



SEDBERGH
SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1376



SEDBERGH SCHOOL

PARENT HANDBOOK

2020 - 2021

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Dear Parents

Every one of us at Sedbergh is enormously proud of our School; what it stands for and all that our pupils achieve.

Our purpose is to ensure that Sedberghians have the skills and qualifications to compete with the best, the resilience to thrive under pressure and the attitude to capitalise on the opportunities that lie before them. These are the essential qualities which our children require as they face the challenges and opportunities of the future.

We know that our children will best flourish if they lead rich and varied lives to develop the fullest range of their talents to the optimum. Thus we are proud of the range of our curriculum, our sporting and musical heritage and the extraordinary breadth of our extra-curricular provision. Set on the boundary between the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks, there are few such inspirational places to live, work and learn.

We believe that our setting, our values and our commitment to full boarding make our School truly unique. Only in a true boarding community is it possible to find such a full and varied education where staff and pupils work together; 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. Sedbergh is a forward-looking boarding School which provides the time and space to inspire interests and nurture friendships which will last a lifetime.

We delight in the diversity of our pupils who bring a richness of experience and enthusiasm to Sedbergh and challenge us to find a niche in which every individual may excel and be valued for all that they achieve in every sphere. The self confidence that this engenders enables pupils to capitalise on new situations and challenges. It also generates the humility to acknowledge the success of others, the compassion to support those who encounter difficulties and maturity so that our pupils take responsibility for themselves. Sedberghians may be confident, but never arrogant.

We expect our pupils to leave Sedbergh as complete young adults, secure in themselves, focused on a path for the future and with the confidence to make wise decisions that enhance their lives and the lives of those around them.

The Admissions Policy gives full details of the Governors' requirements and policy of the School with respect to a pupil's admission and is issued to all parents prior to their son's or daughter's entry to Sedbergh.

A pupil is admitted upon condition that their parents or guardians agree in writing to accept the School's Terms and Conditions. Parents should please refer to the Terms and Conditions as much as possible as these form the contract between you - the parent - and the School. The rest of the handbook is not contractual but provided by way of information. The Terms and Conditions may be amended from time to time, and their provisions, subject to any such amendments, will continue to apply throughout the period a pupil is attending the School, regardless of their age.

The published School Rules form part of this commitment; these are displayed on School Notice Boards, and a copy is sent to all parents before a pupil comes to Sedbergh.

With best wishes for a most successful and rewarding experience at the School.



Dan Harrison
Headmaster

School Mission Statement

To nurture each Sedberghian so that they realise their full potential in a unique and rigorous environment of excellence; characterised by committed endeavour, moral purpose and integrity of contribution.

The School will:

- a) Identify and develop the potential of its pupils in a variety of areas: academic, artistic, cultural, sporting, personal, social and spiritual; secondly, help them to obtain the best possible qualification; thirdly, prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life
- b) Provide a welcoming, friendly and supportive environment which recognises the worth of each individual within the collective boarding atmosphere of the School;
- c) Provide a fulfilling working environment for its staff, both teaching and non-teaching, and encourage their development;
- d) Liaise closely with the parents of its pupils and encourage them to share in the life of the School and the House.

Boarding Principles

Sedbergh's pastoral care and belief in timeless values creates an unrivalled provision for boarding. As a truly full boarding school, Sedbergh prides itself on the lifelong relationships and friendships forged within the boarding houses. Pupils are afforded the opportunities to develop ambitions, resilience, tolerance and community living in a house supported by House Staff who recognise and celebrate achievement. Sedbergh's boarding believes in the development of discipline within a modern framework of concern for others with a focus on the Christian values of compassion and humility.

