



Old House

HOUSE INFORMATION 2024-25



Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604



CONTENTS

HOUSE STAFF	4	DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS	14
CONTACT INFORMATION	5	START/END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS	15
THE SCHOOL CAMPUS	6	HOUSE FACILITIES	15
COMMUNICATION	7	WELFARE & PUPIL SAFETY	16
THE SCHOOL WEEK	8	MEDICAL ISSUES	16
ROUTINES	10	PERSONAL PROBLEMS	17
EXPECTATIONS	12	HOUSE TRADITIONS	18
APPEARANCE	12	HOUSE HISTORY	19
BASIC COURTESIES	12		
ACADEMIC ISSUES	13		

“No Passengers”



WELCOME TO OLD HOUSE

Hello and a warm welcome to Old House.

I hope that your time in Old House will be a very happy and successful one and that you will leave with fond memories as generations have before you. This handbook is designed to help you become familiar with how OH works so that you can quickly become a settled and contented member of its community. It will also serve as a useful reminder of the rules and structures which enable the Boarding House to run smoothly.

Old House is a fun and active place, where boys feel supported and encouraged to seize every opportunity. The House motto is 'No Passengers' and following this motto is what makes Old House such a great place to be. Everyone contributes to the house in their own unique way and is encouraged to make the most of the huge number of opportunities that are available to them, whether it be in music, sports competitions, performing on stage, academic brilliance or any other fantastic qualities that you can bring to the house.

Old House is an open-minded community where everyone's voice matters. OH boys learn the value of looking out for one another, appreciating others' differences and treating them with respect and kindness. The OH ethos is borne out of these values and helps the boys build strong friendships that stand the test of time.

Luke Barnsbrook

Mr Luke Barnsbrook
HOUSEMASTER OLD HOUSE



HOUSE STAFF



Mr Luke Barnsbrook
HOUSEMASTER

As the Houseparent Mr Barnsbrook takes overall responsibility for the running of the House. The welfare of all members of Old House, including the boys, matrons, tutors and the domestic staff are his concern. He teaches Biology, and coaches rugby, netball and tennis,



Mrs Hannah Barnsbrook

Mrs Barnsbrook teaches Science at the school and is actively involved in supporting and helping to run OH.



Mr William Bunce
RESIDENT TUTOR

Mr Bunce is our live-in tutor, occupying the flat on the top floor. He teaches in the Classics Department and, as the resident tutor, he is on duty some weekends and is available to support the boys throughout the week.



Mrs Jane Clough
MATRON

We are lucky to have two dedicated matrons in Old House - Susie and Jane. They are around the House throughout the day and therefore help ensure that everything runs smoothly. They should be the first port of call if they feel unwell. They are both good listeners if pupils have any other problems as well. Parents please contact our Matrons if there are any medical issues that we need to know about.



Mrs Susie Swarbrick
MATRON

DOMESTIC TEAM

Leanda and Diane work incredibly hard keeping Old House clean.

Pupils are asked to keep the house tidy in order that they can do their job properly.

TUTORS

Each pupil will be a member of a Tutor Group and have their own personal tutor. Tutors will help with any academic concerns that may occur, monitor academic progress, give support and challenge each pupil to achieve their best. Tutors are also there to help pastorally. Pupils will meet with their tutor once a week during period 1 on Monday after Latin Prayer, but they will always be available, should pupils need support at any other time. Pupils will have the same tutor for their first three years (9-11), and then be assigned a Sixth Form tutor for years 12 and 13. The assigned tutor will remain with the pupil when they move to Westlake for their final year at school. New pupils will be assigned their tutor at the beginning of term.

All our tutors do a regular evening duty in the House.



KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important for pupils and parents to feel they can contact the school at any time. The first port of call will normally be LPNB or the pupil's Tutor. However, it is also perfectly acceptable to contact the Head with any questions or concerns.

CONTACT DETAILS:

LPNB MOBILE:

07811 994199

OLD HOUSE STUDY:

01884 232385

lpnb@blundells.org
oldhouse@blundells.org

Please use this number to speak to Mr Barnsbrook (LPNB), report absences before 8.20am or leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

OLD HOUSE PRIVATE SIDE:

01884 232328

This is our family phone, so please only use this in an emergency.

OLD HOUSE MATRONS:

01884 232382

Please ring Mrs Swarbrick or Mrs Clough after 8.20am if a student is going to be late or absent.

SENIOR SCHOOL MAIN OFFICE:

01884 252543

info@blundells.org
The office staff will nearly always be able to find LPNB and are able to get a message to LPNB during break or at lunchtime.

MEDICAL CENTRE:

01884 232422

medical@blundells.org

POSTAL ADDRESS:

Old House
Blundell's School
1 Tidcombe Lane
TIVERTON
Devon
EX16 4DX

Please ensure this address is used to avoid post going to the main School Reception.

THE SCHOOL CAMPUS



BOARDING HOUSES

- 1** FRANCIS HOUSE (B. 13-17)
- 2** GORTON HOUSE (G. 13-17)
- 3** NORTH CLOSE (G. 13-17)
- 4** PETERGATE (B. 13-17)
- 5** SCHOOL HOUSE (Co-Ed. 11-13)
- 6** WESTLAKE (Co-Ed. 17-18)
- 7** **OLD HOUSE** (B. 13-17)

FACILITIES

- 1** CLOCK TOWER & RECEPTION
- 2** BLUNDELL HOUSE
- 3** BLUNDELL'S GARDEN
- 4** DINING HALL
- 5** KITCHENS
- 6** MEDICAL CENTRE
- 7** SCHOOL SHOP
- 8** MUSIC SCHOOL
- 9** BIG SCHOOL
- 10** ONDAATJE HALL
- 11** THE POPHAM CENTRE
- 12** BURSARY
- 13** FIVES COURTS
- 14** SQUASH COURTS
- 15** SPORTS HALL & FITNESS SUITE
- 16** EAST PAVILLION
- 17** SWIMMING POOL
- 18** CRICKET PAVILLION
- 19** CHAPEL
- 20** LIBRARY
- 21** FOBS CAFÉ
- 22** GYMNASIUM
- 23** BEALE CENTRE (OBs)
- 24** CCF & RIFLE RANGE

