



EPSOM
COLLEGE

Guidance for Pupils 2025-26

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All policies referred to throughout this document are available on the College's website.

1. Ethos of Epsom

The years which pupils spend at Epsom College represent a bridge between childhood and the wider horizons of universities and chosen careers. It is during this period that they must prepare for entry into a changing world by growing into young people of sound judgement and integrity. Epsom College aims to provide a happy, friendly and purposeful atmosphere in which pupils develop a high moral code and respectful conduct towards others. The development of each pupil's own talents — academic, athletic and cultural — is seen as a means of advancing his or her progress towards maturity.

Freedom and responsibility are two essentials of education. Thus, all pupils at Epsom College have freedom to enquire, freedom to criticise constructively, freedom to use their initiative and freedom to approach a teacher at any reasonable time. Pupils have the opportunity of exercising responsibility within parts of the school, so helping to create a kind and caring community in which all can thrive through learning the true meaning of service, tolerance and consideration for others.

Pupils are guided to take increased responsibility for their own actions. More senior pupils are encouraged to take up leadership positions within the College. All are expected to play a positive part in increasing the well-being of the community.

The life of a boarder, in particular, has to be an extension of the pupil's home where interest and guidance are offered and self-discipline nurtured. The framework for the pastoral care provided at the College is the house system in the Senior School and by Form (and year group) in the Lower School, supported by the Chaplaincy, the School Counsellors, staff in the Medical Centre and of course the whole of the Common Room.

2. Pastoral care

LOWER SCHOOL

The Lower School is a warm, welcoming community sustained by an experienced team of pastoral staff. The Head of Lower School, assisted by the two Heads of Year and the Form Tutors, fosters a culture of respect, responsibility, and honesty, as well as equality, with each pupil valued for their talents and contributions.

The two year groups, Third Form and Lower Fourth, benefit from the guidance of a dedicated Head of Year, who is readily available for pupils to discuss any concerns. The Heads of Year are the first point of contact for parents, who are communicated with regularly and in a timely fashion.

The Heads of Year are assisted by a team of Form Tutors who welcome and settle pupils in the morning, monitor pupils' academic performance and co-curricular commitments (including activities, games, drama and music), and deliver the Lower School Wellbeing programme. The Wellbeing programme aims to ensure that all pupils feel happy, supported and secure.

The Lower School Support Staff care for and promote all personalities, talents and interests of pupils, including some involvement in the pastoral and health care of all pupils. Support staff act as the primary point of contact for any pupil who may be feeling unwell and possibly requiring medical treatment. Support staff also share any concerns about pupils' wellbeing with the relevant members of the Lower School team during the school day.

Every Lower School pupil belongs to a House. There are five Houses in the Lower School: Jeffery, Hutchison, Glyn Hughes, Wardroper and Doudney. A sense of House spirit is cultivated by the five Heads of House who are appointed from the Lower Fourth year group. The Heads

of House assist with the running of House competitions, charity fundraising, and peer support initiatives.

The opinions of Lower School pupils are valued and there are well-established routes of communication. Form Captains are appointed termly to represent the views of their form in regular Lower School Council meetings. Feedback from pupils is carefully considered and helps to ensure that the Lower School meets their academic, co-curricular, and pastoral needs.

SENIOR SCHOOL - THE HOUSES

Within the houses a high standard of care exists. Each house is in the charge of a housemaster or housemistress, assisted by the House Matron and the team of house tutors, who are readily available for pupils to discuss any concerns.

The housemaster or housemistress is normally informed first of any concerns about the health, progress, attendance or disposition of a pupil. All boarding houses have a Deputy Housemaster or Housemistress who is also resident in the building. Day Houses also have a Deputy Housemaster or Housemistress who provides assistance to the HMM in terms of the general running of the House on a day to day basis.

The housemaster/mistress, Matron and tutors oversee house activities, take afternoon and evening supervision duties (boarding only), monitor pupils' co-curricular commitments (including activities, games, drama and music) and offer general advice and guidance to all pupils in the house. Every pupil belongs to a tutor group, which is formed from pupils in one year. The tutor monitors all aspects of the school career of each of his/her tutees, especially academic progress which is checked at regular intervals coinciding with the publication of reports. During tutor periods every tutor will meet members of his or her tutor group (either as whole group or for

one-to-one meetings), either in a classroom or in a suitable room in the house. The tutor periods are to be seen as a commitment for all members of the tutor group. There will also be significant input into the tutor periods by the relevant Head of Year.

A non-resident Matron provides pastoral support and care alongside the housemaster or housemistress in addition to supervising the domestic arrangements of each house. The Medical Centre has an integral role to play. It is staffed by qualified resident nurses. The College Medical Officers hold a daily surgery in College for all pupils and are also available in the local Surgery. The Senior Chaplain performs an essential role by making regular and informal visits to houses as well as being available for consultation. The School Counsellors are available for all pupils and support the work of other staff.

LIFE IN THE HOUSE (BOARDERS)

M4 Boarders usually begin in rooms of four divided to allow personal space, moving to study bedrooms in the U4 year. Sixth Formers enjoy either a single or double study bedroom. In later years, pupils are given the freedom of later bed-times and may spend private study periods working in their houses. Communal duties are shared by all pupils. As they move up the school they play a bigger part in the running of houses. Prefects are drawn from the Upper Sixth and are an integral part of the caring system of each house. They check that duties are carried out and report to the duty teacher on several occasions each day. All these arrangements meet with the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools.

THE ENTRY OF NEW PUPILS

Once the selection procedures have been finished, all parents and pupils have the opportunity to meet the housemaster or housemistress privately before joining the College. New 3rd Form and M4 pupils are invited to attend Familiarisation Days held towards the end of the Summer Term prior to entry. At the beginning of the first term new pupils in the Senior School attend a special gathering at which they meet other new pupils as well as house staff and the prefects, who show them the facilities of the College and outline the routine. Prefects play a key role in settling in new pupils and have been appointed to assist in monitoring their welfare in the house. At all times, the housemaster/mistress and house tutors are available, and informal gatherings such as teas or outings are arranged. A new pupil may be placed in the care of an older pupil who will be ready to help guide him or her through the early weeks. New pupils will be registered in the Medical Centre and be given a medical check.

All 3rd Form, M4 and new L6 pupils attend an Induction Day on the first day of the Michaelmas Term.

3. Good relationships

Good relationships form the basis of a creative and successful school community in which common sense, civilized behaviour, consideration for others and good manners all have a part to play if its members are to thrive and achieve, and pupils are to enjoy their educational experience. A happy society promotes the self-confidence that is essential to an individual's personal and social development. The College is committed to providing a friendly, caring environment: one that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child and allows him/her to learn in a relaxed, stimulating and secure setting. A high standard of conduct is expected from all pupils and employees.

It would be unrealistic to think that relationships at the College are always harmonious and that bullying never takes place. Bullying, or anti-social behaviour, is found amongst people of all ages, nationalities and cultures and in all jobs and professions. It will be found in every school. However, in a community like the College, where a positive and caring ethos is fostered, instances of bullying and harassment are few, brought to light early and dealt with quickly and in an appropriate manner. Pupils must be in no doubt that all bullying and any form of harassment are totally unacceptable and that any instances of bullying or harassment will be firmly dealt with. The College regularly updates its *Anti-Bullying Policy*, which includes a definition of bullying and details of measures taken to prevent, identify and deal with bullying.

Pupils have a key role to play in helping to create an environment in which bullying and harassment are reduced.