Sedbergh's houses maintain the heritage of the School and allow Sedberghians to feel part of a greater picture of history; they live and work in a house safe in the knowledge that thousands of Sedberghians have passed before them with the same values, ethos and understanding of the beauty of the landscape in which they are situated. The unique house dining structure allows for the development family culture within the wider school structure. Pupils are challenged, removed from their comfort zones and supported as they venture into activities, new academic spheres and new ambitions. Sedbergh's boarding provision makes pupils brave enough to challenge themselves.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Mr Andrew Fleck
Principal

Mr Dan Harrison
Headmaster

Headmaster's Office **Tel:** 015396 20535
Sedbergh School **Email:** hoffice@sedberghschool.org
Sedbergh
Cumbria
LA10 5HG

Mr Richard Gledhill
Chairman of Governors
c/o Clerk to The Governors
Sedbergh School
Malim Lodge **Tel:** 015396 20303
Loftus Hill **Email:** chairman@sedberghschool.org
Sedbergh School
Cumbria
LA10 5RY

Sedbergh School Medical Centre **Tel:** 01539 718 164 **Fax:** 015396 20586

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence about **financial** matters - School Bills, Fees etc., - should be addressed to The Bursar, Malim Lodge, Loftus Hill, Sedbergh School, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5RY.

All **other** correspondence should be addressed either to a pupil's Housemaster/mistress or to The Headmaster as appropriate.

Parents are required to inform the School of:

- the name and address of any other person, other than themselves, who has legal parental responsibility for the pupil. (It is no longer assumed that only natural parents have such responsibility). The Acceptance Form should be used for this purpose;
- any Court Orders or other legal circumstances affecting the pupil. Any Orders under The Children Act must be notified to the School;
- any special arrangements for, or restriction upon, contact between the pupil and parents or others; and
- contact telephone numbers and addresses whilst parents are away from home - via the pupil's Housemaster/mistress.

Parents are asked to ensure that changes of address, telephone number and e-mail are notified promptly to the Headmaster's PA, Sedbergh School, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5HG (hoffice@sedberghschool.org).

Details of contact telephone numbers, addresses and e-mail whilst parents are away from home should be notified to their son or daughter's Housemaster/mistress before departure.

Those parents who are divorced or separated, or who hold joint custody or interest in a pupil's progress, should confirm to The Registrar who is responsible for paying the School Bill and who should receive copies of the child's School Reports.

GOVERNORS AND STAFF

School Governors, Senior Leadership Team and Academic Staff names can be found on the website by clicking [HERE](#)

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mr Andrew Fleck, Principal
Mr Dan Harrison, Headmaster Sedbergh School

Mr Peter Marshall, COO & Clerk to the Governors
Mr Will Newman, Headmaster Sedbergh Prep

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mrs Lotte Wright, Deputy Head
Mr Tom Bennet, Director of Studies

Mr Colin Gunning, Deputy Head
Mr Toby Lehman, Bursar (Operations)

Year Group Heads

Head of 6th Form and Year 13
Head of Year 12
Head of Year 11
Head of Year 10
Head of Year 9

Miss Helen Rowland
Mr Iwan Lewis
Mrs Jenny Macdonald
Mr Danny Seddon-Roberts
Mrs Alexia Killgren

Librarian

Mrs G Suttle, BA (Gloucestershire)

Archivist

Mrs K de la Rivière, MA and MSc (Glasgow)

BOARDING STAFF

The Housemaster/mistress is responsible for the day to day running of the House and the welfare of your son or daughter. They live within the Boarding House and are assisted by an Assistant Housemaster/mistress and a team of Tutors.

The Tutors, as well as having responsibility for a group of tutees within the House will undertake duties on evenings and at weekends. Your son or daughter's tutor may be contacted regarding any academic issues you may have. The Houses are staffed by caring, committed and friendly people from a wide range of backgrounds and with a wide range of interests, who all have a common interest in providing a supportive atmosphere within which your son or daughter will grow and develop.

Housemasters / Housemistresses

Carus House
Evans House
Hart House
Lupton House
Powell House
Robertson House
School House
Sedgwick House
Winder House

Mrs Tracey Gunning
Mr Jonathan Lidiard
Mr Matt McVoy
Mrs Jenny Macdonald
Mr John Seymour
Mrs Hayley Christy
Mr Peter Coke
Mr Stuart Oliver
Mr Christopher Mahon

