



School House

HOUSE INFORMATION 2024-25



Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604



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WELCOME TO SCHOOL HOUSE

Dear SH pupils, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to School House.

You are coming into one of the oldest Houses at Blundell's as the youngest members of the senior school, and as the Houseparent of SH, I am very much looking forward to welcoming you.

SH is a thriving and vibrant community, with plenty of opportunities in sport, music, drama and inter-house competitions as well as the chance, of course, to push yourself academically. Throughout Year 7 and 8 you will enjoy the 'Roots and Wings' programme which capitalises on the co-curricular time each Wednesday afternoon as well as our extensive extra-curricular activity programme on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

During the SH years, we want pupils to spend time getting to know what inspires them. We are passionate about creating a warm, positive environment where each and every pupil feels confident enough to express themselves. SH is based in the middle of the school campus where we have a lovely team of tutors and matrons who are always happy to help and resident members of staff to guide and support those boarding.

But most of all, I hope you thoroughly enjoy your time with us in SH and that it will be the beginning of an exciting time for you at Blundell's. Please take time to read this booklet, it should tell you everything you need to know to get started.

I look forward to welcoming you.

Mr. J.A. ROCHFORT
HOUSEPARENT OF SCHOOL HOUSE



HOUSE STAFF



Mr James Rochfort (JAR) HOUSEPARENT

As Houseparent Mr Rochfort takes overall responsibility for the running of the House. The welfare of all members of SH, including pupils, staff, matrons and the domestic staff are his concern. He is also Artistic Director of Drama.



Miss Kate Woolford (KEW) PASTORAL HOUSEMISTRESS

Miss Woolford oversees the day-to-day running of the House. She also takes the lead on the welfare of our pupils and is always available in House to assist with issues as they arise.



Miss Eleni Argiros RESIDENT TUTOR

Miss Argiros teaches Spanish in the Modern Languages Department.



Mr Andrew Mead HEAD OF YEAR 8

Mr Mead is Head of Chemistry, Head of Girls' Hockey and Head of Year 8. He also runs the golf at Blundell's.



Miss Emmie Partington HEAD OF YEAR 7

Miss Partington teaches Geography and is Head of Year 7.



Mrs Tona Cruickshank MATRON



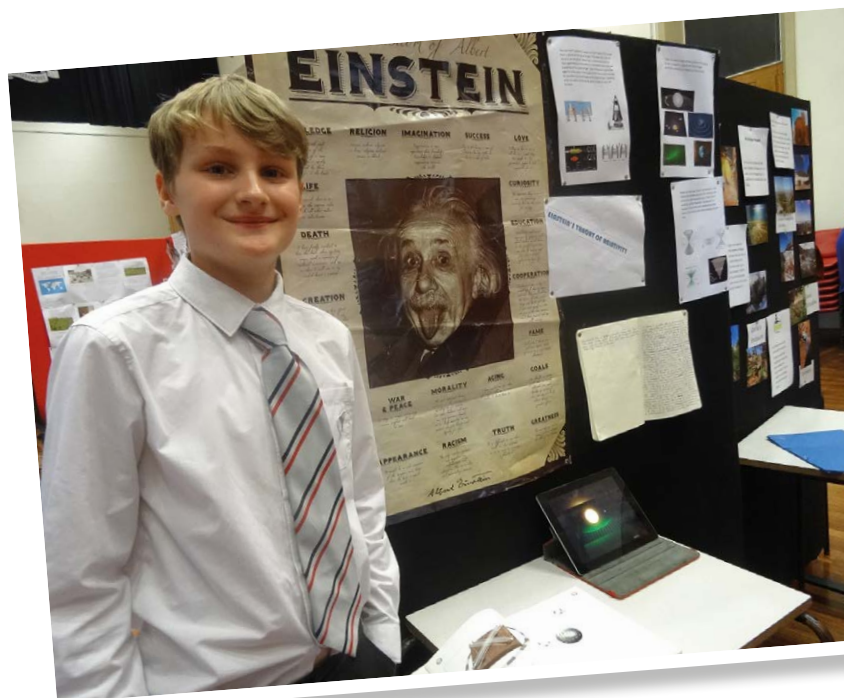
Miss Kayleigh Sharland MATRON

We are lucky to have two dedicated matrons in School House. They are around the House throughout the day and help ensure that everything runs smoothly. They should be the first port of call if pupils feel unwell or have any concerns. Parents should contact our Matrons (8am - 6pm) if there are any medical issues that we need to know about or if a pupil is absent.



