



ST. ANDREW'S
COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE



BOARDING HANDBOOK

2026–2027

A safe, supportive and inclusive
boarding community where every
student can thrive.



SAFE



SUPPORTIVE



INCLUSIVE



AMBITIOUS



DUKES
EDUCATION

EDUCATION • EXCELLENCE • OPPORTUNITY

Contents

Boarding Contacts	3
Welcome	4
Our Boarding Houses	5
What Makes Boarding Special	6
Our Boarding Principles	8
Living Together	9
Relationships and Privacy	11
Rewards and Sanctions	12
Wellbeing & Support	17
Medical Care & Medication	20
Digital Citizenship & Online Safety	22
A Culture of Care	25
Daily Routines & Housekeeping	26
Curfews, Signing In & Out	27
Leave Requests	28
Holiday & End of Term	29
Rooming, Bedding & Common Areas	30
Laundry, Damage & Insurance	31
Meals & Dining Room	33
Security, Visitors & Supervision	34
Discover Cambridge	36
Appendices	38

Boarding Contacts

Name	Phone	Email
DEPUTY HEAD (BOARDING & PASTORAL CARE)		
Helen Walker	07713 669215	helen.walker@standrewscambridge.co.uk
HOUSE PARENT MOBILE NUMBERS		
Bevan House (Tenison)	07763 214898	marius.andrei.dandu@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Austen House (St Barnabas)	07701 297568	ionela@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Stephenson House (Adam and Eve)	07922 101143	tara.jackson@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Pankhurst House (91 Cherry Hinton)	07922 101148	carmen.chirvasa@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Fiennes House (Cherry Hinton)	07730 622432	gill@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Elizabeth House (Coleridge)	07730 622437	lidia@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Darwin House (Hills)	07730 622433	aurelia.pintea@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Jenner House (Tenison)		
Seacole House (Lyndewode)	07730 622435	cristina@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Scholars House (Mill)	07922 101143	bethany.valentine@standrewscambridge.co.uk oleh.ovchynnikov@standrewscambridge.co.uk
SAFEGUARDING AND MEDICAL CONTACTS		
Emergency Mobile (24/7)	07985 026835	
Helen Walker (DSL)	07713 669215	helen.walker@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Annette Poulain		annette.poulain@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Gill Robinson	07730 622432	gill@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Beth Valentine	07922 101143	bethany.valentine@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Andrew Flower		andrew.flower@standrewscambridge.co.uk
HEALTHCARE PROVISION		
School Nurse	07566 793809	nurse@standrewscambridge.co.uk
Woodlands Surgery	01223 697600	
NHS Direct	0845 4647	
INDEPENDENT PERSON		
Marion Jemmet	07966 205143	



WELCOME TO BOARDING

Welcome to St Andrew's College Cambridge Boarding

We are delighted that you have chosen to join our boarding community and look forward to welcoming you to your new home.

Boarding at St Andrew's College is about much more than accommodation. It is a community where students from across the world live, learn and grow together. We believe that boarding should provide a safe, supportive and enriching environment in which every student can flourish academically, socially and personally.

Whether you are joining us for one term or several years, we hope that your boarding experience will be one of the most rewarding aspects of your time at St Andrew's. Living alongside students from different cultures and backgrounds provides opportunities to develop independence, resilience, confidence and lifelong friendships.

Our House Parents and boarding staff are committed to ensuring that every student feels welcomed, respected and supported. We understand that moving away from home can be both exciting and challenging, and our experienced team is here to help every step of the way.

This handbook has been designed to help you settle quickly into boarding life and to answer many of the questions that students and parents commonly ask. Please take time to read it carefully and keep it for future reference.

We look forward to welcoming you to our boarding community.



A Message from the Deputy Head (Boarding & Pastoral Care)

Helen Walker

"We want every student to feel safe, supported and able to achieve their full potential."

Welcome to boarding at St Andrew's College Cambridge.

Our boarding community is founded on kindness, respect, inclusion and ambition. We want every student to feel safe, valued and able to achieve their full potential both inside and outside the classroom.

Boarding provides a unique opportunity to become part of an international community where students learn from one another, develop independence and build friendships that often last a lifetime. We are proud of the diversity within our boarding houses and the supportive environment that our students create together.

The wellbeing and safety of every student is our highest priority. Our House Parents, boarding staff, medical team and safeguarding team work closely together to ensure that every boarder receives the care, guidance and support they need.

We encourage students to make the most of the opportunities available to them, whether through academic study, sport, enrichment activities, cultural experiences or simply spending time with friends.

Boarding should be enjoyable, rewarding and memorable. We hope that your time with us will be filled with achievement, personal growth and wonderful experiences.

On behalf of the entire boarding team, I warmly welcome you to St Andrew's College Cambridge.

Helen Walker

Deputy Head (Boarding & Pastoral Care)

What Makes Boarding at St Andrew's Special?

A Truly International Community

Students from around the world live, learn and grow together, creating a vibrant and culturally rich environment.

A Home from Home

Our boarding houses are welcoming, comfortable and designed to help students feel secure and settled.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

Excursions, activities, sports, cultural visits and social events help students make the most of their time in the UK.

A Strong Focus on Wellbeing

Mental health, physical wellbeing and personal development are central to our approach. Students are supported to thrive both academically and personally.

Exceptional Pastoral Care

Every boarding student is known as an individual. House Parents provide daily guidance, encouragement and support.

Cambridge on Your Doorstep

Students enjoy living in one of the world's most famous educational cities, with opportunities for cultural enrichment, exploration and personal growth.

Preparation for Life

Boarding develops independence, resilience, organisation, communication skills and self-confidence that prepare students for university and beyond.

Lifelong Friendships

Many of the friendships formed in boarding continue long after students leave St Andrew's College, creating a global network of connections and support.



Section 1

Boarding Principles and Practice

Boarding Aim: To provide a safe, supportive and inclusive home where every student can thrive, grow in independence and achieve their full potential.