CONTACT DETAILS FOR HOUSES

Postal address	Housemaster / Housemistress DDI, Mobile & Email	Assistant Housemaster / Assistant Housemistress
CARUS HOUSE 79-81 Main Street SEDBERGH LA10 5AB	01539 244 037 07891 139 465 hsmcarus@sedberghschool.org	07522 230 704 ashmcarus@sedberghschool.org
EVANS HOUSE Main Street SEDBERGH LA10 5BT	01539 244 027 07857 500 288 hsmevans@sedberghschool.org	07921 427 272 ashmevans@sedberghschool.org
HART HOUSE Busk Lane SEDBERGH LA10 5SA	01539 244 030 07857 500 239 hsmhart@sedberghschool.org	07799 696 883 ashmhart@sedberghschool.org
LUPTON HOUSE Back Lane SEDBERGH LA10 5BY	01539 244 038 07857 500 295 hsmlypton@sedberghschool.org	07857 500 203 ashmlupton@sedberghschool.org
POWELL HOUSE Loftus Hill SEDBERGH LA10 5RZ	01539 244 028 07857 500 249 hsmppowell@sedberghschool.org	07730 526 355 ashmpowell@sedberghschool.org
ROBERTSON HOUSE Loftus Hill SEDBERGH LA10 5SQ	01539 244 039 07857 500 224 hsmrobertson@sedberghschool.org	07912 231 145 ashmrobertson@sedberghschool.org
SCHOOL HOUSE Busk Lane SEDBERGH LA10 5SD	01539 244 032 07779 789 322 hsmsschool@sedberghschool.org	07522 230 702 ashmsschool@sedberghschool.org
SEDGWICK HOUSE Busk Lane SEDBERGH LA10 5HF	01524 279 250 07912 270 740 hsmssedgwick@sedberghschool.org	07712 321 218 ashmssedgwick@sedberghschool.org
WINDER HOUSE Winder Drive SEDBERGH LA10 5SG	01539 244 035 07730 924 752 hsmwinder@sedberghschool.org	07522 230 786 ashmwinder@sedberghschool.org

COMMUNICATION WITH HOME

Parents will always be informed of any matters of concern and should feel free to let us know of any concerns they may have - and encourage their son or daughter to do likewise. Housemasters and Housemistresses are always willing to meet with parents informally or by appointment for a private discussion.

The level of informal communication between staff and parents is naturally high for many parents, but we acknowledge that there are some who are unable to visit frequently. Therefore, communication through email or by Skype or phone calls should ensure that parents are kept up to date with the progress and welfare of their son or daughter.

Pupils can telephone home when they are not involved in School Activities during the day or evening. Communication can also be made via email or Skype. However, parents should avoid situations whereby a son or daughter becomes overly reliant on communication with home, to the detriment of settling in and joining in activities in School and the House.

There are rules about pupil's use of mobile phones around School and in the Boarding Houses (see School Rules)

EXEATS

For the Michaelmas Term 2020, there are to be no flexible arrangements for exeats. If a pupil wishes to take an exeat, they may do so on the dates published in advance (see [HERE](#)). This is not compulsory and for pupils who remain in school there will be a full programme of activities.

VISITING

Due to Covid-19, further information will be provided about visiting your child at Sedbergh – please come back nearer the beginning of Michaelmas Term to read the rules that will be in place for Michaelmas Term and for while Covid-19 remains a threat.

In normal times, parents and guardians are most welcome to visit the School during term time. Every parent has access to the School Calendar on our website [HERE](#); this contains details of Chapel Services, sporting fixtures, concerts, plays and other events. The support of parents and guardians is most welcome at any major School occasion. Parents should seek permission from Housemasters/Housemistresses before taking their child out.

In planning the timing and frequency of their visits parents and guardians should bear in mind that a large number of worthwhile voluntary activities take place at weekends at a boarding School, as well as time being available for academic study. Too frequent a visiting programme may inhibit a pupil from taking full advantage of the opportunities available. Housemasters/Housemistresses will be happy to offer guidance in individual cases.

POCKET MONEY

Pocket money is not issued to a pupil by the School. An allowance from a parent to their son or daughter of about £50 per half term is quite sufficient. A pupil may lodge this money with their Housemaster/mistress for safe keeping and can draw on it as required. Whilst at School, the possession by a pupil of their own cheque book, Bankers Card or any other Credit Cards remains entirely the responsibility of the pupil and his or her parents. At present there are two cash point machines in Sedbergh located outside the Spar Supermarket and towards the far end of Main Street.

