



CATERHAM
SCHOOL

PARENTS HANDBOOK

BOARDING EDITION

2026 - 27



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Welcome from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to Caterham School and to our community. I am delighted that you are joining us and that you have entrusted the education of your child to us over the coming years. In addition to being a high achieving and highly ambitious school in which all of our pupils have the opportunity to achieve great things, you will find that Caterham is a school that places values and community at the heart of all that we do. Wellbeing and enjoyment are the keystones of life at this school – this does not, however, come at the expense of high expectations and outstanding outcomes for all our pupils. We are a vibrant, welcoming and diverse community in which each member is nurtured and encouraged to excel and follow their passions. We believe in the potential and value of every child and in actively promoting and celebrating diversity rather than expecting conformity. I hope that as parents you also feel part of this exciting journey.

You will rightly expect excellence from us at every opportunity and in return I ask that you, along with us, encourage your child to make the most of all the opportunities that Caterham School offers. So much of what your child will learn over the coming years will be in the gaps between lesson time – in the co-curricular and sporting offering of the School, on trips and in our partnership work. We want our pupils to have that 'have a go' attitude and optimism that will help them build the characteristics and behaviours that will lay the foundations for a successful adult life. They will leave this school having achieved great things but also with an understanding of how to cope with an unpredictable world, a sense of balance and perspective and an appreciation of the value of others.

I hope that you find this Parent Handbook a helpful guide with details of all the important routines, procedures and policies we have in place for the benefit and wellbeing of your child. At Caterham we place great emphasis on you knowing and being able to contact the person who can help you straightaway, if you have a concern or problem, and who will be able to set your mind at ease.

Your point of contact for both academic and pastoral concerns is your child's Housemaster / Housemistress (HSM) in the first instance. It is the job of the HSM to monitor your child's academic and pastoral progress, and should you have a concern you should talk first to him or her. Your concern will be treated seriously, and if the HSM cannot immediately solve it, then the relevant person will be contacted for help. The HSM will work closely with your child's form Tutor and Head of Year who are also key members of the support network for your child.

If your concern is of a confidential nature you are very welcome to talk to the Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding), to myself, or any member of the Senior Management Team at any time.

We are a School which has at its heart people who care about your child, and who want the very best for them. We firmly believe that, in all matters, the best approach is to work in a collaborative partnership with parents and pupils. We run a series of events and evenings tailored specifically for our parents around key pastoral and academic issues that I would very much encourage you to attend.

The whole community benefits from our status as a boarding school with wrap around care and the knowledge that we are home to a community, not just an 8am until 4pm operation. It doesn't take long for new pupils and parents to realise that Caterham is not just a school, but a way of life!

I also hope that you will make the most of your time with us here at Caterham, and that you involve yourself in the work of the Parents' Association and Caterham Connected. These not only provide excellent social and professional opportunities for parents but also the chance to support the work of the school in delivering our educational aims by using your expertise and networks to help prepare our pupils for life after school.

Caterham School is an exciting organisation to be part of. Your children will thrive here and leave as confident but grounded young adults, who know how to make the most of a dynamic and rapidly changing world and appreciate the positive contribution they can make to it, who understand the importance and value of good and healthy relationships and networks and who celebrate the talents, differences and potential of those around them. I hope that you enjoy the journey too!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C W Jones', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

C W Jones MA (Cantab), MEd
Headmaster

Community Statement

We take a whole school and proactive approach to promoting wellbeing across our community. We believe that diversity is the key to any strong community. We expect each individual to act in a way that builds up and affirms others, as well as looking after themselves. We believe that we have much to learn from those around us. All pupils, staff, parents and others associated with the school are asked to work together in a spirit of co-operation and understanding.

Pupils are encouraged to see that being part of a successful community comes with responsibility on their part. We expect all pupils to abide by the rules and values of our community and to respect each other in all regards.

Our community does not tolerate discrimination or victimisation of others on any grounds.

The school places the highest possible premium on six broad values which underpinned the founding of the school back in 1811 and remain as valid today as they have ever been:

1. **Integrity** - Being true to yourself and doing the right thing even when others are not looking is a key part of what it is to be a Caterham pupil. We would expect all pupils to act with integrity in all their actions.
2. **Independence** - Being your own person and taking responsibility for your own development and actions.
3. **Innovation** - Always looking for solutions rather than seeing the problem, being prepared to learn from mistakes rather than being defined by them.
4. **Curiosity** - Asking the right questions at the right time and wanting to know more about the world around you – and taking an active interest in the world beyond Caterham.
5. **Courage** - Having the courage of your own convictions and being prepared to call out attitudes and behaviours that do not belong in our community. We believe in courageous reporting and expect the same of all our pupils.
6. **Community** - Understanding the world around you, having empathy for others and believing that the power of a successful community is difference rather than conformity.

Statement of Caterham's Boarding Principles and Practice

Caterham School is one of the leading co-educational schools in the country. We are committed to providing an environment in which all pupils are challenged to be the best they can be and one in which pastoral care and wellbeing underpin academic, co-curricular and sporting excellence and involvement. The majority of our pupils are day pupils but we are also a thriving Boarding community, which we believe enriches the educational opportunity and experience for all. We believe in providing an education for life for all Caterhamians and we seek to ensure that the learning experience at our school blends the best of tradition with the exciting opportunities provided by new technology. Learning how to learn is a key facet of a Caterham education and is an essential skill for life in the twenty-first century. We believe that a truly excellent school is about more than academic achievement alone: it is also about developing a passion for learning, a capacity for independent and critical thinking, self-awareness and resilience, self-confidence without arrogance and genuine interests that extend beyond the confines of the classroom.

At Caterham School we focus on developing the whole person, aiming to ensure that each pupil leaves here ready for the challenges of life at university and beyond and understanding their responsibilities towards others. We want our pupils to leave Caterham well equipped to engage positively with a rapidly changing world as accomplished problem solvers and innovators, confident in their ability to lead and with a clear appreciation of and respect for the views and potential of others. In so doing we remain true to our founding principles and values.

Boarding education at Caterham therefore is not only about gaining knowledge but is also about the personal development of each boy and girl in its fullest sense. This will include spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, all of which are an intrinsic part of boarding life.

Boarding at Caterham aims to provide a safe and caring environment in which all pupils are treated and respected as individuals. It aims to allow all pupils to develop their full academic and personal potential and to enable pupils to have an input in the running and development of boarding at the School.

We recognise the responsibilities entrusted to us by parents and educational guardians and encourage every opportunity for communication between the boarding house and the family.

Integrity, commitment, and self-discipline are the positive attitudes required by adults and young people within the boarding environment. We aim to set, and are entitled to expect from others, good, caring standards of behaviour marked by trust, respect, responsibility, openness and honesty.

All boarding staff are expected to apply all whole school policies and standards in order to achieve these expectations.

Overview of Boarding

Organisation

The Senior Deputy Head is a member of the Senior Leadership Team and is responsible along with Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding) for the welfare of our boarding pupils and for line-managing the Boarding Housemasters and Housemistress (HSMs) and the wider boarding team. The Senior Deputy Head works closely with the Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding) in ensuring National Minimum Standards are met and surpassed. The Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding) and the HSMs meet on a weekly basis to discuss pastoral matters related to boarding, and meets frequently with the Senior Deputy Head to evaluate elements of practice, staffing and other fundamental standards in boarding, and to plan for improvement. The Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding) meets with the HSMs on a weekly basis to make arrangements for the weeks' ahead, including planning activities, arranging boarding council meetings and prefect training and discuss general day-to-day matters. The HSMs are very valued members of the Pastoral Leadership Team, contributing to the strategic objectives of the school and influencing culture and practice.

There are three boarding houses:

- Beech Hanger (Girls' Boarding, Third Year to Sixth Form) is situated in its own grounds behind the Sports Centre, currently housing girls aged between 11 and 18. The Housemistress, Siobhan Isaacs, lives with her family in a house that is attached to the boarding house. She is assisted in the running of the House by an Assistant HSM, Libbie Gibbs, by resident and non-resident house tutors and matrons. There are approximately 70 places available for girl boarders.
- Townsend (Junior Boys Boarding, Third Year to Fourth Year) is situated on the first floor in the Main School Building. The Housemaster, Alex Gillespie, lives with his partner in an apartment attached to the boarding house. He is assisted in the running of the House by an Assistant HSM, Harrison Whitehouse, resident and non-resident house tutors and matrons. There are approximately 35 places available for junior boy boarders.
- Viney (Senior Boys Boarding, Fifth Year and Sixth Form) is situated on the first and second floors in the Main School Building. The Housemaster is Alistair Taylor, who lives with his family in an apartment that is attached to the boarding house. He is assisted in the running of the House by an Assistant HSM, Owen Ace, by resident and non-resident House tutors and matrons. There are approximately 68 places available for senior boy Boarders.

The Health Centre is staffed by qualified nurses and the School Medical Officer, Dr Richard Wright. Full details of our medical protocols and practices can be found in the Caterham School Medical Protocols and Practice Handbook. Relevant details from this handbook are sent to all parents.

Facilities

Within each boarding house there are a variety of different types of rooms. Typically, junior boarders share in rooms of four, senior pupils in the Fifth Year and Lower Sixth are in rooms of two and pupils in the Upper Sixth usually have single rooms with en-suite facilities. In each House there are common rooms for pupils of different ages and kitchen facilities for making drinks and snacks. Boarding pupils have access to all of the school facilities including the Sports Centre and its swimming pool. Sixth Form boarders also have access to the Sixth Form Centre after school hours.