PREP SCHOOL

- 1** MAYFIELD (NURSERY & PRE-PREP. Co-Ed 3-7)
- 2** MILESTONES (PREP. Co-Ed 7-11)

COMMUNICATION

THE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Each term the school produces a Calendar, which details the daily programme within the school. A copy is given to each pupil and an extra copy is sent home. The Calendar is also published in full on the events page of the School website: www.blundells.org. It is an essential aspect of school life and we try to ensure that it is accurate. It contains much information. If amendments are made, we try to announce the changes on the webpage. Parents are most welcome to attend any event listed in the Calendar; however, those with an asterisk will require tickets, which can be obtained from the trybooking.com.

The opening and closing pages detail other useful information including future term dates, lesson times and the Pupils' Personal Problems procedure.

HOUSE MEETINGS

These occur every Tuesday lunchtime and are compulsory. Weekly messages are read out, awards given and House events discussed and planned. The House meeting is a key event every week.

NOTICE BOARDS

Daily notices are written on the whiteboard or displayed on the screen by the main stairs. If LPNB needs to see a student he will write the pupil's name on this board. Other notices are posted on the boards in the Blue Room or by the Common Room. Pupils must read the notices daily.

MOBILE PHONES

The school has a strict policy on the use of mobile phones and we would be most grateful for parental support when we try to implement the following rules:

- Pupils are only allowed to use their phones in the boarding houses.
- All boys must register their phone number with LPNB before bringing the mobile into school.

- All mobiles must be switched off during prep. If parents need to contact their child between 7pm and 9pm, please ring the House office.
- Mobiles are only for use in and around the house, NOT around the School campus.
- All Y9-10 pupils must hand in their mobiles prior to going to bed.
- All mobiles must be switched off after lights out.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in the phone being confiscated for an indefinite period.

In an emergency, the school office will take and pass on a message for a pupil. During the hours of 8.30 to 5.30pm (Monday to Friday) LPNB, Matron or the Duty Tutor can relay any message. All pupils will be given their own email addresses.

POST

Boys' post is placed on the mantelpiece in the Common Room. Post can be sent to:

**Old House, Blundell's School,
1 Tidcombe Lane, Tiverton, Devon.
EX16 4DX.**

**THIS ADDRESS IS DIFFERENT TO
THE SCHOOL ADDRESS!**

FINDING A MEMBER OF HOUSE STAFF

If a pupil needs to see LPNB for a chat just pop into the office. If he is not in there ring the Private side door bell and wait, email him (lpnb@blundells.org) or text him (07811994199). LPNB is always about.

AT NIGHT: If, when staying in House overnight, pupils should feel unwell or need to contact the Houseparents in an emergency, they should ring the bell by the Private Side door. If that goes unheard, call 01884 232328 (OH Private Side) or LPNB's mobile number, (07811994199). Pupils might also try knocking on the Tutor's door at the top of the House, if the Houseparent is not on duty that night.

All contact details are pinned to the Private side door.

WEBSITE

The School is well resourced with IT facilities and the pupils are encouraged to take advantage of these. There is a comprehensive IT policy for the pupils and we have a strong filtering system; however, we also believe it is important to educate pupils to use the internet responsibly. Advice on IT safety is published for pupils in their planners.

REPORTS

Every half term parents will receive either a Tutor Report, a Full Report or be invited to attend a Parent's Meeting. The Tutor Report will show an attainment grade in each subject and a comment from the tutor summarising how the pupil is progressing. The Full Report comprises of a comment from each teacher and from the House Parent. Examination groups are also given a target grade. After each report, the Tutor will discuss progress with the pupils and set goals on how to improve.

Attainment and effort are tracked internally and Academic Heads of Year meet with teachers and tutors regularly to check on progress of students. Parents can contact their child's Tutor or House Parent if they have any concerns.

HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

Each term OH publishes The OH Magpie, a newsletter written primarily by the boys that reflects on the contribution of OH across school life. It is available to download on the school website under the OH section.

HOUSE SUBSCRIPTIONS

House subscriptions will be added to your account each term. This fund covers House expenses such as newspapers, television rental packages, furnishings, sports equipment and social events during the term.

THE SCHOOL WEEK

ARRIVING, REGISTRATION AND ABSENCE

Pupils should arrive and leave School in full school uniform.

ARRIVING

Pupils must enter Old House through the main front door, not the gate onto the patch from the path leading to Westlake.

REGISTRATION

Registration (thumbprint) and roll call (in the Common Room) are incredibly important so that we know where pupils are, we are legally required to carry these out. **Pupils must register by 8.20am every morning or they will be marked as late.**

In the morning, pupils must thumb-in using the box in the Common Room **01, 02, or 03** to let us know whether they intend to go home after Games/Activities (**01**), after prep (**02**), or stay the night (**03**). **It is a serious breach of school rules for a boy to tell his parents he is staying in school, when he is not.**

If it is necessary to miss a roll call for any reason, pupils must let the member of staff on duty know prior to the roll call. **A student must never send someone else to sign in/out on his behalf.**

LEAVING

Collection times are: 5.30pm (4pm on Weds and Sat), 7.00pm or 9.15pm. These times cause the least disruption to the school day. If a pupil wishes to be collected outside these times, please let LPNB know.