Overseas pupils who need to open a UK bank account will need to make arrangements with their Assistant Housemaster/Housemistress in-House, as the nearest bank branches are in Kendal. A letter will need to be obtained from the Bursary confirming residence.

PORTABLE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Please refer to the School's Electrical Rules contained in the [Health and Safety Policy](#). The School cannot take any responsibility for injury or damage caused by defective private equipment used in the School; it is not covered by the School's insurance.

CHAPLAINCY

The Chaplaincy Team at Sedbergh School is led by The Chaplain, The Revd. Paul Sweeting. The Assistant Chaplains are Mrs Philippa Prall (Senior School) and Mr Dick Gorst (Prep School). All of the Chaplains are available to talk about a pastoral matter. They are available to pupils, and parents are welcome to contact them regarding their child. Their emails (and phone numbers) are pls@sedberghschool.org (07857 500 240), pjfp@sedberghschool.org and rtg@sedberghprep.org (07870 895 054).

COUNSELLING

The school has a full-time Head of Wellbeing, Mrs Dee Adamson, who offers pastoral support to all pupils as well as dedicated counselling services to individuals.

SIXTH FORM BAR

In normal times, the Sixth Form Bar is supervised and is open on Saturday evenings from 8.00pm until 10.00pm, for use by members of the Sixth Form whose parents have returned a signed membership form for their sons and daughters to use the sixth form bar. In the coming Michaelmas Term there will be house-based socials, including a Bar for 6th Form, held on Saturday evenings.

The Sixth Form Bar membership form is [HERE](#) and should be returned to the pupils Housemaster / Housemistress before the start of term. Lower Sixth pupils are allowed two pints of beer, lager, cider or two glasses of wine. Upper Sixth pupils are allowed three pints of beer, lager, cider or three glasses of wine.

Pupils should abide by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Vaping Policy at all times.

VISITING LICENSED PREMISES ON SATURDAYS

There will be further information provided about visiting licensed premises during Michaelmas Term 2020, in due course.

In normal times, pupils may visit licensed premises with their parents after 5.30pm on a Saturday if they have permission from their Housemaster / Housemistress in the form of a 'leave out' (red) card. Pupils must report to their Housemaster / Housemistress within 10 minutes of leaving licensed premises; and all such premises are to be vacated by 7.30pm. Uniform must be worn at all times and pupils who consume any alcohol on these visits, will not be given bar chits for the Sixth Form Bar that evening.

Pupils will not be given permission to consume alcohol before any of Sedbergh's whole school Saturday socials.

In exceptional circumstances, a Housemaster / Housemistress may allow a pupil to visit licensed premises with the parents of another pupil. In such circumstances, pupils must have permission in the form of a red card from his or her Housemaster / Housemistress. The guest is the responsibility of the parent at all times and the above rules apply.

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES THE LAW OF THE LAND MUST BE OBSERVED

The Alcohol, Tobacco and Vaping Policy can be read [HERE](#)

THE SCHOOL DAY

Sedbergh School operates a Summer/Winter timetable to maximise daylight hours.

The formal School Day begins with Morning Assembly for all pupils - normally held in Powell Hall or Chapel - at 8.05am. There are four lessons every morning (except Saturday, three) and two lessons on each of Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoons. All meals are taken in Boarding Houses.

The School Day

7.20 am - 7.50 am	Breakfast
8.05 am - 8.20 am	Assembly/Chapel
<i>(NB. At the start of Michaelmas Term 2020 there will be no school-wide gatherings)</i>	
8.25 am - 10.20 am	Lessons 1 & 2
10.20 am - 10.55 am	Break in Boarding House
10.55 am - 12.50 pm	Lessons 3 & 4
1.00 pm - 1.25 pm	Lunch in Boarding House
2.10 pm - 3.55 pm	Lessons 5 & 6 [1]
4.10 pm - 5.50 pm	Games / Activities / Recreation [1]
5.50 pm - 6.20 pm	Supper in Boarding House
6.30 pm - 7.10 pm	Rehearsals and recreation
7:10 pm - 7:15 pm	House Prayers & Roll Call
7.15 pm - 9.15 pm	Evening Prep in Boarding Houses

Notes [1] On the Winter timetable these timings are reversed.

