

A photograph of three students outdoors. On the left, a young man with dark hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, is smiling and looking towards the other two students. In the center, the back of a young man's head with dark hair is visible, wearing a white t-shirt. On the right, a young woman with blonde hair in a braid and a young woman with black braids are both smiling and looking towards the man on the left. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

Sidcot School Key Information for International Students

sidcot.org.uk



Sidcot
Live Adventurously



What matters at Sidcot when educating children for the future...

- What kind of intelligence and skills will students need to flourish?
- How can students make a positive contribution to society beyond school?
- How can we help them to become the leaders of tomorrow?

Whilst we are justifiably proud of our students' academic record, we are equally proud of their social skills, their emotional intelligence, their resilience and their determination to make a difference in the world.

It's no surprise that these personal qualities go together with academic excellence. It's our experience that curiosity and the confidence to enquire fearlessly – to live adventurously, as our Quaker philosophy puts it – lead children to be better motivated and more at ease with themselves as thinkers and learners.

Academic skills will certainly continue to be important and, for the foreseeable future, exams will remain the standard measure of achievement. We proudly provide the highest quality support for our pupils' academic ambitions, whilst helping them develop their emotional intelligence and the skills they will need for their futures.

That's why we keep the curriculum as broad as possible for as long as possible. Our pupils understand that education is about expanding possibilities and discovering potential, not just passing tests.

I hope you enjoy finding out more about how we live and learn at Sidcot. We would welcome students to come and experience a taste of Sidcot and find out what makes us so distinctive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Jones', written on a white background.

James Jones
Head of Sidcot School



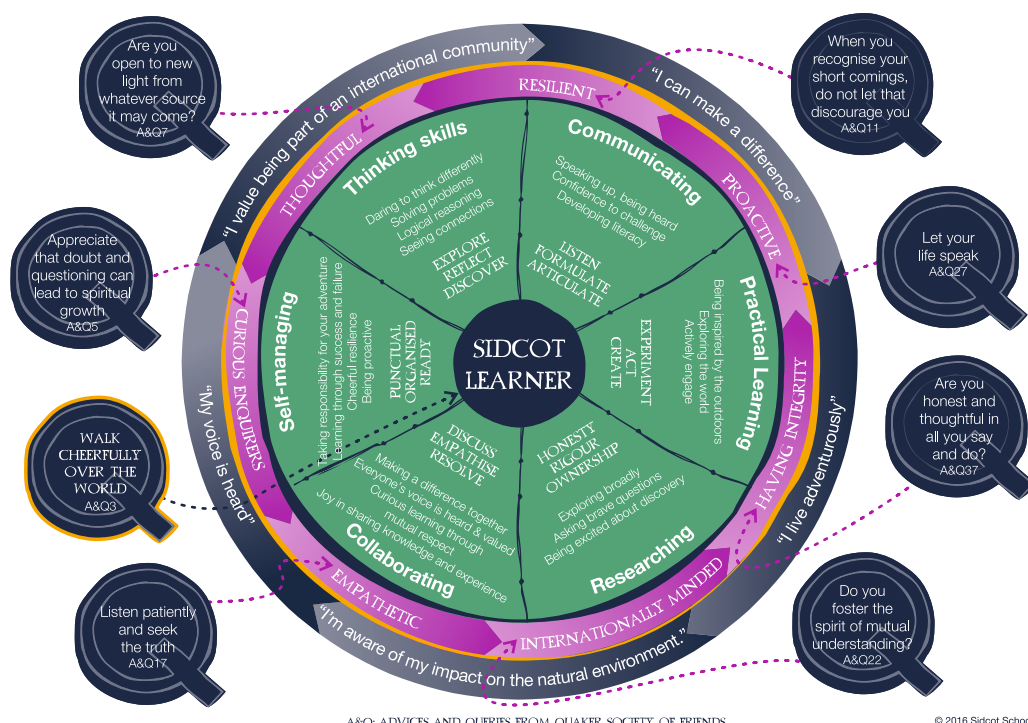
At a glance

Age range of boarders:	11 to 18
Total number of students:	561 Percentage of international pupils 22% 122 students in Sixth Form
Number of boarders:	125
Fees:	Visit sidcot.org.uk/admissions/fees
Religion:	Quaker. We accept students and staff of all faiths and none.
Setting:	Rural
Nearest cities:	Bristol and Bath
Travel time to London:	2 hours by train

Educational programmes:	Long/short term boarding from Year 7 Pre-GCSE Pathway (Specialist English Language Course) Year 11 Pathway (one year GCSE programme) Two year GCSE course International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) A Levels BTECs
Outstanding reputation:	Creative Arts, Maths and Science
Specialist Programmes:	Equestrian, Tennis and Basketball programmes
Nearest airport:	Bristol – 7 miles
Nearest railway station:	Yatton – 8 miles and Bristol Temple Meads – 20 miles

The Sidcot Learning Wheel

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.



