



DOVER COLLEGE

SHORT STAY PROGRAMME





Welcome to *Dover College*

We are an independent, co-educational day and boarding school for children aged 3-18 years. We offer a vibrant national and international community, and we are committed to academic success and an all-round education for our pupils.

At Dover College, **personal bests** matter.

It is our belief that as a parent, or a school, we can ask no more of our children than for them to achieve their best – in the classroom, in their personal development, on stage, in sports or in the varied activities they engage in daily. These personal bests look different for each and every child and we celebrate them when they are achieved.

As a member of the Round Square global network of schools, we believe that all young people should receive an education infused with opportunities to develop a sense of Adventure, Democracy, Environmentalism, Internationalism, Leadership and Service.



Watch our school
video, 'Personal
Best'

From The Headmaster

Join the Short Stay Programme at Dover College and experience life at a leading UK boarding school that is both traditional and forward-thinking. We have a beautiful and historic campus, just 10 minutes from the beach and within easy reach of London on the high speed train.

You are welcome to choose from different short stay programmes ranging from half a term to a whole academic year. Our short-term pupils are always welcome to extend their stay with us. Once you are at the College, your place is guaranteed if you wish to stay longer. During your stay at Dover College, you will be fully integrated into life in our vibrant community.

Our dedicated teachers will help you make great strides with both your academic studies and level of English. In addition, we have a wide range of co-curricular activities for you to get involved in wholeheartedly. Are you keen on sport? Perhaps you would like to try our team games, or enjoy something slightly different such as sailing or horse riding? How about music or drama? Our regular performances, concerts and productions will give you the chance to shine. At the same time, you will enjoy being part of one of our warm and friendly boarding houses.

Dover College is both local and international. Whilst offering a traditional British boarding school experience, we are proud of our international community. You will have the chance to make lasting friendships with people from all around the world.

Mr Simon Fisher



"I felt at home after only a few days. I quickly found many new friends from other countries and also from other parts of Germany. The experiences I had at Dover College will help me in my later life."

A One Term Year 11 Pupil



Our Values

Small is Beautiful! The values of the family run through our school. Small class sizes allow us to nurture confidence, encourage inquisitiveness and celebrate individuality.

We are **academically ambitious** for every one of our pupils. We take the time to really get to know each child so that the right balance of challenge and support is in place based on their needs. This is a school which recognises that success is as unique as the individual and celebrates achievement where it represents the personal best for the child.

We are **international and local**. We welcome pupils from across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, encouraging everyone to be inclusive, unprejudiced, cosmopolitan and outward looking.

We like to **think differently**. Our distinctive curriculum leads not only to excellent results, but also encourages inquisitive and creative minds ready for the challenges ahead.

As a proud member of the **Round Square** global network of schools, we embrace their IDEALS of Adventure, Democracy, Environmentalism, Internationalism, Leadership and Service in all that we do.



“This was our son’s first extended stay away from home, so we were nervous about how he would get on. He took to boarding at Dover College like a duck to water, thanks to the warm welcome that he received from everybody at the College. On hearing his happy voice on the phone, we realised that this was one of the best decisions we had ever made for him. Thank you to Dover College for giving our son this wonderful experience.”

Parents of a One Term Year 12 Pupil





The International Centre

Dover College was the first school in the UK to formally create an International Department back in 1957.

Initially pupils came only from NATO countries, but now the College has representatives from across the globe. With about 20 different nationalities at any one time, lifelong friendships are easily formed and networking possibilities set in place. Pupils quickly become a part of the special community that is Dover College.

On arrival, you will have a test of your English so that we can put in place an individual programme of studies to help you improve your English quickly. Immersion in English and lessons with peer groups also helps older pupils prepare for IGCSE and IELTS examinations.

Our aim is to ensure that you have the language skills that you need to participate fully in both classes and co-curricular activities, ensuring that you can make the most of every minute at Dover College.

“I joined St Martin’s House in September 2020. When I first arrived, I was so nervous as I had never been away from home for long and knew no one. That feeling quickly subsided as my houseparents made me feel at home immediately and I soon found amazing friends among both the boarders and day pupils. All boarders feel as if, as my housemistress likes to say, in their home away from home.”

One Year Placement, Year 10 Pupil



Activities Programme

Whilst your academic studies are very important, we also believe in the benefits of an excellent co-curricular programme. From Sport to Computing, Creative Arts to Manga, volunteering, fundraising and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, we provide a plethora of experiences to enrich our pupil's lives, cultivate new talents, and build upon existing passions and interests.

At Dover College, the pupils determine our offer. Our wide-ranging programme of activities, societies, events and trips will allow you to explore and enjoy different ways of living and learning. By involving you in our full enrichment programme, we hope that your enjoyment of school life is enhanced and your personal skills will develop.





Half a Term

Pupils are always welcome to join us for our shortest stay of half a term (approx. 5 weeks). The programme will ensure that you integrate into exciting classes as well as receiving English Language support.

