



# Day Boarding at Wycombe Abbey



One of Wycombe Abbey's greatest strengths is the small, happy, close-knit community we enjoy here where each and every girl is known, nurtured and cherished as an individual. This, combined with our commitment to holistic education with a strong pastoral focus is, perhaps, the reason why our relatively small number of day boarders feel valued as part of the Wycombe family.

I have no doubt that boarding is key to our continued success and day girls benefit from the environment which this creates. The School has a culture which stimulates and inspires throughout the day, seven days a week, empowering girls to achieve their best, academically and socially. Girls learn to be independent, academically ambitious, to value and support others, and to develop the skills needed for the future challenges they will encounter in a global workplace.

Given the all-encompassing nature of boarding life, girls are able to enjoy a wealth of co-curricular opportunities. Each and every girl carves out a unique learning path according to her interests, whether day or boarding.

Day girls are key members of their Boarding House; being fully involved in activities throughout the week and at weekends. Girls have work, storage and social spaces in year group Hubs in the Abbey, mitigating the need to return to the Boarding House during the day. Hubs are used in the evenings. House staff and academic tutors see girls regularly in house and school and offer support, guidance and encouragement. Consequently, every girl's potential, whatever that might be, is explored and fulfilled.

Wycombe Abbey's modern approach to boarding is sympathetic to the requirements of today's families and therefore we appreciate that day boarding may better suit your daughter's needs when she first joins us. In this way she will benefit from the full programme of developmental and extra-curricular activities on offer, all within our magnificent grounds but she will come home every night. As day boarder parents, you too can join your daughter for numerous School events, becoming actively involved in our community.

During their time with us, many day girls decide to switch to full boarding. This is an easy transition as long as we have a bed available. Post GCSEs, and in preparation for university and beyond, most girls will opt to board for the two years of Sixth Form. We strongly advise parents to request conversion at least a year in advance.

I hope this summary presents what is a unique and outstanding offer to our day boarding community. We count ourselves fortunate to have so many excellent local feeder schools who send us such superb girls. I am delighted we can accommodate them as day pupils within our exceptional community.

**Rhiannon J Wilkinson** MA (Oxon) MEd  
Headmistress

# The Day Boarder Offer

Day boarders play a full and active part in all aspects of School and House life at Wycombe Abbey. Day boarders have access to school facilities seven days a week and are encouraged to enjoy and make the most of all the benefits on offer to the boarding community.

Day girls are members of one of the six Houses closer to the School from LIV (Year 8): Airlie, Barry, Butler, Campbell, Pitt or Rubens, enabling girls to spend time in their Houses after school and to forge friendships not just with their own peer group but with girls across the age range of the rest of the House as well.

Day boarders enjoy the following facilities, activities and options:

- Breakfast with friends before tutor group registration and supper in the evenings if involved in after-school activities
- Year group Hubs which provide work and storage space and a social area within the Abbey during the day and after lessons
- Pastoral care from academic and boarding house staff to monitor wellbeing and academic progress
- House competitions for sport, music, debating and drama which ensure year group and House integration
- Access to a full programme of evening clubs, societies and lectures
- Health and Wellbeing Centre provision, providing doctor appointments and health care when necessary
- 'House Order': twice weekly meetings run by the Housemistress to share news and notices in the boarding house drawing room
- House movie nights, tutor group meals, quiz evenings, baking sessions and end of term 'House Outings' to the theatre, river cruises or London attractions
- Flexibility with occasional overnight stays
- Full weekend activity programme involving on and off-site trips
- A home-from-home environment in the Boarding Houses, enabling girls to get to know one another across the year groups and relax



# A word from our Day Boarders

## Izzi, LVI Shelburne



Life as a Day Boarder at Wycombe Abbey can be described as the best of both worlds! I stay most days for dinner. This means I can go to the Sixth Form Cafés on Monday and Friday evenings. I usually go home around 8.00 pm after school activities such as Lacrosse, Gymnastics, society meetings and Young Enterprise. There are lots of House events which encourage House spirit and really make you feel part of the community. For example, House chapel services, House games, outings and even meal times all together in the dining room.

## Kate, UV Barry



Being a day girl has suited me as I live only 15 minutes away and compared to a day school, Wycombe Abbey offered all the opportunities I wanted. Next year I will transition to boarding in order to fully experience the benefits of Sixth Form life. The School offers a wide variety of weekend activities and I try to take full advantage of this. I recently went to Thorpe Park which was great fun. The House has always encouraged me to stay over and this has given me the confidence and desire to board. The main advantage of being a day girl in a boarding school is having the flexibility of both. I can have all the comforts of living at home whilst still being involved in the wonderful community which boarding creates. The House Mother system is helpful because it gives day girls a specific person to link to in the boarding house if I'm uncertain about anything.

## Charlotte, UIV Rubens



I arrive at school around 8.00 am every morning in time for breakfast with my House. Depending on the day, I usually leave School around 7.00 pm but I often have sports or activities after lessons so I stay later for dinner and then go up to House. The Housemistress reminds us about upcoming events and sends us notifications about anything that's taking place if we can't make it to House Order. The staff really help to integrate day girls into House and your tutor is also an important point of information. Having a Hub to work in is one of the best changes that has been made. These have been hugely beneficial as in previous years girls would work in House and it would be difficult to catch up with friends, however now you see the girls in your year every day.

## Aanya, UIII Junior House



I get involved in sports matches against other schools at weekends and also the fun activity programme on Saturdays and Sundays. You sign up each week for whichever you are interested in, so I plan ahead. On days I don't have extras after school I go to House after supper. Here I can get all my prep out of the way and then I can have fun with my friends. All the teachers treat boarders and day girls equally. As a day girl, you have to be quite organised. It is a long day if you want to be really involved and make the most of School life outside lessons, but that is the best way to do it!





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