

Durham
School



Durham School Short Stay
International Prospectus

About Durham School

Durham School is one of the oldest schools in England, dating back to its full establishment in 1414, with teaching as far back as c.900

We offer an independent day and boarding educational journey in the North East of England for children from 3-18. Our schools are tailored to reflect the needs of each age group and underpinned by our consistent values and commitment to see each child as an individual with unique skills, talents and potential.

With our highly talented and dedicated team of inspiring teachers, we aim to make learning exciting and stimulating for all our pupils and we pride ourselves on the quality of our academic teaching. This is borne out by our proud record of academic excellence and achievement.

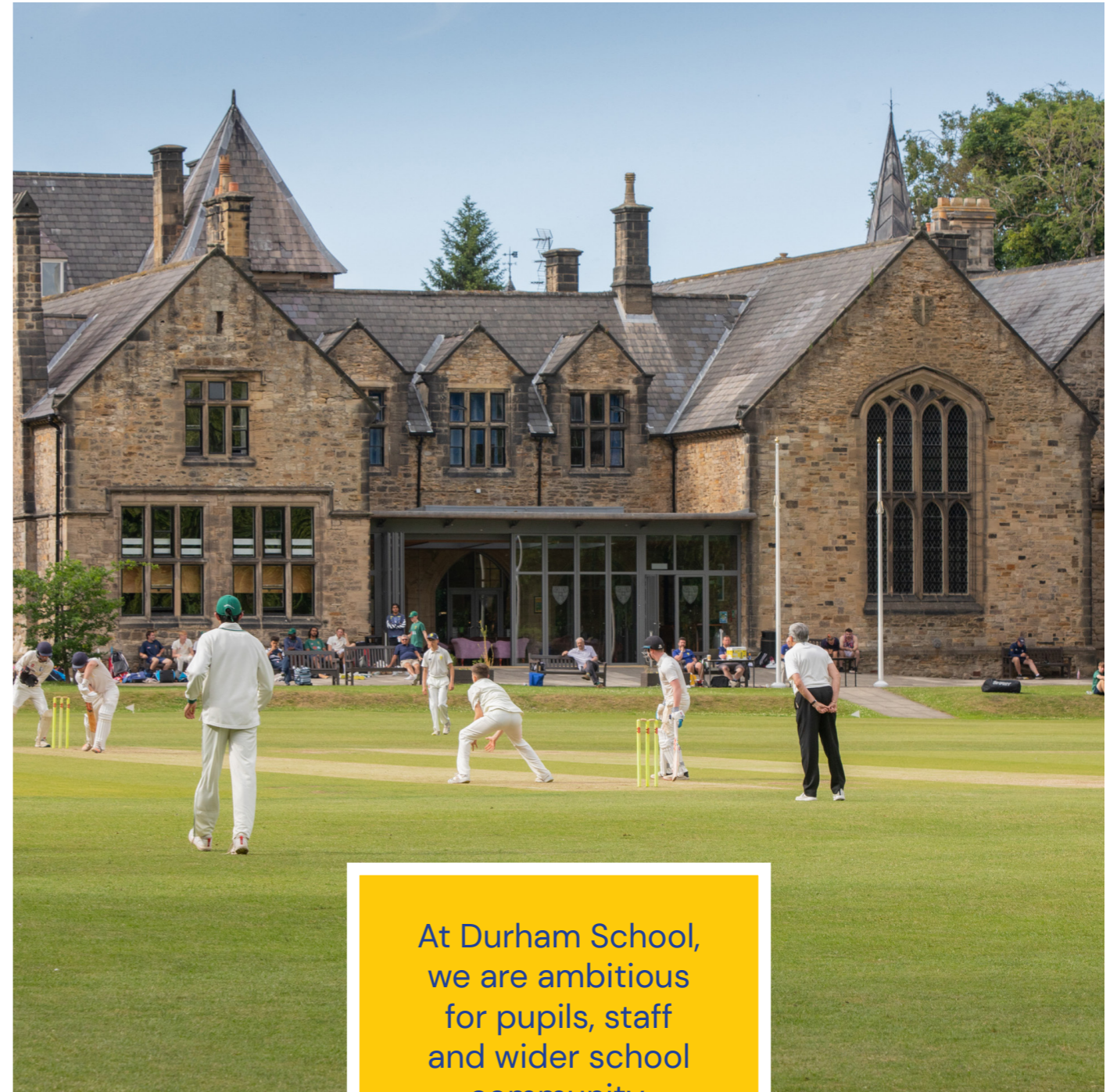
We believe young people learn as much about themselves through what they do outside the classroom, and we offer a huge variety of extra-curricular activities. Music and drama play an integral role in everyday school life, particularly for our internationally renowned Durham Cathedral Choristers.

