

Frequently asked questions about being a Flexi Boarder at WCPS

What does a day look like for a Flexi Boarder?

Time	What?	Where?
7:30am	Parent drop off	Underwood Hall
7:45am - 8:10am	Breakfast	Underwood Hall
8:30am	Start of the school day	WCPS
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Lunch	WCPS
3:15pm - 4:00pm	Enriched Curriculum Activity	WCPS
4:00pm - 4:45pm	Home Learning Prep time	WCPS
4:45pm	Leave WCPS	WCPS
5:00pm	Pick Up 1	Underwood Hall
5:15pm - 6:00pm	Dinner	WC Refectory
6:00pm - 6:30pm	Activity / Device time	Underwood Hall
6:30pm	Pick Up 2	Underwood Hall
6:30pm	House Huddle & Evening Activities	Underwood Hall
7:00pm	Pick Up 3	Underwood Hall

What's the admissions procedure for my child becoming a Flexi Boarder? All applicants for a Flexi Boarding place are required to complete a suitability to board interview and a trial overnight stay. If successful, parents will be required to sign the school's boarding agreement. All Flexi Boarders are classed as a Boarder at WCPS - not a Day Pupil.

What does it mean about Flexi Boarders being allowed an overnight stay in Underwood Hall one night a week for 38 weeks, or equivalent?

Flexi Boarders are required to stay overnight in Underwood Hall for 38 nights in an academic year. This could be once a week for 38 weeks or they could stay multiple nights in a block at any point each term across the course of an academic year.

Does my child have to stay overnight in a fixed routine each week?

No. The 38 overnight stays can happen whenever you like. For example, it might be that you and your child would prefer four overnight stays to happen in a block of consecutive nights during some weeks and for there to be no overnight stays during other weeks.

Does my child have to have their overnight stay on the same day of the week, every week?

No

What if I need my child to stay overnight more than 38 nights in an academic year? Can I exceed this?

Any additional overnight stays can be booked via MCAS for the *Occasional Boarding* charge of £100 for a night with evening meal and breakfast.

How do I inform Underwood Hall if I need an overnight stay for my child?

Parents will have access to a sign-up form that will indicate when an overnight stay is required. Parents will need to complete the electronic sign-up form, a minimum of one week before their booking.

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What if one week I don't want my child to have breakfast in Underwood Hall or if I want to collect them at 4:45pm from school, how do I organise this?

All Flexi Boarder parents will be emailed a survey link on a Monday at 9:00am to be completed by 12:00pm Wednesday, indicating what Flexi pattern they want for their child the following week. If parents establish a set routine, they will be able to quickly indicate no change to current Flexi pattern.

Could my child have overnight stays on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday?

This is something we are considering being available depending on the level of demand.

Can my child change from being a Flexi Boarder to a day pupil?

No. There is no automatic right of transfer between categories of admission in accordance with the Schools Admissions Code.

Can my child change from being a Day Pupil to being a Flexi Boarder?

Yes. But please note this would mean they would be admitted into the College as a Boarder. If in Year 7 you want your child to be a Day Pupil, you would need to reapply for a Day Pupil place.

If my child is a Flexi Boarder at WCPS, will they get priority for a day pupil place at Wymondham College in Year 7?

No. The allocation of day places at Wymondham College is administered in accordance with the College's Admissions Policy and run through Norfolk County Council. As a Prep School boarder, if you choose to apply for a boarding place at Wymondham College in Year 7, you will have a priority allocation as a boarder, but you will not have a priority allocation as a day pupil.

What if I wish to drop my child off after 8:00am

If you need to do this, you will have to drop your child off at school at 8:30am.

Is there a minimum number of overnight stays?

Yes. There is a minimum overnight stay requirement of 38 nights.

How much notice do I need to give to cancel an overnight stay?

48 hours notice is required to cancel an overnight stay. Should your child be absent/ill on the day you have booked an overnight stay then the School will assume they will not be staying overnight, and it will not affect your child's overnight quota.

