Welcome

Stover is one of the South West’s leading independent day and boarding schools for girls and boys aged 3 to 18 years. Set in 64 acres of beautiful grounds close to Dartmoor, Stover enjoys the benefit of a rural location but has the advantage of an excellent transportation network by road, rail and air.

Our aim is to provide a supportive, nurturing environment enabling pupils to acquire excellent qualifications and the confidence to achieve their aspirations, both now and in the future.

Children at Stover are happy; they thrive and flourish. We are proud of our record of achieving outstanding results at GCSE and A Level, which are a testament to the hard work of the pupils and staff.

I look forward to welcoming both you and your family to Stover.

Mrs Susan Bradley BSc CBiol MIBiol
Principal

“in factum fidelis, in veneratio videlicet”
Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is regarded as an essential part of our school ethos. At Stover we aim to create an environment in which our pupils learn to be responsible for their education and each other. Helping our young people to feel at home is vital to their development. We nurture them and provide a family environment where they are supported in their studies and encouraged to be kind, thoughtful and considerate at all times.

At Stover, we attach great importance to the quality and extent of pastoral care provided to our pupils. Systems of monitoring and tracking are well established. Our regular tutorial systems ensure that every pupil is in contact with members of staff, to whom he/she can readily turn for help or advice.

Our Head Boy and Head Girl both in the Senior and Preparatory School are on hand to provide support at all times. Our strong House system provides a framework for all our pupils to develop a sense of togetherness. Helping others, both within school and in the wider community, is an integral feature of school life. Pupils thrive at Stover due to the care provided by our dedicated and supportive team of staff.

Sanatorium

The bright and airy sanatorium is situated in Clock House. A qualified nurse is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to look after all sick and infirm pupils.

Chaplain

The School Chaplain organises collective worship and through the Christian Union group prepares pupils for confirmation.

School Council

Pupils are represented on both the Preparatory and Senior School councils, enabling them to be involved in some areas of school decision making, such as school uniform and playground equipment.

School Counsellor

We always tell our pupils that whatever the problem, talking will help sort it out. The school counsellor is always able to listen and advise.

Food

The meals at Stover are delicious! They are served in our attractive dining room; pupils have the choice of hot meals including vegetarian options and an extensive salad bar. Food is sourced locally and we are extremely proud of our Teignbeaf Gold Award.
As part of the ongoing health and welfare of all our pupils, physical education is a core component. There are ample opportunities to try something new, ensuring that pupils are fit and able to meet the daily demands of life.

All pupils take part in a full range of sports throughout the academic year. These include team sports such as hockey, rugby, football, netball, cricket and rounders. Individual sports include athletics, gymnastics, swimming, golf, tennis, badminton and cross-country. In all sports, expert coaching is provided by well-qualified and experienced staff. Pupils have every opportunity to learn new skills and to develop their talents.

Facilities at Stover include six all-weather, floodlit tennis and netball courts and extensive grass pitches. Emphasis is placed on participation where all pupils have a chance to succeed at every level.

During the academic year both the Senior and Preparatory Schools have a full fixture list. Those excelling in particular sporting areas are encouraged to represent their school at county, regional and national levels. Sports scholarships are awarded in recognition of excellence.
The Arts

Music
Music is a prominent feature of education at Stover. Music is taught as part of the Performing Arts programme with an option to study Music at GCSE and A Level. Candidates are also prepared for music theory and practical examinations.

We continually encourage and support our pupils to develop their musical abilities, inspiring them all to become confident performers. Opportunities for music scholarships are available to nurture and reward musical excellence.

Individual music lessons are offered for all orchestral instruments including flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, brass instruments, all string instruments, drums, orchestral percussion, piano, keyboard, voice and guitar. The lessons are taught by dedicated music teachers who encourage pupils to achieve their potential. Practical music examinations are taken at all levels.

Many pupils participate in the school orchestra, jazz band, string and wind ensembles, preparatory and senior choirs. Throughout the year there are opportunities to perform in public, including concertos and partnerships with local and regional events in the community as well as nationally and internationally.

Art
Artistic development and originality are a central part of the curriculum. The Art studios are equipped to enable pupils to produce drawings, paintings (both watercolour and oil), and participate in print-making and sculpture as well as Photography and digital production. Each piece of the highest quality is produced for examinations, portfolios and display. Art Scholarships are available.