Our Boarding Principles

Our boarding provision is guided by the following principles:

Safety

The welfare and safeguarding of students is our highest priority. We are committed to providing a safe environment in which all students feel protected, listened to and valued.

Respect

We promote a culture of mutual respect where every individual is treated with dignity regardless of nationality, ethnicity, religion, belief, gender, sexual orientation or background.

Inclusion

We celebrate diversity and encourage students to learn from one another's experiences and perspectives.

Independence

Boarding provides opportunities for students to develop confidence, self-management and practical life skills.

Responsibility

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions, academic progress, personal belongings and contribution to the boarding community.

Wellbeing

We recognise the importance of emotional, social and physical wellbeing and provide extensive pastoral and medical support.

Living Together at St Andrew's College

Boarding at St Andrew's College Cambridge is founded upon the belief that a boarding house should be a safe, welcoming and supportive home from home. Students live alongside peers from many different countries, cultures and backgrounds, creating a vibrant international community where mutual respect, understanding and personal growth are encouraged.

Every member of the boarding community has a responsibility to contribute positively to the life of the house. Students are expected to show kindness, courtesy and consideration towards others and to respect the rights of fellow boarders to live, study and rest in a safe and comfortable environment.

Through boarding, students develop independence, resilience, responsibility and life skills which prepare them for university, employment and adult life.

"A boarding house is not simply a place to stay; it is a community where students learn how to live well alongside others."

Living Respectfully Together

- Respect differences in culture, language, religion and personal beliefs.
- Be considerate of noise levels, particularly during study periods and after quiet hours.
- Respect personal boundaries and privacy.
- Use communal facilities responsibly.
- Resolve disagreements maturely and seek support from staff when needed.
- Support an atmosphere where everyone feels welcomed and included.

Bullying, discrimination, harassment, intimidation or behaviour that causes others to feel unsafe will not be tolerated.

Quiet Hours and Consideration for Others

Boarding houses are expected to maintain a calm and respectful atmosphere during the evening.

Quiet hours begin at 9:30pm each evening.

During quiet hours students should:

- Keep noise to a minimum.
 - Use headphones when listening to music or watching media.
 - Avoid activities which may disturb others.
 - Respect the need for sleep and study.
-

Student Voice

Students are encouraged to contribute actively to the development of boarding life.

Regular opportunities are provided through:

- House Meetings
- Student Surveys
- Boarding Feedback Forums
- Discussions with House Parents
- Access to Independent Persons and Senior Leaders

Students are encouraged to share ideas, raise concerns and participate in decisions affecting boarding life.

Relationships Between Students

St Andrew's College recognises that friendships and appropriate age-related relationships may develop naturally within a boarding environment. Students are expected to conduct themselves respectfully and responsibly at all times.

To safeguard the wellbeing of all students:

- Intimate physical relationships are not permitted within the boarding community.
- Sexual activity between students is not permitted.
- Students must not enter the bedrooms of students of the opposite sex unless authorised as part of normal house arrangements and supervision.
- Students involved in romantic relationships must maintain appropriate boundaries and behaviour.
- The College does not permit relationships where there is a significant age imbalance. As a general principle, students involved in a romantic relationship should not normally have an age difference greater than two years.

Any concerns regarding student relationships will be managed sensitively and in accordance with the College's safeguarding procedures.

Privacy and Personal Space

Students have the right to reasonable privacy within the boarding environment. Students should:

- Respect the privacy of others.
- Knock before entering bedrooms.
- Never access another student's room without permission.
- Avoid taking photographs or recordings of others without consent.
- Use social media responsibly and respectfully.

Boarding staff may enter rooms when necessary for welfare, safety, maintenance, safeguarding or operational reasons.

Rewards and Sanctions

We want to support an active, inclusive and happy, family-style community within the boarding houses. An excellent boarder is a student who is kind and thoughtful, showing care and respect to all others in the community.

This includes smiling and greeting each other with warmth, ensuring that everyone feels included and everyone's opinions are listened to. It means taking care of the physical building, garden and belongings. It means attending all house meetings and contributing to discussions, it means supporting activities put on by the House Parents and volunteering to help.

Rewards

Having a positive impact on the boarding and wider school community will be recognised and rewarded. Rewards may include celebratory emails home, positive behaviour points, an extension to privileges or celebratory treats!

Sanctions

Any breach of the school rules may involve staff imposing sanctions. Boarding sanctions are illustrated in the diagram below. Any further sanctions will follow the school Rewards and Sanctions policy.

BOARDING SANCTIONS

LEVEL	SANCTION EXAMPLES	ISSUED BY	EXAMPLE REASON
1	Repair and Reflect Session 1 hour with Senior House Parent	House Parent / Assistant House Parent	Late leaving boarding, untidy room
2	Repair and Reflect Session Meeting with Deputy Head, verbal warning and parents informed.	Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care)	Repeated Level 1s Not signing in/out, not registering. Rudeness to staff/students, missed house meeting.
3	Meeting with Deputy Head, written warning, parents informed. Internal exclusion 1-3 days	Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care)	Repeated Level 2s Not submitting leave request Bullying
4	Meeting with Head/Deputy, 2nd written warning, parents informed. Internal exclusion 5 days.	Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care) / Head Teacher	Repeated Level 3 Use of alcohol, bullying, smoking/vaping, damage to property
5	Meeting with Head and parents. Final warning and external exclusion 7 days or Permanent Exclusion	Head Teacher	Repeated Level 4 Dangerous or threatening behaviour. Discrimination or hate related behaviour. Tampering with fire safety equipment, theft, drunkenness.

Section 2

Safeguarding, Welfare & Student Support

Safeguarding is central to everything we do
and underpins all aspects of boarding life.

Never keep a safeguarding concern to yourself.
If you are worried about yourself or someone else, speak to a trusted adult immediately.

