



Kimbolton School  
Cambridgeshire



Boarding  
Your home from home.







A small, friendly  
boarding experience.  
Your home from home.



## Welcome to Kimbolton School, Cambridgeshire.

Just outside Cambridge – that world-renowned centre of learning - Kimbolton School offers the best of a British education, as well as a pathway to some of the most prestigious careers and universities in the world.

Ours is a warm and welcoming community, which feels genuinely like a family. Boarders join us from Year 7/First Form and live in either Kimbolton House (boys), or White House (girls), where they are supported and cared for by a team of dedicated and expert pastoral staff. Our Houseparents live with their own families on-site, and the atmosphere is informal, friendly and fun. Our numbers are small in comparison with some larger boarding schools, affording us more flexibility to provide an experience that is well suited to each child, as well as the enviable opportunity to really get to know each other as a boarding family.

We believe in boarding as a way of shaping character in children, chief amongst which is the confidence to be yourself and to make

brave choices in life. Our homely boarding houses a short walk away in the village are as individual as the children who live in them and provide a happy, welcoming environment. We want to ensure that our boarders feel at home, even when they're away from theirs, and we want them to flourish in our style of boarding – boarding with character.

Our pupils leave Kimbolton not only with the knowledge and skills to achieve their ambitions, but also with the values to make a meaningful impact on the world around them. Whether pursuing Medicine at Cambridge University, securing a degree apprenticeship in motorsport, or embarking on a career in fashion design, in our boarding houses as in our classrooms, we aim to nurture the character and self-belief to enable every child to follow their own path.

**Mr Will Chuter**  
**Headmaster**



# Why choose Kimbolton School?

From our prime Cambridgeshire location, great value fees, and outstanding academic achievements, to our wide range of co-curricular activities—there are countless reasons to choose Kimbolton.

## Aim high

At Kimbolton, we inspire boarders to aim high and achieve excellence in every aspect of their lives. With access to outstanding facilities and dedicated staff, pupils are encouraged to pursue their passions and reach their full potential, both academically and personally. Our supportive community nurtures ambition and resilience, helping each pupil strive for success.

We understand that many of our pupils come to us with well-developed co-curricular interests and we are keen to support these.

## Location

Our countryside campus of 120 acres offers ample space for outdoor activities and sport. Set in the beautiful village of Kimbolton, we are just 40 minutes from central Cambridge and within easy access of London and all of its major airports. The nearest train station, St Neots, is only 15 minutes away, providing convenient rail links to both Cambridge and London.



## Limitless opportunities in a safe environment

Here, everything is within reach—whether it's leadership, science, mathematics, or sport. Our pupils are empowered to pursue their ambitions without limits but in a safe and nurturing home-from-home. Safety and security is a priority across our site. Our rural grounds, and safe, small village community mean that parents and guardians can take comfort in feeling reassured that each pupil is safe in a protective environment.

## Happiness, the key to success

At Kimbolton, our pupils thrive in a warm, supportive environment where friendships blossom and wellbeing is a priority. Through exceptional pastoral care and a wellbeing programme, we ensure that every pupil feels valued, safe, and happy—creating the foundation for them to achieve their best in all areas of school life.



## Values

We are guided by our core values:

**Kindness:** We believe that kindness is the greatest enabler of all and should be shown to everyone at all times.

**Curiosity:** We want you to keep asking questions about the world around you.

**Courage:** We ask you to be brave and take risks in your learning and life.

**Endeavour:** We help you understand the value of aspiration and hard work in all you do.

**Integrity:** We value honesty and doing the right thing, even when no-one is looking.

## Academic excellence

Most recent results:

GCSE

**18%**  
Grade 9

**96%**  
Grade 9-4

**55%**  
Grade 9-7

A Level

**47%**  
A\* / A

**73%**  
A\* / B

**91%**  
A\* / C

**100%**  
pass rate

**85%**  
first choice place for  
university



# Cambridgeshire – a world-renowned hub of academic excellence

We live and learn in a region celebrated for its rich tradition of education, innovation, and transformative ideas. Our Senior School, Sixth Form, and boarding houses are just a short distance from the academic hub of Cambridge, as well as the cultural centres of Northampton and Milton Keynes. These nearby cities offer a wealth of cultural venues and experiences. Additionally, the historic market town of Bedford, with its roots tracing back to the year 886, adds a layer of heritage to our surroundings. We are also less than an hour from London, home to some of the world's most famous landmarks, museums, and cultural institutions, offering even more opportunities for exploration and inspiration.

