



Boarding

at



2010 - 2011

If you have any queries about boarding, do not hesitate to contact me:

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Boarding has been an integral part of Dundalk Grammar School since its foundation. Boarding in the school provides a great opportunity for students to develop their academic ability, while also providing a solid foundation for self-confidence, creativity, independence and responsibility. Throughout their time in boarding, our students foster decision-making, listening, study and communication skills while gaining a positive school experience.

This is an exciting time for boarding at Dundalk Grammar School. Major investment programmes have greatly enhanced the boarding experience for our students. Refurbishment of common rooms, including new televisions, ipod docks, furniture, a pool table and a football table.

Whilst this is a boarding school and our emphasis is on academic excellence, we also recognise the necessity to create a home away from home for those students who wish to board with us. The opening of two new common rooms and the upgrade of the existing television room have sought to make boarding as enjoyable as possible.

From the smiling faces in this publication one can clearly see our boarding students are a happy community here.

Our five day boarding is provided by an experienced boarding staff, who are committed to providing a high standard of care for our students. Although boarding is disciplined, it provides a safe and secure environment where a sense of camaraderie exists between teachers and students.

Dundalk Grammar School's boarding facility provides the opportunity to live with a group of students who become a great support network for each other and lifelong friends.

Ms. Sarah Babington
Head of Boarding

As a boarder myself in this school. I have had the pleasure of being a part of the boarding community within this school. We sleep and eat in school but that is not it, we learn a great deal of independence and responsibility while being here.

Living away from home at first is a scary experience due to the transition of living at home with your family to living with a group of people you don't know. But, this group of people you don't know at first are the people who within time become like a second family. You share some great experiences with your friends such as Christmas dinner down in our canteen. Not many people our age can say they have had Christmas dinner with some of their closest friends. It's those little things that make boarding great.

As for the independence, it isn't something you can learn in a day school, it is a first hand experience of living away from home which will stand to you in the future.

Boarding opens many opportunities to students like getting involved in sports such as hockey, football, tennis and many more. It really gives you a chance to get involved with the wide variety of after school activities.

In the years of boarding I have been here, the boarding staff have done their very best for us in many ways such as provided us with a common room, where we can relax after school. This is done so boarding doesn't feel like school and is more like our second home.

The past four years I have been here have been great and I won't forget them. I look forward to spending my last two years of school here boarding.

written by:
Linda McCartney, 5th year



I come from Germany and wanted to go to school in Ireland. Dundalk Grammar School offered all the subjects I wanted to do and in addition to this, a wide range of different after-school activities, like sports and music and we get off earlier on a Wednesday. The school itself seems like a nice place and the food tasted well. Coming into boarding meant I had a structured day, where there was enough time for studying included. This is very important for me, as I want to go on to university when I complete my Leaving Certificate here in June. Within boarding, I have met so many new people and have made friends that I will keep for ever. I like boarding because it means I get to hang out with my friends all the time, it has become like my second home. When I first arrived to the school in 5th year, the other boarding students made me feel so welcome and included me in everything that was going on around the school.

The school offers so many opportunities for boarding students to get involved in different activities, and from time to time there are school productions put on, in which everybody who wants to be, can be involved. This year the production is "A Mid Summer Night's Dream." Being a boarder allows me to have more free time to practice my role in these productions and these alone are life learning experiences for everyone who is involved.

When school is finished at 3.50, there are three common rooms where the students can go to hang out, one is common area for all students with a new plasma television and comfortable seating. The other two rooms are split between Junior and Senior students and are equipped with televisions, a pool table, football table, and ipod docks. These rooms are a great place to go to chill out in the afternoon and make the school feel like home.

All in all, I really like the school and I am glad that I chose to attend it.

written by:
Janina Frank, 6th year