SIGNING IN AND OUT

If a pupil has permission from LPNB or Matron to leave school (Dentists, Doctors, town leave etc.) then **they must sign out and back in.**

This is incredibly important so that we know a pupils whereabouts. For signing in and out when not using the electronic system i.e. during the day, please use the book in the entrance foyer. Pupils out of House in the evening (plays, library, house visits, etc) must gain permission from the Duty Tutor and sign out and in using the book by the front door. This is also the case for town leave.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If a pupil is ill or has to miss school for any reason, Parents must either email or call LPNB on 01884 232385 before 8am or Matron on 01884 232382 after that time to let us know the reason. Parents should also inform us if a student is going to be late for any reason or needs to be taken out of school for an appointment.

Requests for leave of absence on compassionate grounds or exceptional circumstances, should be made in writing to the Head well in advance of the proposed absence. Exam Leave may be granted for public examination candidates; the dates are published in the School Calendar.

ABSENCE FROM A LESSON

If, for any reason, including a music lesson, a pupil has to miss a school period, they must let their teacher know and give as much notice as possible. If they are "off games" or excused from activities, they must obtain an "absit" chit from the Medical Centre to show to the relevant member of staff. It is important that such absences are correctly recorded.

THE ROAD

Pupils must walk on the paths adjacent to Big Field to access classrooms in the main part of the school. To access classrooms, music or dining hall years 9, 10 & 11 may only cross Blundell's Road at the Pelican crossing. Lower 6th pupils may cross opposite the Chapel. Pupils **may not** walk up the main drive into school between the two stones with "Blundell's" carved on them. This is for vehicles only. The pelican crossing near Tidcombe Lane must only be used for games lessons.

PUPILS DRIVING TO SCHOOL

Only pupils in Year 13 are able to drive into school, and there is a strict procedure for approval, which is ultimately signed off by The Head. Pupils in Year 12 will not be given permission to drive into school except under very exceptional circumstances, and these will always need to be approved by The Head.

DUTY ROTA

The duty rota is displayed on the noticeboard in the Entrance Foyer during the week and at weekends on the electronic noticeboard. This provides contact information and the name of the member of staff who you should contact when LPNB is not available.

TOWN VISITS

Pupils may go shopping in Tiverton at weekends, and also on Wednesday afternoons either before or after their games/activities. On Wednesdays pupils may not leave the school site before 2pm, and must return by 6pm. For all town leave pupils must go to town in groups of at least two or, preferably, three and make sure they sign out before they leave. Younger pupils particularly should ensure they are in a group when going into town. Plain clothes must be worn, and pupils should always be back in House, and signed in, by 6pm.

CHAPEL

For Years 7 to 13 Chapel takes place every weekday except Monday, when we have Latin Prayer, and Saturday. Chapel lasts for ten minutes and includes a reading, thought for the day, prayers and a hymn. On a number of Sundays, a full service is held for the boarders commencing either at 10.00am or at 7.00pm. In addition to this, there will also be an annual House Chapel service, led by the pupils. The dates of these services are found in the School Calendar; parents are most welcome to join us for these.

WEEKENDS

There is an extensive, regular programme of weekend activities ranging from shopping trips to quad-biking. In addition, we have created our own Adventure and Leadership Programme, which operates on eight Sundays during the year.

Full boarders are to be in school on normal/non-leave weekends. All those boarding are to attend Chapel on Sunday.

VISITORS AND OUT OF HOUSE

VISITORS AND OUT OF HOUSE

Visitors are always welcome to OH and you are welcome to visit other Houses, as detailed below:

- **Boys must always sign out and back in.**
- Visitors are only allowed in the Common Room and Games Room. Permission must be gained from LPNB if visitors need to use the kitchen.
- **No visitor is allowed upstairs or in a boy's room unless they have permission from LPNB (including parents).**
- Other Houses have similar areas for visitors, pupils should stick to these or they will be sent back to OH.
- **Pupils must attend all roll calls and thumb in registrations.**

OUT OF HOUSE

MONDAY	Out of House allowed after 5.30pm Y9/10 back in House by 9.30pm Y11/12 back in House by 10.00pm
TUESDAY	Out of House allowed after 5.30pm Y9/10 back in House by 9.30pm Y11/12 back in House by 10.00pm
WEDNESDAY*	Out of House allowed after games Y9/10 back in House by 9.30pm Y11/12 back in House by 10.00pm
THURSDAY	No out of House after 5.30pm
FRIDAY	Out of House allowed after 5.30pm Y9/10 back in House by 9.30pm Y11/12 back in House by 10.00pm
SATURDAY*	Out of House allowed after lunch All pupils back in House by 10.00pm
SUNDAY*	Out of House allowed after breakfast All pupils back in House by 9.00pm

* NB On Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday all pupils must be on campus and signed into House by 6.00pm

EXEAT WEEKENDS

EXEAT WEEKENDS - ALL PUPILS

(Friday 1.00pm to Sunday 9.00pm)

Twice a year, in the Autumn and Spring Terms we have an Exeat weekend that runs from Friday afternoon until the Sunday evening. During the Exeat Weekend the School will be closed.

Over these weekends all pupils are asked to leave the House at 1.00pm for the Exeat, staying with parents, guardians or friends. For boarders LPNB will need to have permission by email from their parents or guardian and from the host family a week before the event occurs.

START/END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

In order to give the house a thorough clean at half term we ask that all rooms are left tidy and dirty washing is taken home. For Christmas and Easter holidays we ask that all clothing is taken home. Posters may remain on walls over Christmas and Easter but must be removed at the end of the summer term. There is limited storage in the trunk room **only for boarders**.

INTERNATIONAL PUPILS

Whenever pupils leave school, LPNB needs to have the details of all travel arrangements and accommodation from leaving OH to when they return to school. This will include details of taxis, train times, flight times, flight numbers, destinations and the name, address and telephone number of the adult that will be supervising the pupil if they are not travelling directly home. This is a requirement of the UKVI.

