

2026/27

Third Form (Year 7) Handbook

sidcot.org.uk



Sidcot
Live Adventurously



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This is your guide to Sidcot School where you'll find everything you need to know as your child joins the School.

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Term dates

Autumn Term 2026

Induction day	Friday 4 September
Boarders return	Friday 4 September
Term begins	Monday 7 September
Half term begins	Friday 16 October
Boarders return	Sunday 1 November
Term resumes	Monday 2 November
Term ends and Boarders depart	Wednesday 16 December

Spring Term 2027

Boarders return	Monday 4 January
Term begins	Tuesday 5 January
Half term begins	Friday 12 February
Boarders return	Sunday 21 February
Term resumes	Monday 22 February
Term ends and Boarders depart	Thursday 25 March

Summer Term 2027

Boarders return	Sunday 18 April
Term begins	Monday 19 April
Half term begins	Friday 28 May
Boarders return	Sunday 6 June
Term resumes	Monday 7 June
Term ends and Boarders depart	Thursday 8 July

Year group nomenclature

Sidcot	National Curriculum	Sidcot	National Curriculum
Reception	Reception	Lower Fifth (L5)	Year 10
J1 to J6	Year 1 to Year 6	Upper Fifth (U5)	Year 11
Third Form (3)	Year 7	Lower Sixth (L6)	Year 12
Lower Fourth (L4)	Year 8	Upper Sixth (U6)	Year 13
Upper Fourth (U4)	Year 9		

Welcome to our Third Form students

Welcome to the start of your incredible Sidcot Senior School journey! The Third Form Team and I are delighted that you will be joining us. We are looking forward to guiding you through this exciting new chapter of your life.

The Third Form is a time of adventure, exploration and growth. You are about to embark on a journey filled with new experiences, friendships and opportunities to discover your passions and talents. Maybe you'd like to join the choir, star in a show or learn to skateboard? You could participate in a maths challenge or join our Dungeons and Dragons club. Have you ever tried throwing a pot, riding a horse or surfing? It all awaits you here.

We view Third Form as an adventure: you will navigate through new subjects, participate in diverse extracurricular activities and engage in a variety of projects and challenges. Along the way, you will meet new friends, work with inspiring teachers and become part of a community that values curiosity, creativity and collaboration.

As a Quaker school, we embrace our values of equality, simplicity, peace, truth and sustainability. These principles will be at the heart of your Third Form experience. We believe in fostering

a supportive and inclusive environment where every student is encouraged to be true to themselves and to respect the light within others. Our Quaker values will guide us as we learn together, resolve conflicts and build a strong, compassionate community.

In this Handbook, you will find everything you need to know to start your journey confidently and enthusiastically. From important information about the School timetable and facilities to tips on making the most of your Third Form experience, this guide is here to help you every step of the way.

Remember, every great adventure has its ups and downs - and that's okay. Embrace each moment with an open mind and a positive attitude. We are here to support you, cheer you on and help you to overcome any bumps in the road.

Get ready to learn, grow and make memories that will last a lifetime. Welcome to Third Form — start living adventurously!



Kate Jones
Head of Third Form

Induction Day & first day of term

Induction Day – Friday 4 September

To make sure Third Form students have the most comfortable start, we invite them for an Induction Day to acquaint themselves with their new classmates following the summer holidays and to familiarise themselves with the Senior School before the rest of the students return on Monday 7 September.

On Induction Day, your child will be introduced to their tutor and shown where their tutor group classroom and locker will be. Once School starts your child's tutor will be your first point of contact should you have any questions.

Students should wear winter School uniform; they may wear either black opaque tights or white ankle socks if wearing a skirt.

They should bring their device (please ensure that it is fully charged and that your child knows the

password to access it), a pencil case and named water bottle along with their summer reading transition work.

There will be an opportunity to meet with your child's tutor and Head of Year at the end of the day.

An invitation and further details will be provided nearer the event.

First day of term – Monday 7 September

On the first day of term students should report to their tutor in their classroom at 08:25. Parents should drop their child off at the Senior Drop Off and Pick Up point. A member of staff will be on hand to direct them if they are unsure where to go. There is a map of the campus at the back of this guide for reference.

If your child is travelling by School transport they will be shown where to get the bus home during Induction Day.

Parents' social events

Boundary Walk – Thursday 10 September

The Boundary Walk is a long standing tradition where students walk around our beautiful campus together. Parents are also invited to enjoy the walk with us and refreshments are served afterwards.

New Parents Drinks & Hog Roast – Friday 11 September

We warmly invite all new parents to join the Head and members of staff for drinks—an opportunity to meet one another and become acquainted with the School. This is followed by a Hog Roast to which all parents are invited.

Please be aware that this is an adult-only evening event.

An invitation with further details will be sent nearer the time.

What to bring

Stationery

The basic stationery students require is as follows:

- 2 black or blue pens
- 1 purple and 1 green pen
- 2 pencils
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Ruler
- Compass
- Protractor
- Calculator - Casio FX-85GTCW+

The following are also useful to have:

- Coloured pens or pencils
- Glue stick
- Highlighters

All of the above items are available from the library stationery shop and can be added to the termly extras bill.

