

Welcome to Boarding at St Edmund's

Boarding at St Edmund's is firmly based in the core principles of family living. We strive for an open, inclusive and purposeful atmosphere in which pupils are encouraged to fulfil their academic and personal potential; where needs are addressed and achievements are celebrated.

We are fortunate enough to have a broad mixture of backgrounds and cultures among the boarding community; we pride ourselves on drawing on the best of this rich variety and creating an environment that values individuals but offers an experience that is all the better for its sense of collaboration.

As a school, St Edmund's sets out high expectations of its pupils and carefully ensures that the structures are in place to allow pupils to meet these expectations. It is a model that works, and one which boarders will find resolutely in place after the school day ends.

At the end of an evening we wind down together with drinks and snacks; it gives us all a chance to discuss the day just gone and what lies ahead. At the first such meeting of the year a returning boarder will always say 'I have really missed this' and that is a sentiment shared by many, one that suggests they have returned to a home away from home.

As well as full-time boarding, we also offer a weekly option where boarders can choose to go home on a Saturday afternoon, and return to school either on Sunday evening or first-thing Monday morning.

I, my wife Fliss and our daughter Hattie extend a warm welcome to all boarders and their parents and guardians. We look forward to meeting you in due course.

Mr Michael Brewer
Head of Boarding



The Boarding Team

The success of Boarding at St Edmund's is down to a dedicated team of resident and visiting staff, who are:

Mr Antony Jones

Deputy Head of Boarding

Mr Jones is resident in the Baker Boys' Wing; he is also Assistant Director of Sport in the Senior School.



Mrs Ve Dowse

Day Matron

Mrs Dowse primarily looks after boarders and boarding interests during the school day but she is also a visiting tutor two evenings per week.



Mr Hartley Alleyne

Resident tutor in Owen

Mr Alleyne, known as Hartley to boarders, is an ex-international cricketer who now coaches Sport in the Junior and Senior schools.



Mr Simon Buckingham

Resident tutor in Owen

Mr Buckingham divides his time between Junior and Senior boarding as well as being a Junior School Games teacher.



Ms Stephanie McKenzie

Resident tutor in the New Wing Girls' accommodation

Ms McKenzie takes specific responsibility for the girls throughout the evening.



Mr Ben Barnes

Visiting tutor

Mr Barnes is a qualified tennis coach and helps part-time with games teaching.



Dr Sufia McGuire

Visiting tutor

Dr McGuire joined St Edmund's in 2010 to teach Chemistry.



Ms Melanie Judi

Visiting tutor

Ms Judi teaches Spanish and French. She has previously been Head of House and Deputy Head of Boarding at St Mary's Westbrook and Head of House at the Stonar School for Girls.



The School publishes and promotes a clear Code of Conduct which is distributed and discussed at the start of the Michaelmas term. Boarding pupils should expect to abide by this Code of Conduct at all times. In addition, comprehensive information regarding school facilities and opportunities (clubs etc) is published in both the New Parents' and New Pupils' Handbooks issued upon entry to the School. Daily events, times and term dates are published in the Calendar which is issued each term.

What follows is an outline of what boarders can expect from life in boarding at St Edmund's.

Section 1 – Boarding Routine

1.1 - Mornings

Monday to Saturday, boarders are woken up by a member of boarding staff between 7.15am and 7.25am. It is expected that they will rise, get showered and dressed for the school day. Breakfast is served in the Dining Hall between 7.40am and 8.05am.

From breakfast boarders should return to their rooms and ensure that they are ready for the day, leaving their rooms tidy. Registration in day Houses is obligatory and should be attended before 8.30am in full school uniform.

1.2 – The school day

School business starts at 8.35am with either Chapel services or Lines (Assemblies), which are an essential part of our working week.

During the school day, Sixth Form pupils may use their Study Bedrooms for work at appropriate times. The common rooms can be used by all boarders during break and lunchtime.

In order to safeguard the feeling that boarding offers a home away from home, day pupil visitors to the boarding areas are strictly forbidden unless they have the express permission of a member of the boarding staff.

1.3 - After school

St Edmund's offers a comprehensive range of after-school activities in the form of clubs covering sport, music, drama and academic activities. Most boarders will engage with at least one after-school club and many find time to contribute to several. Boarders may leave the campus after 4.20pm, providing they have signed out of their particular boarding area, and have no other school commitments.

