houses are overseen on a domestic basis by a House Matron. With a team of cleaners and maintenance staff, the House Matron attends to cleanliness and correct function. Laundry is coordinated by the House Matron and done in the Mansion for Y7-Y11 boarders. Sixth Form boarders laundry is done in their boarding House. Pupils need to ensure items are labelled and to change their bed linen every week. House Matrons can assist with any minor repairs as needed. House Matrons make a weekly audit of all rooms and report to the Housemaster or Housemistress. House Matrons run the House banks and student pocket money.

ACCOMMODATION AND STUDY

All areas have a bed, a wardrobe, desk space, bedside cupboard (including a lockable element), with extensive communal desk space or study facilities on the ground floor.

Younger pupils share rooms and senior pupils tend to have single study bedrooms. Pupils are invited to personalise and customise their space, but must give due regard to College standards (avoiding offensive material) and avoid damage to paintwork. Pupils are expected to take an active part in keeping rooms tidy and clean. Access to the internet is available in all Houses.

Staff and senior pupils are available to assist boarders with homework or prep issues, with defined evening prep (from 7.00pm) and quiet areas for work outside stated prep slots.

At Michaelmas Term exeats and holidays, boarders are expected to go home or to guardians.



All travel and accommodation arrangements must be confirmed with Housemasters or Housemistress. All travel arrangements are collated by the House Matrons.

Visits to school friends (for weekend stays as guests of a family) must be formally agreed well in advance (at least 48 hours) and confirmed in writing by email.

It may be necessary to clear rooms for short vacations, but it is normally acceptable to store items neatly in rooms at pupils' own risk. At the end of the year, all rooms must be cleared.

GOING OFF-SITE

- No boarding pupil can leave the site without permission and all are expected to be in school or within school bounds throughout the school day
- All pupils will register with their Tutor in the morning and afternoon, Monday to Friday, and attend roll calls during the weekends
- Boarding pupils may sign out to visit Combe Down village shops after 4.20pm for a short visit. Visits to the shops are acceptable, but any travel further afield must be agreed with the Housemaster or Housemistress. At weekends, boarders may sign out to go to the village in the afternoon. Any evening access must be agreed with the duty Tutor. Sixth Form boarders may go to the village in long breaks (lunch and mid-morning)
- Boarding pupils may seek permission to visit Bath on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. They need to request for this from the duty Tutor and sign out
- Mid-week authority to visit Bath (from 4.30pm-6.00pm) may be sought if necessary
- Sixth Form pupils may request permission to visit Bath on Saturday evenings from around 7.00pm onwards
- Mid-week evening visits are not normally allowed - an exception would be a visiting parent taking them out or Tutor outing.

In general, pupils never go out alone and always go with a few friends. All must be aware of the public and personal safety; and aware of traffic, using pedestrian crossings when available.

BOARDING ROUTINES AND EXPECTATIONS

SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Boarders are expected to attend all scheduled events and participate in a positive, cooperative spirit;
- Attend and eat all meals provided
 - Attend all specified lessons and activities
 - Engage in sports and play in matches
 - Attend all assemblies and Tutor sessions
 - Attend Chapel on Sundays and specified school Masses
 - Act as guides to visitors and on Open Days as required
 - To use the Health and Wellbeing Centre when ill.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

- Boarders are expected to engage in positive behaviour and to refrain from behaviour damaging to others:
- To follow College rules and expectations (stated in the Diary and Community Handbook)
 - To respect the Anti-Bullying Charter
 - To refrain from inappropriate use of alcohol and drugs
 - To refrain from smoking
 - To avoid inappropriate sexual behaviour
 - To ensure ICT is used properly in line with the ICT User Agreement.

SUPPORTIVE REGIME

- Boarders are expected to contribute to a positive and supportive regime in the House.
- Participate in House management committee
 - Offering ideas to House staff for improvements
 - Playing a role in routine tidiness and an orderly, pleasant atmosphere
 - Taking responsibility for their own learning and supporting the learning of others
 - Offering an example of mutual encouragement and a culture of kindness.