Weekends

On Saturday, morning School finishes at 11.20am and Lunch is at 11.45am.

After Lunch there are games fixtures with other Schools and a variety of other recreational activities are organised.

On Saturday evenings there is a full social programme which is age appropriate and suitable for the occasion.

On Sunday, breakfast is at 9.00 am and there is normally Morning Chapel (which is attended by all pupils) is at 10.15 am. From time to time Evening Services are held in lieu of Morning Chapel. Expeditions and rehearsals are often held during the course of the day, as well as a variety of House trips.

Sunday Prep is held in Houses from 7.00pm – 9.00pm.

DAY PUPILS

Day pupils must arrive by 7.50am and then follow the same academic routine as the boarders until 6.00pm. They may leave at 6.00pm after school activities have finished, 7.00pm after supper or 9.15pm after prep. They may not leave at other times and must always check out with their Housemaster or Housemistress.

Pupils may be required to return to School in the afternoon, evenings or at other times (including Sunday) for any House or School commitment, as directed by their Housemaster/mistress. Discretion may be shown by the Housemaster/mistress.

Saturday

All pupils:	Arrive by 7.50 am
Years 9, 10 & 11	Depart from 5.55 pm *
Sixth Form:	Depart Lunch Time

Sunday

Attendance at School is not compulsory, although Day pupils may be required to return to School to attend specific School commitments. Day Pupils are encouraged to join in Sunday activities.

NB No School activity is restricted to Boarders only.

*Subject to School commitments.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The School Calendar will be published via the website – no printed copies will be available. The Calendar contains details of sporting fixtures and other events, and which helps parents to plan their visits to the School to support their son or daughter in their activities, particularly at weekends. The School Calendar is to be accessed via the website under News & Events – or by clicking [HERE](#).

FLIGHT INFORMATION FOR THOSE LIVING OVERSEAS

For important and time sensitive information about flights and transfers from/to airports, that should be read before booking flights for you children to arrive to or depart from School, please click [HERE](#)

TERM DATES

For information about Term Dates for the coming and future academic years click [HERE](#)

BOOKS AND STATIONERY

The School has its own Book Room and Stationery Store. Text books will be issued on a loaned basis by the teachers and must be returned after use. Certain text books which require workings, calculations or records of the individual pupil and which cannot be reused may be chargeable. Otherwise, the cost of text books is included in the fees. Books which are not returned for any reason will be charged at replacement cost.

Where applicable, the cost will be included on the invoice at the end of each term as an extra, along with any personal items of stationery purchased at the Store.

CALCULATORS

All pupils in Years 9 to 11 will require a calculator on their arrival at School. They will also require a Math's Set to include a compass, protractor and ruler. Pupils in the 6th Form, studying a course with a Mathematical content will also require a calculator.

Teaching is based on the assumption that pupils have VPAM (visually perfect algebraic model) calculators. The Casio fx-83GT Plus (cost approximately £10) is ideal and can be bought from the School Stationery Store at the beginning of Term or throughout the year.

SCHOOL TOUR POLICY




The School operates representative tours from time to time. It is the policy of the Governors that no pupil may undertake School such representative trips for Sport, Music, Drama, etc, in the holidays and which involve parental funding, where a parents' financial obligations to the School have not been met, or are otherwise not to the satisfaction of the School.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Sedbergh School is one of the most influential UK schools on social media

Here are just some of our accounts – you may wish to follow some. Please do interact with us – follow, like, re-tweet, share, and comment!

Twitter – Sedbergh School has a wealth of Twitter feeds from all different areas of the school. The main School feed is: <https://twitter.com/SedberghSchool>

 SPORT	 HOUSES	 ART & ACADEMIC
@SedberghGirls @SedberghSport @SedberghHockey @SedberghRunning @Sed_Athletics @TheBrownSSFC @Sed_Equestrian @SedberghSailing @Sedberghcricket	@Sed_Sedgwick @SchoolHouse_Sed @WinderHouse @Carus_Sedbergh @Hart_Sedbergh @Lupton_Sedbergh @Evans_Sedbergh @Robertson_Sed @Sed_PowellHouse	@Sedberghenglish @Sed_STEM @Sedbergh_MFL @SedberghArts @Sed_Classics @SedberghMusic @SedberghDrama @Sed_Academic @Sedbergh_STEM

 www.facebook.com/sedberghschool

 SedberghSchoolOfficial

 Sedbergh School UK

LAPTOPS

As technology evolves Sedbergh continues to actively develop our IT systems, considerable investment has been made over the past few years to ensure we can meet the ever-increasing demands of our pupils in the future. We have increased our broad band provision and have upgraded many of the switches and fibre links around the school site to ensure a fast, reliable service.