We also enjoy a richly deserved reputation for sporting excellence with many of our alumni going on to compete at the highest levels.

Durham School is privileged to welcome pupils from all over the world. We currently have students from more than 20 countries, and we greatly value the richness and diversity they bring to our community.

The School is fully co-educational and is located centrally in the historic city of Durham close to the University and Cathedral. For day or boarding pupils we offer the best of both worlds: an exciting academic environment with the opportunity to develop independence in one of England's safest cities.

Durham School and Chorister School make up the Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation, a 3-18 learning journey in the heart of Durham City.



At Durham School, we are ambitious for pupils, staff and wider school community.

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in Durham School, which provides an outstanding, inspiring and values-driven education for girls and boys from across the world.



At Durham School we strive to combine the best traditions of a truly independent school steeped in centuries of history with the most modern and progressive teaching methods and practices to deliver academic excellence and personal growth.

We are immensely proud of our pupils, not only for their impressive academic achievements, but also for their kindness and consideration, their generosity of spirit and respect for others. We strive to engender a passion for learning in all our children, as well as the curiosity to seek new challenges and the pursuit of excellence in all that they do.

All our staff are dedicated to the various roles they play, enabling children to grow in confidence and security, and to develop those skills necessary for success in life. Our inspiring teachers take great pride in getting to know and care about every child as an individual, and are empowered to deliver a rich, expansive and exciting curriculum in small class sizes.

Our excellent pastoral provision and house system provide a safe and supportive family network for students and ensure they are never lost in the crowd. Students are encouraged to take leadership roles and responsibilities that will help prepare them to make a meaningful contribution to society after they leave us.

Alongside our Preparatory school, Chorister School, we are committed to being one Foundation, where pupils can benefit from our strong values and ideology and enjoy a seamless and continuous journey from the ages of 3 to 18.

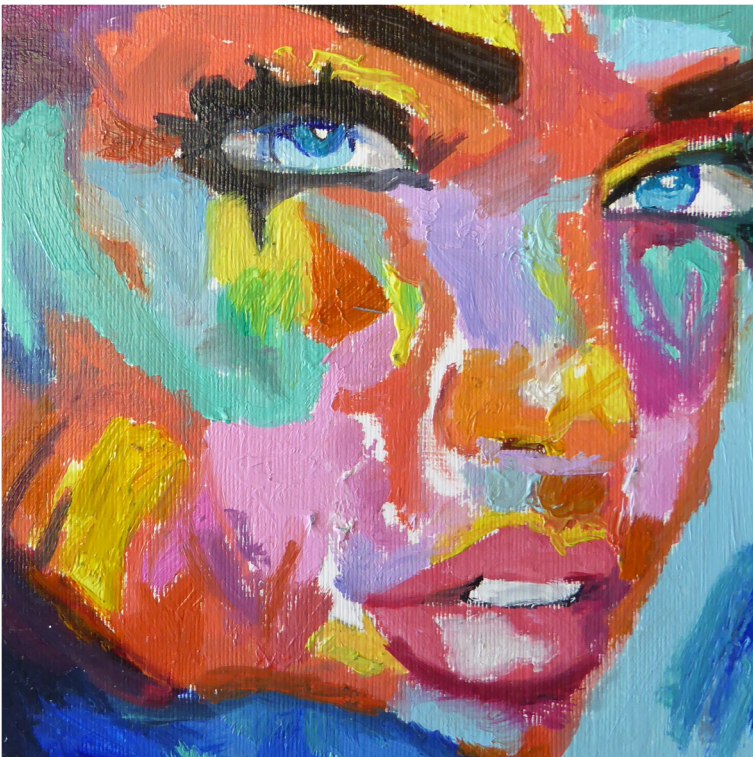
Academic Excellence

Whether your child starts their educational journey with us aged three, or arrives for the first time in Sixth Form, we offer a first-class all-round education. The broad, participative and balanced curriculum is carefully structured and expertly delivered to ensure every pupil can achieve their full potential. There are six 55 minute lessons in each school day and includes five hours of timetabled Games and PE Lessons.

Our excellent GCSE and A-Level results are an annual source of celebration for students and teachers; we work continuously to monitor and tailor our educational programme to offer pupils every opportunity to thrive and achieve their personal best.

Our cutting-edge teaching ensures our pupils are in the top 5% of the country for individual progress (Value-Added).