- a) All should recognise that prevention of bullying and harassment is a social group concern, involving all pupils as well as teachers.
- b) Respect for other pupils, be it their peer

group, juniors or seniors, is of fundamental importance.

- c) Participation in purposeful group activity reduces the likelihood of individual separation and isolation, from which much bullying starts.
- d) There should be a willingness by pupils to accept encouragement, advice and direction from others, in particular all staff and senior pupils.
- e) All pupils and teachers should be prepared to bring instances of intimidation, bullying or harassment to the notice of those responsible for pastoral care (housemaster/mistress, Matron house tutors, form tutors or the Head of Lower School, as appropriate) and have confidence that all instances will be dealt with discreetly but effectively.

3.1 CYBERBULLYING

This is the name given to the misuse of electronic communications technologies (such as e-mail, mobile/smart phone and text messaging, digital photography, instant messaging, personal websites, chat rooms, blogs and social networking sites) to taunt, intimidate, insult, abuse, stalk, embarrass or otherwise harm or cause distress to others. As with all other forms of bullying, cyberbullying is regarded by the College as totally unacceptable

- a) To reduce opportunities for cyberbullying, pupils must never divulge passwords to anyone, and should only give out their own mobile phone number and private e-mail address to trusted friends.
- b) Pupils are strongly advised **not to respond** to messaging, phone calls or e-mails that they regard as bullying in nature — those that are in any way abusive, intimidating or otherwise malicious and unwelcome. However, receipt of such communication should be reported immediately.

The content, time, date and any caller identification (or that the number was withheld or made unavailable) should all be noted. (Anything viewed on a computer screen can be captured by pressing the Print Screen key, which places the contents of the screen on the clipboard. From there it can be pasted into a blank Word document and then saved.) If at all possible the whole communication should be kept and saved.

- c) Pupils need to be aware that they are not granted privacy send obscene (including AI generated images) or abusive e-mails or post malicious material on the internet from school (including generating or sending misinformation, disinformation, fake news or conspiracy theories). The College retains its right to monitor e-mails and other messages sent from its own network. This is in line with practices elsewhere: most employers warn that e-mails sent from work can be read.
- d) Responsibility for allowing offensive material to remain on a site rests with the person who set up the site as much as with the writer of the material. Pupils must accept the implications of creating an opportunity for others to post comments about a third party. The ability to insult or otherwise abuse or take advantage of other people by this remote means, in public and with the potential to reach a mass audience, is proving to be one of the most unwelcome downsides of the continued rapid development of electronic communications. The College will not condone such action, even when it is undertaken from the privacy of a pupil's own home, and/or on the pupil's own computer; and/or out of normal school hours. Pupils should be aware that, as a rule, the College asks the police to become involved in investigations into reports of this sort of activity.
- e) If you feel you are experiencing cyberbullying of one kind or another, you may want to contact your phone network provider, internet service provider or social networking site.

Details of how to do this are published by the Anti-Bullying Network. The relevant document is available on www.childline.org.uk

Childline | Free counselling service for kids and young people

Childline | Online safety

Childline | Guide to report & remove

Childline | Bullying online advice

The above sites outline some of the safeguards pupils can adopt to protect themselves from becoming involved in cyberbullying, either as victims or inadvertently as perpetrators. By the same means pupils can protect themselves from adults intent on harming children, who make use of children's personal details to 'groom' their victims over the internet, and from identity thieves, who also obtain and misuse personal details over the internet. (Over a third of victims of identity theft are teenagers.) In addition to the measures listed above, to ensure safe and proper use of ICT all pupils are advised

- a) to refuse all requests to reveal personal information;
- b) to avoid putting personal information such as full name, birthday, address, mobile phone number, e-mail address, bank account details, instant messenger ID, and any images of themselves anywhere on the internet;

- c) to bear in mind that information concerning themselves and their activities that are placed on internet sites can be accessed by universities and potential employers, who may take such information and the manner in which it is presented into account before considering making any offer.
- d) to be wary of opening files that come from people who are not known 'in the real world';
- e) to regard as online friends only those who are already known as friends 'in the real world';
the internet allows people to pretend very easily to be somebody they are not.

For further information, please see the following policies which are available on the College's website:

Anti-Bullying Policy;

Pupils' use of ICT, mobile phones and other electronic equipment.

4. Co-Curricular activities

As part of their education at Epsom, pupils are offered a wide range of activities for the time outside the classroom. During the week there are 25 hours of classroom time to deliver the academic curriculum and twelve hours of activity time, with a further twenty hours for corporate activity, changing time, breaks and meals. It is also expected all pupils will do between five hours (Lower School) and twelve hours (Sixth Form) of preparation time during the day/evenings. This is structured for boarders in the Senior School.

The co-curricular programme covers the whole range of sports, music, drama, clubs and societies.

Pupils are expected to fill a designated proportion of the twelve hours of activity time with a range of purposeful activities to develop skills and talents in an enjoyable manner. The degree of choice in the programme will depend on age.

Participation in the co-curricular programme is therefore compulsory and demands commitment. Involvement in an activity demands responding positively to notices and e-mails, attendance at that activity at the time programmed and full participation in order to derive full benefit. It also means that, if there are conflicts in the programme as a result of external factors, pupils must plan ahead to ensure that these are resolved in such a way as to minimise disruption.

If pupils are unable to attend a particular session, apart from registered absence from school, they must see or email the member of staff in advance to ask for permission to miss that activity. This also applies for instances of being 'off games'. It is good practice for the pupil to go to the session to get registered and see the staff in charge of that session at the start of the session or before.

5. Regulations, rewards and sanctions

Regulations are an essential part of the framework of a community and exist for the benefit of all members. Most regulations relate to the health and safety of members of the community. Rewards exist to promote good order, socially acceptable behaviour and achievement in work and play. Unacceptable behaviour is discouraged and on occasions sanctions may be necessary. Sanctions are fair, appropriate, and wherever possible constructive.

Achievement, effort and good behaviour are rewarded. The most widely used rewards are verbal congratulation and public commendation through the use of Merits and Commendations. Regular good work is rewarded by written praise in the form reports.

Distinctions are rewarded for individual pieces of outstanding work and later presented to the Head for permanent record. Prizes are given for achieving the highest levels in all subjects. Special sporting, music and drama achievements are recognised by the award of colours and achievements in other areas by the granting of Head's Awards. All are presented at a Senior or Lower School Assembly.

If rules are broken sanctions will be applied. The most frequently used action is a verbal reprimand. More serious infringements of our expectations may be dealt with in a variety of ways. These include extra written work, reporting, detention, restriction to grounds and work within the grounds. Day pupils can be detained at the end of a school day, parents having been informed beforehand. Privileges may also be withdrawn.

Departmental detentions are normally held on Friday afternoons. School Detentions are held on Saturday evenings at 6.30 pm. Details are communicated to pupils and parents.

All rewards and sanctions will be recorded on iSAMS.

Serious offences, such as bullying, theft, sexual intimacy, using or handling drugs and repeated breaches of other school rules will normally be referred to the Head, who may impose extra attendance at school, temporary exclusion, a request to leave or permanent exclusion.

There is no corporal punishment at Epsom College.

From time to time, disagreements will develop between pupils and those in authority. Most disagreements will be open and settled quickly by explanation and private discussion. On occasions, the usual practices may not be enough to satisfy a pupil's concerns. All pupils have been notified of a variety of people within the College whom they may contact in the event of any difficulties, and also have access to a mature understanding and experienced counsellor who is not in a position of authority at the School. Section 8, Concerns and Complaints, offers more guidance on this issue.