Extras

- Lanyard/photo ID
- Fully charged device
- Refillable named water bottle

Sports Kit

On days when students have Games lessons they will be responsible for bringing the correct clothing. There are some compulsory elements of sports clothing and other optional elements. Some elements will also vary depending on the season.

On Thursdays students should attend School wearing their House t-shirt and Sidcot tracksuit bottoms or leggings in preparation for PASS. Students should bring their sports kit on the first day of term. A full sportswear guide can be found at sidcot.org.uk/uniform.

Drop off and pick up

Students should be delivered to the Senior Drop-off by the Science Block (which is signposted as the 'drop off point') no later than 08:25 each morning. Lessons finish at 15:50 (16:00 on Thursday) and students can be picked up from this time from the same car park.

Day students are welcome to stay for activities, prep and supper every evening if they wish at no extra cost, although there may be a charge for some of the activities on offer. The latest pick up time is 18:30.

If you are going to be late, please email or telephone Reception (reception@sidcot.org.uk or **01934 843102**) who will forward the information to your child's tutor and Head of Year.

Should your child be absent due to illness, please call 01934 845245 before 08.30. If your child misses registration, or is leaving early, they must go to Reception to sign in or out.

In order to avoid too many traffic issues, Sidcot has an unofficial one-way system. Please turn into Fountain Lane at the traffic lights passing the Quaker Meeting House on the right and then turn left into the Senior Drop-off area. After dropping off your child(ren), turn left to rejoin Oakridge Lane and make your way out to the A38.

Photo ID cards

All students will be given a photo ID card and lanyard which must be worn at all times. The School is a secure site and the card allows access to different parts of the School which has keypads at all entry points.

Please email a 'head and shoulders' photo of your child as soon as possible prior to arrival to **admissions@sidcot.org.uk**.

Lost cards can be replaced, at a cost of £5.00, Your child can arrange this through their tutor.

Students who have provided their photos will be issued with their ID card on Induction Day.

Lockers

Each student is allocated a locker where they can keep their personal belongings. They will need to bring a lock with two keys or a combination lock.

The shackle should have a diameter of no more than 5mm. At the end of each term students will be asked to clear their lockers completely.

Uniform

At Sidcot, all students from Third to Fifth Form wear uniform. There is a comprehensive clothing range available to ensure students can be comfortable and smart both inside and outside the classroom.

Full information about Sidcot's regulations regarding uniform, dress code and possessions in School can be found at **sidcot.org.uk/uniform**

On Thursdays, unless otherwise notified, all students should attend School wearing their House T-shirt and Sidcot PE kit (including tracksuit bottoms or leggings) in readiness for their PASS activities.

If you have any queries, please email **uniform@sidcot.org.uk**

All Sidcot School uniform can be bought online. Alternatively, you can purchase all uniform through Deanes of Cheddar.

Deanes of Cheddar, Bath Street
Cheddar, Somerset BS27 3AA

Telephone: 01934 742530
Email: info@deanesofcheddar.co.uk

Deanes of Cheddar Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 09:00-17:00
(closed 13:00-14:00)

Saturday: 09:00-13:00

Friday and Sunday: Closed

The House system

All students and staff at Sidcot are assigned to a virtual House when they join our School community - North House (yellow), South House (green), East House (blue), West House (red). The House system helps students to build friendships across the year groups and provides a focus for School events and activities throughout the year.

These include House sports, 'Sidcot's Got Talent', team building activities, inter-House competitions, charity fundraising and much more.

Students are notified before they join which House they have been assigned to. They will need a House t-shirt in the appropriate colour to wear for House activities and PASS.

Food

Students have break at 11:15 where they will be offered a hot or cold drink, biscuits and fruit. Lunch break is at 13:05.

Our menus are varied, balanced and healthy and full of fresh local ingredients. You can view a sample of our weekly menu on the website:

sidcot.org.uk/parent-information/food

Straight after School, students may help themselves to a hot or cold drink in the Refectory. Lunch is billed separately while break and supper are included in the School fees.

The Hub is Sidcot's café where students can buy drinks and snacks, smoothies, paninis and fruit pots. Access to the Hub is limited to certain days of the week for each year group. As mobile phones are not permitted in School, students can use their photo ID card to make purchases from the Hub. Credit can be added to the ID card using WisePay – parents can access this via **My School Portal**.

Log in details will be sent during the first week of term.

Digital technology in the classroom

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Technology is a significant part of all our lives. The way we do things around the home and the way we do things at work are constantly changing as the technology develops.

There is plenty of research evidence to support the value that technology brings to the educational experience including improved communication, practical research, collaboration, self-management, and digital citizenship.

Who is required to have an IT device at Sidcot?

From Junior Year 6 and in the Senior School, all students are expected to have their own IT device, that meets our minimum specification, that they bring into School for use in lessons. If students or parents are unsure whether it meets the required specification, please email byod@sidcot.org.uk where the team will be happy to advise and help.

To maintain a safe and secure learning environment, a filtered Internet connection will be provided for all students. They will not be permitted to use a personal broadband connection such as a 3G/4G/5G phone network.

Who is responsible for IT devices in School?

Students are solely responsible for their device. They must bring it fully charged to School. As with other personally owned items, the School is not liable for loss, damage, misuse, or theft. Please arrange your own insurance cover for your child's personal belongings either through the Personal Effects Insurance (offered by the School), or by your own arrangements.

