

INSPIRATIONAL  
Box Hill School

FOR GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 11-18









## HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

**We aim to be the first choice school for those who understand that education is about nurturing the whole child.**

For nearly 60 years, we have followed the principles of Kurt Hahn, who famously said that "there is more in us than we know. If we could be made to see it, perhaps, for the rest of our lives we will be unwilling to settle for less." As a founder member of the Round Square family of schools, we promote international understanding, democracy, a care for the world around us, a sense of adventure, and the qualities of leadership and service. We see excellent academic results as an outcome of this and we are determined that all pupils should reach their maximum potential in all that they do.

This emphasis on holistic education doesn't just mean that we focus on art, sport and music as well as academic achievement, (although of course we do all those things). It really means that we focus on the development of character, and define success through personal growth. In turn this means that your child will try amazing new things as she or he steps out of their comfort zone. Everyone will make mistakes, because it is through this that we build resilience. In turn this strength of character will lead them to have the courage to truly be themselves. As one parent put it to me this year; "you don't have to hide any part of yourself away at Box Hill. You can explore who you really are."

Every parent wants their child to be happy. This is the building block of future achievement. You also want your child to be a sensible risk taker. To be kind and have courage. To want to make a difference in the world, and find a purpose. Welcome to a school that understands this.

Cory Lowde  
Headmaster





# ROUND SQUARE

**Round Square is a global network of innovative schools in 50 countries, on six continents, that share a passion for learning through experience and character education. Box Hill School is proud to be a founding member of this network which was formed in 1966 and bases its educational philosophy on the teachings of educationalist Kurt Hahn. The Round Square approach doesn't just focus on what is taught but rather how learning takes place. We follow this philosophy and live by its IDEALS of Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service.**

These principles underpin our school ethos and values. Kurt Hahn believed that the only way students could really understand life and their role in it, was to experience it in exciting and challenging ways. By testing themselves, students are able to develop their character, their skills and mind-set to enable them to positively impact the world around them. At Box Hill School these principles underpin our ethos and values and central to this is the spirit of having a go, whether with academic work, performing on stage, scaling a climbing wall or taking part in expeditions at home or abroad, all are aimed at unlocking potential in students.

Our students have the opportunity to engage with the IDEALS in many different ways. Each one of the IDEALS is led by a member of staff who is a Round Square Ambassador for that specific principle. These ambassadors work with our Round Square Committee, and the Round Square Coordinator, to deliver different initiatives that the whole school can get involved with. Our dedicated Round Square committee ensure the IDEALS are student led and embedded in our school ethos and everyday life.



“ There could rest o settle



*is more in us than we know. If we be made to see it, perhaps, for the f our lives we will be unwilling to for less."*

**Kurt Hahn, Founder Round Square**





## INTERNATIONALISM

Students learn to see themselves as global citizens and to look beyond nationality, race, gender, class and culture to explore human nature. Internationalism is about discovering and embracing the similarities and differences between cultures and nationalities and in doing so, promoting lasting understanding, tolerance and respect.

## DEMOCRACY

The encouragement of freedom of thought and speech, and the provision of appropriate avenues for critical thinking, debate and action give democracy a place to thrive and to be a powerful force for good. Democracy encompasses a sense of equality, fairness, self-discipline, and personal responsibility.

## ENVIRONMENTALISM

The delicate interdependence between humans and the planet centres on the importance of our understanding of mankind's place in the universe, the forces that shape our surroundings and the impact that we have. Environmentalism emphasises our responsibility to respect and protect the welfare of the environment around us.

## ADVENTURE

This is characterised by those who push themselves beyond their personal perceived limits, cross boundaries and discover that they are capable of much more than they thought possible.

A guiding principle is that there is "more in us than we know" and we seek to create sensible risk takers who are prepared to step out of their comfort zones to make a difference in the world around them.





## LEADERSHIP

Students learn that leadership is about serving others and requires kindness, wisdom and justice. It recognises that successful leaders are driven by an ambition to be of service to others and to nurture, guide and help them to improve and to succeed. Depending on our personal skill set, we can all be leaders in one area or another.

## SERVICE

Developing a sense of social responsibility and sensitivity to people from different backgrounds and circumstances instils a commitment to putting others before self. By practically helping others, students learn how they can make a positive difference to those less fortunate than themselves.



## THE MCCOMISH FOUNDATION

Membership of Round Square gives students unparalleled opportunities for travel and adventure and if our students want to take part in a trip that they feel will give them a life changing learning experience, they can apply for financial assistance from The McComish Foundation.

The McComish Foundation is a special charitable fund that was created by our first Headmaster Roy McComish on his retirement in 1987 to encourage students to take up opportunities, such as expeditions, which are based on the teachings of Kurt Hahn (Founder of Round Square).

Since its outset, awards have been given to numerous Box Hill Students allowing them to take part in Round Square building projects in Tanzania and in the Annual Round Square International Conference. Upon their return they always share their learning and skills with our community, extending the value of the teaching far beyond that of the individual student. The McComish Foundation is dependent on generous donations from our Boxhillian community and we are very grateful to everybody who has supported and continues to support the award.





# PASTORAL CARE

**We pride ourselves on the quality of our pastoral care. It is at the heart of everything we do at Box Hill School. Central to every aspect of how the school operates, it underpins the focus on encouraging all our students to be the best they can be, to become effective learners and valued members of our community.**

## SCHOOL AND HOME WORKING TOGETHER

We strongly believe that education should be a partnership between home and School and a partnership between teachers and students.

Students' personal development and pastoral care are monitored in a variety of ways. Each student has a Tutor, a House Parent and a Head of Year who offer support and encouragement.

## THE TUTOR SYSTEM

The Tutor is the first point of contact between School and home and is responsible for a small number of tutees. They liaise with other members of the teaching and House staff as appropriate and with parents should there be any academic or pastoral concerns. They monitor each student's welfare as well as academic progress and participation in co-curricular activities. Students register in tutor groups and attend House meetings in year groups, creating a strong sense of belonging. Tutors meet with their tutees twice a day for morning and afternoon registration as well as one tutor period per week. This allows tutors to really get to know their tutees as individuals.

## THE WIDER PASTORAL TEAM

The responsibility for pastoral care is shared across all members of the pastoral team including House Parents, House Assistants, Tutors, School nurses and the School counsellor, all of whom are dedicated to ensuring that our students are kept safe, well and happy at school. They work closely with colleagues to ensure an integrated approach to pastoral care which supports each student holistically and effectively.