TUTORS

Every pupil will be a member of a small tutor group that will meet several times each week. Tutors will help with any concerns that may occur, monitor academic progress and provide support and challenge so that pupils can achieve their best. All our tutors do a regular day or evening duty in the House. Pupils will be assigned their tutor at the beginning of term.



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 Mr Rochfort or the pupil's Tutor. However, it is also perfectly acceptable to contact the Head with any questions or concerns.

CONTACT DETAILS:

HOUSE PARENT'S OFFICE:

schoolhouse@blundells.org

01884 232370

SCHOOL HOUSE:

Please ring either of these numbers after 8.00am if a student is going to be late or absent. schoolhouse@blundells.org

01884 232367

07972 162404

SENIOR SCHOOL MAIN OFFICE:

info@blundells.org

01884 252543

MEDICAL CENTRE:

medical@blundells.org

01884 232422

POSTAL ADDRESS:

School House
Blundell's School
TIVERTON
Devon
EX16 4DW

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 it is accurate. If amendments are made, we will 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 weekly. They are compulsory as messages are read out, awards given and House events discussed and planned. The House meeting is a key event every week which tutors will also attend whenever possible.

NOTICE BOARDS FOR PUPILS

Urgent notices are displayed on the screen or board at the end of Drake's Passage outside the Day Room. It is important pupils regularly check this board. There are a range of other notice boards along Drake's Passage with day to day information. Sports teams will be displayed in each common room and on the front entrance noticeboard for parents.

MOBILE PHONES

We do not recommend that pupils in SH have mobile phones at school. Messages can always be passed to pupils via the SH office, should pupils need to be contacted during the day,

and there are landline phones that can be used should you need to talk to your child, or vice versa. If pupils do bring a mobile phone into SH they will need to hand it in at the start of the day, where it will be stored safely for them to collect at the end of the day and take home. Boarders will be given time in the evenings to use their phones, but they will then be handed back in again before bedtime. If you wish to give your child a mobile phone, we strongly recommend that this is a 'brick' style device (i.e. a Nokia), and not a smartphone.

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 the pupils to use the internet responsibly. Advice on IT safety is published for pupils in their planners.

REPORTS AND PARENTS EVENINGS

A report on a pupil's progress will be produced each half of term, either in the form of a Tutor Report or full report. The only exception to this is when a Parent's Evening falls in that half of term. In Year 7 there are two parent's evenings (autumn and summer) and in Year 8 there is a parent's evening in the spring.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Pupils are free to use appropriate social media, however unpleasant or inappropriate posts will result in sanctions as well as restriction on the use of the internet. Pupils will receive regular guidance through PHSE and in-house discussions on the responsibility they have to ensure they 'think before they post'.

HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

There is an academic guide for SH which details the programme Years 7 and 8 will follow in some detail. Our 'Roots and Wings Programme' underpins all that we aim to achieve in School House through the development of Social Responsibility & Character (Roots), Independence, Excellence & Adventure (Wings) across the six terms.

We will also email a weekly sheet each Sunday giving more detail of the upcoming week.

THE SCHOOL WEEK

ARRIVING, REGISTRATION AND ABSENCE

You should arrive and leave School in full school uniform or tracksuit. The only exceptions to this are granted by JAR in advance.

ARRIVING

Pupils should enter School House through the main front door that opens onto the Head's Lawn at the front of the senior school.

Year 7 are dropped and collected from outside the front of SH, whereas Year 8 are dropped off outside SH but collected from the back of Big School (main car park) to alleviate congestion.

In the morning pupils must use the electronic registration system **01, 02, or 03** to let us know whether they intend to go home at 5.30pm (**Day - 01**), at 7.30pm after prep (**Prep - 02**) or stay the night (**Board - 03**).

REGISTRATION

Registration (thumbprint) and House line up are incredibly important so that we know where pupils are. **Pupils must register by 8.20am every day and be ready for House line up at 8.30am.** When it is dry this will take place on the SH patch but when wet we will go into the year 8 Common Room.

If pupils are late coming into school (after 8.30) they should report to Matron in the first instance who will sign them in or send them to the main office if registration is closed.

