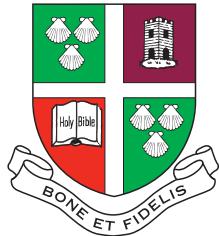


# the ROUGH

GUIDE TO BOARDING AT WOODHOUSE GROVE



ACCESS ALL **AREAS**

Boarding at The Grove is a unique and special experience. Boarders at The Grove are constantly provided with stimulating and challenging experiences.

They may choose to play and practise music; research in the library; use the latest multi-media facilities; rehearse a play; play sport for the school or local team; participate in one of our many exchange programmes; join a theatre or concert trip; work out in the fitness suite; swim lengths in the Jubilee pool or just relax and drink hot chocolate with friends in the House kitchen.

These are just a few activities that represent the diversity and richness of boarding at Woodhouse Grove and it is this, coupled with the strong academic standards, that attract people from all over the world. They join a boarding community that celebrates traditional values, while embracing a tolerance and understanding of the international world we are proud to be part of.

# Head of Boarding

Young people today face increasing pressures to compete at top universities and rewarding careers. Academic qualifications alone are not sufficient to guarantee success in the wider world. Maturity, confidence, versatility, self discipline and self motivation are all qualities needed to achieve their full potential and boarding at The Grove can provide a unique environment in which to develop these qualities.

Grove boarders flourish in the homely atmosphere of Brodwell (Boys) and Miller (Girls). Although each of the Houses is unique in character, they share certain values. A caring and secure environment is maintained by resident House staff and all boarders have their own personal House Tutor to whom they are able to turn for guidance and support. Each House also offers modern amenities, well-appointed bedrooms and relaxing common rooms. All boarders have either double or single rooms, whilst some younger boarders can be happier sharing triple rooms.

The international dimension is a central characteristic of boarding life at the school. Many of the boarders come from within the European Union but we also welcome boarders from much further afield such as China, South Africa, Fiji and Hong Kong. Living in close proximity with different nationalities promotes a tolerance, understanding and respect for other people's views, cultures and traditions. Woodhouse Grove welcomes all religious denominations and encourages tolerance as well as personal faith.

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whatever you want to do in the future – you will be warmly welcomed into the boarding community here at The Grove. And we promise that we will do everything in our power to ensure that your time with us is everything you want it to be.



# what's **INSIDE**

## BOARDING - THE LOWDOWN

Our boarders tell it how it is...

**4-5**

## TOP 10 REASONS TO JOIN US

Why choose boarding at The Grove?

Here are the top 10 reasons given by our students.

**6-7**

## LIVING THE DREAM

One day in the life of a Grove boarder.

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## WORDS OF WISDOM

Our boarding staff offer some words of wisdom.

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## QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS...

Luckily our boarders have all the answers!

**11**

## WEEKEND VIBES

So much fun to cram into 2 days!

**12**

## THE GROVE

Your home from home and what it's got to offer.

**14-15**



# the Lowdown

**Boarders on Boarding - pupils past and present bust some myths and tell it how it is...**

**"Not having to travel to school saves me so much time - I get to lie in! And having the library so close means doing prep is much easier."**

**"Being a boarder at The Grove has been one of the most memorable experiences I've ever had. The members of Boarding are very close, helpful and loving, almost like a big family. The staff are willing to listen and help at all times, no matter how big or small the problem is."**

I came without many expectations, only that it would be very posh and strict. Turns out, boarding's actually really chilled and you have quite a lot of freedom."

The teachers in Boarding are normal! Getting to know them and vice versa in the house is fun!"

I'm having fun in boarding with all the International students. They're the greatest friends I have met in England."

"The teachers in Boarding are very friendly and offer a wide range of evening and weekend activities making our time here fun and interesting. From sports and climbing and games, to art, drama and baking club, there is something for everyone to enjoy. The school is in a good location, with easy, quick transport to the cities of Leeds and Bradford."