Wellbeing

The wellbeing of our pupils is our primary concern and it is promoted and enhanced by all members of the school community. Throughout the school day, the first point of call for wellbeing issues is a pupil's form tutor or Head of Year but out of school hours the HSM or duty staff member is always available. A whole school approach to promoting wellbeing is encouraged throughout our community including from boarding and teaching staff, Health Centre staff, the School Counsellors and support staff.

In all Houses a member of staff is on duty throughout the day and night, often supported by a matron. The matrons play a key pastoral role in looking after the pupils and the health of the pupils is supervised by members of our Health Centre staff. All rooms in the Houses are cleaned each weekday. The Health Centre is able to accommodate ill pupils both during the day and overnight. The Assistant Head (Pastoral and Boarding) and other Senior Staff live on site and are always available to deal with any concerns that the pupils or indeed boarding staff may have. In addition, the wider pastoral team and Safeguarding team are available for support during the school day. There is an independent School Counsellor who is available for consultation by all pupils, and the boarding pupils have the facility of an independent listener.

The Catering Manager is responsible for meeting any special dietary requirements. The Catering Manager meets regularly with the Lead Nurse, the HSMs and with the pupil catering committee.

Members of the Chaplaincy team will ensure arrangements are made for boarding pupils to worship as their conscience and culture dictate with all members of the boarding community expected to attend occasional services and assemblies designed to encourage understanding of others beliefs and cultures.

Academic Progress

The Housemasters work very closely with the Tutors and Heads of Year in monitoring the academic progress and achievement of all boarding pupils. Their efforts will be noticed and rewarded, including through being given greater freedom to work independently if pupils can show they are self-motivated with their work.

As necessary, additional support is given in order that all boarding pupils can achieve their true potential including through academic mentoring, the Learning Support department and the EAL department.

Boarding Standards

All of the regulations and policies are in line with the requirements of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools, which provide a regulatory framework outlining minimum standards of care in boarding schools and in which we are inspected every three years.

Important Contact Details

HEADMASTER

Mr Ceri Jones, MA (Cantab), MEd
Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA
Tel: 01883 343028
Email: catherine.acton@caterhamschool.co.uk (EA to the Headmaster and Office Manager)

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Ms Monisha Shah
c/o The Clerk to the Trustees, Caterham School
Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA
Tel: 01883 343028

SENIOR DEPUTY HEAD

Ms Sarah Print-Griffiths, MA (Oxon)
Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA
Telephone: 01883 343028 ext. 310
Email: sarah.griffiths@caterhamschool.co.uk

ASSISTANT HEAD (PASTORAL & BOARDING)

Mr Nick Mills
Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA
Telephone: 01883 343028 ext. 231
Mr Mills Mobile Number: 07449 480568
Email: nick.mills@caterhamschool.co.uk

BEECH HANGER HOUSE - GIRLS' BOARDING

Housemistress: Mrs Siobhan Isaacs
Beech Hanger House Telephone Number: 01883 343028 ext. 299
House Mobile Number: 07449 505350
Mrs Isaacs Mobile Number: 07449 396597
Email: siobhan.isaacs@caterhamschool.co.uk

VINEY HOUSE - SENIOR BOYS' BOARDING (Fifth Year and Sixth Form)

Housemaster: Mr Alistair Taylor
Viney House Telephone Number: 01883 343028 ext. 256
House Mobile Number: 07449 455360
Mr Taylor Mobile Number: 07449 517700
Email: alistair.taylor@caterhamschool.co.uk

TOWNSEND HOUSE - JUNIOR BOYS' BOARDING (Third to Fourth Year)

Housemaster: Mr Alex Gillespie
Townsend House Telephone Number: 01883 343028 Ext. 233
House Mobile Number: 07449 502539
Mr Gillespie Mobile Number: 07939 860472
Email: alex.gillespie@caterhamschool.co.uk

Proprietor: Caterham School, Company No. 5410420, Registered Charity No. 1109508

Key Dates

- An Exeat Weekend means that Boarding pupils are expected to leave the Boarding House by 5.30pm on the Friday afternoon to spend the weekend away from School (i.e. with their family or their guardian).
- An Activities Weekend is one in which all boarders stay at School. During these weekends a series of special activities and events are organised for all boarding pupils and staff.
- Flights should always be booked well in advance so that pupils do not arrive back late at the start of a term, or leave early at the end of a term. Any exceptions to this must be agreed in advance with the Boarding House Master or Mistress, and this is only done in exceptional circumstances. If a pupil leaves School early or returns late without authorised permission, then the absence is classified as an unauthorised absence and this is likely to have repercussions when applying for visa renewal.
- Please note that pupils in the Fifth Year and Upper Sixth may book flights to leave following completion of their public examinations in the Summer Term. This must be agreed in advance with the Boarding House Master or Mistress.
- At the start of the Spring and Summer terms, the Boarding Houses will open at 8.00am. Boarders are expected to return by 6.00pm at the latest.
- Following an Exeat Weekend or Half Term, boarders should return between 5:30pm and 8.30pm.
- Parents of weekly boarders may arrange for their child to leave the house on Friday or Saturday, and to return on Sunday or Monday. Individual arrangements should be made with Heads of Houses no later than Wednesday evening of the preceding week.

The dates for the Exeat weekends for 2026– 2027 are:

Autumn Term 2026: Friday 25 September – Sunday 27 September

Friday 20 November – Sunday 22 November

Spring Term 2027: Friday 22 January – Sunday 24 January

Summer Term 2027: Friday 30 April – Monday 3 May

The dates for the activities weekends for 2026 - 2027 are:

Autumn Term 2026:

Friday 11 September – Sunday 13 September

This weekend is specially arranged to help all the new boarders settle into our boarding community.

Friday 4 December – Sunday 6 December

This weekend is when we have our Christmas parties, special meals and our Carol Service.

Spring Term 2027:

Friday 12 March – Sunday 14 March

This is our charity fundraising weekend.

Summer Term 2027:

Friday 18 June – Sunday 20 June

This Activities Weekend is for the junior boarders.

Please refer to our website for further information regarding our [term dates](#).

An A-Z of Life at Caterham

Absence - due to illness

Any absence due to illness or for medical appointments will be communicated to the School Secretary by the HSM. For weekly and half weekly boarders, parents should contact the HSM as well as the usual route of reporting absence on MSP.

Routine dental/orthodontic/medical appointments should be made during the School holidays or after school whenever possible, avoiding activities to which pupils are committed.

Absence - extraordinary

If absence is necessary, a letter of request should be addressed to the Headmaster well in advance of the date in question and sent via the Absence Form found in the Parent Forms section of My School Portal. Please note the term dates (available on the website) to ensure that holidays are not booked during term time. Attendance at school correlates strongly with many positive educational outcomes and therefore permission for absence from School at any time will only be given for exceptional and unavoidable reasons.

Academic monitoring

Pupils' academic progress is closely monitored by their tutor and Head of Year to ensure that they are working to their full potential. The Head of Year will liaise with pupils' Housemaster or Mistress to ensure that targets set are supported in the boarding houses.

Strong communication exists between all areas of school life so a pupil facing any type of language challenge, long or short term, curricular or not, is swiftly recognised and assisted. Where pupils have need of additional support they will be referred to the Learning Support Department or the EAL department for assessment, learning strategies or additional lessons.

Parents receive updates about their child's academic progress through electronic reports, termly grades and at virtual 'Parent and Teacher' meetings.

After School

The school day ends at 4.00pm after which time pupils can choose from the following:

- Attend one of the many clubs and activities happening in a range of locations after school
- Turnout for their chosen sport
- Go to the Library to complete homework, staffed until 5.45pm.
- Relax in the Boarding House
- Make use of onsite facilities such as music practice rooms, dance studios or performance gym.

Assemblies

Each year group has regular assemblies led by a member of staff or a pupil. Major festivals and national events are marked and a huge range of themes are covered. Assemblies also provide an opportunity to publicly celebrate successes from across the school community.

The boarding community has a weekly assembly on a Wednesday at 6.15pm.

Taxis

- These can be booked through the administration team for travel from School at the end of term or when the School breaks for half term. If written details are forwarded to the administration team (administration@caterhamschool.co.uk) prior to the end of term a taxi can be booked for return to school for the start of term or next half term.
- The cost of the taxi can be put on the School Bill.

Clothing

Towards the back of this booklet you will find the details regarding the accepted uniform for pupils at the School.

Co-Curricular Activities

We are proud that there is no typical 'Caterham' pupil. We encourage individuality and diversity in our community and this is evidenced by the vast range of performances, clubs, activities and trips on offer. Our extensive co-curricular provision allows pupils to learn new skills and helps our young people find what makes them tick and what brings them joy beyond academic study.

Many activities are run during lunch time; others take place after school, in the evenings or at weekends. For those pupils who travel to school by bus our network of buses allow them to access after school activities. We expect all pupils to take advantage of what is on offer. Most pupils will involve themselves in two or more co-curricular activities each term, with everyone doing at least one.

New pupils will have the opportunity to explore the co-curricular offer with their tutors in September, after which they can select activities. A full list of the termly co-curricular clubs can be found on our website.

Commendations

We operate a system of Commendations for good work or exceptionally good conduct, as a means of recognising and encouraging high standards among our pupils.

Communication with Parents and Guardians

Routine letters and messages from school are sent home via our parent portal, My School Portal which you will be able to download as an app on your mobile phone. Contained within the portal will be links to other useful sites and services we use, like SOCS, which contains the school calendar as well as information about all sports and co-curricular activities.

Instructions and login information for My School Portal and its associated services will be sent to new parents at the start of the year. It is essential that all parents sign up to My School Portal.

A weekly newsletter, containing news, notices and events will be sent directly to your email each Friday.

Classlist, is our Parents' Association platform for connecting with other parents.