ASPECTS OF ROUTINE

From 8.30am until 6pm, the L3 boarders will be part of Baines House and F3 boarders will be part of Brownlow House. When they return to St. Paul's and St. Mary's at 6pm, their routine will be different to older boarders.

- 6.00pm Supper
- 6.30pm Evening activity

- 7.30pm Social time in house
- 8.25pm Evening prayer
- 8.30pm Boarders to rooms for showers and bedtime routine
- 9.00pm Lights out

In the morning, junior boarders will attend breakfast from 7.30am along with other students.

MEALS

Breakfast	7.30am-8.00am	Monday-Friday
	8.30am-9.00am	Saturday
	9.15am-9.45am	Sunday
Lunch	From 12.30pm	Every day
Supper	6.00pm-6.30pm	At 7.00pm on Saturday

In addition, there are evening snacks in House around 9.00pm and events like House Dinners, tea after fixtures and refreshments at events.

PREP

Prep or homework is supervised in Houses. Early slots exist from 4.40pm-6.00pm, but the main time is from 7.00pm-8.30pm. Prep times are available on Saturday and Sunday in House.

PRAYER

Prayers are a feature of all House and School assemblies and Tutor time. For boarders in F4 and above, evening prayers are said around 9.45pm. Attendance on Sunday is required for all in residence and Mass is said for all the community at the start of term. All terms end with a community religious celebration.

BOARDING EVENTS

BOARDING EVENTS

- Weekend activities can include trips to Theme Parks or the beach, visits to Bath, events in the College, weekend sports and Saturday Active.
- Visits to other Houses and hosting visitors to their own House occur in free time and must have appropriate permission (returning to Houses at the defined times)
- Fitness facilities (Gym, Pool, Fitness Centre) are available to boarders in the evenings and weekends at specified times
- A range of school events including concerts and plays are available throughout term time

- (where necessary, tickets can be purchased via the College Box Office or the cost can be added to the bill)
- Details of School Routines and the shape of the day are contained in the Community Handbook
 - House competitions also feature in every term including the Mathematics Challenge, the Mercer Cup (Table Tennis), Inter-House Music and the Fisher Road Relay
 - Houses also host barbecues and receptions at various points in the year.
 - Parents' evenings are scheduled in the Michaelmas and Lent terms and listed in the term diary. Parents are sent a letter to remind them and to say if they are able to make appointments through the SchoolBase system
 - Speech Day occurs on the last Saturday of the school year
 - There are two Carol Services at the end of the Michaelmas term, boarding parents may attend either.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW FAR ARE THE AIRPORTS FROM PRIOR PARK COLLEGE?

Bristol International is 40 minutes by road, Heathrow is 2 hours, Gatwick is 2 hours 30 minutes.

WHICH IS THE NEAREST TRAIN STATION?

Bath Spa is our nearest mainline train station, a 5 minute taxi or bus journey away.

IF I FLY TO BRISTOL, HEATHROW, OR GATWICK, HOW DO I GET TO PRIOR PARK COLLEGE?

From Heathrow there is a National Express bus direct link from Heathrow to Bath. Boarders find it easy to reach Heathrow either by bus or train. From Bristol you can get a taxi direct from the airport to the College, or travel by coach to Bath, then a short taxi ride up to Prior Park. From Gatwick, you can get a National Express bus via Heathrow, travelling on to Bath. Or travel independently by airport bus to Reading train station, then by train to Bath Spa. The train station is a 5 minute taxi or bus journey away from the College. The first time you travel we would advise getting a taxi directly to Prior Park College, making the journey as easy as possible.

**DO I HAVE TO BE CATHOLIC TO ATTEND PRIOR PARK COLLEGE?**

No, Prior welcomes students from all faith backgrounds and those with no faith.

HOW DO I FIND MY WAY AROUND WHEN I FIRST ARRIVE?

