

# GET READY FOR AN OUTSTANDING BOARDING EXPERIENCE.



ACS  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
COBHAM



# READY FOR BOUNDARIES THAT BLUR, CULTURES THAT CROSSOVER AND IDEAS THAT INTERCONNECT.

Hello, and welcome to boarding at ACS Cobham, a thriving and diverse community with outstanding accommodation and facilities for boys and girls aged 13 to 18.

Our contemporary boarding houses sit within a secure, 128-acre campus with state-of-the-art sports, performing arts and teaching facilities. We are fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful Surrey countryside, yet still in close proximity to central London, with regular opportunities for our boarders to visit the cultural and historical sites of the city.

At ACS Cobham we understand the perfect boarding experience balances academic success with stimulating co-curricular and weekend activities, so we offer an extensive enrichment programme across the academic year to appeal to a wide range of interests.

Our world-renowned curriculum is based on international educational best practice and challenges our students to become service-orientated global citizens with inquisitive minds and the confidence to challenge the status quo. We work hard to create a dynamic learning environment and a culture of diversity and optimism – readying our students for an ever-changing world.

## **Independent School Inspection 2022**

- The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent.
- Pupils have an excellent understanding of the learning and life strategies that work for them.
- Boarders appreciate the safe and secure environment within which they live and the guidance and support they receive from boarding staff for their well-being.
- Pupils display a strong sense of right and wrong and an excellent moral understanding, and older boarders are excellent role models.



**SARA THOMAS,**  
ASSISTANT HEAD,  
WELLBEING

A warm welcome to our boarding houses at ACS Cobham. Our boarding students come to us from across the globe and we are extremely proud of our international community where we celebrate differences and embrace cultural diversity.

I am incredibly proud to lead the boarding team, which delivers outstanding pastoral and academic care. Our boarding houses have a nurturing, inclusive atmosphere, providing our students with a true 'home away from home'.

We have a highly experienced team of Resident House Parents and Tutors who support and encourage our boarding students with their academic studies, personal interests and well-being. Our state-of-the-art boarding houses offer unparalleled modern, comfortable and sociable living spaces for our thriving community.

We invite you to visit our wonderful campus and see first-hand what makes us outstanding.



**ROBERT CROWTHER,**  
HEAD OF  
SCHOOL

We foster independence, self-reliance and an intrinsic love of learning in all of our students at ACS. Joining our boarding community accelerates this process. The opportunity to develop beyond the classroom is key to our mission of producing well rounded, resilient individuals that can flourish on the world stage. The onsite accommodation sets the scene for this to happen to an even greater extent.

Our boarding houses are the finest I have ever seen. We ready our students to communicate effectively across borders, behave appropriately across cultures and empathise with each individual across a project team. Our global constituency is an education in itself.

Are you looking for a programme that empowers students to thrive in today's evolving society? Then get ready to immerse yourself in the boarding community at ACS Cobham.



# READY TO DISCOVER OUR OUTSTANDING CAMPUS.

## UNRIVALLED FACILITIES

---

Our outstanding facilities set within 128 acres of beautiful countryside ready our students for a world full of opportunity.

- Contemporary sports centre with a basketball/volleyball arena, dance studio, fitness suite, competition-class 25-metre pool and sports cafe
- All-weather floodlit astroturf pitch, a 400 metre running track, rugby and football playing fields, a golf course and tennis courts
- Innovation Centre with laser cutters and 3D printers
- Performing Arts Centre with bespoke drama and music spaces, practice rooms and a flagship 509-seat theatre
- Modern science labs
- Naturally lit, spacious art studios
- In-house film editing suite
- Extensive IT labs
- Interactive white board in every classroom
- Spacious dining hall with panoramic views
- State-of the-art interactive learning centre





## OUR BOARDING HOUSES

---

Fields and Woodlands boarding houses are situated at the heart of our vibrant campus. Both facilities have communal common rooms which include lounges where students can relax and socialise, and kitchen areas where they can either prepare their own snacks or enjoy those provided by the school kitchens each day.