6. Code of conduct

The regular business of a school can only be carried out effectively in a disciplined and structured environment; one in which pupils accept and abide by a code of conduct that allows every participant to derive the greatest possible benefit from his/her time in lessons, on other school activities and during 'off-duty' and leisure periods.

6.1 GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Every pupil is expected to

- a) be trustworthy, truthful and reliable;
- b) commit him/herself to the ethos of the College and abide by its published rules to contribute towards the establishment of a stimulating educational environment in which all pupils can flourish;
- c) accept responsibility for his/her own progress in the school, with particular reference to learning and academic attainment;
- d) fulfil all obligations including punctual attendance at all compulsory activities;
- e) take full advantage of the wide range of co-curricular activities on offer;
- f) strive towards attainment in all areas of College life and support others in their attempts to do likewise;
- g) respect the rights of others, including that of privacy;
- h) behave rationally, and conduct him/herself in an orderly and considerate manner — for example, by being prepared when necessary to wait in turn and queue patiently;
- i) show respect to those in authority, including referees, umpires and other games officials;
- j) be smart and take pride in his/her appearance and demeanour;
- k) show consideration for other members of the College community — for example, by respecting their belongings and avoiding undue noise and other forms of disturbance;
- l) refrain from using foul language, gestures and other forms of offensive behaviour;
- m) act prudently to preserve his/her own health and safety — by eating sensibly, exercising regularly, carefully assessing risks and avoiding harmful substances;
- n) tolerate beliefs, opinions and ways of life that differ from his/her own and respect diversity of gender, race, religion and culture;
- o) conserve the buildings, plant and grounds of the College — for example, by proper disposal of rubbish;
- p) be aware of environmental issues and help the College reduce its environmental impact;
- q) prepare for life beyond school by developing self-discipline, interpersonal skills, reliable and effective working practices and a willingness to serve the community.

6.2 CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Teaching and learning are the principal functions of every school. During any school day there will be much interchanging of pupils and teachers, and it is therefore important that conduct in lessons complies with accepted standards that are well understood and universally applied. Many of the following would also apply outside the classroom in other situations where instruction, coaching or training takes place.

All pupils must

- a) arrive in good time for every lesson, assemble as instructed by the teacher, and enter the room quietly;
- b) arrive with the appropriate equipment (as specified by departments and individual teachers at the beginning of an academic year or at the outset of a new course of lessons);
- c) sit as directed by the teacher;
- d) start every lesson in a calm and ordered manner;
- e) ensure that mobile/smart phones and other electronic devices are switched off and cannot disturb the lesson unless the teacher states otherwise;
- f) record appropriate information (prep, deadlines, advice etc.) by the end of that lesson;
- g) listen to and follow instructions, which may be given verbally, in writing or by means of practical demonstration;
- h) raise a hand before answering or speaking and not interrupt a teacher or fellow pupil;
- i) treat others and their work with respect;
- j) handle equipment carefully and follow specific safety guidelines (as laid down by departments and individual teachers at the beginning of an academic year or at the outset of a new course of lessons);
- k) complete tasks during the lesson in a positive and well-ordered manner;
- l) leave the classroom quietly, returning all furniture and equipment to their proper places;
- m) notify the teacher in advance, as a matter of courtesy, of any anticipated absence from all or part of a lesson or activity, for whatever reason.

7. College expectations

Every pupil is subject to the following expectations when he or she is in College and when he or she is under the College's authority (that is, travelling to and from College, on a College-based activity or dressed in College uniform). All pupils are reminded that they have agreed to abide by these expectations when they signed the *Offer of Place* confirmation form before joining the College.

A high standard of conduct is expected from all pupils, both in school and in public away from the College. Honesty, decency, good manners and language, neatness of appearance, consideration for the wellbeing, rights and health and safety of others, but above all, sound common sense, are the underlying principles on which the following expectations are based.

7.1 ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION OF PUPILS

- a) All pupils must be present at School assemblies, Chapel services, school meals, academic classes, and their activities unless granted special leave.
- b) Day pupils report at 8.20am each morning or at a time laid down by the housemaster/mistress. Those arriving late must immediately report to Main School Reception and inform the housemaster/mistress or Matron. They must not leave before 5.30pm (Mon–Fri) or 3pm (Saturday) unless given special leave by the housemaster/mistress or their activity session has finished. In the Lower School, pupils arriving late should report to the Lower School Receptionist. Lower School pupils may leave at 4.45pm (Mon–Fri), or after their prep session from 5.30pm onwards. There is no Saturday school for the Lower School, but they will all be involved in sports matches, or training, in the morning, at which attendance is expected.
- c) All pupils in the Senior School are to attend twice-daily registration in houses at 8.20am

and 1.35pm. (On Saturday afternoon the afternoon registration is at 3pm or as their activity finishes - it is a rolling registration with Matron). A rolling Roll is also carried out in all houses from 5.30pm (Mon–Fri). Lower School pupils attend Registration by form in the Lower School at 8.20am, and by class from 1pm–1.05pm (Mon–Fri).

- d) All pupils attend Chapel unless they are practising members of another faith. Special prayer meetings are held on Saturday mornings for those who belong to either Hindu or Muslim faiths.
- e) In the case of day pupils who are 'off games', parents are required to send a note, telephone or e-mail the housemaster/mistress, or the Head of Lower School's PA, by 8.20am, as appropriate.
- f) Pupils living abroad are expected to attend on all days of every term. Permission to leave early before the end of term or at Half-Term must be obtained from the Deputy Head (Operations).

7.2 BOUNDS AND LEAVE-OUT - SENIOR SCHOOL ONLY

- a) All pupils are required to seek permission from the HMM/Tutor/Matron before leaving the College grounds during the school day and should also sign in/out on the Gate List. In addition, all boarders should seek permission and sign in/out when out of the House after 7pm in the evening during the school week using REACH. Weekend rules for full boarders are published separately, but they too must sign in/out **and** seek permission from the HMM/Deputy HMM (on weekend duty) when leaving the school grounds, or on any occasion that would preclude them from attending a roll call. Pupils leaving are to return by 6pm at the latest.
- b) Town Leaves: During the week (Mon– Sat 3pm): In exceptional circumstances,

senior pupils (i.e. 6th Form) may be granted a town leave at the discretion of the HMM. Separate rules apply for full boarders at the weekend.