Please ensure that overseas pupils do not arrive before the published return times in the calendar unless by prior arrangement with LPNB.

THE SCHOOL WEEK

WEEK DAY ROUTINE **ACADEMIC TIMETABLE**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
CHAPEL / LATIN PRAYER	8.40 - 9.00 Latin Prayer	8.30 - 8.40	8.30 - 8.40	8.30 - 8.40	8.30 - 8.40	N/A	
LESSON 1	9.00 - 9.35 Tutor Period	8.45 - 9.35	8.45 - 9.35	8.45 - 9.35	8.45 - 9.35	8.45 - 9.35	
LESSON 2	9.40 - 10.30	9.40 - 10.30	9.40 - 10.30	9.40 - 10.30	9.40 - 10.30	9.40 - 10.30	
BREAK 10.30 – 10.55							
LESSON 3	10.55 - 11.45	10.55 - 11.45	10.55 - 11.45	10.55 - 11.45	10.55 - 11.45	10.55 - 11.45	
LESSON 4	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	GAMES	
LUNCH 12.40 – 2.05							
	HOUSE MEETINGS			CHOIR	YEARS 11-13 GAMES PRACTICE		
LESSON 5	2.05 - 2.55	2.05 - 2.55	2.05 - 2.55 SH Roots and Wings Years 9-13 Games	2.05 - 2.55	2.05 - 2.55		
LESSON 6	3.00 - 3.50	3.00 - 3.50	3.00 - 3.50 SH Roots and Wings Years 9-13 Games	3.00 - 3.50	3.00 - 3.50		
EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES / CCF / GAMES	Years 7-9 Games Years 10-13 CCF / Activities	Years 7-9 Activities Years 10-13 Games		SH Games Years 9-13 Activities	SH Activities Years 9-10 Games Years 11-13 Enrichment		

REGISTRATION: ALL PUPILS MUST REGISTER BY 8.20AM

WEEK DAY ROUTINE **BOARDERS**

MONDAY - FRIDAY

7.45am	All Year 9 to be in breakfast
8.00am	All Year 10/11 to be in breakfast
8.15am	Up to Year 12 to have had breakfast Breakfast ends
<hr/>	
8.00 – 8.20am	Electronic registration. State boarding status 01, 02, 03

ACADEMIC TIMETABLE

5.30 - 6.30pm Quiet hour.

6.30 – 7.00PM SUPPER

EVENING

7.10pm	TV switched off. Formal roll taken by duty tutor
7.15pm	Prep. Mobiles switched off
8.15pm	Prep ends Year 9 & 10
8.45pm	Prep ends Year 11 & 12
9.30pm	Year 9 tidy house and get ready for bed

BEDTIMES

9.45pm	Year 9
10.00pm	Year 10
10.15pm	Year 11
10.30pm	Year 12
11.00pm	The House is quiet!

SATURDAY

7.45 - 8.15am	Normal breakfast times
<hr/>	
8.20am	Electronic registration. State boarding status
<hr/>	
8.30 - 8.45am	House Council meetings

ACADEMIC TIMETABLE

4.00pm	Casual clothes can be worn after 4pm, Boys may go into town
<hr/>	
6.00pm	Everyone to be back in House

6.30 – 7.00PM SUPPER

EVENING

Times vary	Roll Call - varies as displayed on screen, no take aways before 7.00pm
<hr/>	
10.00pm	All Years back in house.

SUNDAY

9.00 - 9.45am	Breakfast
<hr/>	
Times vary	Roll call at time agreed the night before
<hr/>	
10.30am	Chapel - compulsory for those who stayed in on Saturday (or Evensong)
<hr/>	
11.30-12.30	School Brunch instead of breakfast and lunch (LEAVE WEEKENDS ONLY)

12.35 – 1.15PM LUNCH

6.00pm All back in House

6.00 – 6.30PM SUPPER

EVENING

6.30pm	Evensong (as detailed in the calendar)
Times vary	Roll Call as agreed the night before
<hr/>	
9.00pm	All back in House
<hr/>	
	Normal bedtimes

BETWEEN 4PM ON SATURDAY AND 9.00PM ON SUNDAY BOYS MUST SIGN OUT AND BACK IN WHENEVER THEY LEAVE OH AND STATE THEIR DESTINATION (APART FROM MEAL TIMES).

EXPECTATIONS

APPEARANCE

UNIFORM

In and around the House, boys should remain in uniform throughout the day, although shirts may be left untucked and ties loosened for comfort. Around the campus Old House pupils should maintain the highest standards of dress. Blazers/Jackets are to be worn, shirts should be tucked in properly, ties and top buttons done up, shoes polished etc. Blazers should be worn for all formal occasions, Sunday Chapel, matches and for showing visitors around. School uniform should be worn on buses. Jewellery is not allowed. LPNB reserves the right to issue boys with uniform cards if their appearance gives rise for concern.

Members of the lower sixth may change out of uniform at the end of games or activities, unless they are going home at that time. Boys in years 9, 10 and 11 can change for supper unless they are going out of the House.

Correct Blundell's games kit should be worn to and from all games, and it should be clean. Old House kit should be saved for inter-house events or casual wear. Boots must not be worn around the House. Pupils are asked to enter Old House by



the basement door if they are very muddy. Boots should be removed at the door. All wet kit and boots will dry overnight in the basement shower block – it is very warm. Dirty kit is not to be taken to the dorms.

SCHOOL SHOP

The School Shop has a range of equipment. Please check the school website for opening times for the Autumn 2024 term. During school holidays the shop is open by appointment. Parents should ring Felicity on 01884 232316 or email shop@blundells.org to make an appointment. The shop is

located next to the visitor carpark. Articles may be bought by the pupils for cash or charged on the school bill. Pupils of course, should let their parents know what they are buying.

