



What matters?

sidcot.org.uk



Sidcot
Live Adventurously

At a glance

Age range of boarders:	11 to 18
Total number of students:	430 – 220 boys, 210 girls
	Percentage of international pupils 30%
	114 students in Sixth Form
Number of boarders:	145
Fees:	£9,180 – £12,000 per term
Educational programmes:	Long/short term boarding from Year 7 (flexible start dates) Year 11 Pathway (one year GCSE programme) Two year GCSE course IB Diploma A Levels BTEC Sport
Outstanding reputation:	Creative Arts, Maths, Science and Equestrian
Extras:	Onsite Equestrian Centre and top class equestrian team competing at national level. Centre for Peace and Global studies.
Religion:	Quaker. We accept students and staff of all faiths and none.
Setting:	Rural
Nearest airport:	Bristol – 7 miles
Nearest railway station:	Bristol Temple Meads – 20 miles
Nearest cities:	Bristol and Bath
Travel time to London:	2 hours by train



What Matters When Choosing a School

Let us tell you a little about what matters to us.

At Sidcot we are justifiably proud of our students' academic record – our students work hard to achieve the excellent grades they need to gain entry into the best universities in the world.

Typically over half our students go to the best universities in the UK (Russell Group Universities). We are equally proud of how we prepare students for life after school – our teaching methods encourage collaboration and creative problem solving that will help them lead a life of adventure and success. International students mix with British students to develop their language and to explore and absorb British culture. If these are the things that matter to you, please get in touch with our team.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iain Kilpatrick'.

Iain Kilpatrick BA, MEd, FRSA
Headmaster



Being Curious



Surprising Yourself

What m



Making a Difference

Living Life to the Full

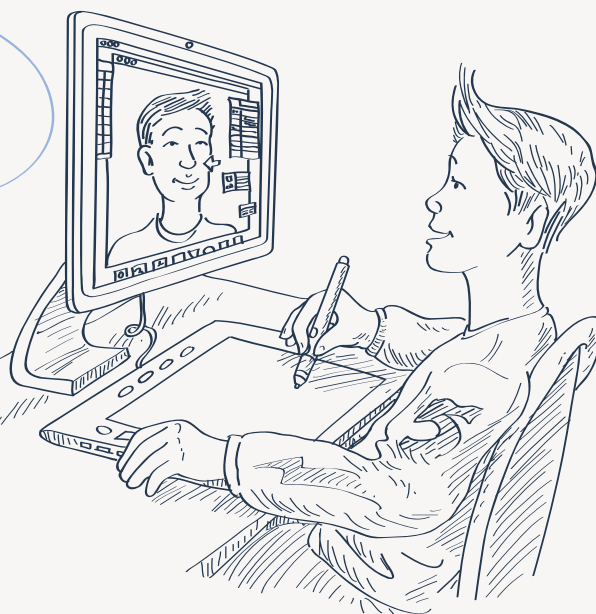




Valuing
Others

matters

Being
Yourself



Overview

Founded in 1699, Sidcot is a thriving co-educational British boarding and day school situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty in Somerset, close to Bristol and Bath and only a two hour train ride from London.

In this setting, students can enjoy the best of both rural and city life: a peaceful environment in which to concentrate on their studies, and access to the cities for educational opportunities and weekend activities.

Sidcot, through its long and distinguished history, has always been an innovative school. It was one of the first co-educational schools in the UK.



‘Pupils have a highly developed sense of self, displaying authentic personal understanding and **self-confidence without arrogance.**’

Independent Schools Inspectorate Report



What makes a Quaker school different?

Sidcot's approach to teaching encourages individual thought and exploration, whilst making sure all students have the support they need to grow as individuals with their full range of talents recognised and celebrated.

Follow in the footsteps of the Obamas and the Clintons who sent their children to Quaker Schools as they wanted an environment with strong values and a culture of acceptance.