Please contact the School Office to update contact information as soon as it changes.

Cycling

Boarders may keep a bicycle at school provided permission has been sought from the relevant HSM.

All pupils are expected to wear protective headgear and are expected to follow the Highway Code, including having a bike that is in good order and with the necessary lights and clothing. Bikes can be locked in the bike shed which is found in the car park by the Caretaking department.

Daily Routine

Mon-Fri	
8.30am	<i>Registration in Form Room</i>
8.40am	Period 1
9.20am	Period 2
9.55am	<i>Break 1</i>
10.15am	Period 3
10.55am	Period 4
11.30am	<i>Break 2</i>
11.40am	Period 5
12.20pm	Period 6
12.55pm	<i>Lunch, Clubs and Activities, Tutor period, Assemblies, Registrations</i>
2.35pm	Period 7
3.20pm	Period 8
4.00pm	<i>Teaching ends</i>
	<i>Clubs/Activities</i>

Detention

A gating is a lower level sanction, involving reporting to the Head of Year at break time.

A Department detention may be issued for failure to complete work or coursework.

School detentions are held on a Friday afternoon from 4.15pm – 5.30pm and are given for breaches of the School code. Pupils will be set appropriate work to complete in detention. A Saturday Detention (10.00am – noon) is held for pupils who seriously transgress the School's accepted standards. In both cases, parents will be given written notice of their child's detention. More details can be found in the schools 'Behaviour Policy' on the website.

Drama

Drama is an important part of the school's co-curricular programme, with breadth, challenge, and creativity at its heart. All year groups have an opportunity to participate in productions throughout the year, of which there are usually at least three, plus House events. Alongside productions, the co-curricular clubs on offer allow pupils to explore a range of performance skills and styles, as well as playwriting, technical theatre and directing. Co-curricular drama achieves a balance between being fun and developing key skills.

The school has previously entered groups into The Leatherhead Drama Festival, The Southern Counties Drama Festival, The Camden Fringe Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, providing our pupils with the opportunity to perform on a professional platform. We are continuously on the lookout for new festivals and competitions to give our pupils opportunities outside of the school setting.

Pupils have the opportunity to take LAMDA performance examinations, a nationally recognised theatre qualification, taught by experienced visiting teachers. Pupils can choose to work on monologues, duologues, public speaking or devised theatre. There is an additional charge for tuition and the examination.

Driving

If a sixth form boarder wishes to have driving lessons, they should discuss this with their HSM in the first instance.

Sixth form boarders who wish to keep a car at school should discuss this with their HSM. Boarders who have passed their test are allowed to keep a car at school solely for the purpose of travelling to and from home. Boarders are not allowed to drive a car for any other purpose unless they have the permission of their HSM.

No boarder should travel in a car driven by another pupil unless the HSM has received written permission from the parents of both the driver and the passenger.

EAL Provision

For pupils whose first language is not English, we have an EAL Department (English as an Additional Language). Pupils may be timetabled to attend classes to develop their English language proficiency thus supporting their main subjects and building their confidence to live and study in an English speaking environment.

Each pupil's English language proficiency is assessed in our entrance exams during the admissions process and again upon arrival during their induction programme. Pupils may then be placed into classes, depending upon their capabilities and needs.

In the younger years, pupils may receive two or three weekly periods of EAL, usually replacing a Modern Foreign Language option, in addition to their main English classes.

In the Fourth and Fifth years, pupils follow one of two routes:

- GCSE English as a First Language (EFL), or
- First Certificate in English (FCE) plus IGCSE English as a Second Language (ESL).

In the Sixth Form, pupils attend an IELTS preparation course (International English Language Testing System) of 2 lessons a week until they achieve either an overall score of 7.0 with a minimum of 7.0 in each part, or the requirement as stipulated by the university/faculty of their choice.

The IELTS qualification is a pre-requisite for entering a UK university, as well as a legal requirement for pupils in need of a Tier 4 visa. These lessons are held on a Saturday morning and if needed, additional individual sessions are arranged.

For pupils accepted onto our internal Oxbridge Preparation Programme, one weekly individual lesson within the EAL Department is timetabled from the beginning of the autumn term in the Upper Sixth or, in some cases, from the summer term of the Lower Sixth.

Enrichment

True to our aim to provide 'an education for life', learning at Caterham extends beyond the acquisition of knowledge - important though that is - to developing pupils' ability to think independently, apply their understanding and skills, and reflect on their own learning. Our teachers encourage pupils to think well beyond the confines of the curriculum, helping them grow in confidence and mastery through appropriately tailored intellectual challenge.

This approach is reflected in a wide-ranging programme of well-attended subject-specific activities beyond timetabled lessons. We also offer a broad selection of opportunities outside the school day, such as evening talks, webinars and enrichment trips.

Pupils regularly take part in external competitions, developing skills in areas such as essay writing, design, debating and innovation. Caterham pupils have a strong track record of success across a wide academic spectrum, with many Old Caterhamians progressing to leading universities worldwide, including significant numbers at Oxford and Cambridge.

Three members of staff are designated as Enrichment Tutors to ensure a high-quality provision. This provides pupils with a clear enrichment pathway, encouraging both interdisciplinary connections and depth of study in particular areas.

Food and Drink

Pupils should carry a water bottle which they can refill as necessary during the day at the various water points. All pupils have access to the Concourse Café where they can purchase food and drink – for First Year to Fourth Year they may do so before and after school, whereas Fifth Year and Sixth Formers may purchase items at breaks and lunchtimes too. Pupils are welcome to bring snacks (no nuts please), into school to eat at breaktimes and, for our First Year to Fourth Years, snacks are sold at first break in the Refectory. Fresh fruit is available free of charge in the Refectory and Concourse Café throughout the day. **Pupils can use their ID card or a payment card to make purchases**, cash and phone payments are not accepted.

We believe that eating together in the dining room is important for developing social skills, making healthy food choices and for building community; for this reason we require all pupils to stay on school premises during the lunch hour and take the lunch provided by the School. A wide range of menu options are available, including salad and hot options. Menus for the term are detailed on the school website. If your child has special dietary requirements for medical or religious reasons, please ensure all details are included on the data collection forms and speak to the Health Centre as necessary.

A wide range of clubs and societies take place at lunchtime and a queue rotation is in place that ensures that no pupil is always 'last' to lunch.

Our boarders have breakfast and a hot evening meal provided daily, in addition to the details above.

Governance

Caterham School is independently managed with its own Trustees, who are responsible for oversight of the day-to-day running of the School and appointing the Head and Chief Operating Officer. They are also responsible for setting the fees and approving the annual budget.

Parents wishing to send a letter to the Chair of Trustees should write to The Chair of Trustees, c/o The Clerk to the Trustees, Caterham School – marking the envelope 'Private and Confidential' if necessary.

Homework

As a guideline we expect our First and Second Years to complete around 5 hours of homework each week. This increases to up to around 7.5 hours per week Third Years.

Our Fourth and Fifth Years are preparing for their first public examinations and can expect one hour per subject per week giving a total of around 10 hours per week.

Pupils in our Sixth Form should expect to engage with each subject for a minimum of 5 hours per week outside lessons. This will be completed during study periods in the school day and at home. Some work will be compulsory homework and some of it will be independent study.

Little holiday homework will be set for pupils in the First to Third Years but pupils on GCSE and A Level courses can expect to have homework or coursework to complete.

House System

There is a strong House tradition and allegiance at Caterham. Houses provide a framework for internal competitions and the opportunity for socialisation between year groups. Your child will need some uniform / PE kit in house colours.

The School houses are:

Aldercombe (red)

Harestone (dark blue)

Lewisham (maroon)

Newington (pink)

Ridgefield (dark green)

Underwood (light green)

Boarding Houses:

Beech Hanger (purple)

Townsend/Viney (light blue and yellow)

Illness or Injury

A pupil who becomes ill or injured during the School day will be sent to the Health Centre where there is generally a qualified nurse on duty. The nurse will assess the seriousness of the situation and either send the pupil back to class or contact their Boarding House and arrange for them to be taken care of.

Please do not send your child to school if they are ill.

Insurance

Every pupil is covered for personal accident insurance, the extent of which is explained in a separate leaflet. If a pupil comes to school with expensive personal equipment, e.g. musical instruments, tennis racquets, cricket bats or hockey sticks, parents should ensure that these items are covered on their own insurance policies or by taking out Personal Effects Insurance (details available from finance@caterhamschool.co.uk) as pupils' belongings are not covered by the School's insurance.

Internet access

All pupils have access to the school's Wi-Fi network system. In the interests of the protection and welfare of all pupils, use is monitored and inappropriate websites blocked by our firewall, in line with our ICT suite of policies and our Safeguarding Policy. All pupils are issued with a school email address.

Please note that for safeguarding reasons the use of VPNs by boarding pupils is not permitted. If a boarding pupil is finding it difficult to access particular websites or apps through the school network, they should speak to their HSM to explore possible solutions.

iPads and Stylus

Over the course of the last decade, Caterham School has taken huge steps forward in embracing the digital world and embedding the use of technology into the educational experience of our pupils. We have been acknowledged as an Apple Distinguished School and are visited frequently by schools around the world as an example of good practice in this area. Recently we were named an EdTech50 school, we won the TES Independent Schools Award for 'best use of technology,' and were shortlisted for 'best education initiative' for Digital Inquiry, the pre-cursor to the EDGE course which your children will undertake in September.

As part of your child's experience of innovative teaching and learning, we will provide them with an iPad. This device comes in a protective case (which must always remain on) and a screen protector. The device is insured for accidental damage and theft.