HAIR

Extreme hairstyles are not permitted at Blundell's. For boys, this means that they are to wear their hair short and of their natural colour. Boys may be sent to have a haircut/re-colour at the Housemaster's discretion. A hairdresser comes to the House regularly to cut the boys hair, the charge will be added to the end of term bill.

BASIC COURTESIES

Pupils are expected to be courteous at all times. Below are some of the basic courtesies.

- Greet people: all members of staff and all visitors to the School.
- If you notice visitors to the school looking lost, offer to help them. 'Can I help you' is often adequate.
- If visitors come into your study or a room where you are sitting down, or come up to you when you are sitting on a bench outside, you should stand up.
- If you approach a doorway at the same time as adults or visitors, you should allow them through the doorway before you go through.
- Open doors for adults and let them go through first.
- It is courteous to allow women to precede men through doors.
- Take your hands out of your pockets when talking to members of staff, other adults or School Monitors. When singing hymns or the National

Anthem; when walking in and out of Chapel; when prayers are said and on similar formal occasions it is inappropriate to have your hands in your pockets.

- Listen attentively to people when they are speaking to you; look interested; do not interrupt until it is your turn to speak. Speak up clearly, and look up, when you are talking. It is considered courteous to look people in the eye when you are talking to them.
- If you are going to miss an engagement, whether it be a meeting, a lesson, a games session or anything else where your attendance is expected, it is appropriate that you should excuse yourself in advance, either in person or in writing. A polite e-mail would usually suffice.

- Respond promptly, in writing, whenever you receive a written invitation for a school or private function. A written note of thanks to your host or hostess is always appropriate when you have been entertained for a meal or a party. A written note or e-mail to a member of staff who has organised a trip or an expedition is also an appropriate way to express your appreciation.

- The greatest courtesy of all is merely to add 'please' to all requests and 'thank you' for all services rendered. 'I am sorry', said sincerely, helps when things have gone wrong.

ACADEMIC ISSUES

LESSONS

Old House pupils get fit very quickly if they are not well organised in their approach to lessons. Books, pencil cases, calculators, prep etc. for the first three lessons of the day must be taken to Chapel. Boys need to be similarly equipped after break and lunch. Teachers may send a boy all the way back to House should they fail to have everything they need in a lesson.

PLANNER

Every pupil in the school is issued with a planner when they start the school year. The planner contains useful information about the school as well as providing a mechanism to help pupils organise themselves. Pupils and Staff

work together on developing and improving planner content each year. We would encourage parents to work with their son or daughter to help them with their academic progress. The pupil should use their planner to record their homework and other related matters.

PREP ROUTINE

Old House runs supervised prep for all year 9 boys who stay after 7pm. The duty monitor will sit with them and the tutor is never far away. Years 10 and 11 do prep in their rooms, as do the lower sixth unless they have work which requires them to be in the library. Prep continues without a set break and there is to be minimum movement around the House throughout. Students may

use the computers in the Blue Room or those on the top floor all of which are connected to the School Intranet.

Members of the lower sixth may study in the library if, and only if, it is necessary. They should ask permission from the tutor on duty and sign out in the book. They should remain in the library until the end of prep.

TUTORS

Boys meet with their tutor once a week during period 1 on Mondays after Latin Prayer. There will also be other opportunities during the week when tutors and tutees can get together.



DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS

FULL BOARDERS – REQUIRED ITEMS

In addition to the listed uniform and sports kit boys coming to OH will require the following:

- Casual clothes – two or three set, including a set of smart casual (not jeans and t shirt!)
- A padlock to secure a lockable drawer in your room.
- Two named duvet covers - duvets, pillows and protectors will be provided from September. If pupils wish to bring their own, they will need to have a minimum fire rating of 2.
- A medium sized net laundry bag.
- Money - you should keep only a small amount in your possession. There is a House safe available if needed.
- A named mug.
- A named bedside/desk lamp.
- School equipment (stationery) for use in lessons in a named pencil case, including a scientific calculator (available from school).

Personal televisions, kettles, heaters, etc are not allowed.

WEEKLY/FLEXI BOARDERS – REQUIRED ITEMS

Only those items of clothing and kit required until the next return home should be brought to school. In addition to this flexi boarders may need the following:

- A padlock to secure a lockable drawer in your room.
- Two named duvet covers - duvets, pillows and protectors will be provided from September. If pupils wish to bring their own, they will need to have a minimum fire rating of 2.
- A medium sized net laundry bag.
- Money - you should keep only a small amount in your possession. There is a House safe available if needed.
- A named mug and a bedside/desk lamp.

Flexi boarders are most welcome to use the school laundry system. Bear in mind that the laundry takes two or three days to process so boys will need enough clothes to tide them over. We have two washing machines in House that are not to be used by the boys. However, should a student need something washed urgently, Matron will usually oblige.

DAY PUPILS

Day boys will have their own area and a limited amount of either drawer or shelf space. School books and equipment may be kept in house, also sports shoes. All other equipment should be brought to and from school on a daily basis.

Labeled kit is rarely lost and nearly always turns up in the boy's personal "pigeon hole" located by the kitchen. If another boy's clothes are accidentally (or otherwise) taken home, please remember to return them as soon as possible.

STUDY/DORM RULES

Each student has their own space in Old House to study and keep their belongings. Many are lucky enough to have their own room whilst others will share. Everyone is entitled to privacy. Boys should not borrow things without asking, and there is no reason to go through other people's property. Boys should not enter a fellow student's room without him being present. **No boy or girl from another house is allowed into the Old House dorms.**

Personal belongings and clothes need to be kept tidily and in a well-organized way. Domestic staff need to be able to see the floor in order to clean it and fire escapes must not be blocked.

We encourage pupils to decorate their room and make it homely. Tasteful posters should be attached with Blu Tac on the walls, or with pins on the notice boards.