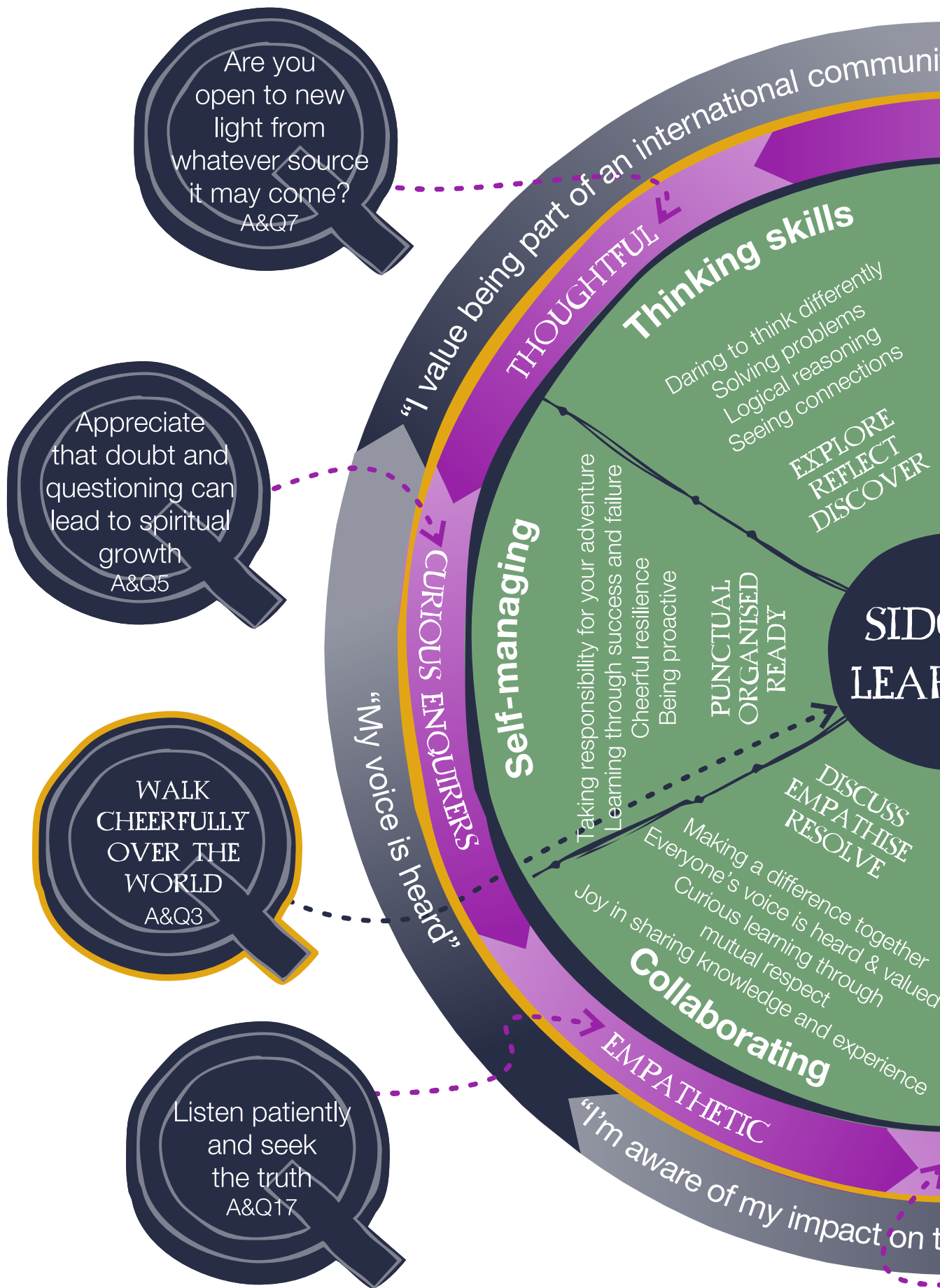
The Sidcot Learning Wheel (overleaf) links Quaker values to the teaching and learning that goes on throughout the school, everyday.