The site is beautiful and easy to manage for pupils. All Houses are within the grounds and conveniently located for on-site facilities. Each new boarder is given a 'Mentor' (an older pupil or a pupil from the same year group) to care for them, and show them around. There is also a year group prefect and a House Tutor for every year group. All the staff will be on hand to help you get comfortable with the new surroundings.

WHAT IS THE BOARDING ACCOMMODATION LIKE?

Both boys Houses are situated in St Paul's, girls in St Mary's. Every House is self-contained and has its own facilities, although dining is central (in the Mansion Dining Hall). L3 and F3 boarders have their own social space and we feel it's important for junior boarders to have their own distinct living space. However, they will also have full access to the boarding house (TV rooms, Games rooms, kitchens etc.) and we want junior boarders to be active members of the boarding community. Younger pupils tend to have shared rooms (2, 3 or 4) and separate study facilities are also available. Older pupils (16-18 year olds) have mainly individual study bedrooms, but some do share with another student.

WHAT DOES THE HOUSEMASTER OR HOUSEMISTRESS DO AND HOW OFTEN CAN I SEE HIM OR HER?

The Housemaster or Housemistress is the head of a pastoral team of five teachers plus domestic staff. The pastoral team combines to run the House, seeing the pupils routinely every day and overseeing the good order and pastoral care in the House.

WHAT DOES MY TUTOR DO?

Your Tutor offers pastoral care and academic guidance, they will be allocated a specific year group in the House to be responsible for and will see them every day. Your Tutor is the first person to contact if you have any problems. Tutors will

oversee your academic progress and social development. Tutors are also the first 'port of call' for parents.

HOW OFTEN CAN I SEE MY PARENTS?

You can see your parents as often as you like, though most new boarders are encouraged to spend two to three weeks adjusting. Parents are welcome to visit at any time.

IF I WANT TO GO HOME AT THE WEEKENDS, WHEN CAN I GO HOME AND WHEN CAN I COME BACK?

On the first and last weekend of term we urge boarders to stay in school for the purpose of establishing routines, to undertake House celebrations and simply to prepare for the beginning and end of term. There is a full programme of Saturday sport (those selected must play), Sunday Mass (generally sung by the Chapel Choir), and weekend events and activities are arranged. Pupils should consider such commitments when arranging with Housemasters or Housemistresses and family about weekend visits home. Formal exeat exist, two in the Michaelmas Term and a voluntary exeat at May Bank Holiday.

WHEN CAN I RECEIVE OR MAKE PHONE CALLS?

Any time when a pupil is free, except during Prep (between 7.00pm - 9.00pm) and after 10.00pm (when mobile phone use should cease to allow proper rest).

CAN I USE A MOBILE PHONE?

Yes, but not after bedtime. Telephones have to be registered with the Housemaster or Housemistress and used in line with agreed conditions. Mobile phones should be invisible around the school, unless used for learning.

IS THERE A FACILITY FOR EMAIL?

Email facilities are available in all Houses, as well as across the school.

WHEN CAN I GO OUT IF I AM BOARDING OVER THE WEEKEND?

Pupils have easy access to shops in Combe Down Village. In addition, the sites, shopping, cinemas,

theatre and sport of the historic City of Bath are a short walk away. The school is located in beautiful parkland, which in itself offers wonderful recreation. Boarders can access Bath during the day at weekends, with Sixth Formers allowed to visit on a Saturday evening. Town visits are possible if necessary during the week (between 4.20pm and 6.00pm), but this must be agreed with Housemasters or Housemistresses.

WHAT ARE THE EVENING STUDY TIMES?

Form 4	7.00pm - 8.30pm
Lower 5 & Upper 5	7.00pm - 8.30pm (U5 may work later if required)
Lower 6 & Upper 6	7.00pm - 9.00pm (or later if required)

IS STUDY SUPERVISED?

All study times are supervised by duty staff, aided by prefects. In addition, a study atmosphere exists in areas of all Houses outside defined study slots. House prep rooms, the Library and the Academy Hall offer excellent venues for study.

IF I HAVE A WORRY OR PERSONAL PROBLEM WHO CAN I TURN TO?