Each boarding house is run by a team of dedicated and highly experienced House Parents, responsible for the pastoral and academic welfare for each student.

### Our boarding facilities

- Modern, spacious twin and duplex en suite bedrooms with separate wings for girls and boys
- Single en suite rooms for Grade 12 students
- Residential Assistant Head of School, House Parents and Tutors with decades' of experience
- Lounges with games, musical instruments and entertainment zones
- Kitchen areas with cooking facilities
- Protected 24hr security throughout the year
- Extensive landscaped outdoor areas featuring BBQ and social spaces
- An in-house Medical Centre with a team of nurses
- Dedicated study areas
- Cinema room



“

My parents and I chose ACS Cobham because of its wonderfully supportive and international community. Everyone was super-duper friendly, and everyone came up to talk to me, making my first experiences special.

YUKI, CHINESE







FIELDS, AGES 13-16 / GRADES 8-10

---



Twin and duplex accommodation with separate wings for girls and boys, all en suite.



## WOODLANDS, AGES 16-18 / GRADES 11-12



Twin en suite rooms with separate wings for girls and boys. Single en suite rooms available for Grade 12 students.

# GETTING YOU READY.

On arriving, new boarding students and their families are greeted by a Welcome Committee comprising boarding school staff and fellow students. This is followed by an in-depth induction weekend to help everyone settle in smoothly, make friends and find their way around their amazing new home.

Boarding staff work closely with teachers to support and encourage each student to reach their potential through:

- Regular contact with university counsellors to guide academic success
- Qualified coaches that offer a huge range of competitive and fun sports
- A dynamic Performing Arts department with a plethora of drama and music events to participate in
- Charity and volunteer work, both in the UK and overseas, to broaden horizons and ready our students for challenges of the future
- Extra-curricular activities including Model United Nations and STEM



I have been delighted to find a truly International community in Woodlands, where there is a genuine acceptance of different cultures and beliefs.

JAMES GRAY, LEAD HOUSE  
PARENT OF WOODLANDS





# A TYPICAL BOARDING WEEK.

At ACS Cobham day-to-day life is structured to include study time, after school activities and leisure time. The weekly routine is organised to keep our boarders busy yet also time to relax and reflect.

## MONDAY TO FRIDAY\*

---

**07.30 – 08.20** Breakfast in our Dining Hall

---

**08.30 – 12.30** Lessons

---

**12.30** Lunch in our Dining Hall

---

**13.15 – 15.30** Lessons

---

**15.30 – 18.00** Free time spent either studying or enjoying:

- A wide range of co- and extra-curricular activities
- Sports
- Performing arts
- Charities
- Hobbies
- Social trips
- One of many lounges or terraces
- A movie or Sky Sports in the cinema room
- The outside gardens, BBQ area and grounds

---

**18.00** Dinner in our Dining Hall

---

**19.00 – 21.00** Study Hall homework, supported by Resident Tutors

---

**21.00 – 22.00** Free time to relax and socialise (we offer house games nights (eg. Volleyball, basketball, football, dodgeball) following study hall). We also have a fitness/strength and conditioning programme following study hall. Evening snack served after study hall

---

**21.00** Students start going to their rooms (depending upon their age), and staff check that they are preparing to sleep

---

\*Sample timetable





Being a boarder is fantastic, as its great to be in a home away from home with fantastic people from all over the world!