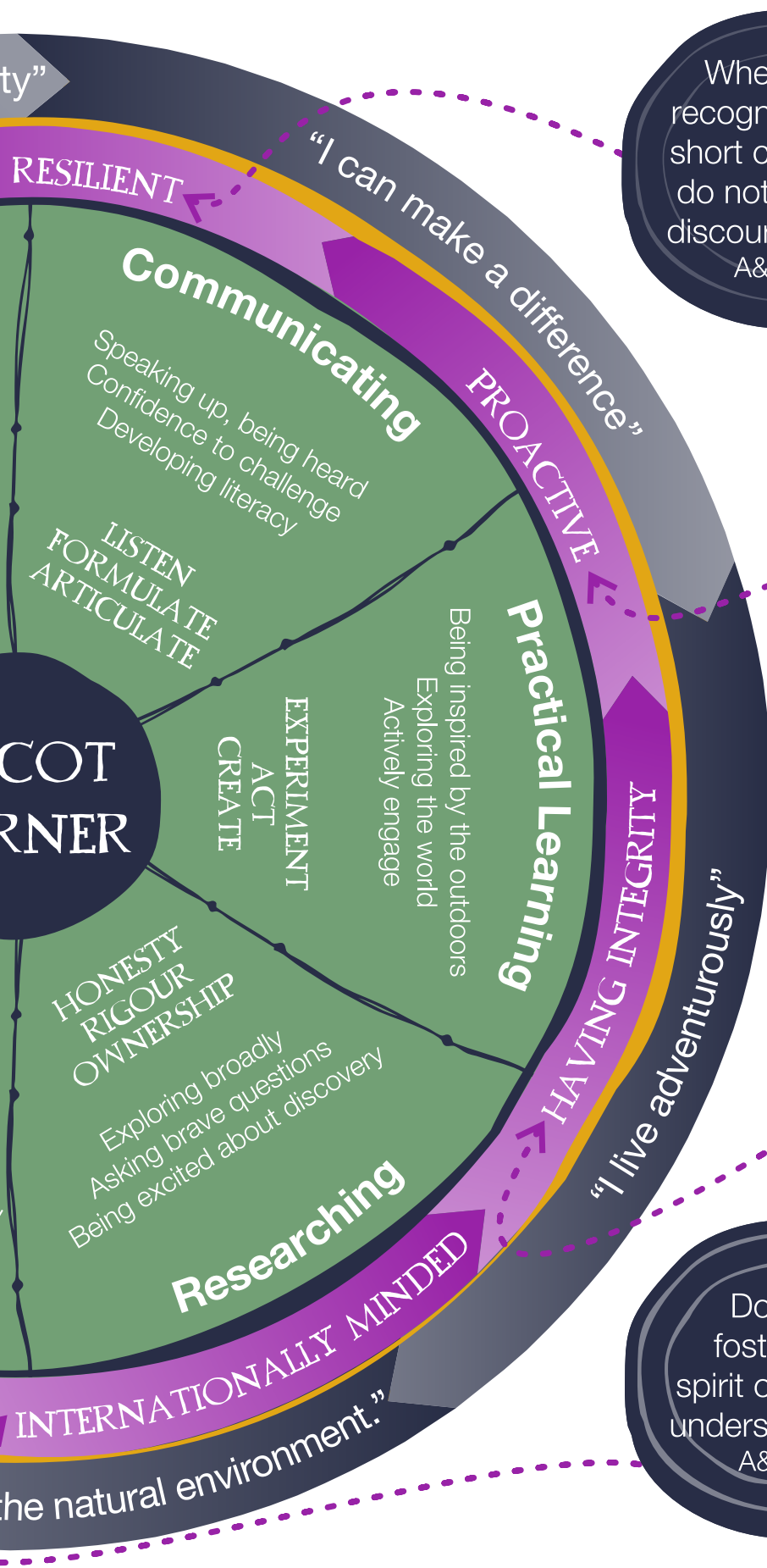
The Centre for Peace and Global Studies develops this approach further. Students are encouraged to explore broader issues with a global perspective and to express their values in action.

P.A.S.S.

The P.A.S.S. programme (Programme of Activities for Sidcot School) is based on the key Quaker values of integrity, stewardship, self-reflection, adventure and community. This range of activities is embedded in the timetable for every year group, throughout the year.

The Sidcot Learning Wheel





When you recognise your short comings, do not let that discourage you
A&Q11

Let your life speak
A&Q27

Are you honest and thoughtful in all you say and do?
A&Q37

Do you foster the spirit of mutual understanding?
A&Q22



Academic success

Sidcot students get excellent results. Sidcot offers A Level, IB Diploma, BTEC Sport, a two year GCSE programme and a one year course.

Sidcot has an outstanding reputation in creative arts, sciences and maths with results that outstrip national and world averages. Sidcot's teaching methods are designed to harness children's natural intellectual curiosity and encourage independent thinking and creativity rather than only train them to pass tests.



Exam results 2019

We accept children with a wide range of strengths and abilities and every year they delight us with the results that they achieve.

GCSE

Grades	Sidcot Score
9 to 7 (A* to A)	39.1%
9 to 4 (A* to C)	87%

- Sidcot students nearly doubled the national average of 20.8% for grades between 9 and 7
- Eight students achieved all grades between 9 and 7
- Three students were awarded the top grade of A* Distinction for their performance in Mathematics

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Sidcot Mean Score	31.9%
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- 100% of students passed the IB Diploma
- One student achieved a maximum 45/45 points
- Sidcot continues to over achieve the world average of 29.6

A Level

Grades	Sidcot Score
A* to A	19.29%
A* to C	62.14%

- An increasing number of our students take the EPQ. This year 54% achieved an A* and 77% achieved an A* to A grade

Year 7 to Year 9

(age 11 to 13)

Joining Sidcot early in the educational journey is good as it builds a strong foundation for later on. It gives students a chance to experience many subjects, adapt to the UK educational system, make friends and achieve native level English with fantastic pronunciation.

We recognise that younger students need extra nurturing and support to help them settle in and feel at home, so our boarding houses are small and have a family feel.

