



Perrott Hill

**BOARDING  
HANDBOOK  
FOR PARENTS**

**2022-23**







## From the Head of Boarding

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A very warm welcome to boarding at Perrott Hill! Prep school boarding is something I am very passionate about and I am fortunate to have seen first hand the many benefits it brings to children – not least confidence, resilience and independence. For me, boarding is an important part of the well-rounded education on offer here at Perrott Hill and this booklet aims to set out what we offer.

If you haven't already seen it, I would encourage you to scan the QR code on page 10 to view one of our recent boarding video. Filmed during the summer term, it offers a brief glimpse into life as a boarder at Perrott Hill – and you can hear from some of our boarding staff (pages 6 and 7) and pupils (page 5) on what boarding means to them. We're always very happy to show parents and pupils around the dorms, whether you're interested in full, weekly, regular or flexi boarding, so please do not hesitate to get in touch if you'd like to come and take a look.

With best wishes,

Emma Layfield  
Head of Boarding







# Boarding at Perrott Hill

## A Nurturing Environment

At Perrott Hill, we aim to provide a nurturing environment where our boarders are safely cared for by a supportive team of dedicated staff. The school was formerly a family home to the Hoskyns family and we have six sets of staff and their families living onsite, which adds to the 'home from home' ethos we're known and loved for. We know that our boarders find fun and happiness at the heart of their boarding experience and this allows them to become confident, independent and resilient individuals who are ready for their senior school life and beyond.

## Award-Winning Provision

The boarding provision at Perrott Hill is excellent. The school won the Supporting Junior Boarders Award at the BSA Awards 2020, and was shortlisted in 2019 and 2022. We were also shortlisted for Prep School of the Year at the Tes Awards 2022, Best Prep School at the Tatler Schools Awards 2022 and Small Independent School of the Year at the Independent Schools of the Year Awards 2022, to name a few. We also feature annually in the Good Schools Guide and the Tatler Schools Guide, as well as in the local and national press.

*"Supporting junior boarders to flourish and fulfil themselves is at the heart of everything Perrott Hill does"*

**The Boarding Schools' Association (BSA)**

## Flexible Options

Pupils can start weekly and flexi boarding in Year 3 (7+), with full boarding being available from Year 5 (9+). Full boarders are cared for seven nights a week, but leave the school to stay with family, guardians or friends for exeats, half term and holidays. Weekly boarders sign up for a minimum of four nights during the week and can increase this to five nights at no extra cost. Like full boarders, weekly boarders have their own bed in the same dorm for a term. Regular boarders stay for one, two or three nights a week, booked in advance; while flexi boarders can book ad hoc beds subject to availability. Please note that Lower Prep pupils in Years 3 and 4 are very welcome as weekly boarders, with collection at 0820 on Saturday mornings or after the optional Saturday morning sports club which takes place from 0830-1000 and is charged separately.

## Pupils' View

"For me, boarding is about having fun with friends. My favourite activities are playing on the Astro and spending time in the ICT room. The main reason I board is to spend time with my friends in a fun environment. My favourite night is Friday and I get a good sleep when I board."

**Kai, Year 8**



"I like boarding because everyone is really nice and it's like one big family. Loft nights are really good fun and I especially love the pamper evenings."

**Ruby, Year 8**



"I love boarding because I get to play with my friends in the evening instead of just going home. It's really good fun. I also get to have a really big breakfast!"

**Oscar, Year 7**



"I love hanging out with my friends, the activities and the boarding staff!"

**Scarlet, Year 8**



## Academic and Music Support

Our day and boarding staff work together to provide the best possible outcomes for our pupils. As well as academic support for Upper Prep pupils, our boarding staff are on hand to support boarders with their music and performing arts practice, including supervised practice time on weekday mornings. Our Director of Music, Mr Shortman, meets with the boarders at the start of each term to draw up a suitable practice schedule which is then shared with parents and displayed in the dorms. In addition, we have a quiet room with computer access for pupils wishing to further their studies.