LEAVING

Pupils may be picked up between **5.10pm** and **5.30pm** (end of the day) **4.00pm** to **4.15pm** on Weds, (although pupils are welcome to remain at school until 5.30 in the library), or **6.20pm** (after Prep ends). These times cause the least disruption to the school day.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Planned absence from school will require permission from the Head. Parents should inform her in writing of their intentions well in advance. Requests for leave of absence on compassionate grounds or exceptional circumstances should also be made in writing to the Head in advance of the proposed absence.

Absence for medical appointments should be sent by e-mail or in writing to the Matron team to ensure it is recorded on the register correctly.

ABSENCE FROM A LESSON

If, for any reason, including a music lesson, a pupil has to miss a school period, it is polite to let their teacher know. 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.

DUTY ROTA

Monday to Thursday there will be two members of staff on duty from 5.30 – 9.15. Outside these times a resident member of staff will be on duty. The duty rota will be displayed outside Matrons' Room.

THE ROAD

Years 7 & 8 may only cross Blundell's Road at the Pelican crossing. 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.

CHAPEL

For Years 7 and 8 Chapel takes place on Tuesday and Friday. On Monday we have Latin Prayer (whole school assembly). Chapel lasts for ten minutes and includes a reading, thought for the day, prayers and a hymn. The Chaplain seeks to provide a varied experience which will involve participation from pupils, members of staff and outside speakers.

On a number of Sundays a full service is held for the boarders commencing either at 10.00am or at 7.00pm. The dates of these services can be found in the School Calendar; parents are most welcome to join us for these.

On leave weekends attendance at Sunday Chapel is voluntary. For Harvest Festival the whole of SH come together to worship on the designated Sunday. Boarders will attend a Remembrance Sunday Service, with day pupils attending a short service on the 11th November. Every other year the whole school community attends a carol service in Exeter Cathedral. In the intervening year SH have their own carol service in the school chapel.

NORMAL WEEKENDS

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

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, KEW 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 that the house may be cleaned thoroughly, we insist that all clothing and linen is taken home at the end of term and that rooms are emptied **completely** at the end of each term. 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 SH and is **only for those pupils who live abroad**.

Please ensure that pupils do not return before the stated time in the calendar, unless by prior arrangement with KEW.

INTERNATIONAL PUPILS

Whenever pupils leave school, KEW will need to have the details of all travel arrangements and accommodation from leaving SH 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 KEW.



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	GAMES IF SCHEDULED
LESSON 1	9.00 - 9.35 Tutor Period	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	
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	
LESSON 4	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	11.50 - 12.40	
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

7.30am SH breakfast in the dining hall

8.00-8.20am Electronic registration

ACADEMIC TIMETABLE

5.20pm Roll Call

5.30-6.20pm Prep

6.25 – 6.45PM SUPPER

EVENING

6.45 – 8.15pm Evening activity and free time

8.45 – 9.00pm Lights out.

SATURDAY

7.45 - 8.15am SH breakfast in house.

8.45am - 12noon Free Time in house or sports fixtures.

ACADEMIC TIMETABLE

Afternoon Free time, local trip (swimming, shopping) or sports fixtures

6.30 – 7.00PM SUPPER

EVENING

6.45 – 8.15pm Evening activity and free time

8.45 – 9.00pm Lights out

SUNDAY

9.00 - 9.45am Breakfast

10.30am Chapel - compulsory for those who stayed in on Saturday

11.30-12.30 School Brunch instead of breakfast and lunch (LEAVE WEEKENDS ONLY)

12.35 – 1.15PM LUNCH

Afternoon Trip or activity for all SH boarders

6.00pm All back in House

6.00 – 6.30PM SUPPER

EVENING

6.45 – 8.15pm Evening activity and free time

8.45 – 9.00pm Lights out



EXPECTATIONS

APPEARANCE

UNIFORM

In and around the House, pupils should remain in uniform throughout the day unless they have been given permission to change into games kit. If games is one of the first three lessons, pupils are welcome to wear kit into school (not forgetting to pack their uniform for later). Around the campus School 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 as well as throughout the summer term. School uniform should be worn on buses. Jewellery is not allowed for boys and

only simple earring studs for girls. No necklaces, bracelets or anklets.

Correct Blundell's games kit should be worn to and from all games, and it should be clean. Dirty kit is not to be taken to the dorms and must go straight to matron for laundering.

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. For girls, this means hair should be tied back and kept to its natural colour.

REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

Pupils are able to earn Schoolpoints for a range of things from great effort, to excellent work, to kindness. Tutors, teachers, matrons and resident staff will all be in the lookout for opportunities to reward pupils. As Schoolpoints accumulate, both pupils and their House will benefit, with badges being awarded and 'kudos' for the House with the highest total each week.

Zero points will be given where behaviour and effort do not reach expectations. SH detention runs on a Wednesday after school and can be given by staff for serious or repeated minor misdemeanours. A range of report cards for appearance, meal attendance and poor behaviour can also be given by JAR and tutors.



ACADEMIC ISSUES

LESSONS AND EQUIPMENT

Every pupil in SH will have a locker to store their academic books and other items. Books, pencil cases, calculators, prep etc. for the first three lessons of the day must be taken to Tutor meetings but should be made ready for collection back in House following chapel, as there is no storage available. Pupils need to be similarly equipped after break and lunch for the lessons that follow. Teachers may send a pupil 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. This contains much 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 make best use of their planner, where homework should be recorded each day.

PREP ROUTINE

School House runs supervised prep for all pupils who opt to stay for supper from 5.30-6.20 in the library. The duty staff will sit with them and support them as necessary. Students may use the computers in the library or in IT 2 with the permission of the duty staff.

TUTORS

Pupils meet with their Tutor during period 1 on Monday, 12.40 on Tuesday and either Wednesday or Thursday before school.

Tutors will also attend Housemeetings on a Thursday lunchtime whenever possible and undertake either a day or evening duty in the House. They should be pupils first point of contact with any concerns or questions, as their role is both to support and motivate the pupils to achieve in all that they do at school.

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.



DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS

FULL/WEEKLY BOARDERS – REQUIRED ITEMS

In addition to the listed uniform and sports kit pupils coming to SH will require the following:

- Casual clothes – two or three sets, including a set of smart casual (not jeans and t shirt!)
- A lockable tuckbox
- 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 - to be handed to KEW.
- School equipment (stationery) for use in lessons in a named pencil case, including a scientific calculator (available from school)
- Pictures and photos for your pin board (bring pins)

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

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 flexies may need the following.

- 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.
- Casual clothes for the evening

DAY PUPILS

Day pupils will have their own locker for books and games equipment. We will ensure that the pupils tidy their locker once a week to ensure kit regularly comes home for a wash.

Labelled kit is rarely lost, nearly always turns up and is passed to Matron. If another pupil's clothes are accidentally taken home, please remember to return them as soon as possible.

PERSONAL ORGANISATION

WASHING AND HYGIENE

Boarders are expected to shower daily and will be encouraged to do so, where necessary. Deodorant (but not aerosols) should be considered in SH

as hormones do start to kick in. We will advise pupils where necessary.

SHEETS

All pupils are asked to strip their beds every week and place them in the large laundry bins. Pupils who stay more than three nights a week change their sheets every week. The frequency of changing duvet covers will depend on how many nights a pupil sleeps in. Matron will make this decision.

DORM RULES

Each pupil who boards has their own space in the dorm. Items should not be borrowed meaning there is no reason to go through other people's property. Pupils should not enter a fellow student's dorm without them being present. No boy or girl from another house is allowed into the School House dorms.

Personal belongings and clothes need to be kept tidily and in a well-organised 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. Posters and photos should be attached with pins on the notice boards.

Any damage (including graffiti) or breakages that occur in School House should be reported immediately to the duty member of staff. It is always better for everyone if pupils own up straight away to 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.

FOOD

SH Boarders have access to a kitchen next to their common room on the top floor. The permission of the duty member of staff must be sought and they will usually wish to supervise the use of electrical goods. Pupils are free to prepare simple snacks and store labelled food they have purchased, within reason. Food past its 'Use by' date will be thrown away.

DINING HALL ROUTINE

All meals are compulsory for pupils to attend. The food is of exceptional quality and there is always a wide choice

of hot and cold food.

SH pupils go the dining hall as a group for each meal, which is a social occasion with much chatter. Pupils are responsible for clearing their own plates from the tables and ensuring they leave their table tidy.

CARS AND PARKING AT SCHOOL

For most School visits we would ask you 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 you are visiting the Head you 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 drop off area outside SH can become very congested, particularly in the mornings. Parents are asked to use the drop off zones appropriately and be mindful of through traffic when using the mini roundabout. The Upper Westlake car park is also available and has a path linking to the back of SH.