## Study in a historic Kimbolton Castle

At Kimbolton, boarders have the unique opportunity to study and live in the breathtaking surroundings of Kimbolton Castle. This historic landmark, with its rich history and stately architecture, offers an inspiring setting for academic pursuits. Whether you're an international pupil or from a forces family, learning in a castle provides an extraordinary backdrop that blends tradition with modern education. Our location combines historic charm with access to world-class academic and cultural resources, making Kimbolton an ideal home for ambitious, globally-minded pupils.

## Activities for our boarders

Boarders have access to the stunning school grounds at appropriate times, where they can enjoy a walk, play team sports, run, or just sit and read a book in the breathtaking surroundings. Boarders can also enjoy our sports facilities including our sports hall, swimming pool, tennis courts, cricket nets, football pitches etc.

We offer a wide range of activities tailored to our boarders, with regular consultations to keep them engaging and relevant. Weekly in-house activities include dinners, crafting, musical meditation, table tennis tournaments, and themed nights.

Weekends feature joint house events like trampolining, climbing, escape rooms, theme park trips, and punting on the River Cam.

We also interact with the community through charity events such as bake sales and car washes. Christmas is a special time with baking, carol singing, and festive trips. Our two boarding houses enjoy friendly competition in events like Masterchef and Rounders. We also make the most of our castle with formal dinners, Halloween nights, guest interviews, and BBQs.



# International pupil support

Progress is closely tracked and communicated clearly and regularly with both pupils and parents, ensuring that everyone stays informed and involved in the learning journey.



## English as an Additional Language (EAL)

At Kimbolton, we offer comprehensive EAL support tailored to the individual needs of international pupils. Through specialised lessons, pupils enhance their English proficiency, both written and spoken, enabling them to fully engage in academic life. From tailored support in small groups to one-on-one sessions, our EAL provision ensures pupils develop the language skills needed for success as well as the qualification needed to study in a UK University.

EAL provision at Kimbolton School does incur an additional cost. The fees depend on the level and type of support required by the individual pupil.

## Sixth Form

For Sixth Form pupils, we provide preparation for the IELTS exam, essential for university applications and visa requirements, fostering both academic achievement and integration into British culture.

# A caring boarding community

At Kimbolton, we cultivate a nurturing, family-like environment, with live-in house parents offering 24-hour care. Our small community allows us to know each boarder personally and tailor care to their needs. We welcome new boarders warmly and encourage them to personalise their rooms to create a home-like atmosphere. Strong friendships are built across age groups, and we're proud to see many former boarders stay in touch and return to visit their houseparents and younger peers.

## Rooms and study spaces

Boarders enjoy a variety of accommodation, from single rooms to shared rooms (up to four beds). Each house has its own outdoor garden space, providing a relaxing environment for boarders to enjoy.

Year 10 (Fourth Form) and above have individual study desks in their rooms, alongside communal study spaces and common rooms for relaxation.

## Comprehensive support

Pastoral care extends beyond boarding, with tutors, academic heads, and the Health Centre providing medical, emotional, and spiritual guidance.

Each boarding house has a friendly and caring Matron who provides practical and wellbeing support for the boarders. Wellbeing activities are also included in the activity programme, such as mentor training, digital skills and mental health workshops.

## Dining and community

Boarders share nutritious meals in the School Dining Room, reinforcing a sense of community. Our exceptional catering team ensures that meals are balanced and enjoyable.

All meals, with only exception are enjoyed together in the School dining hall. Saturday breakfast is the exception whereby breakfast is enjoyed in house. This allows flexibility to fit round individual plans be they sports fixtures, family visits, school activities or simply a lie in.

Each boarding house also has a fully equipped kitchen where boarders can prepare snacks and enjoy independent cooking. Basic ingredients are provided along with unlimited daily fruit and snacks. For those who have more individual tastes, Kimbolton has a small supermarket within easy walking distance of both houses.





# Education in the UK



## Independent schools

Kimbolton School is an independent, or private, school, meaning it operates with autonomy from certain government regulations. This independence allows us to offer a more innovative curriculum, significantly smaller class sizes, and a wider range of subjects, providing our pupils with a tailored and enriched educational experience.