Our Commitment to Safeguarding

At St Andrew's College Cambridge, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people is our highest priority.

We are committed to providing a boarding environment where every student feels safe, respected, listened to and supported. All staff share responsibility for safeguarding and receive appropriate training to ensure that they can identify concerns, respond appropriately and promote student welfare.

Safeguarding is central to everything we do and underpins all aspects of boarding life.

Students should never feel that a concern is too small to share. We encourage students to speak to a trusted adult whenever they are worried about themselves or someone else.

If You Are Worried About Something

Students should speak to:

- Their House Parent
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Any Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer
- A member of the Medical Team
- Any trusted member of staff
- The Independent Person

Concerns may relate to:

- Their own welfare
- Bullying or friendship issues
- Mental health or wellbeing
- Online safety concerns
- Abuse or neglect
- Radicalisation or extremism
- Harassment or discrimination
- Concerns about another student

All concerns will be taken seriously and handled appropriately.

Designated Safeguarding Team

Emergency Telephone (24 Hours): 07985 026835

Designated Safeguarding & Prevent Lead

Helen Walker

Deputy Head (Boarding & Pastoral Care)

Email: helen.walker@standrewscambridge.co.uk

Helen Walker has overall responsibility for safeguarding, child protection and Prevent duties throughout the College.

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers

Annette Poulain — Head Teacher

annette.poulain@standrewscambridge.co.uk

Gill Robinson - Senior House Parent

gill@standrewscambridge.co.uk

Beth Valentine - Senior House Parent

bethany.valentine@standrewscambridge.co.uk

Andrew Flower - Assistant Head (STEM)

andrew.flower@standrewscambridge.co.uk

Independent Person

Marion Jemmet

Telephone details are displayed within boarding houses and available from House Parents.

Students may contact the Independent Person confidentially if they wish to discuss concerns with someone outside the College's management structure.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Our boarding community brings together students from a wide range of countries, cultures, faiths and backgrounds.

We actively promote:

- Equality of opportunity
- Mutual respect
- Cultural understanding
- Tolerance and inclusion
- Freedom from discrimination

Students are expected to respect the beliefs, identities and backgrounds of others.

Discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated.

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism

As part of our safeguarding responsibilities, the College is committed to protecting students from radicalisation and extremism.

Students are encouraged to:

- Think critically about information they encounter
- Discuss concerns openly with staff
- Respect differing viewpoints
- Report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe

The College fulfils its duties under the Prevent framework and works with relevant agencies where appropriate.

Online Safety

Technology plays an important role in students' education and daily lives. The College encourages responsible and safe use of digital technology.

Students must:

- Use the internet responsibly and lawfully
- Respect the privacy and dignity of others online
- Avoid accessing inappropriate content
- Report any concerning online behaviour or content
- Follow the College Acceptable Use Policy

The College operates internet monitoring and filtering systems designed to support student safety and comply with safeguarding requirements. Students should understand that online activity conducted through College systems may be monitored in accordance with safeguarding and legal requirements.



LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING

Your wellbeing matters

Life in boarding can be exciting, rewarding and full of opportunities. It can also bring challenges such as homesickness, exam pressure, friendship difficulties, culture shock, or simply having a difficult day.

Looking after your wellbeing is just as important as looking after your physical health. Everyone experiences ups and downs, and asking for support is a sign of strength.

"It's okay not to be okay. What's important is talking to someone and getting the support you need."

LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING

Five ways to support your mental health and wellbeing

Stay Connected

- Talk to your House Parent
- Talk to a friend
- Contact your family
- Speak to a teacher
- Reach out to safeguarding

Look After Your Body

- Eat regular meals
- Stay hydrated
- Get enough sleep
- Exercise or sport
- Spend time outdoors
- Limit caffeine

Find Balance

- Hobbies & interests
- Exercise & sport
- Music & creativity
- Socialising with friends
- Exploring Cambridge
- Relaxation

Screen Breaks

- Phone away before bed
- Time face-to-face
- Regular screen breaks
- Use social media positively

Be Kind to Yourself

- Focus on progress
- Celebrate small wins
- Learn from mistakes
- Speak to yourself as you would a friend

"It's okay not to be okay. What's important is talking to someone and getting the support you need."

FIVE THINGS YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW

STOP

Take a moment
to pause.

BREATHE

Slow your
breathing for
one minute.

MOVE

Go for a walk
or do some
exercise.

CONNECT

Talk to
someone.

ASK FOR HELP

Support is
always
available.

Need Support?

If you are worried about yourself or someone else, please speak to:

Your House Parent

Your first point of contact
for support and advice.

Safeguarding Team

Helen Walker (DSL) and the
safeguarding team are
available to help.

School Nurse

Available for physical and
emotional wellbeing support.

Independent Person

Available if you would like to
speak to someone independent
of the College.

Wellbeing Reminder

You do not have to face difficulties alone. There will always be someone at St Andrew's College who is ready to listen and help.

Medical Care & Health Support

Looking After Your Health

The health, wellbeing and safety of our students are a priority. St Andrew's College Cambridge provides access to medical care, health advice and support throughout a student's time in boarding.

Boarding staff, the School Nurse and local healthcare professionals work together to ensure that students receive appropriate care whenever they need it.

Whether you are feeling unwell, need advice about medication, or require an appointment with a healthcare professional, support is always available.

GP Registration

As part of the induction process, all boarding students are registered with a local General Practitioner (GP).

Students should not attempt to arrange their own medical care without first speaking to their House Parent, who will help ensure that the appropriate support is provided.

Woodlands Surgery

 Cambridge
 01223 697600

If You Feel Unwell

If you are feeling unwell, injured or concerned about your health, you should:

1. Tell Your House Parent

Your House Parent should always be your first point of contact. They will:

- Assess the situation
- Provide support and advice
- Administer approved over-the-counter medication where appropriate
- Contact the School Nurse if required
- Arrange further medical support where necessary

2. Visit the School Nurse

The School Nurse provides professional healthcare support and advice and can assess whether further treatment is required.