**It provided me with independence; it set me up with so many skills, so that going to university was less of a shock!"**

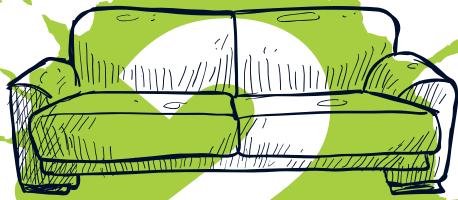
**“The life of a Grove Boarder is interesting, busy and above all – inspirational. I see Girls’ Boarding as a place that I can call my second home.”**

**“Although my family is far away...I have my family here so I never get sad or homesick. Boarding is a good experience as it helps you bond with people of different years and cultures who you might not normally meet around school.”**

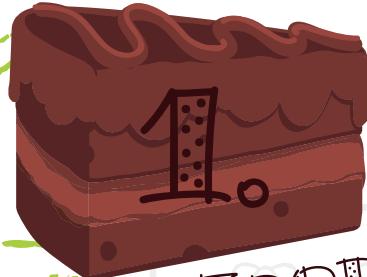
**“Becoming a boarder in Brodwell was the best thing I ever did!**

**“Boarding life is fun, you learn to value your life and how to achieve goals in the future. You learn to be confident and get the ability to speak in front of others.”**





Our House common room  
I love hanging out there  
with my friends.



## THE FOOD...

Seriously! There's something  
for everyone. Although I  
wish all the brownies were  
just for me!



The people. I've made some  
great friends here who I will  
stay in touch with forever.



There's loads to do when you are not studying  
like sport, drama and music and some brilliant  
excursions at the weekend as well as school trips  
and tours. You're never just hanging around. Unless  
you want to, of course!

# TOP

REASONS TO BOARD

## Home Sweet Home

My room. It feels like home.



# 9.



**GO KARTING! TOTALLY MY FAVOURITE WEEKEND ACTIVITY.**

# 10.



All the special things we do in Boarding like bonfire night and Christmas parties and summer barbecues. They make my time here feel very special.

# 10

AT THE GROVE!

hello!

# 6

The teachers are great, they really take the time to get to know you and are always available for a chat.

# 8.

HOT CHOCOLATE IN OUR HOUSE AFTER PREP. IT FEELS SO COSY AND LIKE HOME.



The lessons are actually fun and interesting. I'm not joking!

# Living the Dream

## One day in the life of a Grove Boarder.

- 7.30am No need for an alarm, the “wake up” bell certainly gets you up...
- 7.45am Wolf a bacon sandwich for breakfast. Grab some fruit too in an effort to be healthy!
- 8.15am Back to the House for a quick clean of the teeth, sort my hair out and get my stuff ready for the school day.
- 8.25am Head into school with my boarding BFF to do some crucial catching up with our day pupil bezzies.  
I know it's only been a night – but so much to discuss!
- 8.35am Registration
- 8.40am Chemistry. My fave!
- 9.30am Design and Technology
- 10.30am Assembly
- 11.15am English. Watch a live stream of Macbeth. WOW.
- 12.10pm Lunch – thank goodness- absolutely ravenous! Chicken stir-fry, my favourite and a rocky road pudding. It would be rude not to!
- 1.05pm Biology
- 2.10pm Spanish – me estoy volviendo bastante Bueno!
- 3.05pm Art – the perfect way to finish off the school day.
- 4.00pm Head back to House to grab my gear for swimming training.  
Looking forward to swimming camp this autumn.
- 5.15pm Time for a quick shower and a chat with my friends in the quad before tea. Discuss plans for the weekend...
- 5.45pm Dinner in the dining room.
- 6.30pm Weekly House meeting with our Houseparent.  
A good chance to catch up on stuff with everyone together.
- 6.40pm Prep time. Decide to work in the library so I can really get my head down.
- 8.30pm Yes! History essay DONE! Swing by the gym for a quick workout before heading over to Brodwell House for a well-deserved hot chocolate and treats.
- 9.00pm Realise I have no kit for tomorrow so pop a wash on.
- 10.00pm Tucked up in bed. It's been a good day.  
Read for a bit but can barely keep my eyes open...zzzzzzzz.....



# Words of Wisdom...

Being away from home can be the most exciting - and the most worrying - thing to do. There's so much to take in when you are new into the Boarding Houses, and we of course know that it is likely to feel very overwhelming.

We try really hard to make sure that new boarders feel part of the House as soon as they sign up to boarding. You will receive a letter from your Houseparent, enclosing your Boarding Handbook and other useful information and will be assigned a boarding "buddy" who will show you the ropes around the House - it can be bewildering knowing what time you need to go to breakfast or trying to work the washing machine, and local knowledge is key!

All essential timings and information are posted on House noticeboards to refer to - we don't expect you to remember everything all at once - and there are weekly house meetings where we all get together and catch up. Our meal time menus are posted up in House for the term - so you can plan what you are going to have for lunch and for tea - that's important!!

