



## INTRODUCTION

Queens' is named after Queen Mary I, Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. During the reign of each queen, Gresham's School made significant strides towards the establishment it is today.

In the reign of Queen Mary Gresham's was founded (1555), in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, Gresham's admitted its first pupils (1562), and in the reign of Elizabeth II Gresham's first admitted female pupils (1971). Its predecessor, Britten House, first opened its doors to boarders in 1996, becoming Queens' House in 2016. The identity of the House has now been established by the girls who have lived and worked here during the first two years of Queens' House, and we hope that every girl that passes through here will leave their mark on the place.

Queens' House has a very special and beautiful location on the North East edge of the campus, backing onto the School woods and overlooking the playing fields, Chapel, the Britten Building, and the Auden Theatre. It has a particularly colourful and cheerful interior and a new Upper Sixth Form wing. It has a unique warmth and vibrancy and is currently home to 70 girls, including boarders and day girls.

## RESIDENTIAL STAFF

The Housemistress is Mrs Virginia Seldon.

She lives in the House with her husband, Mr Mark Seldon.

Telephone 01263 714564



The Housemistress takes overall responsibility for the well-being of the pupils.

Vi arrived at Gresham's 11 years ago as a Spanish Assistant, having studied English and Spanish at the University of Valladolid, her hometown, and did her PGCE at Buckingham University.

She was a resident tutor in Britten House for two years before becoming Head of Spanish. She is married to Mark, who is the Director of Studies at Gresham's. They have a son, Oliver, and a daughter, Mia they both attend Gresham's Pre-Prep School. Mark has an older son, Harry, who attends Gresham's Prep School.



The Assistant Housemistress is **Miss Anne Untereiner**

Telephone **01263 714565**



Miss Untereiner is Queens' Assistant Housemistress and a trainee teacher in French and a library assistant.

She has worked and been a resident at Gresham's School for the past two years. She has previously worked in schools in Bristol, around Norwich, and at the University of East Anglia teaching French.

She enjoys cooking and baking (mostly the latter though!), travelling, and the arts.

Miss Untereiner is excited to be living and working in Queens' to support the girls in all their endeavours at school and making sure they have a great time in house.

The House Matron is **Mrs Carol Day**

Telephone 01263 711437 / 714582



Matron is the first person to go to if you are in the house and feeling unwell, and will help with all health matters. She will also arrange and take you to appointments, and help you manage your laundry. She will always be there for you if you need a chat, and is good at problem solving and finding lost items!

Matron has had a very varied career. She has previously worked as a Matron at Gresham's in a boy's House. She has two grown up stepsons and daughter who was a daygirl in Oakeley House. She is also a grandma.

**Miranda Starling, Monica Howard, Emma Cooper and Dawn Scott**

We are very lucky with our domestic team, who spend every morning looking after Queens' House and making everything feel like home.

## **HOUSE TEAM**

### **NON-RESIDENTIAL DUTY STAFF**

- Mrs Anna Watt – Head of languages
- Mrs Elizabeth MacNamara – Teacher of Maths
- Mr Simon Kinder – Head of History, Head of Learning and Teaching
- Miss Sarah Pink – Teacher of Art
- Ms Melissa Masters – Teacher of English as a Second Language
- Mrs Seizer –Teacher of Learning Support and Assistant SENCO
- Ms Emma Whittle – Head of Psychology
- Mrs Esther Philpott – Teacher of Biology

## **PREFECTS**

The house has a team of prefects who help to organise the smooth running of things. They carry authority but they are also there to help you!

**Head of House** – Phoebe Harvey

**Deputy Head of House** – Esme Papworth

**School Prefect** – Polly Worrall

### **House prefects**

- Freya Clabon
- Fenella Henderson - Chia
- Sophie Kemble
- Nelly Porter
- Amelia Seaman
- Miranda Robb
- Isabel Fontanini-Marcos
- Kira Kapustina
- Amelia Thomson
- Evey Jermy
- Paige Broadhurst
- Eva Shao

All new girls are assigned a ‘Big Sister’ in the Upper Sixth form. Your Big Sister is mentor, friend and support, particularly in the early weeks.

## **HOW DOES THE HOUSE WORK?**

I live in the house, with my family, in accommodation on the far side of the Common Room. I am there for most of the time in the house and available to help with any matter, school or otherwise. I have a study next to the Common Room.

If I am not there I am probably teaching; you can leave me a note under the door, try me later, or find another member of staff to help. You will always know which member of staff is on duty in the house. During the school day, it will probably be easier to find me in the Library Block in my classroom, which you can find upstairs on the left.

The person on duty in Queens' always carries a mobile phone, and the number is available to you all: **07833 206442**

## **WHAT ABOUT CONTACT WITH HOME?**

Most pupils have their own mobile phones. It should be pointed out, however, that they must not be used during lesson times, prep times or after bedtime.

There is Wi-Fi throughout the house and most girls use email or Skype to keep in contact with home. The six house computers all have internet access and you are free to use them in this way, although priority should always be given to girls who are using the computers for work! You will get a BYOD (bring your own device) code on your first day which will allow you to access Wi-Fi from your own personal devices.

