

BOARDING AT STONYHURST:

Where friendships are formed that last a lifetime

As increasing numbers of parents face the dilemma of balancing hectic work lives with ensuring their children are fulfilled, many families are seeing the benefits that weekly boarding at Stonyhurst has for both the child and the parent.



Stonyhurst provides a happy home environment designed for the fulfilment of pupils, and weekly boarding means that parents are able to focus on the demands of working life during the week and make the most of family time together at the weekends. Removing the school run and transport to after-school activities frees up a great deal of time for both parties, allowing parents to maintain their careers while ensuring their children get the best possible start in life.

"The main benefit is taking out two hours of travel time each day and replacing it with a whole host of activities. They get their homework or revision done in structured study time as part of their evening routine, with teachers available to help, and then they spend time with friends being active. It is a very healthy way of life, full of sport and fun, and I think in this way it really extends their childhood." **Rebecca, current parent.**

Weekly boarding also has many benefits for deeper personal growth in children. Learning never stops at Stonyhurst and children are immersed in an educational environment, learning many important life skills. Children take part in a structured programme after the academic day including dedicated, supervised study time with academic staff on hand and social, active and fun down-time for round-the-clock education and development.

"There are so many distractions and activities we don't really have time to miss home." **Sebastien, current pupil.**

Stonyhurst has a diverse and extensive extra-curricular programme for children to discover their individual talents. Children can pursue many interests as well as additional enrichment opportunities including talks and presentations. Boarding comes with a built-in social life, living with friends and forming lifelong friendships. At Stonyhurst, children make global links to overseas pupils in the friendships they make and learn to get along with all different personalities and cultures. Peer support is important for their personal development socially, spiritually and academically.

"For all of my children, immersing themselves in school life has allowed so many opportunities. It is an extraordinary school for any pupil, joining in and finding your interests is part of the culture. Boarding has helped with independence and confidence. The school has also prepared them so well that I can take them into any environment and be proud of their behaviour. Sharing all that time together forms strong friendships – the children form lifelong bonds that will be with them forever." **Rebecca, current parent.**

"I find the friendships with people from all over the world the most enjoyable part about boarding. You have so many friendship groups, from classes, sports teams and your boarding house." **Sam, current pupil.**

Stonyhurst endeavours to recreate a family home environment, with adult role models in loco parentis who are teachers and specialists in the personal development of young people. There are also plenty of home comforts like toast and hot chocolate in the evening, taking bubble baths and watching movies.

"The movie nights helped me settle in, and snack times in the evenings were a really nice way to get to know each other, chatting over muffins and cocoa. My best memories are the simple things – dancing with friends in the boarding house, movie nights and staying over for the whole weekend to go on trips." **Isabelle, former pupil.**

Weekly boarding encourages independence, offering opportunities to become more self-reliant. Routine, consistency and discipline are all built in with compassion and tolerance at Stonyhurst as pupils navigate adolescence. The experience of boarding makes the transition from school to life at university easier and equips young people with the independence they need to succeed in the future.

"I wasn't fazed at all to go off to university and have found it easier than others to be away from home and share living spaces. This meant I was able to concentrate straight away on my studies and joining societies. I'm still in touch with my friends from Stonyhurst – it is easier to catch up

with those who live locally but I've kept in touch with my friends from France and Sweden too."

Isabelle, former pupil.

There are still plenty of opportunities for parents to be involved in life at Stonyhurst. Through the use of many levels of communication, whether it is face to face, attending events or through social media, parents are very much part of their child's journey at school.

"The staff are amazing and the Headteacher is incredible. If you embrace Stonyhurst life even for a short time, you will be caught up in the magnetism of the place. I see Stonyhurst as an extension of our family, a part of us. I am always made so welcome and have countless memories of sharing in my children's successes, from watching plays or sport to listening to my son's speeches as Head Boy."

Rebecca, current parent.

Stonyhurst Scholarship applications now open, visit the website to learn more:

www.stonyhurst.ac.uk



STONYHURST

2021 OPEN DAYS

**THURSDAY 23RD
SEPTEMBER 2021:**
Sixth Form Open Evening
(16 - 18 year olds)

**SATURDAY 9TH
OCTOBER 2021:**
St Mary's Hall Open Day
(3-13 year olds)

**SATURDAY 6TH
NOVEMBER 2021:**
College Open Day
(13 - 18 year olds)

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