



STOVER  
SCHOOL

# GUIDE TO BOARDING

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## STOVER SCHOOL WELCOME

Coming to a new country and speaking a new language can be an exciting and fulfilling experience. Learning a language is an ongoing process and, of course, it is only natural that it takes time to adjust. We aim to help our international boarders develop their knowledge of English and their ability to use the English Language, whilst simultaneously making a direct contribution to pupils' general confidence and social development.

Pupils are taught in small class groups, based on their age and ability, which helps improve their spoken and written English. Opportunities are also offered to visit places of interest, in order to be completely immersed in English language and culture.

### STUDYING IN THE UK

The UK is one of the best destinations to study in the world, with traditions of excellence dating back hundreds of years.

The UK has an exceptionally robust approach to academic work, together with an internationally recognised system of qualifications. Class sizes are generally smaller, allowing for individual attention through a broad range of subjects.

This academic excellence is inseparable from a culture that celebrates the individual as a whole person. However good a boarding school's academic results are, it will also be striving to create a rounded learning experience by encouraging self-expression, creativity and individuality. Success in sport, the arts and other areas is one of the ways in which a boarder's independence and confidence is built up.

Living together in a multi-age, multicultural community also helps boarders to develop qualities such as kindness, tolerance and responsibility.





## DEVON, UK

# THE LOCAL AREA

Stover School is located in Devon on the edge of the rolling hills of Dartmoor and just outside the historic market town of Newton Abbot.

Only twenty minutes away is the city of Exeter, one of the most vibrant, attractive and historically interesting cities in England, with a great selection of shops and some of the best food in the South West. Head to the West Quarter or the cobbled Gandy Street to discover a great mix of independent shop and boutiques, cafés and bars.

A short drive away is the vibrant seaside resort of Torquay. Set at the very heart of the English Riviera on the South Devon Coast, Torquay is famous for its sandy beaches, family attractions and Victorian appearance. Stover School's location also means accessibility to the moors and wild swimming in the River Dart as well as the beautiful South Hams coastline where surfing can be enjoyed at Bantham beach and paddle boarding at South Milton Sands. We make use of the opportunities that surround us during activities week and residentials where pupils get to enjoy the beautiful Devon coast and countryside through a variety of activities from coastering, to bouldering to surfing and sailing.

## EST 1932

# A SHORT HISTORY

Stover School was founded on its current 64 acres of parkland in 1932 and this year the School celebrates its ninetieth year.

Stover School became fully co-educational in 2012 and now has an equal number of boys and girls. Since that time the school has expanded and there are currently over 500 pupils in the school.

Our Headmaster, Mr Richard Notman, arrived at the school in 2014, driving the school forward with a holistic approach which combines a progressive research based curriculum with a resilient moral code based on sound family and Christian principles.

This drive to provide the best education for all our pupils has seen pupil number rise, examination results improve significantly and the school being nominated for an i25 Excellence awards, as one of 25 most progressive schools in the UK.

## NURTURE, INSPIRE, PREPARE

# VISION, VALUE AND AIMS

Here at Stover School we provide an education which nurtures, inspires and prepares each pupil.

We prepare confident and independent young people to adapt and succeed in a n ever-changing world.

The co-educational, non-selective environment we provide, best models “real life”, allowing pupils to build the interpersonal skills, empathy, independence and the fortitude required to be successful in the wider world.

At Stover School we aim to:

- Invest in educational excellence enabling the provision of effective, inspiring and stimulating teaching to pupils of wide-ranging abilities, encouraging their enthusiasm for learning, enabling each pupil to achieve their potential.
- Maintain an ongoing evaluation of the quality and content of both teaching and learning.
- Provide a broad, forward looking curriculum at all levels, with appropriate resources.
- Maintain a supportive and happy environment where the individual and spiritual needs of the pupils and staff are recognised and provided for.
- Provide sound moral values through clear expectations of behaviour, emphasising respect and consideration for others.
- Encourage self-confidence, self-motivation and self-discipline within a safe and caring community.
- Engage and maintain effective communication with members of the School and the wider community.
- Value the School’s special, natural environment and holistic estate and use them wherever appropriate in the curriculum.



## PARK HOUSE BOARDING



Stover School is a unique and very special place. Our boarding rooms are located in the main house, overlooking the school grounds of the beautiful Dartmoor National Park.