 07566 793809  nurse@standrewscambridge.co.uk

3. Medical Appointments

Where appropriate, House Parents will arrange appointments with:

- The School Nurse
- GP services
- Dentists
- Opticians
- Other healthcare professionals

Parents and guardians will be informed when necessary.

Medication & Emergency Support

Medication

To ensure the safety of all students, medication is managed carefully within boarding.

Storage of Medication

- All medication is normally stored securely in the boarding house medical cabinet.
- Medication may only be kept in student rooms where this has been authorised by the School Nurse.
- Students must not keep undisclosed medication in boarding houses.

Self-Medication

Some students may be permitted to self-administer medication. Before this can happen:

- A risk assessment will be completed.
- The School Nurse will assess Gillick Competency.
- Appropriate permissions and procedures will be agreed.

Students must never share medication with another student.

Emergency Medical Support

In an emergency, boarding staff will ensure that students receive immediate medical attention.

Where necessary, staff may:

- Contact emergency services
- Arrange transport to hospital
- Contact parents, guardians and emergency contacts
- Provide appropriate support until further medical assistance arrives

If in doubt, always speak to your House Parent or call the School Nurse.



Digital Citizenship, Online Safety & Mobile Devices

Staying Safe Online

Technology plays an important role in education, communication and daily life. At St Andrew's College Cambridge, we encourage students to use technology responsibly, respectfully and safely.

All students are expected to behave online in the same way that they are expected to behave within the College community - with respect, integrity and consideration for others.

Online activity should support learning, wellbeing and positive relationships and should never place students or others at risk.

Internet Filtering and Monitoring

To help keep students safe online, the College operates internet filtering and monitoring systems across its networks and devices.

These systems are designed to:

- Protect students from harmful, inappropriate or illegal content.
- Support safeguarding and student welfare.
- Help identify potential online risks.
- Promote the responsible use of technology.

Students should be aware that internet use on College systems may be monitored in accordance with safeguarding, legal and operational requirements.

Personal Devices

Students may bring personal devices such as mobile phones, laptops and tablets to the College.

Students are responsible for ensuring that any device brought into the College or boarding environment is used appropriately and safely.

Students must not bring, store, access or share any content that is:

- Illegal.
- Harmful or abusive.
- Sexually explicit or pornographic.
- Violent or extremist in nature.
- Offensive, discriminatory or hateful.
- Designed to bypass College safeguarding systems or internet filters.

Any concerns regarding content stored on a device may be investigated in accordance with College policies and safeguarding procedures.



Mobile Phone Expectations

Mobile phones are an important means of communication; however, their use must not interfere with learning, wellbeing or community life.

During the School Day

Mobile phones must:

- Be kept on silent.
- Remain out of sight unless permission has been given by a member of staff.
- Not be used during lessons, assemblies or other organised activities.

In Communal Spaces

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used in communal spaces either within boarding houses or within the College.

This includes:

- Dining areas and meal times.
- Common rooms and shared social spaces.
- House meetings.
- College communal areas.

Students wishing to check messages or make a call should do so discreetly and in an appropriate private space.

Our aim is to encourage positive social interaction, conversation and engagement within the boarding community.

Social Media

Students should use social media responsibly and respectfully.

Students must not:

- Bully, harass or intimidate others online.
- Share images or information about others without permission.
- Post content that may damage the reputation of another person or the College.
- Create or share offensive, discriminatory or inappropriate material.

Remember: Once something is posted online, it can be very difficult to remove completely.

Protecting Yourself Online

Students are encouraged to:

- ✓ Use strong passwords.
- ✓ Keep personal information private.
- ✓ Be cautious when communicating with people they do not know.
- ✓ Report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- ✓ Think carefully before sharing photographs, videos or personal details online.
- ✓ Speak to a trusted adult if they are concerned about something they have seen online.

If Something Goes Wrong

If you experience, witness or become aware of:

- Cyberbullying
- Online harassment
- Inappropriate messages
- Harmful content
- Online grooming concerns
- Suspicious online behaviour

You should report it immediately to:

- Your House Parent
- A member of the Safeguarding Team
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Any trusted member of staff

Remember

STOP

Take a moment to pause.

THINK

Consider the consequences.

CONNECT SAFELY

Use technology responsibly.

The internet provides fantastic opportunities for learning, communication and creativity. By making safe and responsible choices online, you can help protect yourself and others while making the most of the benefits technology has to offer.

Students must not bring onto College premises any device containing harmful, illegal, inappropriate or offensive material.



SECTION 3

Daily Routines & Housekeeping

Your guide to living well in our boarding community

Curfews, Signing In & Out

Curfews are the times you must return to the boarding house.

SCHOOL DAYS (WEEKDAYS)	WEEKENDS & NON-SCHOOL DAYS
Register in boarding: 08:15am 16:00 - 19:00 21:30 (21:00 for 15-16 year olds)	Register in boarding: 08:15am - 11am 16:00 - 18:00 22:00 (21:30 for 15-16 year olds)

At weekends, all CSA students must be seen every 4 hours; older students must register every 6 hours.

Signing In and Out

Accurate records must be kept in case of a fire. Therefore, it is vital that you sign out with a staff member when going on leave and sign in when you return. Failure to sign in and out may mean you are denied leave in future. Failure to register at the set times is considered a serious breach of the rules and you will incur a sanction.

Overnight Stays Away from Accommodation

All students must get permission from their House Parent if they intend to be away overnight or return late over the weekends by applying for permission to leave (including 18+ year olds). Your parents must email a request to your House Parent by the Wednesday prior to the weekend leave. They need to provide full details and contact numbers of where you are staying and who with and how you will be travelling. All weekend overnight leaves must be completed 72 hours before the leave begins. We reserve the right to reject leave requests if they are not done in adequate time. You must ensure permission is granted by your House Parent before you depart from the boarding house. Permission can still be denied if your safety may be at risk or as a sanction. We may request to speak to or take ID for the person you are staying with.