Drama
Drama features in the curriculum from Reception to Year 9 as an option at GCSE and A Level. In addition, dramatic productions are staged regularly throughout the year at Stover. Variety and individuality are key features of our drama teaching.

All pupils are encouraged to take part in whatever capacity they can - from script writing, to set design, as well as acting. Pupils often perform their own work, as well as more established pieces, in the Chamber Hall, or Jubilee Hall, which is fully equipped with stage lighting.
Extra-curricular

Stover operates an extensive extra-curricular programme of outdoor pursuits. The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels includes a variety of activities such as canoeing, mountain walking and rock climbing. The ability to take on challenges, work as part of a team and to take responsibility are key objectives of this aspect of education at Stover. One of the main events is the Ten Tors competition, which is a weekend walk over Dartmoor in two days, for which pupils prepare and train for many months.

Pupils who wish to represent the school at sport will be expected to regularly attend club sessions for their respective sports.

Golf

Stover School Golf Academy encourages all pupils to try their hand at golf. We have a short course with putting green, bunker and target golf area, all of which offer the perfect opportunity to improve one’s skills and understanding of the game. Stover School Golf Academy is a member of the Independent Schools Golf Association and our golfers have played in several golf competitions.

Tennis

The tennis programme at Stover has been sensitively designed to complement the school’s academic timetable. Squad sessions run for ¾ hour on a rota basis, over a 3 week cycle. Our competitive approach helps pupils develop both on and off the court and many of these skills can be taken across into other aspects of their lives.

Horse Riding Club

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Horse Riding Club

The horse riding club offers the opportunity to take riding lessons and attend competitions at the local stables. Here, pupils are put into groups according to their ages and ability. These lessons are interspersed with hacks over Dartmoor National Park and picnic rides in the summer.

Other activities include:

Art
Basketball
Basketball
Becminstom
Cookery
Dance
Diving
Drama
Duke of Edinburgh
Model Challenge
Orchestra
Quiz Club
Running
School Choir
Stage Design
Stover School Canoeing

There is supervised homework available to pupils from Years 7 – 9 on a daily basis after school.
Boarding

Stover has a happy boarding community in which boarders can enjoy life in a relaxed, shared environment. Boarders live in Mansion House or Park House. Younger pupils live in dormitories where they develop friendships that can last a lifetime. Single or double study bedrooms are available for our older formers. Each House has a Common Room in which the girls can relax together in comfortable surroundings.

Senior boarders are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills by participating in and organising activities for the Junior boarders. They help to supervise ‘prep’ and listen to the younger members of the boarding community reading. Boarding projects are held in the house at School Council and links with the Houseparents are encouraged to ensure the smooth running of the House.

In Mansion House, refreshments are available in the Internet Café and there is also a tuck shop for snacks and sundries. In Park House there is a fully equipped kitchen. The homely atmosphere is further enhanced by the aroma of cakes baking in the girls’ kitchen.

When the lighter evenings are with us, pupils can take advantage of the wonderful grounds for sport and recreation. Each boarding house is staffed by a Housemistress, an Assistant and an Assistant Tutor who all contribute towards offering a wide variety of activities.

Weekends at Stover are varied and action-packed! A programme of activities is arranged for each term. Boarders can enjoy trips to Paignton Zoo, the chess club and clubs such as Circuit, where they can explore the cultural opportunities available. Activities are also arranged in school where girls can learn self-defence, paint a mug, join in a treasure hunt, practice Aikido, have a make-over and show off their talents at karaoke.

Flexible Boarding

Flexible boarding is available to all our day girls either regularly, for one or two nights per week or as a one off sleep-over, or perhaps instead if parents are away.

Boys Boarding

Boys are placed with local English host families, ensuring that our pupils have someone close to hand to care for them. For more information please contact the Registrar.
The environment provided for the children in the nursery, and the constant, stimulating enthusiasm of the staff is truly remarkable. The wealth of opportunities for experiences result in totally engaged children who are truly interested, polite and fully extended.

- Ofsted Report 2008 (Foundation Stage)

in factum fidelis, in veneratio videlicet
Preparatory

Stover Preparatory School offers a broad, balanced and forward-looking curriculum for our pupils and provides a firm foundation for entry to the Senior School. Set in the Clock House, the Preparatory School has a warm and open atmosphere where pupils can enjoy learning in a supportive and busy environment. Our classrooms are well-equipped and our staff are dedicated to helping our pupils ‘plant the seeds for success’ in their education.

