

DLD
COLLEGE
LONDON

ESTABLISHED 1931



We are very much looking forward to welcoming new and returning boarders to DLD College London this coming academic year; please use this Handbook to help you settle into our community and feel at home here in London and in Boarding.

DLD College London is centred on the principles of Development, Leadership and Diversity and whilst boarding with us you will be supported in developing yourselves to be the best you can be and to achieving your goals. Our core values of Kindness, Tolerance and Respect are embedded in all of our practices and create a welcoming community.

You will become part of a Huddle along with other students of the similar age, with a dedicated Houseparent and Assistant Houseparent here to support you throughout your time. Your Huddle will become your family. The Boarding Team are here to help you develop skills and independence, build resilience, and prepare you for the next stage in your lives, all whilst in a safe, secure, supportive, and fun environment. We very much look forward to getting to know you over the coming year.

KEY FACTS



250 Beds



19 Common Rooms



7 Resident Houseparents



St Thomas' Hospital
2 minute walk



College Nurse Mon-Fri,
9am-5pm. All resident staff
First Aid trained



REACH
Boarding School System

Reach sign in/out system



5 minute walk to
Westminster, 5 minute
walk to Lambeth North



Under 1 hour to
Heathrow Airport



The College is
served by many
local buses into
central London



9 minute walk to
Waterloo Station



Over 50 nationalities represented
in the student body.

Statement of Boarding Principles & Practices

DLD College is centred on the principles of Development, Leadership and Diversity. The Boarding experience at the College aims at enhancing you as an individual and your time as a Boarder will support you to develop your skills to live independently, to demonstrate leadership through the opportunities that are on offer to you and to live fully and respectfully in a diverse environment.

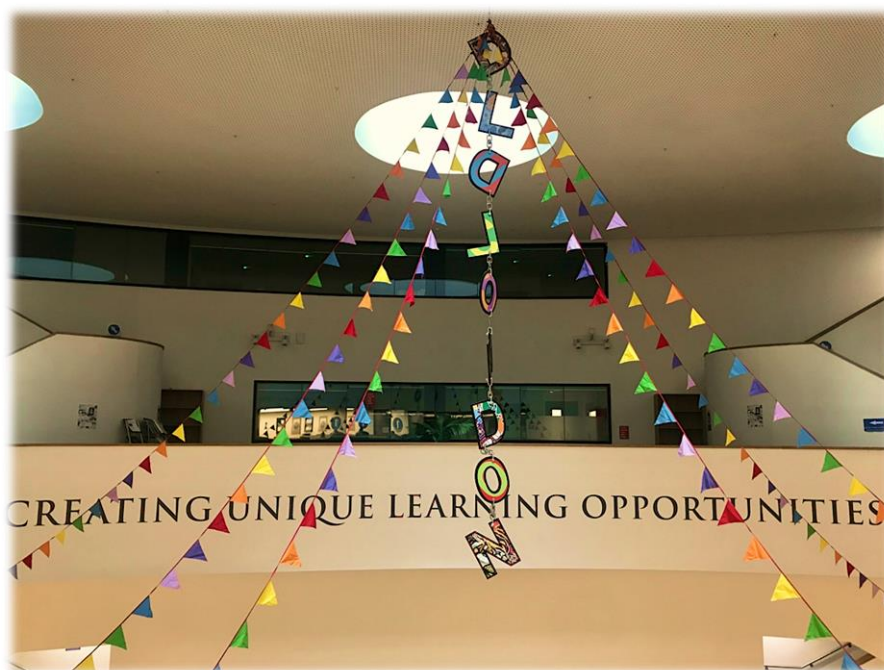
Boarding at DLD College London aims to provide boarding students with facilities and care of the highest standard to enable them to thrive in their academic studies and in the wider life of the College. We operate boarding in compliance with the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and aim to regularly exceed those standards.

Safety:

Boarding Staff are available 24 hours a day and are always ready to respond to boarders' needs. We ask that all boarders ensure they have the Houseparent phone number stored in their phone so that they can contact us whenever they need to. The reception and entrance are monitored by staff throughout the day and by an onsite security team overnight.

Upon arrival students' passports and BRP cards (where applicable) will be collected, recorded, and stored for safekeeping but are easily available if needed.

You will be issued an ID card during your enrolment and all staff, students and visitors are required to wear a lanyard displaying their card. You will also use your ID card to sign in and out of the building using our REACH system. London is a large and diverse city, and we encourage all our students to explore the amazing things that are on offer. To ensure safety it is essential that the correct sign out procedures are followed, travel routes and methods are planned prior to departure and students always remain contactable. Compulsory School Age (CSA) students are required to sign out in groups of at least 3 and are not permitted to leave College during the school day. Curfew must be adhered to and CSA students must return to the building by 9:30pm. For older students the curfew is 10pm Sunday to Thursday and 11pm on Friday and Saturday.



Our Team



James Kidd, Vice Principal (Pastoral)

James.Kidd@dld.org

Boarding at DLD College London is a preparation for what is to come. You are part of a close-knit community, but with people from all over the world. You will make life-long friends, learn about yourself, and gain independence. London is our classroom and our playground – what better place to spend your school days!