Year 7 are dropped and collected from outside the front of SH, whereas Year 8 are dropped outside SH but collected from the back of Big School (main car park).

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND INSURANCE

Theft is rare and will be fully investigated but it is not a good idea to bring expensive items to school. Laptops should be covered under home insurance. All passports, travel tickets and large amounts money must be handed to KEW to be kept safe.

LOST PROPERTY AND LABELS

PLEASE ensure that all equipped and clothing is clearly labelled. SH pupils should have their name and House on an external name tape attached to their games tops and bottoms to ensure their items can be quickly returned. Name tapes can be ordered via the School Shop.

TUCK BOXES

Boarders in School House are advised to bring a lockable tuckbox with them to school.

HOUSE FACILITIES

BOARDERS COMMON ROOM

The Common Room is a relaxing area for the boarders, furnished comfortably with a range of beanbags and sofas. There is a TV with DVD player and Sky, which the pupils have use in their free time. The television must be switched off during lesson time, games, activities, prep and after 8.15pm in the week.

BOARDERS GAMES ROOM

The Games Room boasts a table football and an X-box for use in free time with a range of suitable games. There is also plenty of space for duty staff to run activities or play board games with the pupils in the evening. The Games Room may not be used during prep, lessons or after 8.15pm.

COMMON ROOMS

Each year group has a common room where their locker is located along with some soft seating. These are at the heart of the house and where sports and activity notices will be displayed.

THE DAY ROOM

This is a multi-purpose room which houses the kitchen area for the Matrons to prepare snacks and drinks, as well as a quiet work area with two networked computers. Day pupils are welcome to work here or check emails before, during and after the school day. There are also some comfy sofas for chatting on when pupils need a quiet moment.

COMPUTERS

There are computers on the ground floor in the House. 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. Please also ensure that any device is covered under your own insurance.

THE SH PATCH

The School House patch is an area of astro turf where pupils can play ball games, run around or just sit in the sun. It is floodlit at night when the weather permits outdoor play! There is also outdoor Table Tennis and picnic benches for the pupils to use.



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. 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.

WORK

Any problem about work should be discussed either with the teachers concerned or with Tutors. Tutors will always approach other members of Common Room on pupils behalf.

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.

COUNSELLING

The Houseparents, Matrons and Tutors are keen and willing to listen and provide counsel, as indeed are the nurses in the Medical Centre, the Chaplain, the Second Master and the Head. If professional help is required, there is a School Counsellor, Ms Vicky Hughes. Ms Hughes is available for consultations on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Pupils can make appointments with her directly via email or through talking to Miss Woolford.

FIRE DRILLS

The procedures for what to do in the event of a fire are posted around School House. You should make yourself 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

HOUSE CAPTAINS

There are four 'Houses' within SH, (Gornhay, Amory, Mayfield and Beale) which enable inter-house competition to take place across the academic year. Towards the end of each summer term the pupils vote in a Year 7 boy and girl in each house to lead them from the following September.

HOUSE OFFICERS

Officers are appointed from Year 8 in the Autumn term. They are generally appointed by the Houseparent to take the lead on a particular area of house life, such as charity, music and the school council.

TIES AND BADGES

School House has a Prefects tie that is also worn by the Heads of House. Girls wear distinct Prefect badges.

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS

All major sports will see vigorously contested intra-house competitions throughout the year. Our 4 houses (Amory, Beale, Gornhay and Mayfield) compete and accumulate points towards the overall house total. There are also competitions in Music, Public Speaking and debating, where SH go forward to compete against the senior houses.

Parents will be advised in the Weekly Sheet when these events are taking place, as support is always welcome.

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 not uncommon to find parents, staff and Old Blundellians taking part. There is always significant parental support.

SH PLAY

Every year School House perform a full production over two nights, directed by a member of the Drama Dept.

EXTERNAL SPORTS FIXTURES

SH have a full programme of fixtures in all major sports with both Prep and Senior schools. Fixtures generally take place on a Wednesday afternoon or on a Saturday. **There is an expectation that all pupils will fulfil their sporting commitments representing the school when required.** Requests for exceptions should be made in writing to the Head.

Parents are always welcome to come and support both home and away fixtures. Do join the teams for refreshments after the match in the Dining Hall.