We make sure that students feel that they can be themselves and develop their own characteristics. We ensure that they have good role models and feel safe on their journey to becoming more independent. We encourage a curious and adventurous attitude and nurture an environment where asking questions is welcomed. They are encouraged to learn about getting on with one another, to understand and accept diversity, and to enjoy growing and learning together.



Year 10 & 11

Two year course (entry age 14 / 15)

Education to GCSE level is required for students who want to study the IB Diploma or A Levels. Students take the core subjects plus up to four optional subjects (double or triple).

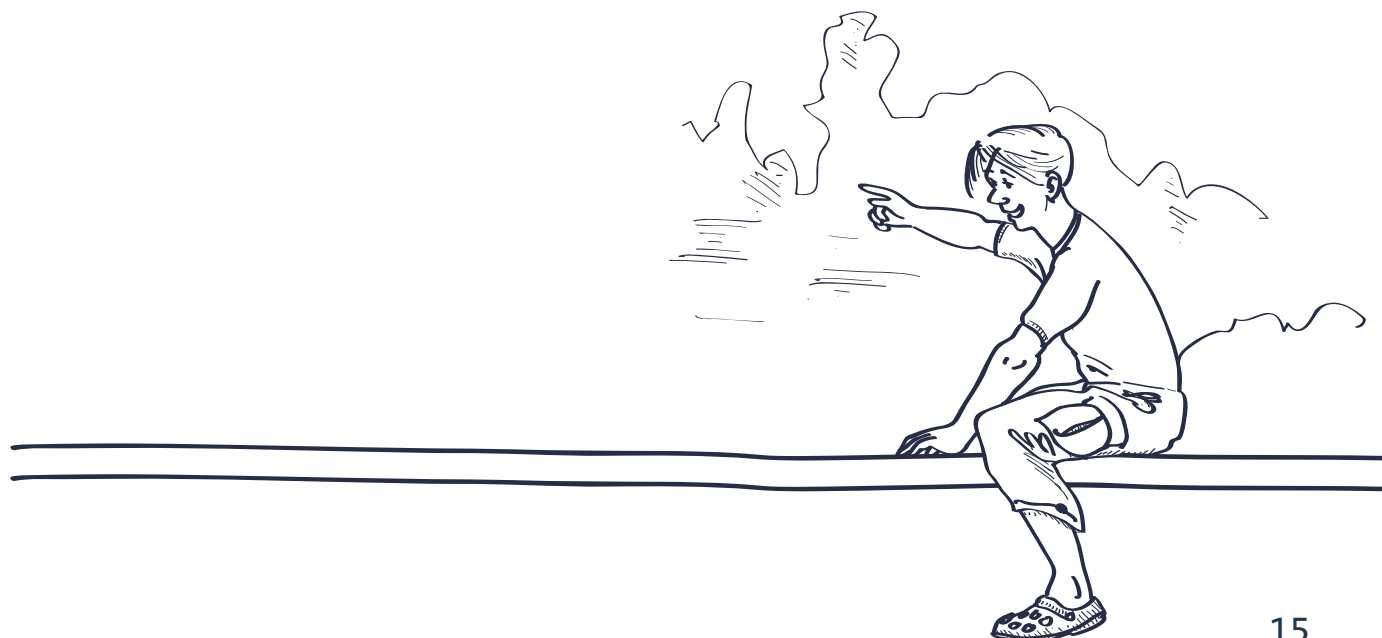
Core subjects: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, the Sciences.

Options: Art, Business Studies, Computing, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Design and Technology: Product Design and Textiles, Drama, Geography, History, Modern Languages (French, German, Spanish), Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies: Philosophy & Applied Ethics, Digital Media, English (as a second language).

Year 12 & 13 Sixth Form

(entry age 16 / 17)

The Sixth Form aims to achieve academic excellence and give students support in applying to the very best universities in the world. We offer the choice of studying the IB Diploma or A levels, IB Diploma and BTEC Sport in the Sixth Form (see page 19).



Year 11 Pathway

One year IGCSE course (entry age 15 / 16)

This special one-year course gives international students an excellent preparation for entry into the Sixth Form.

To achieve up to six (I)GCSEs in a year, students will study in specialist classes with experienced teachers to help them achieve the best results. These classes are dedicated Year 11 Pathway lessons to ensure students receive the necessary intensive support to cover all the material in one year.

In order to encourage integration, all other activities and some subjects, including tutor groups and sport, are taken with the rest of Year 11. Year 11 Pathway students are required to wear school uniform.

When students arrive at Sidcot we assess them and place them in English and Maths classes according to ability. The number of (I)GCSEs that they take will depend on their ability, their level of English and their plans for the next stage.