Wi-Fi is available in all classrooms in School and we have recently expanded the provision in boarding houses to the point where all areas have coverage. It is important to note that all pupils have a wired connection in their study bedrooms and Wi-Fi is not intended to replace this.

All our pupils personal work files are held in the cloud enabling them to access these or other school resources anywhere in the world.

All pupils are expected to have a laptop with a keyboard to allow them to work in House and also to enable them to access IT facilities in Class.

Tablets, such as iPads and Kindles, are not appropriate for the demands of our school work, and although we would encourage their use, this should only be in addition to a pupil owning a laptop. There are a small number of exceptions, such as the Microsoft Surface Pro, which is a fully-featured Windows 10 PC, and would be suitable as a laptop replacement. Please consult the specifications below to check whether a certain tablet would be acceptable.

We request that all pupil devices are clearly marked with their name for obvious security reasons and to simplify administration for our IT support team.

We strongly recommend that laptops run Windows 10, rather than Apple Mac or Chromebook operating systems. Although Apple Mac and Chromebook systems will run on our network and pupils will be able to access our IT systems, we have found pupils with Mac or Chromebook laptops run into more issues than those with Windows 10 laptops.

The IT department cannot offer specific advice on brands or models of computers however we have drawn up a suggested minimum specification for pupils with existing machines, 'Basic Specification' and a 'Recommended Specification', to help any parent considering purchasing a new machine for September. We would suggest that any pupil owning a machine that does not meet the basic specification should strongly consider upgrading.

Basic Specification

Operating Systems	✓ Windows 10 ✗ Not Mac OS or Chromebook
Hardware	Intel Core i3 (8 th Generation) 8GB RAM 250GB Hard Drive

Recommended Specification (Optimal)

Operating Systems	✓ Windows 10 ✗ Not Mac OS or Chromebook
Hardware	Intel Core i7 (10 th Generation) 16GB RAM 500GB Solid State Hard Drive Touchscreen with pen / stylus

Due to the licensing deal the school has with Microsoft it is possible to download MS Office for free and install it on up to 5 devices. It is tied to the user's school email address, and as such will stop working shortly after a pupil leaves Sedbergh. This version includes Publisher on Windows based machines. For new pupils IT support sessions are provided shortly after arrival as email addresses cannot be issued in advance. All Year 9 pupils receive one lesson per fortnight on IT, and in those lessons they will be shown how to appropriately set up their computers.

Once a pupil has their school email address, to download Microsoft Office, pupils should go to <https://portal.office365.com>, log in with the relevant school email address, then click "Install Office" from the home screen.

Please do not worry about purchasing / installing third-party Anti-Virus Software. As long as Windows 10 is properly updated, and Windows Security is installed and updated, this is perfectly adequate and causes the least conflicts with other software.

Be aware of 'Free 60 Day Trials' of certain products that come preloaded on new machines, as after 60 days unless you pay for them the machine is no longer protected and will be rejected by our network. You are advised to uninstall them.

Pupils must ensure they have loaded the latest update of Windows and Windows Security **within 48 hours before arrival at Sedbergh** otherwise it is likely the network will prevent them from joining.

We look forward to continuing to introduce new innovations to our teaching and will aim to continue to provide pupils with the access to a reliable, fast, and secure IT network.

For Pupils Resident Overseas: In addition to the standard advice given, there are a couple of ways you can help to ensure your child is able to access the services available at Sedbergh quickly and smoothly.

The start of the year can be very busy for IT support and it is not always possible to help every child immediately. We are aware however of the importance in the modern world of being able to communicate electronically, and of course that this is doubly so in the case of children from overseas.