**“** *Box Hill School has shown me as a parent what delightful, confident, rounded and talented students you guide and nurture through the school. That it is not just about being academic but having the tools to survive to go out into the big wide world as a young adult.”*

**Box Hill School Parent**





## SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Our School counsellor is available to support students whose wellbeing may be being impacted and which may be inhibiting their learning and achievement. She is visible around school, delivers workshops and sessions in PSHE and provides a confidential counselling service. Students may be referred by their parents, teachers, House staff or tutors or seek advice directly themselves.

## MEDICAL CENTRE

A fully equipped medical unit is located on-site and available to all students should they become unwell. The school nurses also actively promote good health and wellbeing and the centre has a wealth of information leaflets on many medical issues for students to access. In addition, the nurses also help those students needing medication whilst at school, with vaccination programmes and emergency medical care when needed. There are also many trained first-aiders amongst the staff. Doctors visit the school through our link with The Medwyn Surgery.

## PEER MENTORING

We also have an excellent team of older students called Peer Mentors who can offer advice and support to our younger students. They are trained by our School counsellor and supported by the pastoral team in school. Younger students can turn to their Peer Mentors for a number of reasons. This could be for a quick and reassuring chat, help with a particularly tricky assignment, for friendship issues and it could also involve more formal academic mentoring.

## PSHE AND WORKSHOPS

Teaching staff cover many areas in PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and through workshops which introduce our students to topical issues which we feel are relevant and necessary in today's world. A few examples include e-safety, alcohol awareness, emotional literacy and wellbeing, safe driving and anti-bullying.

We want every student to feel part of our larger Box Hill School family within a caring, nurturing environment designed to enable them to develop at their own pace whilst fully supported and encouraged to fulfil their potential. A focus on building resilience, creating opportunities for personal growth and instilling a mindful approach to their community reflects the Hahnian principle of developing the 'whole person' and one which is embedded in the school's ethos.



# THE ACADEMIC JOURNEY

**Every pupil is an individual, in every aspect of life at Box Hill School. A combination of close attention, personalised learning, support, regular assessment and monitoring underpins Box Hill School's academic tradition.**

We provide an exemplary education for students with a broad range of abilities from potential Oxbridge candidates, to those who have been labelled as "average". At Box Hill School no student is average; they all excel at something.

We cater for the individual with small classes and tutorial assistance, providing an ideal environment for all students to grow and flourish.





## OUR CURRICULUM

The academic curriculum at Box Hill School is planned carefully to ensure that a breadth and balance of subjects are studied throughout the lower and middle school. Courses are constructed to suit the aspirations, abilities and interests of our students. This focus on choice and flexibility is continued in our Sixth Form provision. The subject matter is appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of students and allows for teaching differentiation to meet the needs of all students, including for those with specific learning difficulties and equally for those who are gifted and talented. The curriculum is structured to allow all subjects a variety of learning slots dispersed across a two-week cycle. The school has an International Study Centre (ISC) which runs separate programmes of study for EAL students (English as an additional language), to deliver EAL and prepare students for transfer into mainstream programmes where appropriate.

## YEARS 7, 8 AND 9

In Years 7 to 9 we teach Art, Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Science in Years 7 and 8, with the separate disciplines being taught in Year 9), Computer Science, Design Technology, Drama, English, French, Spanish, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education (including Dance) and PSHE in class groups by subject specialists. Students are set by general ability for most subjects with further specific setting in English, Mathematics and Languages. Additionally, in Year 9 Science is also set according to ability.

To help with the learning of languages, additional literacy support is provided for small groups of students where a specific need has been identified through our Learning Support team.

Each year group is overseen by a Head of Year who is responsible for managing their academic progress and who is supported by a team of tutors.

When it comes to making choices about GCSE subjects, we work closely with students and parents to provide comprehensive support and guidance.





## YEARS 10 AND 11

In Years 10 and 11 most students study nine (I)GCSEs. The subjects offered are Art, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Business Studies, Design Technology, Drama, English Language, English Literature, Fashion and Textiles, French, Geography, History, Computer Science, Mathematics, Music, Music Technology, and Physical Education. (Please note, actual choices offered are subject to change).

The compulsory core curriculum comprises English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and at least one Science (in English and Mathematics, students are set according to ability). EAL students are provided with a separate EAL set leading to GCSE English. Additionally all follow a compulsory PSHE and PE programme.

In addition to the compulsory subjects, students can choose six subjects from an options list and they are encouraged to take a modern foreign language, a humanities subject and a creative arts option to achieve a balanced curriculum. The option blocks in the timetable are designed to allow the maximum number to study their first choice options. We do have provision for students to take fewer than nine (I)GCSEs but generally this is by exception and when identified through our Learning Support team and based on their specific educational needs. Learning support periods are provided for these students. As happens in the lower school, personal tutors provide support for the academic programme which is planned and co-ordinated by Year Heads.

## YEARS 12 AND 13

In the Sixth Form, students are fortunate to have the choice of two academic programmes. They can study for A Levels or for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. We are proud to offer both programmes which provides students with the opportunity to follow either a specialised programme of study or a broader, less specific course for those who may be undecided about their future choices for university or employment. Both are academically rigorous and highly regarded by universities in the UK and worldwide.

The curriculum is constantly under review and the school reserves the right to make changes during the school year, as well as year by year. A Level and IB students have a personal tutor and tutor groups are programme specific (A level or IB). Both programmes have examinations at the end of the course which prepare students for the challenges of university whilst also providing them with the skills and knowledge that make them more attractive to prospective employers.

## THE A LEVEL PROGRAMME

A Levels offer early specialisation for students who have a firm understanding of what subjects they wish to study at university, or which career path they would like to follow. The programme is specially tailored to the needs of students who may favour certain combinations of subjects, such as maths and sciences, or creative arts.

We are pleased to offer a full range of popular A Level subjects, including: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Design Technology, Chemistry, Economics, English Literature, Fashion and Textiles, French, Geography, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Spanish, Theatre Studies. (Please note, actual choices offered are subject to change).

Students take three A Levels which will be assessed in the final exams at the end of the two-year linear course. Subject combinations are flexible within the constraints of our option timetable system and we aim to cater for as wide a range of choices as possible.



## THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The IB Diploma Programme links naturally to the Round Square IDEALS already embedded at Box Hill School. A programme of all-round education, combined with challenges and responsibility and a genuine understanding and appreciation of different cultures and history provides the grounding for life in an ever changing global work place, that will more and more demand the quick transfer of skills. It is a broad learning experience with an opportunity for specialist study,

The IB Diploma is for students aged between 16 and 19 years and is completed over two years, culminating in examinations in May. Candidates choose six subjects with three at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL).