Any damage (including graffiti) or breakages that occur in Old House should be reported immediately to LPNB. It is always better for everyone if boys own up straight away for causing damage. The damage has to be made good and this may be at a cost to the individual(s) concerned. Repairs for deliberate acts of vandalism will always be charged to the individual, who can also expect some form of sanction to ensue.

WASHING

There are four shower blocks in the House. It is expected that boys will make regular use of these facilities. They will not be nagged unless others start to complain!

LOST PROPERTY AND LABELS

Everything a boy brings to school should be named, ideally as follows: "A. Name (OH) or (Old House)". Please label all items before they are brought in.

If a pupil's possessions are not named, it is highly likely that they will go missing; there are literally thousands of items in the house and it is impossible to keep track of those without labels. We do operate a Lost Property system in the house which the Matrons look after, if boys lose any item they should see Matron but also let LPNB know.

FOOD

DINING HALL ROUTINE

It is a House Rule that all School Meals (except Sunday breakfast) must be attended. Pupils may cook snacks in their kitchens but not as a substitute for school meals and only with permission.

ORDERING IN FOOD

Pupils are allowed to order take-out food at certain times during the week. Details of this will be displayed in House.

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND INSURANCE

Theft is very rare but it is not a good idea to bring overly priced items to school. Laptops should be covered under home insurance and the school recommends that expensive items are security marked, which can be arranged by the school. All passports, travel tickets and large amounts of money must be handed to LPNB to be kept in the safe.

LAPTOPS

When working in the House all computers, laptops, tablets etc will have access to the school intranet via Wi-Fi. If pupils bring their own device to school, they should follow the instruction displayed in House for the Blundell's Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) scheme to connect to the intranet. Parents are asked to ensure that the relevant security and safeguarding procedures are in place when pupils connect direct to the internet.

HOUSE FACILITIES

CARS AND PARKING AT SCHOOL

For most School visits we would ask parents to park behind Big School i.e. on the north side of the road. For matches it may be more practical to park in the Prep School car park, particularly at weekends. If parents are visiting the Head they are most welcome to park in front of the Clock Tower. The School Map can be found outside the front of Big School.

AT THE HOUSE

The Old House car park can be a nightmare. Parents are asked to park with as much economy of space as possible and to move out once they have picked up or dropped off.

Parents coming to watch a match should use the car park behind Big School, or in the Prep School on a Saturday. **We ask parents not to park in the Old House car park during matches** as it very quickly becomes congested.

Dropping your son(s) off in the Westlake car park is the calmest and most stress free way of dropping them off and picking them up!

TELEVISION

There is a TV in the Common Room for which the boys have use of their own Sky system. The television must be switched off during lesson time, games, activities, prep and after 10.30pm in the week.

COMPUTERS

There are computers in the Blue Room and a couple on the top floor. All are connected to the School Intranet which has the appropriate security measures in place. WiFi is available throughout the House. Parents are asked to ensure that the relevant security and safeguarding procedures are in place when pupils connect direct to the internet from their own laptop or tablet.

GAMES ROOM

The Games Room on the ground floor boasts a pool table and table tennis table. There is also Table Football, and several board games. The Games Room may not be used during prep, lessons or after 10.15pm.

KITCHEN

Boys may use the kitchen to make toast, coffee and light snacks. However, all school meals are compulsory and anyone found to be skipping meals will placed on a meal card and will not have access to the kitchen. Users of the kitchen should leave it clean and tidy.



GYM AND SPORTS HALL/FACILITIES

The Old House gym contains a Multi-gym, Concept 2 Rower, running machine, ab-cruncher and leg-crunch and Weight Training Bench. Sixth formers use this facility regularly and the younger years may use it under supervision. All users need to have the gym induction first.

The Sports Hall and other sports facilities can be used in the evening and at weekends, details of this are on the House notice board.

THE PATCH

The Old House patch is a secluded area of grass where boys can play soccer, volleyball or just sit in the sun. Boys from other houses are only allowed on the patch with permission of LPNB. It is also BBQ central!



WELFARE & PUPIL SAFETY

MEDICAL ISSUES



Blundell's has a highly skilled medical team, led by our School Doctor and a Senior Nurse, who operate from a state-of-the-art Medical Centre. The Medical Centre was built in 2018, is equipped with extensive, modern equipment, and has its own specialist building that is well-located in the centre of our campus.



THE MEDICAL CENTRE

Blundell's Medical Centre is staffed by a team of 7 qualified nurses led by Senior Nurse, Caroline Edwards. The Medical Centre is fully staffed Monday to Saturday 08:00- 18:00hrs with on-call cover outside these hours. The Medical Centre is also able to accommodate pupils who need to stay overnight due to illness, with overnight staffing in these instances.

Contact details

- Email: medical@blundells.org or seniornurse@blundells.org
- Phone: 01884 232422
- Address: Medical Centre, Blundell's School, Blundell's Road, Tiverton EX16 4DR

The School's lead medical officer is Dr Frank O'Kelly from Clare House Surgery in Tiverton. Clare House Surgery provides medical support throughout the school year. Additional medical support is also available from Tiverton Hospital at the Urgent Care Unit (approx. 2 miles away) and from the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (approx. 20 miles away).

The Medical Centre runs a doctor's surgery at lunchtime 12.30-14.00 Monday, Wednesday and Friday, where either Dr O'Kelly or another Clare House

doctor is available to see boarders with medical concerns. All full and weekly boarders are automatically registered at Clare House Surgery. The nurses will see all pupils as walk-ins and refer where necessary for further medical review. If a pupil becomes unwell or is injured, all attempts will be made to contact their next of kin. The pupil will be cared for in the Medical Centre or taken to hospital, if required.