All pupils are required to have a stylus as part of their school equipment. We have seen significant advantages in pupils having the flexibility to use their iPads to curate a wide variety of notes digitally, whilst retaining important handwriting skills.

We highly recommend pupils joining **First Year** and **Third Year** purchase an **Apple Pencil (USB-C)**, available through our supplier's portal <https://store.albion.co.uk/caterham-shop>. The password for the portal is '**veritas**'.

Pupils in **Second Year** at the School and moving into **Third Year** will be issued with a new generation iPad alongside the new Third Year pupils. If they already own an Apple Pencil (1st generation), they may require a **USB-C to Apple Pencil adapter**. You can find the official adapter [here](#).

In September:

- **Fifth Year** pupils will have **10th Gen iPads** — they do **not** require an adapter to use an Apple Pencil (1st generation).
- **Second** and **Fourth Year** pupils will have **11th Gen iPads** — they **will** need an adapter if using an Apple Pencil (1st generation).
- **First** and **Third Year** pupils will have the new **iPad 11"**— requiring either an Apple Pencil (USB-C) or an adapter if using an Apple Pencil (1st generation).

There are, of course, a number of other excellent options, including the **Logitech Crayon**, which is fully compatible with our devices.

For stylus compatibility information, please refer to Apple's [support page here](#).

Sixth Form devices:

Giving the Sixth Form choice and ownership over the way in which they learn is integral to our ethos of fostering independent and enquiring minds. Choosing the device that best suits their needs and learning habits, whilst still compatible with our school systems, is just one part of this journey. As such, we do not automatically provide Sixth Form pupils with an iPad and instead offer them a choice of devices, including buying a second-hand iPad at a greatly reduced cost.

For the purposes of compatibility with our existing infrastructure, we ask that pupils come to school with an Apple branded device. This could be an iPad, a MacBook Neo or MacBook of any description. Similarly, we ask that all pupils who use an iPad, have a stylus to assist with handwritten input into the device. (The Apple Pencil and Logitech Crayon can be purchased via our supplier portal). If pupils wish to purchase a new iPad, MacBook Neo, MacBook or stylus, we have a limited range of models available for purchase at a discounted price through our supplier portal.

Please note, that if your child has opted to do Computer Science at A Level, then we would recommend that they have access to a MacBook. For all pupils using a MacBook, we recommend that they also have access to a method of writing directly onto a screen. This can most easily be accomplished through the use of a graphics tablet, which can be purchased inexpensively through Amazon.

The device your child brings into school should be insured and we would highly recommend an insurance policy many of our boarding pupils take up, which covers not just electrical equipment (such as laptops and iPads), but also sports equipment. The total value insured is up to £7,500. Please email finance@caterhamschool.co.uk for further information.

Learning Support

The Learning Support Department aims to ensure that all pupils who have a special educational need achieve their potential. In line with current legislation, this is primarily through providing support and guidance to teaching and pastoral staff so that they can meet and support pupils' individual needs effectively. This includes the provision of any reasonable adjustments that would support the pupil in class and/or in examinations.

Group screening assessments and baseline testing are carried out at various points throughout the school and from time to time to help form a picture of each pupil's needs; this may be used, together with information and feedback from teachers, and in liaison with the Heads of Year, to identify any pupils who would benefit from further assessment or support.

If you are considering any type of assessment for your child, whether for a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, or any other neurodiverse need, such as ADHD, it is important that you contact the Learning Support Department in the first instance, for advice on the type and nature of assessment required, and for details of approved specialists.

Any external assessments should be carried out with an approved specialist, or they will not be valid as evidence for any exam access arrangements. In line with the regulations set by public examination boards, any decision on exam access arrangements for examinations lies with the school's SENDCo.

Lockers

Pupils are expected to make use of their lockers, and should not carry all of their books and equipment in their bags. Please provide your child with a 30mm padlock which they can secure to their locker. The school bag for First to Fourth Years ensures weight is distributed evenly and does not place unnecessary strain on your child's back and shoulders. Fifth and Sixth Formers may choose their own black bag to use.

Lost Property

If a pupil has lost some property then they should look in the lost property collection points positioned around the school. Named items that are found can be collected from the Lost Property Room adjacent to Eothen playground each morning 8.15 – 8.45am.

All valuables (keys, phones, jewellery, glasses, etc) will be stored in reception for claimants to collect. Unnamed items will be sent to Lost Property for collection by pupils. Once property has remained unclaimed for over three months it is passed on to the Parents' Association to be sold or donated to suitable charities.

Mobile Phones and Wearable Technology

Pupils are equipped with iPads for all their technology needs, so mobile phones are not required during the school day. Pupils are permitted to bring mobile phones to school but they should be in lockers from 8.25am to 4.00pm for First to Fourth Year pupils. Pupils in the Fifth Year and Sixth Form must ensure that their phones are switched off during lessons and in any common areas, but may with permission, use them in their designated Year area.

Wearable technology, while permitted, should be on airplane mode or switched off and should not distract pupils from learning.

For the smooth running of the school day, all communication with pupils during school hours should go through School Reception. They will ensure messages are delivered promptly. If pupils need to contact you, this can be arranged through Reception or their Head of Year.

It is expected that boarders will own mobile phones while at school. Boarding pupils' possession of mobile phones helps boarding staff to ensure that pupils are safe when not under direct staff supervision and also allows the pupils to contact boarding staff in case of emergency. This allows boarding staff to grant boarders a degree of independence with junior boarders being able to visit the local shops unaccompanied and sixth form boarders being allowed to make weekend day trips to London.

Many boarders will choose to use wi-fi to make calls via internet-based apps such as Skype, WhatsApp or Facetime. While these apps are cheap and convenient, for safety reasons it is essential that boarders have a functioning phone even when they do not have wi-fi access. Boarders' phones should therefore have a SIM card from an established UK mobile network. The networks with the best coverage in the Caterham area are EE and Three, while Vodafone and O2 do not have good coverage around the school site. Appropriate UK SIM cards are available to purchase from several shops in Caterham town centre.

We recognise that mobile phones and social media apps play an important role in allowing our boarders to communicate effectively with family and friends outside school. However we are also aware that allowing the unrestricted use of mobile phones is not in our boarders' best interests, as the excessive use of phones can sometimes negatively impact sleep, learning, co-curricular involvement and the development of social relationships at school.

To try to help our boarders effectively regulate their phone use we adopt the following approaches:

- Internet access through the school wi-fi network is monitored and inappropriate content is restricted.
- Boarding pupils up to and including the Lower Sixth hand in phones, tablets and laptops before bed.
- Phone use is not allowed in the Refectory at supper time to encourage conversation and social interaction.

- Junior boarders are not allowed to use their phones during prep time in the evening when they are doing their homework.
- There are designated phone-free times in the weekend schedule when all junior boarders are expected to engage in a choice of house activities.

Music

Music at Caterham School celebrates tradition and inspires creativity. It is a big part of life at Caterham School and the Music Department offers a great variety of opportunities for musicians, of any standard, embracing all styles of music and including opportunities for 'out of school' performances. Highlights of the year include an annual choral tour abroad (most recently to Barcelona, Amsterdam, Normandy and Rome, at St. Peter's, Vatican), large-scale performances at professional venues in central London and around the UK, orchestral concerts in our own Humphreys Theatre, choral evensong at prestigious cathedrals and churches (most recently Arundel and Rochester Cathedrals) and many soloists' concerts such as our Musical Theatre Evening and Live Lounge series.

We work with well-respected institutions and musicians who provide workshop and masterclasses that further inspire our young musicians. Competitions (including the prestigious Pro Corda Chamber Music competition), festivals and engagement in community and charity events are all part of the Music Department's activity through the year as well as collaborations within the school, for example with the Combined Cadet Force. We also have a professional recording studio on-site and we encourage pupils to create and record original music of any style.

Many pupils learn a musical instrument or singing at School and many more learn outside. All are warmly invited to be part of our varied and exciting programme of events. Each year we design our co-curricular groups around the talents and abilities of the pupils. Our Chapel Choir and Chamber Choir provide music for church services and formal events whilst other choirs perform Musical Theatre, film and pop music. There are several orchestras including Symphony Orchestra, Baroque Consort, Film Orchestra and Wind Orchestra. And there are many other groups such as the Saxophone Ensemble, Swing Band and a host of chamber groups (Piano Trios, Flute Ensemble, String Quartets etc).

Highly qualified Visiting Music Teachers (VMT) provide instrumental and vocal tuition to pupils throughout the school with lessons taking place during school hours on a rota system or during Sixth Formers' study periods.

We offer tuition on the following instruments:

Strings:	Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Harp
Woodwind:	Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone
Brass:	Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, French Horn, Euphonium
Percussion:	Drum Kit, Orchestral Percussion
Guitars:	Classical, Acoustic, Electric, Bass
Voice:	Classical, Musical Theatre
Keyboard:	Piano (including jazz)
Other:	Music Theory classes, Aural, Studio Production

Please visit www.caterhamschool.co.uk/co-curricular/music for more details and listings of upcoming performances.

Online Tuition

Boarders should receive all the academic support they need from the school's academic departments. If boarders feel that they need more support in a particular subject, they should speak to their teacher or the relevant Head of Department.

The school does not encourage the use of online tutors, but recognises that there may be particular circumstances in which boarders might want to use tutors to supplement their studies.

Boarders should make their HSM or boarding tutor aware if they have a scheduled lesson. These lessons should never clash with school or boarding events, including mealtimes, evening prep time, house meetings and boarding assemblies. Online tuition should never take place in a shared study bedroom. Boarders who occupy a shared study bedroom should speak to their HSM about possible locations for online tuition.

