



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE  
SOUTHSEA

St John's College

# Inspire & Belong

Boarding Prospectus

Students **thrive** at St John's College

# St John's College Boarding Prospectus Contents

Welcome to our Boarding Prospectus. We hope you find what you are looking for, if not please contact us.

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The sense of continuity, community and common purpose benefits greatly the boarding school as a whole.

Independent Schools  
Inspectorate, 2017

# Welcome

## to St John's College

St John's College is an independent day and boarding school for girls and boys, located in the heart of Portsmouth.

At St John's College, we pride ourselves on the academic success of each individual student and our outstanding pastoral care. We are a Christian school but an inclusive community, welcoming students of all beliefs.

We are not selective by academic ability and are able to offer a rounded education, providing opportunities for students through an extensive range of activities. We are also proud of our international links and, as the only independent Boarding School in Portsmouth, we offer a truly international education experience from which all our students, day and boarding, benefit.

One of the most outstanding aspects of the College is the quality of community spirit, based on positive relationships between students and staff. We passionately believe that we develop the talents of our students and create confident young people for the future, and this is a vital ingredient of our success. This ties in with our College motto – Per laborem ad Honorem (through work to honour), where all members of our community are encouraged to give their best in all activities.

The College was founded in 1908 by a Lasallian community of brothers and established according to the principles of John Baptist De La Salle, the Patron Saint of Teachers. Today, although we are no longer part of the De la Salle Trust, we remain true to our Lasallian values, providing an education based on respect for all, quality relationships and an inclusive, collaborative community.

There are many unique elements to St John's College and you will get a good sense of our academic results, facilities and co-curricular opportunities from reading our prospectus. However, to truly appreciate what we can offer and to experience the inclusive community in which our students thrive, I invite you to book a personalised tour by contacting our Admissions Team.

**We look forward to welcoming you and your family to St John's College soon.**

Mrs Mary Maguire, Head of College



# Why

## St John's College Boarding?

Choosing the right learning environment for your child is an important decision to make, particularly when this is coupled with moving into a boarding community.

It is for this reason that St John's College places a huge focus on the pastoral care and support that we offer every one of our boarders and their families, with residential options for children from 8 to 18 years old.

Our boarding community is set in the naval city of Portsmouth, just five minutes from the seaside. Our campus is six acres in size, securely located within a quiet residential area, and is a short walk from a vast number of local amenities.

Our boarding accommodation comprises six Edwardian houses, all of which are situated on the College campus. This means students experience living in a traditional English house, and have full access to our excellent facilities in the evenings and at weekends. Our Houses are also relatively small, with 20 being the largest number in any one House.

At St John's College, we offer a 'home from home' environment and one in which our boarders enjoy living. We understand that flexibility is key and offer full, short term and flexi boarding options, as well as academic and extra-curricular activities; there is something for everyone to enjoy during our evening and weekend activities, which take place across the South of England.

We would always recommend coming to visit us, as well as arranging a taster night or two, so you can fully experience what being a boarder at St John's College is like. We are also happy to put you in touch with some of our current boarding parents, as we believe learning from the experience of others will help you make that all-important decision.



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I really enjoyed my time at St John's College. It has been an insightful experience and I have learnt a lot and gained essential life skills.

Esther, former boarding student



# UK Boarding

Our boarding community is made up of around fifteen nationalities, with UK students easily making up the largest number from any country.

Our boarders benefit from the stability of a regular routine with dedicated time for academic work and can easily join in the wide range of co-curricular activities. We are able to offer flexibility depending on commitments outside school and encourage students to join local clubs and activity groups.

Located in the naval city of Portsmouth, St John's College has a long and established history of educating students from service families. We recognise that military life can often cause upheaval for children and that a good, consistent and stable education is important to service families. Through our excellent pastoral system, we ensure that students settle in well and quickly adapt to boarding life.