Shirley Mitchell, Head of Boarding

Shirley.Mitchell@dld.org (from 1/11/21)

Shirley joins us as Head of Boarding. Her previous roles in education have taken her all over Europe, teaching in schools in the UK, Spain, France, and Italy. She has a BA in Childhood and Youth Studies and a Master's in Applied Linguistics, and is currently studying for the MA in Educational Leadership. Shirley also has a Post Graduate Diploma in Educational Psychology and is a qualified and accredited CBT practitioner.

Shirley enjoys writing mental health and well-being programmes for schools and travels around the world delivering training to teachers in the implementation and delivery of her programmes. In her spare time, she enjoys 19th Century English Literature, live music, and hiking with her dog, Windsor.

Houseparents



Emma Finnerty

Emma.Finnerty@dld.org

I have been here at DLD for 8 years and always look forward to getting to know our new students, welcoming back our returners. I am here to support you through your time here with anything

you need. DLD and its location has lots to offer and I'm excited to help you all make the most of the opportunity to study with us and be a part of our community. I run the mentoring programme along with Jess Ellett and have a passion for helping students develop their leadership skills and be the best they can be. I volunteer with the elderly at St Thomas's Hospital and with Age UK and am happy to help others get involved in creative ways. I like reading and all sorts of crafting from knitting to macramé to cross stitch and run both the Book Club and the Knitting Group which I would love for you to be a part of.





Myles Blair (Head of Wellbeing)

Myles.Blair@dld.org

I will be starting my fourth year at DLD this September and I'm very much looking forward to getting to know the new students and to be reacquainted with returners. I have worked in boarding schools for almost a decade now and really enjoy the friendly and supportive environment the boarding community provides.



Being a teacher of Drama, English, and History, I am a keen supporter of the arts and humanities, and work with boarding staff and students to take part in the various performances produced throughout the year. I enjoy gigging, theatre, debating and reading. London is a great place to live, work and study and I am excited for us all to experience it together. I am also the Head of Wellbeing; come and see me with any concerns.



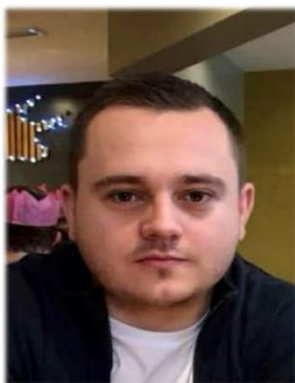
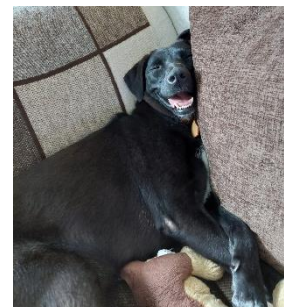
Jan Haines

Jan.Haines@dld.org

Having lived as a Houseparent for 8 years now I have had the joy of sharing the highs and lows of boarding life with students from all over the world, along with our new dog, Indie.

I grew up in the Highlands of Scotland and have a love for animals and the great outdoors. I played rugby for 10 years, enjoy trying to stay healthy and

active, and am a volunteer Instructor in the Army Cadet Force. All these hobbies work perfectly with my new role, managing the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for DLD College. This will be my second year as Houseparent to Lower School boarders and I look forward to helping you all settle in and make the most of, both DLD College and London.



Scott Webster

Scott.Webster@dld.org

This will be my third year working in boarding at DLD, and hopefully my first without any lockdowns!

My background is in Drama and Theatre, which I studied at the University of Chester, qualifying as a Drama teacher in 2019. I'm an avid football fan, my team being Wolverhampton Wanderers – best team in the Midlands! I also enjoy the theatre, fishing and playing football.



Assistant Houseparents



Amina Isma'il Sidat

Amina.Ismailsidat@dld.org

This will be my fourth year here at DLD College. I have 12 years of boarding and pastoral experience; having worked as a housemistress for 7 years at an all-girls boarding school, as well as a medical welfare officer at a co-ed British state school for 5 years, and as an HCA (Health Care Assistant) at an American boarding school. You will most likely hear me before you see me. I will be bugging you for amazing content for our College & Boarding Instagram. I look forward to meeting you all.



Michael Whitfield

Michael.Whitfield@dld.org

I joined DLD in March 2020, having worked in boarding at Abbey College Cambridge.

I thoroughly enjoy working within a vibrant educational community, where I can help foster confidence and develop interpersonal skills with all students. I have a keen interest in visual arts and music composition and hope to exhibit my work to a wide audience in the future. I am very much looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all throughout the year. We are all artists, create your own vision of yourself!



Lowri Carini

Lowri.Carini@dld.org

Hello! I'm Lowri from South Wales and I will be joining DLD this year. I graduated from university during the pandemic and found myself working in boarding schools; I have ended up loving it and I decided to continue on this career path going forward!

I am very much an advocate for the well-rounded school experience, with personal growth, experiences and values being just as important as good grades. My degree is in the cultural arts so I have a creative side that I am looking forward to implementing within the extra-curricular at the College.

Head of Lower School, Housemasters and Housemistresses (HMs)



Gareth Evans – Head of Lower School

Gareth.Evans@dld.org

I joined DLD College in August 2016 having previously been Head of Creative Arts Faculty at Strode's College since 2009. I studied Media and Communication Studies with Film Studies and have an MA in Learning and Development. In my free time I am an avid 'very' amateur surfer, as well as an award-winning community volunteer and District Councillor.