Fifth Form pupils must return to school and sign in by 6.15pm at the latest. Sixth Form pupils may return up to 6.45pm but should not expect to be able to eat after 6.20pm. If, having eaten elsewhere, a pupil returns at 6.45pm, the duty staff member must be found (normally in the Dining Hall or Staff Common Room) and a Registration made.

1.4 - Prep

Prep starts promptly at 7pm:

- L5 and M5 in Study Bedrooms or (with permission) in the IT room between 7pm and 8pm for L5 and 7pm and 8.30pm for M5. Prep in bedrooms is monitored by the Masters on Duty and the School Prefects on duty.
- U5 and Sixth Form – in Study Bedrooms, the Library or the Sixth Form Resources Room between 7 and 9pm monitored by the Masters on Duty and the School Prefects on Duty.

Boarders should have plenty of work to fill the entire prep session. Every pupil will have a prep timetable and will be expected to spend a sufficient amount of time on prep for each subject.

1.5 - Evening / Bedtimes

'Milk and Biscuits' is held between 9pm and 9.15 in the Dining Hall Monday to Friday. It is a good opportunity for boarders to relax together at the end of a long day and it provides an opportunity to raise any concerns they might have.

Lights Out for Bedtime will be as follows:

- 9.45pm - Lower Fifth (Year 9)
- 10.00pm - Middle Fifth (Year 10)
- 10.15pm - Upper Fifth (Year 11)
- 10.30pm - Lower Sixth (Year 12)
- 10.45pm - Upper Sixth (Year 13)

Boarders should be in their rooms getting ready for bed 15 minutes before 'lights out'. If pupils wish to shower before bed, they should go to their areas before their appointed time.

Section 2 - General Issues

2.1 - Room tidiness and use

The standard of tidiness we expect of boarding pupils is high. This means that beds must be made every day and clothes put away in wardrobes / drawers provided. Desks must be used for books and folders. We have a very dedicated Housekeeping team who will ensure that rooms are cleaned to an excellent standard, providing a boarder's personal untidiness does not obstruct them in the course of their job.

To help keep rooms clear and tidy, it is important that suitcases are placed in the loft for storage as soon as possible after the start of term.

Small quantities of food and drink may be stored in bedrooms; however, it is not acceptable to cook in rooms at any time, because of the risk to personal and community health and safety. Any cooked food should be consumed in the common rooms and dishes washed immediately afterwards. Kettles, toasters and candles present a grave health and safety risk and are, accordingly, strictly forbidden in study bedrooms. Any such items found in rooms will be removed and returned to a boarder at the start of the next long holiday when the item in question can be taken home.

At the end of each term and half term, rooms should be left in a tidy state. The School reserves the right to impose an excess cleaning charge if rooms are left in an unacceptable state. Clothes and other items such as towels left on the bed or the floor – ie not in a drawer or wardrobe - will be taken to the laundry for washing. The School will not be responsible for any shrinkage of these items.

2.2 – Electrical Safety

The School is compelled to meet the requirements of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1990 in terms of its own equipment. However, it is requested that parents/guardians ensure the safety of any electrical equipment brought back to school by pupils. The School cannot accept this responsibility.

Equipment found during the course of the annual Portable Appliance Test (PAT) of the premises, which does not meet the required standard, will be confiscated. On request, the School will undertake the repair of such equipment but the charge will be passed on accordingly. There will be a charge for the testing of pupils' own equipment.

2.3 - Laundry

St Edmund's supplies boarders with a good laundry service and thus boarding pupils are expected to adhere to the highest standards of dress. All items of School uniform should be sent to the school laundry on a regular basis. All items must be marked with name tapes – available from the Uniform Shop.

Lower and Middle Fifth boys should familiarise themselves with the collection arrangements and ensure that they fulfil their obligations on the collection rota as published by the Day Matron.

All other boys are expected to take their own laundry to the linen room at regular intervals. It is a matter of personal hygiene to ensure that you are wearing clean clothes and the linen room staff will monitor the regularity of each pupil's laundry and notify the Day Matron and the Head of Boarding of any pupil who is not adhering to the standards required.

Girls' laundry will be collected from an appointed place and returned to pigeon holes within the girls' areas. The same expectations regarding personal hygiene and the cleanliness of clothes apply to girls and the regularity of laundry submissions will be monitored by the linen room staff and notified to the Day Matron and Head of Boarding if standards are not adhered to.

2.4 - Pocket Money / Security / Keys

We take security very seriously and offer all boarders the means by which to secure their valuables in a lockable space. Keys for rooms are issued at the start of the academic year and a small deposit is charged. This is refunded on the final term's bill, providing the key is returned at the end of the year. If a key is lost, a replacement will be issued and a charge made.