There are also loads of staff in the Boarding Houses - and between us we cover a lot of the subjects - so someone is always on hand for academic work worries. Of course, there's also a good chance that there will be someone in the years above you who has done it all before and can lend a hand - and our buddies are often paired by shared subjects and interests too.

Our weekend and evening programme helps new boarders to settle in and get to know their new housemates and the local area. We also organise orientation trips - helping you get to know the routes to local shops and unravelling the mysteries of the British public transport system! Taking a trip into Leeds to go shopping is really easy once you know how.

The boys and girls are split into either Red or Green teams at the beginning of the year and competition is fierce - with tug of war, softball and loads of team games spread out over the year to help you get to know other year groups and genders.

Lastly, the thing to remember is that boarding staff are here to help - most of us have experienced life as boarders, have children of our own, or both, and we are here to look after you and make your life in boarding as happy as possible.

We are here to hear about your day, assist with your homework, chat through any troubles and help you as best we can.

## Girls Miller House



## Boys Brodwell House



读我!



## Is it like Hogwarts?

Not really, we play cricket not Quidditch and the staircases don't move.



## Are you allowed your phones?

Yes!

## What's the youngest age you can board from?

Year 7 upwards can board. You can try it and see - come and stay when your parents are away. You can board weekly or full time.



## What's the food like?

Really good – and the choice on evenings and weekends is different to lunchtimes.

## Can you choose who you are in a room with?

Houseparents try to be as accommodating as they can with requests.



## Do you have a TV in your room?

No - but there are TVs in the common rooms, with Sky.

## Do you get your own space?

Yes, most of us share a room, but if you fancy a bit of alone time, there's always a quiet corner - or a few acres - that you can have to yourself.

## Do you go to school on Saturdays?

Noooo! Instead, there are loads of sports fixtures and boarding activities for us to take part in over the weekend.

# Questions, Questions...

Our boarders reveal the answers to all the questions they get asked most.



## Do you live with the teachers?

Ha! Yes, some of them. Each House has resident staff who have their own flats in the Houses. They look after us overnight if we feel poorly - or if the fire alarm goes off, they check that we are all out and safe.

## What's it like having to see the same people every day?

Ace – it's like having a LOT of siblings!



## Do you do your own washing?

You can if you want to, or you can send it to the school laundry, at no cost - which is a bit magical...

## Do you have to put your uniform on at weekends?

No – and you can have breakfast in your PJs like at home on the weekends, as it is in Houses.



## Do you have WiFi?

Yep.

## Do you have a kitchen?

Yes, both Houses have kitchens for making snacks, and Miller has an oven where we do baking and cooking.

## Do you share with the boys?

Nope – but the boys come and socialise in Miller all the time, and the girls go over to Brodwell – they've got the pool table!



## Do you sleep in the classrooms?

NO! But having the run of all the grounds and facilities to ourselves at the weekends and on evenings is fun!



## Do you have a bedtime?

Yes, each year group has their own bedtime.

# Weekend Vibes

**What does the weekend hold for a Grove boarder? Here's just some of what they get up to...**

## Saturday

- Chilled out breakfast in PJs in House. Mmmmmm.
- Play cricket for the U15s at home with all my boarding mates camped out on the lawn and cheering me on.
- Basketball! Some unfinished on court business to deal out following last weekend's annihilation.
- Head to Miller for some afternoon baking. Make enough buns to last the week!
- Load up with popcorn for film night in Miller.
- Floodlit 4G footy. Been looking forward to this all week.



## Sunday

- Brunch in the dining hall.
- Do a little extra prep in the library - leaving more time for mid-week fun!
- Laser Zone time! Pile into the minibus for an afternoon of mayhem.
- Protein flapjack and smoothie creation in Miller. Healthy and delicious!
- A few of us head to the fitness suite for a weekend workout.
- A load of us toast marshmallows around the firepit outside Brodwell. Aaaah - love these guys!



# Meet Pablo

¡Hola! My name is Pablo Benito Martin Martin Pascual Vicente Garcia Rueda Lopez Sanches... but you can just call me Pablo. I am in year 10, board in Brodwell House and my family live in Madrid, Spain.

I recall the day when my mum first told me that there was a possibility that I could come to school in England for a year. I said yes straight away as I knew that being able to speak English would give me much better career opportunities back in Spain when I am older. I am very grateful as I know not many people get this amazing chance.

I first heard about Woodhouse Grove because my parents and the agency told me that it was one of the best schools in England for my academics. Two days before starting I came for a visit and met with Mr. King and the other boarding staff, they made me feel very welcome.