IB subjects include: Biology, Business and Management, Chemistry, Chinese\*, Economics, English, Environmental Systems and Societies, French, Geography, German\*, History, Italian\*, Japanese\*, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Russian\*, Spanish, Theatre Studies and Visual Arts. **Actual choices offered are subject to change.** \*Please note these languages are for native speakers only.

All students must also take a course on critical thinking, called the 'Theory of Knowledge' which is central to the IB Diploma's core philosophy. Students also participate in a Creativity, Activity and Service programme (CAS) throughout the two-year Diploma, and complete an Extended Essay based on their own research. These rewarding extra components are part of what makes the IBDP so attractive to universities looking for students who have the edge in terms of maturity and research experience.

To assist students in planning their workload, a schedule for the year ahead showing deadlines for completion of assignments is provided to IB candidates. Each subject is graded by external examiners on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). The award of a Diploma requires a minimum of 24 points and certain other qualifying award conditions.

The Sixth Form staff at Box Hill School work hard to support and guide A Level and IB students. They are encouraged to challenge themselves, follow their interests and engage with the myriad of opportunities available to them. In doing so they become independent and confident young men and women, ready to face the world and the next stage in their journey towards Higher Education, work or travel.





## MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

We support every student to enable them to work to their full capability. All students are baseline tested when they join the school (baseline data does not take account of SEND) to assess underlying potential and future academic achievement in examinations, students are tracked and assessments are undertaken to measure their attainment and progress in line with this data.

We monitor them closely and students receive monthly assessment grades which track their attainment and effort. These are published to parents via the on-line Parent Portal and we encourage regular dialogue between parents and School as this too supports a child in their learning and development. Parents will receive a written report during the academic year and have a consultation evening with teachers.

Students are assessed according to their appropriate course and year group. In Years 7 to 9 we use a progressive assessment framework with numbered levels of achievement. Years 10 and 11 follow the GCSE numerical grading system 9 - 1. At A Level A\* - E are used and in the International Baccalaureate, students are numerically graded according to a points system.



## STRETCH AND CHALLENGE

For the more able we offer our students stretch and challenge in the classroom through extension tasks and outcomes. We encourage our students to develop independence and enjoyment in their learning. We offer trips, visits and events which enrich everything that goes on in a classroom, from language and culture, theatre performances, living History days, fieldwork in Science and Geography, art exhibitions, sports tours and many more.



## UCAS AND CAREERS ADVICE

Our Careers Advisor supports students with their applications for employment and Higher Education and works alongside the tutor team and Heads of the A Level and IB programmes.

## LEARNING SUPPORT

We welcome students with a wide variety of learning styles, strengths and differences and encourage all students to become confident, ambitious and independent learners. Our teachers are skilled at adapting and responding to the learning needs of their students and there is extra support available for those who experience specific learning difficulties. They benefit from one-to-one support from highly qualified specialist teachers in our dedicated Learning Support Centre. Support is carefully tailored to the individual with strong emphasis on multi-sensory learning and developing strategies and methods that can be used by the student to underpin independent learning across the curriculum.

The Learning Support team works closely with academic and pastoral staff to help all students to achieve their potential. We believe that developing a students' understanding of how they learn (their meta-cognition) lies at the heart of effective studying, and that a student's skill in managing his or her learning needs is essential to success at school and beyond.







# SPORT

**All students at Box Hill School are encouraged to get involved in individual or team sports throughout the year. Sport plays an integral role in school life, helping to develop essential skills such as leadership and discipline, along with physical and mental health benefits.**

Box Hill School has a unique system in that all sport fixtures are played on a Wednesday afternoon, which sees over fifteen teams regularly representing the school on a weekly basis. As well as competitive matches, students can choose three other activities per week, where they are offered a full range of options, ranging from extra team sports through to individual adventure based activities such as high ropes and climbing. Students are able to choose which activity best suits their needs.

By including our extra-curricular sports in the daily timetables this keeps after school time and weekends free for family time, outside clubs and for developing other interests. Throughout the year the boys' sports is focused on Football, Rugby, Hockey and Cricket and for girls; Netball, Hockey and Rounders. Within the PE curriculum, Year 7 to 11 students take part in Athletics, Cross Country, Basketball, Volleyball, Gymnastics, Health Related Fitness, Badminton and Dance, and have up to 6 hours of PE a week.

Modern sports facilities can be found in our new Sports Centre, which includes four indoor courts, a classroom, gym and weights room, yoga studio, viewing gallery and changing facilities. The building offers a state of the art facility and focuses on giving students the best possible experience.

Our outstanding sports grounds include four football pitches, two rugby pitches and two quality cricket squares. The netball and tennis courts are located on the top level of the Sports Hall and our hockey mini-astro pitch offers further sporting provision.

All students are assigned to a 'Third' (Olympians, Athenians, Corinthians and Spartans) when they join the school, and there are many opportunities for them to take part in Inter Third competitions during the year. Sports tours are also an exciting part of the biannual calendar with students visiting South Africa and Dubai in the past and upcoming tours focusing on European and worldwide destinations for a range of sports.

We have had a number of elite sportsmen and women at the school, in recent years we have been lucky enough to have regional level badminton and volleyball players and cricketers as well as a number of academy level footballers and county level athletes.





# ACTIVITIES

The principles of Kurt Hahn are upheld in our activities programme where we strive to develop well-rounded young people, capable of communicating with confidence in an adult world. To this end activities focus on encouraging teamwork, expanding skills and interests (sporting, creative, social, cultural), helping to engender an empathy with and interest in the outdoors, giving service and providing opportunities in both team and individual sports and activities.

To achieve this, Box Hill School provides an extensive activities programme where we cater for all year groups and as many varied interests as is feasibly possible.

All students take part in the activities programme which is timetabled during the school day.

We run our programme on three afternoons a week with the whole school involved in activities all afternoon on a Wednesday and for the last hour of the working day on Thursday. On Tuesday afternoon we split the school into the junior and senior age groups for team practices and other activities with the juniors (Years 7-9) spread over two separate hours and the senior students engaged in the final hour of the day.

## Weekly activity times

Tuesday	14:35 Years 7-9; 15:35 all year groups
Wednesday	13:35 all year groups
Thursday	15:35 all year groups





Each student chooses the activities they wish to participate in over the term in each of the sessions from a list displayed on the school's activities website. They will create their own termly programme and once students have made their choices registers are created and the students notified of their confirmed programme for the term.