The School cannot accept responsibility for unsecured valuables that are lost, stolen or damaged. Secure cash boxes are available at a reasonable cost from the Library Bookshop and are an excellent way of securing cash and small valuables.

It is recommended that any large sums of money should be deposited with the Head of Boarding from whom cash can then be drawn as and when you require it. This is also the recommended place to deposit items such as passports and airline tickets, all of which are carefully signed in and out. The suggested amount for pocket money is £20-£30 per week.

2.5 - Weekend Leaves

All boarders are entitled to a 'Leave' between the end of school on Saturday and Saturday Tea at 6pm. In addition to this, all boarders can request a 'Leave' on either Sunday morning **or** Sunday afternoon.

On special occasions such as birthday dinners, Sixth Form pupils can request an evening leave on Saturday with Lower Sixth required back by 10.00pm and Upper Sixth back by 10.30pm.

'Leaves' for Sunday lunchtime must be specifically requested and permission will be given at the discretion of the Head of Boarding.

The term 'exeat' is used where a pupil stays out of school from the end of Friday school until Sunday evening or Monday morning. These can be arranged by parents or guardians to be on a "standing arrangement" whereby pupils go home every or most weekends.

Alternatively, where a pupil normally stays in at the weekend, 'exeats' will be booked by Thursday. For a boarder to book an 'exeat', both the boarder's parents or guardians and the parents of the host family must call or email the person in charge of your area or the Head of Boarding by Thursday evening to consent that they are happy with the arrangements being proposed.

2.6 - Weekday 'leaves'

Some boarders join local dance or sports classes and so require a regular weekday 'leave', which is approved and reviewed by the Head of Boarding. Providing a boarder's work does not suffer because of extra-curricular commitments, these arrangements for valuable personal enrichment will be encouraged.

Weekday leaves for special occasions such as a birthday dinner should be requested at least 24 hours before the leave is required. These leaves will usually be granted as long as such events are occasional and the boarder in question is clearly keeping up with their school commitments.

2.7 – Exeat weekends and holidays

At St Edmund's we currently enjoy four exeat weekends throughout the school year. These give all pupils, but boarders in particular, a break from the academic routines and physical structures of school life. As moments of respite, they are carefully timed throughout the year to enable a productive atmosphere and the dates of exeat weekends, as with all term dates, are published well in advance (please refer to the Calendar) to allow parents and guardians to plan accordingly.

While we are keen to liaise with parents and guardians about exeat weekends, we are unable to make arrangements for boarders. In some cases a parent or guardian might deem it appropriate to allow a boarder to spend the weekend with a third party. It is in the best interests of all concerned if practical issues such as the proximity of emergency contacts and the ready availability of medical care are considered. Unfortunately a boarder cannot, for example, simply come back to school early – the building is closed and the boarding areas are not staffed during an exeat weekend.

Exeat weekends begin after Friday activities have finished i.e. 4pm at the earliest. Requests for an earlier departure should only be made in exceptional circumstances and then ideally no later than a week before the exeat weekend. We are fortunate to be within walking distance of a high-speed rail link to London which would allow a boarder to reach St Pancras International in under an hour. Guardians and host families are expected to fulfil their duties in a way that does not impact upon a pupil's academic timetable. In the vast majority of cases, it should not be necessary for a pupil to leave early.

Return from exeat weekends is between 6pm and 9pm. Before 6pm the school is not open to any pupils and although some catering staff will be present, they are unable to take care of boarders returning early. We cannot, for reasons of health and safety, admit pupils in to the School before 6pm and taking in to account the changeable weather of this part of the country, it would be better for a boarder to return later than 6pm rather than to sit waiting outside for a considerable time.

Half-term and end-of-term dates are available on the School website and Calendar at least a year in advance partly in order to allow our overseas boarders to make arrangements for flights. This is so that they do not need to leave earlier than the published dates, other than in exceptional circumstances. If an early leave is required, a request should be made to our Assistant Deputy Head, Mr Leigh Millard, as early as possible. All boarders who have to travel abroad for a half-term or end-of-term holiday are welcome to remain on site for the final Friday evening, departing by 9am on the following Saturday.