Weekend leave is usually authorised pending appropriate accommodation, travel arrangements and supervision. Leave requests made during termtime, where lessons will be missed will usually be denied except in exceptional circumstance.s. Attendance to all lessons is expected, high attendance is crucial for academic progress and a requirement set out by the UKVI

Students aged 15-16 must be picked up by their guardian or parents who will need to provide photographic ID in advance (passport/driving licence). House Parents must be notified in advance by parents/guardian as to who will be picking up the student. 17 year old students may travel independently, if considered appropriate to do so, but must be in the charge of an appropriate adult, agreed in advance with parents and with all relevant ID provided.

Leave Requests

TYPE OF LEAVE	DESCRIPTION	MUST SUBMIT	APPROVAL NEEDED
Overnight Leave (Missing Lessons)	Stay overnight away from boarding and missing lessons at school. e.g. university interview with accommodation	72 hours before leave	Parents Houseparent Tutor
Overnight Leave (Not Missing Lessons)	Stay overnight away from boarding house. e.g. parents visiting for the weekend	72 hours before leave	Parents Houseparent
Evening Leave (Missing Lessons)	Return after curfew (10pm) and missing lessons. e.g. evening Cambridge University lecture	48 hours before leave	Parents Houseparent Tutor
Evening Leave (Not Missing Lessons)	Return after curfew (10pm) but not missing lessons. e.g. weekend visit to theatre	24 hours before leave	Parents Houseparent
Missing Lessons (School Time Only)	Miss lessons but not breaching boarding curfew. e.g. dentist appointment	48 hours before leave	Parents Tutor
Weekend Day Leave (6am - 10pm)	Visit somewhere outside Cambridge or miss weekend midday register. e.g. London open day, church, volunteering	48 hours before leave	Parents Houseparent
School Trips	Students do not need to submit leave requests for trips organised by the school and led by St Andrew's staff.	-	-

Holiday & End of Term Arrangements

Half Terms

Your fees cover accommodation over the half-term weeks, in October and February. There will be activities on everyday for you to participate in and the time can be used for further independent academic study. You may leave during these half-term breaks to spend time with your family and would need to follow the usual leave procedure, so that we can ensure your safety.

Winter & Easter Holidays

St Andrew's is closed over Christmas and New Year as well as the Easter holidays. You are not allowed to stay in boarding over the Winter and Easter holidays and must return home or arrange alternative accommodation through your guardian. Days for closing and opening are on the school calendar and website. You must clear your room at the end of each term (Christmas, Easter and Summer). It is your responsibility to arrange storage for your belongings during this time, but House Parents will be able to support you with this.

Holiday Arrangements

You must always inform the House Parents about your arrival and leaving arrangements via the school system. You will always need to provide all information about transport including flight numbers.

End of Academic Year

All students need to completely vacate and clear their room at the end of the year. They need to leave it in a clean state or there may be an additional charge to clear their room. Those students returning in the next academic year need to vacate their room and will be allocated a new room on their return.

Attendance and Punctuality

Students must arrive and depart on the days listed in the school calendar. Students may not leave early or arrive late. Where flights do not coincide with the listed days and timings, please utilise your guardian so that no school day is missed. We celebrate strong attendance and it is expected that all students maintain excellent punctuality throughout the term.

Your Room & Boarding Facilities

ROOMING

Students may be placed in a single room or a shared twin room. Single rooms will mainly be ensuite with some having a personalised bathroom outside the room. Twin rooms will be shared with another St Andrew's student. Each room has a bathroom with shower, bed/s, desk, wardrobe/s, chest of drawers and storage. All water in the boarding house is potable and suitable for drinking. All rooms have access to a shared kitchen. Kettles must only be kept in kitchens and are not allowed in cluster rooms. Mid-term changes are not allowed unless authorised by the Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care).

BEDDING

You will be provided with a pillow, duvet and bedding (pillowcase, duvet cover and sheet). You may also bring your own linen. College and own bedding will be changed by students every two weeks and is laundered by an external professional company. You may also wash your own bedding however this must be done every two weeks.

LAUNDRY

All students aged 16+ are responsible for their own laundry using the boarding house facilities managed on a rota basis. House Parents will be on hand to support students in the development of this key life skill and will ensure that all students manage appropriately. House Parents will provide greater support for all younger students teaching them and supporting their development in personal management.

COMMON AREAS

You will receive a key fob or room key which will allow you access to your room and to your floor. You will be responsible for the safety of these; if you misplace them you will be liable for a charge to replace them. A common room is available for you to socialise and watch television/play games. You are expected to speak in English in all common areas, including at mealtimes, and to keep areas tidy.

PETS

You are not allowed to have pets or keep animals in the boarding premises.

INTERNET

All rooms have free access to the internet through a broadband connection and Wi-Fi. The internet is also filtered to stop restricted web content.

DAMAGE & REPAIRS

We understand that accidents happen. If you cause damage, please report this at once to a member of the boarding staff. Students and any visitors must respect the college's property and act appropriately to avoid damage. Do not attempt to change light bulbs or repair electrical items yourself. Please report any necessary changes to house staff.

INSURANCE

You are expected to take out your own personal effects insurance policy.

Keeping Your Room Clean & Tidy

KEEPING YOUR ROOM CLEAN AND TIDY

We recognise that being away from home and having to take responsibility for your own room and belongings may be a new challenge for many students. Our boarding team are there to support you in keeping your room clean and tidy. Your room will be cleaned weekly by our team of cleaners but you are expected to maintain a good level of tidiness so cleaners can access your room. Boarders must vacate their rooms for the time required (during the day) by cleaners in order to provide this service. Students who fail to keep their room tidy will be reminded by House Parents and your room checked on a regular basis. This includes sustaining a high standard of hygiene and ensuring that all clothes and cooking equipment are regularly washed. Anyone failing to maintain reasonable standards of tidiness in rooms may be charged for extra cleaning.