Required Device Specification:

MUST be a Microsoft Windows based device - other operating systems may work but aren't supported by our IT department and teaching staff may not be familiar with their use.

The recommended specification is for the device to have a minimum of 16GB RAM and at least a 128GB Hard Drive (SSD preferred)

10" screen or larger - 10" is the minimum to ensure students can see the work they need to complete easily.

Must be able to use a stylus - This is so notes can be taken in the lessons and any work requiring to be handwritten could be done on the device.

Has a keyboard (in-built or detachable) - A keyboard is needed to assist with tasks that require more typing e.g. essays or project write-ups.

Battery life - 5 hours or more to ensure that only minimal or no charging is needed during the day.

IMPORTANT: The device should not have mobile data e.g. 4G/5G etc.

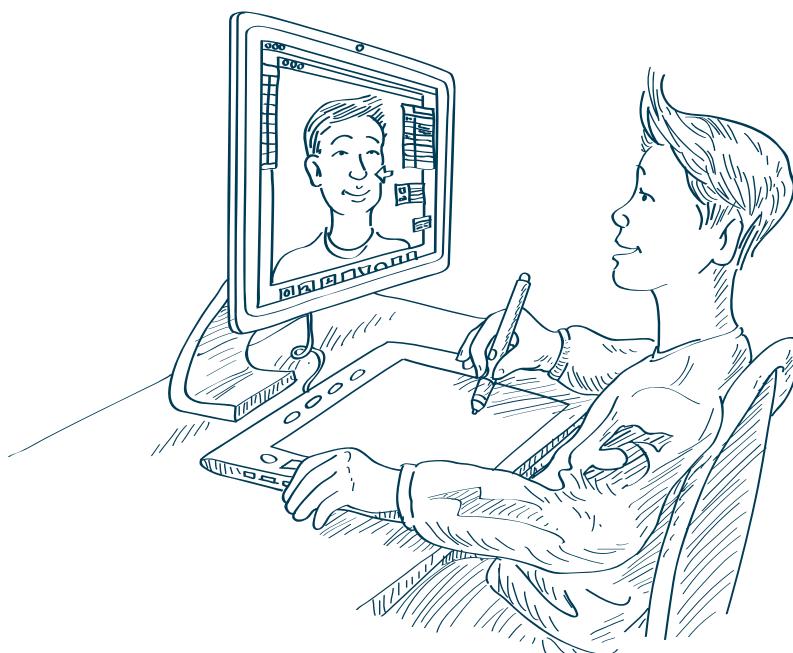
Free access to Microsoft Office for all Sidcot BYOD users - This can be downloaded and used for free from the School whilst your child is a student at Sidcot.

Purchasing a device

We can source devices from a variety of vendors and can also offer refurbished devices at very competitive prices. This is then charged to your next bill. We will configure this device, install the Microsoft Office Suite, printers and include shortcuts to relevant software and web links so that it works perfectly at Sidcot, at no additional charge. We normally do this in June/July each year to allow for delivery and configuration ready for a September start, but we can purchase at any

time if your child starts during the School year. If you are interested in this for your child, please email **byod@sidcot.org.uk** so that we can contact you with any of our offerings.

If you wish to purchase your own device, ideally it needs to be set up in advance of your child starting at Sidcot. Contact us by emailing byod@sidcot.org.uk to arrange this free of charge service.



Mobile phones in School

Sidcot School operates a no mobile phone policy for all students in Third to Fifth Form. In line with this policy, students travelling to School on School transport may bring a mobile phone, but it must be handed in at Reception each morning on arrival.

If you need to contact your child in an emergency during the School day, please contact Reception and a message will be passed on.

Thank you for your continued support of this policy, which aligns with current Government guidance.

Smart Glasses Policy

To support student safeguarding and maintain academic integrity, the School does not permit the use or wearing of “smart glasses” (e.g. Meta/Ray-Ban smart glasses or similar wearable devices with recording or AI capabilities) on School premises.

These devices often include discreet cameras, audio recording, and real-time information access, which present significant risks in a school environment.

This rule applies to **all** students, **including** those in the Sixth Form.

Parents are therefore asked not to purchase smart glasses for their child for use in School, including as prescription eyewear. Students who wear smart glasses will be required to remove them and may be subject to sanctions in line with the School’s behaviour policy.

If prescription glasses are required, these must be standard (non-smart) lenses.

The Blue Book

At the beginning of the autumn term, students will be given access to ‘The Blue Book’ which clearly outlines rules and guidelines for behaviour at School.

It is important that students carefully read this booklet so they are clear about expectations at Sidcot, which will help them settle in smoothly.

Flexi boarding

Recognising the changing needs of families, our approach to boarding is flexible. As well as full boarding, options for both weekly and flexi boarding may be available. Whilst the majority of our boarders are full time, we are happy to discuss other options to meet particular needs.

The cost of flexi boarding is £64.00 per night and is dependent on availability. A flexi boarding form must be completed and sent to **flexiboarding@sidcot.org.uk** at least five working days prior.

Meeting for Worship

Our Third Form meet twice a week for Meeting for Worship: once with other year groups in the Large Meeting House and once as a separate year group in the Small Meeting House.