- c) Boarders wishing to make a mid-week home visit, whether or not that involves an overnight stay, must have obtained permission from the Deputy Head (Operations) and housemaster/mistress, who will require time to confirm the arrangement in advance with parents.
- d) Permission from the housemaster/mistress is needed before pupils under the College's jurisdiction are allowed to visit a private house or attend a party. Boarders are not normally allowed to attend private midweek parties and other celebrations, apart from those hosted by their own parents.
- e) Public houses and bars are all out of bounds. This applies also to day pupils who leave the College at the end of the school day to return later for an evening function. A pupil who arrives suspected of having consumed alcohol, even if at home, may be refused permission to attend a College function or activity.
- f) Pupils must inform the housemaster/mistress if they are going on an official College visit. Pupils on College trips away for study or pleasure must comply with College off-site regulations.
- g) Visitors to the College should report to Main Reception, Lower School Reception, or the Headmaster's PA to be officially signed in. They should be accompanied at all times by another adult or a designated pupil if on a tour of the College. All visitors to the Houses, including parents and guardians, require permission from the housemaster/mistress, matron or tutor on duty to enter a house and should generally be accompanied unless with their own son/daughter.
- h) The particular rules posted in or beside laboratories, the Sports Centre, the Library, the Swimming Pool, the Design Technology Centre, the Tuck Shop, the Music School, shooting ranges and Astro turf pitches must be strictly obeyed. Laboratories, the Design Technology Centre, the athletic facilities of the Sports Centre, the Fitness Suite, the Swimming Pool, the CCF Confidence Course and shooting ranges are out of bounds unless a teacher is present.
- i) The area beyond Main School, extending in front of the terrace that comprises White and Crawford houses is out of bounds to boys except when special permission has been given.
- j) No pupils other than a College Prefect conducting school business in a same-gender house may enter another house without that housemaster/mistress's or Matron's specific permission.
- k) However, in the **evenings** this restriction is lifted as follows to give full boarders from different houses opportunities to mix socially. All such visitors to a house must be 'signed-in', and in some cases permission from the 'host' housemaster/mistress may be required before visitors can be admitted. All boarding pupils must use REACH to sign in and out of Houses in the evenings. All visitors must remain in 'public' areas, as defined by the host housemaster/mistress, and may not under any circumstances enter studies and other 'private' parts of the house. Unless specific permission has been obtained in advance from the pupil's own housemaster/mistress, Middle and Upper Fourth Form pupils should be back in their own houses by 9pm/9.15pm respectively. Fifth and Sixth Form pupils by 9.30pm. However, the host housemaster/mistress may require visitors to leave at earlier times.
- l) The kitchens and all domestic quarters are out of bounds to pupils.
- m) Wilson Pitch, First Side Cricket and the cricket nets areas are not to be used as routes to and from any part of College. Only College Prefects may walk on the College Lawns. Pupils must not congregate where they obstruct footpaths or walkways such as Wilson Steps, or where it is dangerous, as on the College drives in front of Main School. The Mermaid and Tuck Shop may be used for casual meetings after supper.

n) Exeats and Half-Terms are to enable pupils to visit parents or official guardians. Any other arrangements must be sanctioned by the housemaster/mistress.

7.3 PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Personal relationships are one particularly significant area in which values need to be made clear. All need to understand that, while some pupils may have boy friends or girl friends, school is not a place for sexual intimacy. We are concerned here about freedom and we hope that life at the College will foster a wide range of friendship, activity and intellectual discovery, rather than exclusive relationships. Sexual intimacy at this stage can, and often does, involve pressure or occasional exploitation of one party or the other. Such situations can, and often do, get in the way of the aims of school life. In relationships, we urge you to remember to think of the other person.

Our guidelines at the College for this are as follows.

- a) There should be no overt affection. It is embarrassing for all, young and old, who encounter it. Pupils should expect a member of staff to put an immediate stop to such behaviour.
- b) Sexual intimacy is an altogether more serious matter. Pupils found to have been involved in any form of sexual intercourse or in any other intimate sexual act may forfeit their right to remain at school.
- c) It is absolutely wrong to engage in verbal exchanges of a sexual nature.
- d) These rules and guidelines apply on all College trips, both during term time and in the holidays.

While it is impossible to give exact rules for every situation, these are as clear as we can make them. They are intended to help; please observe them.

7.4 BULLYING

The College defines bullying as **the deliberate action or conduct that causes pain or**

distress to another individual or group, either physically, emotionally or both.

Bullying, which is usually but not necessarily repeated over a period of time, can be the action or conduct of an individual or group. By using force, threats or ridicule to cause hurt a bully sets out to persecute or intimidate his/her victims, usually with the aim of acquiring status and control, but sometimes also for material gain. Bullying can be physical, verbal or — as with cyberbullying and social exclusion — indirect, but common to all kinds is an awareness the bully should have **that his/her action or conduct is unwelcome and causes another to suffer.** Invariably a bully sets out to exploit another's apparent vulnerability, which may relate to differences — actual or perceived — such as age, standing, strength, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation. Bullying is a form of abuse and is generally difficult for victims to defend themselves against. It undermines self-esteem and can induce feelings of helplessness, subjugation and isolation. Severe and protracted bullying can have lasting effects on a victim's social and emotional development.

- a) All forms of bullying or harassment of any person(s) by pupils at Epsom College are categorically forbidden. This rule applies at all times and in all places.
- b) Pupils must never send or forward any offensive or threatening message, this includes any AI/computer based generated images/messages.

See also 'Cyberbullying' in Section 3.

Please see the College's *Anti-Bullying Policy* for further information and guidance.

7.5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- a) Pupils are absolutely forbidden to tamper with or otherwise misuse fire extinguishers and all other fixtures and fittings relating to the safety and security of members of the College community.
- b) No alcoholic drinks may be brought on to the College campus except with the permission of the housemaster/mistress.

- Alcohol may not be purchased from shops. Consumption of a limited amount of alcohol by sixth formers at social events is permitted under staff supervision.
- c) No pupils may possess cigarettes, e-cigarettes, 'vaping' materials or tobacco. The use of any of these items is absolutely forbidden. It is now against the law to smoke at a place of work, which would include any College building. The College has declared its campus to be a non-smoking area.
 - d) Pupils may not possess or take illegal drugs, or substances commonly referred to as "legal highs" or solvents. There is an extensive programme of drug education through PSD lessons and lectures. A pupil suspected in any way of involvement with drugs may be asked to take a urine test. Those selling drugs, distributing them or encouraging others to use them will be required to leave. Anyone possessing or testing positive for drugs will forfeit the right to remain at the College and will be required to leave unless the Head considers that there are relevant mitigating circumstances and if the pupil agrees to submit to a regime of random testing for the remainder of his or her career at Epsom. Pupils who test positive a second time will be required to leave.
 - e) Pupils are absolutely forbidden to have in their possession at any time dangerous weapons, ammunition, knives, explosives, fireworks, laser pens (and equivalents) and replica weapons.
 - f) No pupil may keep prescribed or 'household' medication at school without the permission of the housemaster/mistress and staff at the Medical Centre, who will want to ensure that such medication can be kept securely and safely. In most cases parents will notify the school, but any pupil who seeks medical advice without his or her parents' knowledge, and as a result of which medication is prescribed or otherwise obtained, must notify the School Medical Officers before that medication is brought to school.
 - g) Pupils may not bring their own food and drink into the Dining Hall without the approval of the Catering Manager.
 - h) No pupil may sail, fly or ride without permission of parents and the housemaster/mistress.
 - i) Pupils must not tamper with electric fittings. No electrical apparatus with heating elements (e.g. kettles, toasters, rice cookers, sandwich makers etc) may be used in studies; these should only be used in brew rooms or kitchen areas. Extension leads and sockets must be installed and connected safely and are not to be overloaded. Connecting leads must not trail across floors.
 - j) Girls must be prepared to tie back long hair when undertaking practical work in design technology and science subjects and while participating in certain other activities.
 - k) Requests to use refrigerators can be made to the housemaster/mistress, but in each case the pupil will be responsible for ensuring that the refrigerator is kept in good condition and for removing it from the College when the pupil leaves. (Failure to remove a refrigerator will incur a disposal charge, currently £75.) Pupils may not have television sets. All electrical equipment must first be approved by the College electrician.
 - l) The use of matches, candles, joss sticks or any naked flame is forbidden everywhere in the College.
 - m) Personal music devices may not be played or worn on the head out of doors, either within the grounds or outside College.
 - n) No unofficial ball games or snowballing may take place near any College building. Throwing snowballs at cars, in or out of the College grounds, is strictly forbidden.
 - o) Skateboarding is allowed in the Sports Hall car park when not in use but not on any of the main School drives, nor in the Quad. Skateboarders should wear helmets and protective clothing and never skateboard in the dark.

