WEST BUCKLAND
SCHOOL

What to Bring to Boarding School

Summer means it's time to plan for boarding school, and you need to know what to pack. While every school is different, here are some general guidelines. Boarding school students can expect that their school will provide basic furnishings, including a bed and mattress, desk, chair and wardrobe. Below are several things to put on your back-to-school shopping list.

Bedding

While a bed and mattress are provided, you will need to arrange your own bedding, including:

- Two sets of sheets and duvet covers, single size. Bringing two sets means you will always have one on the bed and one in the laundry.
- Pillow and a duvet. You may bring your own or these can be purchased in advance through the school uniform shop. Depending on how cold it gets in the winter, you may also want to bring a light blanket.

Toiletries and Laundry

Don't forget your bathroom and hygiene supplies, which you may want to store in your room and carry to the bathroom when needed. Toiletries you may need include:

- A wash bag to carry all your toiletries in.
- An underwear washing machine laundry bag and a general laundry bag.
- Towels and washcloths. Like your sheets, bring at least two sets so you can always have one clean set on hand. You will also need a towel for swimming. A dressing gown or bathrobe is also useful.
- Shower shoes, which are often a pair of flip-flops/thongs.
- Shampoo, conditioner, soap, body wash, toothpaste, a toothbrush, mouthwash and dental floss.
- A brush and comb and any other hair products you use regularly.
- Sunscreen and lotion. These are often overlooked, but with the amount of time you'll likely be spending outdoors for sports and activities, remembering to wear sunscreen can keep you healthy and burn free. Lotion is helpful if the air gets dry in the winter and you need to moisturize.

Clothes

This may seem like a no-brainer, but it's important to remember to bring different types of clothing, especially if you're not able to travel back home often.

Start by making sure that you have the required uniform and dress code items, this information is available on the website: https://www.westbuckland.com/admissions/school-uniform/

Bring an array of clothing options as you may find yourself in a variety of situations that require different attire, autumn and winter may bring inclement weather, including rain and snow. You will likely need:

- Business suits and dress shoes (Sixth Form only)
- Waterproof jacket, a scarf, winter hat, gloves and an umbrella
- Dress clothing for formal occasions
- Jeans, trousers, skirts (not too short – just above the knee)
- Sports and swimwear
- Trainers and casual shoes
- Sweaters and sweatshirts
- Pyjamas/nightdress
- Slippers
- T-shirts and blouses
- Underwear

Desk and School Supplies

It is school, after all. So make sure you have:

- A backpack or bag to carry your books and devices to class
- An alarm clock (optional)
- A USB or flash drive
- School supplies, including pens, pencils, binders, notebooks, sticky notes, highlighters, and a stapler (some items may be purchased at school)

Don't forget chargers for your computer and cellphone.

Pocket Money

If you wish, you are welcome to bring your pocket money with you, this should be handed to the Houseparents on arrival to transfer into their house account. Alternatively, it can be paid into the West Buckland School Pocket Money account. Your boarding houseparent will keep your pocket money safe and let you have what you need when required.

General Information

- All clothing must be clearly labelled with name and surname and must be suitable for washing machine or tumble dryer
- Mobile phones are allowed but may need to be handed in at night. We do not advise that students bring expensive items with them as the school will not be held liable for any damage. Valuables can be stored in the boarding house safe.
- Only bring electronic items of suitable quality i.e. items with the 'CE', and/or 'BSI' (British Standard) kitemark. Items which do not have these marks, or are suspected of being low quality, will be taken and returned to you when you leave for home in the holidays.
- All medication needs to be handed in to the nurse on your arrival at West Buckland.
- If you order items online, they may be screened on delivery for security purposes.

We look forward to welcoming you to West Buckland School, the aim of the Boarding Team is for you to be happy in a relaxed and safe environment. Whilst some students may not have much experience of housekeeping we would encourage you to keep your room clean, tidy and presentable at all times, making use of the laundry facilities on a Sunday for washing and changing your bedding.

West Buckland offer a Saturday mini-bus to take you into the local town to visit the shopping centre and market for any purchases you may need.