Meeting for Worship is a silent meeting during which student Quaker Elders and Quaker Representatives introduce their chosen quote. Later, during the silence a 'Quaker Take' on the quote is read followed by two questions for reflection. There is often also opportunity for discussion of the quotes during the Third Form Meeting for Worship.

Students from all year groups have the opportunity to become Quaker Elders or Quaker Representatives and join the Quaker Team.



Keeping in touch with parents

We make every effort to provide parents with useful dates and information as well as news of what is happening at School.

Newsletter

All parents receive a weekly newsletter summarising all that is happening across the School. Each newsletter includes a message from the Head, as well as news about trips and visiting speakers, and updates on performances and achievements from different departments.

My School Portal

Parents will be emailed instructions during the first week of term which enables them to create an account in **My School Portal**. They can access information about their child's timetable, and keep up to date with their homework, performance and attendance, as well as accessing WisePay and information about sports fixtures.

Calendar

The School community has access to a live electronic calendar which provides the latest and most up to date information about events, activities, trips and sports fixtures:

sidcot.org.uk/calendar

Parent Planner and Emails

On a Friday afternoon, within the weekly newsletter, all Senior School parents receive the Parent Planner, accessed via a button at the top of the newsletter. This document consolidates all School communication into one document and provides vital information for all parents and for specific year groups. Where necessary, when a communication is urgent or specific to only a small number of parents, a separate email will be sent directly to the relevant parents.

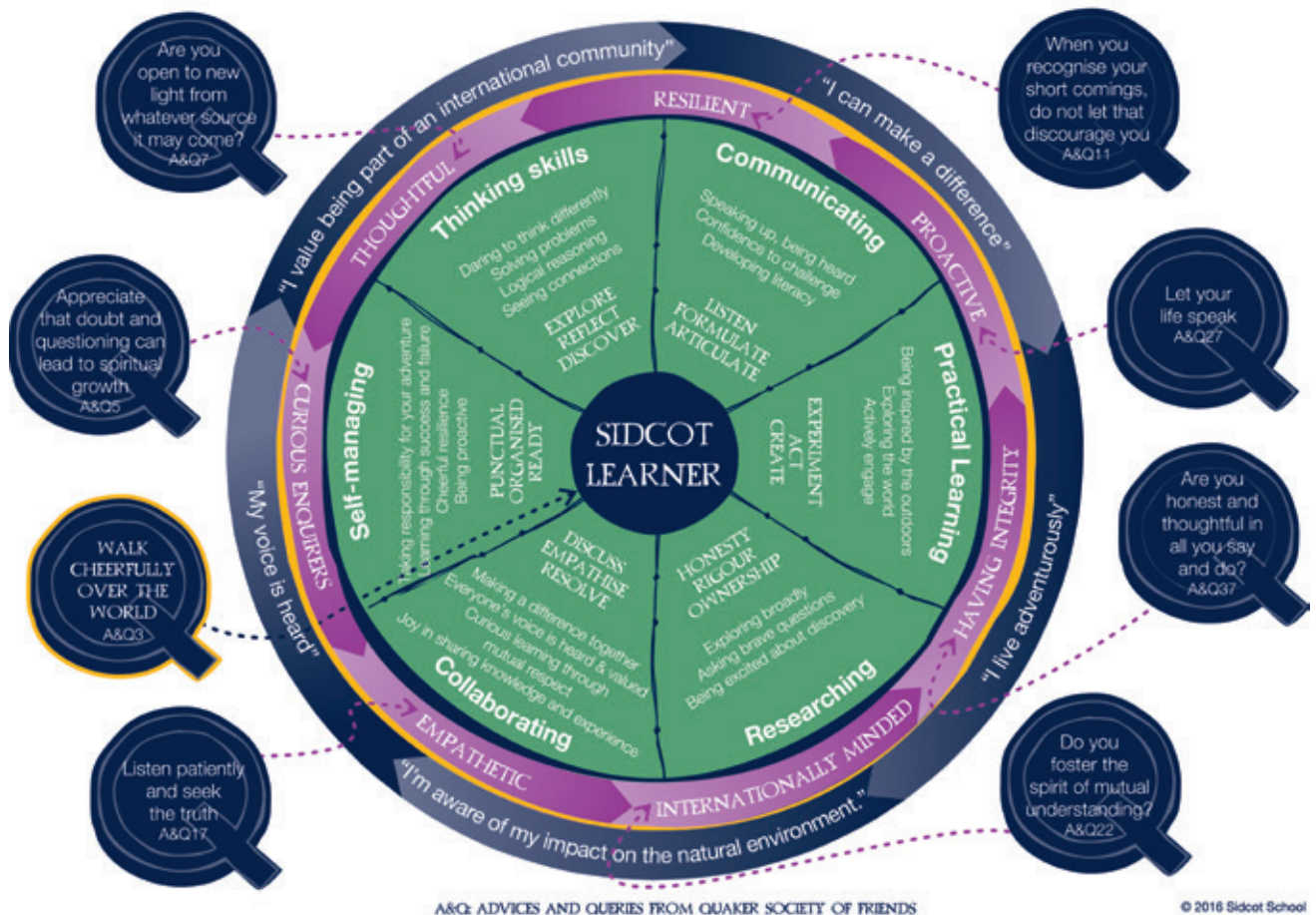
Annual consent

During the first week of term, parents will receive a request for a number of consents including medical, media and School trips. Please could these be completed upon receipt.