Co-Curricular

We encourage all pupils to participate in a range of activities and we ensure they have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Our pupils at Durham School, enjoy participating in a range of activities which take place either before School, at lunch time, after School and during the evening or at weekends.

Alongside our boarders, day pupils take full advantage of the opportunity to have breakfast and tea at School which enables them to participate in all the exciting activities they wish to. Weekends at Durham School are packed with fixtures, activities for boarders and other initiatives such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, and trips.

From sport to music, debating to performing, there's something for everyone here at Durham School.

Sports

Our teams train hard and compete in local, county, regional and national competitions. We have an excellent success record in a number of sports, as our pupils perform at a high standard and also demonstrate superb commitment, good team spirit and excellent sportsmanship.

Our Sports Teams

Winter Season

- Rugby
- Hockey
- Rowing
- Netball
- Swimming
- Basketball
- Table Tennis
- Cross Country
- Biathlon

Summer Season:

- Cricket
- Rowing
- Tennis
- Rounders
- Athletics

Other Sporting Activities We Offer

Specialist coaching and strength and conditioning sessions take place before School, at lunch time and after school. Other clubs include, cricket nets, swimming, lifesaving, hockey skills, badminton, netball shooting, fitness in the CV gym, rowing.



Our musical activities take place in our Music School which is home to a fully equipped Music Technical suite, practice and performance rooms and a larger performance studio. Our musicians also use chapel for practice and performance making use of the chapel organ and acoustics.

Weekly Music Programme

- Full Chapel Choir
- Junior Choir
- Orchestra
- Junior Orchestra
- Tenors and Basses
- Sopranos and Altos
- St Cecilia's Chamber Choir
- Big Band
- Quintet
- Brass Group
- Grade 5 Music Theory

Drama at Durham school inspires keen performers and provides them with the opportunities to develop their skills and showcase their talents. The department runs from its own fully functioning theatre, The Luce, where many GCSE, A Level and whole School productions take place.



Weekly Drama Programme

- Senior Drama Club (Year 9 to 13)
- Junior Drama Club (Year 7 & 8)
- GCSE and A Level workshops
- Tech Team (Production Team)

At Durham School we offer The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to pupils over the ages of 14. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a nationally run scheme that aims to develop the self-confidence and skills for life of young people.

Other Weekly Activities

- Junior Debating
- Senior Debating
- Creative Writing
- The Durham Eye (Editorial team for our School newspaper)
- Senior Reading Circle
- Junior Reading Circle
- Junior Science Club
- Young Farmers Club
- Particle Physics Club
- Mathmagicians
- Worldwide Junior Geography Club
- Classics Club
- Ancient Greek
- History Film Club
- Confirmation Classes
- Mindfulness and Meditation

Rowing at Durham School



The School has been very successful with athletes being selected at regional and international level over the years. On a domestic level we compete at over 25 events a year, including Schools Head of the River, National Schools Regatta, Henley Women's Regatta, Henley Royal Regatta, and British Championships. We have won several medals over recent years and punch well above our weight for a small school.

On a local level our crews perform very well winning races at many local events every month. Recent performances have included qualification at Henley Royal Regatta, Quarter-Finals at Henley Women's Regatta, Finals at National Schools Regatta, 3rd Place at Schools Head of the River, and several athletes selected to our Regional Northern Team.

This year we also had an athlete selected to the GB U19 World Beach Sprint Championship where they won a bronze medal.

Recent Old Dunelmian successes include Jodie Cameron winning the Cambridge University Lightweight Boat Race and Johanna Debus winning a Bronze Medal at the U23 World Championships in the coxless quad for Germany.

The School benefits from 3 full time members of staff, including a full time boatman that maintains the fleet on a daily basis. The coaches are all fully qualified and have huge experience in junior rowing. We also have several academic members of staff that contribute to the program on a daily basis.

Rowing is a Games option. Games is scheduled on a Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday for five hours per week within the School day. The Crews train every Saturday morning that they are not involved in competitions.

The social side of the DSBC (Durham School Boat Club) is really important too with annual dances, dinners, fun fancy dress races on the river, and so much more.

Mr Edward Bryant is the Director of Rowing at Durham School Boat Club, the 3rd oldest boat club in the world. Alongside this role, Mr Bryant is the Head of Boys Games at Durham School and Assistant House Master in School House.

Mr Bryant is a UKCC L3 Coach and passionate about helping our pupils reach their full sporting potential. He works part-time for British Rowing as a Coach Educator and is also the Lead Coach for the Women's Development Program and a Mentor on GB Rowing's Diploma in Sporting Excellence in the North of England.

Further to these roles, Mr Bryant volunteers as a Director and Entries Secretary at Durham Regatta, the second oldest rowing regatta in England dating back to 1834.