This process is repeated at the end of each term for the following one and the programme is set ready for the first day of the new term. Students are encouraged to choose a variety of activities ranging from sport, outdoor education, the creative and performing arts, through to more cultural activities. The programme changes termly and new activities are added.

Whilst we go to a great deal of trouble to ensure all our activities are included in the school fees, there are some for which a charge is levied. Students are made aware of this when they sign up and the cost is communicated to parents for their agreement before a student's programme is confirmed. Charges are only levied for activities where we make use of specialised facilities, equipment and/or coaching which the school cannot provide eg sailing, horse riding or golf.

We have a dedicated Activities Secretary who can answer queries or questions regarding the programme.



## SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

**We seek to combine the philosophy of outdoor education with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and Round Square Adventure. The programme of expeditions in Years 7-9 seeks to encourage students to progressively step out of their comfort zone, staying away from home, exploring new activities, team building, and learning and preparing for the challenges of physical exertion culminating in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Year 9.**

In Year 7 students go on two residential stays, with the opportunity to do some camping for all or part of the week. Activities vary from mountain biking to team activities such as raft building and students are encouraged

to take part and are fully supported by a team of school staff throughout the time spent away.

In Year 8 students undertake two team building days, involving outdoor activities such as navigation, camp craft skills and hiking and then spend part of the last week of term learning new water based skills at Aquasports at Mercers Park, Redhill.

Year 9 is geared towards students achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Students are trained throughout the year in all of the skills necessary to complete a 2-day backpacking expedition in the nearby area. The training schedule involves such topics as camp

craft, tent pitching, first aid and emergency procedures, navigation and route planning and how to pack a large rucksack! As well as a training day students complete a practice expedition as well as a qualifying expedition, each involving 2 days' walking and a night's camping where they are fully sufficient, carrying all of their own equipment and cooking for themselves in teams. Year 9 also have a team building away day in the Spring term.

**“ I've achieved more than I ever thought I could, but only because of the great support from the team around me and the opportunity to take part”**

**Box Hill School Student**



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

**Box Hill School is steeped in the history of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Our founding Headmaster, Roy McComish, was involved from the outset under the guidance of Kurt Hahn. Much like the school, the scheme has changed and adapted over the years as sections have been amended or replaced, but it is fundamentally as challenging and rewarding as it has always been. The scheme is more popular now than ever and no more so than at Box Hill School.**

Once the Bronze Award has been gained, students in Year 10-11 have the opportunity to take part in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award as well as the Round Square Adventure

Race. The Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award involves a 3-day practice and a 3-day qualifying expedition which are both mentally and physically more demanding than the Bronze expedition.

In the Sixth Form, students are given the opportunity to achieve the highest Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. Students undertake their expeditions in a variety of places at this level including Brecon Beacons and the Lake District and occasionally further afield as well as completing the volunteering, skill, physical and residential sections of the award over an 18-month period. The Gold Award is a huge achievement, showing that students have the skills, determination and mentality

to really succeed. It is highly regarded by universities and employers alike and students have the opportunity to be presented with their award at one of the Royal Palaces. These Awards demonstrate strength of character and provide great satisfaction to those participating.

Box Hill School has been a licensed centre for the DofE Award scheme since 1962. This is a testament to the hard work of staff and the enthusiasm and numbers of pupils engaged in the Award at its various levels. It is clear that Box Hill School pupils today are committed to the Award, which exemplifies the values of the school itself in its challenges and success.



# DRAMA AND DANCE

Along with the other creative arts on offer, Drama and Dance play an important role in school life at Box Hill. A combination of innovative and inspiring teaching along with many and varied opportunities to perform, provide students with an outlet for exploring and showcasing their talents.

We encourage participation at all levels. In addition to timetabled classes for Drama in the lower school and for those who select it at GCSE, students are also offered the chance to take part in workshops and stage productions which are created by our Drama department. Two full stage productions are performed each year with integral contributions from the Music and Art departments. We have invested in facilities including purpose built dance and drama studios, and also in offering related activities for students to develop their skills in other areas such as Sound Production, Lighting and Music Technology. The school's Dance Company includes dancers from all year groups and regularly performs at events such as the Fashion Show and in other productions.

Drama scholarships are available at Year 7, 9 and Sixth Form.

## LAMDA

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) is one of the UK's oldest and most respected awarding bodies offering examinations in communication and performance.

We are pleased to offer LAMDA lessons to our students on a one-to-one basis as an extra-curricular subject. Lessons are tailored to each student's individual needs and subjects offered include Acting, the Speaking of Verse and Prose, Public Speaking and Reading for Performance.

Examinations are taken twice a year and Box Hill School continues to triumph with excellent results at all levels and a 100% pass rate. Each year students are given the opportunity to showcase the work from their examinations for family, friends and staff, concluding with a certificate presentation by the Headmaster.

LAMDA examinations are about achievement - recognising and rewarding the endeavours of each individual - but they are also about empowerment. The ultimate aim is to provide students with the opportunity to develop the life skills they need to be a success, attributes such as self-confidence and the ability to communicate clearly.

LAMDA Exams from Grade 6 to Grade 8 (Bronze to Gold) carry valuable UCAS points which can assist with students' applications to university and lessons can be used for the 'Skills' element of Duke of Edinburgh Award.



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## MUSIC

**Music is an essential part of life at Box Hill School and we continue to invest in providing state of the art facilities to showcase our student's efforts. Our purpose built Music School includes a large IT suite of apple macs equipped with Garage Band, Logic and Sibelius software to enable students of all abilities to compose music, as well as being involved in live performance. Seven instrumental practice rooms, a recital room and a high tech recording studio are open throughout the day. In the evening boarders have access to facilities to assist with their independent learning.**

Throughout the year there are numerous opportunities for students to perform. All Year 7 and 8 students take part in a class singing competition and other whole school annual events include carol services, live music night, piano recital evenings, Inter-Thirds music competitions and the end of year Summer Concert.

The school has a thriving choir, chamber choir and jazz band which many of our senior music students are involved in. Music is one of the ways in which both intellect and character are developed and, as such, we believe it is fundamental that everyone is able to participate. Therefore, for non-performers who wish to study GCSE music, there is the option of pursuing a technological pathway in our recording studio and specially-recorded podcasts of all the main GCSE music topics are available on a website to help with revision.

Our musicians are an integral part of collaborations with other departments and they regularly contribute significantly to the success of our school drama productions and fashion shows, composing and providing live music. We also have students who volunteer to help out with and learn about the sound engineering for school events and some exploit these skills in further education.