Returning from half-term is the same as returning from an exeat weekend and a boarder will not find the School open before 6pm. However, at the *start* of term (Michaelmas, Lent and Summer)

boarders can return from 9am to drop off suitcases and, if they wish, to work in their rooms. Boarders wanting to make use of this facility must sign in and out with the School Office and will have to make arrangements for lunch. A buffet tea will be available from 6pm in the dining hall. The school is able to arrange taxis to and from the airport providing full flight details have been emailed to our Day Matron, Mrs Ve Dowse: vgd@stedmunds.org.uk, at least a week before the departing flight. Requests for taxis returning to school must be made before the end of the previous term.

2.8 - Communication

It is helpful to be as communicative as possible; boarders should ensure that they let as many people as possible know if they are not going to be where they are expected to be. For example, if parents or guardians call and wish to take a boarder out for an emergency appointment, it is essential that they do their utmost to inform those who will be concerned for their safety by calling the Head of Boarding and, if necessary, leaving a message where no member of the boarding staff can be found at short notice.

Quite understandably, parents and guardians will want to keep in regular contact with boarders and to this end we would strongly suggest that each boarder is equipped with a mobile phone, even if it is only capable of receiving calls. If a parent or guardian is having trouble getting in touch with a boarder we would recommend they make contact with the Head of Boarding.

2.9 – Guardianship Arrangements

It is made clear in the New Parent Handbook that it is a formal requirement for admission to the School for all boarders whose parents live overseas to have a guardianship arrangement in place upon entry. We are happy to recommend a guardianship company but unfortunately we cannot be responsible for arranging or appointing guardians.

Companies:

Bright World Guardianships Ltd. website: info@brightworld.co.uk

White House Guardianships Ltd. website: whg.eu.com

It is also important to note that the New Parent Handbook clearly lays out the functions that a guardian must be able to perform. Please ensure that any guardianship arrangements take these details into account. The School reserves the right to require the use of an approved guardian agency if suitable alternative arrangements are found not to have been made (cost will be charged).

In general, we expect boarders to use their guardian or host family most frequently for exeat weekends, half-terms (if not returning home) and for overnight stays if flights leave or arrive outside of the designated opening hours for the School.

And finally...

Life as a boarder offers a great opportunity for personal and academic growth and maturity. It allows young people a chance to discover the best in other people, cultures and practices and it enables independence but it can also be daunting at the outset. We understand that boarders and their parents and guardians will have many questions and while most answers can be found on our website or in our literature, our advice is simply 'ask'. Some important telephone numbers and email addresses are below, please feel free to contact us as and when you feel the need to.

Mr Michael Brewer, Head of Boarding, 01227 475609, mjb@stedmunds.org.uk

Mr Leigh Millard, Assistant Deputy Head (Pastoral), lam@stedmunds.org.uk

Mrs Ve Dowse, Day Matron, vgd@stedmunds.org.uk

Mr Antony Jones, Deputy Head of Boarding, arj@stedmunds.org.uk

School Shop, uniformshop@stedmunds.org.uk

Website: www.stedmunds.org.uk

Appendix

1. Start of term.
2. Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

APPENDIX 1

ARRIVAL

Monday 5 September

9.00 am – 3.00 pm	School Shop open for boarders and overseas pupils (<i>by appointment only</i>)
10.30 am – 12.00 noon	Arrival of new boarders Colonnade via School Entrance There is the facility for unaccompanied boarders to arrive on Sunday afternoon/evening, or according to specific appointments previously made with Houseparents.
12.30 pm	Buffet lunch for new boarders, their parents and guardians <i>Venue: Dining Hall Annexe</i>
2.10 pm 2.15 pm	Arrival of new day pupils Chapel Service and Head's Address attended by all new pupils, parents and guardians.
3.15 pm - 4.00pm	All new pupils, parents and guardians attend House Receptions as indicated: Baker House Colonnade via Giles Lane Entrance <i>Venue: Baker Houseroom</i> Wagner House Colonnade via Giles Lane Entrance <i>Venue: Sixth Form Centre</i> Warneford House University Road Entrance <i>Venue: Ivy Coleman Recital Hall</i> Watson House University Road Entrance <i>Venue: Watson Houseroom</i>
4.00 pm	Tea for parents and guardians with the opportunity to meet current parents, senior staff and Medical Centre staff. <i>Venue: Dining Hall</i>

4.00 pm	New pupils to tutors, followed by tea
5.00 pm	All parents, guardians and all new day pupils depart
6.00 pm	Supper for boarders Evening Pastoral induction for new boarders Unpacking