The Pre-Preparatory School is co-educational and from Year 3 pupils are split into classes according to gender. The classes follow the same curriculum with teachers working together to co-ordinate the children’s learning. Whilst pupils are taught most lessons separately there are ample opportunities for interaction between girls and boys. In addition, pupils mix together for extra-curricular activities, performances, break times, swimming and school trips.

At Stover Preparatory School our aim is to build a quiet self-confidence in our pupils. By nurturing each individual’s academic, social and emotional development we prepare them for the real phase of their education and beyond.

“The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding. Inspirational teaching helps children make excellent progress towards the Early Learning Goals in all areas of learning.”

- Ofsted Report 2008 (Foundation Stage)

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Senior

Senior provides a supportive, hard working and purposeful atmosphere. Girls and boys are taught separately and there is an emphasis on regular work routines, encouraging creativity and independent learning. There is a sense of community based on mutual trust, respect and consideration for others.

Our academic results are impressive by any standards. Senior is committed to uncovering girls and boys of mixed ability and potential whose special talents and aptitudes contribute to school life.

We seek to balance the traditional values that are essential in later life with a caring and modern approach to the world around us. We are very conscious of the setting of the school and our inheritance from past generations of pupils, staff and parents.

Our beautiful surroundings provide multiple opportunities for imagination, enquiry, sport, competition and fun. We continually encourage our pupils to seize every opportunity.

Pupils progress to Stover Sixth Form as self-assured individuals with excellent qualifications and the confidence to achieve their aspirations, both now and in the future.

Academic scholarships are available.

“in factum fidelis,
in veneratio
videlicet”

“If you are looking for small class sizes, excellent results and a stunning school in beautiful, safe surroundings, look no further”

- The Good Schools Guide
Sixth Form

Sixth Form is co-educational. It is a strong, tightly-knit community with a culture of hard-working independent study. Students are treated as young adults. The "Student Voice" is influential both within school and in the wider community.

The Sixth Form Centre is a purpose built building, separate from the rest of the school but remaining within the beautiful grounds. It is very well resourced for work, with private study areas, up-to-date PCs and well stocked Higher Education Library. Our students can enjoy table tennis, pool, table football and television before and after school and during school breaks. There is also a fully fitted kitchen and outdoor patio/barbeque area.

This is an exciting and challenging phase of your child's education; positions of responsibility are awarded and taken very seriously. Students will have to balance the increased demands of their A levels with an increased freedom and social life. With the help of their personal Tutor to support individual students with UCAS applications and to give one to one careers guidance. The opportunity to develop leadership skills by becoming a prefect, Head Boy or Head Girl.

As part of the Sixth Form, our students have a unique identity, which includes:

- Their own centre for study and relaxation
- Individual study areas
- Their own Senior Tutor always on hand to give help and advice
- Their own personal Tutor to support individual students with UCAS applications and to give one to one careers guidance
- The opportunity to develop leadership skills by becoming a prefect, Head Boy or Head Girl.

One of the key advantages at Stover is that we make every effort to design the A Level programme around your child. Apply early enough and we can organise as part of your application an interview and an opportunity to sit a number of the A Level subjects. Sixth Form scholarships are available.
“Set in 64 acres of attractive grounds, close to Dartmoor, Stover really can offer the best of both worlds, a great education set in a fantastic environment.”

Surrounding Area
Situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty, close to Dartmoor, Stover offers the best of both worlds: a great education set in a fantastic environment, the benefits of a rural location and ease of access to an excellent network of road, rail and air.

Near to Stover, you’ll find Dartmoor National Park, with its breathtaking scenery and you are also close enough to enjoy the coastal attractions of Teignmouth and Torquay.

The School regularly uses these resources by encouraging pupils to take part in a range of activities including the “Ten Tors” walk on Dartmoor.

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“An attractive and well run school, embarking on new challenges with justifiable confidence.”
- The Good Schools Guide

Admissions

Stover School is unique in many ways but you really need to visit us and see for yourself to truly understand the friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Our aim is to provide a happy and nurturing environment enabling pupils to acquire excellent qualifications and the confidence to achieve their aspirations, both now and in the future.

Each term we hold an Open Day which gives an opportunity to view the School at work and play!

We will be delighted to answer any questions that you may have, arrange an appointment for you to visit the School if you wish, arrange a taster day for your child. Please contact the Registrar.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Stover and will be very happy to discuss any aspects of the admission process.

The Registrar

enquiries@stover.co.uk

01626 354505