



ST GEORGE'S
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, EDINBURGH

Boarding

FROM 10 - 18 YEARS



A friendly, home-from-home community. Girls are free to be themselves, feel safe and at ease in their surroundings and find themselves surrounded by lifelong friends.

Boarders live in Houldsworth House. This is a close-knit, family orientated community, where older and younger boarders can learn from and offer support as siblings do in a family.

The girls thrive in this supportive environment where they benefit from lots of individual attention.

Our approach is flexible and caters to the individual needs of each girl. We are able to do this by intentionally keeping our boarding numbers low (up to 50 boarders) so we can provide the many advantages of a cosy, family style community. This approach is popular with the girls and allows us to give significantly more flexibility than many larger boarding schools.

Our dedicated boarding staff get to know every girl really well. They work closely with each girl's subject teachers, form tutor and year head with much emphasis given to the overall aspirations, and personal and social development of each girl. Every boarder is treated as an individual and valued for her opinions and contribution.

There is a strong work ethic in Houldsworth, and girls motivate each other. They tell us that they appreciate the opportunity to work in a supervised and quiet



environment, with easy access to members of staff to support them if necessary. As girls become more senior, academic and welfare support becomes more personalised, extending to guidance with university applications and possible career paths.

Rated "Excellent" in all categories assessed in the last five consecutive Scottish Care Inspectorate Reports.

"There is a real community in Houldsworth House, and it has been frequently called a 'home away from home' - well, it truly is! We all know each other really well and get on with each other, which means we make lasting friendships across year groups. Houldsworth provides a lot of different activities to do each weekend; this allows people with different interests to enjoy them."

Tara from Zimbabwe

Long and short term boarding options are available at all stages of entry from the age of 10 years.

We offer full, flexi, termly, weekly and occasional boarding.

The After School Club runs from the boarding house, where girls can be looked after from when school finishes until 8pm.

Making friends from all over the world

Girls develop friendships for life in Houldsworth. Around half of our boarders are from the UK and half from overseas. This includes girls who live locally who choose to board, families who live too far from Edinburgh to commute daily, and international and expat students.

In today's increasingly globalised world, girls develop an understanding of the perspectives of those from different multicultural backgrounds. Although we offer a British boarding experience, we pride ourselves on being an international community and enjoy sharing and celebrating each other's customs and festivals.

"There is such a variety of nationalities here we have had the opportunity to meet and befriend girls from every corner of the globe."

Anna from Scotland

Spacious, comfortable houses in landscaped gardens, situated in the school's private grounds.

Boarders live in Houldsworth House in a safe residential area of Edinburgh, which is only 20 minutes walk from the city centre.

Houldsworth consists of two magnificent Victorian properties, which are joined together by a spacious common room. There is also a modern purpose-built bungalow for Sixth Form students. The house has its own kitchen, chef and dining room, where girls and staff eat breakfast and dinner together during the week and all of their meals at weekends. There are a number of sitting rooms and girls have comprehensive internet and computer access.

The number of girls in each bedroom depends on their age, individual needs and the size of the room. Junior boarders are typically in a bedroom for three or four, while most sixth form students choose a single room.

The Sixth Form bungalow provides a good transition to more independent living and a stepping stone to university life.





Boarders have a strong influence in the decision making and the running of the boarding house.

Taking responsibility and developing leadership skills are encouraged, with boarders having a strong influence in the decision-making and the running of Houldsworth. This results in an open learning environment where the relationship between the girls and the House team is based on trust, respect and genuine affection.

Boarders help plan the week's menus, choose soft furnishings and contribute their skills and ideas to the weekly boarding programme of all-age activities, outings and events.

The House staff provide pastoral care and support the girls, keeping them safe and happy.

Houldsworth has a Housemistress, Mrs Sally Allison, who lives with her family in their own quarters in the boarding house. Mrs Allison is a strong pastoral figure who oversees both wellbeing and academic progress. With the support of her team, she is responsible for the welfare and safety of the pupils, and the smooth running of the boarding house.

"The most important part of my role as Housemistress is getting to know the girls and ensuring that they are happy and thriving at St George's. My boarding and teaching experience gives me an understanding of and affinity with young people and the boarders' wellbeing is always my top priority. Additionally, I bring my background in Food Technology and the arts to Houldsworth, to enrich the already varied and exciting activities enjoyed by the boarders".

Sally Allison, Housemistress



Resident and non-resident members of staff work with the Housemistress, supported by Mrs Jill Bryce who is the Deputy Head responsible for Boarding and the Sixth Form.

House events and activities bring all of the boarders together.

A full range of activities, events and outings are run during the evening and at weekends. Popular activities range from baking and cooking seasonal and traditional dishes from around the world, to film club, arts and crafts, tennis and running.

Every weekend there is an organised House outing. Trips include swimming, bowling, ice-skating and visits to Edinburgh's many historical sites. Other Sunday trips go further, to Stirling Castle, Durham Cathedral, North Berwick and Linlithgow Palace. Some of these outings are with boys from Merchiston Castle School and the highlight of the boarders' social calendar is their annual ceilidh with the boys from Merchiston.

Edinburgh is consistently considered one of the most desirable places to live in the world.

The school setting is in tranquil parkland in a popular residential area of Edinburgh. Edinburgh boasts a stunning landscape, a rich cultural heritage and is a vibrant, modern city. It is consistently considered one of the most desirable places to live in the world. As a boarder living in the heart of Edinburgh, girls can take advantage of all the culture, sport and activity the city has to offer.



Admissions

We welcome applications for boarding places for any year group from the age of 10 years. For further information please contact the Admissions Department, **T** 0131 311 8008, **E** admissions@stge.org.uk.

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Day and boarding school for girls, 3-18 years

T 0131 311 8000 **E** admissions@stge.org.uk

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