“Working in the boarding house allows me to interact with and contribute to the lives of the children in the prep school, which I love. My role is to help, guide and care for all the boys who board and to ensure they have fun and feel at home whilst at school. This year I am really looking forward to all the exciting weekend activities planned and taking on more responsibilities within the house.”

**Matthew Edgar**  
Assistant Houseparent

## A True Family Ethos

The boys' dorms – called the Boys' Den – are located in the main house, at the top of the Grundy staircase and across the hall from the Headmaster's Study. The girls' dorms – called the Girls' Den – are located in the main house, next to the Surgery. There are additional dorms at the top of the main house – called The Loft – and this is where our year group Loft Nights are held. Each room has between four and eight beds.

## Boarding Responsibilities

Boarders are nominated to represent the boarding community on various committees held termly, such as the food and IT committees. We have a suggestion box in each dorm where children can write down, in confidence, anything they want to feed back to staff. In addition, we have roles of responsibility including Boarding Captains and Boarding Buddies and we thoroughly enjoy seeing our boarders step up into these roles.



“My job as an Assistant Houseparent is to help look after the girls who board, making sure they feel safe, happy and at home. It's such a pleasure to see how much time and effort they put into decorating their dorms - there are photos, posters and motivational quotes everywhere!”

**Dr Longley-Cook**  
Assistant Houseparent

## Strong Communication

Communication between school and home is encouraged and the boarders have ample opportunities in the evenings to phone or Facetime home and keep in touch. We have a quiet room with laptops and iPads specifically set up for the children to have a private space to ring home, plus phones on each of the girls' and boys' landing along with the boarding mobile. Boarding staff keep in regular contact with parents and we post stories and photographs on social media, in The Week Ahead and in our termly Review magazine!

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What happens if my child is ill?

We will contact you if your child is ill, but rest assured they will be in safe hands! Your child will be monitored and cared for by both our School Nurse, Mrs Manley, and Boarding Matron, Mrs Tarrant, unless it is felt that they needed to come home to recover. We have a dedicated Surgery with two individual rooms with beds and we have access to a doctor where necessary.

### What does my child need to bring?

Kit lists will be sent out well in advance, but the most important thing is to make your dorm as homely as possible. Boarders are encouraged to bring their own duvet covers, pictures and posters, a teddy and their favourite book.

### What activities take place at the weekends?

We have a full programme of weekend activities, which are open to boarders and non-boarders and are published at the start of each term. Activities include things like dry slope skiing, go karting, paddle boarding and kayaking, so there is always plenty to do! We ask the boarders' for their suggestions too.

### How much does it cost?

The fees for full, weekly (4+ nights) and regular (1-3 nights) boarding can be viewed on our website which you can access [here](#). This term, we have introduced a new fully flexi fee which can be cancelled or moved with no financial penalty (although activities may incur a charge). This is £44.50 a night.

# The Boarding Routine

## Weekdays

- 0710 Wake up! Make beds, brush teeth, uniform on.
- 0730 An optional supervised music practice session for boarders receiving instrumental or performing arts lessons.
- 0740 Breakfast. There are different choices each day, from pastries to a full English, and there is always cereal, fruit, toast and fresh juices.
- 0810 We say Grace to start the day and then boarders head to their form rooms ready for school to start at 0820.
- 1745 The school day ends. Boarders go to the dorms to get changed into mufti. Dirty uniform goes in the wash!
- 1800 Supper in the dining room, supervised by teaching staff.
- 1830 Activity time until 1930. There is a choice of activities each evening and there is always a sporty and a non-sporty option. These are led by teaching staff and grads.
- 1930 Back into the dining room for a bedtime snack. Tuck is allowed twice a week! Boarding staff take over from this point onwards.
- 1945 Up to the dorms for showers and change into pjs. Boarders tend to chat about their day with the house staff and get organised for the next morning. Evening routines vary: sometimes we have a few games all together, other times we chill out and watch a film or read a bedtime story. Children are encouraged to phone home during this time to say hello, using the school phone or the boarding mobile.
- 2015 Bedtime routines start, with quiet reading in bed and staggered bedtimes for all the children. Our youngest pupils in Year 3 have their lights out by 2030, while for our Year 8 pupils its lights out by 2115.