- p) Doorways must not be obstructed and posters not placed on windows or beside doors. (See Section 7.11 (d).)
- q) Regulations that apply to pupils' use of cars and other vehicles are set out in Section 7.9.
- r) Pupils are not normally allowed to keep pets at school. Certain exceptions may be allowed but the permission of the housemaster/mistress must always be sought in advance.
- s) The possession of, or use of, drones at school is strictly forbidden. The only exception to this would be if a pupil had the express permission of their housemaster/housemistress to have a drone in school for an educational reason AND when using a drone is accompanied at all times by a member of staff qualified to operate a drone in a school setting.
- d) During spells of exceptionally warm weather the Head may issue 'shirtsleeve order': both boys and girls may dispense with jackets. Long shirtsleeves should be rolled up. Boys who opt to wear a jacket for any reason must also wear a tie. In prolonged spells or exceptionally hot weather, the Head may allow all pupils to wear games kit.
- e) Boarders and other pupils who remain at school are permitted to wear clean casual dress ('mufti') after 5.45pm on weekdays and after 3pm on Saturday as well as all day on Sunday. Mufti, which can include shorts, should not be immodest or cause offence in any manner. Underwear should not be visible. Clean items of school games clothing may be worn as mufti. Day pupils leaving just after 6pm on weekdays must remain in school uniform until they have completed their journey home. (See Paragraph (c).)
- f) A smarter form of casual dress ('smart mufti'), which would not include games clothing, shorts, tee shirts and anything scruffy, may be worn on certain official trips, such as evening theatre visits, and on certain other occasions as directed by the teacher in charge. Certain other restrictions (such as 'no jeans') may be imposed. The Upper Sixth may wear smart mufti in school during their final term once study leave has begun. However, normal uniform must be worn for examinations and on other formal school occasions.
- g) All clothing must be clean, sensible, unspectacular, neat and in a proper state of repair. Shirts should be tucked in. Top buttons must be fastened on shirts when a tie is worn. Otherwise a 'one-button-undone' rule applies — to girls at all times and to boys when 'shirtsleeve order' is in operation. Trousers are to be worn properly and at the correct height, which may require the use of a suitable belt of discreet appearance. Track suit tops and 'hoodies' may not be worn under blazers or jackets.

7.6 DRESS AND APPEARANCE

- a) Full school uniform is worn at school by all pupils during the working day (until 6pm on weekdays and 3pm on Saturday).
- b) The uniform and clothing list issued to parents at the time of a pupil's entry to the school forms part of College Rules. Extracts from the current uniform and clothing lists are reproduced at the end of this document. (See Section 9.)
- c) Pupils are encouraged to wear full school uniform must be worn on journeys to and from school each day and certainly if they are leaving College grounds during the working day. However, when travelling home in the evening, pupils should wear either school uniform or college games kit. Pupils using College or public transport are also encouraged to wear leggings or tracksuit bottoms. Pupils should arrive in the morning looking smart, and should certainly be in full school uniform for Registration at 8.20am in Houses/Lower School.

- h) Hair must be of tidy appearance, uniformly of a natural colour and appropriate length. Two tone colouring, extensive highlighting and decorative braiding are not allowed. Any hair accessories should be in line with the college uniform colours, black or navy blue. Extreme, radical styles such as shaved heads or tram lines are not acceptable. Cultural variations, where appropriate, may be accepted but only with the agreement of the housemaster/mistress or Head of Lower School. Facial hair is not permitted: sideburns should not extend below the ear lobes. Pupils are not permitted to cut the hair of other pupils in school.
- i) All pupils in the Senior School should wear white shirts on Saturdays and on all formal occasions. White shirts can be worn all week if desired.
- j) In the Senior School, Colours ties may be worn throughout the week. Representative ties (i.e. County, Divisional or National), but not club ties, may only be worn on Saturdays. Occasionally, in recognition of outstanding success by a team or other group of pupils in a national competition, the Headmaster may grant permission for a specially commissioned tie to be worn on Saturdays.
- k) Members of sports teams granted special permission to change early must dress in official College games kit including track suit or blazer. Shorts, skorts and games skirts must be covered in lessons and at lunch unless the Head has authorised these due to exceptionally hot weather.
- l) Discreet items of jewellery (a simple neck chain, ring, single lapel emblem from a recognized charity and a single bracelet) are permitted, in addition, for girls in the Senior School, to an

official College brooch denoting house, colours or prefectorial appointment. No ostentatious jewellery may be worn, and all jewellery must be removed before games and certain other activities. Pupils may wear two pairs of earrings or ear studs in the lower lobes. No other rings or studs may be worn by pupils at any time, including when wearing mufti.

- m) Pupils in the Lower School and M4 year are not permitted to wear make-up. Pupils in the year groups U4 – U6 must adhere to the following guidelines: Make-up must be subtle in appearance. General face make-up must look natural to the observer; (no harsh eyebrow filling, bronzer, fake tan, etc.). False eyelashes are not appropriate for school. False nails and nail varnish are not allowed.
- n) Girls should be aware of the long-term effect stiletto heels can have on their posture and of the damage they can inflict on floor surfaces; for example in the Sports Centre, Big School, Chapel and the Drama Studio. It is for these reasons that stiletto and 'kitten' heels are not permitted as part of school uniform. Girls' shoes must be polishable and have a heel height, measured vertically at the back of the shoe, of no more than 3cm (juniors) or 5cm (Sixth Form). Flat-soled 'pumps' are acceptable provided they are neat and tidy in appearance and have a firm sole. Indoor ballet pumps may not be worn as everyday school shoes. School shoes should not be trainers or, for example, 'Nike Air' or equivalents.
- o) In respect to dress and appearance, the College will make reasonable adjustments for cultural, religious, and medical reasons in line with the Equality Act 2010 and individual circumstances.

7.7 GAMES

- a) Everyone must dress correctly for games according to the lists published by the Director of Sport or teachers in charge acting on his/her behalf. All games clothing must bear the owner's name and house.
- b) Boots and shoes with spikes or studs may not be worn on College drives.
- c) An 'off-games' leave must be countersigned by the housemaster/mistress, or appropriate member of staff in the Lower School for 3rd Form and L4 pupils, and presented to the teacher in charge as required by him or her.
- d) Casual games may not take place on regular pitches other than the Chud pitches and Wilson Pitch. No one may cross the main pitches or nets areas when going to and from games.
- e) Golf clubs and athletics throwing equipment may only be used under the conditions laid down by the teachers in charge.

7.8 MONEY, VALUABLES AND OTHER POSSESSIONS

Anything of value (e.g. wallet, purse, watch, jewellery, mobile/smart phone, spectacles, sum of money) that is found around the campus, on a school coach, etc. should be handed in to Main Reception. It follows that when a pupil loses something of value, Main Reception should be his/her first port of call. Successful claimants will be asked to sign for the possessions they retrieve.

All other possessions found around the campus, including clothing, games kit, books, files and notebooks, will be returned to houses or to the Lower School, as appropriate. All such items need to be clearly labelled with the pupil's name **and house**. The key to the successful return of a mislaid item to its owner is establishing an association with the owner's house or Lower School: **the house initial is essential**. Articles of games clothing and equipment left on the playing fields and later picked up are often kept in the ball store for a while before being brought up to the main school area.