For Shell & Remove (Years 7 & 8), you will study the following subjects:

- Maths, English & Science
- Humanities
- MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)
- Creative Subjects (Art, Drama, Music & Media Studies)
- Computing
- Sport

Alongside this, you will work towards the Dover College Certificate of English Language Level as well as plenty of enrichment opportunities.

In Third Form to Fifth Form (Years 9-11), you will take the core subjects of Maths, English & Science along with a choice of Humanities, Modern Foreign Languages, Creative Subjects, Computer Science and Sport. You will also have the option to obtain the Cambridge English Language Qualification.

Lower Sixth (Year 12) have access to a choice of 3 A Level or BTEC subjects.

One Term

With a one term stay (of around three months), you will have the chance to immerse yourself in life at Dover College.

Each term brings different opportunities, with a range of sports, activities and excursions. Our facilities include a first class AstroTurf surface used for hockey, netball and tennis, a sports hall, a newly renovated functional fitness suite, squash court, fives court, four outdoor cricket nets, lawn tennis courts and a dance studio. Our Farthingloe sports ground boasts four excellent football and rugby pitches, and our Maxton cricket ground is one of the most picturesque in the county, with magnificent uninterrupted views of Dover Castle.

“Before coming to Dover College, I had intended to stay for only one term and then return to my school in Germany. Even before half term I knew I wanted to extend my stay for another term. I had met so many wonderful people with whom I loved spending time. I realised that I actually enjoyed studying, something that was always quite boring to me in Germany! Being at the school has really helped me become a better person. I am so much more confident, open to others and their viewpoints and have found so many new things I love to do.”

A one term Year 11 pupil who extended her stay





A Full Academic Year

Enrolling for a full academic year will give you the opportunity to experience the highlights of all three terms at Dover College.

You will make great progress with your academic studies and English Language level. In addition, being fully immersed in our enrichment programme will give you the skills that will benefit you for life.

In Sixth Form, pupils study for the IELTS exam, which is required for entry into a UK university and is an internationally recognised qualification showing a level of proficiency in English. They attend extra Saturday sessions to help prepare them for this difficult exam. During the year pupils are also regularly tested within the ISC and goals are set to help them progress quickly in English. Overseas pupils also have the opportunity to attend lessons in their own language after school to prepare them for external exams such as IGCSE and A Level in those languages.

Every year we are delighted by the success of Dover College pupils in their GCSE, A Level or BTEC qualifications. Our value-added is excellent and we attribute this to the determination of our pupils, the dedication of our staff and the unique ethos and environment that Dover College offers.

“The school provides an excellent environment for children to grow in, both academically and personally, and the enthusiasm from the staff for their roles as both teachers and mentors is palpable.”

A Current Parent



Admissions

If you feel inspired to join Dover College for a short stay programme, we would be glad to send you our registration forms.

To process your application, we will need the following:

- A completed registration form
- A completed Better Place for Learning form
- Copies of your two most recent school reports
- A handwritten personal statement telling us about your academic interests, what you like doing in your free time, your ambitions for the future, etc.
- A copy of the photo page of your passport
- The registration fee of £100

Dover College is proudly non-selective, so we do not have entrance exams. The final part of our application process is an informal interview. This can be done via Zoom, but if you have the opportunity to travel to the UK, we would be delighted to organise a personal visit for you to the College.

Your future starts here!



Recent Inspection

Dover College was inspected in February 2024. The inspection took place over 2.5 days and during that time inspectors observed lessons, met with many pupils and a range of teaching and non-teaching staff as well as members of our governing body. Surveys were sent out to all parents, pupils and staff, and responses were analysed in detail by the inspectors.

The report underscores the quality of the provision at the College, as well as the nature of our care and work with pupils both within the classroom and beyond it.

Crucially, we are recognised as meeting all of the standards and regulations governing the running of an independent boarding school. We are compliant in all areas.

Highlights from the report include:

“Subject leaders plan the curriculum effectively so that pupils receive an engaging range of lessons and co-curricular activities that allow them to make progress and experience success.”

“Pupils are tolerant of and kind to each other and value the diversity within the school community. The personal development programmes promote considerate and responsible behaviour.”

“Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education.”

“Pupils care for each other and many contribute to the community beyond the school.”

“Pastoral care of pupils is attentive and informed, resulting in pupils feeling cared for and valued.”

Find Us

Air - London Heathrow, Gatwick and City are all within 90 minutes transfer to Dover.

Train - direct from London St Pancras, Charing Cross or Victoria in as little as 65 minutes. The school is a two minute walk from Dover Priory station.

Channel Tunnel - 10 minutes to Dover from the Folkestone terminal.

Car - from London, follow the M20/A20 to Dover. The satnav postcode is CT17 9RH.



1. CHANNEL TUNNEL



2. GATWICK

3. HEATHROW

4. LONDON CITY





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