Parents' Evenings and Reports

Parents' Evenings are held once or twice a year for each year group and provide an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with each of their subject teachers. Subject teachers also prepare written reports once a year and tutors twice a year. Pupils' progress is monitored each half term through effort and attainment grades as well as optional comments. Grade reports are published at the end of each half term. Upper Sixth and Fifth Year receive their reports at the end of the Autumn Term; First to Fourth Years and Lower Sixth receive their reports at the end of the Summer Term.

Parents' Information and Discussion Evenings

Throughout the year there will be a number of evening seminars, providing parents with up to date insight and practical advice on Teaching and Learning or Wellbeing themes. These are advertised in the Friday weekly newsletter and on the school website. They cover a diverse area of such topics as coaching, memory, higher order thinking, adolescent development and behaviours.

We have partnered with The Wellbeing Hub, an online resource developed by experts in child and adolescent mental health and wellbeing. Senior School parents and guardians have free access to this platform which includes a wealth of benefits for parents including a Q&A library with topics such as friendships, anxiety & eating disorders, Parenting Teens & Act for Autism courses, pre-recorded information seminars and monthly live webinars with expert speakers.

Partnerships

Our strong sense of community and responsibility towards each other extends well beyond the School's boundaries with a shared commitment amongst staff and pupils to play our part in the world and learn from the experience.

Partnership activities provide opportunities to our pupils to use their talents and develop their personal qualities for the benefit of others. Caterham School is proud to be actively engaged in partnerships, educational initiatives and projects with other schools in the UK and abroad. We have a close relationship with the London Academy of Excellence in Newham, Lerang'wa School in Tanzania, and a network of local primary schools known as the East Surrey Learning Partnership

Pupils are actively involved in supporting local, regional and global initiatives through volunteering, charity work and collaborative projects. Our pupils gain perspective and begin to define their societal responsibilities. For updates on our latest projects and activities please [click here](#). We're keen to partner with parents wherever possible and are always glad of volunteers who are willing to contribute to the life of the school. We have a thriving Parents' Association who will contact all new parents separately.

Personal and Valuable Items

- The School operates a pupils' personal effects insurance scheme. Details are sent to all parents by the Estates Bursar, via Admissions.
- Passports and tickets should be deposited with the HSM for safe keeping. A signing in/out book is used. The School does not accept any responsibility for the loss of a passport or tickets if they have not been deposited with the HSM.
- All electrical equipment will be Portable Appliance Tested (PAT) by the School each year. A new appliances that are brought in to School in the course of the year must be handed to the HSM or a Matron, so that the appliance can be PAT tested.

Pocket Money

- The School can arrange a letter for pupils to open a bank account.
- In addition, each HSM operates a House Bank. Pupils are advised never to leave large amounts of money locked in their drawer, instead giving it to their HSM for safekeeping.
- Pupils are provided with their own lockable facility in their study bedrooms.
- Pupils are encouraged only to carry small amounts of money with them at any given time and not to leave money around in their rooms.

Policies

School policies are frequently reviewed. The latest versions of these policies can be found on the School website: www.caterhamschool.co.uk/about/policies/

Of particular interest may be policies on behaviour, safeguarding and prohibited substances.

Printed copies of the policies may be obtained from the School Secretary.

Public Examinations

Fees payable to Examination Boards for any public examinations will be added to pupil bills.

Pupil ID Card

The School has introduced ID cards for senior school pupils. These should be kept with pupil at all times whilst on the school site. Pupils using transport must tap in and out using the ID cards on the new transport system. Parents can add funds onto these ID cards using the Wisepay portal, pupils can use these cards to pay in the Café to support the cashless aim of the school. The School will continue to expand on the use of the ID cards.

Rileybot

RileyBot is an AI chatbot designed to support our pupils in their learning and it is available to all pupils to use via an app on their iPads. Built by our own in-house startup, RileyBot does not provide direct answers, but encourages and supports learning, tests pupils on what they know, suggests how to improve their work and much more. RileyBot has a range of safety features built in to protect pupils from inappropriate content, and parents of younger pupils are able to login and view their child's interactions.

Road Safety

We fully appreciate that the School is very congested around 4.00pm (though almost entirely clear by 4.20pm) but we do ask parents not to park in Harestone Valley Road or the surrounding roads. Not only does this cause extra congestion but, far more importantly, it makes it very hazardous for pupils crossing the road between parked cars. Pupils must cross the road outside the School on the zebra crossing.

Sport lessons, Turnouts and Saturday Fixtures

Sport and physical activity are an essential part of supporting a pupil's health and wellbeing. As such we endeavour to provide sporting opportunities that encourage involvement and enjoyment in school sport, creating memories pupils share and retell long after they have left us.

Sport lessons occur as part of every pupil's curriculum timetable. All year groups have a Sport afternoon within the school day.

The First and Second year Sport programme is supported by Turnouts (sports practice), a fundamental part of Caterham's physical activity offer, which take place after school 4 - 5:30pm. These sessions provide pupils with time to practise in their team or to play external fixtures, and it is expected that all pupils attend. For Third Year and above, those pupils representing teams in our main sports are strongly encouraged to attend Turnouts. If a pupil cannot attend Turnouts they must contact the relevant Head of Sport.

Saturday fixtures are an important part of the Caterham school week, providing an opportunity to build relationships with their peers and teachers outside of the classroom. Fixtures and results are detailed on SOCS, which can be accessed through My School Portal. Pupils should expect to represent the school on Saturdays during term time, checking SOCS regularly and communicating with their coach and the relevant Head of Sport if unavailable. We make every effort to provide regular competitive fixtures for pupils of all abilities.

Sports clothing and equipment should not be kept in school, rather it should be brought in by the pupil on the days required.

If your child is selected for a school fixture, they are expected to make the fixture their first priority and be available to participate. If there are exceptional circumstances that mean this is not possible, please contact the Director of Sport and their team coach a minimum of two weeks before the event, requesting permission for absence from the fixture.

If a pupil is injured or feeling ill but is present in school, we ask that they still attend their PE or Games lesson in kit where they can be given alternative roles and remain part of the session. If a pupil needs to be excused from any Games or PE lesson, an email should be sent to the Director of Sport, copying in your child's tutor. If a pupil is unwell for a Saturday fixture, pupils should contact the relevant Head of Sport with their coach copied in as soon as possible.

Storage of Personal Belongings

At the end of each academic year all pupils who are leaving the school must take all their personal belongings away. Pupils returning to school may leave essential items at School during the summer holidays, and two storage crates per pupil will be provided on request.

It is quite usual in UK boarding schools for pupils to empty their rooms for the main holiday periods to enable the school to undertake maintenance works and to have use of the rooms for other groups. Where rooms are needed, pupils will be asked to clear their rooms for each of the main school holidays i.e. Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays. Storage space will be provided at School for pupils to keep their possessions safely while they are away.

Boarding staff will build times into boarders' programmes at the end and start of terms to allow for packing/unpacking so there should be no impact on flight times for arrivals or departures. Pupils will only be asked to move out of their rooms at any of the half term breaks if there are urgent maintenance works required in a specific area. Please can I ask that your child take this into consideration when deciding what items they wish to bring to school with them.

Transport Service

The School runs an extensive service using minibuses and coaches from a range of destinations, as detailed on the school website. The routes are reviewed each year to best match demand from our families. For details of routes and costs please refer to our transport page on our website <https://www.caterhamschool.co.uk/about/transport/> or contact the Transport Manager (email: transport@caterhamschool.co.uk).

All Minibuses leave the School at 4.15pm; our Coaches leave the School at 4.20pm during the week. Transport users who stay late to participate in co-curricular activities and turnouts may be able to use one of the late buses, which leave at 6.00pm. Places on these buses are limited and those pupils wishing to use the late bus must book a seat using the late bus application on their iPad. This application is open between 7.30am and 2.30pm (Monday to Friday). Pupils are required to tap-on and tap-off buses using their Pupil ID card.

We also run a shuttle service to/from Caterham Station between 8.00am-8.20am and at the end of the school day, and from Hill Fields in the morning only departing at 8.15am (both of which are subject to availability).

It is important that pupils understand that our school values and behaviour codes apply on journeys to and from school.

If you wish to cancel the transport service we require a terms notice.

Trips

Boarding trips are organised for Sundays with the cost of the trip being put on the School Bill. Details of these trips will be made available well in advance to all pupils and are published each term in the School Calendar.

Regular trips include West End musicals, international sporting fixtures, ice skating, paintballing, and cultural trips to London and Oxford.

Wellbeing and Pastoral care

The wellbeing of our pupils is our highest priority and we seek for all our pupils to be mentally and physically healthy, have a sense of spirituality, to have the necessary awareness to make healthy decisions, to engage positively with the community and be ready for their futures.

We take a whole school approach to wellbeing which is proactive and holistic, including a positive approach to discipline. There are a range of people available to support pupils including their Form Tutor, their Head of Year, the Boarding House Masters and Mistresses, the Safeguarding team and the School Counsellors.

As part of our Wellbeing provision for our school community, we have partnered with The Wellbeing Hub, an online resource developed by experts in child and adolescent mental health and wellbeing. Senior School parents and guardians have free access to this platform which includes a wealth of benefits for parents including a Q&A library with topics such as friendships, anxiety & eating disorders, Parenting Teens & Act for Autism courses, pre-recorded information seminars and monthly live webinars with expert speakers.

Educational Guardians

Parents of all new Boarders have been sent details about Educational Guardians and a form to fill in with respect to the School's requirements for an Educational Guardian.

Existing parents should ensure that the Boarding Housemistress or Master has the correct up to date details on your child's Educational Guardian. These details should be emailed to School Administrator administration@caterhamschool.co.uk.