If a fixture is cancelled we will put a note on the school website as soon as we know and let the pupils know if they are in school.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF SCHOOL HOUSE



When Blundell's was built in 1882 School House was not only a boarding house run by the Headmaster, A.L. Francis, but also his private residence. Initially, there were just 23 boys, but numbers grew rapidly, and in 1890 a new three-storey wing was completed, with classrooms, studies and bedrooms. School House were almost unbeatable at cricket in the early days, winning the House Cup every season from 1888 to 1892, and setting the record, still unbeaten, for a single innings – 593. One of School House's most distinguished pupils, Sir John Collings Squire, was here from 1901 to 1903. He later became famous as a poet and editor of the *New Statesman* and the *London Mercury*.

A.L. Francis moved into the newly-built Headmaster's house, appointing E.G. Peirce as Housemaster. Peirce stayed for just 6 years in School House, but served Blundell's as Master and Bursar for over 40 years. His successor as Housemaster was R. Montgomery, who saw the numbers rise steadily to over 40. He gave way in 1923 to E.C. Fisher. Two of his boarders went on to carve out successful careers for themselves; Raglan Squire (the son of Sir John Squire) became a renowned architect, and designed Blundell's present Big School and the School's Lady Chapel, and Michael Gilbert who found success as a lawyer and crime writer. In Fisher's time the Headmaster's study was moved to its present location, and its former place was made into a prep room for School House. Fisher left the house, and Blundell's, in 1934 to get married.

Kenneth Edwards had been at Petergate as a boy, and returned in 1927 to teach Latin and English, and now replaced Fisher at School House. Stephen Spender lodged in the house

for one term in 1940 while he taught at Blundell's, and often Edwards invited the boys to pass the evening with him and his friend C. Day Lewis. Peter Hurford, organist and composer (pupil, SH 1944-48). During Edwards' final year two of Blundell's most accomplished musicians boarded in the house. Peter Hurford was to be music master at St. Alban's Abbey and a celebrated organist, and his contemporary David Parkhouse, a pianist, was one of the founder members of the Music Group of London.

Edwards left in 1945 and joined the Old Vic, with his place as Housemaster being filled by Dr. Lloyd-Lewis, whose tenure lasted until 1958. During his time new a kitchen area was constructed and a new oil-fired heating system installed. Ted Chanter followed next. He had already completed 13 years as Housemaster of Petergate, so was well-accustomed to the task. He was a formidable force in the life of Blundell's: a strict disciplinarian, yet full of compassion for each individual. Chanter gave way in 1971 to Brian Richards, who had arrived from industry seven years before. In the first year of Brian's residence the house was largely remodeled, and the private accommodation reduced, bringing 44 boys into studys. In 1980 shortly after the arrival of girls, an area of School House was separated from the boys' quarters to accommodate seven of them.

Peter Lanfear, a Modern Language teacher like Richards, took over the house in 1985, and during his stay a large number of the studys were turned into bedsits. School House became the Junior Department in 1996, with its boys and girls aged from 11 to 13 years and Dee and John Brigden as Houseparents. This new venture was a resounding success, and the Brigdens developed a strong,

compassionate environment from which the younger members of Blundell's have moved confidently and seamlessly into the senior school. The many talented youngsters of recent years have included Natalie Dew, one of the stars of the BBC series *Monsters TV*, and Alice Shepherd, who represented Great Britain in the Baltic Youth Games in the modern pentathlon. James Postle took over as Houseparent in 2008 and was succeeded by Damian Marshman, who moved with his wife Katey and children to School House in 2011.

School House grew and thrived under his care, and underwent extensive refurbishment in 2012. Kate Corbin then ran School House between 2017-19 before James Rochfort took over as Houeparent in September 2019.

HOUSEPARENTS

1882-1906	A.L. FRANCIS
1906-12	E.G. PEIRCE
1912-23	R. MONTGOMERY
1923-34	E.C. FISHER
1934-45	K.G. EDWARDS
1945-58	DR. J.E. LLOYD LEWIS
1958-71	E.W. CHANTER
1971-85	R.B. RICHARDS
1985-96	P. LANFEAR
1996-2008	J.W. BRIGDEN
2008-11	J.R.W. POSTLE
2011-17	D.P. MARSHMAN
2017-19	K.L. CORBIN
2019-	J.A. ROCHFORT



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