What you can do to help:

- Please ensure they have updated their operating system and anti-virus system shortly before they arrive at the school – ideally within 48 hours prior to arrival. Our systems will scan their machine and it is a time-consuming process to install up-to-date software if they fail this security check. Please see the earlier advice for acceptable packages.

- Please change the 'Display Language' to ENGLISH on your child's computer operating system. Our technicians are unable to read languages other than English; this can slow down support considerably for both the pupil concerned and others if staff have to guess their way through menu options. To do so you may just have to 'click' on English as an option or download a 'language pack' from the web; in extreme cases the purchase of an English version of the operating software may be required. Step by step advice can be found on the internet for whichever version of operating software they own. Children can be understandably reluctant to have their computer language changed, but it is worth reminding them that it will help improve their English as well as being a useful life skill, and it enables their peers and teachers to help them in class.
- Please ensure your child has an adaptor(s) that enables their charger(s) to plug into the British 3 pin mains electricity supply. These are easy to purchase in most airport duty free shops or are available online.
- We have occasionally encountered pupils who have been given by their parent's old laptops but do not know the passwords that enable settings to be changed or software to be installed. Due to time differences it can be difficult for us to contact overseas parents promptly to resolve these issues. Please ensure if you are handing down equipment that all passwords have been removed or pupils know them, rather than just creating a new user account (i.e. one without administrator rights).

Parents should be aware that whilst we will always do our very best to offer support, help, and guidance to pupils we do not offer hardware repairs or install replacement components. We have a very limited stock of short-term loan machines to cover accidents and breakages; but cannot guarantee to provide one at all times or for extended periods. Ensuring that a pupil's equipment is covered by appropriate worldwide accidental damage/repair insurance may be worth considering if it is particularly valuable.

We would advise that laptops/tablets are very well protected during transit and that pupils have a protective bag/case to carry them in for day to day use.

We look forward to introducing new innovations to our teaching in September and will aim to continue to provide pupils with access to the reliable, fast, and secure IT network.

SPORTS, ACTIVITIES & SOCIETIES

In the first year in the Senior School, pupils are encouraged to try as many Sports and Activities as possible. Further, pupils are encouraged to take up hobbies and activities in their own time and members of staff are on hand to assist.

SPORTS

Pupils participate in an organised games programme every weekday afternoon except Thursday. This is appropriate to their age, aptitude, and the season of the year and ample time is also available for them to continue with indoor or outdoor pursuits on a voluntary basis.

Michaelmas Term: the major boys' sport is Rugby and for girls it is Hockey – plus, as every term, a wealth of other sports are offered to those who wish to pursue a mixed games programme or who do not wish to play the main sports.

Lent Term: a wide range of competitive sports is on offer, the emphasis for boys is placed on Hockey, Running and Rugby Sevens, and for girls on Netball and Running.

Summer Term: the main sports are Cricket, Athletics and Tennis for both boys and girls; golf, sailing and fishing are also sports and hobbies that pupils can enjoy throughout the summer term.

In all competitive sports the level of coaching is to a high standard and all students are given the opportunity to take part in competitive sport at all levels of ability.

ACTIVITIES

Thursday afternoon is given to Activities.

Pupils in Year 9 follow an outdoor pursuits programme throughout Michaelmas term; then participate in CCF, conservation or other (mainly outdoor) activities through Lent and Summer terms.

Year 10 and 11 pupils may continue with CCF, take up Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, do voluntary work or participate in a range of activities – both outdoor and indoor – from mountain biking to cookery club.

Sixth Form pupils may continue with CCF, work towards the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, or, as with Year 10 and 11, participate in a wide range of outdoor and indoor activities.

Pupils are also encouraged to take up hobbies and activities in their own time and members of staff are on hand to assist. The Art & Design Centres are open for individual use on half-days and weekends. Society meetings take place mid-week during the evenings.

A full recreational and social programme operates at weekends and rehearsals take place on half-days and weekends.

EXPEDITIONS

Expeditions are organised for those in the CCF as well as those who complete the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Major expeditions are taken most years led by our staff, and have recently included Bolivia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi and Nepal.

Year 9 attend an Outdoor Pursuits camp.

Year 10 visit the Battlefields of France each summer.

