Residential Pupil Guide 2026-27

At St. Vincent's we offer an impressive residential group. This is staffed by a dedicated, highly trained group of Care Staff who are always on call to help and support you in any way they can. Your parents can visit at any time or contact you by phone if they wish to do so. We feel it is important that you keep in contact with your family during the week while you are at school. The following information will tell you about life at St. Vincent's if you stay as a resident or as an extended day placement.

Caulfield Group

You will belong to one group which is called Caulfield Group – this group is made up of boys and girls. Numbers of pupils vary from night-to-night. Caulfield Group has a lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathrooms, toilets and bedrooms. Group has easy access to the Youth Club and all other parts of the school – including the school swimming pool which is used regularly. Group has a large flat screen TV and a computer with internet and speech facilities There are extensive school grounds which includes outdoor gyms, classroom, trampoline, cycling track and football field. You also have access to the school allotment, meadows and Sensory Gardens.

You will be allocated a Key Worker (this is a name given to your named Care Staff and the person that you can talk to if you need some help or advice on anything) to learn independence skills such as washing and ironing clothes. There is an office area where all medication is kept in a locked cupboard along with Care Files and plans which is a record of everything we do from 'how has your day been' sheets to Key Working Session notes. You set targets together with your Key Worker – these are called ICP's.

We have comfortable couches in Caulfield downstairs area which allows students to socialise, listen and watch TV and have access to the large kitchen areas which includes talking microwaves and other facilities to develop your independence. Staff in Caulfield Group At present there are three full time care workers and three part time care staff one of which is the senior and a Waking Night member of staff – this also includes two domestic workers both of which are part-time. All staff are responsible for safeguarding as outlined within the school's Safeguarding Statement and Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy. This can be found within policies on the school website. Pupils and staff can always talk together about new ideas for the group in group meetings and more recently pupil questionnaires on ways to improve the school – this is also represented by residential students as part of the School Council. There is a

Senior Care Staff in group to ensure things run efficiently – and members of the schools Senior Leadership Team will visit regularly to sleep over, join in activities and be part of the group. Staff are always available to talk to about any concern or worries you may have - from home sickness to a particular living skill. Staff will keep in contact with families to learn about likes and dislikes to create a positive residential experience. Homework All pupils are provided with guidelines on completing homework. Homework is recorded in a Daily Journal, and this is shared by teachers prior to the end of the school day. Care staff are always on hand to provide appropriate support with homework. Activities in Group There is an extensive range of activities available to group which can be timetabled or flexible. Students have full access to the swimming pool, Youth Club, Games, fitness, Art & Crafts and more – or you may wish to take some time to chill out and listen to some music. As part of School Council, residential students also plan extended evening buddy sessions with their school peers – this includes trips out and activities such as ten pin bowling. Trips to the local shops, parks and beaches are also facilitated. Staff encourage pupils to participate in activities that are on offer every evening. This includes swimming, fitness, arts & crafts, movie nights and a range of Youth Club activities. Social Skills are part of the planned programme for the out-of-school activities. Health Care Co-Ordinator There is a Health Care Co-Ordinator who is in every school day to help you with medication or provide care when you are sick. Family and Learning Support Coordinator We have a Family & Learning Support Coordinator – this person is points of contact for you and your family or carer should you need to discuss any matters with them.

We aim to make the residential setting your home away from home.