



# MILTON ABBEY

Milton Abbey is a unique and profoundly pastoral full boarding environment, brought about by the small size of our School and complemented by our beautiful setting and surroundings.

## **Statement of Boarding Practice and Principles**

Milton Abbey aims to create a full boarding environment where every teacher knows every pupil, and all the pupils know each other, creating a genuine, tolerant and wonderfully supportive environment that leads to pupils enjoying boarding life at Milton Abbey. The staffing of our House system means that we have at least a Resident Housemaster/mistress, a Resident Assistant Housemaster/mistress, a Resident Tutor and a Matron per House. This deliberately strong staffing supports a clear focus on pupil welfare and a full boarding offer that includes a busy evening and weekend activity programme. Our House system provides a caring pastoral environment in which pupils learn to consider the rights and needs of others and, alongside tutors, the House teams encourage pupils to develop a lasting sense of moral, social and spiritual responsibility.

The School dedicates itself to delivering outstanding care within the classrooms and boarding Houses, providing individual one-to-one tutoring which runs alongside an academic and co-curricular programme tailored to each pupil. Tutors and tutees meet each week to discuss the programme for the week ahead, which helps encourage academic interest and wide participation in cultural, sporting and service events and activities. Milton Abbey is proud of its full-boarding status and of the comprehensive academic and extra-curricular provision, including a full evening and weekend programme.

Boarding pupils live at the School throughout the week and over weekends during term time, and go home for a long weekend (or exeat) twice a term, half term and holidays. The School runs a comprehensive transport service to London, Hampshire, Sussex, Kent, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Somerset and Devon, as well as to major airports and train stations.

On joining the School, every boarding pupil is assigned to a House; a close-knit community where year groups are fully integrated and where every pupil is inspired to feel that they belong. Each House has a team of resident staff and matrons to help provide a home-from-home environment. Milton Abbey has five boarding Houses: Athelstan, Damer, Hambro, Hodgkinson, and Tregonwell.

Our provision is all-encompassing and centres around encouraging every pupil to lead a fulfilling and rewarding life during their time at Milton Abbey. Hard work and academic determination are balanced with a comprehensive programme of activities and social events. Pupils are encouraged to take an active role in School life; our Heads of School and Heads of Houses provide role models and guidance to younger pupils, and have a key role in the running of the School.

We operate a full boarding system at Milton Abbey with day pupils assigned to a boarding house. There are 5 houses (four boys and one girl's house). The boys' houses each accommodate approximately 50 pupils from Third through to Sixth Form (Years 9 – 13). On arrival into the school, pupils will be allocated into dormitories and graduate to smaller rooms as they move up through the school, with Sixth Formers enjoying twin or single bedsits.

Both the physical nature of our boarding and our intimate size promotes a unique boarding experience. Every pupil is integral to this inclusive environment and all pupils across all age ranges mix freely. New pupils find their feet quickly and within a matter of weeks strong friendships are established, not only within their own house but also throughout the entire school and varying age ranges.

All pupils eat centrally with the staff in our magnificent Abbot's Hall, where they are provided with exceptionally high quality food, both in terms of quality and quantity by our in-house catering team.

Our Health Centre offers 24-hour cover from our team of registered in-house nurses. We also have a twice weekly Doctor's surgery and other appointments can be arranged individually by our team of health care professionals.

In the evenings prep takes place in Houses from 19:30 – 20:30 with Supervised Prep continuing until 21:00. Each pupil has their own desk space and wireless internet access. 6th Form pupils can also request to work in the Library.

A rich and varied programme of activities is on offer every day of the week with something to cater for all tastes. In the evenings our Resident Tutors run a range of activities and at weekends action packed adventure training, cultural or shopping trips are regularly offered for all boarders, as well as regular social events.

The Houses pride themselves on healthy rivalry and pupils display a genuine sense of loyalty and passion towards their house. This is developed through a multitude of regular house competitions, which take place on the sports pitches through to debating. House affiliation is further enhanced by HsMs all of whom work tirelessly with their team of Tutors to develop a genuine family atmosphere.