A&Q: ADVICES AND QUERIES FROM QUAKER SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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The Sidcot Learning Wheel below links our 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.

With an emphasis on outdoor activity and a full extra-curricular programme, all students are encouraged to take part in many outdoor pursuits, including riding. We are fortunate to have our own **Equestrian Centre** within the school campus and the benefit of a beautiful 160 acre rural setting offering a range of inspirational learning spaces.



Fulfilling Potential

Our comprehensive academic enrichment programme offers students the chance to explore their favourite subjects, challenge themselves, and engage in an extensive range of opportunities.

Lead Learner Programme

Students can apply for the prestigious Lead Learner Programme in a maximum of two subjects, allowing them to delve deeper into their favourite subjects. They hold this esteemed post for one year and are ambassadors for their chosen subject. They participate in a variety of enriching activities, take part in external competitions, represent their subject in the Academic Enrichment Showcase, organise events to promote their subject to our wider school community, such as International Languages Week, and host an assembly showcasing their subject to other students.

Gifted and Talented

Teaching staff analyse data and assessments and select students who excel academically in a particular subject to join our Gifted and Talented programme. These students are provided with differentiated work in lessons to allow them to be stretched and challenged. They also have access to resources and further enrichment tasks related to their subject areas. They are encouraged to take a lead role in lessons by demonstrating, modelling and mentoring others.

Scholarship Programme

A Sidcot Scholarship is not just about celebrating and nurturing excellence; it's about sharing it. Our Scholarship students engage in tailored enrichment activities and extra support in their awarded subject. Supported by staff who are experts in their field, students are encouraged to challenge themselves and to achieve their very best. Enrichment activities vary from year to year, and we continually develop the programme to ensure our students have access to the best opportunities to reach their full potential.

Scan the QR code below to find out more information on our Scholarship Programme and details of how to apply.

FIND OUT
MORE



Pastoral Care

At Sidcot, we take pride in the support and care we provide for our students.

At the heart of our approach is a clear and comprehensive structure for ensuring student support and overseeing their wellbeing. This includes an experienced pastoral team, a dedicated Wellbeing Hub (Rose Cottage) with on-site counsellors, house staff for boarding students, and our experienced tutors and Heads of Years.

Our robust PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) programme educates students on maintaining their wellbeing and navigating challenging situations and topics. We frequently invite guest speakers to discuss important issues with our students and run a series of interesting evening sessions for parents around a range of topics, to support them if they navigate these challenges with their children.

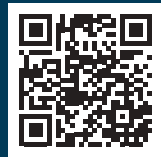
At Sidcot, we recognise that for many of our international students, this is the first time they will be living away from home, making the support we offer even more vital. We want to reassure parents that their child's safety and happiness are of the utmost importance. Beyond the provision already mentioned, our international students benefit from a consistent boarding team that acts as a stable, surrogate 'family'.

To help ease this big adjustment, our boarding staff speak multiple languages and maintain regular contact with parents, ensuring you know everything going on in your child's life and have a direct channel to share thoughts or concerns. At the same time, children are strongly encouraged to keep in touch with their families regularly, while a vibrant calendar of activities helps new students integrate quickly into the boarding family and make lifelong friends from day one.





FIND OUT
MORE



Boarding

When students board at Sidcot School, they join a friendly, family community where they can live, work and play, secure in the knowledge that they are valued and well cared for.

We have four recently renovated boarding houses set within our 150-acre countryside campus. Our boarding houses are overseen by experienced, dedicated staff consisting of a Houseparent, Deputy Houseparent, House matrons, and tutors. They know how daunting it can be for students to live away from home and do everything they can to support our students and help them settle into life at Sidcot School.