Fumi St Marthe - Piccadilly

Fumi.stmarthe@dld.org

My name is Fumi, and I joined DLD College in 2016. I teach Business on the BTEC, A level and IFP programmes. I love watching films, particularly Star Wars and Marvel. My dream is to walk on the moon!



Lauren Moors - Northern

Lauren.Moors@dld.org

I joined the DLD team in June 2021. Previously, I was a Housemistress at St John's, Leatherhead as well as running my own international tutoring business. A keen cyclist in my free time, I love an endurance challenge. Guilty pleasures include 1980's music, Love Island and supporting the Las Vegas Raiders.



Louise Affleck - Metropolitan

Louise.Affleck@dld.org

I have been at DLD for 11 years. I teach Physics.
My A levels were Maths, Physics and Chemistry – I had wanted to do Art as well but was told it would be too much work. Probably good advice, although I would still like to develop my artistic side!



Nick Taylor - District

Nick.Taylor@dld.org

I began teaching at DLD at some point in the last millennium: the time goes quickly when you work in a changing and enjoyable environment. I teach English, Language and Literature, and have taught generations of always interesting, and usually very nice, students. At the age of seven I saw a newspaper image of Bobby Charlton scoring a goal: this began a lifelong passion for the greatest football club in the world.




Celestine Cawley - Jubilee

Celestine.Cawley@dld.org

I have been at DLD College for 8 years now, teaching business. I look after the IFP students (you'll be known as Year 14). **Fun Fact:** I completed the Nevis Bungy (134m), now looking to complete the highest one in the world when we can travel again. (plus – I did the Riverdance at school!)


STUDENT COUNCIL




DLD
COLLEGE
LONDON
ESTABLISHED 1931

Student Council 2021/2022

Heads of School




Charlotte Price
Charity & Community




Jessica
Academic

Deputy Heads




Petya
Wellbeing




Junwoo
Events


Prefects




Benita
Charity & Community




Gabriela
Charity & Community




Sonya
Academic




Natalia
Academic




Tobia
Wellbeing




Feifei
Wellbeing




Douglas
Events




Noelle
Events



Dasha
Inclusion & Diversity



Keilyn
Digital Innovator



DLD
COLLEGE
LONDON
ESTABLISHED 1931

On behalf of the entire DLD community, we are thrilled to welcome you to DLD College Boarding. Hopefully this will be one of the best experiences of your life. I'm sure some of you will be feeling quite anxious about the prospect of boarding and for many this may be completely unfamiliar territory. All these feelings are completely normal, with us all feeling them before arrival since the process of moving away from home and joining a new school can often feel daunting. For many of us moving into the boarding house was our first time away from home and as you would expect we were all quite nervous. But immediately we were met with a warm welcome and quickly became a part of the school community, while immersing ourselves into our learning and building strong friendships. For this I can say with the upmost confidence that quickly you will settle into DLD, as it is in many ways a big and diverse family that allows you to be unapologetically yourself and make new friends around every corner. DLD will truly become your home away from home, with our amazing Houseparents', assistant houseparents', and teachers but also students, who are always ready and happy to help. There are 58 nationalities here at DLD and we all come together to form a strong and united community and there is never a lack of friendly faces to speak to.

Contact us on: dldstudentcouncil@dld.org

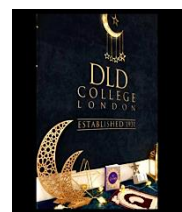
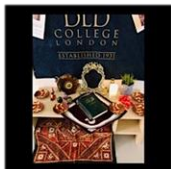
As the cultural capital of the UK, London is one of the best places for young and ambitious students to develop their talents and discover endless opportunities. With its unique location at the heart of Central London, DLD College not only gives you an unforgettable experience of learning, but also enables you to enjoy the most prominent landmarks of London, only minutes away. Right at the foot of DLD is Westminster Bridge, just next to the iconic Palace of Westminster and the Great Bell of the striking clock Big Ben. One of the most famous tourist attractions – The London Eye - is located only 3 minutes away from DLD, where you can enjoy a 360° view of the city. The location is definitely one of the best parts of DLD College, minutes away from the most popular attractions in London. You have the chance to visit several other places like Buckingham Palace, Hyde Park, St. James' Park, and Marble Arch, all of them located only 15 minutes away, and if you feel like going out for a 20-minute walk, you can never miss visiting Oxford Street for some shopping. It definitely feels amazing living in the heart of one of the world's largest cities, with all of the most prominent libraries and art galleries, museums, and attractions. The centre of fashion, architecture, business, and cinema is right at your feet!



Alongside other merits, our boarding house offers numerous events that the boarders can actively take part in. These events vary from watching movies in the Atrium, to student participating events such as Karaoke Nights, debates, sports tournaments, and concerts! Boarders are free to make suggestions to the Houseparents and Student Council (Events Team) about the activities they wish the boarding house to hold. While most events are not compulsory, we encourage you to get involved and make the most of them.