**INDUCTION DAY
Tuesday 6 September**

From 7.40 am	Breakfast for boarders
9.30 am - 4.00 pm	Induction for all L5 and L6 pupils. 'In-House' induction with Mr Brewer for all new M5 boarders
10.00 am - 4.00 pm	School Shop open <i>(no appointment necessary)</i>

**TERM BEGINS
Wednesday 7 September**

From 7.40 am	Breakfast for boarders
8.30 am	Registration in Houses for all pupils and House Lines
8.55 am	Head's Line
9.30 am	Tutor time - academic administration, timetables, activities
11.25 am	Normal lessons begin (period 4)
10.00 am – 4.00 pm	School Shop open <i>(no appointment necessary)</i>

APPENDIX 2

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

We hope that most of the information you need can be found on our website, in the pupil and parent handbooks or in our prospectus.

However we are often asked other questions (by parents and their sons and daughters) and hope the following may be helpful. If you can't find the answer to your question anywhere in the information we provide, please do get in touch with us; we will be happy to help.

Q: How many terms are there in the school year?

A: At St Edmund's we have three terms in the school year: Michaelmas (Autumn), Lent (Spring) and Summer.

Q: Which boarding house will my son join?

A: The boarding house is known as Owen and each pupil will also join one of the four day houses: Baker, Wagner, Warneford and Watson. During the summer before your child joins us, you will be notified of the House allocation and you will receive a letter of introduction from your child's Housemaster.

Q: Do all pupils have their own room?

A: Single occupancy rooms are usually a privilege of the Upper Sixth. A variety of double, triple and divided dormitories are used for the Fifth Form and Lower Sixth.

Q: Can pupils stay at school during holidays?

No, the School's closed and pupils must go home, or to their guardians.

Q: What is a 'half-term' holiday?

A: There is a half-term holiday in the middle of each term; two weeks in the Michaelmas term, one week in the Lent term, and one week in the Summer term. The School closes, and pupils go home, or to their guardians at the end of the school day on the Friday preceding the holiday.

Q: What is Exeat (leave)?

A: An Exeat is a shorter time when pupils leave school. The Michaelmas term has two formal exeat weekends (one in each half of the term) and each of the other terms has one exeat weekend for all pupils when the school closes. All pupils go home, or to their guardians, at the end of the school day on the Friday.

If parents or guardians wish, pupils can go home for other weekends (after Saturday school finishes), by arrangement with the Head of Boarding and provided their sporting or other commitments allow.

Q: Are meals included in the fees?

A: Yes: St Edmund's boarding fees include 3 meals (breakfast, lunch and supper) plus snacks.

Q: How can we meet or make contact with other St Edmund's parents?

A: St Edmund's is keen to promote contact between the school and parents, and between parents themselves. Once your son or daughter becomes a pupil at St Edmund's, you will find that there are parents' meetings to keep you informed about his/her academic progress. You will also be invited to concerts, plays, sports (and other events) in which your son or daughter may take part. We also hold social events for parents: coffee mornings, drinks parties, an annual Summer Ball, Speech Day, etc.

Q: Who looks after pupils when they first arrive?

A: On arrival your son/daughter will meet the Head of Boarding and his team who will look after him/her out of school hours. During the school day, the Housemaster is the first person who will care for him/her, with a team of house tutors. The Housemaster may appoint a 'buddy' for your child, ie another pupil who will look after them for a while until they get used to being here. The Housemasters work very closely with the Head of Boarding on all pastoral matters.

Q: How will I make friends at St Edmund's / Will I have friends of different ages?

A: When you arrive at you will have lots of people to look after you. Your Housemaster will ensure that you have a 'buddy' to look after you during your first days and weeks here. Our House system is also helpful when you are making friends. At St Edmund's, all the boys and all of the girls of the same age live in separate boarding areas (though there will be some older pupils living there as prefects). Your year group may also share weekend activities with another year group close to you in age. We arrange lots of trips and social events here, and we run some special outings right at the start of the year to make sure all the boarders get to know one another really well as term begins. Our younger boarders may share a room with other pupils, and this can really help you make friends.

Q: Does the school have any special things or words it is helpful to know?

A: Yes: in every school there are some rather odd words which have just developed over the years, but St Edmund's doesn't have too many of these. There is a list of helpful St Edmund's vocabulary in the New Pupil Handbook which will be sent to you before you start.

Q: What is the 'Calendar'?