For those who wish to study musical instruments, we have a team of highly-experienced peripatetic teachers. All the main instruments are available and students are entered for ABRSM, Trinity or Rock School exams. Each year, several students achieve grade 8 or go on to study at prestigious music colleges such as the Royal Northern College of Music and Royal College of Music, London.







## ART AND FASHION & TEXTILES

**Box Hill School students consistently produce a high standard of Art and Fashion and Textiles work and these creative courses are popular subjects within the school.**

Art is a compulsory subject in Years 7-9. Throughout these years the schemes of work are underpinned with developing drawing and painting in order to build confidence in using a range of techniques and

processes. This foundation knowledge of skills allows students to make the transition to studying GCSE Art with a good core skills base. At Sixth Form we offer courses in A Level Art, A Level Fashion and Textiles and IB Visual Arts.

These courses aim to develop and establish students' artistic skills across a range of disciplines to cultivate ability and individual expression,

promote Art appreciation and offer an understanding of the history of Art.

There are many opportunities for students to get involved, Art and Fashion activities clubs run throughout the school week. These include Photography, Environmental Art, Screen Printing as well as GCSE, A-Level and IB Art & Fashion activities. We inspire our students to direct



their own projects across several disciplines and cross-curricular projects including prop production, costume and hair & make-up for drama productions.

Work is showcased at our annual IB, A Level and GCSE Art exhibitions and the Spring Fashion show. Each week a

piece of work is chosen to be featured as 'Image Of The Week' on the school website and it is put on display in the main school reception. The Box Hill School Visual Arts Instagram page is another way in which we showcase the schools talent online.

Many students have gained excellent examination grades and acceptance into leading Art schools including; Central St Martin's, University of the Creative Arts Plymouth, Art University Bournemouth, The Architecture Association and Byam Shaw.

### Day Houses

- 13 Polesden House      Girls
- 17 Burford House      Boys
- 34 Juniper House      Boys
- 19 Winthrop Young Building - Sixth Form

### Boarding Houses

- 2 Dalewood House      Girls
- 12 Atwood House      Girls
- 14 Ralph House      Boys
- 21 Burmester House      Girls
- 24 Old Cottage      Boys
- 35 Constantine House      Boys



- 15. Dance Studio
- 16. Medical Centre
- 17. Burford House
- 18. Careers, ILC and ICT 3 (top floor)
- 19. Sixth Form Centre/Winthrop Young Building
- 20. Maths and English (ground and first floor)
- 21. Burmester House
- 22. Larg Cottage
- 23. Allotments
- 24. Old Cottage
- 25. School Shop
- 26. Drama Studio
- 27. CDT
- 28. Multi Gym and ICT 1
- 29. The Quad (Business, Geography, History)
- 30. Science Block
- 31. Weatherall Cottage (Learning Support)
- 32. Art, Fashion and Textiles Block
- 33. Jubilee Building (International Study Centre)
- 34. Juniper House
- 35. Constantine House
- 36. Bursary
- 37. Pavilion

### KEY

- 1. Reception
- 2. Dalewood House
- 3. Library, Reading Room and Sun Room
- 4. Admissions, Marketing and Development
- 5. Dining Room
- 6. McComish Hall
- 7. Music School
- 8. Climbing wall, high ropes and caving
- 9. Sports Centre
- 10. Multi Use Games Area
- 11. Modern Foreign Languages, ICT 2, Student Reception and Exams Office
- 12. Atwood House
- 13. Polesden House
- 14. Ralph House

# INSPIRATIONAL Box Hill School



## PARKING AREAS

- A. Front of School
- B. Winthrop-Young
- C. Back of Winthrop-Young
- D. Constantine
- E. Village Hall (with permission)



## SIXTH FORM

**We provide the most wonderful opportunities inside and outside the classroom so that pupils leave school ready to face the world - with the necessary qualifications and personal skills, confident in who they are and what they believe in.**

The two years of the Sixth Form at Box Hill School are both the culmination of a student's school career and a transitional stage designed to prepare them for the next step, be that the route taken by the vast majority of students to Higher Education or the first steps of a career. We aim to strike the balance between being part of a school culture with high expectations of participation and mutual respect, at the same time as developing independent learning. We want to help students develop the skills which will be needed when they leave the school.

We are certain that they will form great new friendships, often lasting and lifelong, with other pupils who come from all over the world. Sixth Form pupils at Box Hill School come from over thirty different countries. The world has become a global village and the leaders of tomorrow will mix freely across continents, talk in multiple languages, and understand and appreciate the customs, ideas, and values of others.

Box Hill School's Sixth Form reflects this, providing our graduates with a distinct competitive advantage in the world of employment. Many take part in service projects overseas, holiday abroad at the home of new friends, and take part in Round Square exchanges, opening the door to a wider world of adventure. We will encourage students to be involved in many areas of school life, to do things they never thought they were capable of.

## LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM

There is never a dull moment in the Sixth Form at Box Hill School! Our pupils are offered a busy and challenging academic, social and cultural Sixth Form programme; they are encouraged to look beyond the regular school day to access co-curricular

activities such as sport, music and drama. Studies are supplemented with a dynamic Sixth Form culture which includes cross-curricular lectures, the Senior Debating Society, Charities Committee and the Senior Academic Society.



*I wanted to study in the 6th Form at Box Hill School because I was really impressed with its range of academic and extra-curricular possibilities.*

*I really loved day one in Year 12 when we tackled a military assault course through to my first Christmas Ball and before I knew it the summer Valedictory Ball.*

*The teachers are so supportive and friendly and there are lots of leadership and team work opportunities as well. It has been the best decision I have ever made!*

**Sixth Form student**







## SIXTH FORM CENTRE

The provision of an independent learning centre, which is a quiet study space equipped with computers, printer and study desks and the large Common Room in the Sixth Form Centre allows for a healthy blend of private study and social time when not in lessons. All Sixth Formers have access to

a kitchen, lockers, changing room and showers. The building also contains Maths and English classrooms, along with the offices of the Head of Sixth Form, the IB co-ordinator, the Head of House, and the Deputy Head pastoral. There is also a UCAS and Careers office.



## TAILORED TUTORING

The Head of Sixth Form has overall responsibility for life in the Sixth Form and works with the IB co-ordinator, the Head of House and Tutors to ensure that all students feel valued, have equal access to school facilities and resources and feel understood. Our tutors provide a service which is tailored to meet the needs of each individual student. Each tutor is responsible for overseeing the academic aspects of student development in the Sixth Form and is the first

point of contact between parents and School. Tutor groups are small and it is the expectation that all Sixth Form students should remain in the care of the same tutor throughout the two years, helping them provide detailed, comprehensive UCAS advice and references. We believe that the tutor experience not only provides the student with a great academic programme but also helps to develop interpersonal skills vital for future success and happiness.