Short Stay – Frequently Asked Questions

1. When should I come? And for how long?

EU Citizens can attend UK Boarding School up to 6 months without a Child Student Visa. If you are interested in staying longer, it is better to plan ahead by applying for a Child Study Visa before you start. Durham School offer a free CAS Service.

In the Autumn term (starting September), you can stay for 6 months up to the February half term on the Visitor Visa.

In the Spring Term (starting in January), you can stay for the Summer term too on the Visitor Visa.

In the Summer Term, the last week of term is dedicated to out of classroom activities and sporting competitions. As the first week after half term the whole School sit internal examinations, we suggest students joining us for Summer Term take a two-week half term.

We do not accept short stay pupils in Years 11 and 13 in the Spring and Summer term as these are important times for GCSE and A Level exams.

2. What do I need to bring for my room?

If pupils are staying for a full term or longer, we suggest they bring (or buy on arrival) their own duvet, pillow, and bedding. Pupils who are coming for a short stay of 4 weeks or less will be provided with a school duvet, pillow, and bedding if they wish. We also have a set of lamps and plug adaptors which can be lent out, but if the pupil wishes to bring their own, this is fine.

3. Will my clothes be laundered?

Yes, each House has an allocated washing day every week. The clothes and linens are laundered within School and returned directly to the pupils.

4. What happens if I am ill at school?

We have a Medical Centre and a lovely medical staff team. All pupils are required to complete a medical questionnaire and provide us with their vaccinations record prior to their arrival at School.

5. Do I need a Guardian?

Yes, all overseas pupils must have a named Guardian living within 2 hours of the School who we can contact. A list of accredited Guardians is published on the [AEGIS website](#). However, for short stay pupils we offer the opportunity for an informal Guardian. This can be a friend of the family in the UK, or an understanding that in the case of an emergency the pupil will return home.

6. What will I do in the evening and on a weekend?

At the weekend there is a boarders' activity programme and these activities include sports, swimming, trips to cities, trips to the beach, go karting, horse riding etc.

7. Exeats

We do not have exeats.

8. What happens at half term?

The school closes at half term and all pupils must leave the campus. Overseas pupils can either fly home or stay in the UK with their Guardian. It is the responsibility of the Guardian/parents to organise the arrangements for half term for the pupil and their parents must inform the Head of Boarding, Mrs. K. Rochester, and the Housemaster/Mistress of their child's half term plans.

9. Will I be picked up from the airport by the school on arrival and departure?

Yes, the school does offer this service from Northern Airports – Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle and Teesside International.

10. Who is the main contact at school once I am enrolled?

Both parents and pupils can contact their Housemaster or Housemistress in the first instance. They will discuss any issues and strive to resolve these themselves or with the assistance of other relevant members of staff.

Safe Boarding

Durham School is a traditional British boarding school, providing a warm and supportive environment for children aged 11-18. Boarders and day pupils mix in Houses, lessons, activities, games, and social activities.

Boarding as a teenager brings with it all the hopes and expectations of the pupils growing up to be young adults; along the way, there will naturally be times of anxiety, concerns and difficulty as well as times of celebration, achievement and happiness. The Houses are at the heart of pupils' lives, and all boarders will experience a kind and communal atmosphere, which will help them develop into confident and independent young adults.

The Houses of Durham School are run by an experienced and dedicated team of Housemasters/mistresses, Tutors and Matrons. We aim to offer support, care and personal attention to pupils in every House, so that they may look back on their time at Durham School proudly and fondly, as a time that was instrumental in creating their future success. We encourage parents and guardians to engage in an active and regular dialogue with the School to establish a relationship of mutual trust to the benefit of pupils.

Each House has a kitchen for preparing snacks. Games rooms comprise a range of activities such as table tennis, pool table and table football. Television rooms have large-screen televisions and facilities for film nights with selections aimed at audiences appropriately.



Start Your Journey

This prospectus gives a snapshot of life at Durham School. We would love for you and your family to come and experience it together first hand.

We are happy to offer Virtual Tours of the school to families apply from overseas.

Application Process

- Complete an application form and pay the application fee of £75
- Return the completed form to the School with a copy of the child's birth certificate, passport and latest School Report
- For identification purposes we require a copy of both parents' passports

We do not require short stay pupils to sit a Maths and English assessment but we do request that they have an interview with our Head of English as a Foreign language. An unconditional offer to attend Durham School will be sent after the interview with an Acceptance Form and a request to pay a deposit of £500 to secure the place.

Contact details:

For all enquiries **please contact:**

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