Our approach to teaching and learning

The Sidcot Learning Wheel



Enrichment programmes

At Sidcot, we are proud to celebrate the exceptional abilities of our students, through our Scholarship, Lead Learner and Gifted and Talented enrichment programmes. These aim to provide our most able students with a range of opportunities to stretch and challenge themselves, both inside and outside of the classroom - be it through extra occasions to practise or showcase a talent,

access to expert speakers or courses, delivering stimulating projects or through inspiring and supporting younger students in the School.

More information may be found here:

sidcot.org.uk/senior/academic/academic-enrichment

School routine

Monday

08:30 – 08:55	Registration / PSHE
09:00 – 09:30	MFW / Assembly
09:35 – 10:25	Period 2
10:25 – 11:15	Period 3
11:15 – 11:35	Break
11:35 – 12:25	Period 4
12:25 – 13:15	Period 5
13:05	Lunch (Y7)
13:10	Lunch (Y11)
13:15 – 14:05	Lunch Rota (Y8-Y10)
14:05 – 15:00	Period 6 (including PM Registration)
15:00 – 15:50	Period 7
16:00 – 17:00	Activities/Prep
17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
17:35	Y7-11 Boarders' Supper
17:45	Sixth Form Supper
17:55	Y7-11 Day Supper

Tuesday

08:30 – 08:45	Tutor Time / Registration
08:45 – 09:35	Period 1
09:35 – 10:25	Period 2
10:25 – 11:15	Period 3
11:15 – 11:35	Break
11:35 – 12:25	Period 4
12:25 – 13:15	Period 5
13:05	Lunch (Y7)
13:10	Lunch (Y11)
13:15 – 14:05	Lunch Rota (Y8-Y10)
14:05 – 15:00	Period 6 (including PM Registration)
15:00 – 15:50	Period 7
16:00 – 17:00	Period 8 Activities/Prep
17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
17:35	Y7-11 Boarders' Supper
17:45	Sixth Form Supper
17:55	Y7-11 Day Supper

Wednesday

08:30 – 08:45	Tutor Time / Registration
08:45 – 09:35	Period 1
09:35 – 10:25	Period 2
10:25 – 11:15	Period 3
11:15 – 11:35	Break
11:35 – 12:25	Period 4
12:25 – 13:15	Period 5
13:05	Lunch (Y7)
13:10	Lunch (Y11)
13:15 – 14:05	Lunch Rota (Y8-Y10)
14:05 – 15:00	Period 6 (including PM Registration)
15:00 – 15:50	Period 7
16:00 – 17:00	Period 8 Activities/Prep
17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
17:35	Y7-11 Boarders' Supper
17:45	Sixth Form Supper
17:55	Y7-11 Day Supper

Thursday

08:30 – 08:45	Tutor Time / Registration
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08:45 – 09:35	Period 1
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09:35 – 10:25	Period 2
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10:25 – 11:15	Period 3
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11:15 – 11:35	Break
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11:35 – 12:25	Period 4
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12:25 – 13:15	Period 5
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13:05	Lunch (Y7)
13:10	Lunch (Y11)
13:15 – 14:05	Lunch Rota (Y8-Y10)

13:55 – 14:00	Registration in Tutor
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14:00 – 16:00	PASS/Sixth Form Games
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16:00 – 17:00	Activities/Prep
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17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
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17:35	Y7-11 Boarders' Supper
17:45	Sixth Form Supper
17:55	Y7-11 Day Supper

Friday

08:30 – 08:55	Registration / PSHE
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09:00 – 09:30	MFW / Assembly
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09:35 – 10:25	Period 2
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10:25 – 11:15	Period 3
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11:15 – 11:35	Break
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11:35 – 12:25	Period 4
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12:25 – 13:15	Period 5
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13:05	Lunch (Y7)
13:10	Lunch (Y11)
13:15 – 14:05	Lunch Rota (Y8-Y10)

14:05 – 15:00	Period 6 (including PM Registration)
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15:00 – 15:50	Period 7
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16:00 – 17:00	Period 8 Activities/Prep
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17:00 – 18:00	Activities/Prep
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17:35	Y7-11 Boarders' Supper
17:45	Sixth Form Supper
17:55	Y7-11 Day Supper

- 'PASS' (Programme of Activities for Sidcot School); a wonderful co-curricular programme based on our key themes of Living Adventurously, living out our Quaker values, being an Ashoka Changemaker School and providing opportunities to develop leadership skills and team building. Students will have the opportunity to choose the activities that they wish to join in throughout the year. Students across the whole School will participate in the activities alongside each other thus promoting community spirit through the vertical structure of the programme.