The grounds and facilities on offer for boarders are fantastic, providing an excellent environment in which to educate the whole person. The boarding community is relatively small (approximately 50 boarders) allowing excellent pastoral care and the development of independence. Internationalism is at the heart of what we do here, and all pupils benefit from learning about other cultures. The boarding house is internationally diverse with many nationalities represented and has an even mix between UK boarders of other nationalities.

An additional enrichment programme is offered to all boarding pupils. This ranges from educational trips, to House events and recreational outings. While recognising the value of taking time out for quiet contemplation or pure relaxation, weekends at Stover are varied and purposeful.

### BOARDING KEY FACTS

- Range of weekend activities.
- Calm and tranquil setting on the edge of Dartmoor.
- Aged 10 to 18 years old (School Years 4 to 13).
- Caring and experienced staff.
- Fully refurbished facilities.

## STOVER SCHOOL PASTORAL CARE



Happy pupils are the very centre of our ethos at Stover School. Children who feel safe, valued and respected and who trust those around them are free to focus on learning to their maximum potential. Our stunning rural setting allows children to enjoy being children and is integral to enhancing this ethos.

In our school, the family atmosphere ensures that every child is known and understood by the staff and their fellow pupils, as an individual who has something to offer the school community and world at large.

This individual approach is reflected in our absolute focus on adding value

to the academic potential of each student, to maximise their education and examination success, regardless of their ability.

Stover is a family community, supports Christian values and welcomes people of all faiths. Our ethos is centred on the care and support of our pupils. We teach them to care for each other and respect their difference. We aim to instil in them a set of moral standards and behaviours that will help them throughout their lives.

## STOVER SCHOOL GUARDIANS



We require all overseas boarders studying at Stover to have a guardian in the UK.

A guardian acts on behalf of the parents, attending meetings with school staff and helping communication between parents and the School. They help boarders adapt to their new life and school regulations, taking an active part in the boarder's school life.

A guardian can give help and advice over examination choices and university selection, including assistance with the completion of application forms. They keep regular contact with the boarder during term time and assist with any problems that may arise. A guardian will be available to both boarders and parents 24 hours a day in case of emergency.

**“Guardians help boarders adapt to their new life and school regulations, taking an active part in the boarder's school life.”**

## STOVER SCHOOL ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE



Boarders whose first language is not English will be offered English lessons appropriate to their level and will be supported to pass an examination in English as a second language by the end of their first year at school.

Where required, learners can be offered extra tuition in order to improve their reading, writing and listening skills. More information can be obtained from the EAL section of the school website.

**“Where required learners can be offered extra tuition in order to improve their English reading, writing and listening skills.”**

## CURRICULUM

# GCSE AND A LEVEL

GCSEs and A Levels are both two year courses. Formal GCSE study starts at the beginning of Year 10 and A Levels start at the beginning of Year 12. Pupils are able to choose from a broad variety of subjects. Depending on language ability most international boarders will take EAL lessons, rather than English Language and Literature.

### GCSE CURRICULUM

English Language  
English Literature  
Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Combined Science  
Separate Sciences  
Art  
Business Studies  
Computer Science  
Drama  
Food Preparation and Nutrition  
French  
Geography  
German  
History  
Music  
Philosophy of Religion and Applied Ethics  
Physical Education  
Spanish  
Photography  
Textiles

### A LEVEL/BTEC CURRICULUM

Art – textile design  
Art – photography  
Fine Art – Art, craft and design  
Biology  
Business Studies  
Computer Science  
Chemistry  
Drama and Theatre Studies  
Economics  
English Literature  
Environmental Science  
Geography  
History  
Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Modern Languages  
EAL- IELTS  
Music  
Philosophy and Ethics



## THREE YEAR INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMME

The following full-time courses are available:

- 2 year GCSE
- 2 year A Level/BTEC
- 3 year A Level/BTEC (includes first year as a foundation year)

This 3 year course is designed to enable international students to:

- Improve their English.
- Acquire qualifications in English as a Foreign Language (EFL).
- Integrate fully into boarding school life.

The foundation year will include lessons in:

- Intensive English.
- A variety of other subjects.
- Physical Education, extra-curricular and enrichment programmes.

A number of ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) courses will be completed through boarding, for example, Food and Living Independently which prepares for post 16 and post 18 choices.