- a) No pupil should lend money or other

valuables to another. It follows that pupils should not ask to borrow money from each other:

- b) Money not immediately needed by Senior School pupils must be deposited with the housemaster/mistress.
- c) Valuables are to be kept in a safe place such as a secure locker or safe in the house.
- d) Betting and gambling in any form and by any means (including between pupils, through outside agencies such as 'bookies' or betting shops, and on the internet through online betting apps) are not permitted.
- e) No one may buy property or sell it to another pupil.
- f) Fund-raising activities, whether charitable or not, and the levying of subscriptions of any kind may only be undertaken with permission of the housemaster/mistress or the Head of Lower School.
- g) Damage to and loss of property, whether personal or belonging to the College, must be reported to the housemaster/mistress, Head of Lower School or Head of Department immediately.

7.9 TRANSPORT

- a) No pupil may keep a car, motor cycle or moped at or near the College without the Head's permission.
- b) A member of the Upper Sixth Form who wishes to drive between home and school should apply direct to the Deputy Head (Operations), whose written permission, countersigned by parents and the housemaster/mistress, must be obtained **before** a car is driven to (and kept at) school. All pupils' cars must display an Epsom College sticker.
- c) Such permission, if granted, only applies to journeys between home and school. In exceptional circumstances the housemaster/mistress, if asked well in advance, may be prepared to extend permission to cover other types of journey (e.g. travelling to an away match).

- d) No pupil may travel in a car driven by another pupil without the written consent of his or her parents and the driver's parents. The names of approved passengers will be included in the document confirming that the driver has the Head's permission.
- e) The gate by which a pupil's vehicle should enter and leave the College campus and the place where the vehicle is to be parked will both be specified by the housemaster/mistress, with details recorded on the document confirming that the driver has the Head's permission. A direct route, approved by the housemaster/mistress, must be taken between the two. No pupil may drive anywhere else on the campus, a restriction that prohibits journeys to other houses to drop off or pick up passengers.
- f) A 10mph speed limit applies throughout the College campus. Drivers should regard all drives and roads in the campus as footways along which vehicles may travel: **in all circumstances pedestrians have right of way.**
- g) Members of the Lower Sixth are normally allowed to drive to school from the commencement of the Upper Sixth's study leave in the Summer Term. The Head's permission can be sought in advance.
- h) Pupils taking driving lessons in term time must first obtain permission from the housemaster/mistress.
- i) Pupils wishing to keep a bicycle at the College must obtain permission from the housemaster/mistress or the Head of Lower School. No one may use a bicycle on journeys in and around the school grounds.

7.10 PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

As an officially recognised examination centre, the College has a clear-cut duty to conduct all public examinations according to regulations published by the awarding bodies (examination boards). A full set of regulations produced on behalf of all boards will be posted outside and in every examination room. All examination candidates are expected to know these regulations and to comply with them.

Some of the more important points (taken from the regulations issued to cover examinations held in the academic year 2024-25) are reproduced here. Although these are not strictly the College's own rules, all pupils must of course abide by them.

- a) Candidates must not become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice in any part of the examination procedure.
- b) Sitting an examination in the name of another candidate, or allowing another person to sit an examination in your name, is gross misconduct and may amount to a criminal offence.
- c) Candidates must not take into the examination room any unauthorised material or equipment that might give an unfair advantage such as notes, calculator cases/instruction leaflets, bags, personal stereos, reading pens, electronic or radio communication devices **including mobile/smart phones and other electronic devices**, or any other product that can capture a digital image or has other text/digital facilities. Any pencil cases taken into the examination room must be transparent.
- d) Possession of unauthorised material is breaking the rules, even if there is no intention to use the material, and will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification.

- e) Candidates must not talk to or otherwise communicate with or disturb other candidates once an examination has started. Candidates may not borrow anything from each other.
- f) The College is obliged to report to the awarding body all cases of irregularity or misconduct connected with the submission of controlled assessments, coursework (see below) or those that occur in the examination room.
- g) If the awarding body is satisfied that a candidate is involved in any irregularity, misconduct or dishonesty, his or her results may be cancelled. For involvement in serious offences, the candidate may also be disqualified from the current examination and debarred from future examinations of other awarding bodies.

COURSEWORK AND PORTFOLIOS

Additional guidance is published by the awarding bodies on the completion of coursework. Your teacher will explain any regulations that apply to a particular piece of coursework before you commence work. Later, at the time you submit any coursework for marking you will be asked to sign an authentication statement confirming that you have read and followed these regulations.

Included in the regulations are two simple statements:

- **The work which you submit for assessment must be your own.**
- **You must not copy from someone else or allow another candidate to copy from you.**

Coursework provides you with an opportunity to do some independent research into a topic. The research you do may involve looking for information in published sources such as textbooks, encyclopaedias, newspapers and journals,

and of course the internet. Using information from such sources as the basis for your coursework is a great way to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of a subject, but you must take care how you use this material — you cannot simply copy it and claim it as your own work. Your teacher will explain how you should indicate material that you are quoting from another source, how to reference this material and how to draw up a bibliography at the end of your work.

If you copy the words or ideas of others and don't show your sources in references and a bibliography, you will be committing plagiarism, which means taking someone else's words, thoughts or ideas and trying to pass them off as your own. It is a form of cheating and is taken very seriously. You must also not use AI, for example Chat GPT, in the production of any coursework or indeed for any prep work.

Some further advice:

- a) Take care of your work and keep it safe. Make use of the College network to store all work in progress, but keep your password secure. If you do have to use a USB 'flash' drive to transfer your work from one computer to another, delete your work from the flash drive as soon as possible. You are expected to take every precaution to ensure that others cannot copy your work.
- b) Don't leave any printed copies of your work lying around where others can find them. When printing, make sure that you collect all pages from the printer and destroy those you don't need.
- c) You must meet the deadlines that your teacher gives you for submitting drafts and final pieces of work. Your teacher is there to guide and assist you — presenting your work as it progresses will allow you and your teacher time to sort out any problems before it is too late.

- d) If you receive help and guidance from someone other than your teacher, tell your teacher who will record the nature of the assistance given to you.
- e) Don't be tempted to use essays from online essay banks — you will be running the risk of being caught out. Sophisticated electronic tools and AI are able to detect this sort of copying.

7.11 GENERAL

- a) All parts of the College premises must be kept tidy and free from litter.
- b) Pupils may not eat or drink out of doors, except on the areas outside The Mermaid. Chewing gum is not allowed anywhere in the College.
- c) Cutlery, crockery and food, other than a single item of fresh fruit, may not be taken out of the Dining Hall.
- d) Posters may not be displayed in any part of the College without the permission of the member of staff having responsibility for that area. Posters should only be pinned on proper noticeboards and each design must be approved by (and preferably bear the signature of) a member of staff.
- e) Pupils may not order pizzas and other kinds of 'fast-food' to be delivered in the College grounds, except at weekends between 3pm on Saturday and 7.30pm on Sunday. In extraordinary circumstances (such as an away team arriving back late and missing supper) Senior School pupils may be allowed to order food to be delivered, but in all such cases permission must first be obtained from the housemaster/mistress.
- f) Mobile/smart phones may not be used during any school activity or in any situation where others might be distracted or disturbed by noise or the light from a display. This would preclude, for example, speaking into a phone, or using one to send text or pictures, while sitting as a member of the audience before, during the interval of, or immediately after a concert or play. Pupils must accept responsibility for turning off their mobile phones during lessons, assemblies, Chapel services, concerts and other performances and on any other occasion when a ringing phone would cause a disturbance.
- g) Cameras, including phone or tablet cameras, and all other means of recording images and sound, may not be used in lessons, assemblies and other official school meetings and events without permission from the supervising member of staff. In less formal settings, e.g. in the house and around the grounds, such permission may not be needed, on the clear understanding that no photograph, video or sound recording should be taken of any member of the College community, anywhere on the campus, against his or her wishes. Anyone who ignores this condition forfeits the right to keep his or her camera or other recording equipment at school.
- h) Pupils may not bring into school indecent images or any other equally offensive material in any form, including material stored in electronic devices. The downloading, storing or transmitting of such material, while at school, is strictly forbidden and, indeed, may be illegal.
- i) Pupils are expected to use AI responsibly and transparently. Any submission of AI-generated work must be clearly attributed as such. The school will monitor AI content under its filtering and safeguarding systems—designed to identify harmful or inappropriate material, including misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories, deepfakes, or any AI-assisted content of concern. Pupils found to misuse AI tools—by presenting AI-created content dishonestly, generating harmful material, or bypassing safeguarding filters—may face disciplinary action according to our behaviour policy.