Curriculum outline

English

English is a central subject of a school curriculum and Third Form are encouraged to develop their written and oral proficiency, nurturing a love of literature and encouraging a widening vocabulary to facilitate the fluency of rational thought. Students here are not passive recipients of education but enjoy being as active as possible in the learning process. Teaching materials are stimulating and we seek to create as many meaningful and active learning situations as possible with whole classes, individuals, pairs and small groups, to cater for the different preferred methods of learning. All students are encouraged to read, developing an enjoyment and appreciation of a wide range of demanding, stimulating texts; whilst the class readers help students to traverse their social boundaries and appreciate writers' language choices. The teaching of Language and Literature is integrated, as literature is an invaluable resource for language teaching and lies at the heart of all we do.

In our four lessons a week we practise a wide range of skills and sharpen accuracy whilst experimenting with a wide range of genres and voices. Analysis is taught explicitly, and AQA assessment demands are introduced to build confidence in analysing writer intent. Class readers may include a selection of: Skellig, Private Peaceful, A Monster Calls, The Hobbit and a whole Shakespeare play, (often A Midsummer Night's Dream) and a wide range of non-fiction writing and poetry. Creative writing competitions are popular, and we offer theatre trips and enjoy many creative writing workshops and author visits to enable creativity to flourish. Debate and topical discussion are features of most lessons and we use our Library frequently to extend independent reading materials.

We set in Lower Fourth (Year 8), often with just a top group and if necessary a "nurture" group in which concrete literacy skills are secured. Assessments are termly and shared across all three teaching groups and core skills tracked to inform planning and teaching.

Mathematics

Mathematics in Third Form concentrates on developing students' ability to apply their skills and problem solve. In the first term there is a carousel where the study of number, algebra, shape and data handling is delivered through an investigative process delivered by all of the team teaching in the year group. This will be in mixed ability groups, with setting taking place at the end of the term using entry data, investigative task outcomes, an end of term assessment and the professional judgement of the teachers who will have met all of the students.

The groups will then be regularly reassessed and any further changes will be made as needed. We aim to develop a good knowledge base in the Third Form along with problem solving skills. The ability to apply knowledge developed in the Lower School allows students to access the higher tier problems later in their school life.

Science

In the Third Form, students have four Science lessons per week, taught by a single teacher throughout the year. The course is divided into three subjects: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, with roughly nine weeks dedicated to each.

The topics covered include:

- **Biology:** Cells, Body Systems, and Reproduction
- **Chemistry:** Particles and Their Behaviour, Reactions, Acids and Alkalis
- **Physics:** Forces, Space, Sound and Light

Additionally, students will engage in a skills-based module themed "Mission to Mars."

During the summer term, Third Form students practice fieldwork techniques, which will support their studies in the Lower Fourth.

Curriculum outline

Humanities

Students study three Humanities subjects, **History**, **Geography** and **Religion, Ethics and Philosophy (REP)**. They have two lessons a week in History and Geography and one in REP. All Humanities lessons are taught in mixed ability groups in the Third Form.

The **Geography** curriculum aims to develop students' knowledge, skills, curiosity and understanding of the world around them. Through the study of human and physical geography, students explore diverse places, environments and global issues, while building key cross-curricular skills such as map work, fieldwork, literacy, numeracy and ICT. In Third Form, students begin with mapping skills in *How Do I Find My Way?*, followed by *Life in the Middle East*, exploring climate and desert living, and conclude with *Can We Save the World?*, introducing major global and environmental challenges. This allows students to build a broad imagination of the world, while still covering key geographical themes.

In **REP**, students develop their views on a variety of ethical and philosophical questions, whilst analysing diverse perspectives including Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Humanism.

In **History**, students study enquiry led studies of the medieval and early modern world. We encourage students to move beyond identifying key points in medieval and early modern history – which includes the Norman Conquest, Black Death, Reformation and Medieval China – to analysing their significance, impact and causes.

Languages

All students study French in Third Form and will be set into three groups depending on how much French they have done in their primary schools. The students sit a short test in their first lesson to decide the groups and will be assessed and monitored regularly to see if anyone needs to move groups. All students will eventually complete the Studio 1 textbook (although Set 3 will begin with transitional work using resources from the Access Studio book). They have three 50-minute French lessons per week.

In the Lower Fourth they will take up a second language; choosing between Spanish, German and French. In order to make an informed decision they will have a carousel of all three languages in the summer term of Third Form.

We run a bi-annual trip to Normandy in July for our Third Form and Lower Fourth students which is a four day stay in a French farmhouse and includes sporting activities such as Go Ape, land yachting and kayaking, as well as cultural activities such as visiting La Falaise Castle. They will also visit a French school and complete a challenge in a French market. Furthermore they will have a crêpe-making session and BBQ. This is a great opportunity to experience life in France and enjoy some time having fun with their peers. There are also other opportunities to get involved with language activities such as the International Week of Languages and the Cashmore Poetry Word Slam Competition.

Visual Arts

In Third Form, students receive a weekly 100 minute Art lesson and rotate through the three specialist areas of the department on a ten week carousel. The carousel includes **Digital Media** (photography, animation, film and digital art), **Fine Art** (drawing, painting and printmaking), and **3D Art**, where students work with ceramics and sculptural materials.

Work throughout the year is linked by a shared theme, helping students to make connections across disciplines. Each pupil is issued with a sketchbook, used for developing ideas, recording experiments and supporting both classroom learning and independent creative work. Current Third Form projects include large collaborative coil built ceramic pieces, stop frame animation created using iPads and laptops, painting with watercolour and oil, and introductory etching techniques. There are weekly after-school activities allowing students additional time to develop skills and extend class projects.