For more information on the International Study Programme please contact the Director of Admissions and Marketing on +44 (0)1626 354505 or email [admissions@stover.co.uk](mailto:admissions@stover.co.uk)

## SIXTH FORM LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS

The variety of leavers' university destinations reflects the wide interest of our pupils, with destinations including Imperial College London, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester, Durham, Warwick, Exeter, Oxford, and University College London (UCL).

Our focus on developing personal skills comes to the fore; the ability to present, communicate and negotiate, understand team dynamics, manage risk, socialise, empathise, problem solve, be creative, flexible, motivate and be resilient. These attributes coupled with excellent examination results, make Stover Sixth Formers extremely employable and also attractive to institutes of higher education.



## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Excellent academic results are only one aspect of Stover School. Pupils have many opportunities to explore new interests, develop talents and enhance creativity through our extensive activity programme.

At Stover, we believe that extra curricular experiences are vital to a child's development, our pupils flourish when given access to a wide variety of opportunities. Our clubs and activities programme provides an opportunity to extend learning outside the classroom with options changing each term during the school year. The clubs and activities programme is an important part of the school day and activities are offered to pupils throughout the school, delivered by specialists or our own staff.

The programme is designed to develop pupils as individuals, enrich education and help recognise talent and potential. We encourage every pupil to try a range of activities, which can lead to life-long hobbies and passions.

Pupils have the opportunity to try many different activities which help them gain important life skills, learn about resilience commitment and time management, raise self esteem, develop relationships and prepare for the future as well as having a lot of fun.

Clubs are changed regularly but some examples include:

Arts & crafts, clay pigeon shooting, chess club, chemistry club, choir, cricket, computer programming, dissection club, dog walking, football, golf, horse riding, lace making, LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art), orchestra, photography, rugby, sewing, skiing, table tennis, tennis and trail running.

“Excellent academic results are only one aspect of Stover School. Pupils have many opportunities to explore new interests, develop talents and enhance creativity through our extensive activity programme.”



## EXTRA CURRICULAR OUTDOOR PURSUITS

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARDS (DofE)

The renowned DofE Award Scheme is run at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Pupils can enrol for their Bronze award in Year 9 and then progress through to their Silver and Gold levels by completing a personal programme of activities in four or five sections – volunteering, physical, skills, expedition and a residential for the Gold Level. From the first day to the last it's a real adventure and pupils achieve an award that provides them with skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for, from universities to employers.

### TEN TORS CHALLENGE

The close proximity of Dartmoor to our school give pupils an excellent opportunity to enjoy a range of outdoor pursuits on the moor, and by being selected to represent the school at the prestigious Ten Tors Event. There may be many challenging walks in Britain today but the Ten Tors Challenge stands alone in catering solely for young people and it is believed to be the largest and most challenging event held nationally.

The Ten Tors Challenge is organised by the British Army and takes place over a weekend in May. The teams, depending on age, face hikes of 35, 45 or 55 miles (56,72 or 88km) over the rough terrain of Dartmoor, visiting ten nominated tors in under two days. The teams must be self-sufficient, carrying all that they need to complete their route and stay out overnight safely. The weather can be changeable and success or failure depends very much on the excellent preparation and training we offer our teams.

### COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)

At Stover School, we aim to encourage self-confidence, self-motivation and self-discipline within a safe and caring community and our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Contingent is just one way we seek to challenge our pupils in these areas.

Our pupils benefit in a variety of ways; our staff have selected a range of training which promotes leadership, confidence, teamwork and individual resilience.



STOVER BOARDING  
MEET THE  
FAMILY

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When I first came to Stover School everyone was very welcoming and lovely. I was able to meet lots of different students from a number of different countries and some of them have become great friends.

Our boarding house parents always host exciting activities, organising competitions such as indoor ball games, cooking and gym. I enjoy the boarding trips, so far I have been to London shopping and to Cardiff for an international rugby match. In School my teachers are very helpful and enjoy teaching me. They always make an effort to ensure that we understand and if we don't remember or are struggling, the boarding staff will offer extra help in the evening. Being a boarder and student at Stover School is great and I enjoy it a lot.

*Jade, Hong Kong, Year 13*

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My name is Emil. I am from Germany and I am 18 years old.