You will find yourself waiting for the event night to come. I really enjoyed the Karaoke Night during the Easter Holiday where I could sing and listen to my friends' amazing voices. In addition, as a boarder, you can entertain yourself after school or during the weekends with the pool table and the Ping-Pong table etc, all located in the Atrium. PlayStations are also available for our avid gamers out there! If you want an outdoor sports activity such as football and basketball, the boarding house offers you the multi sports court, which is outside the Global Kitchen.

Moreover, as a multi-cultural community, we celebrate the cultural diversity of every individual and offer the boarders a chance to experience various cultural events around the world, such as Nowruz, 'Eid, Diwali, Songkran, Orthodox Easter, Bonfire night & Ramadan; all are celebrated throughout the year and we are excited to share such boarding entertainments with you.



We also travel around different locations in London, as part of our Huddle Bonding activities in the boarding house. Some of them include go-karting, Wembley football games, ice-skating, real-life Monopoly, theatre trips, concerts, afternoon tea in a cat-cafe, trampoline parks and bowling games.

The boarding house and school offer so many unique learning opportunities, and the chance to live and learn with each other is one of the best parts about DLD.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Student Council via email: dldstudentcouncil@dld.org and one of us should respond with any questions you may have either school or boarding related. We can't wait to see you in September and share the next year with you!

Charlotte (Head of Student Council), Jess (Head of Student Council), Petya (Deputy Head of Student Council), and June (Deputy Head of Student Council)



Student Dress Code Policy

Introduction

DLD College London is an independent educational institution with high aspirations for its students. It is important that all DLD students project a positive image both within and outside the College. It is recognised that students within the College have a diverse range of personalities and preferences and our dress code takes this into account. This policy applies to all Day and Boarding students irrespective of their gender identification.

Rationale & Expectations

- All students must dress in a manner which is consistent with the DLD ethos;
- The image of the College in the community is related to how all DLD students dress;
- All students must actively avoid giving offence to people of different cultures or beliefs and this is particularly important in a College with a diverse student intake.

This policy provides:

- Guidance to new students;
- A benchmark against which the standards of all students can be measured
- A framework to inform decisions on standards taken by individuals

The following are not considered suitable attire for students at the College:

- Leggings may be worn if they are fully opaque (dark/ solid coloured not transparent)
- Offensive slogans in any language
- Nightwear (e.g. pyjamas)
- Hoods worn over the head in college
- Hats in class
- Students should avoid wearing excessively expensive items of clothing or accessories
- Revealing clothing, examples:
 - Tops/blouses that are transparent (see through)
 - Tops that reveal underwear.
 - Corset style, bralette or lingerie style tops.
 - Crops tops that expose belly button.
 - Hot pants.
 - Skirts that expose underwear.

The points above are at the discretion of the College Principal

June 2019

Your Room!

It is important that our boarders feel at home in the boarding house, so they are encouraged to personalise their room to their preference. The noticeboard in each bedroom provides a good space for hanging photos and mementoes.



Ways you can make this your own space.



We will provide the following:

- Bedding: a duvet and one pillow
- Bed linen: Fitted sheet, duvet cover, and one pillowcase.
- Towels: a Bath towel, 2 hand towels.

Students are welcome to bring their own.

Below is a list of items our current boarders wished they had brought with them, before arriving in the UK.

- Bathmat
- Soap dish
- Headphones
- Plug adaptors (UK compliant)
- Own bed sheets/Blankets
- Slippers/Sliders
- UK SIM for phone



Other items you may want for your oneself.

- Lightbox – for waking up
- Alarm clock

Students should bring:

- Warm clothing - there is a dress code but no uniform - students can read more about this in our Student Dress Code Policy. Warm coat, scarf and a hat would be ideal for the winter months and a raincoat for the rainier days. Students in years 12 to 14 will be invited to attend a Summer Ball for which they will need formal wear - black tie or a ball gown.



- Photos & personal items - Boarders are welcome to bring photos of family and friends, posters, souvenirs, notes etc. which they can display in their room to help them to settle in and feel at home. We also encourage students to bring their own duvet should you wish to make you feel more comfortable and at home.

• Laptop and phone - a laptop is very useful for private study; students will have access to Wi-Fi in the College and boarding house. A phone will help keep in touch with staff and will family and friends at home.



What to buy on arrival:

- Toiletries – these can be bought from the local shop on arrival, the Houseparents have some emergency supplies e.g. toothbrush, toothpaste, shower gel, soap, shampoo, etc. Smaller supermarkets and a stationery stores can be found on Lower Marsh, just around the corner.



2 Minute walk for Toiletries

- School supplies - these can be bought from the local shop on arrival and Student Services have some emergency supplies, e.g. pens, pencils, paper, folders, etc.

2 Minute walk for stationery



- Electrical items, e.g. hair dryers, hair straighteners, adapters, phone chargers, etc. Boarding Staff will make sure that these items are safe to use. If boarders bring an item from home, they must show staff so that we can check the power cable and adapter are safe to use in the UK. Non-compliant items will be removed and discarded for safety.

A few of our boarders' favourite spots in London



Oxford Street (especially during the festive season)



Royal Opera House



China Town



Touring London

Weekly Room Visits & Room Searches

Boarders should ensure their rooms are locked at all times.