## Boarders and day pupils

Unlike some independent schools, Kimbolton offers both day and boarding options, creating a diverse community enriched by pupils from around the world, including military families. Day pupils return home after school, while boarders enjoy a welcoming house environment. We are flexible with boarders visiting friends and family, provided proper permissions are in place, and do not enforce any ineats (weekends when boarders are not permitted to leave).

## Co-educational school with single-sex boarding

At Kimbolton, we offer the best of both worlds, with our single-sex boarding arrangements and coeducational learning environment.

Boarders enjoy the comfort and camaraderie of living alongside peers of the same gender, fostering strong bonds and focused support. At the same time, they benefit from shared experiences with boarders from the other house as well as a coeducational school day, where they can collaborate and socialise with pupils of all genders. This balanced approach promotes personal growth, social confidence, and mutual respect, preparing pupils for life beyond school.

# Our boarding houses

Boarding is available from Year 7 (First Form) onwards. Both boarding houses are located on Kimbolton's historic High Street, less than 5 minutes' walk from the Senior School and Sixth Form. Boys live in Kimbolton House while the girls live a few doors further along in White House. Both houses have a rich history and are full of character, yet also have modern facilities that meet the needs of today's teenagers.

**1070**

pupils

**5%**

boarders

Age 11-16 – Secondary education

Age 16 – 18 – Sixth Form

Academic year – September – July

Three terms – Autumn, Spring, Summer

## Kimbolton (Kim) House

Kim House offers boys a vibrant and unique boarding experience. From fun traditions to communal activities, there's always something to bond over. With a strong sense of camaraderie, the house blends independence with support, allowing boys to thrive academically and socially. The comfortable, personalised rooms and lively communal areas create a homely atmosphere, while house staff ensure every boy feels valued. Family moments, like late-night discussions or weekend challenges, add character to the boarding life, making it an unforgettable experience.



## White House

White House is a welcoming and nurturing environment for girls, offering a safe space to thrive academically and socially. With a focus on pastoral care, the house staff foster strong bonds within the community, encouraging girls to build confidence and independence. Communal areas and shared activities provide opportunities for girls to develop friendships and engage in a wide range of interests.



**Our community is made up with pupils from over 18 different countries, such as Hong Kong, France, Spain and the Caymen Islands.**





## Health and wellbeing

At Kimbolton, the health and wellbeing of our boarders are paramount. Boarding staff, including houseparents and tutors, provide 24-hour care, offering both individual support and promoting good mental health.

Our on-site Health Centre, staffed by qualified nurses, works closely with two counsellors to offer emotional support during challenging times. Boarders also have access to local doctors and dentists, ensuring comprehensive healthcare. The boarding team collaborates with the Health Centre to manage medical needs, keeping parents informed for complete peace of mind.

Each boarder is assigned a day housemaster or mistress and a day tutor through our extensive pastoral network, ensuring tailored care and attention. Additionally, our new Wellbeing Centre offers a calm space for pupils to relax and recharge. Through our partnership with The Wellbeing Hub, we provide a wealth of online resources, workshops, and expert talks for pupils, staff, and parents, further enhancing our holistic approach to health and wellbeing.

# Life as a boarder

## Week days

Our week day routine ensures pupils find a healthy balance of academic study and leisure time.

**7.30** – Wake-up

**8.00** – Breakfast in the dining hall

**8.40** – Morning registration with form tutor

*Boarders follow the same school day and lunch activities as day pupils*

**16.20** – End of school day, free time or co-curricular activities

**18.00** – Supper in the school dining room

**19.00** – Evening prep (study time) finishing at 20.00- 20.30h for Years 7 – 9 and 20:30-21.00h for Years 10 and above

**20.30** – Free time/socialising/ in house activity

**21.00** – Staggered bedtimes

## Weekends

Weekends have a more relaxed feel and there is no official wake up time. Breakfast on Saturday is in the boarding houses, lunch is at 12.30h and supper at 18.00h – both in the dining hall. Saturday sport is every weekend for those selected for teams/fixtures.

On a Sunday, brunch is at 10.00h, and afternoon dinner is at 16.00h, both in the dining hall.

All trip and sporting activities are published in the school calendar, or on the house noticeboards. Bedtimes vary at the weekend, within each house.