School's Guardian Requirements

If your child is a boarder at Caterham School and as parents you reside outside of the UK, you are required to nominate an Educational Guardian. Your nominated Educational Guardian must be able to fulfil the requirements as set out in the Caterham School Educational Guardianship Policy Terms and Conditions.

Overnight Leave Arrangements

All parents have signed a consent form for their child's leave arrangements at Exeat Weekends and half-terms. Parents who live outside of the UK have agreed that they expect their child to go home or to the home of the officially appointed Guardian or host family arranged by the officially appointed Guardianship Organisation. If there are any alterations to these arrangements the parents or guardian must notify the Boarding Housemistress or Master.

Pupils are allowed to stay away overnight from school at weekends, half terms and holidays if confirmation has been received from the parents/guardians. If they wish to stay with anyone other than their parent or guardian, then consent must be obtained from the Housemistress or Master and confirmation should be received from the host. This applies to all pupils, including those over the age of 18.

In agreeing to the overnight leave the School must be sure that:

- The pupil will be under the direct supervision and care of an adult over the age of 25.
- There will be an adult over the age of 25 sleeping in the accommodation at night time.

Unfortunately, we cannot allow pupils to stay overnight in a university hall of residence, even with their siblings.

During term time the School is legally responsible for each pupil's welfare and undertakes parentally designated responsibilities. However, whilst a pupil is away from School for the purpose of attending a university interview that necessitates an overnight stay this means that the pupil is therefore not under the direct care of School Staff. Parents will be notified ahead of such a scenario.

Contact details

It is essential that the School, at all times, has the correct contact details, including active email and mobile telephone numbers, for all parents and guardians. If these change at any time, please ensure that you inform your child's Boarding House Master or Mistress immediately.

Travel arrangements to and from school

Parents, guardians or guardianship organisations should liaise with the Boarding House Master or Mistress regarding proposed travel arrangements to ensure that suitable travel arrangements are in place when pupils are travelling to or from Caterham School for the purposes of an overnight leave, Exeat weekend or school holiday. On return pupils must report to the duty member of staff in their house.

Online Travel and Holiday Surveys

Approximately three weeks before each exeat weekend or school holiday, parents and guardians will be sent a link to provide details of their child's plans via an online survey.

Parents/Guardians will be asked to provide details of their child's accommodation and travel details, including flight numbers and times, as well as the name and phone number of any taxi company or private driver transporting their child to the guardian, host family or airport.

Pupils in the First to Fourth Year

The School recommends that the parents/guardian/guardianship organisation be responsible for personally transporting the pupil to and from the School either in their own car or by transport provided by another designated adult. We recommend that pupils of this age should not travel on their own by means of public transport.

Pupils in the Fifth Year and Sixth Form

The School expects that the parents/guardian/guardianship organisation have made suitable travel arrangements.

Return times after Exeat Weekends and Holidays

Parents and guardians should pay particular attention to the published return times after exeat weekend and school holidays. Parents should avoid booking flights which would see their child arrive back at school significantly before or after the published return times. In these circumstances the HSM may ask that the pupil goes to stay with the guardian until their boarding house opens, or, in the case of a late evening arrival, goes to stay with the guardian before returning to school in the morning.

Changes to Boarding Status

Every year, a number of families decide that they would like to switch the status of their children either from day to boarding, or from boarding to day. Changes are made between academic years, and though they are often made between Key Stages, other times are possible (e.g. between Fourth and Fifth Year).

Requests should be made in writing to the Headmaster as early as possible, via his Executive Assistant, Catherine Acton catherine.acton@caterhamschool.co.uk, with requests having more chance of being possible if made by the October half term before the September when the change would ideally be made. An example might be a family writing in the October of a pupil's Fifth Year that they wish to become a Weekly Boarder for their Sixth Form. Changes to status are dependent on space being available either in the Boarding Houses or the day cohort.

Medical Matters

Medical Information for Parents of Boarders

All boarders are normally registered under the National Health Service (NHS) with the School Medical Officer, Doctor Richard Wright of Caterham Valley Medical Practice. As such they are entitled to free medical treatment, including hospital care, under the NHS. The School Medical Officer holds a surgery in School twice a week, sees all new boarders as routine and is on call in the case of emergency. Arrangements can be made for pupils have access to a doctor of the same gender if requested.

A pupil who is registered with the Caterham Valley Medical Practice and who needs to see another doctor in the holidays should be registered as a temporary patient with the home doctor.

Any new boarders who are already registered with an NHS doctor in the United Kingdom and who are intending to register with the Caterham Valley Medical Practice should give their existing National Health Service Medical Card to the School Health Centre Manager at the beginning of their first term.

Medical Information Forms

These forms must be completed and the appropriate sections signed by parents of all new pupils entering the School. It is very important that the Health Centre has the correct and relevant information about pupils, including past medical history. This medical information is handled with great sensitivity and shared with colleagues only on a need-to-know basis.

In order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our boarding pupils, it is essential that parents notify the Health Centre Manager as soon as possible if, in future, there are any changes in these medical details.

The School Doctor

Dr Richard Wright MB, BS MRCP DRCOG undertook his medical training at St Thomas' Hospital Medical School in London, qualifying in 1990. He has been a General Practitioner in Caterham Valley since 1996, and has been involved in the teaching and training of both medical pupils and junior doctors for much of his career, including six years as a programme director for the East Surrey GP Training Scheme.

Dr Wright has been actively involved with the school for more than 10 years, working with the careers department to offer work experience and careers advice to pupils. He has an interest in all aspects of family medicine, including children and young person's healthcare.

Health Centre

The School has a Health Centre for the treatment and management of both in and out patients. The Health Centre is staffed by a team of nurses all of whom are Registered Nurses. Surgeries are held each day in the Health Centre.

How the National Health Service in the UK works

In the UK all patients see their General Practitioner (GP) as the first point of contact, regardless of the medical problem, this is free of charge. The GP makes an assessment of the problem, and determines any treatment, necessary investigations or tests, including x-rays and blood tests, and determines, with the patient, whether they need to see a specialist. Unlike other countries, it is not possible to see a specialist without first seeing your GP. This same system applies, regardless of whether the specialist involved is private or part of the NHS. We will always discuss with parents whether they wish their child to be seen within the NHS, or to go privately, but all arrangements must be made via the Health Centre.

Since many of the Boarders are living far from home, which is often in a different country, the Health Centre will always contact Boarders' parents to discuss the need to be seen by a specialist, but they are bound by the UK system in terms of how healthcare is provided. Our focus is on providing the highest possible quality healthcare, and the NHS is widely considered the best healthcare system in the world.

Parents should be aware that if they choose to make private arrangements for their children to be seen by doctors without the agreement of the Health Centre team, they take on the full responsibility for the healthcare provided, and the Health Centre may be unable to provide the necessary monitoring or support. We strongly advise that all healthcare must be organised solely through the Health Centre, which provides 24-hour access to our dedicated team of doctors and nurses. Parents insisting on their children receiving medical care which does not have the agreement of the Health Centre team may be asked to remove their children from the school. This is in order to ensure that the pupils receive safe, coordinated and consistent healthcare, in line with UK regulations.

Admission to Hospital

In the case of an emergency everything possible is done to contact parents at the earliest opportunity. In exceptional cases, however, the Headmaster or his nominated representative has the right to authorise medical and surgical treatment, including the administration of anaesthetic.

Pupils will normally be admitted under the National Health Service; if parents already have their own private medical insurance and would prefer that their child receives private treatment, then they should ensure that they fill in the appropriate section on the Medical Information Form.

Please note that if a pupil needs medical treatment outside School he/she will be accompanied by a member of staff, with travel costs payable by parents.

Immunisations

We are very keen to ensure that pupils are up to date regarding routine immunisations in accordance with the School's requirements. New pupils are expected to be up to date with immunisation in accordance with the schedules issued by the Department of Health. The Health Centre will arrange for those pupils who are not fully immunised to receive the appropriate immunisations as soon as practicable, both for their own protection and for that of the wider school community.

Medication

We would kindly request that boarders do not bring any medication with them unless it is a prescribed drug that they are currently required to take. This medication should be in the original packaging with a label attached from the doctor or pharmacist, with clear instructions on it.

Boarders in the Sixth Form may be allowed to hold their own medication but this must be approved by the Health Centre first. It must then be kept in a locked drawer in their room at all times and not left out unattended.

Boarders in other year groups may be allowed to store and self-administer prescribed medication but this is at the discretion of the School Medical Officer and the Health Centre Nurse. Permission will be given on an individual basis depending on the medication in question and the competency of the pupil.

Medications such as paracetamol, cough medicine, throat lozenges etc. are available from the school Health Centre when required. These items must not be bought into the boarding houses from home, so please adhere to this for the safety and wellbeing of all our boarding pupils.

Dental Treatment

Routine dental treatment should be carried out during the School holidays. If a boarder develops an emergency problem whilst in School an appointment can be made under the NHS by the Health Centre Manager. The expense of dental treatment is not entirely covered by NHS so expenses incurred will be payable by the parents.

Optical Treatment

This can be arranged by the Health Centre but all expenses incurred are payable by the parents.

Glasses / Contact Lenses

All pupils who wear glasses must have two pairs with them at School in case of breakage. Glasses used for sports must be plastic.

Those pupils who wear contact lenses must have a pair of glasses with them at School in case of being unable to wear their lenses e.g. due to eye irritation/infection. It is also good practice for those under 16 years old not to wear their contact lenses for seven days a week and to have at least one day in glasses.

In case of breakage the School can arrange to have new glasses made up but this may take two to four days. There will normally be a cost involved. Ideally anyone with glasses should bring a copy of their prescription with them to School to hand in to the Health Centre so that this can be kept on record as this means that new glasses can be arranged more quickly.