You are part of a community and there is a team of people always available to help you with any concern. The Housemaster or Housemistress, your Tutor, and members of the House team are readily on hand. In addition, there is the Lay Chaplain, the Health and Wellbeing Centre, any Teacher you trust, and senior pupils in the House. Your Diary also lists helpful contact numbers, including an independent listener.

WILL I MEET DAY PUPILS SOCIALLY AROUND THE SCHOOL?

Yes - in lessons and activities. Integration of day and boarding boys and girls is an easy, natural feature of the school.

WHAT ARE EXEAT WEEKENDS?

On Exeat weekends all pupils are away from school. The school closes and there is no Saturday programme or Sunday Mass. There are two exeats in the Michaelmas Term and a voluntary one in the Summer Term, where boarders may go home or to friends or stay in school to study (due to public exams). On this weekend in May all meals remain available and Mass is celebrated.

WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE IF I AM ILL AT SCHOOL AND WILL MY PARENTS BE CONSULTED OVER MEDICAL MATTERS?

There is an on-site Health and Wellbeing Centre. The Lead Nurse and Nursing Sisters can provide nursing care at the College and can refer pupils to the School Medical Officer, Out of Hours Doctor's Services or the Hospital, if necessary. Where appropriate parents are consulted over medical matters.

WHAT PROPORTION OF BOARDING PUPILS STAY IN SCHOOL AT THE WEEKEND?

Generally approximately 70% of boarders are in residence over the weekend. Some weekends this figure is higher. All pupils are encouraged to stay on the first and last weekends of term. In addition there are generally some day pupils boarding for one night or longer.

WHAT WEEKEND ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO BOARDING PUPILS?

On Saturday morning there is a quiet study time followed by a range of about 20 different courses on our Saturday Active programme which boarders can opt for. These may include computer programming, sailing, street dance, golf, yoga, chess and much more. See the Saturday Active page on the website for more information.

On Saturday afternoons pupils take part or watch school sports fixtures, followed by a match tea. On Saturday evening Sixth Form pupils may meet friends in Bath whilst events are organised in the College for younger pupils. All boarding pupils participate in Mass on Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon pupils take part in activities such as tournaments, trips to theme parks, the cinema, ten-pin bowling, ice-skating and go-karting or have some free time. Many chose to catch up on prep (especially public exam groups) and there are permissions to Bath for shopping and cinema if required and appropriate. Each boarding House has different facilities including table tennis, billiards, Sky TV, computer games. The school's Fitness Centre is also open for boarders over the weekend.

SHOULD I LABEL MY POSSESSIONS?

Yes, everything must be labelled on arrival. You should also bring name labels with you for use by the laundry room staff.



COMMUNITY HANDBOOK EXTRACT

THE COMMUNITY HANDBOOK

You will find the full Community Handbook on the 'Admissions' section of the website www.priorparkcollege.com. Below you will find an extract relevant to boarding pupils.

BOARDERS' POCKET MONEY

In all Houses cash may be banked with the House matrons. Cheques should be made payable to the respective Houses (eg. St Mary's, Allen House, Roche House, Prior Park College, etc).

We strongly advise against parents of pupils below the Sixth Form allowing their sons or daughters to hold separate accounts (to which access may be gained in term-time) in banks, Post Office, Building Societies, etc. In any event, it is vital that Housemasters or Housemistresses are fully informed in detail of the financial arrangements in respect of pocket money for pupils under their care.

It must be clearly understood that the College can take no responsibility whatever for the way in which pupils manage independent financial accounts in Banks, Building Societies or similar.

Pupils are not able, except in cases of emergency, to secure advances of money from the Finance Department. In all Houses, limits are set to the amount of money to be held on a pupil's person at any time, such money being held at the pupil's own risk.

GUARDIANS

Pupils from overseas must have a guardian resident in England. The guardian should be readily available for consultation in the case of emergency and he or she must be responsible for making adequate provision for boys and girls during half-terms and exeat weekends. We advise that a guardian should not be a person of student age in the course of Higher Education.