Houseparents undertake weekly room visits. Check the noticeboards in the lift lobbies to see when your Room Visits will take place. The room visits are an opportunity for students to talk to their Houseparents privately if they wish to do so or just a casual catch up, and to report anything broken or faulty in their rooms.

Boarders are expected to keep their rooms tidy to allow the cleaners to clean properly.

From time to time, house staff will undertake random routine room searches – boarders will always be present in their rooms during any search, along with two members of staff.



Things you can't have in your room

Students may not have the following items in College or in the Boarding house.

Prohibited Items: alcohol, illicit drugs, fake identification, legal highs, knives, excessive amounts of money, fortified tobacco products (snus etc) or pets (yes, some boarders have tried this...!) in their rooms.



Other items: candles, incense or vapour/smoke producing items, non-compliant electrical items as these pose a fire risk and may damage the furniture.

Any items found will be confiscated by our boarding staff.

Any medication in a boarders' room should be approved as self-medicating by the College Nurse. Otherwise, boarders should have no medication in rooms. This list is not exhaustive.

Health & Wellbeing



The wellbeing of our boarders is paramount. As well as the Boarding Staff a number of staff members are on hand to support our boarders and promote their health and wellbeing. All our boarding staff are First Aid trained, and a number are Mental Health First Aid trained. We also use AS Tracking to support students' mental health, and boarders are encouraged to engage with this.



College Nurse - Medical Room 1.62

The Nurse runs the medical office during term time on weekdays. She will assess boarders' health and will assist them with administering medications, remedies, and treatment of minor injuries. The Nurse arranges a health check appointment with each boarder as they arrive, during which she introduces herself, discusses any medical issues that have been raised on the boarders' Medical Consent Form, and checks each boarder's height and weight. This is routine and nothing to worry about. The Nurse offers training and advice for staff and controls the home remedies that are offered to boarders.

The Nurse is available to offer advice on all kinds of medical matters:

- Stopping smoking • Sexual Health • Drug & Alcohol awareness • Medications & remedies
- Vaccinations

About "Gillick Competency"

Gillick competence is the principle used to judge capacity in children to consent to medical treatment. Young people, who are 16 or 17, are presumed (like adults) to have the capacity to consent to medical treatment. However, unlike adults, their refusal of treatment can in some circumstances be overridden by a parent or a court. This is because the medical staff have an overriding duty to act in the best interests of a patients. This would include circumstances where refusal would likely lead to death, severe permanent injury, or irreversible harms (mental or physical). The rule in Gillick must be applied when determining whether a child under 16 has competence to consent. The aim of Gillick competence is to reflect the transition of a child to adulthood.



Legal competence to make decisions is conditional on the child gradually acquiring both maturity and intelligence:

- that takes account of the child's experiences and the child's ability to manage influences on their decision making such as information, peer pressure, family pressure, fear, and misgivings.
- that takes account of the child's understanding, ability to weigh risk and benefit, consideration of longer-term factors such as effect on family life and on such things as schooling.

For a particular decision, a young person, Gillick competent means:

- understands the problem and implications
- understands the risks & benefits of treatment
- understands the consequences if not treated
- understands the alternative options
- understands the implications on the family
- is able to retain (remember) the information
- is able to weigh the pros and cons
- is able to make and communicate a reasoned and weighted decision regarding their wishes. Assessment of Gillick competence requires an examination of how the child deals with the process of making a decision based on an analysis of the child's ability to understand and assess risks. It is a high test of competence that is more difficult to satisfy the more complex the treatment and its outcomes become.

GP Registration

All boarders are registered with the local GP when they arrive and NHS numbers are recorded on our database. Appointments can be made Monday - Friday by contacting the practice and requesting a call back from the doctor, usually within 1 hour. If an appointment with a doctor is required in the evenings or at weekends boarders will be taken to the minor injuries' unit at St Thomas' Hospital. The Nurse or a member of the Boarding team will accompany boarders to their appointments, if needed. Other local services include a dentist, orthodontist, and opticians. The Nurse will book appointments for the boarders, as required.

Vaccinations

Boarders and their parents are advised to follow their child's vaccination regime with their doctor at home. The College does not administer vaccinations although the Nurse can arrange for a vaccination to be taken at the Waterloo Health Centre if required. We offer flu jabs to all students in the Winter, and all staff and students are encouraged to take these.

Homesickness & Settling in – Who to Talk to if you're struggling



Homesickness is a common issue faced by students living away from home. It can affect students of any age and even those who have lived away from home before.

Students can find the differences between home and their new environment very overwhelming and, combined with the added pressure of language barriers, can become unhappy and anxious.

It is important to raise any concerns to a member of staff. If you feel that another member of the boarding community is struggling then they require the best possible care.

Any concerns about a student should be brought to a member of staff, e.g. a Houseparent, the Nurse, the Wellbeing Centre, Housemaster or Housemistress.

Support each other



Let's Talk About it...

Introducing Better Sleep

Sleep is essential for our health and wellbeing yet it is estimated that 40% of the population suffer with sleep issues and many do not get the support that they need.

The definitive advice on getting a good night's sleep comes recommended by one of Britain's top sleep gurus, Professor Jason Ellis of Northumbria University. The guidelines are aimed at increasing or maintaining good sleep health and are not for the management of sleep disorders. Sleep health takes into account quality, quantity, and timing – including its regularity – of sleep, in addition to vulnerability towards poor sleep and the impact of sleep on daytime functioning.

