



2024/25

# International Admissions Guide



# OLD BUCKENHAM HALL

*A leading co-educational preparatory school for children aged 2-13 years*





# Full Boarding

Throughout the school, international pupils benefit greatly from our modern approach to boarding education and fit in quickly to our community of 90 regular boarders.

**There are no compulsory exeat weekends.**

Weekends are split into 'in' weekends, where pupils enjoy a full Saturday of lessons and sport followed by a Sunday of activities, and 'out' weekends, when full boarders will experience an exciting programme of trips and excursions, led by our excellent boarding staff.

Boarding at OBH has proven to be enormously successful with international pupils, who value the support, knowledge and independence that it offers within a safe and structured environment. The welfare, happiness and safety of our international pupils is absolutely paramount.

## Fees

International Full Boarders per term:

Year 4	£11,877
Years 5 & 6	£12,537
Years 7 & 8	£12,695

Applicable taxes: All of the fees and supplemental charges are exclusive of any taxes which will be added (where applicable).

## Introduction

Old Buckenham Hall is delighted to welcome pupils from all over the world to join a thriving boarding community in one of the world's oldest and most beautiful prep schools. We offer pupils an exciting 21st education in a beautiful rural setting, with the opportunity to rapidly improve their English language skills and cultural understanding.

Our international pupils are wholly integrated into all aspects of school life and make the most of the exceptional academic and cocurricular opportunities that we offer, whilst also establishing a lifelong connection with the friends they make during their time at OBH and then as alumni of the school.

Our international pupils follow a rigorous curriculum that prepares them for sitting Common Entrance exams at the end of Year 8, ready for their 13+ transition to Senior Schools.

Destinations for pupils who left in 2024 included Eton, Harrow, Oundle, Rugby, Uppingham and many other prestigious Senior Schools.

Full details of life at OBH can be found on our website.

[www.obh.co.uk](http://www.obh.co.uk)







# Scholarships

It is our ambition that OBH pupils don't just reach their chosen destination but achieve a scholarship in their preferred field of study. In the past five years, 70 pupils have achieved such awards.

Scholarships are extremely competitive but grant a range of financial and educational opportunities throughout their time at senior school.

OBH has extensive experience in preparing pupils for these highly selective processes.

Throughout Year 7 and 8, OBH prepares selected pupils in the following scholarship areas:

- |          |            |
|----------|------------|
| Academic | Sport      |
| Art      | Drama      |
| Music    | Leadership |



## Destination Schools

For over 160 years, OBH has prepared young people for entry into some of the world's most prestigious senior schools. We foster close relationships with each of these schools so that pupils have the best possible chance of reaching their first choice destination.

OBH is a school that opens doors for talented young people. In the past five years, OBH leavers have gone on to the following schools:

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Eton                | Rugby           |
| Harrow              | Benenden        |
| Stowe               | Oundle          |
| Uppingham           | Wycombe Abbey   |
| Wellington College  | Winchester      |
| Brighton College    | Malvern College |
| Marlborough College | Shrewsbury      |

Among many others...







*"I love sport, and coming to OBH has allowed me to play so much more. The grounds are amazing, as is the boarding. I have many friends who board with me and I cannot wait to continue this at my Senior School. The outdoor classroom is one of my favourite places and I enjoy learning bushcraft and survival techniques in OBEs - Old Buckenham Explorers."*

Oliver - Year 8 pupil from China



## Finding Us

As one of England's most beautiful counties, Suffolk is home to stunning coastlines, picturesque landscapes, charming villages, and rich historical heritage. Whether you're interested in nature, history, or simply seeking quiet and tranquillity, Suffolk is a magical place to be and gives pupils a deep appreciation of life outside of busy towns and cities.

OBH is situated in the heart of rural Suffolk, 2 miles from the famous medieval village of Lavenham, 35 miles from Cambridge, and only 60 miles from London. Transport links are excellent, with trains to London taking a little under an hour, and London Heathrow only 2 hours away by car.







*"I have been coming back to OBH for a number of years and absolutely love it here. I really like the fact OBH has Houses and feeling like part of a team, I have not experienced this before. The activities are brilliant and there are so many of them. I have made many strong friendships too, and I hope these will last a lifetime. Boarding is something I recommend to everyone, it is so much fun. It feels like Hogwarts!"*

Ariane - Year 7 pupil from France



*"I've come to OBH to make friends, learn the language and experience another culture. It's not easy at first, but after just a week, you have made lots of friends and playing sport makes it fun. I really like boarding, especially the activities, in particular, 'manhunt'! We speak a lot, so my language skills are improving all the time. I love the weekend activities and travelling to London and climbing the O2 building was a highlight. The teachers are so kind and helpful, I learn new things with them every day. The Year 8 Common Room is also really good, we play table tennis and I'm teaching my friends a few things too."*

Jaime - Year 8 pupil from Spain





# Admissions Process

1

## Initial Enquiry

Check availability of places by contacting:

Kate Walmsley  
Registrar

T: +44 1449 740252

[admissions@obh.co.uk](mailto:admissions@obh.co.uk)

2

## Registration

Complete a Registration Form and transfer £120 per child to register your interest and begin the admissions process.

3

## Interview

Interview/Zoom interview with our Headmaster, Mr James Large.

4

## Assessment

A completed UKiset report is our preferred method of assessment.

If families are unable to provide this, an internal assessment paper is available.

5

## Offer

Once the application process is complete, we will endeavour to make a decision within a week.

Offer of a place is subject to a satisfactory school report and school reference.

6

## Deposit

If you are successful, an offer will be made. In order to accept this offer and secure your place, you will need to provide:

- Signed parent contract
- First term's fees
- Refundable £1,000 deposit

Old Buckenham Hall, Brettenham Park, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 7PH

[admissions@obh.co.uk](mailto:admissions@obh.co.uk) • [www.obh.co.uk](http://www.obh.co.uk)