A: The Calendar is a small red and white book which is given to every pupil and mailed directly to parents each term. This contains lots of useful information and pupils should keep it with them at all times. Included in the Calendar are lists of staff and prefects, the daily calendar for the term, exam timetables, sports fixtures, term dates, the code of conduct and other useful information.

Q: What is 'Prep'?

A: At St Edmund's, homework is called Preparation or 'Prep' for short. Boarders have a set Prep time, though older pupils do more work outside these times. They may also have 'study periods' when they work on their own during the school day. Further details are in the calendar.

Q: Can my son/daughter learn a musical instrument?

A: Yes, he/she can either continue with an instrument he/she is already playing, or take up an instrument here. Music classes take place during the school day (or before or after school). There is an extra charge for music lessons. For more information contact music@stedmunds.org.uk.

Q: Can pupils wear their own clothes at school?

A: In the evenings and weekends, and at certain other times, pupils in all year groups are permitted to wear casual clothes of a tasteful nature. Boarders will need name tapes to identify ALL their clothes and these must be purchased from the School Shop prior to arrival.

In addition to other items, ALL pupils must possess one pair of smart casual (not denim) trousers, and some collared shirts. **A full list of clothing required for School is listed in detail in the Parents' Handbook and on the website.**

Q: Can I get help with buying Uniform?

A: Yes; our School Shop sells uniform and you are advised to make an appointment as soon as possible. At your appointment the Shop Manager will be happy to help pupils with all aspects of the uniform requirements. The email address for the shop is uniformshop@stedmunds.org.uk.

Q: Do pupils have to do their own laundry?

A: St Edmund's provides a full laundry service. Pupils are expected to make their own beds, and keep their area of the house tidy.

Q: Do pupils have to bring their own bedding?

A: No, all bedding is provided. You will be given pillows and pillow-cases, duvets and duvet covers, sheets and blankets all of which will be laundered.

Q: What is a duvet?

A: A duvet is a warm feather or fibre-filled cover for sleeping under.

Q: Are pupils allowed to go into Canterbury?

A: Details of when pupils are allowed to leave the school are included in the Boarders' Daily Routine in the Calendar. The School has a very clear Code of Conduct which is included in the pupil handbook and the Calendar.

Q: Is there Internet access in the School?

A: Boarders have access to the Internet in the IT room.

Q: Are pupils allowed laptop computers?

A: Yes, if you wish to bring a laptop, you are allowed to do so, although you should make sure you have insurance to cover its damage or loss, and that you keep it safe in school. The School's IT Department will configure your network card for the school's system, and ensure you have the correct virus protection and security software. There are lots of PCs provided in school which you can use if you don't have your own laptop.

Q: Does the school provide email accounts?

A: Yes, each pupil is provided with an email account.

Q: Does the school provide transport to the airport?

A: Yes, taxis are arranged in advance by Matron (approximate one-way fare: £80 Gatwick; £110 Heathrow). Flight number and contact information is required. Matron can be contacted by email vgd@stedmunds.org.uk.

Q: Can pupils bring their own pictures / posters from home?

A: Yes, providing they are appropriate, pupils can decorate their room with pictures and posters.

Q: Are mobile phones, iPods or Mp3 players allowed?

A: Pupils in the Senior School are allowed to bring mobile phones, iPods and Mp3 players. The School has clear policies for how and when these may be used, which may be found in the New Pupil Handbook. As a general rule, though, they are not allowed to be used around the School, nor in public places during school hours. Their sensible use during out-of-school hours is closely monitored.

Q: How can pupils keep their belongings safe?

A: St Edmund's is a happy and secure place in which to live, and everyone here is expected to respect the property, privacy and welfare of other pupils and staff. However, we also try to take general and internal security seriously. All boarding areas have secure keypad access. Rooms are either single occupancy and lockable or have a lockable area. Pupils in the Fifth Form are encouraged to bring a padlock or combination lock.

Q: How much pocket money can a pupil have?

A: £20-£30 per week is a common amount. Large sums of cash can be deposited with the Head of Boarding. Bank accounts can also be arranged; details on how to do this are in the New Pupil Handbook.

Q: Does the school accept Euros / dollars / cash payment / credit cards?

A: The school accepts payment in British Pounds Sterling. Payments can be made by cheque, or by bank transfer. We regret that we do not accept payment by credit card at present.

Q: Do pupils need to have private medical insurance?

A: All boarding pupils are registered with the School's Doctor, and are therefore treated under the British National Health Service (NHS). Parents may wish to take out private medical cover, which will cover treatment at a private hospital where necessary.