## Exeat weekend

In the summer term, there is a boarder's leave/ Exeat weekend on the first May Bank Holiday. Both boarding houses close after Saturday sports during the Exeat weekend in May and reopen on Bank Holiday Monday at 18.00h. This allows pupils time to go home or spend the break with guardians, offering a well-deserved opportunity to relax and enjoy time away from school.

## Mobile phone devices

We are mindful of the impact excessive mobile phone use can have on wellbeing. Phones are handed in before bedtime for Years 7–11 (First - Fifth Form) and monitored for Sixth Formers. Both houses have internet filtering and reporting in place, in line with the school's policy that restricts phone use during the school day and monitors internet usage for safeguarding purposes.

## Guardianship

International boarders without a UK-based family member must appoint a guardian for support while studying. Guardians serve as trusted contacts and provide care during Exeat weekends and holidays when boarding houses are closed. While the school does not recommend specific guardians, it advises using those accredited by AEGIS (The Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students) to ensure high standards of care and support.







# Boarding options

From Year 7 (First Form), pupils can board on either a full, time or flexible basis.

## Full time boarders

Full boarders return home for half term and school holidays. Most of our boarders are full time and therefore are in school during weekends in term time. Activities are included.

## Weekly boarders

Weekly boarders go home at the end of each school week, returning either on a Sunday evening or Monday morning. Activities are charged as an additional cost.

## Flexible boarding

Our flexible boarding option allows pupils to board on a schedule that suits the needs of both the pupil and family. Whether it's a few nights a week or occasional stays during busy periods, this option provides the perfect balance of independence and structure. It offers a great introduction to boarding life while maintaining close ties to home, allowing pupils to enjoy the best of both worlds.

## Extended Day Boarding

For families seeking more structured school days, our extended day boarding offers pupils the chance to stay later into the evening, benefiting from supper, supervised homework time, co-curricular activities, and social opportunities with their peers. This option provides a supportive, relaxed environment beyond the regular school hours, ensuring pupils have the time and space to focus on academics and enjoy a well-rounded school experience without committing to full boarding.

## Visa requirements

International pupils must obtain a UK visa to study at Kimbolton School, supported by a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). Our Admissions team assists families throughout the visa process, providing the necessary guidance and documentation.

# Boarding for Military families

## A stable, supportive community for military families

We pride ourselves on our strong sense of community. With a close-knit, family feel across both our Prep and Senior Schools, we embrace the motto "One School, One Family." Many of our families, staff, and alumni have strong ties to the armed forces, so we truly understand the unique needs of military families and offer a stable environment for children amidst relocations.

## Strong transport links and rural campus

Set in a scenic, rural location, our school offers peace and security while being easily accessible through excellent transport links. This allows military families to leave their children in a stable, nurturing environment even as they manage changing postings.



## Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

Our weekly CCF is a key feature that many military families value, providing pupils with opportunities to develop leadership, discipline, working with others and a sense of responsibility—all within a structured, supportive programme.

## Affordable boarding options

Kimbolton offers great value for military families.

Approved for Continuity of Education Allowance (CEA) funding, we provide a 10% military discount, ensuring that the cost of boarding remains affordable, with minimal need to 'top-up' CEA allowances.

For more information about fees and financial support, please contact our Admissions team.





## Joining our School

Admission to our School is open to boys and girls aged 11-16. Our main entry points are Year 7 (First form) and Year 9 (Third form) but we can accept applications to other year groups if spaces are available.

### How to apply

Boarders wishing to apply typically start by completing an online application form. Applicants may be required to provide recent school reports, and those for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency through a recognised test, such as IELTS. The admissions process will include an interview (conducted virtually for international applicants) and will involve an entrance exam. For detailed guidance and to ensure a smooth application, pupils are encouraged to liaise with the school's Admissions team or a trusted educational agent.



### English qualifications

Pupils must have strong skills in speaking, writing, reading, and listening to be clear, fluent, and confident communicators in English. These abilities are essential for accessing the curriculum, working collaboratively, and succeeding in public examinations.

### Scholarships

Kimbolton School is committed to engaging, enthusing, and inspiring our most able pupils in different disciplines within a culture where the highest levels of achievement are celebrated and are a source of pride both within and beyond our community.

Scholarships are awarded across a range of areas, including academic excellence, art, computer science, drama, DTE, music and sport.





# Inspiring curiosity, courage, and kindness.



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