NO EXEATS

There are no exeat weekends at Sidcot and no formal lessons on Saturdays. During the weekends, boarding students can participate in various activities such as basketball, swimming, and ceramics, and an exciting programme of weekend trips also takes place throughout the year.



A typical day

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 – 08:45	Registration/Tutor time
08:45	Lessons begin
Mon & Fri, 08:30 – 08:55	Registration/PSHE
Mon & Fri, 08:55 – 09:30	Meeting for Worship/Assembly, followed by lessons
11:15	Break time
11:35	Lessons
13:05 – 14:05	Lunch
13:15 – 13:50	House opens
14:05	Lessons (13:55 Thursday)
15:50 – 16:50	House opens
16:00 – 17:00	Activities/Prep
17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
17:35 – 17:55	Evening meal
18:30	Roll call/Registration & House meeting
18:45 – 19:45	Quiet time/Study time

Saturday

09:00 – 09:30	Breakfast
10:50	Roll call
10:55	Leave House for activities (House closes)
11:00 – 12:30	Activities - Sidcot Saturday
12:30 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 17:30	House opens – Organised activities/Free time
17:30 – 18:00	Evening meal
18:00	House opens
18:30	Roll call
19:00	Activities/Free time

Sunday

10:50	Roll call
11:00 – 11:30	Brunch (House closes)
11:30	House opens
11:30	Activities/Free time
17:30	House closes
17:30 – 18:00	Evening meal
18:00	House opens
18:30	Roll call
19:00	Organised activities/Free time

ACADEMIC PATHWAY

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

During the first three years of Senior School, prior to commencing study for national examinations, we aim to keep the curriculum as broad as possible. Sidcot Students will study the following:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science – Biology, Chemistry & Physics
- Geography
- History
- Religious Education
- Modern Languages
- Creative Arts
- Music
- Drama
- Design Technology – Product Design, Food Technology, Textiles & Computing

Pre-GCSE Pathway: Specialist English Language Course

The Pre-GCSE Pathway programme is a EAL (English as an Additional Language) Foundation Course for international students.

It has been designed to offer younger international pupils a holistic pre-GCSE curriculum with a strong emphasis on English skills development, and provides excellent preparation for the GCSE course at Year 10 (14+) entry. Pupils will enjoy the advantages of being able to integrate with native English-speaking students for a large part of their timetable and within their boarding house, whilst still receiving intensive specialist language support.

YEAR 7

Ages 11 to 12

YEAR 8

Ages 12 to 13

Y9

Ages 13 to 14

Pre-GCSE
PATHWAY

Year 12 A LEVELS

A Level courses are rigorous, two-year long courses that lead to university entrance. They are specialist academic courses and are therefore an excellent preparation for the demands of top-class universities. Students will normally select three A Levels to study from the below options:

- Accounting
- Art & Design
- Art & Design: Photography (For Native Speakers)
- Art & Design: Textile Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computing
- Design & Technology: Product Design
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Literature
- Languages
- Italian, Chinese, Russian (For Native Speakers)
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Music
- Music Technology
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)

In addition to A Levels some students will select the EPQ, or Extended Project Qualification. The EPQ offers students the opportunity to produce a project on a topic of their choice and provides the equivalent of half an A Level.

Year 12 IB

The IB, or International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, is an internationally recognised alternative to A Levels.

It allows students a greater breadth to their Sixth Form studies as they study six subjects: three at higher level and three at standard level. The subject choices are organised to maintain a breadth of study across English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Languages and Arts.

Year 10 & 11

In Year 10 students begin the two year GCSE programme. Sidcot students can choose from the following subjects:

- English Language & Literature*
- Mathematics*
- The Sciences*
- Art
- Art - Photography
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Religious Studies, Philosophy & Applied Ethics
- Textiles (Art & Design)
- English (as a second language)
- EAL (English as an Additional Language)
- BTEC Tech Award in Sport

Alongside their elected subjects students will also take part in PE & Games lessons, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education) and a vast array of extra-curricular activities.

*Compulsory subject for all students.

Year 11 Pathway: One Year GCSE Course

The Year 11 Pathway is a great introduction to the UK education system for international students.

The course allows students to sit up to six GCSEs whilst also preparing them for either A Levels, IB or BTEC. There is a focus on developing English for those in need and the stretch and challenge of completing a two-year programme of study in just one year.