ADELE, MEXICO

## SATURDAY TO SUNDAY\*

---

**09.30** Breakfast in our Dining Hall

---

**10.30 – 12.15** (Sunday Only) Brunch in our Dining Hall

---

**10.30 – 17.30** Students are encouraged to participate in a full range of enrichment activities, including:

- **Cultural visits to London** – Buckingham Palace, Parliament, or a West End Show
- **Active trips** – hydro speeding, go-karting, or trampolining
- **Recreation in boarding** – table football, pool, games
- **Charity CAS hours** – local hospice, fundraising
- **Leisure** – speedboat rides to the Isle of Wight or London, visits to adventure parks such as Thorpe Park, shopping, cinema trips, or taking in the view from the Shard
- A range of sports fixtures, practices and performing arts events
- Grade 12 students always have the option to remain at school and study

---

**18.00** Dinner in our Dining Hall

---

**19.00 – 23.00** Free time to socialise and relax

---

**21.00 – 23.00** Depending on age, bedtimes may be later at the discretion of the House Parent on duty

# READY TO LEARN.

## WORLD-RENOWNED CURRICULUM

---

We are a dynamic learning community that aims to inspire the best in everyone, enabling our students to fulfil their true potential. Our broad and challenging curriculum is designed to help our students excel, ensuring they're ready for the next stage of their academic career. Underpinned by the International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP) courses and the US High School Diploma, our curriculum emphasises life skills as much as academic ability, with a focus on community service and leadership that ensures we nurture confident, caring individuals.

### **Academic programmes available at ACS Cobham:**

- International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)
- Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID)
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma (APCP)
- US High School Diploma

In addition, we offer English as an Additional Language (EAL), depending on the student's age and needs, and a Native Language Enrichment programme. Both are fully included in the boarding fees.

We are particularly proud of the fact that our graduates go on to attend the university of their choice, anywhere in the world, with many winning places to the very best learning universities, including those within the Ivy League and Russell Group.







### **Our Academic Programme**

Our Boarding Academic Programme ensures all students are supported and given appropriate guidance with their studies.

#### **The programme comprises:**

- Study Hall (Homework/Prep) each evening
- High supervising staff ratio – 9 staff every evening
- IT systems allow Boarding Staff to see work set
- Supervised Study/ Targeted Support
- Boarding Team IB Tracking Programme
- Regular meetings with Senior School

# READY TO TRY.



The primary focus of our Enrichment Programme is for our students to actively engage in activities and experiences that will hopefully lead to a life-long love for learning beyond the classroom.

DAVE SCHUCHTER, LEAD HOUSE PARENT OF FIELDS HOUSE

## OUR ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

---

At ACS Cobham our boarding students benefit from a wide range of activities outside of the classroom, from service and volunteering opportunities to sports and performing arts clubs, all of which are available to students throughout the school week. Each month we also offer stimulating excursions and activities to London and the countryside. Encouraging our young people to challenge themselves helps develop skills and resilience that will benefit them inside and outside the classroom and ready them for the future.

Several of our clubs are organised and run by students themselves, helping develop their leadership skills. One of these is our Model United Nations club, where they exchange views on topics of international concern. As part of this students can

attend conferences each year in The Hague and New York, where they debate the world's most pressing issues with thousands of other students. It's all part of our commitment to educating the whole student so they're ready for tomorrow.

We also understand the importance of leisure time when boarders can explore their individual interests such as art, music and sport, and quiet time when students just need time to refresh and recharge. On arrival at ACS, we work with each boarder to identify their particular passions and interests to ensure they have the chance to cultivate these during their time with us, and that their programme of activities is balanced and healthy.



## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

**Senior School Clubs:** karate, yoga, pilates, TED-Ed, novel writing, 3D printing, art, SATRO (science competition), table tennis, music/choral, dance, track and field, chess and coding.

**High School Clubs:** art, badminton, Duke of Edinburgh Award, girls' soccer, law society, medics club, Model United Nations, senior maths team, technical theatre, wall climbing, West End theatre, woodlands conservation, Amnesty International, education for Madagascar, cancer relief group, Namibia world challenge and student council.