Global Studies

Global Studies is a skills based course that prepares students for the kind of studying they will need to do to succeed in Sixth Form and on into university. The course is built around a number of three or four week projects. Students are given a title and will need to research the question, form their own ideas and thoughts and present this work in a suitable format. To support each project, there are a number of visits that take place on Wednesdays. During the visits, students will often complete handouts or take part in activities. They will also complete a trip diary about each trip.

Projects include: retail, slavery, conservation, the development of transportation, environmental issues.

This is an internal course and so there is no external exam or certificate. The aim of the course is to teach students time management, researching, opinion forming and presentation skills, all of which will be necessary in their future studies.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award

This world renowned scheme places great emphasis on self-motivation and helps students develop confidence and responsibility. Completion of the award gives students a sense of achievement and it can provide a valuable contribution to university applications.

IGCSE

English as a second language	or	English language
Maths Standard	or	Maths Extended

Options

History	or	Physics
Art	or	Chemistry
Business Studies	or	Biology

Global Studies Sidcot certified course in your own language (if available).
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Sixth Form life

There are many events for Sixth Formers throughout the School year designed to help students and staff get to know each other.

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, Lower Sixth students gather as a year group for an induction and fun team building games in the Sports Hall. In early September, they go to Brean Down for a walk, followed by a fish and chip supper. They also have the opportunity to meet students from other Quaker schools across the UK, with a Lower Sixth trip to the Lake District, where Quakerism was founded.

The Sixth Form celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, organised by our Chinese students. Our Sixth Form international students help with the European Day of Languages and also volunteer to help our younger students in the Junior School in developing their language skills. Lower Sixth students have the opportunity to go on a School trip to Tanzania each summer: the students support local Tanzanian charities, help develop local schools and visit an orphanage. They also climb mountains and go on safari! The whole School raises money for this and the Sixth Form organise a special International Day in the Summer Term.

There is a unique Travel Scholarship open to our Sixth Formers and recently funded trips have included students going to south-east Asia, South Africa and the Caribbean islands.

At Christmas, the Sixth Formers organise The School Christmas Dance and a team of them practise and then demonstrate various formal dances to the rest of the School. A few days afterwards there is The Christmas Staff-Sixth Form Party, when everyone relaxes with silly sketches and songs, all organised by Sixth Form students. Another highlight of the Sixth Form calendar is the Sixth Form Ball in the Spring Term, a “Black tie” event when everyone has a great time, with food followed by dancing.





A level

A Level is a two year pre-university programme giving students the opportunity to specialise and study the subjects that lead them to their chosen degree at university. Students normally take three subjects, alongside the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

A Level subjects that Sidcot offers: Accounting, Art and Design*, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computing, Design and Technology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, German, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Music Technology, Physics, Psychology, Spanish, Textiles.

*Art may include Fine Art, Ceramics and Photography

BTEC Sport Level 3

The BTEC is the equivalent of two A Levels and is assessed through coursework and projects. It is taken alongside an additional A Level and can be a very good route to university.

EPQ

The EPQ is a qualification taken by many students in England and Wales, where it is equivalent to half an A Level and it is currently graded A* to E. The students' choice of topic is free, although they must show that it is academically useful, either related to their current course of study, or their future career. It takes the form of either a dissertation or a number of other forms: a musical or dramatical composition, report or artefact, backed up with paperwork.



International baccalaureate diploma

The IB is a two year pre-university programme giving students the chance to study six subjects: three at higher level and three at standard level, with the organisation of subject choices ensuring that they maintain a breadth of study across English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Languages and Arts.

IB Subjects at Sidcot

Group 1: English Language A: Literature, German A (including Language and Literature);

Group 2: Second Language – Modern Languages (German B, Spanish B, French B), Spanish ab initio (for beginners) and Italian ab initio

Group 3: Economics, History, German B, Psychology Group 4: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: Visual Arts, Theatre,

All courses are available subject to suitable student numbers.





Creative arts

The Arts Centre at Sidcot is a work of art in itself, beautifully designed and buzzing with creative energy.

It has been awarded Artsmark Gold in recognition of its beacon status. Arts are a very popular choice with students gaining impressive results. There is plenty on offer outside the curriculum including music lessons, bands, choirs, theatre & music productions. Sidcot has a traveling theatre company 'Hurly Burly' which wowed audiences and gained four star reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Sports

A whole range of sports are on offer at Sidcot: football, rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, tennis, athletics, horseriding, fencing, golf, waterpolo, basketball, table tennis, dry slope skiing and many more, including some more unusual activities like 'Octopush' (underwater hockey). We have a busy fixtures list throughout the year playing competitively against local schools with some excellent results. In the Sports Centre students have use of a superb 25 metre indoor heated pool, a multi-gym and sports hall.

