



UT VOCE ITA VITA

# EXETER CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Nursery | Pre-Prep | Prep

## Key Covid 19 Information for Boarders

Given to each pupil on their first night of boarding



Name: .....

Welcome back to Eyre House!

As you know, we have had to close the Boarding House for some time because of the Covid 19 virus that has been spreading around the world for the past few months.

Good news though, we are reopening the Boarding House this September and we are all looking forward to welcoming you back after a well-deserved summer break.

Just like you, every single boarder will be given one of these booklets and it is extremely important that you read it carefully and ensure that you understand what is in it. You will be asked to sign it at the end to show that you accept the guidance and commit to applying the new rules of the Boarding House for the safety and wellbeing of each of its inhabitant. Please make sure you ask a member of staff if there is anything you do not understand or if you just want to talk about it.

First, we would like to reassure you that all governments across the UK are adhering closely to the most up-to-date scientific advice and guidance, which is available publicly online. Our responses are calibrated to the level of threat posed by the virus and entirely informed by the data and the advice we receive. NHS services are available to our boarders and should anyone need to see a doctor, we would contact Barnfield Surgery in Exeter.

ECS always put student care and well-being at the front of everything we do, and independent schools and the support bodies that represent the sector have produced detailed plans to ensure the protection of students at all times, whether in the classroom, whilst undertaking activities, playing sports or on excursions. These plans and risk

## KEY Covid 19 Information for Boarders 2020-2021

assessments will keep students safe while making sure that your experience will be as enjoyable as ever.

ECS have committed to adopt the voluntary charter for independent schools, setting out best practice on the support and safety of students. All member schools which have adopted the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) Covid-Safe Charter confirm that they will comply with all government rules and guidance and will meet the requirements when boarding schools reopen.

Here are the new rules and guidance for each boarder and member of staff living in the Boarding House. Read these very carefully.

- The Boarding House is to be looked at as one bubble within which social distancing will not be necessary. However, any degree of social distancing which can still be achieved is to be encouraged. Therefore, boarders will follow good habits of hygiene and a little bit of distancing will certainly do no harm.
- Boarding staff will ensure social distancing with boarders as much as possible.
- The school will ensure that all necessary cleaning of school indoor environments, including classrooms, bedrooms, kitchens and bathrooms has been conducted and will be conducted thoroughly on a daily basis.
- Boarding staff will ensure that boarders wash their hands regularly with hot water and soap. Hand sanitiser units, cleaning sprays and paper towels will be made available in the Boarding House communal areas as well as bathrooms and toilets. Each boarder will be asked to spray and wipe the toilet, the shower and the sink they use before and after each use.
- The school will ensure that staff do not work (or have contact with pupils) if they have symptoms, have tested positive or have been in contact (within the last 14 days) with anyone who has.
- We will train staff in the safe management of boarding houses under new guidance and school procedures and in Covid-19 nursing for appropriate staff.
- ECS Boarding House is usually able to welcome 40 boarders as well as 5 members of staff. In order to ensure maximised space and some social distancing, we have reduced the number of boarders to 19 with each boarder having the sole use of a bunk bed.
- Boarding will only be available to full boarders, weekly boarders and regular flexy boarders for the time being.
- Arrival procedures and visits: parents/guardians will not be able to access the Boarding House on the first day of term and during term time. A member of staff will welcome you at reception and help carry any luggage to the Boarding House.
- Mr Baurance will explain all changes to routines and all new safety arrangements to pupils, with full induction for any pupils new to the Boarding House.
- Boarders will be encouraged to contact home shortly after arrival.
- Mr Baurance will explain the new fire evacuation procedures and conduct a drill soon after arrival.
- Boarders will only enter and exit the Boarding House using the blue front door. They will not be allowed to use the small blue door at the bottom of the Year 4 staircase.
- Please remember that you always have an opportunity to discuss your fears, worries and concerns with a trusted adult, whether it is Mr Baurance, Miss Baxendale or any of the gaps.
- We will evaluate and adapt any medical procedures to ensure compliance with the recommendations of public health bodies.

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- The member of staff on duty in the Boarding House will regularly be taking boarders' temperatures.
- If a boarder shows symptoms of Covid 19, they will be isolated to the Treatment Room and necessary arrangements will be made for them to see a doctor. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately and will need to come to school to pick them up as soon as possible.
- If a boarder shows symptoms of Covid 19 and test positive, all boarders and boarding staff in that bubble will need to self-isolate for 14 days and be tested?
- There will be sanctions for any deliberate infringement of our new safety arrangements and any Covid related bullying (including online).

Once you have read the above guidance and rules and made sure that you understand them all, please write the date on the line below and sign. By signing this document, you agree to everything it says and you commit to following the rules for the safety and wellbeing of the Boarding Community as well as anyone in the school.

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**bsa** | BOARDING  
SCHOOLS'  
ASSOCIATION

[boarding@exetercs.org](mailto:boarding@exetercs.org)

[www.boarding.org.uk/userfiles/bsa/pdf/Advice%20and%20Guidance/82902%20BSA%20COVID%20V2.pdf](http://www.boarding.org.uk/userfiles/bsa/pdf/Advice%20and%20Guidance/82902%20BSA%20COVID%20V2.pdf)

[www.boarding.org.uk](http://www.boarding.org.uk)

[www.exetercathedralschool.co.uk](http://www.exetercathedralschool.co.uk)

Childline: <http://www.childline.org.uk/pages/home.aspx>

Anti-Bullying Alliance: <http://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

Beat Bullying: <http://www.beatbullying.org/>

**Our Independent Listener: Rev'd Eliza Getman 07748 438183**