**Performing Arts:** orchestra, jazz band, chamber ensemble, choir, rock band workshop\*, marimba club, ukulele club, theatre productions, music recitals, open mic events, technical theatre, ISTA festival\* and private musical lessons\*

**Sports:** basketball, football, rugby, swim academy, tennis, softball, dance, cross country and American football.

**Leisure:** pizza parties, chilli nights, inter-house competitions, Christmas pantomime and lights, international night, table tennis league, karaoke, bake off competition, table football league, mountain biking, art and crafts, musical instruments and board games.

**Excursions:** St Paul's Cathedral, London Eye, Tate Modern, Hampton Court, Thorpe Park, Canterbury Cathedral, West End plays, Winter Wonderland, Brighton Pavilion, WB Harry Potter Studios, ice skating, bowling, Christmas markets, Chessington World of Adventures and more.

Activities are subject to change.



\*Subject to an additional fee

# READY TO LISTEN.

## OUR WELLBEING PROGRAMME

---

Student well-being is central to boarding life. Our expert staff are caring and approachable, supported by practices that ensure our pastoral care is exceptional.

- All students are allocated a Residential Tutor to advise and guide their progress
- House Parents attend meetings with Middle and High School teachers to discuss each boarders' needs
- Boarders have full access to an Independent Counsellor who offers confidential appointments
- Grade 11 and 12 boarders may be selected as Peer Supporters
- Student Council meets every month with the House Parents to feedback on ongoing initiatives and issues
- We request that students in our Fields Boarding House hand in their devices before bedtime and collect them in the morning

Our resident House Parents are available 24 hours a day to help our boarders and deal promptly with and sympathetically with any personal situation that may arise. All our students feel respected as individuals, and our expert staff actively support their personal, social and educational development.

In addition, our team is strengthened by resident teacher/advisers, a nurse, a designated Safeguarding Lead, a School Counsellor and a Student Peer Supporter Group. Together, we ensure all boarders have the constant support, guidance and care to be happy, inspired and ready to make their mark on the world.

### **Lotus Project**

Our innovative wellbeing project is specifically designed to support the wellbeing of our students. Boarding staff meet individually with each member of their tutor group, spending quality time with them, listening to how they are feeling. The regular hour-long meetings are carefully planned to cover the six different elements of wellbeing on the Warwick Edinburgh scale. We have specifically designed rooms in each Boarding House for private consultations with our students.



“

I have personally known the House Parents for quite a few years and they have become almost parents to us all – knowing each and every student personally, and caring for our safety and needs.