My first impression was that the school was very big and that it is full of history, the only thing I didn't like was the weather! However, I knew straight away that I must come to this school.

On my first day I moved into my room and said goodbye to my parents. I wasn't very sad saying goodbye as I was so excited to get started, however my mum cried a lot!

At the end of the first week I rang my mum to tell her that I wanted to stay in boarding and at the school for more than just the one year because I had made a lot of friends and enjoyed all the classes. I really enjoy living in Brodwell House. It's helped me to make a lot of friends across all the different year groups and from all around the world. The boarding staff are great because they are very friendly and are always there to help whenever I have any problems. I definitely feel at home.

When I lived in Spain I had never even heard of rugby, only American football. The very first time that I played I thought it was quite scary and very rough. The more and more that I played the more I fell in love with rugby. I now train with the U15B team and occasionally play for the A team. I also represent the school for the U16 basketball team, it's my favourite sport.

**"We are so lucky to have all the amazing facilities and activities on offer in school and boarding each night and during our weekends."**

I have just picked my GCSE options. Some of the subjects I have never studied before but I like to give myself a challenge. I love life here at Woodhouse Grove and would recommend it to anyone (except anyone who's Spanish because I like being the only one – the girls love the accent!). I am very happy that I now get to stay here for a second year till the end of Year 11 because it will open up so many doors for me when I am older. I am very lucky. I am Grovian.

# GAME ON

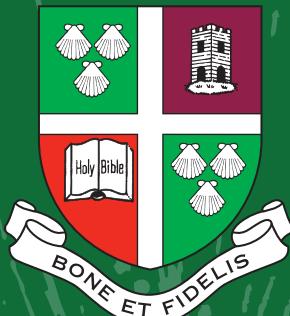
Sport is big thing at The Grove, whether you're a player or a supporter. Our facilities are outstanding and there is a full fixtures list for team sports, with regular practices in the week and matches most weekends. If team sport is not your thing, then you can use the gym, pool or climbing wall to get your fitness fix.

## The Grove Your home from home - and what it has to offer

Set in 70 acres of beautiful Yorkshire countryside, yet conveniently located between Leeds and Bradford, The Grove offers the best of both worlds; rural surroundings in easy reach of city life.

Each of our Boarding Houses has its own unique character, whilst providing a warm, homely and secure environment under the care of resident House staff. Each House offers modern amenities, wifi, Sky TV, kitchens, laundry facilities, well-appointed bedrooms and relaxing common rooms.

Check out [www.yorkshire.com](http://www.yorkshire.com) to find out more about this wonderful county.



# WORK OF ART

From brass band to rock band, from cabaret to Shakespeare, we have everything covered for those of you interested in music and drama. There is a full programme of break time concerts and recitals and evening shows, so if performing is your thing, you won't be twiddling your thumbs. The stage is yours!



## Meet Mia

### Year 9

**How long have you been a boarder at The Grove?**

I joined The Grove in Year 7 as a day pupil but then started boarding from Year 8. I decided to board as I live quite far away from the school and boarding means I have more time to study and for clubs and activities.

**What was it like when you arrived as a new boarder?**

I was a bit nervous but also excited. The other girls in boarding were really welcoming.

**What is your favourite thing about boarding life?**

Getting to know people from other countries and cultures and learning about their different lifestyles.

**What is your least favourite thing?**

Nothing! I like everything!



**What do you think about Woodhouse Grove as a school?**

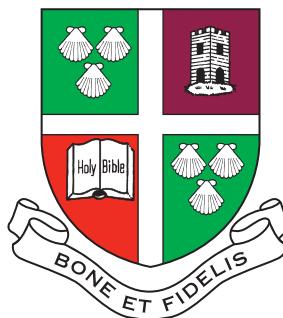
It feels like a community where everyone can be involved. The teachers encourage us to join in and try new things. I enjoy tennis and badminton and compete for the school. I love the trips that you can go on. I enjoyed the Battlefields Trip and the Ski Trip was so much fun!

**What are your plans for the future?**

I think I might like to work in architecture or interior design. It would be fun to redesign the Girls' Boarding common room!

# INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR WOODHOUSE GROVE BOARDING?

Please fill in an application form online at  
[www.woodhousegrove.co.uk/admissions](http://www.woodhousegrove.co.uk/admissions)  
or email [admissions@woodhousegrove.co.uk](mailto:admissions@woodhousegrove.co.uk)



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Find out what we're up to **@WGSBoarding**