With the wealth of studies, surveys, and expert opinions, it has led to a lot of conflicting messages. By looking at the different advice and scientific evidence, it's been possible to create a simple, best practice guide for achieving a healthy night's sleep. The guidelines are simple to follow and shows how making a few changes to your routine over a 24-hour period can make a huge difference to your wellbeing.

The life of today's teenager is busy and in constant flux. They have increasing responsibilities at school and at home, their social lives are expanding, their independence is growing, and they are making plans for their future. Adolescence is a time of significant maturation—physical, emotional, intellectual. Sleep fuels these important processes. Good, plentiful sleep is essential to teens' development, growth, and quality of life.



Here at DLD College, we have a number of qualified sleep practitioners who are dedicated to providing better sleep for our students.

We want to improve the overall health of our students and educate them on the importance of sleep. It's imperative that good sleep hygiene is kept during exam season to ensure the brain is operating at maximum capacity. We look forward to the continued implementation of sleep education and welcome many more positive results.



Boarding Life

Boarding staff are here to support you as you settle into college life and find a healthy routine. Our daily structures are designed to help you get to know the staff and boarders as quickly as possible; you'll be accommodated as part of a Huddle, attend morning and evening registrations, weekly room visits and house meetings. All of which help to build our community spirit – not to mention our film nights, themed celebrations, Huddle competitions and the numerous experiences available to us being in central London.

Your flat will be single sex and part of a Huddle (2-4 flats of similarly aged boarders), cared for by a Houseparent, Assistant Houseparent and, depending on your course, Boarding Tutors. This team of staff make it their mission to get to know you and offer whatever support you need to flourish in our environment.



Whether you are homesick, struggling to manage your time, have a headache, not sure how to make a bed or open a bank account or simply want someone to share the news of a great test result and play a game of pool with you, we are here 24/7.



Houseparents have a base at the entrance to College from the boarding house, where you register with us on your way to breakfast/ your first class each morning. We are there throughout the day if you have questions or just fancy a chat. You do have the option to return to your room between classes and there is a supervised Evening Study session Monday-Thursday for those in Lower School, so the Boarding Tutors are available outside of school

hours, should you need help with your study.

You will have Room Visits each week with your Houseparent, where we will pop in to see how you are, offer a chance to chat 1-2-1 and, of course, check that you are not living in a pig-sty! You are responsible for keeping your bedroom tidy, but it is cleaned once a week. We have on-site self-service laundry facilities or the option of a paid laundry service.

All meals are provided in our Global Kitchen, which also houses our own coffee shop, should you need an extra snack between classes.

On weekends there is a more relaxed feel to the House. The Atrium becomes our common room, registrations are later, you have the whole of London on your doorstep to explore and a whole range of in-house activities and trips to pick and choose from. We hope that in no time at all, you will find our Boarding House becomes a home from home, filled with friends from all over the world and staff who are invested in helping you make the most of your time at DLD London.



Visitors & Guests

By 6.30pm all Day Students are expected to have left College and the common areas of the ground floor, the Atrium, Global Kitchen, and garden, become part of our boarding house. Boarders are encouraged to invite guests to share time with them in these common areas outside of college hours. Guests must show ID, sign in at reception, wear their visitor ID card and be accompanied by their host throughout the visit.

All guests must leave the building by curfew and, for safeguarding reasons, are not allowed beyond the ground floor without staff permission.

Visiting Parents & Guardians

Many parents like to help their child settle into their new room and unpack on arrival and, although we encourage independence and responsibility for the room from the start, a little helping hand to get started is possible during the induction week. A member of Boarding Staff will be available to meet parents and answer any questions, but once in the boarding house, visiting adults should be accompanied by their child/ward at all times and leave when the boarder has an activity to attend or by curfew.

As a parent or guardian, if you cannot make the induction week, it may still be possible to see your child's room during term time, but you will need to check with a member of Boarding Staff in advance in book a suitable time to be chaperoned into the accommodation.

Activities

Students at DLD are encouraged to get involved in a number of different activities in London to support their independence and confidence. Being in central London gives our students a unique opportunity to explore what the vibrant city has to offer, including, museums, art galleries, theatres, markets, and monuments. Students can spend time visiting the many parks and landmarks as well as enjoying some retail therapy on Oxford Street. Students at DLD are encouraged to make the most of these opportunities as well as involving themselves in various local, national, and voluntary charities.



Boarders are encouraged to get involved in as many boarding house activities as possible. The Boarding Staff and students arrange a number of activities from movie nights, live performances and talent shows to chess and badminton tournaments, quizzes, and debates. Most events take place in the evenings, on weekends and during holidays. Boarding staff also organise trips, including to local landmarks, theatres, sporting matches, concerts and more. These are a great way for students to socialise and build friendships with students sharing the same interests.



Huddle Social Events: each term, with the support of the Huddle, your Houseparent will organise a social event for your Huddle. What this could be is entirely up to the Huddle and is a great way for boarders to make the most of the local area.