The year ends with our annual Bridging Exhibition, where all students have work displayed. Families and friends are invited to a private view celebrating students' progress and creative development.

Curriculum outline

Music

Students receive one 50-minute Music lesson per week. Topics covered are Rhythm & Pulse; Form and Structure; Instruments of the Orchestra and Folk Music. All Third Form students also sing in our Intermezzo choir. Instrumental students are also welcome to join any of a number of bands and ensembles rehearsing on a weekly basis for a variety of concerts throughout the year.

Drama

Drama is all about students slowly building up a tool box of drama techniques which they then develop as they progress up the School. Each half term they are working on a new style/thematic topic and the drama conventions taught and their growing complexity are carefully scaffolded so when students reach Upper Fourth (Year 9) they are in a strong position to take on a GCSE standard of work should they decide to take Drama. They will cover a range of themes and styles from an introduction to naturalism as well as building skills in teamwork, cohesion, communication and confidence. At the end of the year, Third Form have the opportunity to perform in a whole year group production.

Design Technology

Food Technology, Product Design, Textiles and Computing are taught on a carousel basis. Students spend eight weeks in each area during the year. All the rooms are fully equipped and dedicated for the teaching of that subject.

- **Food Technology**

Students gain confidence and basic food preparation skills through practical cooking and investigation activities into different food groups. They are introduced to the theoretical principles behind food and study nutritional aspects of the dishes they are creating.

- **Product Design**

Through a design and make assignment, students learn foundational design communication skills, information about polymers and workshop familiarisation and safety. Their task is to design and make an acrylic clock inspired by the 1980s Memphis design movement.

- **Textiles**

In Third Form students look closely at the impact of plastic pollution and create their own backpack 'Bag for Life' in response to the problem. They learn about natural and synthetic fibres and go on to dye their own cotton base fabric. Designing is in response to a moodboard created from student research. Decoration and embellishment techniques are taught and incorporated on to the bag and the product is fully lined with contrast fabric.

This intensive eight-week project exposes the students to using a sewing machine and safe ironing to achieve a high quality finished bag that addresses major ecological issues.

- **Computing**

Computing is taught as part of the technology carousel and as a one hour lesson per week. In the first term, students are given an introduction to the School's computer system and information about e-safety. This enables them to work safely and efficiently. Students then study topics on spreadsheets, algorithms and magazine publishing. In the summer term, students study programming and use Scratch and BBC Microbits to explore different programming techniques.

Monitoring progress

Progress reports are issued electronically on a termly basis to keep parents up to date with students' progress. These reports include effort and achievement grades.

Parents receive a full written report in the spring term.

During the first half term of the academic year, we hold a Third Form 'settling evening' where parents have a chance to meet subject teachers and learn about how their children have settled into School.

An annual face-to-face Parents' Consultation Evening is held in the summer term. This provides an opportunity to meet students' subject teachers and hear about their progress in more detail.

Third Form students also have an assessment week during the summer term.

Student potential is measured using Cognitive Ability Tests, taken in the first term of Third Form. The results help us to better monitor student progress throughout the School and ensure that each child is working to their full potential.

Parents create a login to access **My School Portal** where they can access information about their child's timetable, and keep up to date with their homework, performance and attendance.

Homework

Homework is referred to as prep, and can be completed in School if preferred. Day students should book a place on SchoolsBuddy if they plan to stay for prep/supper. Prep finishes at 18:00. Latest pick up (for Third Formers) is 18:30 by which time they will have completed prep and had supper. We offer designated classrooms for prep at specified times supervised by teachers. There is no extra charge for prep and supper.

Prep will be set every day through your child's Microsoft Teams and should take 30-60 minutes in total. Third Form students typically receive 20 minutes of prep per subject per week.

Parents are able to view their child's prep in **My School Portal**.

Third Form Boys' PE & Games Curriculum

This programme is subject to change.

Autumn Term - Rugby Season

Games	Rugby Sports Fields & 3G (Studded Boots, Gum Shield, Games Kit)	Res Run!	HALF TERM	Res Run!	Rugby Sports Fields & 3G (Studded Boots, Gum Shield, Games Kit)	Football Sports Fields & 3G (Studded Boots, Gum Shield, Games Kit)
P.E.	Swimming		HALF TERM	Fundamental Movement Skills/Basketball Sports Hall		

Spring Term - Football Season

Games	Football Sports Fields & 3G (Shin Pads, Studded Boots, Games Kit)	HALF TERM	Hockey Astro Turf (Shin Pads, Trainers, Gum Shield, Games Kit)
P.E.	Swimming	HALF TERM	Fundamental Movement Skills/Basketball Sports Hall

Summer Term - Cricket and Athletics Season

Games	Track and Field Athletics Playing Fields (Trainers)	HALF TERM	Track and Field Athletics Playing Fields (Trainers)
P.E.	Cricket Playing Fields/Astro (Cricket Whites, Trainers/Spikes)	HALF TERM	Cricket - Striking Fielding Games Yard or Gardens (Cricket Whites, Trainers/Spikes)

Third Form Girls' PE & Games Curriculum

This programme is subject to change.