CORE

- IGCSE: English Language OR IGCSE: English as a Second Language
- IGCSE: Maths Extended OR IGCSE: Maths Core

OPTIONS

- IGCSE: Physics OR IGCSE: Humanities (History or Geography)
- IGCSE: Chemistry OR IGCSE: Art
- IGCSE: Biology OR IGCSE: Business Studies
- Plus native language GCSE if available

YEAR 10

Two Year GCSE Course
Ages 14 to 15



Y11

Ages
15 to 16



Y11 PATHWAY

Ages
15 to 16

YEAR 12

Two Year Sixth Form
Courses

Ages 16 to 18

A Level | IB | BTEC



YEAR 13

	SUBJECTS OFFERED	LEVEL*
1	English A Literature	Standard, Higher
	German A Language & Literature	Standard, Higher
	Italian A Literature	Standard, Higher
	German B	Standard, Higher
	French B	Standard, Higher
2	Spanish B	Standard, Higher
	Spanish ab initio	Standard (Beginners)
	Italian ab initio	Standard (Beginners)
	Economics	Standard, Higher
3	History	Standard, Higher
	Geography	Standard, Higher
	Psychology	Standard, Higher
	Biology	Standard, Higher
4	Chemistry	Standard, Higher
	Physics	Standard, Higher
5	Maths - Applications & Interpretations	Standard, Higher
	Visual Arts	Standard, Higher
6	Music	Standard, Higher
	Theatre Studies	Standard, Higher

In addition to their six selected subjects, students will also take part in: **Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay and Creativity, Activity and Service.**

Year 12 BTEC

Alongside A Levels, BTEC Nationals are the most widely recognised qualification for admission to Higher Education in the UK.

At Sidcot students can choose been BTEC qualifications in **Business** and **Sport**. BTECs are career-based qualifications designed to give students the practical skills and specialist knowledge they need to progress along their chosen learning and career path.

Leiths Extended Certificate
in Professional Cookery

This course is designed for students aiming for a career in the food industry who want to develop the knowledge and skills required for a wide range of careers as well as a lifetime love of cooking good food. This qualification is accredited by the Confederation of Tourism and Hospitality and is a hands-on practical cookery qualification normally taken alongside three A Levels.



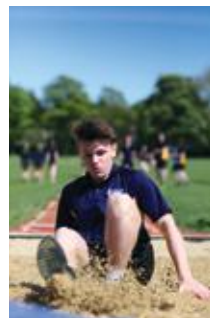
Co-curricular and boarding activities

Our excellent rural location, top-class facilities, and strong links with community groups, charities, and businesses mean we can offer an extensive co-curricular programme with over 100 different activities!

Activities run at lunchtime, after school, in the evenings, and on weekends. From archery to adventure club, golf to photography and maths club, our students have plenty of opportunities to try new things and develop existing interests.

Below are some examples of co-curricular activities on offer for Sidcot students.

- Adventure Club (Climbing)
- Basketball Club
- Boys' Football
- Hockey
- Drama Rehearsals
- Golf
- Swimming
- Multigym
- Languages Revision Club
- Maths Café
- Photography
- Open Art Studio
- Athletics
- Fencing
- Riding Lessons
- Choirs
- Orchestra



**FIND OUT
MORE
ABOUT...**

**BOARDING
ACTIVITIES**



**CO-CURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**



In addition to the extensive range of co-curricular and boarding activities on offer, students can also participate in specialist programmes including basketball, tennis and horse riding.

Led by expert coaches, our specialist programmes are extremely popular among boarding students, offering them the chance to build skills, try new activities, and make their time at Sidcot unforgettable.



Equestrian at Sidcot

The Equestrian Centre offers a rare combination – a school livery yard in the heart of a thriving co-ed day and boarding school. For students who already ride, or who want to learn, Sidcot is a popular choice, as we pride ourselves on our friendly atmosphere for both beginners and experienced riders alike.



Basketball

We're proud to offer a professional Basketball programme in partnership with the Bristol Flyers. We welcome all students, from experienced players aiming to perfect their game to complete beginners eager to learn. Our international basketball programme provides an unmatched opportunity to take advantage of specialist coaching and exciting opportunities to engage with professional players.



