

# Boarding and pastoral care

## Mission

Boarding is a new experience for most of the students who come to train at Elmhurst and, in response to their needs and expectations, we are committed to ensuring it is a happy, secure and positive one.

Excitement and apprehension are understandably interlinked, and we acknowledge the need for good links to be formed with parents and guardians. We welcome their input.

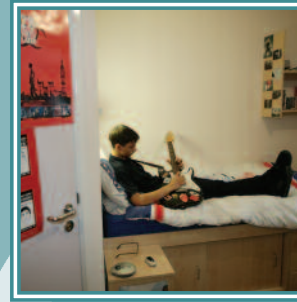


## Accommodation

The boarding facilities have been planned with great care to ensure the safety and welfare of our students. Elmhurst's experienced boarding staff are sympathetic to the needs of young people training for careers as professional performers. Our aim is to provide a friendly, professional and supportive environment in which they will flourish.

Lower School accommodation is pleasantly situated behind the main site to afford privacy and a sense of community away from the main approach to the school. The houses overlook a lawn surrounded by ornamental paving and a covered walkway. An attractive amphitheatre links the lawn to a lower-level ornamental patio and lawned area which are also very private. Elmhurst has four Lower School boarding houses on the main site: Fischer, Mortimer Boys, Mortimer Girls and Hetherington.

Year 7 children are in Fischer, and Year 8 – 11 boys are in Mortimer Boys, Year 8 – 10 girls are in Mortimer Girls and Year 10 – 11 girls in Hetherington. Fischer and Mortimer Boys and Girls have fully fitted double study bedrooms with wash basins,



and have a Houseparent and a Resident Tutor, both of whom are full-time members of staff. In addition each house is visited by Academic Tutors on one or two evenings each week. Staff accommodation is located on each floor to ensure adequate supervision and ready access for the children. There are pleasant common room and kitchen areas located in each house, as well as excellent laundry facilities and lifts for ease of access.

Hetherington House provides 31 single en-suite study bedrooms (including two easy-access rooms), and is situated across the courtyard from the other year groups. In line with the other houses, Hetherington has a Houseparent and a Resident Tutor, both full-time members of staff, and Academic Tutors also visit on one or two evenings each week. Staff accommodation is located on the first and second floor to ensure adequate supervision and accessibility for the students.

First Year Sixth students are housed in Lyndhurst which is situated in Moseley, a short bus ride from the school campus. This detached period house accommodates 30 students with a Houseparent and a Resident Tutor, both resident staff members, and Academic Tutors also visit weekly. The house has been completely renovated and modernised to provide comfortable student accommodation. Great emphasis has been placed on giving residents as much private space as possible, with study facilities, appropriate for the attainment of high grades at A-level. Students residing in Lyndhurst have their own fully equipped kitchen, common room and laundry room. They also have use of a large, private garden, with a terrace and an extensive lawn.

Second Year Sixth Formers live out locally in rented accommodation. Third Year Sixth Form students also live off-campus in local flats and houses, thereby gaining useful preparation for life in the outside world. The school gives every assistance to the Second Year Sixth and these Graduate Year students in finding suitable, rented accommodation.

## Boarding and pastoral care contd

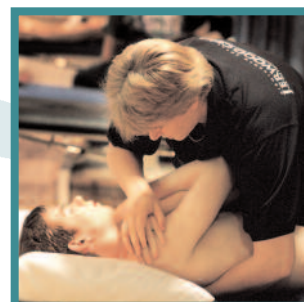
### Medical and physiotherapy services

The medical centre comprises a reception area, consulting room, three twin bedrooms, an en-suite isolation room, bathroom, dayroom and kitchen. On a daily basis, the centre is staffed by three or four full-time nursing sisters. Our medical practitioners hold twice-weekly surgeries in the medical centre and, as required, at their practice, the Bellevue Medical Centre, which is a short distance from the school. Elmhurst is fortunate in having a highly committed team of GPs with specialist interests in sports injuries and eating disorders.

The school has its own physiotherapy and exercise suite. This facility and the services of full-time physiotherapists are available to all Elmhurst pupils, by appointment, five days a week. Elmhurst enjoys a close association with Birmingham Royal Ballet's ground-breaking Jerwood Centre for the Prevention and Treatment of Dance Injuries.



photo: Steve Hanson



BRB's Jerwood Centre;  
photo: Laurie Lewis



BRB's Jerwood Centre;  
photo: Laurie Lewis



All pupils have BUPA cover to enable them to obtain rapid orthopaedic advice from a consultant should this be needed. All students are encouraged to talk to staff if they have a problem or difficulty, and confidential referral to professional counsellors and/or medical staff is immediately available in cases of need.

Elmhurst's policy documents relating to medical and pastoral care issues and the school's house handbooks are available for parents and guardians to consult. Copies can be obtained on request from the Head of Boarding & Pastoral Care.

## Catering

The Elmhurst Bistro is at the centre of the school community. Diet is carefully monitored and the school has its own catering staff who prepare all daily meals for the students of the school. All dietary needs are catered for and the school prides itself on the quality of the nutrition it provides. Talks by visiting nutritionists help to ensure that students are aware of the need to eat well-balanced meals.