The Medical Centre exists to support and care for all pupils, although the exact nature of this will vary dependent upon boarding status. Full and weekly boarders are effectively patients of the Medical Centre, and all appointments and associated transportation will be arranged as needed. In the event of illness, flexi boarders will also be cared for in the Medical Centre if they are boarding that night. Otherwise next of kin will be contacted to collect for home. Flexi boarders and day pupils remain patients of their own GP surgery, and while the Medical Centre will always take care of pupils taken ill or injured at school, parents or guardians will be contacted to collect from school if pupils become injured or unwell during the school day.

Every House in school is allocated a named link nurse, as identified on the Medical Centre notice board in each House. The link nurse liaises with the House staff regarding medical conditions or health related issues with pupils. Our school counsellor, Vicky Hughes is also available to every pupil throughout the week. Pupils can contact her directly on vlh@blundells.org or an appointment can be arranged through the Medical Centre. During the Autumn and Winter terms, all matches are attended by an outside First Aid Agency who provide pitch side assistance and transportation.

ILLNESS

Parents should not send their child to school if they are unwell. If a child has vomiting/diarrhoea symptoms parents should keep them away from school for 48 hours after the last episode. The Medical staff are happy to advise parents on 01884 232422.

PERSONAL MEDICATION

If a child is prescribed medication, parents should ensure that it is handed to Matron in its original packaging, in sufficient quantities for the time the child is at school. If the pupil is over 16, they

have an option to self medicate but they must have signed the 'Self Medication Consent Form' at the Medical Centre. If the pupil is under 16, or is over 16 and not self medicating, Matron will supervise the administration of the medication.

ABSITS

Absits either exclude or restrict pupils participating in sporting/school activities. These are issued through the Medical Centre following an assessment from either the nurse or the doctor. The following absit categories are used:

- **RED (OFF SPORT):** issued for a physical/sporting injury, such as a fracture
- **YELLOW (RESTRICTED SPORT):** issued for restricted sport participation, such as a sprain
- **ORANGE (GRADUATED SPORT):** issued for those on a graduated return to play, following a head injury

Pupils must attend all games sessions to show their Absit to their games coach and explain why they can't take part in the session. It is not acceptable to ask another pupil to excuse them from a session. If a pupil is unable to walk to the games session for medical reasons, they should see a Houseparent or Matron to explain the situation. If a pupil is housed in the Medical Centre, this will automatically be recorded on the system and coaches won't expect them to attend.

CHANGES TO PUPILS MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to keep the Medical Centre updated of any changes to a pupil's health and medical requirements for school, and it is very important that the Medical Centre is notified of any such changes as soon as is practicable. Medical information held by the school can be checked by parents on the Parent Portal. Any updates or amendments can be made by contacting the Medical Centre directly or a notification via the Parent Portal.

PERSONAL PROBLEMS

In line with the Children Act 1989, this procedure is designed to help pupils deal with any personal problems that may arise. At Blundell's, many different people are available and willing to help with any worries and difficulties that pupils might experience during their time with us.

HEALTH

If pupils are in any way worried about their health, they should seek the help of the Medical staff or the School Doctor who visits the School every day for morning surgery. All information given to the Doctor and Medical Staff is treated in strict medical confidence.

WORK

Any problem about work should be discussed either with the teachers concerned or, if necessary, with Tutors. Tutors will always approach other members of the Common Room on a pupil's behalf if they find it difficult to do so.

SUPERVISION IN THE HOUSE

It is the norm that there is adult supervision in the boarding houses, however, it is recognised that there may be odd occasions when staff have other commitments and this is not possible. In these cases, contact details for a member of staff on Campus are posted on the electronic noticeboard. All boys should make a note of LPNB mobile number (07986 965178), this is always on and can be called at any time in the day or night in the event of an emergency.

FIRE DRILLS

The procedures for what to do in the event of a fire are posted around Old House. Pupils should make themselves familiar with these procedures. Fire drills take place on a regular basis at any time of the day or night.

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Blundell's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL) FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Mrs Nicky Klinkenberg – Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Phone: 01884 252543
E-mail: njk@blundells.org

THE DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DDSL'S) FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Mr Matt Radley – Second Master
Phone: 01884 232304
E-mail: mrjr@blundells.org

Mrs Tamarinda Winsley – Head of EDI, Head of Drama
Phone: 01884 232350
E-mail: tlw@blundells.org

HOUSE TRADITIONS

AWARDS PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

HEAD OF HOUSE

The Head of Old House is appointed from the lower sixth at the end of the Summer Term. Together with his deputy, he leads the monitors in helping to run the House. Amongst numerous other privileges, the Head of House is the keeper of the Old House portrait of Peter Blundell!

MONITORS

Monitors are appointed at the end of the Summer Term from the members of Year 11. They are expected to stay in House and do a regular duty once a week and support the Head of House in running a happy and successful House.

TIES

Old House has three ties that are awarded to boys who contribute to the success of the House. There is a Junior tie, which it is hoped many boys will be awarded, and a Senior tie which will be awarded only to those who make an exceptional contribution. There is also a Monitors tie awarded to those who hold this position.

SOCKS

Old House socks have royal blue and white stripes and can be bought from the shop by any Old House boy who represents the House for anything. This includes sport, but also Public Speaking and House Music.

THE MAGPIE

The OH Magpie is the House magazine which the lads produce themselves each term. It covers the life of the House throughout the year and celebrates our many achievements. It is found on the OH page of the school website.

YEAR 9 DUTIES

Year 9 boys have certain privileges/duties during their first year in Old House. On a rota system, they take responsibility for collecting the bread and milk each morning. They are expected to tidy the Common Room, the newspapers and open the blinds in the mornings. They are also lucky enough to serve the rest of the House at the Christmas Supper! On the Friday before Harvest Festival, it is traditional for year 9 to help decorate the Old House window in Chapel.

GRASS RIGHTS

The only pupils at Blundell's with the right to walk across Big Field are current and former Old House monitors. Members of the 1st XV may walk on it with the permission of the Director of Sport in the rugby season. Similarly, members of the 1st XI may seek that privilege in the summer term. Everyone else walks round the outside!