CHRIS, BRITISH



# READY FOR A WORLD THAT KEEPS CHANGING.

## OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY

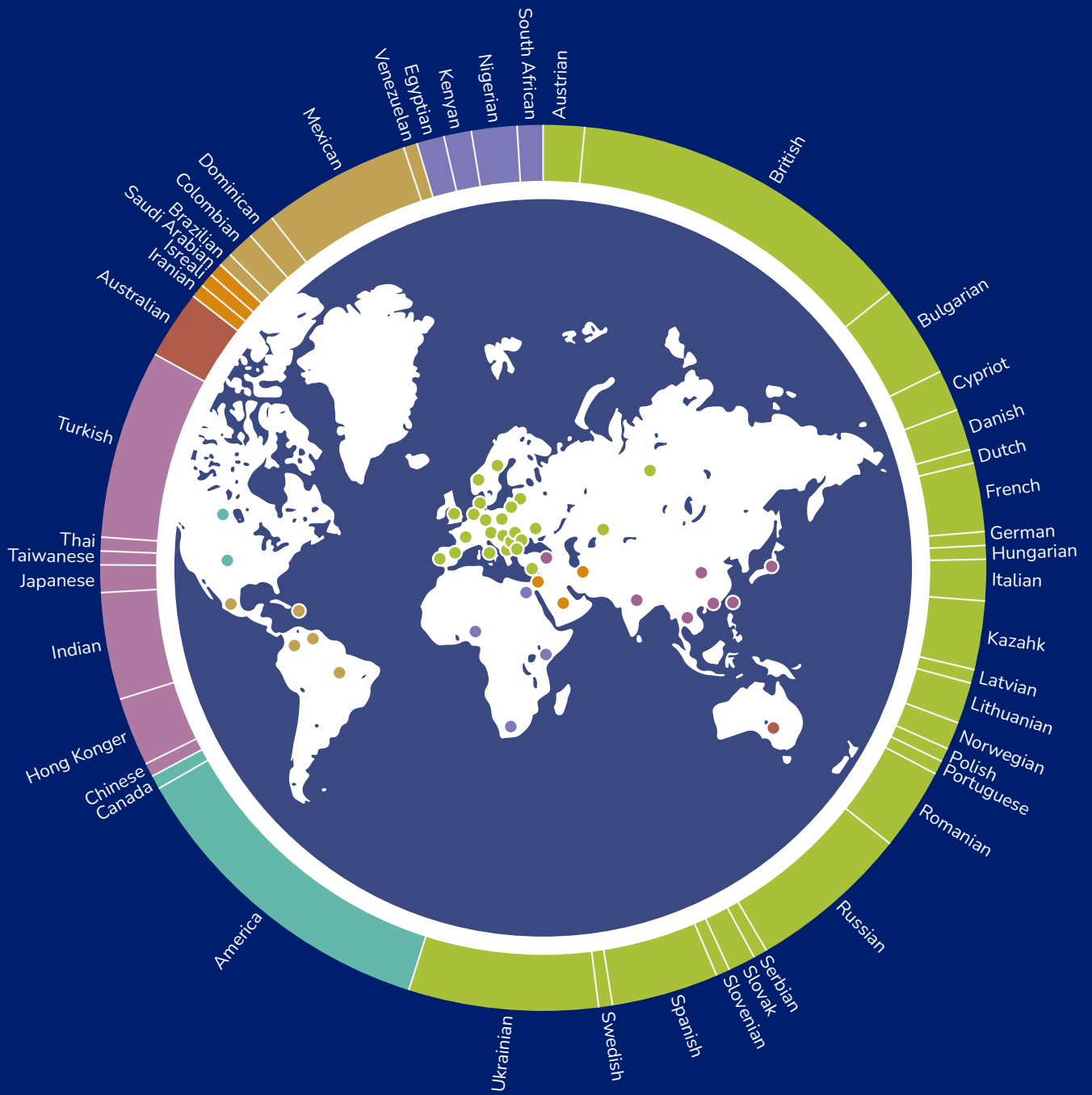
---

As part of an increasingly mobile world, the ACS Boarding House has established itself as a genuine champion of internationalism, with students representing more than 40 countries. We are proud of our multicultural identity, and celebrate the things that make us different as an integral part of boarding life.

All our students have one thing in common – what makes them different is ultimately what makes us all the same.

We are more than a school that simply enrolls students from other countries – our very foundation is international, unified by renowned academic programmes, and English as our common language of instruction.





“

ACS Cobham is also a friendly school, the borders are very supportive. House Parents, teachers, support staff, and especially the students, are all very inclusive. Everyone is really nice, with different backgrounds to share. This is by far the most international school I have been to.

ELEE, AMERICAN

## JOINING THE ACS FAMILY

---

### Location and transport

Central London is 30 minutes from our campus, with Heathrow and Gatwick airports 30 and 45 minutes away respectively. We are close to junction 10 of the M25 (to find us, just enter our postcode KT11 1BL into your satnav).

For further information please contact our admissions team on **+44 (0) 1932 869744** or email [cobhamadmissions@acs-schools.com](mailto:cobhamadmissions@acs-schools.com). To apply online for a boarding place please visit [www.acs-schools/apply-now](http://www.acs-schools/apply-now)

**We look forward to welcoming you to our school.**







ACS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
COBHAM  
Heywood,  
Portsmouth Road,  
Cobham, Surrey,  
KT11 1BL England

+44(0) 1932 869744  
cobadmissions@acs-schools.com



v2024/25