We are proud of our ability to guide and mentor our boarders through their studies and have an excellent tradition of helping them get into the very best universities. Being a wide-ability school, we educate students in a supportive environment and encourage them to take responsibility for

their learning as they prepare for life after St John's College. Although most of our students take up their offers at university, others choose vocational routes, take a gap year or join the armed forces.

Parents stay fully involved with their child's life during their time at St John's College with direct contact with the Boarding Parent and Head of Boarding 24 hours a day; weekly emails home with a summary of the week and regular social media updates. To support our boarding community, we appreciate the input from parents at termly meetings. Parents can meet up and feed back about their experiences at St John's to each other and to the College.



Section 14 — Constructions

14.1 Constructions

Perpendicular Lines

1. Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  on  $l$ .

2. Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  not on  $l$ .

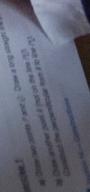
3. Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  not on  $l$ , using only a compass and a straightedge.



**Example 1** Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  on  $l$ .



**Example 2** Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  not on  $l$ .



**Example 3** Construct a line perpendicular to a given line  $l$  at a point  $P$  not on  $l$ , using only a compass and a straightedge.



# International Boarding

Our boarding community is delightfully diverse, with full-time and temporary boarders joining us from Hong Kong, China, Nigeria, France and Spain, to name but a few.

We believe that experiencing a British boarding school is an excellent stepping stone for independent living at university and beyond.

At St John's College, we provide a traditional British education offering a wide-ranging curriculum of IGCSE, GCSE and A Level subjects. Our 'Links to University' programme offers flexibility to prepare international students to take A Levels or an International Foundation Degree in readiness for university. This is particularly helpful for those whose English is not yet sufficiently confident or advanced for independent study.

We have a highly qualified and experienced EAL department who prepare students for their IELTS exam, which is an essential requirement for those students who do not have first language English GCSE and wish to attend university in the UK. Lessons are timetabled so that each student has EAL lessons every week, alongside their evening support sessions within the boarding community. All EAL lessons are included in our tuition fee.

Portsmouth is a dynamic and vibrant waterfront city, where tourism thrives – so there is always plenty for our students to see and do out of school time. Not only do students benefit from all the fun of living by the sea, they make use of our strong links with the University of Portsmouth, which is just a short walk from the College. Students often attend university events or listen to invited speakers at the College. Our Sixth Formers also have access to the extensive university library.

Situated on the South Coast, Portsmouth is the UK's only 'island city' and is only 90 minutes away from Gatwick and Heathrow airports. Transport links are excellent, with trains and coaches travelling from Portsmouth direct to the airports. We can also make individual arrangements for students travelling to and from the College.



# Flexi Boarding

We are able to offer families different options if full boarding is not required. All options include breakfast, dinner, evening and weekend activities and supervised homework sessions.

## ONE-OFF BOARDING

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Our one-off boarding option can take the form of just one night, or a number of consecutive nights; usually helping students and their families work around parental work commitments, being out of the country, or to help with one-off situations.

## SHORT TERM BOARDING

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Whether it's for planned work commitments or parental trips overseas, our short term option allows students to board for a few weeks or a half a term at a time, giving stability and support where needed. It can also be used around exam periods, when students need easier access to school resources, and want to avoid long journeys to and from school.

Short term stays are also available to international students who want to experience life in a British boarding school. Many stay for a term or even a year, allowing them to become fully immersed in UK boarding and school life.

## REGULAR BOARDING

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Regular boarding is ideal for those students who would like to board for a particular number of nights per week for a term or throughout the year. This is often used when students are involved in a significant number of after-school or evening events and would prefer to board rather than face a long commute.



**It has been a great and unique opportunity for our daughter. We are very thankful for all the quality and high standards of all the teachers... it has been a life-time experience for Laura.**

Mr Rigau, parent



# Pastoral Care

We pride ourselves on our pastoral care, which was highlighted as 'Excellent' in our last ISI report.

We have high expectations of all our boarders, but recognise they are still young and learning their way in life. We understand that they may make mistakes and we are committed to supporting them in fulfilling their true potential; ensuring they choose the right pathway to lead happy, successful lives.