ROOM CHECKS, AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

Room checks will be conducted regularly by boarding staff including House Parents and cleaners, in order to make sure you are living in a clean, healthy and safe environment.

Room audits will occur termly and are there to ensure that the room is up to standard and to update any maintenance requirements. This will also be used to PAT test any new electronic equipment. Students will be informed a week in advance before any room audits.

Room inspections will only occur to check for any prohibited items and are only authorised by SMT or the Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care). Students will be informed before a room inspection is carried out and there will always be 2 staff members present. All room inspections are recorded in the school log.



Electronics, Storage & Personal Items

ELECTRONICS

Due to it being a fire hazard, you are not allowed to use any cooking equipment (including slow cookers or rice cookers) in your rooms. All items will be subjected to a termly electronic Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) safety check and any item not tested will be confiscated. Please make sure you switch off all electronics when you leave your room. All electronic items need to be PAT tested before they can be used within boarding. Each tested item will be labelled with the date of the latest test and the initials of the tester. Any non-labelled items will be removed. Comprehensive guidance on PAT procedures is available on request from the Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care).

STORAGE

Each room has its own storage. Students are responsible for storing their own belongings outside of their rooms during the Winter and Summer periods. Summer storage arrangements will be discussed during your induction period.

PERSONAL ITEMS

You may personalise your room with your own belongings and pin up photos, posters, etc. but only on the notice board areas provided to avoid damage to walls. You must not paint any of the walls.



Meals & Dining Room

DINING ROOM

St Andrew's has its own catering facilities and provides catering 7 days a week. The canteen caters for all dietary requirements including daily vegetarian and vegan options. All dietary intolerances including allergies MUST be made known to the College Nurse.

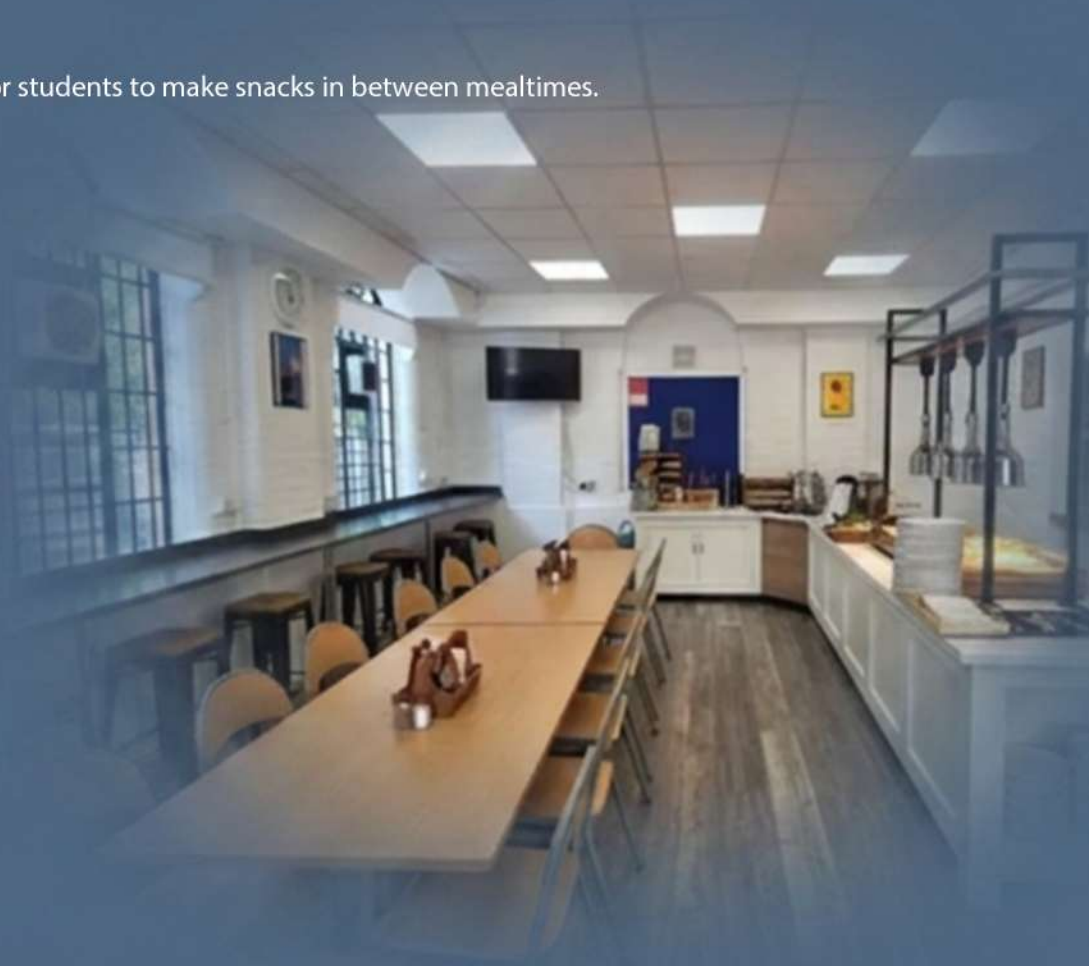
MEALS

A continental breakfast will be available in the residences Monday to Friday 7:00am - 8:00am. All other meals, including Lunch, Dinner and Brunch on weekends, will be served in the school canteen at the following times:

MEAL	WEEKDAYS	MEAL	WEEKENDS
Lunch	11:40 - 12:30	Brunch	11:00 - 13:00
Dinner	17:00 - 18:30	Dinner	17:00 - 18:30

All students in boarding are expected to eat healthily. There are equipped kitchens for students to make snacks in between mealtimes.

*Actual times will depend on your timetable.



Security, Visitors & Supervision

ID Badges

All staff and students are expected to wear their ID badges at all times when on the College site. This includes the canteen at weekends. Students do not need to wear their ID badges within their boarding houses.