Peace and Global Studies

We aim to develop our students not just academically but also in their emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills, their social awareness and their sense of community. The Centre for Peace and Global Studies develops this approach. Students are encouraged to explore broader issues with a global perspective and to express their values in action.

In a series of seminars called 'Let Your Life Speak', Quakers and non-Quakers speak about their life's journey. For young people it's a powerful experience to come face to face with individuals who have devoted their lives to making a positive change for the benefit of others. Every other summer, the students organise a Peace Festival to celebrate the power of making a difference.

Equestrian

Sidcot has a thriving Equestrian Centre in the heart of the school. Our Equestrian team are competing at the highest level, winning top places in national competitions.

Boarders can bring their own horse and ride on site with coaching from our highly qualified team of trainers. For those who want to ride but don't have their own horse or who want to try riding for the first time we can arrange lessons at a local equestrian yard.

Outdoor Learning

Our Outdoor Learning Coordinator ensures Sidcot students have plenty of opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors and take advantage of our beautiful surroundings. This outdoor learning takes many forms with lessons being taught in outdoor spaces and a diverse range of extra-curricular activities.

Sidcot students can learn bush craft skills, and take part in orienteering exercises as well as learning to grow fruit and vegetables in the School allotment. After school, students have the chance to participate in adventurous activities like caving club and many of our students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.





Weekend activities

On Saturday mornings, boarders have the opportunity to enjoy a huge range of activities by taking part in ‘Sidcot Saturday’.

These activities range from cooking club to sailing, beekeeping to golf, and give students an opportunity to pick up new skills over the course of each half term. At the beginning of each half term students can select the activity that most interests them for the coming weeks.

During the evenings and weekends, students have access to a programme of extra-curricular activities including: badminton, basketball, football, table tennis and swimming in the Sports Centre and horse riding. Other activities may include drama, art, photography and music in the Arts Centre.

On Saturday afternoons and Sundays, trips to Bristol, Bath and London are organised throughout the year. Other trips may include meals out, theme parks, cinema and theatre trips, places of historical interest, abseiling, mountain biking and sporting events.

Pastoral care

In line with our Quaker values we emphasise the importance of community and the value of equal and honest friendships between students.

When support and guidance are needed, students find it readily available. As well as the House staff who oversee the personal and academic development of students in their house, each student is part of a tutor group and that tutor has special responsibilities for their academic development. We also educate our students in practices of well-being as a way of helping them to deal with the inevitable stresses that come with growing and developing. We teach them how to listen and reflect, and we put a high value on emotional intelligence.

Food

Students at Sidcot enjoy a wide variety of tastes and flavours from around the world and parents can relax knowing there are plenty of fresh and healthy options available at all meal times. The light and spacious refectory ensures a pleasurable dining experience on every occasion.

The School provides three meals per day during term time. There is a choice of dishes at main meals, including a vegetarian option. Provision is also made for special dietary, medical or religious needs. New for this year is an exciting food theatre counter where food is freshly cooked to order. Sixth Form students can choose to go to 'Pasta Paradise' or take a packed lunch from 'Grab and Graze.'

Here is a sample lunchtime menu:

Soup

Leek and potato

Main choices

- Herb breaded chicken breast
- Roast butternut squash
- Bacon steak with tomato and coriander

Vegetables and sides

- Seasoned potato wedges
- Grilled tomatoes
- Mini corn on the cob

Alternative options

- A wide selection of salads

Pudding option

- Citrus lemon tart
- Fresh fruit

Beverages

- Fresh milk
- Iced water

During the School day, fresh fruit and snacks are served in the Refectory at break times and students have access to kitchens in the boarding houses at certain times where they can help themselves to snacks (bread, spreads, cereals, milk and fruit) and drinks which are provided by the School. The Hub, Sidcot's coffee shop, serves hot drinks and a range of healthy snacks and sweet treats.







School routine

Monday to Friday

07:30 – 08:00	Breakfast
08:00	Back to House to get ready for school
08:25	Leave the House for school
08:30	Registration
08:40	Lessons (2 x 50 mins)
10:20 – 10:55	Assembly / PSHE / Flex / Meeting for Worship
10:55	Break time
11:20	Lessons (2 x 50 mins)
12:50 – 13:55	Lunch
13:15 – 13:45	House opens
13:55	Registration
14:10	Lessons (2 x 50 mins)
15:45 – 16:45	House opens
16:00	Activities
17:00	Prep
17:45 – 18:15	Evening meal
18:30	Roll Call / Registration & House meeting
18:45	Activities / quiet time / study time

Lights out time varies depending on year group

Saturday

09:00 – 09:30	Breakfast
09:55	Roll Call / Registration
10:00	Leave House for Activities
10:15 – 11:15	Activities
11:15 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:30	Activities
12:30 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 17:30	Sidcot Saturday
	Organised activities and trips / Free time
17:30 – 18:00	Evening meal
18:00	House open
18:30	Roll Call / Registration
19:00	Activities / Free time

Sunday

10:15	Roll Call / Registration
10:30 – 11:15	Brunch
11:15 – 17:30	Organised activities and trips / Free time
17:30 – 18:00	Evening meal
18:30	Roll Call / Registration
19:00	Activities / Free time

Boarding

The facilities in each of the boarding houses are broadly similar. When a student joins, they will share a room with two or three others, giving them a chance to make friends in the house.