Is a Flexi Boarder required to provide bedding when staying over?

Pupils are encouraged to personalise their bed space, for example, using their own duvet, duvet cover, pillow, pillowcase and sheet. However, bedding can be provided if required.

What happens if there is a problem at night and my child wants to come home?

The House staff are excellent at supporting students and are contactable via a doorbell that links to their accommodation within the House. Pupils can always seek support from the House staff, day or night, if required. House staff will contact parents should this be deemed necessary.

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Does my child need to bring anything with them when they stay overnight?

Flexi Boarders should bring an overnight bag with essentials such as toiletries, nightwear, home clothes, pyjamas, slipper or equivalent e.g. crocks/sliders, dressing gown, towel, washbag etc. Pupils will need to bring all they require for the following school day. Snacks, games and refreshments are all provided.

If my child is sleeping over in Underwood Hall for an extended period of time, will they have access to the laundry service?

Yes, but this will depend on the length of stay and each individual's needs. Please make sure all items are named appropriately.

Will my child be able to contact me after school or on an overnight stay?

Yes. A mobile phone or tablet device can be handed into the Underwood Hall office or School office on arrival. They will be able to use their device to contact you during scheduled 'device time' which takes place sometime after dinner. If they need to contact you outside of this time, if appropriate, they can call on the Underwood Hall office phone or from School as normal.

What if my child does not have a mobile phone or tablet device?

They will still be able to contact you by using the Underwood Hall office landline or the Underwood Hall duty mobile.

Can I pick my child up from Underwood Hall at any time between 4:50pm and 7:00pm in the evening?

No. There are 3 pickup times to choose from: 5:00pm, 6:30pm and 7:00pm. This is because in between these times, boarders will be having dinner, moving across campus and potentially taking part in an activity somewhere.

Will I have to pay for my child to do an ECA?

If it is a school internally run ECA, you will not have to pay the ECA charge; it's covered in the Flexi Boarding fee. If however, you want your child to take part in an externally run ECA, you will have to pay the provider for this service.

Will my child get their first choice of ECA for each day of the week?

Yes.

Who will supervise my child doing their Home Learning Prep after school.

This will be carried out by a member of staff from Underwood Hall. They will come into school at 4:00pm and escort the children back to Underwood Hall at 4:45pm. weekend.

Are there any commitments students are expected to attend in the evenings after 4:45pm?

No. At 4:45pm, Flexi Boarders will return to Underwood Hall with the Full Boarders, before heading over to the Refectory for their hot evening meal.

What happens if my child becomes ill outside of normal school hours?

The Underwood Hall staff team would look after any poorly Flexi Boarder, and if needed, access the medical professionals in the Wymondham College Medical Centre until parents are able to collect their child.

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Is my child allocated a bed for use permanently when they join the house, and is there any storage?

Yes. All Flexi Boarders will be allocated their own bed space, which includes a lockable wardrobe and drawers.

Who will my child be sharing a dorm with?

They will be sharing with other Full or Flexi Boarders, depending on which other Flexi Boarders are staying during the same evening. We aim for Flexi Boarders, like Full Boarders, to not have to sleep in a dorm on their own but this can't always be accommodated. It depends on who is sleeping in the house at any given time.

Does a Flexi Boarder need to get changed into their 'home' clothes each day?

This depends. If they are being picked up at 5:00pm or at 6:30pm then there is no need to change. They can remain in their Uniform/PE kit. However, if they are being routinely being picked up at 6:30pm / 7:00pm then yes they can bring home clothes and get changed if they wish.

Where do I park to drop off / pick my child each day?

If your child is starting and ending their day in Underwood Hall, you will need to park in Cavell Car Park and take the short walk to Underwood Hall to drop/pick up your child.

**For further information, please get in touch by phoning
01953 609014 or by emailing admissions@wymcol.org**

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