Leadership Opportunities

At DLD we support you to achieve your best and develop skills for your future. During your time with us there will be a variety of opportunities for you to develop your leadership skills. Along with Student Council and House Captains, within Boarding each Huddle has a Huddle Leadership Team who, in the roles of Heads and Deputy Heads of Huddle comprise our Boarding Committee and are responsible for fostering DLD's Boarding ethos and supporting the community in all aspects. To aid in success in the successful applicants are given training in a variety of areas from Safeguarding to Mental Health First Aid and are supported in their roles by the Boarding Team.



Active Member of the DLD Food Committee

Each Huddle will also have Food Committee Representatives who's focus is predominately the Global Kitchen, being responsible for gathering feedback, requests and attending meetings with the Kitchen Manager, to represent the views of the Boarders. For more information about these roles, including how to apply, please contact your Huddle Houseparent.

In the wider DLD community we have a well-established mentoring programme. Our mentoring programme consists of two levels, Mentors and Head Mentors. Each Mentor is assigned a Mentee from the Lower School to support and meet weekly. Head Mentors are assigned a group of Mentors to support in their roles and are the first port of call for both Mentors and Mentees. A wealth of training is provided which includes Coaching, Mental Health First Aid and Safeguarding and all Mentors are supported by the Student Mentor Coordinators Jess Ellett and Emma Finnerty.

The role of Mentor is offered to returning students but occasionally this role can be available for new students. If you would like to know more, please email emma.finnerty@dld.org.



Student-led Charity Event

When I was offered to write about my experience as Head of Huddle, I did not even think about it twice. By this, I mean that it is a great opportunity, and I encourage everyone to try and apply to get the position. We all have different skills and views that can help and contribute to the Huddle, however one has to be sure that they want to become either Head or Deputies, since it implies being responsible and available, but all the effort is worth it as it is essential to keep improving the Huddle's functioning.

A Huddle is more than just a group of boarders put together; a sense of community develops with time, and that is why it is essential to be nice to everyone and get to know all of us. Even though the houseparents are still the 'leaders', we help in many ways, and as Heads and Deputies we have a crucial role to perform, as we are the ones who, strictly speaking, interact with each other. So as long as you consider yourself valid enough and want to commit to it, apply!

It is a beautiful experience that allows you to enjoy boarding to the fullest, helping to make it better day by day. I've been lucky enough to be Head for two consecutive years, and I'm proud of what my team and I have done, all the good work, and how we managed to make everyone feel at home. Despite working towards unity in this community, it is not just a walk in the park. The huddle has different personalities; one is likely to make friends, or not, but a Head has always to keep in mind that we are all equal and deserve the same respect and chances.



Lastly, practice is gained from 'leading' the Huddle, one's abilities improve, and the experience acquired might be very useful in the future; being part of the Boarding Committee opens up doors to other opportunities, like becoming part of the school's Student Council. In short, becoming Head of Huddle is not only a useful thing to do, being Head allows you to demonstrate your aptitudes while ameliorating the Boarding House, and most importantly, you get to do so through helping your huddle, so your colleagues and friends.

Karl – Mentoring

When thinking of mentoring, responsibility and expertise comes to mind. Many remember their former teachers or professors when thinking of mentorship and they often get overwhelmed by the idea of forming a connection with someone who may need help. After all, how can one be helpful without being an absolute expert in their own field? Even the responsibility, the pressure of making the right choice in the right manner, is daunting. However, I did not feel that way when I took up the role of the mentor, in fact I still do not feel that way.

A mentor who is a student can form a completely different dynamic from what we're used to. If approached right, it'll become a gift that keeps on giving to both parties, even if it is not apparent at the beginning. As a student that helps another student, the youthful energy that we all have can be converted into passion and flexibility. We have the drive to approach with warmth and creativity, which opens up completely new solutions to issues. Moreover, it is easier to see the pressure of academic life through the eyes of someone who just entered this colourful new space, since we ourselves were there. A young mentor can soothe the pains and reinforce the joys of a new chapter abroad, in DLD College, in a multifaceted city like London.

Personally, taking up mentorship opened my eyes. Although it does look impressive on applications for future ventures, it gave me invaluable life skills and a unique mentality. It instilled me the faith to be helpful and take initiative, to express my passion for academic life by elevating others. I learned to be inclusive and empathetic, to spot hardship and discomfort, and to approach issues creatively. Moreover, it was another step towards a more independent life since I could confidently say that I can help and I can help well.



View from your Common rooms

Overnight Leave & Holiday Requests



Alisa Cernavska (*Accommodation Officer*)

Alisa.Cernavska@dld.org

This will be my sixth year here at DLD College. Please come and see me in the Admissions Office, should you have any questions about leave.

Weekend leave requests must be emailed to the Houseparents by 5pm on Wednesday, in order to allow the relevant checks to be completed. The first time of staying with someone requires a specific form, as well as ID to be provided.

Half term and end of term holiday information goes to Alisa directly; she will send out a form, so that we know where you will be spending the holidays – very important, if you are studying with us on a visa!

Post / parcels being delivered

Any mail or parcels should be delivered to:

203 Westminster Bridge Road

London

POST CODE FROM BELOW:

Floors 3-7: SE1 7FR

Floors 8-11: SE1 7FS

Floors 12-15: SE1 7FT

Floors 16-17: SE1 7FU

Please use the correct post code, to ensure your parcels/post go to the right place!