Living in a boarding house was a new experience for me. I had never been away from home for so long before but the friends I have met and the staff we have at Stover School made it like a second home for me. Therefore, if you were to ask me, I would recommend going abroad to everyone!

*Emil, Germany, Year 13*

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## STOVER BOARDING

# LIFE AT THE WEEKEND

Weekends at Stover are always fun-filled for our boarders with an array of activities on offer.

Less than ten percent of our boarders go home or to Guardians at the weekend, choosing to stay at Stover with their boarding family to make the most of the full and varied activity programme on offer.

Boarders enjoy a variety of trips and activities every weekend. Below are some examples of weekend activities that boarders at Stover can enjoy:

- Climbing at Clip 'n' Climb, Exeter
- Train and beach trip to Exmouth
- Alton Towers, Staffordshire
- Swimming, Plymouth Life Centre
- Hikes over Dartmoor
- Clark's Shopping Village, Somerset
- Paintballing, Newton Abbot
- Go Karting, Exeter
- Stand up paddle boarding
- Devon Sea Safari, Teignmouth

**“Boarders are wholeheartedly accepted into the Stover family.”**  
*Good Schools Guide 2022*



## ADMISSIONS

# HOW TO APPLY

Due to the size of our boarding houses we suggest that applications are made as early as possible.

We are always delighted when prospective parents and pupils arrange to visit the school before deciding if Stover is the right place for them. We know that the warmth of the greeting from all they meet, coupled with our beautiful setting, often makes the visitors choice an easy one.

Applications may be received directly from a prospective boarder's family or via an agent and initial enquiries should be accompanied by:

The prospective boarder's name and date of birth.

The boarder's nationality and a copy of their passport.

The boarder's most recent school report.

The proposed year of entry and length of period of study.

A completed registration form along with a payment of £100.

All international boarders should be competent in English and applicants must be able to prove that they had the academic potential to complete their chosen course of study.

Once all of the above has been received we will send the relevant exam papers for the pupil to sit and arrange an online interview with the Headmaster, Mr Richard Notman.

Offer and acceptance of the place

Following the marking of the exam papers and online interview, we will then be in a position to notify as to whether a place is being offered. An offer letter is sent together with a request for payment of a deposit to confirm the place. The acceptance of a place must be confirmed by the payment of a deposit and the completion of the School's acceptance form within four weeks.



## STOVER SCHOOL

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Stover School offers the following scholarships.

• Academic • Music • Sport • Arts

### PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. These awards take into account assessment results, a pupil's ability, potential, attitude and work ethos.

In recognition of this achievement, the scholar is offered a reduction in the fees for a designated time at Stover School. In addition, music scholars may be offered free tuition in their primary musical instruments.

Scholarship invitations are sent out to all parents who have expressed an interest.

We encourage parents who are applying for scholarships and who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees, to also apply for one of the school's means-tested bursaries.

Details regarding bursaries are available from the Admissions Office.

### SCHOLARSHIP EXPECTATIONS

All scholarships are subject to annual review, and a scholar is expected to help set high standards amongst their peers, and to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to their discipline in school. Within these guidelines, it is not necessarily obligatory for a scholar to opt for any particular academic subject in Year 12.

## STOVER SCHOOL

# CONTACT

Stover School  
Newton Abbot  
Devon  
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Tel: 01626 354505

### ADMISSIONS

Tel: 01626 354505  
Email: [admissions@stover.co.uk](mailto:admissions@stover.co.uk)  
Website: [www.stover.co.uk](http://www.stover.co.uk)

### HOW TO FIND US

By road:

Stover is conveniently located on the A382 just outside Newton Abbot, easily accessible from the M5/M4, approximately 3 hours from the M25 London.

By rail:

A direct line from Paddington Station to Newton Abbot takes 2.5 hours. A taxi to Stover from Newton Abbot station takes approximately 10 minutes.

By express coach:

The direct line from London Victoria coach station or Heathrow airport to Newton Abbot takes 4 hours.

By air:

Heathrow airport – taxi direct to school takes approximately 3.5 hours

Exeter airport – taxi direct to school takes approximately 25 minutes

Bristol airport – taxi direct to school takes approximately 1.5 hours

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**Pupils are down to earth, outdoorsy, enthusiastic, up for giving everything a try and happy in their own skin. A charming bunch of adventurers, making the absolute best out of a wonderfully holistic and healthy education.**

*Good Schools Guide 2022*

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