## RESPONSIBLE AND READY FOR ACTION

We want our Sixth Formers to be leaders not followers; to develop into responsible citizens who can confidently take their place in society. They lead by example in everything they do; at work, in play and in their behaviour. There are plenty of opportunities to be part of this democratic

school society, having a voice by playing a leading role on the School Council, Boarders' Council or Food Committee, being a House Captain or House Senior, on the Syndicate and even leading the school as one of our Head Boy or Head Girl 'Guardians'.





# UNIVERSITIES AND CAREERS

**At Box Hill School, there is a dedicated university and careers service. There is someone who students and parents can go to at any time for careers advice.**

The main aim of the Careers department is to enable our students to access careers information and assist in making informed choices. We encourage them to have a realistic knowledge and understanding of their strengths, abilities, skills and personal qualities.

The Careers department prepares students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life, especially for further or higher education, training and employment.



## RECENT UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Box Hill School students complete their further education at many and varied universities across the UK and the world. Examples of recent destinations include:

- |                                   |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| University College London         | Ecole Hoteliere, Lausanne             |
| University of Dundee              | European Business School              |
| University of Durham              | European University Munich            |
| University of Exeter              | Goldsmiths, University of London      |
| University of Kent                | Guildford Music College               |
| University of Leicester           | Kingston University                   |
| University of Nottingham          | London College of Music               |
| University of Passau              | London School of Business and Finance |
| University of Portsmouth          | LMU Munich                            |
| University of Reading             | Maastricht University                 |
| University of Southampton         | Paris-Sorbonne University             |
| University of Sussex              | Queen Mary, University of London      |
| University of the West of England | Regents College London                |
| University of Winchester          | Royal Agricultural College            |
| University of Westminster         | Royal Holloway College                |
| University of York                | Sciences Politic, Paris               |
| Aberystwyth University            | St Martins College of Art and Design  |
| Aston University                  | Sigmund Freud University, Vienna      |
| Buckinghamshire University        | Southampton Solent                    |
| City University                   |                                       |
| Cornell University, USA           |                                       |





# BOARDING

**The boarding experience is one which is geared around providing a welcoming and warm 'home from home' for all our students, placing positive outcomes at the core and ensuring that the happiness and welfare of each individual is paramount.**

We offer boarding on a full, weekly or flexi basis to suit the varying needs of students and their families. Our aim is to provide an open, caring and trusting environment which values effort and achievement and where students are treated and respected as individuals.

The boarding environment is a safe place, free from physical dangers and hazards; accommodation is comfortable, homely, well maintained and suited to the needs of boarders according to age, gender and maturity. Boarders have access to medical assistance at all times. We ensure that appropriate levels of privacy are maintained and create an atmosphere of tolerance and respect. Our supportive and well-disciplined environment provides the best conditions for learning during homework time in the evenings.

Our aim is to enable each pupil to develop, learn and take responsibility for themselves and for others and to respect their environment.

Sixth Form boarding students are offered a boarding experience that prepares them for the greater independence they will have beyond school. We give each pupil the opportunity to develop qualities of leadership and team working.





## BOARDING HOUSES

**Boarding life is currently structured around six main houses with students placed according to age, gender and a mix of nationalities and cultures. All boarding houses at Box Hill School have residential members of staff who are experienced and expertly versed in the needs of their specific age group.**

This structure ensures the highest possible care and supervision of students, culminating in an environment conducive to both academic and personal development. It is one where we can acknowledge their progression and which helps to develop them into confident, tolerant and resilient young men and women.

All of our boarding houses, although unique in charm and character, have many similar facilities including a kitchen area where students can prepare food outside meal times, satellite television (including all of the main Sky channels) and wi-fi access. There are shared social areas within the boarding houses allowing boarders to mix, relax and enjoy the family feel.

Each boarding house is of central importance to the life of our students; life-long friendships are made, trust is fostered and loyalty forged. Many of the recent and not so recent alumni who are in touch with us, and who return to school from time to time, can recount in fine detail their treasured memories and recollections of their boarding days.

### **Atwood**

Built in 2005 and opened by HRH The Princess Royal, Atwood House was named after Box Hill School's second Headmaster, Dr Rodney Atwood. This purpose built two-storey house is for senior girl and boy boarders, accommodating Year 13 students. The bedrooms occupy two floors of the House with five twin bedrooms and en-suite facilities on each floor.

### **Burmester**

This Grade II listed 18th century house purchased by Box Hill School in 1979 is used as a girls' boarding house for 24 girls in Years 11 and 12. Many of the rooms have recently been refurbished providing comfortable accommodation in this lovely period house. In addition, Burmester benefits from a large garden, which is used by the girls during the summer months for studying, socialising and relaxing.

### **Constantine**

Constantine House was the first purpose built boarding house at Box Hill School. It was opened in 1990 by our Patron, King Constantine of Greece. Constantine House has its own computer room and has recently been extended to provide additional accommodation. This is a boys' boarding house, which is home to approximately 31 boarders.

### **Dalewood**

Dalewood House is the School's main building and was purchased in 1959. Dalewood House boarding facilities provide a home from home for Years 7 to 11 junior girl boarders. The House underwent extensive refurbishment resulting in beautifully decorated and comfortable rooms with personal study facilities. The House accommodates 22 girls, both weekly and full boarding.





### Old Cottage

Old Cottage is a Grade II listed house with parts dating back to the early 17th century. First used for boarders in 1963, the house oozes character. This senior boys' boarding house accommodates 32 full and weekly boarders from Years 12 and 13. Most are twin rooms, although there are a number of single rooms for the more senior boys. It also has a well maintained garden, which is a popular place to relax and study during the long summer days.

### Larg Cottage

Larg Cottage is a newly renovated Sixth Form boarding house in a secluded part of the school site. This can sleep up to 11 boarders and has its own common area and kitchen. It has been fitted with new bespoke furniture and designed to give students some degree of independence, whilst maintaining the level of care expected within our boarding community.

### Ralph

Ralph House is a boys' boarding and day house. It can accommodate 35 boarders from Years 9 to 12. This purpose built house is quirky and provides comfortable living accommodation for the boys. It has undergone extensive refurbishment in recent years and has a garden in the quad area used for study, BBQs and relaxing during good weather.





## OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES

We fully understand that for many students their free time is when they relax amongst friends, catch up on work or visit the local towns. For those who want a bit more adventure, we provide a wide range of exciting and educational opportunities.