Communication

The Health Centre Manager will always contact parents and/or guardians whenever appropriate and parents are encouraged to contact the Health Centre Manager or the School Medical Officer if they are in any way concerned about their child's health.

Address: Health Centre, Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road,
Caterham, Surrey CR3 6YA

Telephone (from the UK): 01883 335050

Telephone (outside the UK): 0044 1883 335050

Email: health.centre@caterhamschool.co.uk

School Uniform and Sports Kit

School uniform is purchased online from [School Blazer](#). Pupils and their parents or guardians can use the intelligent sizing feature before making purchases. Uniform will then be delivered, labelled, directly to your home or school if living outside of the UK. Postage is free of charge for items ordered from 29 June to 12 July 2026 or on orders exceeding £175 through the rest of the year. If items do not fit, then replacements can be ordered for immediate dispatch and the ill-fitting item returned to the supplier. Please note that School Blazer returns policy is 365 days.

Sports Kit is purchased online from [Serious Stuff](#). Samples of items including a range of sizes are kept at school for pupils to try for size before ordering. To arrange a 'try on' please email uniform@caterhamschool.co.uk. The password to access the site is **CATSPORT** and postage is charged at £5.99 per delivery. Please note that Serious Stuff returns policy is 60 days.

Serious Stuff deliver for free to the School in bulk order at regular times through the year. There are deadlines for placing your order which can be found on the website. To get your order delivered to the School free of charge in one of these deliveries, click on the 'pick up in store' option when ordering online and then scroll down and click the 'C&C Caterham School' option. All orders will be included in the free school delivery.

All items of new uniform will be supplied named. All additional uniform, sports clothing and equipment should be clearly marked with the pupil's name.

Where items are shown as not in stock, please do click 'notify when available'.

Nearly New Uniform Shop

The Parents' Association run a nearly new uniform shop, which is located near the Beech Hanger boarding house. Dates for nearly new sales are published in the calendar and advertised by the Parents' Association.

Uniform for boarders

Boarding pupils will need to purchase uniform as per the lists over-page. Those living outside of the UK can order uniform and sportswear as above but then choose to get it delivered to school. Where these deliveries arrive in term time they will be taken straight to the boarding houses, where they arrive in the holidays they will be held in storage at school until the boarding houses open. Pupils will try their new uniform or kit on once they are settled into their house – if items do not fit, pupils will be able to order replacements for immediate dispatch from School Blazer and returns made. Our boarding team will be on hand to support pupils with their uniform.

Additional items, specifically for boarders, are listed in the Boarding Handbook along with other useful information.

For any uniform enquiries, please email uniform@caterhamschool.co.uk

First to Fifth Year Uniform

Items in **bold type** should be Caterham School kit and purchased online from [School Blazer](#).

Compulsory

- **School blazer**
- **Charcoal knee length six-panel skirt or Charcoal trousers**
- **White reverse collar blouse and school house badge (house colour) or white shirt with school tie (house colour)**
- **Black school rucksack (compulsory for First to Fourth Years)**
- Black tights or black socks
- Flat, black, polishable or patent leather shoes

Optional

- **Black V-neck jumper with trim or quarter zip jumper**
- Smart black outdoor coat
- Black scarf and hat
- Black gloves
- Black school hat/black hijab/black turban

Extras

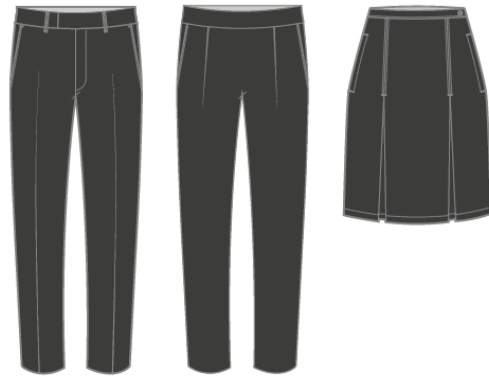
- Calculator – we would recommend one of the following, and also strongly recommend naming the calculator with an indelible pen or engraving initials:
 - Casio FX-85GT CW
 - Casio FX-83GT CW
 - TI 30XB
 - TI 30XS
- Art Crayons (water based)
- Combination padlock (30mm)
- Water bottle
- Inexpensive, in-ear headphones

Whilst wearing school uniform pupils are expected to present a smart and purposeful appearance. This includes being clean shaven (unless for religious or health reasons), with natural coloured hair kept off the face and tied back if below the collar. A maximum of one pair of stud earrings can be worn and no other jewellery is permitted.

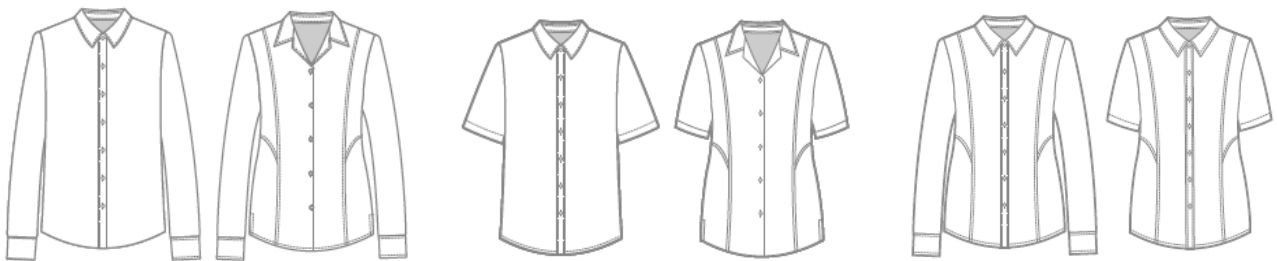
Available from School blazer – First to Fifth Year



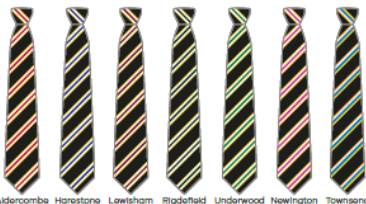
School Blazer



Charcoal Trousers, relaxed fit trousers or Charcoal knee length six-panel skirt



White reverse collar blouse, white shirt and button to neck blouses



Aldercombe Harestone Lewisham Ridgfield Underwood Nowington Townsend



Harestone Aldercombe Lewisham Underwood Ridgfield Nowington Baschinger

House ties and pins



Black V-neck jumper with trim or quarter zip jumper

Black outdoor coat

Optional

Accessories available from School Blazer



Litepak Bag Small



Unopak Bag Large



Games Bag



Havasack Bag



Bootbag



Chunky Knit Beanie



Knitted Scarf



Swim Hat



Swim Costume



Swim Shorts

Sports Kit: First to Fifth Year

Items in **bold type** should be Caterham School kit and purchased online through the [Serious Stuff](#) website unless otherwise indicated.

- **Black Serious Stuff shorts (Serious Stuff skort optional extra)**
- **Black Serious Stuff polar fleece**
- **Black Serious Stuff tracksuit bottoms**
- **House Tees (with house colour stripes)**
- **Sports bag (either games or haversack style) – via [School Blazer website](#)**
- **Boot bag – via [School Blazer website](#)**
- **Black and yellow rugby/hockey socks**
- Short white sports socks
- Swimsuit, black – (optional, other items may be worn in addition to the swimsuit if desired e.g. swim t-shirt) via [School Blazer website](#)
- School swim hat via [School Blazer website](#)
- Sports Trainers
- Mouthguard (custom fitting arranged by school in Sept or moldable)
- Water bottle
- Studded boots
- Shin pads
- Black baselayer top (optional)
- Black baselayer leggings (optional)
- Hockey stick (optional)
- Tennis racket (optional)
- Astro shoes (optional)

In addition, needed for girls' sports

- **Black Serious Stuff Fitted Games Shirt**
- Lacrosse Goggles
- Sports bra
- Lacrosse Stick (optional)
- Lacrosse Stick Bag (optional)

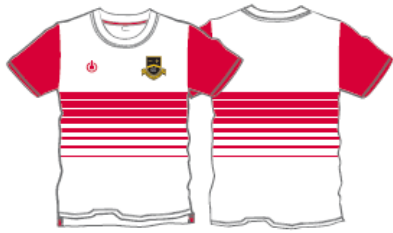
In addition, needed for boys' sports

- **Reversible Serious Stuff Games Shirt**
- **Black rugby shorts**

If your child is selected for a team then they may require additional kit later in the year as advised by their coach and listed below.

- Athletics -**vest**, black lycra shorts
- Cricket – **polo shirt**, white trousers, helmet, bat, box

Sports Kit available from Serious stuff – First to Fifth Year



House Tees



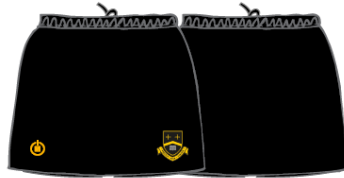
Fitted Games Shirt
(netball and more)



Reversible Games Shirt
(rugby and more)



Shorts (multi-purpose
and unisex fit)



Skort



Shorts (netball
and more)



Shorts (rugby)



Polar Fleece
(unisex fit)



Tracksuit bottoms
(unisex fit)



Black and yellow
playing socks
(rugby/hockey socks)



Athletics Vest



Cricket Polo Shirt



Festival Coat

Sixth Form Dress Code

Our Sixth Form pupils are role models and ambassadors for the wider school community and it is important that they look smart and purposeful around the school site, and also when travelling to and from school. Developing a capacity for independent thinking and self-confidence is an integral part of our Sixth Form culture - it is key that this is fostered whilst ensuring Sixth Form pupils not only support, but also embody, the ethos of the school.