Lower Sixth students share with one or two students; Upper Sixth students have their own study or bedroom, or share with another student. Some students like to study in their rooms, whereas others use the library. On the whole, though, the houses are homes, places to relax and socialise and share experiences.

Each house has a comfortable common room with TV, DVD player and games console, WiFi and a students' kitchen. The boarding staff are experts in helping international students adjust to life in a British boarding school and do everything they can to help students settle in quickly. A Housemaster/ Housemistress is responsible for looking after the students' welfare and ensuring that life in the house is a good-humoured experience that students will look back on with fondness.

NO EXEATS

There are no exeat weekends. We have half term holidays – two weeks in the Autumn Term and one week in the spring and summer. The school is closed at these times and students are not able to stay on campus.

‘The provision is outstanding. Boarders state that there are a wide variety of people that they can approach if they need personal guidance or support and these include student office holders, tutors, nurses, the school counsellor and other members of staff.’







Entry requirements

The Admissions team is happy to guide you through every step of your enquiry and application so please don't hesitate to contact us. You'll find email and phone details at the end of this booklet.

Documents required at enquiry stage

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Copies of latest school reports and grades with English translation
- Personal statement*
- Internationally recognised English Qualification Certificate or complete our online test
- Copy of passport

* The personal statement can be hand written or typed, approximately 300 words and should include information about the student to help us get to know them - family, interests, favourite subjects, aspirations for the future, the reasons why they'd like to come to England to study and why they are interested in Sidcot.

Levels of English required

- Year 7-8: minimum level A2
- Year 9-10: minimum level B1, IELTS score 5.5
- Year 11 Pathway: minimum level B1/B2, IELTS score 5/6 for higher level
- Year 12 A Level: minimum level B2, IELTS score 6
- Year 12 IB: minimum level B2/C1, IELTS score 7

Testing procedures

We are happy to accept an internationally recognised English Qualification certificate as proof that a student has the level of English required for their chosen course. When a student does not have a certificate, we ask them to complete an online English Test (Oxford Online Placement Test) and a Maths test.

We interview all students wishing to apply either by Skype or during their visit to Sidcot. This helps us get a feel for the student and understand their motivation for coming to Sidcot.

Visits to Sidcot

We encourage all students to visit the School. We are happy to arrange a personal visit on weekdays, Monday to Friday. The visit will incorporate an interview with the Headmaster or one of his Deputies and will include a tour of the campus, a boarding house and the chance to meet other staff and students.

Offer

An offer will be made on successful completion of an English test (and Maths test for IB and A Level Maths students) and interview. The parent is required to sign the parent contract, complete a medical history form and pay the deposit to secure a place.





Boarding fees

Year	Termly Fee	Annual Fee
Year 7 – Year 9 UK & EU Students	£9,180	£27,540
Year 7 – Year 9 International Students	£9,430	£28,290
Year 10 & Year 11 UK & EU Students	£9,700	£29,100
Year 10 & Year 11 International Students	£9,950	£29,850
Year 11 Pathway EU Students	£11,750	£35,250
Year 11 Pathway International Students	£12,000	£36,000
Year 12 & Year 13 UK & EU Students	£10,980	£32,940
Year 12 & Year 13 International Students	£11,230	£33,690

Please refer to our website www.sidcot.org.uk for full terms and conditions. Fees are reviewed annually in the spring – any changes will be featured on the website.

Registration Fee – £150 (non refundable)

Deposit – £3,500

Guardians It is a condition of entry that all international students have a mature and responsible UK guardian who lives within 50 miles of the School.

Note: For Non-EU students there is an additional £250 supplement per term to contribute towards visa costs and other administration requirements.



Location

Sidcot is in the South West of England only 15 miles from the city of Bristol and within one hour's travel of Bath.

On the edge of the village of Winscombe, Sidcot benefits from being situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty whilst being within easy access of the two major cultural centres of Bristol and Bath. The coast at Weston-super-Mare is 8 miles away.

