



**D'OVERBROECK'S
OXFORD**

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Welcome to Islip House 2025-2026



WELCOME TO ISLIP HOUSE

Welcome to your new term-time home! On behalf of the whole Islip boarding team, we cannot wait to meet you and we hope that you will be very happy here.

There will be many new experiences come September; for some, it could be learning how to best load the dishwasher, for others, the increased responsibility in organising your own time. For many, it will be the first time you have shared a room – all our rooms are for two people, and we try to pair you with someone who has a shared interest. You will board in Islip for just your first year at sixth form. It is, literally, a 15 second walk to the main school (called 333) and the dining hall.

Living as a community has fantastic benefits. There is always someone around to play table tennis or get stuck into the latest Netflix series with. It also comes with its challenges; waiting to use the washing machine, being mindful of others' needs, and being patient and understanding. We have planned lots of activities in Week 1 for you to meet your new classmates, quickly become familiar with house routines and expectations, and learn to navigate around Oxford.

Boys and girls live on separate sides of the house – our common room is where we hang out together. Students in Islip come from many different countries; the language of the common room is always to be English so that no one is excluded – including staff! This is also good practise for your IELTS exams.

There is a British proverb: "A problem shared, is a problem halved". Your happiness and wellbeing are very important to us. We are always here for a serious chat, ready to listen if you need to rant or just share a piece of news ("I have just found the best nail bar!" "I finally gained an A for my Sociology essay!"). We are here to help you through illness, breakups, arguments with friends, a blister on your heel, writing your first CV and watching you star in the school production. There are hugs and tissues on tap in the house office.

There will also be parties! I love to cook for Halloween, Christmas, House Brunch, weekend treats and birthday cakes. As an A Level Biology teacher, I'm also available when you get stuck in your Bio homework!

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Rebecca

Contacts

ISLIP HOUSE

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333 Main reception and Sixth Form Office:

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Telephone: +44 (0)1865 688600

School nurses: Freya Paterson & Sinead Hughes

Email: medical@doverbroecks.com

Emergencies

In an emergency, you should call the boarding house telephone or mobile number.

If you can't make contact on either of these numbers and you have an emergency situation out of school hours and you need to speak to a senior member of staff, you can call the **boarding emergency number - 07990 076248.**

Daily routine

We take the responsibility of looking after our boarders very seriously and your safety is always our primary concern. This is why daily routines and making sure we know that you are safe is really important.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

Lessons at d'Overbroeck's start at 8.35am. Students are expected to get themselves up in the mornings with plenty of time to arrive punctually.

Mornings

Students are expected to leave the boarding house no later than 8.15am. Students should therefore register in the boarding house between 7.45 - 8.15am and then make their way to school.

Please be aware that if you are late for registration, you will incur sanctions.

In order to allow for cleaning and daily maintenance work, we ask that once you have left the house in the morning, you do not return before 11am.

If you want to return to the House after 11am, you are welcome to do so. Please remember to sign in on arrival and sign out again when you leave.

Meals

All served in the dining hall at 333:

Breakfast 8am - 8.30am

Dinner 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Study sessions

Another house registration is held in the boarding house between 6:45-7pm, Monday – Thursday. Study sessions take place after evening registration Monday – Thursday for two hours and can be done in communal areas or in student bedrooms. All students are expected to attend study sessions. There is no study session on Friday.

You must have authorisation from your Director of Studies to miss a study session and this should be for a legitimate reason (such as a school activity or club). The House staff will carry out random room checks every night during this time to ensure that you are studying effectively.

House meetings

We will have regular house meetings to share important information and celebrate birthdays at 7pm during the week.

Friday evening registration

Students must register with house staff on a Friday between 5-7pm. We must see you face to face.

House duties

There is a list of house duties to do each evening – these are things like tidying the common room, clearing the kitchen, putting away plates etc. You will take turns to do the duties on a rota basis and they are completed just before bedtime. If you are on house duties, you need to start them at 9.45pm when the common rooms and kitchens close for the day.

Curfew

From Sunday - Thursday inclusive, students must be in the House by 10pm and cannot go out again. On Friday and Saturday, this curfew is extended to 11pm. The common rooms are closed 15 minutes before final curfew so students can carry out their duties as per the rota. At this time, all other students must be out the communal areas. Then at final curfew, all students must be in their rooms and the house should be quiet.

SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Morning registration is between 11am – 1pm.

If you have an early morning commitment, you must return to the house to register in person by 12pm. We must see you face to face.

Meals

All served in the dining hall at 333:

Brunch – 11.00am - 11.30am

Dinner – 5.15pm - 5.45pm

You can sign in and out of the house on the weekends as you please.

Evening registration is between 5pm – 7pm. We must see you face to face.

Please be aware that if you are late for any registrations, you will incur sanctions (see sanctions section of the Sixth Form Boarding Handbook).

Curfew

On Friday and Saturday, curfew is extended to 11pm. The same rules apply as during the week, only 1 hour later.

House duties

These are started at 10.45pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

For your safety you must sign out every time you leave the house and sign in again on your return. You will be given the house duty telephone number - please make sure you have this with you at all times in case of any emergencies.

General information

Arriving at Islip

Unfortunately, we have no parking available at the house for visitors or for drop-offs. Islip is in a residential area with residential permit parking. There are limited parking spaces on Hernes Road and Summerhill Road. Students must not bring a car to Oxford whilst they are staying in one of our boarding houses.

Door access & Salto cards

A key card system is used giving access rights tailored to each student. Students will be given a key or card which accesses their boarding house, their bedroom, and school, so it is very important that you do not leave it behind or lose it. These should never be lent to anyone and if lost, students should tell their Head of House as soon as possible, and will be charged £10 for each replacement. Cards should be returned to the Head of House before leaving the boarding house for half terms and holidays.

Oxford and the local area

Getting to school

At Islip, we are lucky enough to live just across the road from school – this makes getting to and from school very easy!

Getting around

There is a good bus service to get you to the city centre and a bus stop right outside the house.

We also recommend walking – Oxford is a beautiful city, so make the most of it and get some fresh air!

There are also a number of taxi companies. We recommend **001 Taxis**, who you can contact on 01865 240000. Should you have any further questions or queries, feel free to speak to a staff member.

Safety outside the boarding house

Oxford is a very safe city and it is small enough for new residents to find their way around easily. If you have a bicycle there are dedicated bike lanes on most busy roads to make sure everyone is safe. It is nonetheless always important to be aware of your personal safety at all times. If you are on your bicycle, remember to wear a helmet. If you are on foot or on the bus, go out in pairs as much as possible and if you are out after the hours of darkness, make sure you stay on the well-lit main roads. If you ever experience any situations that make you feel uncomfortable, talk to a member of staff as soon as possible. Our priority is your safety and wellbeing.