Whilst aiming to allow a consistent level of choice to all pupils, our dress code for Sixth Form pupils has three main themes:

- Pupils should wear a formal suit with either a smart sleeved top or shirt and tie
 - Formal suit skirts and dresses must be worn 'nearer the knee than not'
 - Smart jumpers are permitted – these should be of a single colour, without logo/motif, and a collar/tie should still be visible
- Shoes should be flat and polishable
- Hairstyles should be neat and tidy, with hair being kept off the face, be natural coloured and tied back if below the collar. Faces should be clean-shaven (unless for religious or medical reasons). A maximum of one pair of stud earrings can be worn and no other jewellery is permitted. If worn, hijabs or turbans should be plain black.

The way in which uniform is worn is as important as the uniform itself. Unless specific relaxations are in force, Sixth Form pupils should be dressed in full, neat uniform at all times and outdoor coats should not be worn in main school or lessons.

Extras

Calculator – for A Level we would recommend one of the following, and also strongly recommend naming the calculator with an indelible pen or engraving initials:

- Casio FX-991 or TI-36X Pro (both non graphical)
- Casio FX-CG50 or Texas TI-84 or NumWorks Graphing Calculator

Sports Kit

Items in **bold type** should be Caterham School kit and purchased online through the [Serious Stuff](#) website unless otherwise indicated.

- **Black Serious Stuff Sixth Form Hoodie**
- **Black Serious Stuff Sixth Form Performance Tee**
- **Black Serious Stuff Sixth Form Gym leggings or Sixth Form Micro Fleece Trackpant**
- **House Tees (with house colour stripes)**
- **Sports bag, optional (either games or haversack style) – via [School Blazer](#) website**
- Mouthguard (optional) (custom fitting can be arranged by school in September)
- Black baselayer top (optional)

If your child is selected for a team then they may require additional kit later in the year, as advised by their coach.

Sports Kit available from Serious stuff – Sixth Form



Sixth Form Hoodie – Unisex fit



Sixth Form Performance Tee



Sixth Form Performance Tee



Gym Leggings



Micro Fleece Trackpant
(unisex fit)

Additional items for Boarders

Please provide enough uniform to allow for clean shirts each day, allowing for laundering and returning (up to 10 shirts/ blouses per pupil, and **two** sets of sports kit for junior boarders). In addition to their school uniform boarders will require the following additional casual clothing and household items:

- Casual clothing for evenings and weekends including some smart casual clothing for more formal occasions.
- Underwear, including plenty of socks
- At least two sets of nightwear
- Four large towels which a loop in the middle of the long side for hanging up and be named in one corner
- A pair of slippers or shoes for indoor wear
- Hair brush and toiletries
- Weekend bag or holdall, and toilet bag
- Large named laundry washing nets for underwear (x 3)
- Laundry bag/folding basket for dirty clothes (optional)

Please note, all items including footwear should be clearly marked so they can be returned after washing. Extra name tags for use with any new clothes that are purchased are extremely handy.

Returning laundry to the correct pupil is easier if the following rules are followed:

- Shirts, T-shirts, blouses, dresses and jumpers should be named at the back of the neck
- Shorts, pants, skirts, jeans, trousers should be named at the waistband
- Socks should be named
- Sheets should be named along the centre of the long side

All boarders' clothing is washed by automatic washing machine so clothes requiring hand washing, or which cannot be tumble dried are not recommended for school. If they are brought to school, then they will be sent out for dry cleaning and charges made on the pupil's account.

Bedding

Pupils do not need to bring their own bedding as they will be given a full bedding pack consisting of a pillow, duvet, two duvet covers, two pillow cases and two base sheets. The cost will be added to the termly bill. Boarders are able to bring their own bedding if they wish to.

School Policies and Procedures

Details of all the School policies can be found in the Caterham School Handbook, and on the website: <https://www.caterhamschool.co.uk/about/policies/>. These include:

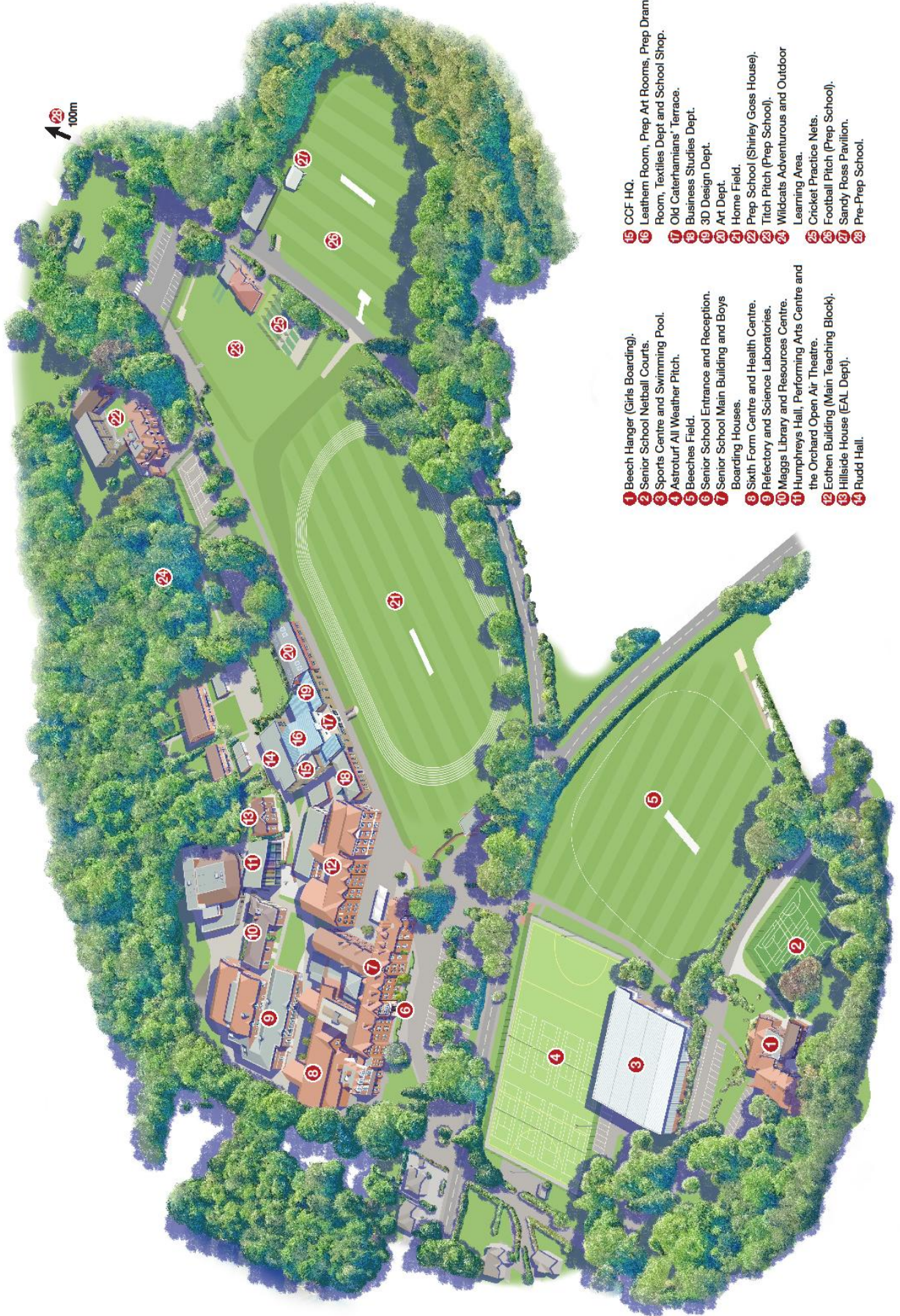
- Admissions Policy
- Aims and Ethos Statement
- Attendance Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Exclusion, Expulsions and Removals
- English as an Additional Language Policy
- Equal Opportunities
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy for Pupils
- Online Safety Policy
- Caterham Parents Handbook
- Standard Terms and Conditions
- Gender Pay Statement
- Privacy Notice

Further information on **Boarding at Caterham School** can be found on our website: <https://www.caterhamschool.co.uk/school-life/boarding/>

For further information of the most recent **school inspections**, please visit our website: <https://www.caterhamschool.co.uk/about/isi-inspection-report/>



Caterham School



- 1 Beech Hanger (Girls Boarding).
- 2 Senior School Netball Courts.
- 3 Sports Centre and Swimming Pool.
- 4 Astro turf All Weather Pitch.
- 5 Beeches Field.
- 6 Senior School Entrance and Reception.
- 7 Senior School Main Building and Boys Boarding Houses.
- 8 Sixth Form Centre and Health Centre.
- 9 Refectory and Science Laboratories.
- 10 Maggs Library and Resources Centre.
- 11 Humphreys Hall, Performing Arts Centre and the Orchard Open Air Theatre.
- 12 Ecothen Building (Main Teaching Block).
- 13 Hillside House (EAL Dept).
- 14 Rudd Hall.
- 15 CCF HQ.
- 16 Leatham Room, Prep Art Rooms, Prep Drama Room, Textiles Dept and School Shop.
- 17 Old Caterhamians' Terrace.
- 18 Business Studies Dept.
- 19 3D Design Dept.
- 20 Art Dept.
- 21 Home Field.
- 22 Prep School (Shirley Goss House).
- 23 Titch Pitch (Prep School).
- 24 Wildcats Adventurous and Outdoor Learning Area.
- 25 Cricket Practice Nets.
- 26 Football Pitch (Prep School).
- 27 Sandy Ross Pavilion.
- 28 Pre-Prep School.