Boarding Houses During the School Day

During the school day, boarding houses are closed and students cannot re-enter until the end of the school day. Students will be busy with lessons and personal study on the school site.

Room Keys and Fobs

You must never lend your key or card to anyone else and you should report any lost key immediately to your boarding staff. You may be charged for a replacement key.

Staff Supervision

There will always be boarding staff on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can always contact the duty person by calling the duty mobile number.

Staff Accessing Rooms

The College has a duty of care and on occasion for welfare or health and safety reasons it may be necessary to conduct room inspections and searches. Students must always allow staff to enter for this purpose. You will be told of the intention to inspect or search and there will be a second member of staff present to witness the inspection or search. All inspections and searches are recorded on the room search logbook.

Visitors

Family, close friends of family and friends from College may visit you in boarding accommodation. Students must ask the permission of the House Parent before a visitor may enter the house. The College reserves the right to deny any visitor entrance to boarding. Visitors must sign in and out at reception. All visitors must leave boarding premises by 9.00pm. Visitors are not allowed to stay overnight.

Visitors are only allowed in communal areas and are not allowed in student rooms.

Strangers

House Parents and other College boarding staff will always carry a College ID card. Any visitor to the accommodation will be in possession of a visitor's badge. If you see anyone in the building without this identification, please make it a priority to report it to boarding staff immediately or call the duty phone number.

Fire Safety & Safekeeping

FIRE DRILLS AND ALARMS

There will be several fire drills throughout each term and at least one will occur during sleeping hours. Whenever you hear the alarm, you must evacuate the building immediately by following the fire evacuation procedure which is pinned on all notice boards. Do not use any lifts during alarms. Failure to comply with fire drills and alarms may result in disciplinary action. In addition, there is a thorough fire safety induction for all new starters.

FIRE PREVENTION

You must never cover smoke alarms or remove batteries from them and must never tamper with other safety equipment such as fire extinguishers or fire blankets. This equipment has been installed for the safety of all students. Tampering with them is a serious breach of health and safety rules and anyone found doing so will be subject to disciplinary action and the cost of an engineer. You must not have candles, smoke in the premises or use forbidden or faulty electrical appliances. Any such items found in your room will be confiscated. All electronics should be turned off when you go to bed and when you leave your room.



SAFE KEEPING OF POSSESSIONS

Students are advised not to store considerable amounts of cash or highly valuable jewellery or electronic items in their rooms. Students have a responsibility to keep their own possessions safe by locking their rooms when they are not present and by locking any valuables safely in the safe provided for use in each room.

You must not enter the room of another student, remove items left in common areas or borrow property from other students without permission. These actions may be classified as theft, even if property was intended to be returned. Where theft is reported, staff reserve the right to search the rooms of other boarders for missing possessions.

Discover Cambridge

Making the Most of Your Time Beyond the Classroom

One of the greatest advantages of studying at St Andrew's College Cambridge is living in one of the world's most vibrant and historic student cities. We encourage all students to explore the city responsibly, participate in activities and make the most of their time here.

Arts, Music & Performance

- Cambridge Junction — live music, comedy, theatre & workshops
- ADC Theatre — acclaimed student drama & musical productions
- Cambridge Corn Exchange — major concerts & performances
- Student film & arts festivals throughout the year

Outdoor Activities

- Punting on the River Cam
- Jesus Green & Parker's Piece
- Midsummer Common & Christ's Pieces
- Coe Fen — ideal for sport, picnics & revision

Sports & Fitness

- Gym memberships & swimming
- Football, basketball, badminton & tennis
- Running clubs & cycling groups
- Rowing on the River Cam
- Yoga and Pilates classes

Shopping & City Life

- Grand Arcade & Grafton Centre
- Market Square & independent shops
- Mill Road's international food scene
- Bookshops, cafes & restaurants

Culture & Museums

- The Fitzwilliam Museum
- Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology
- Museum of Zoology
- The Polar Museum
- The Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences

Volunteering & Community

- Charity fundraising & community volunteering
- Environmental projects
- Cultural celebrations
- School and boarding leadership opportunities

Wellbeing Activities

- Walking groups & nature walks
- Mindfulness sessions
- Art workshops & community activities
- Fitness classes

Seasonal Highlights

- Autumn: university events, theatre & cultural festivals
- Winter: Christmas markets, ice skating & concerts
- Spring: outdoor sports, exhibitions & college events
- Summer: open-air performances, punting & music festivals

Top Tip

The best way to experience Cambridge is to get involved. Join activities, explore the city, attend events and make the most of the opportunities available to you during your time at St Andrew's College Cambridge.

Places of Worship

Local faith communities welcoming students in Cambridge

- Quakers, Friends Meeting House, 12 Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BA
- Baha'i Faith, 27 Worts Causeway, Cambridge CB1 8RJ
- Arbury Community Church, 263 Arbury Road, Cambridge CB4 2JL
- Unitarian Church, Emmanuel Road, Cambridge CB1 1JW
- Eden Baptist Chapel, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge CB1 1ER
- Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG
- Our Lady & The English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, Catholic Rectory, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1RP
- Abu Bakr Jamia Mosque, 1a Mawson Road, Cambridge CB1 2DZ
- Beth Shalom Reform Synagogue, Auckland Road, Cambridge CB5 8DW
- Buddhist Centre, 38 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DT
- Korean Church, 43 St Andrew's Baptist Church, Cambridge CB2 3AR
- Cambridge Chinese Christian Church (www.cccc.org.uk)



Appendix A: Packing Checklist

Welcome to Boarding

To help you prepare for life at St Andrew's College Cambridge, we've put together this checklist of the essential items you'll need. Don't worry if you forget something — most everyday items can be purchased in Cambridge after you arrive.