Rewards & Sanctions

Boarding Commendations

Rewarding boarders for good behaviour and positive contributions to the boarding community has always been an important aspect of boarding life here at DLD College. We have recently updated how we reward students with the new Rewards and Commendations system aimed at encouraging a positive attitude and respectful, good behaviour from our boarders.

The Boarding Team and the Vice Principal (Pastoral) can award Commendations from the following four categories:

- Community (including random acts of kindness, community service etc.)
- Leadership (including taking initiative, organising boarder-led activities, Huddle leadership, etc.)
- Effort (*including tidy communal areas, involvement in boarding initiatives etc.*)
- Improvement (*in behaviour, conduct, effort, engagement with boarding etc.*)

Each week a list of the top 5 students with the most commendations will be displayed at the Houseparent Desk. Students will be rewarded once they reach five boarding commendations and again at 10, 15 and 20 respectively, with the reward increasing in value.

The rewards are listed below, and Commendations start at the beginning of each term:

- **5 Commendations:** Certificate from Huddle Houseparent with an email home.
- **10 Commendations:** Certificate from Head of Boarding with an email home
- **15 Commendations:** Certificate from Vice Principal (Pastoral) with an email home and a £5 Starbucks voucher
- **20 Commendations:** Certificate from Principal with an email home and a £10 Starbucks voucher

Huddle Awards: Recognition for a whole flat / huddle from either the Huddle Houseparent or the Head of Boarding, for areas such as excellent conduct by the whole flat/huddle

Boarder of the Week: is presented at the Friday morning Boarders' Meeting following Houseparents' Meeting discussion. Certificate

Boarding Community Awards: for exceptional cases of community-mindedness or special contributions to the boarding community.

Boarder of the Year: is awarded at the end of the Academic Year for exceptional and outstanding service to the boarding community throughout one academic year.



Boarding Sanctions

Tier	Type of offence	Range of Possible Sanctions (Not exhaustive)
1	<p>Missed registration / Huddle or Boarders meeting without valid reason</p> <p>Untidy room / insufficient effort shown in maintaining communal area.</p> <p>Movement around boarding after lights out</p>	<p>Meeting with Huddle Houseparent (or Assistant Houseparent in their absence)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Service (e.g. Litter picking duty / tidying communal areas) Gated for the evening – sign every hour from 6pm until curfew / Early Curfews <p><i>Inform: Noted on Reach</i></p>
2	<p>Repeat of Tier 1 offence / non-completion of Tier 1 sanction</p> <p>Repeatedly missing registrations (three times in one week, Sat to Thurs)</p> <p>Failure to attend a fire drill / lockdown practice, without good reason</p> <p>Underage consumption of alcohol / underage smoking</p> <p>Identified risk to the health, safety, or wellbeing of boarding community</p> <p>Serious breach of Boarding rules e.g. prohibited items in rooms (knives, weapons etc), evidence of serious damage to property in facility, hosting/ found on floor of opposite gender</p> <p>Smoking in boarding</p> <p>Exceptionally late to curfew</p>	<p>Meeting with Head of Boarding on Monday morning, following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early curfew Gated for weekend (Friday evening until Sunday curfew) - sign every hour (Friday 6pm-curfew, Saturday, and Sunday 9am - curfew) Head of Boarding Report <p><i>Inform Tutor, Houseparent, Vice Principal (Pastoral), HM & Parents; Noted on Reach</i></p>
3	<p>Referred by Head of Boarding following failure to complete Tiers 1 or 2</p> <p>Leaving College during boarding time without permission</p> <p>Found with evidence of alcohol in College</p> <p>Persistent misbehaviour/ continued disregard for rules / rudeness to staff</p> <p>Evidence of petty theft / Singular damage to property or knowingly causing damage</p> <p>Evidence of repeated smoking or vaping in boarding</p>	<p>Meeting with the Vice Principal (Pastoral)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Principal (Pastoral) Report Gated for the week (Mon-Fri) For more serious offences, weekend gating can also be applied. Tier 3 Behaviour Agreement Smoking in boarding house - £800 charge, 5 nights' gating Behaviour Agreement, Letter of apology, Weekly progress report with Vice Principal (Pastoral) <p><i>Inform Student, Tutor, Houseparent, Head of Boarding, HM & Parents; Noted on Reach</i></p>
4	<p>Repeated breach of Tier 3 Agreement</p> <p>Serious disregard for rules causing (potential) serious risk to Boarding community</p> <p>Serious cases of theft</p> <p>Causing significant and permanent damage to persons or property.</p> <p>Contravening prohibited substances policy – including illegal drugs and legal highs</p> <p>Repeated smoking in boarding – 3rd occasion</p> <p>Sexual misconduct, violent or threatening behaviour</p> <p>Bringing the College into disrepute e.g. Police investigations, Positive drugs tests</p>	<p>Meeting with Principal (parents/agents & tutor invited) - Possible outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tier 4 Behaviour Agreement Final written warning Suspension from Boarding and/or Academic Boarding expulsion College expulsion <p><i>Inform Student, Tutor, Houseparents', Head of Boarding, Vice Principal (Pastoral), HM & Parents;</i></p>