PASS

The Programme of Activities for Sidcot Students (PASS) has been designed to provide all students with an exciting opportunity to live adventurously and develop key soft skills. Students choose activities to last for a half term, with options ranging from Surfing and Snowsports to Mah Jong and Candle Making. Throughout the year, students can take part in a total of 6 unique activities.

Tennis

Sidcot's tennis programme enables students to enhance their skills in this popular sport, by accessing 1:1 or small group coaching with qualified tennis coaches. With various coaching opportunities throughout the weekend and the week, players can develop their tennis skills and participate in friendly matches with other students and clubs.

FIND OUT
MORE
ABOUT...

EQUESTRIAN



BASKETBALL



TENNIS



KEY

1. Senior School
2. Junior School
3. Sports Centre
4. Equestrian Centre
5. Arts Centre
6. Science Block
7. Meeting House
8. Boarding Houses
9. Sports Pitch
10. School Garden
11. Astro Pitch

SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO TAKE A VIRTUAL
TOUR OF THE SCHOOL





Testimonials

FIND OUT
MORE



Every year, we welcome international students from over 30 countries. Some of our current students have shared their experiences below.

“

International Parent | Hong Kong

I still remember first arriving with Daniel at Sidcot 4 years ago, and now, Daniel has been offered a place to study Graphic Design at his first-choice university. Daniel lived a very happy campus life in Wing House; he was surrounded by a lot of love and care. If someone asks me what it feels like to be at Sidcot, I would say that it is safe, inclusive, respectful, free but disciplined, driven by academic progress and yet caring for the well-being of students. Sidcot has my full and unconditional recommendation to all parents who are seriously considering a school they can trust with the pastoral welfare of students, and empowering children to thrive to the greatest extent of their potential.

“

International Parent | Spain

It has been a great year for Irene and for us. At the beginning of the year, Irene phoned us crying because of homesickness. At the end of the year Irene cried because she would like to stay another year at Sidcot. She has improved her English, made friends and she is now more self-confident. All I can say is that this has been an excellent experience for our daughter thanks to Sidcot, it's values and it's way of doing things.

“

Silvija | Latvia | Year 11

My time at Sidcot School is very memorable and positive. Living at school helped me become more independent and make strong friendships with people from different countries. The teachers and staff support everyone and are always there when you need them, so it feels like a second home here, where everyone cares about each other and there is always someone to turn to when there is a problem. Teachers want the best for every student, so they encourage us to achieve our best in lessons. Lessons are full of discussion and opportunities to express your thoughts. I've particularly enjoyed the excellent facilities and activities available, from sports and arts to quiet learning spaces. There are all kinds of activities after school, so there is never a dull moment. Sidcot has a warm and friendly atmosphere, and I always feel supported, encouraged to try new things and improve both academically and personally.

“

Emily | Hong Kong | Year 13

Joining Sidcot for Year 10 was one of the best decisions I've made. From the moment I arrived, I felt genuinely welcomed by both my teachers and the boarding staff, who were always there with kindness, encouragement, and support whenever I needed it. That care really helped me settle in and build confidence in myself. Compared to what I was used to in Hong Kong, I found the teaching at Sidcot to be much more engaging and supportive of independent thinking, which suited me so much better. It allowed me to explore subjects I enjoy and realise what I'm really capable of, I ended up achieving grades that were even higher than I'd hoped for to get into my dream university. I'm so grateful to Sidcot for giving me a place to grow, feel at home, and succeed.

Travel information

Sidcot is located in the South West of England, amongst the Mendip Hills, one of the UK's most beautiful rural locations.

The School is only 13 km (15 minutes drive) from Bristol International Airport with flights to worldwide destinations. It is also within easy access of London International Airports and mainline rail services (2 hours to London Paddington).

In contrast to the peaceful and rural setting of the School campus, the boarding students also have the benefit of the vibrant city of Bristol less than 30 minutes away. Here they will find numerous cultural festivals, theatres and cinemas, shopping malls and entertainment venues.

The Victorian seaside town of Weston-Super-Mare is only 20 minutes away, with its traditional pier, promenade and bracing sea air for those who really want to experience stepping back in time when children used to build sandcastles and eat ice-cream! Great fun for our boarders!

FIND OUT
MORE



HERE!



**READY TO START YOUR INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE?
CONTACT OUR ADMISSIONS TEAM TODAY...**



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