



The Duke of York's Royal Military School

Tips for a smooth integration into the School for Flexi Boarders

Make the Most of Every Opportunity

Getting involved in all activities, especially staying the first night, is a fantastic way to start building friendships and feeling part of the community from day one.

Be Curious and Inquisitive

Asking questions shows confidence and interest. House staff, teachers, and current students are always happy to help and support you as you settle in.

Personalise Your Bed Space

The dorms are friendly and social areas, so even if you're not staying overnight, bringing your own duvet set and a few favourite photos can make your space feel more comfortable and welcoming.

Engage and Connect

Joining in conversations with peers and staff is a great way to get to know people and quickly feel at home, even a small hello can open the door to new friendships.

Start with Confidence

Taking time to read through the house handbook and school information can give you a great head start, helping you feel ready and confident about the daily routine.

FAQs for Flexi Boarders

How much prep is there and is there flexibility for when this is completed?

Students have two pieces of prep from Monday to Thursday, plus an additional hour over the weekend. Staff will set deadline requirements, sometimes there is flexibility in the completion of this.

Are there any commitments students are expected to attend in the evening (after 17:30)?

Some school events throughout the year are in the evening, and students will be expected to attend these, although they are not required to stay overnight. These are some of the best nights of the school year, for example song comp, production, nine lessons and carols, and house dinners, many of which parents are also invited to attend. Some clubs, such as WRA hockey (which is a pre-selected club), run in the evening.

What happens if a student becomes ill during the day?

If a student becomes ill during the day, we will look after them until parents are able to collect them. The School has first aiders, a Medical Centre and House staff who can treat students with homely medication.

What level of medication provision does the school provide?

We provide emergency medication, but for GP, outpatient, or dentist services, parents are responsible. Should your child be on any medication, this will form part of the onboarding discussion with the Medical Centre.



When can flexi boarders access the Duke Box (gym)?

Flexi boarders can access the Duke Box during staffed evenings and weekends; this is 20:00 – 21:00 weekdays and published times on weekends. Sixth Form students receive an induction and can use it unsupervised but must be accompanied by a peer.

What does the school day look like?

Please refer to *Flexi Boarding Timetable* document for details on the school day. This can be found on our school website.

How many co-curricular activities are compulsory during the week? How likely will it be that the students to get their first choice of these?

Students are required to participate in two clubs a week, in addition to sport, CCF, DofE etc. Students are usually allocated their first choice, however due to popularity some clubs do become oversubscribed.

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

Yes, all students will be allocated their own bed space, which includes a lockable wardrobe, drawers, and a desk.

What uniform do flexi boarders require?

Uniform and Sportswear lists can be found on the school website.

What is the drop-off and collection point at the School?

Students should be dropped off and collected from their boarding house.

What are the drop-off and collection times?

Drop-off is between 07:00 - 08:00. Collections are between 16:15 - 17:30 (depending on school commitments), or 20:00 - 20:55. Please do not collect your child between 17:30 - 20:00 even if they have completed their prep.

Do I need to communicate a specific collection time?

No, students will finish their school day by signing out of the house.

Will parents of flexi boarders receive car passes?

Yes, parents will receive car passes to help make drop off and collection smoother. You will be sent a form to request a car pass. Car passes will be available to collect on their first day.

What access to the laundry service do flexi boarders have?

Students will have full access to the laundry service, which may be useful for a sports kit. Please make sure all items are labeled appropriately.

What time do you need to arrive for breakfast?

Students attending breakfast should register at their boarding house on arrival. For Years 7-11, this is from 07:15, and for Years 12 and 13, it is from 07:45.

Are there any School buses helping the transportation of students?

The School does not run a minibus or taxi service however, this is something we regularly review for collection from Dover Priory train station in the morning only.

The coffee shop we saw on site, is there a top-up card they need to use? If so, how do we do this?

The Dukies' Coffee Shop accepts contactless payments and debit cards.

Who do you contact to report an absence?

Should your child be absent from school, you should send a message to the following address attendance@doyrms.com.

Can a full boarder visit a flexi boarder at weekends and/or during the week? Who do we need to inform?

Yes, full boarders can visit flexi boarders on weekends. Parental permission from both sides is required.

What time is late arrival and where do students report?

Any arrivals after 08:00 are classed as late. Students should report to the School Office (Reception) for registration.

How do you book an overnight stay and how much notice is required?

Overnight stays can be booked through REACH*. We request one week's notice for booking but we are able to facilitate late requests in an emergency.

How many overnight stays are included in the price, and can you exceed this?

33 overnight stays per year are included in the school fees. Additional overnight stays can be booked via REACH*, and a charge of £73 will be added to the end-of-term bill for each additional night.

Is there a minimum number of overnight stays?

33 overnight stays a year are included in the fee and it is the expectation that these are used. This is equivalent to 1 night a week over the school year; however, it is parents' choice when these are booked.

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

24 hours notice is required to cancel an overnight stay to ensure it is not included within your 33-night allocation nor charged if outside of this. 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, and you will therefore not be charged nor will it be deducted from your 33-night allocation.

Is a flexi boarder required to provide bedding when staying over?

Students are encouraged to personalise their bed space, for example, using their own bedding. However, bedding can be provided by the School if required.

My child has never boarded before. What happens if there is a problem at night and they want 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. Students can always seek support from the House staff, day or night, if required. House staff will contact parents should this be deemed necessary.

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

Students should bring an overnight bag with essentials such as toiletries, nightwear, etc. Please refer to the uniform list for further items you may wish to pack. Students would also need to bring all they require for the following school day. Snacks, games and refreshments are all provided by the School.

Are students allowed to drive their own cars to school?

Yes, students are allowed to drive their own cars to school, but they will need to refer to the student's driving code of conduct.

What is your mobile phone policy?

No mobile phones are allowed during the school day, except for the Sixth Form. Phones are to be handed into the house on arrival at School.

*N.B. REACH is the School software which will be used for flexi boarder related bookings.