## Weekends

### Saturday

- 1600 School finishes at 1600 on Saturday (unless you have a late match) so from 1600-1745 you have some free time to relax, call home and play with friends.
- 1745 Get changed into mufti.
- 1800 Supper. Either in the Dining Hall, or we may go out for fish and chips on the beach or pizza and film night! Saturday nights are very much boarders' choice so are very flexible.
- 2030 Staggered bedtimes starting from 2030.

### Sunday

- 0900 A lie in! We have a very relaxed breakfast at around 0900.
- 1000 Back up to the dorms to get dressed, before making use of the common rooms and school grounds for some fun.
- 1100 The weekend activity programme starts.
- 1730 Supper with Mr and Mrs McCullough at the Headmaster's house.
- 1930 Back to the dorms for showers and to get ready for the busy week ahead.
- 2015 The bedtime routines begin.

## *The Boarding Team at Perrott Hill*



**Emma Layfield**  
Head of Boarding  
Head of Science



**Matthew Edgar**  
Assistant Houseparent  
Year 1 Form Tutor



**Dorothy Longley-Cook**  
Assistant Houseparent  
Head of Classics and  
Year 6 Form Tutor



**Kate Garman**  
Assistant Houseparent  
Teacher of Girls' PE  
and Games



**Craig Layfield**  
Boarding Tutor



**Marie Manley**  
School Nurse



**Sharon Tarrant**  
Boarding Matron



**Henry Davies-Evitt**  
Graduate Residential  
Assistant (Prep)



**Poppy Fletcher**  
Graduate Residential  
Assistant (Pre-Prep)



**Arran De-Sousa  
Butterworth**  
Graduate Residential  
Assistant (Sport)



**Trixie Nicholson**  
Graduate Residential  
Assistant (Sport)



## Further Information and Booking

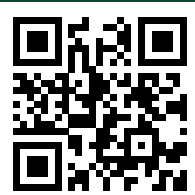
To book a full, weekly or regular bed, please email Mrs Layfield on [elayfield@perrotthill.com](mailto:elayfield@perrotthill.com). There has been a slight change in regular and flexi boarding this term and the following information may be useful.

- Full boarding is for children in Years 5-8 and enables a pupil to board seven nights a week and take part in all activities;
- Weekly boarding is a minimum of four nights per week, Monday to Friday, for children in Years 3-8. Any boarding activities during the week are included. Pupils are welcome to stay on weekends at an additional cost, but pupils in Years 3 and 4 will need to be collected at 0820 on Saturday morning (or at 1000 if they are staying for the optional Saturday morning sports club);
- Regular boarding is for pupils in Years 3-8, is billed termly and is for a set number of nights per week, between one and three. This is not a flexible arrangement – but if a boarding activity falls on that evening the cost of the activity is included. The cost for regular boarding is £43 per night;
- Flexi boarding can be booked online via a link in the Week Ahead (or by emailing [elayfield@perrotthill.com](mailto:elayfield@perrotthill.com) if less than 24 hours' notice). This is a truly flexible rate – it can be cancelled or moved (subject to availability) with no financial penalty. There may be additional charges incurred for boarding activities. The cost for flexi boarding is £44.50 per night.

To view our full and weekly boarding fees, please click [here](#).

Finally, we hope this information has been useful and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about boarding or how to book.

Scan here to  
watch our recent  
boarding video







# Perrott Hill

*Time and space for a full education*

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