Essential Documents

- Passport
- Visa/BRP (where applicable)
- Travel documents
- Medical and insurance information
- Copies of important documents

Clothing

- Everyday casual clothing
- Warm clothing for autumn and winter
- Waterproof coat or jacket
- Sports clothing
- Comfortable footwear
- Slippers
- Sleepwear
- One or two smart outfits for formal occasions, College events and celebrations

Bedroom Essentials

- Towels (at least two bath towels)
- Dressing gown
- Hangers
- Photos and small personal decorations
- Favourite blanket or cushion (optional)

Toiletries

- Toiletries for everyday personal care
- Hairdryer or styling equipment (if required)
- Personal hygiene products

Study Equipment

- Laptop
- Charger
- Headphones
- Pens, notebooks and study materials
- Calculator (if required for your course)

Electrical Items

- Mobile phone
- Phone charger
- UK plug adaptor (Type G)
- Extension lead (optional)

Medication

- Prescription medication
- Copy of prescriptions
- Medical equipment (if required)

Please remember: All medication must be declared during induction and stored in accordance with the College's medication procedures.

Appendix A: Packing Checklist (continued)

Personal Items

- Musical instrument (if applicable)
- Sports equipment (if applicable)
- Favourite books
- Small keepsakes from home

Before You Travel

- Passport packed
- Visa documents packed
- Emergency contact details saved
- Boarding House contact details saved
- Mobile phone charged
- Ready for your St Andrew's adventure!

Please Do Not Bring

For the safety and comfort of everyone in the boarding community, the following items are not permitted:

- Candles or incense
- Portable cooking appliances
- Electric heaters or electric blankets
- Weapons or dangerous items
- Alcohol, illegal drugs or vaping products
- Fireworks or hazardous materials
- Any inappropriate, offensive or illegal material

Appendix B: Medication Guidelines

What Students Can and Cannot Keep in Their Room

Items You CAN Keep in Your Room

- Multivitamins (only one pot – duplicates should be handed to the medical team for storage)
 - Cod liver oil capsules
 - Prescribed creams (must be authorised by the Nurse)
 - Nasal spray
 - Eye drops
 - Antacids
 - Vapour rub
 - Plasters
-

Items You CANNOT Keep in Your Room

- Over the counter medications (e.g. Paracetamol, Lemsip, Ibuprofen, Antihistamines, Sleep aids)
- Weight loss supplements
- Supplements containing green tea
- Medication that has not been obtained in the UK
- Alcohol
- Energy drinks
- Stimulant or caffeine tablets (e.g. ProPlus)
- Throat lozenges or spray that contain anaesthetising properties (e.g. Strepsils)

Appendix C: Boarding Community Expectations

This is not an exhaustive list. Please refer to the full boarding policy for further detail.

General Conduct

- Be polite and treat everyone with respect and kindness
- Respect the privacy, space, and belongings of others
- Follow instructions from House Parents and staff
- Join in house activities and meetings
- Speak English in common areas

Curfews and Check-Ins

- Leave for school by 08:00 (08:10 for nearby houses)
- Return after school by 17:30 (15 - 16 year old's) /19:00 (17+) to register
- Evening curfew: 21:00/21:30 (Sun–Thu), 21:30/22:00 (Fri–Sat)
- Check-ins: every 4 hours (age 15–16) or 6 hours (age 17+)
- Late returns without prior agreement may result in sanctions

Health and Safety

- Alcohol, drugs, smoking, and vaping are strictly prohibited on or off site
- Students 18+ who smoke must do so well away from school buildings
- No cooking equipment in bedrooms (kettles, rice cookers, toasters, etc.)
- All medication must be declared and pre-approved by the school
- Report illness to your House Parent by 08:00
- Do not tamper with fire safety equipment; follow all fire protocols
- Rooms are inspected for health and safety compliance

Boarding House Etiquette

- Quiet hours: 21:30–07:00 — keep noise to a minimum
- Guests must be signed in and leave communal areas by curfew
- Keep your room and all shared spaces clean and tidy
- Return dishes promptly after use

Appendix C: Boarding Community Expectations (continued)

Trips and Activities

Submit exeat or day trip requests at least 72 hours in advance

Ages 15–16: must travel with a parent or guardian

Age 17: independent travel considered case by case

Age 18+: may travel independently

Adhere strictly to the exeat and day trip policy

Boarding Responsibilities

Do laundry on your assigned day

Report maintenance or safety issues promptly

Help keep common spaces clean and functional

Prohibited Items and Behaviour

No pets, weapons, sharp objects, or dangerous items

No theft — taking items without permission will result in sanctions

No disrespectful, disruptive, or harmful behaviour

Treat school property with care; report damages immediately

Additional Expectations

Attend all classes, activities, and house meetings

Store belongings securely; do not leave valuables unattended

Respond promptly to messages from House Parents and staff

Do not access inappropriate or illegal content online

Appendix D: Term Dates 2026–2027

Autumn Term 2026

Term Begins: Monday 7 September 2026

Boarders Arrive: Saturday 5 September 2026 (from 10:00am)

Half Term: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026

Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2026

Boarders Depart: Saturday 19 December 2026 by 10:00am

Spring Term 2027

Boarders Arrive: Sunday 10 January 2027

Term Begins: Monday 11 January 2027

Half Term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027

Term Ends: Wednesday 24 March 2027

Boarders Depart: Thursday 25 March 2027 by 10:00am

Summer Term 2027

Boarders Arrive: Sunday 11 April 2027

Term Begins: Monday 12 April 2027

Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 3 May 2027

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 31 May & Tuesday 1 June 2027

Term Ends: Thursday 24 June 2027

Boarders Depart: Saturday 26 June 2027 by 10:00am

Appendix E: Student Rights & Responsibilities

Your Rights

To feel safe

To be listened to

To receive support

To have privacy

To enjoy boarding

To learn and thrive

Your Responsibilities

Treat others with respect

Attend registrations

Follow boarding expectations

Respect others' privacy

Help keep boarding welcoming

Look after College property