The extended school day enables boarders to enjoy a wide range of activities allowing them to develop their interests. At the weekend our full boarders have an excellent selection of activities to choose from, or they are able to stay with family or friends as appropriate.

Below are some examples of the outings that have been offered.

- Chessington World of Adventures
- Windsor Castle
- Buckingham Palace & shopping at Harrods
- 'Nuts Challenge' assault course
- Goals (5 a side football)
- Go Karting
- Halloween event at Tully's Farm
- Brighton v Preston Football at the Amex Stadium
- Indoor sky diving
- London Dungeons and Covent Garden shopping



Changing schools can be both exciting and daunting in equal measure. The prospect of meeting new people, facing new challenges and being presented with new opportunities is exhilarating, but there are bound to be some nerves, apprehension and uncertainty.

At Box Hill School we understand the difficulties that such a transition can present to young adults; our experienced team of House Parents will be on hand to ensure the process is as smooth as possible.

Our aim in boarding is to ensure that later in life, boarders remember Box Hill School as the place they made their best friends, had the most fun they could ever have and learnt how to live with others in harmony.





## THE OLD BOXHILLIAN COMMUNITY



“*One of my key messages to all students, staff and parents is that you are a Boxhillian and a valued member of the Box Hill School community for life.*”

**Cory Lowde, Headmaster**

**The Old Boxhillians Office is located in the wonderful surroundings of Dalewood House. Its aim is to build and grow relationships with the wider Box Hill School community, whose friendship we so greatly value and appreciate, to keep members of the worldwide Box Hill School family in touch with each other and to cement their commitment to Box Hill School.**

Our community is made up of over 8,000 Old Boxhillians from across the decades who are living in over 100 different countries.

We organise regular reunions, events and industry networking sessions, send regular news and updates via the Old Boxhillian newsletter ‘Out of the Box’. We help all Old Boxhillians in any way we can, to keep in touch with former classmates and friends and to make new Old Boxhillian contacts.

Old Boxhillians get involved in current school life - they attend careers events and come and speak to our current students about life after Box Hill School. We are very grateful for all the support and involvement of all of our former students, current or former parents, ex members of staff and friends of the school.



“ *The friends I made and the experiences I had at Box Hill School, all contributed to who and where I am today. I did a lot of things that scared me at the time, but that in turn have shaped the way I look at opportunities now, and for that I would like to say thank you.*”

**Old Boxhillian**

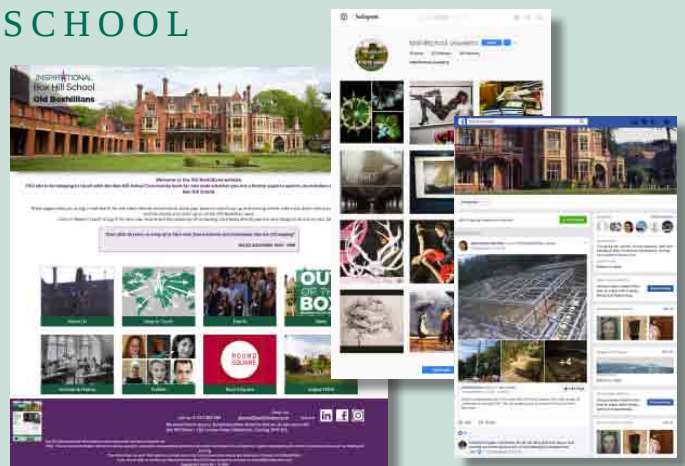


“ *Life at Box Hill School instilled in us a feeling of belonging and taught us a sense of responsibility. It was here that we became someone special and even after 30 years, so many of us have such fond memories and friendships that are still ongoing.*”

**Old Boxhillian**

## LIFE AFTER BOX HILL SCHOOL

Our Old Boxhillians community keeps in touch with us and with each other through many different media including our dedicated website where alumni can book onto events, find lost friends, take a trip down memory lane into the school archive and catch up on news. The Old Boxhillians website also hosts profiles of our alumni detailing their personal and career journeys after leaving Box Hill School.





# ADMISSIONS

**We appreciate that choosing the right school for your son or daughter is an important decision and we hope that our prospectus has given you a flavour of Box Hill School. There is no substitute for a personal visit and we warmly welcome prospective parents and students to come and experience what we have to offer. You may also wish to find out more by visiting our website or calling us for more information. We have set out our Admissions Process for both UK and International students, however should you wish to discuss any aspect of this, as part of your decision-making process, please contact us. Whatever the stage of your application, our admissions team are always happy to help and advise.**

## UK STUDENTS

We offer three formal points of entry into Box Hill School – Year 7, Year 9 and Year 12. For those interested in applying outside of these entry points, please contact our admissions office as places can sometimes become available throughout the year.

### STAGE 1: COME AND VISIT US

#### Open Events

Students and their families are welcome to attend any of our open events. We offer a number of Open Mornings, Open Evenings and School at Work Days throughout the year where you can view the school, talk to our pupils, and meet our Head and Senior Team.

#### Private Visits

You may wish to arrange a private visit to the school where you will meet one of our Senior Team and enjoy a guided tour of the school. Visitors will always receive a very warm welcome at Box Hill School.

Please see our website to book onto an open event, to arrange a private visit, or to view our Open Event schedule for the year. Alternatively you can contact us via email or phone.

### STAGE 2: REGISTER WITH US

#### Year 7 & Year 9 applications

Please register with us by:

- completing and returning our registration form
- paying a non-refundable registration fee
- supplying us with a passport-sized photograph of the applicant

Students who are registered with us by our Year 7 and Year 9 deadlines (please see our website for these dates) are guaranteed to be invited to the Year 7 and Year 9 Assessment Weeks. Invitations will be sent out during the Autumn Term preceding admission. For applications after our published deadline please contact us and we will provide advice as to how to proceed.

You may register your son or daughter at any time prior to the registration deadline. No priority is given to early registrations and all students are considered on an equal basis at the point of assessment.

#### Year 12 and other applications

Please register with us by:

- completing and returning our registration form
- paying a non-refundable registration fee
- supplying us with a passport-sized photograph of the applicant

Students will be invited to attend the school for interview at a mutually convenient time.



## STAGE 3: ASSESSMENT PROCESS

### Year 7 applications

The Year 7 Assessment Week takes place in the January preceding Year 7 entry (i.e. while the student is in Year 6). Applicants will have a short interview with one of our Senior Team and will also be required to sit tests set by Box Hill School in Maths and English. The Maths test is based on the school syllabus covered in Year 6 and lasts 45 minutes. The English test includes a reading comprehension task and a piece of creative writing and lasts 45 minutes.