- j) Pupils who make use of the College's ICT facilities, which includes gaining access to the internet and communicating via e-mail, must first sign a copy of the ICT Agreement drawn up by the Director of Transformation and IT, and must at all times abide by the conditions stipulated in the agreement.
- k) Pupils should not send mass-distribution e-mails (i.e. to the whole of one or more year-groups) via the College network. If you do think you have a legitimate need to communicate with a large number of pupils en masse you must first seek permission from a member of staff (who may well offer to send the e-mail on your behalf). Examples are (i) YE companies asking the teacher i/c for permission to make a sales pitch and (ii) individual pupils who lose a bag of books and files that has obviously been picked up by mistake. In this instance, where the bag is in all probability lying around in the wrong house, your housemaster/mistress may take the view that a mass-distribution e-mail offers the best chance of a quick retrieval.
- l) Pupils are not allowed to gamble by any means; this includes the use of the internet (or smart phones and betting apps) to access online betting sites.

7.12 MOBILE/SMART PHONES

Mobile phones are an important tool for communication, but also need to be used sensibly and responsibly in school.

Lower School, M4, U4 and 5th form Day Pupils:

- Mobile phones should be handed in on arrival at the College and collected on departure.
- If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to use your mobile phone during the school day, you should seek permission from your HMM, matron or Head of Lower School.
- It is not permissible to bring a second mobile device into the College to avoid these reasonable restrictions. If you do so, you will

be sanctioned in line with the Behaviour Policy (a House Detention in the first instance).

M4th, U4th and 5th form boarders:

- Mobile phones should be handed in for the duration of the school day and may be collected again at 5.30pm.
- In addition, mobile phones are handed in for prep and again at bed time.
- If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to use your mobile phone during these times, you should seek permission from your HMM or matron.
- Allowances will be made to international pupils, where time difference may make it challenging to contact family.
- It is not permissible to bring a second mobile device into the College to avoid these reasonable restrictions. If you do so, you will be sanctioned in line with the Behaviour Policy (a House Detention in the first instance).

6th form:

- 6th form pupils are trusted to use their mobile phones responsibly.
- Phones should be on silent and not used during the school day; particularly in lessons and when moving around the College campus.
- Phones should be on silent and, preferably, kept out of sight, during study time outside of lessons (for example, working in the library, during prep time for boarders etc).
- Boarders should not be using their mobile phones in the evening after 10.30pm

General:

- The Dining Hall, in particular, is a phone-free zone to foster an environment where you can eat and enjoy each other's company.
- Due to different time zones - Boarders can have reasonable access to contact family throughout the day as required under boarding standards. They should speak to their HMM.
- Failure to adhere to the rules surrounding mobile phones, or using mobile phones inappropriately or unkindly will lead to sanctions in line with the College's Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies.

7.13 USE OF THE INTERNET

Over the last few years the use of the Internet has increased considerably. We all now use the Internet as a matter of course for accessing our e-mails and obtaining key pieces of information. The IT provision here at Epsom is extensive, but we have to make sure that the benefits to pupils from access to the internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantage. We need to make sure that the speed of access is maintained at a sensible level for all users.

As the use of the Internet by all users within the College continues to grow, in order to maintain access at key times of the day for genuine academic use, pupil access will be filtered and times for use will be restricted as follows:

1. Wireless Access through pupil owned laptops and mobile devices:

School Filter: Available for work, excluding sites relating to entertainment, gaming and leisure use:

Mon-Fri	0800-1700	Applied to all pupils
Sat	0800-1700	Applied to all pupil

Open Filter: Allows for appropriate leisure use outside of the main school day:

Mon-Sat	0700-0800	Applied to all pupils
Mon-Fri	1700-2300	Applied to all pupils
Sat	1200-2400	Applied to all pupils
Sun	0700-2300	Applied to all pupils

2. College PCs:

a) House PCs used by pupils:

School Filter:

Same timings as with Wireless Access

b) PCs in Academic Areas:

Same timings as with Wireless Access
All pupils are reminded that use of the Internet at Epsom College which is not allowed includes

- Accessing offensive or inappropriate sites.
- Use of the Internet for leisure purposes during designated study or prep times.
This may include the use of online radio or videos, gaming, online media etc or viewing downloaded material.

All pupils should realise that failure to comply with the College's rules and policies on the use of the Internet may lose the right to be able to access the Internet for a period of time. Serious offences may lead to other College sanctions being imposed.

The College reserves the right to amend these rules from time to time.

Significant amendments will be notified to parents and take effect immediately.

7.14 SEARCHING PUPILS

Why you might be searched, who can search you, and what happens before, during, and after a search. Our aim is to keep everyone safe while treating all pupils fairly and respectfully.

Why might I be searched?

If staff have reasonable grounds to believe you have:

- Something illegal (e.g. drugs, a weapon)
- Something banned by College rules (e.g. vaping equipment, fireworks)
- Something harmful to you or others, or likely to cause damage
- Stolen items

A search can also prove you do NOT have something – it can show innocence as well as guilt.

Who can search me?

Only authorised staff can search you, such as:

- Your Housemaster/Housemistress
- Head of Lower School
- Your House Tutor or Matron
- Members of the Senior Leadership Team (including the Deputy Heads and the DSL)

In exceptional circumstances, the Deputy Head(s) can authorise another member of staff.

Before a search

- Staff will usually ask for your consent first, unless it's for certain prohibited items where consent is not required.
- They will explain why the search is needed.
- A second adult witness must be present.
- Where possible, you will be searched by a member of staff of the same sex.
- Adjustments will be made if you have SEND or a medical condition.

During the search

- You may be asked to empty your pockets or show the contents of your bag, desk, or locker.
- Staff cannot ask you to remove clothing other than outer layers (e.g. coats, jumpers).
- Staff must not touch you.
- Your personal property (e.g. bag, phone, locker) may be searched.
- For electronic devices, data may be viewed or deleted if there is a good reason, following data protection rules.

Strip searches

- Only the police can carry these out – never school staff.
- If the police conduct a strip search, you will have an appropriate adult (parent, guardian, or trained staff member not involved in the incident) with you.
- Parents will be told before the search if possible, or immediately afterwards.

After the search

- A written record will be made, including what was found (if anything).
- Parents will always be contacted after any search.
- Confiscated items will be kept safely, returned, or given to the police depending on what they are.
- Any concerns arising from the search may be followed up with support from staff, or, if needed, with outside agencies.

8. Concerns and complaints

This section tells you what to do if you feel worried about something and what you should do if you wish to complain about how you are, or have been, treated. If you do not understand anything about this section ask a member of staff to explain it to you.