MEAL LEAVES

Sixth formers who are boarding on a Saturday night may go to Tiverton for a meal or to the local cinema. They must clear it with the Houseparent or Resident Tutor if he is on duty that weekend. Boys should be back in House by 10.45pm at the latest.

HOUSE PLAYS

The house play is an annual performance created, directed and performed by pupils designed to entertain fellow pupils and parents. Often the content is topical and humorous. It is guaranteed to be a fun night.

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS

SPORT

The pupils participate in a variety of inter-house sports competitions during the course of the year including hockey, rugby, Tug of War and the campus relay race.

THE RUSSELL

This is a special Blundell's event. It is the School cross-country race, which was first run in 1877. All pupils in the school will participate to some degree. The race generally takes place on a Saturday in the second half of the Spring Term. It is common to find parents, staff and Old Blundellians taking part. There is always significant parental support.

THE WILLIAMS CUP

At the beginning of the Autumn term, all Year 9 pupils participate in a weekend residential course designed to promote House bonding and teamwork and instil a sense of interhouse competition. Points are awarded for effort, ingenuity and team work among other skills. The winning House is awarded the Williams Cup.

MUSIC

Inter-house music or commonly known as the House Song is an evening of music entertainment directed, produced and performed by the pupils of the House. Each house usually performs a number of pieces and incorporates a song in which all house pupils participate. Parents are most welcome to join us for this event, which usually takes place in the Autumn term.

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

House debating takes place in both the Junior and Senior parts of the School. Motions are often topical and cover both national and international subjects.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OLD HOUSE



In 1882, the year that Blundell's School moved to its present site, the Rev. T.U. Cross built Old House and opened it as a boarding-house for 25 boys. One of the first boarders was Morris Travers, who, later in life was the co-discoverer of the gases, xenon, krypton and neon. Rev. Cross tragically died at sea in 1892, and was succeeded as Housemaster by J.M. 'Joey' Thornton, a remarkable maths teacher. He built the first garage at the School, attached to Old House. Such was his mathematical precision that it was a perfect fit for his car, but there was one oversight - he didn't allow for the need to open the car doors when it was in the garage!

Thornton resigned as housemaster in 1912, and H.H. Batterbee took his place. Batterbee joined the army in 1916, and Old House was placed in the care of his sister and parents. During the First World War 31 former boys of Old House were killed. On Batterbee's return from the War, several alterations were carried out in the house, one of which was to knock down partition walls to form a large dormitory from many small rooms.

The 1920s were a glorious decade for Old House cricket. One of the boys, Royston Gabe-Jones, was chosen to play for Glamorgan in 1922, aged just 15 years 9 months – the youngest county cricketer in the 20th century. In the house competition in 1926 Old House amassed a fine total of 251-1 against Francis House; with Henry Harvey scoring 165 not out.

The west side of the house was extended and the bathrooms refurbished in 1936, as part of the changes to accommodate up to 50 boys. Following the Second World War, during which 16 Old Blundellians from Old House died, Batterbee retired as

Housemaster and was replaced by Pat McElwee. Three of the house's most famous boys came during McElwee's early years – John Hollands, to become the youngest winner of the Military Cross in the Korean War and a best-selling author; Michael Mates, following a distinguished career in the Queen's Dragoons, entered politics and is now M.P. for East Hampshire; and Robin Midgley, who became a world-renowned television and theatre director. McElwee retired in 1961, and Geoffrey Lucas, a Classics master, took on Old House for five years, when he left to become Headmaster of King's School, Gloucester.

Ted Crowe was Housemaster from 1965 until 1980. A Blundellian through and through, he was a pupil 1943-46, a master 1953-89, and Secretary of the Old Blundellian Club from 1958 until his death in 2008. During Ted's time girls arrived at Blundell's! Angela Bidlake and Belinda Walker were the first to be allocated to Old House, although they boarded at Gorton House.

Jerry Salter followed Ted Crowe. He had joined Blundell's in 1969 from industry, but his father had been a housemaster at Malvern, so he had a good idea of the duties involved when he took over Old House in 1980. The house was in his more-than-capable hands until 1995, when his maximum allowed term of 15 years was complete. He was succeeded by a sportsman of great talent, Nick Folland, who had played schoolboy cricket for England and rugby for the English Universities. It was proposed in 1995 to make Old House the home of the Junior Department, but School House was chosen instead. Following a successful time as housemaster, in 2001 Nick

moved on – not very far, geographically – to become Headmaster of Blundell's Prep School.

Leigh Menheneott then took over as Houseparent and with his wife Ali oversaw many important improvements, among which was the total refurbishment of the house in 2010. Leigh and Ali did much to engender a lively and successful house, and to imbue everyone with the attitude of its motto 'No Passengers'.

Old Blundellian, Charlie Olive became the Housemaster in 2014. Amongst other things, Charlie introduced Inter House skittles evenings, the RNLI as the House Charity and the wooden gazebo to ensure BBQ's could take place regardless of the weather! After six wonderful years he moves on to oversee the School's community projects. Charlie was succeeded by Luke Barnsbrook who took over the house in September 2020.

HOUSEPARENTS

1882-1892	REV. T.U. CROSS
1893-1912	J.M. THORNTON
1912-1946	H.H. BATTERBEE
1946-1961	P.J. MCELWEE
1961-1965	G.A. LUCAS
1965-1980	E.R. CROWE
1980-1995	P.J. SALTER
1995-2001	N.A. FOLLAND
2001-2014	L. MENHENEOTT
2014-2020	C.E.D. OLIVE
2020-	L.P.N. BARNSBROOK

“No Passengers”



Blundell's School
Tiverton
Devon
EX16 4DN
www.blundells.org