EVENING SOCIETIES

The range of societies and the opportunity to pursue activities outside of Prep times is wide ranging and includes:

- Senior Dinner Debating
- Junior and Middle School Debating
- The Brantwood Society (Literature)
- Phoenix Society (fortnightly Middle School Honours Society)
- The Polyglots (Modern Language Society)
- The Invisible College (pupil led Science Society)
- Keynes Hayak Society (Economics)
- School of Athens (pupil led - chance for Sixth formers to share their academic passions)
- TGI (Christian Society)
- Master Chef
- The Classical Society
- The History Society
- The Burke and Hare Society (Senior Biology)
- Choral Society
- Collegium Musicum (pupil led classical music)

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPORT

Sedbergh School is extremely grateful to parents and supporters for their ongoing and valuable support for the numerous sporting fixtures and events throughout the year. It is worthwhile providing a gentle reminder of Sedbergh's sporting ethos and our joint responsibility to uphold the core principles in terms of attitude and behaviour before, during and after each sporting event.

Match day is inevitably an exciting occasion for all but when the stakes are high it can become a highly charged affair and occasionally emotions have run out of control.

Our aim is to provide a sports programme that is based on positive, life changing ideals. We believe in the development of the whole child, the fostering of an 'active life' philosophy and the promotion of a lifetime investment in sport and physical activity. This sporting ethos celebrates enjoyment, equality of access, breadth of participation and excellence both on and off the fields.

In order for our ethos to be upheld and our sports programme to be truly successful it takes the co-operation of all involved; players, coaches, officials, staff, spectators and parents. Having spent some time and effort over the previous-years reinforcing our sporting ethos amongst the pupils, I believe it is essential that we include parents and friends of Sedbergh in this process.

The following points clarify what Sedbergh believes to be essential standards associated with its sporting culture. In effect, it is a code of conduct for supporters but is intended to include you rather than alienate you. I hope you will receive it in the manner in which it is offered.

The Role of Parents

Parents and guardians have a responsibility to help the school in ensuring their child gets the most out of his or her playing experience. Parental support should always include positive reinforcement of both your child's performance and of their efforts. This is essential to encourage strong self-esteem and a healthy development in general. We ask parents to be positive role models, including the display of sportsmanship and the notion of fair play and by avoiding negativity of any kind. It is not acceptable for anyone to ridicule or chastise their child or others for making a mistake or for losing a game. Parents should encourage children to play according to the rules at all times.

Parent-Coach Alliance

The entire coaching Staff is wholly grateful for the support, encouragement and assistance that many parents provide, often driving long distances and rearranging busy schedules to cheer on the team on a regular basis. It is essential however that all parents and guardians agree to support their respective coach's decisions (even in the event that they do not fully agree with them)

Please refrain from.....

- Entering the playing arena at any time,
- Airing any grievances relating to any aspect of the game regarding the players; the coach or officials whilst in the presence of our pupils or our visitors.

All parent- coach dialogue should be non- confrontational and constructive in its content.

The Coach's judgment on issues such as selection must be accepted as final. However well you know your son or daughter, you cannot share the same overview of the whole team. The coach is best suited and entirely qualified to take all factors into consideration and make the right decisions for the team as a whole. Parents will not take part in any coaching of our sports teams at Sedbergh.

Parent to Parent Respect

Parents and spectators have a responsibility to other parents and spectators. Competition and taunting between parents is never acceptable, and no parent/spectator should ever be made to feel embarrassed or disappointed by their team or child's performance. Good play should always be applauded, and disappointments should always be consoled. Remember that children learn best by example and praise should be bestowed on the efforts of both teams.

Parents/Spectators have a responsibility to themselves. The joy and pride associated with watching children learn and grow through sport should be experienced to the fullest, because life-long memories are being created before your eyes.

Your children play sport for many reasons. Ultimately we wish them to foster a feeling of self-worth/respect. Please help this endeavour by focusing on your child's efforts and personal achievements rather than purely on whether they win or lose.

I will close by reinforcing the message I started with. Sedbergh parents, friends and supporters play an essential role in maximising the success of our sport. I look forward to working with you to ensure this.

Stuart Oliver
Director of Sport & Activities
Sedbergh School