### Year 9 applications

The Year 9 Assessment Week takes place in the December preceding Year 9 entry (i.e. while the student is in Year 8). Applicants will have a short interview with one of our Senior Team and will also be required to sit tests set by Box Hill School in Maths and English. The Maths test is based on the school syllabus covered in Year 8 and lasts 45 minutes. The English test includes a reading comprehension task and a piece of creative writing and lasts 1 hour. Please note that Year 9 assessment decisions are not based on the applicant's performance in Common Entrance examinations.

### Year 12 applications

We welcome applications into Year 12 onto either the A Level or the International Baccalaureate Programme. Registered applicants are invited to Box Hill School for an interview. Offers are based upon the applicant's interview, recent school reports and GCSE predictions. Please see our website for our required GCSE grades.

## OTHER APPLICATIONS

Applicants will be invited to Box Hill School to sit tests set by Box Hill School in Maths and English, and will have a short interview with one of our Senior Team.

During the assessment process, consideration is given to the applicant's entrance test results, interview, recent school reports, academic tests, grade predictions and other strengths - whether inside or outside school life.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer scholarships at entry into Years 7, 9 and 12. Academic scholarships are awarded on the basis of performance in our entry tests. In the disciplines of Music, Art, Drama and Sport scholarships are awarded on the basis of achievements in their chosen specialist area, the satisfactory completion of our examination papers and interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and the Head of Department.

All our scholars are excellent role models inside and outside the classroom. They participate fully in the life of the school and represent the school at various functions.

We also offer means-tested bursarial assistance to give all students the opportunity of a Box Hill School education.

Information on scholarships and bursaries, including application forms and application deadlines, is available in the Admissions section of our website at: [www.boxhillschool.com](http://www.boxhillschool.com).



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We welcome enquiries and applications from international students who are considering joining Box Hill School in Years 7 – 11 and Years 12 – 13 (our Sixth Form) within our mainstream school, and into Years 10 – 12 within our International Study Centre.

### STAGE 1: CONTACT US

For overseas student enquiries and agent enquiries please contact our Registrar for International Students at [registrar@boxhillschool.com](mailto:registrar@boxhillschool.com) who will advise how to take your application forward. Feel free to contact us at any stage of the year.

### STAGE 2: ASSESSMENT PROCESS & SCHOOL VISITS

All international students will be interviewed either in person or via Skype and will normally be required to take tests set by Box Hill School in Maths and English (these can be taken remotely).

We always welcome visits to Box Hill School from international applicants and their families when you will meet with one of our Senior Team and enjoy a guided tour of the school.

We ask that international students register with us at the appropriate stage by:

- completing and returning our registration form
- providing a copy of the student's latest school report
- supplying us with a passport-sized photograph of the student

**NB:** *All CAS/Visa applications will be handled by The Taylor Partnership and initiated by our Registrar on receipt of the signed acceptance form and fees deposit.*



# HOW TO GET TO BOX HILL SCHOOL

## BY CAR:

From Junction 9 M25: Follow the A24 towards Dorking. On the single dual carriageway (still the A24) turn left onto the B2209 to Mickleham; Box Hill School is the first entrance on your right.

If using Sat Nav please use RH5 6EA.

## BY TRAIN:

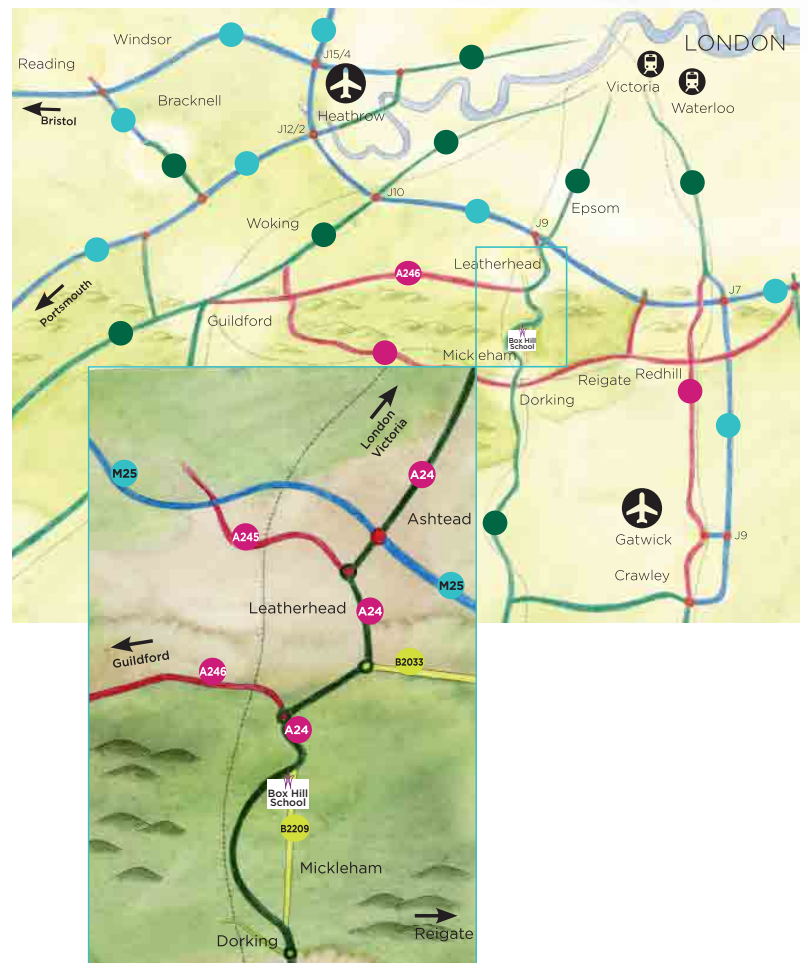
Direct trains leave London Victoria and London Waterloo every 30 minutes to Leatherhead Station and take approximately 50 minutes. Taxis are available at the station (journey from station to Box Hill School is 10 minutes by car).

Direct trains from Gatwick Airport to Dorking Deepdene leave every 30 minutes and take approximately 30 minutes. Taxis are available at the station (journey from station to Box Hill School is less than 10 minutes by car).

Please check train times and fares at: [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)



## BY BUS:

There is a bus stop directly outside the school which forms part of the number 465 bus route run by Arriva. This route goes between Dorking and Kingston, stopping at Mickleham, Leatherhead, Chessington, Hook, and Surbiton.







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