THINGS THAT MIGHT MAKE YOU UNHAPPY OR UPSET

Sometimes you may feel that you would like to talk about something that is worrying you. This might be the way you are being treated. Someone may have hurt you or made suggestions that you do not feel are right. You may be bullied, harassed or discriminated against. You may feel that no one is aware of the problems you are having with your work. You may feel that you are being asked to take on too many activities.

IF YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT WORRIES YOU

One or more of the people listed here will be able to help if you talk to them.

- a) Your friends or an older pupil to whom you feel you can turn.
- b) Your house or form tutor.
- c) Your housemaster or housemistress, Head of Lower School, Head of Year or one of the other house or form tutors.
- d) The Chaplain, who has special expertise in helping those who are worried. (Canon Andrew's study is located in the Holman Reading Room)
- e) The staff in the Medical Centre. The times of surgeries are published in houses, but in term time the Medical Centre is always open, 24 hours a day, for emergencies. Telephone: 01372 821 199, 4444 (internal) or 07721 072153 (mobile).
- f) Mrs Katie Lenham, Director of Pastoral Care & DSL - Holman Reading Room or by email.

- g) The Deputy Head (Pastoral), Mrs Henrietta Boateng - Holman Reading Room or by email.
- h) Other members of the College community, such as your Matron or other Lower School staff, whom you may feel you know and to whom you feel you can turn.

There may be times when you feel you cannot talk directly with any of the above. That is perfectly natural. When this happens, it is important that you talk, telephone, e-mail or write to any of the following.

- a) Your parents or guardians.
- b) Any other relatives or adults you know well.
- c) The College Medical Officers — Dr Johnson or Dr Bryce (or a Deputy) will be in the Medical Centre from about 8am to 8.30am each day, Monday to Saturday. Their surgery is in the Old Cottage Hospital, Alexandra Road. Telephone: 08444 122232. There is an agreed rota of surgeries held by a male doctor (Dr Johnson) and a female doctor (Dr Bryce).
- d) The Epsom College Counsellors who are available in the Medical Centre, at published times during the week. The Lead Counsellor's telephone number is 07870 163891 and their e-mail address is: counsellor@epsomcollege.org.uk
- e) The Independent Listener for Epsom College — Dr Simon Johnson, telephone 07876 390638 or email simonjohnson2@nhs.net
- f) ChildLine. Freephone 0800 1111.
- g) Children's Single Point of Access (C-SPA); telephone 0300 470 9100.
- h) Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) at Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD. Telephone: 0300 123 1231; e-mail: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.
- i) Office of the Children's Commissioner; telephone 0800 528 0731 or help.team@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk

IF YOU WISH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT SOMETHING

You may feel that you would like to complain about something that is worrying you. This might be about the way you are being treated. The first thing to do is to speak to a member of staff you can trust (e.g. your housemaster or housemistress, house tutors or the Chaplain). You can take a friend with you if you wish — another pupil or a member of staff. If the matter cannot easily be settled to your satisfaction then you can make a formal complaint. **Pupils are not penalised for raising a concern or making a complaint in good faith.**

The procedure for this is as follows.

- a) Write to your housemaster or housemistress, Head of Lower School, the Deputy Head (Operations) or the Head, in any case telling your housemaster or housemistress or Head of Lower School as appropriate, stating that you wish to make a formal complaint. He or she will write enter the complaint in the complaints files held by the Deputy Head (Operations) and Head.
- b) You will then get a note from the Deputy Head (Operations) saying that he has seen the complaint and that it is being attended to within three school days of your making the complaint.
- c) You will be asked to talk the matter through with either the Deputy Head (Operations) or Head. You can have a friend with you who may be another pupil or a member of staff.
- d) If within three further days you have not had the matter resolved to your satisfaction, you may contact any of the people listed above. They will advise you about what course seems sensible. At that stage it will be up to you to make a decision based upon the advice you have been offered.

9. Regulation School uniform - Senior School

Items marked with an asterisk * in the lists that follow can only be purchased at the Epsom College Store. All items of clothing and personal property must be clearly marked with the pupil's name and house initial(s).

The dress regulations for games and other activities are published separately by the Director of Sport or teachers in charge of the various sports.

JUNIOR GIRLS

- Navy blue College blazer *
- Regulation grey striped skirt* or trousers* (skirt to be fitted on the knee)
- Charcoal grey V-necked pullover with house trim/navy blue College V-necked pullover *
- House lapel badge *
- Plain white shirt — to be worn on formal occasions and also during the week if desired
- Regulation feint-striped shirts (optional) *
- Black, nearly black or flesh coloured tights; no bare legs
- Pair of black polishable shoes of sensible style and unadorned (no boots); heels to be of sensible width and no higher than 3 cm (no stiletto heels of any height); see Section 7.6 (n). NB – These must not be 'trainer-type' shoes.
- Plain, dark coloured overcoat, raincoat, waxed jacket or similar: long enough to cover the blazer; unadorned (no large lettering, logos or fur trim) and not made of leather or imitation leather.

JUNIOR BOYS

- Navy blue College blazer *
- Regulation dark grey striped trousers *
- Navy blue College V-necked pullover *
- House tie *
- Plain white shirt — to be worn on formal occasions and also during the week if desired
- Regulation feint-striped shirts (optional) *
- Black socks
- Black polishable shoes of sensible style and unadorned (no boots). NB – These must not be 'trainer-type' shoes / 'Nike Air Max' for example.
- Plain, dark coloured overcoat, raincoat, waxed jacket or similar: long enough to cover the blazer; unadorned (no large lettering, logos or fur trim) and not made of leather or imitation leather.

SIXTH FORM GIRLS

- A traditional two-piece or three-piece suit to consisting of jacket with lapels and buttons at the front, matching skirt or trousers of the same fabric in dark navy, black or charcoal grey or pinstripe. The suit must be tailored in style and of non-stretchy material and the skirt must be fitted on the knee. (The fabric must match the jacket of the suit). The trousers must not be "skinny-fit" and must be of classic design and tailored.
- V-necked pullover of a single colour (not white)
- House lapel badge *
- Plain white shirt — to be worn on formal occasions and also during the week if desired
- Other shirts — these must have a pale and delicate shade of colour and may have a feint stripe
(NB: Girls must wear collared shirts and not blouses, which should be tailored and made of cotton. Shirts should be long enough to be tucked in, and must be kept tucked in during the working day)
- Black, nearly black or flesh coloured tights; no bare legs
- Pair of black polishable shoes of sensible style and unadorned (no boots); heels to be of sensible width and no higher than 5 cm (no stiletto heels of any height); see Section 7.6 (n) NB – These must not be 'trainer-type' shoes.
- Plain, dark coloured overcoat, raincoat, waxed jacket or similar: long enough to cover the blazer; unadorned (no large lettering, logos or fur trim) and not made of leather or imitation leather.

SIXTH FORM BOYS

- Traditional two-piece or three-piece, single-breasted suit in navy blue, black or charcoal; plain or with a subdued pinstripe
- V-necked pullover of a single colour (not white)
- House tie *
- Plain white shirt - to be worn on formal occasions and also during the week if desired
- Other shirts — these must have a pale and delicate shade of colour and may have a feint stripe
- Black or grey socks
- Black polishable shoes of sensible style and unadorned (no boots). NB – These must not be 'trainer-type' shoes / 'Nike Air Max' for example
- Plain, dark coloured overcoat, raincoat, waxed jacket or similar: long enough to cover the jacket, unadorned (no large lettering, logos or fur trim) and not made of leather or imitation leather.



EPSOM

COLLEGE

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