## **CAN MY PARENTS COME AND VISIT?**

Parents are very welcome to come and visit. They are most welcome to attend weekend chapel, plays, concerts, competitions, and sports matches etc. It is a good idea for parents to contact me if you are going out, and it is an absolute 'must' if you are taking a friend with you! You will get used to signing in and out at the appropriate times.



Boarders may go home at the weekends if they wish, or they may go to the home of a friend. If you are going to a friend's house, I will always confirm this arrangement with parents and the parents of the friend

## **WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE A PROBLEM?**

You must find me, or someone else you are happy to talk to, and who you trust, and your problem can be addressed. Whatever the problem is, it needs to be sorted out and you must never suffer in silence. My door is always open to you. If you prefer, talk to a Prefect, Matron, Ms Untereiner, Mr Seldon or another member of staff. We also have special people who you may wish to talk to in confidence, called independent listeners. The school also has counsellors you can book an appointment with.

You will soon find that we are here to help and that the School is an amazing community in which everyone wants you to be happy and to thrive.

## ALL THE OTHER STUFF

Lots of activities occur outside the classroom. As well as a wide range of enrichment opportunities that are linked to academic development, there are a huge number of sport, music, art, and drama activities.

There are many inter-house competitions, and many of these occur in the first term. We will start practising for the Inter-House Music Competition very early in the term, and there will also be the Cross Country and Hockey competitions. In the Lent term there is an Art competition, Inter-House Netball and Swimming, with Athletics, and Rounders in the Summer Term. There are matches for those in school teams, plays, concerts, choir and Orchestra. Make sure you make the most of what we have on offer.



## **Queens' House – House Rules**

### **Signing Out**

If leaving the house after 5.30 pm, pupils should sign out in the exit book, and sign in immediately on return. Destination must always be given, and you should never sign for other people. Seek permission from duty staff before leaving the school grounds at weekends, then sign out in the usual way. Pupils should not leave the house before 7am without staff permission.

Day girls **MUST** sign out at the end of the day when they go home on the Day Girls 'signing out book. All visitors **Must** sign in and out of the house too.

### **Prep**

Silence is to be observed, and pupils must remain in their studies until the end of prep. Juniors should remember that senior girls are working during late prep and should be considerate. Music may be played quietly by those in single studies, but not heard outside the room. All other pupils should use headphones. Sixth Form study periods follow the same rules as prep.

### **Television**

The television may be watched in free time, not during study periods, prep or hobbies time. Videos must be approved by duty staff beforehand, and videos may only be watched by pupils from within the appropriate age group.

### **Dress**

Pupils should always be respectable when walking around the house.

Normal school rules regarding dress and jewellery should be observed.

Shoes should be cleaned regularly.

### **Laundry**

All except for Sixth Formers should put their dirty laundry in the appropriate baskets in the laundry room, each evening before bedtime. Clean clothes should also be collected from the laundry room at this time and put away. Sixth Formers may use the washing machines at times agreed with Matron.

### **Boy visitors**

Boys may visit the entrance foyer, common room and the house kitchen. Upper Sixth Form boys may visit the Upper Sixth kitchen by invitation only. All other areas of the house are out of bounds to boys.

### **Food and Drink**

Food should not be prepared during lesson times and study periods. Kitchen utensils should be washed and put away immediately by the user and kitchen surfaces wiped clean.

### **Meals**

It is a school requirement that all meals are attended. You should be in breakfast before 7.40am, and report to the duty prefect. Do not sign in for other people.

### **Games Kit**

Boots should be removed before entering the house. Knock off any loose mud outside away from the entrance before carrying the boots inside.

## **Security and Safety**

Matches and lighters are not allowed.

Nothing should be placed over bedside lights or touching overhead lights.

Self-closing doors should never be propped open.

## **School electrical safety instructions**

Plugs should be fitted correctly - Do not do this yourself. Private electrical equipment should not be brought into school (kettles, toasters etc.)

## **Valuables**

It is not advisable to bring valuables into school. If expensive items are needed for some reason, they should be left with Mrs Seldon. You are advised not to keep large amounts of money in your possession.

### **Return to House**

<b>YEAR 9</b>	<b>YEAR 10</b>	<b>YEAR 11</b>	<b>YEAR 12</b>	<b>YEAR 13</b>
<b>21.00</b>	<b>21.15</b>	<b>21.45</b>	<b>22.15</b>	<b>22.30</b>

### **Bedtimes**

<b>21.30</b>	<b>Year 9 in bed, music off, Duty Staff/Prefect present</b>
<b>21.45</b>	<b>Year 9 lights out, Year 10 in bed, music off etc.</b>
<b>22.00</b>	<b>Year 10 lights out, Year 11 in bed, music off etc.</b>
<b>22.15</b>	<b>Year 11 lights out</b>
<b>22.30</b>	<b>Lower Sixth in bed, music off etc.</b>
<b>22.45</b>	<b>Non-prefect Upper Sixth Formers in rooms</b>
<b>23.00</b>	<b>Non-prefect Upper Sixth Formers lights out</b>

### **Medical**

When medical attention is needed, see matron before 0800 hrs, or after evening roll call.

When Matron is off duty, please see Mr or Mrs Seldon or Ms Untereiner. In an emergency, or during the night, you may find Matron, Mr or Mrs Seldon or Ms Untereiner.

NO medicines may be kept in your possession. Hand them to Matron. NO medicines may ever be shared with anyone else.