Transport

Bristol International Airport is only a 15 minute taxi transfer away making travel from Europe easy with airlines such as Air France, easyJet, Flybe, KLM and Ryanair.

For students travelling from London, Heathrow Airport is approximately 2 hours away. A school coach provides a drop off and pick up service at the beginning and end of term and the October half term.

Rail links to London are excellent as Sidcot is only 15 miles south of Bristol and Temple Meads Station (30 mins transfer by taxi). The fastest trains from Bristol Temple Meads to London Paddington take 1 hour and 38 minutes. Our nearest train station is Weston-super-Mare Station which is only 8 miles away or Yatton Station – also 8 miles away (20 mins transfer by bus or taxi).





We'd love to hear from you

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For more information please see our website www.sidcot.org.uk



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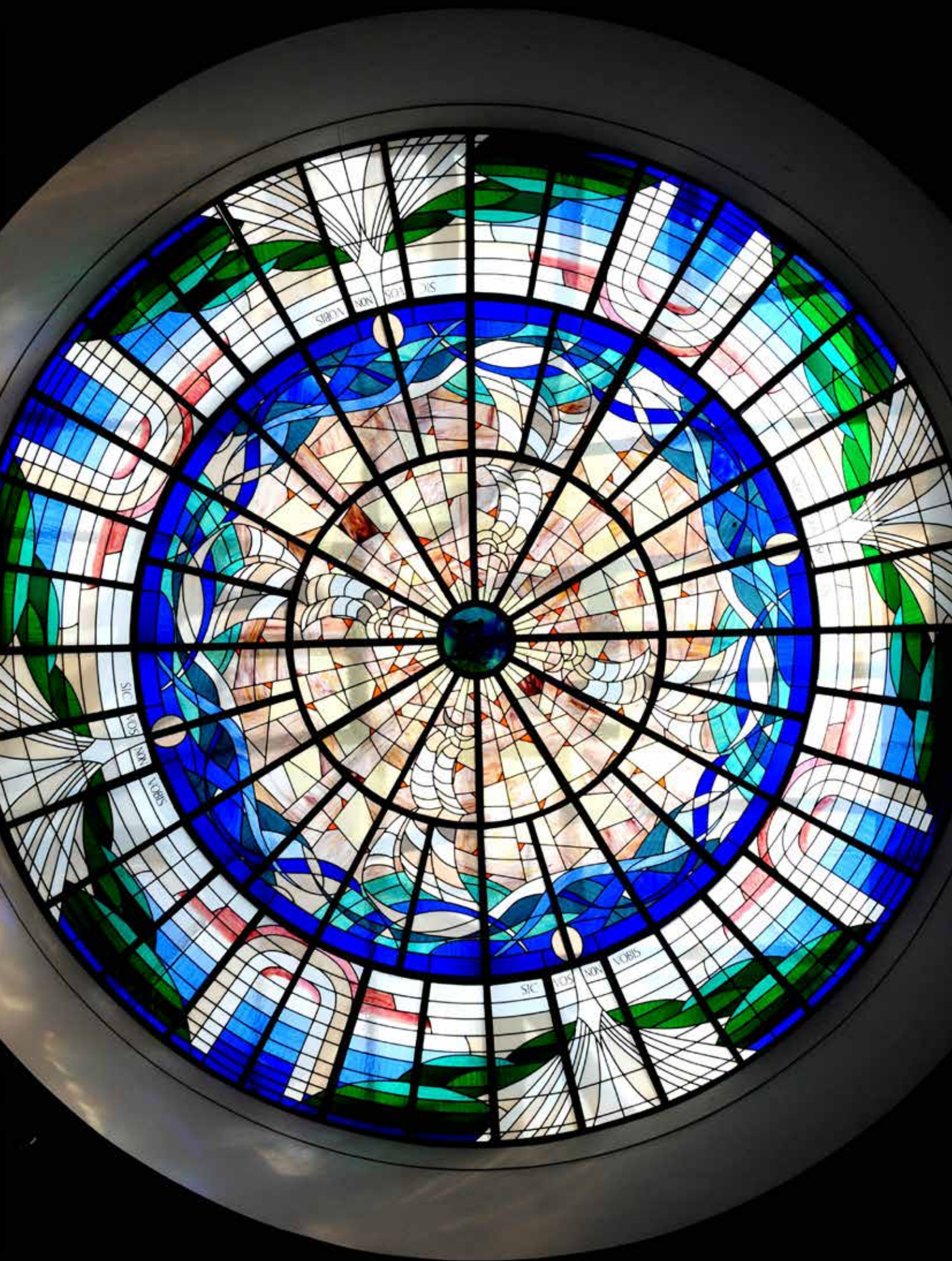
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Scan this QR code
to take a virtual
tour of the School!







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