The guardian must be appointed by the parents and any change of guardian notified immediately. The school is a member of AEGIS and we recommend that parents choose guardians who are accredited

by AEGIS (www.aegisuk.net). Sixth Form pupils from Europe, whose parents sign to say that they will visit the College in the case of difficulties and who confirm that pupils will return home for exeats and holidays, will be exempt from this.

EXEATS AND HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

All pupils should spend half-term and official exeat weekends with their parents or guardians. The College is unable to accommodate pupils over half-term or official exeat weekends. We do not allow pupils to seek temporary accommodation in Bath away from adult supervision and emphasise that boarders must conform to our requirements in this respect.

Parents or guardians of boarders are very welcome to visit at weekends. Pupils must fulfil their Saturday active and sports commitments on Saturday mornings or afternoons but parents may take their son or daughter out on Saturday evening returning to the College on Sunday at 6.00pm.

For such exeats parents or guardians must first obtain permission from the Housemaster or Housemistress. Requests, by email, letter or telephone, should be made by 9.00pm on the previous Thursday.

Because we wish to establish routines and in order for the community to be involved in the weekend social event, exeats are not usually granted on the first or last Sunday of a term for full boarders. On these Sundays there is a College Mass attended by the whole boarding community. Day pupils and their parents are especially welcome on those Sundays. Parents are most welcome to come to Mass (11.00am) on any Sunday and to refreshments afterwards in the Mansion.

We are fortunate that parents of day pupils often invite boarding pupils to their homes for exeats or other weekends. Parents will appreciate that there must be a clear and agreed procedure for the transfer of responsibility for boarding pupils from the College to home/guardian/other host family.

Parents are asked to contact the Housemaster or Housemistress to agree precise details. Boarders are allowed out to friends once each half-term. A form requesting details of travel arrangements

at half-term and end of term is sent each term to parents of boarding pupils. This form must be returned to the Housemaster or Housemistress in good time.

PERSONAL POSSESSIONS AND CASUAL CLOTHING

Boarders will need the following (girls and boys):

- 1 dressing gown
- 1 pair of slippers (optional)
- 1 pair of flip flops (for showers)
- 3 pairs pyjamas or nightdresses
- 6 to 8 changes of underwear
- 2 hand towels and flannels
- 2 bath towels
- 1 washable duvet plus two covers (the College provides sheets and pillowcases).
- Shoe cleaning equipment; hair brush and comb; nail clippers or scissors
- A supply of name tapes.
- A small number of casual clothes for the weekend and the evening. Storage space is limited so boarders should not bring too many clothes.

Please ensure all personal belongings, such as clothes, towels and bedding, that you bring with you have name-tags on them.

Pupils may bring digital items such as mobile phones or laptops, but these items are not covered by the College insurance. Parents are strongly advised to obtain their own insurance to cover these very expensive items in the event of loss or theft.

END OF TERM

Boarders are expected to go directly home at the end of term or at half-term. Exceptions to this rule must be sought by parents in writing to the Headmaster, at least one week in advance. Overseas boarders should note that all travel plans should avoid disrupting the normal routines of the school.

PARTIES

There are definite procedures for the invitation of boarders to parties during term time (Housemasters and Housemistresses will advise upon request).

As a general rule it is the College's view that parties are much better placed in holiday time. Only rarely, and after close consultation, would permission be granted to boarders to attend parties during term time from their boarding House.

TUCK SHOP

Each boarding house has a tuck shop which sells a variety of drinks and confectionery. Boarders are able to access shops in nearby Combe Down village.

FURTHER INFORMATION

WHERE CAN I FIND FURTHER INFORMATION?

You will find lots more information and news stories on our website – www.priorparkschools.com

If you have any further questions, please email the Admissions team, who will either answer your query, or put you in touch with the relevant person within the College – admissions@priorparkschools.com



PRIOR PARK
COLLEGE
BATH

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Information given in this document is believed to be correct at the time of printing (April 2019).

This, however, does not form part of any agreement between the College and current or prospective parents.

Those requiring information on specific matters should seek written confirmation from the College.