Each House is staffed by a dedicated House Parent and Graduate Assistant, and with a maximum of 20 boarders per House, our excellent staff to student ratio means we can ensure everyone is given the time and care to feel supported, both academically and pastorally. Each student has an academic tutor who, along with their Head of Year, will help monitor their wellbeing and academic progress during the school day.

We also have a welcoming team of senior boarders who, as House Captains and mentors, support and guide our new and younger boarders through their time at St John's College. The House Captains meet regularly with the Head of Boarding to review the Boarding experience.

This also ensures that every student is represented and involved in how their House and community is evolving.

We have an on-site Medical Centre, which is staffed by an empathetic team and fully qualified nurses. Boarding students can register with the school doctor who runs fortnightly clinics on-site, and they have access to the full medical facilities at a local practice. All our staff are first aid trained and provide on-call support, 24 hours a day. The College also has a School Counsellor who is available to all students.



**Through the positive support they receive from their teachers and from those who look after them in their boarding houses, pupils flourish and grow in self-confidence.**

Independent Schools Inspectorate, 2017



# Activities

At St John's College, we provide a fun and varied boarding activities programme, which has been recognised for its innovation by the Boarding Schools' Association.

During the weekends, we organise trips to places of historical and cultural interest, as well as places where students can relax and have fun. Interspersed amongst these are competitive activities, including Football, Baking, Badminton and Music. Together with House activities, sport fixtures, clubs and musical events, there is plenty for our students to get involved in during their time with us.

As part of our weekend activity programme, students have visited nearby cities (Brighton, Winchester and Southampton), and taken trips to London, theme parks (Thorpe Park and Chessington World of Adventure), Beaulieu Motor Museum, Marwell Zoo, the Southampton Boat Show and Premier League Football matches. Other activities have included cycling in the New Forest, 'It's a Knockout!', bowling, cinema trips, swimming, laser quest, indoor sky diving and ice skating.

**Our boarders enjoy a nationally recognised activities programme, which takes place six days of the week!**

Our Boarders are also involved with many school and PTA (Parent Teacher Association) events such as the summertime music festival 'SJC Campout', Firework Night and concerts throughout the year.

During the week, boarders can relax together after Prep and supper, spending 'down time' in their House living rooms or arranging group activities with friends. These have included game evenings, film nights, watching a sports match on the 'big screen' and pamper parties.

Having such a diverse, international community allows staff and boarders to experience and learn about different cultures and celebrations from all over the world.



# How to apply

To apply for a place at St John's College, we ask for a formal application form to be submitted with a copy of a recent school report.

Once the application has been received we will invite you to come in for a tour of the College, discussions with subject teachers and an interview with the Head of College. If you are unable to visit the College a video call will be arranged.

We are happy to offer your child an overnight taster stay so they can spend a normal school day with their current year group and get a feel for the boarding community.

All pupils entering the Junior School are assessed usually during their Taster Day. This includes a short assessment of the child's level of Literacy, Numeracy and Reading.

Entrance assessments for students joining Year 7 and Year 9 take place in November and January of each year and include English, Maths and Non-Verbal Reasoning.

Students wishing to join our Sixth Form within the UK are not required to complete formal assessments, but are asked to provide us with academic reports and a reference from their current school.

If the taster session and entrance assessment went well, a verbal offer will be made which will then be followed by a formal, written offer, subject to the receipt of satisfactory reports/references from the child's current school.

## INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS

For students applying from overseas, who are studying a different curriculum, we still ask for a completed application form and copy of a school report, but will also ask for details of a teacher (or another independent adult) who would be willing to supervise our entry tests under exam conditions.

The entry tests are for English and Maths but if you are considering taking Science at A Level, there will be a Science test too. These tests can be scanned and emailed back to us for marking and then a video interview will be arranged. As with home applications, an offer will be made based on the test results and interview.



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**Where every student thrives**