Autumn Term - Netball Season

Games	Netball Courts or Sports Hall (Trainers)	Res Run!	HALF TERM	Res Run!	Rugby Sports Field (Football Boots, Gum Shield)
P.E.	Fundamental Movement Skills/Badminton Sports Hall/Studio		HALF TERM	Swimming	

Spring Term - Hockey Season

Games	Hockey Astro (Astro's/Trainers, Shin Pads, Gum Shield)	HALF TERM	Football Astro (Football Boots, Shin Pads, Gum Shield)		
P.E.	Fundamental Movement Skills/Gym/Dance Sports Hall/Studio		HALF TERM	Swimming	

Summer Term - Rounders and Athletics Season

Games	Track and Field Athletics Fields (Trainers)	HALF TERM	Rounders Fields (Trainers)		
P.E.	Rounders Junior School Field/Gardens/Playing Fields		HALF TERM	Track and Field Athletics Fields (Trainers)	

Sports fixtures

Sports fixtures are finalised in the first week of each term and go live for parents to see on our sports fixtures site which can be accessed via **My School Portal**.

When the team is selected you will be able to view it via the SOCS widget on **My School Portal** using the password included in the title.

A hard copy of the fixture and team list is also posted on the notice boards in the Sports Centre

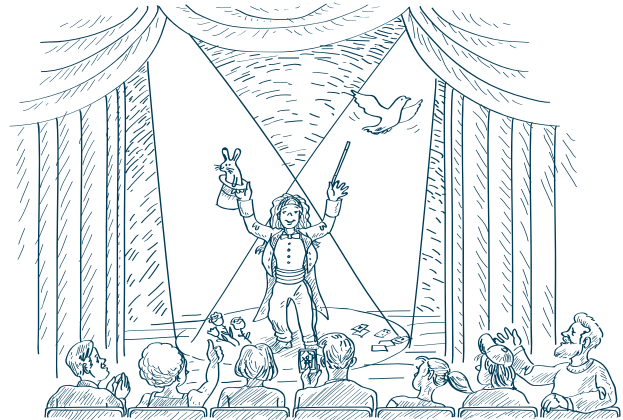
and in each Games and PE Lesson. When there is a fixture approaching the Sports department ensure the children know all the important details including venues, times and the required kit.

In order to be considered to represent a School team students must attend after-school training sessions. Training sessions and fixtures should be booked using SchoolsBuddy.

Extra-curricular activities

At Sidcot we're lucky to be situated in a beautiful rural location and have excellent facilities for sport, arts, crafts and environmental studies, as well as links with local community groups, charities and businesses.

Activities run at lunchtime and after-school. We ensure our students have a wide range of opportunities to try new things as well as developing existing interests. The activities available to your child can be found on SchoolsBuddy via **My School Portal**.



Third Form activity week

During the summer term our Third Formers enjoy a week of fun activities, both on and off campus, including our Senior Sports Day.

PASS (Programme of Activities for Sidcot School)

On Thursday afternoons all students take part in PASS. Students choose and book activities through SchoolsBuddy. They will be told about the choice available to them during the first week of term.

Students select activities to last for half a term, and choose either one x two hour activity, or two x one hour activities. Children should wear

their House t-shirt along with Sidcot sports kit on Thursdays.

As part of PASS, Third Formers are asked to sign up for choir for a one hour weekly session in the second half of the autumn and spring terms in preparation for taking part in our Christmas and Easter concerts.

SchoolsBuddy

SchoolsBuddy allows our parents to view the range of activities available to our students. The system allows you to easily book your child onto our lunchtime and after-school activities, our prep sessions, supper and PASS activities. It's important that parents use this system to let the School know what your child will be doing after School.

If your child is remaining on campus after School, they must be signed up to an activity or prep.

All new parents and students will receive a SchoolsBuddy activation email, so please look out for it in your mailbox. This system will be activated on the first week of term. As this is a new software system, you will be required to click on the link in the email to activate your SchoolsBuddy account.

Once you have registered you will be able to view the co-curricular activities and prep sessions available.

Please activate using the Google Chrome Web Browser. Once your account is activated, you can then download the 'SchoolsBuddy' app on iOS or Android.

SchoolsBuddy is very simple to use, but please find below a link to a user guide:

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/uqyo/ktbv>

SchoolsBuddy may be accessed via **My School Portal**.

Should you have any questions please contact: **itsupport.parents@sidcot.org.uk**

Additional fees

Specialist tuition

Sidcot School offers specialist tuition in a wide range of subjects and activities including Music, Drama and Sports. Learning Support is available for those with a desire for booster lessons or with specific learning needs. If you would like or need specialist tuition please email the relevant Department Head to organise and book the lessons for the following term.

Additional charges for individual and group lessons

For Music lessons, charges are payable in arrears. Lessons missed through School trips will, wherever possible be rescheduled. However, lessons that are missed without notification to the relevant member of staff or due to pupil sickness or non receipt of payment will not be rescheduled. A four-week notice of cessation is required in writing to the Director of Music, Sidcot School, Oakridge Lane, Winscombe, North Somerset, BS25 1PD or email: paul.woolley@sidcot.org.uk

Your child's instrumental music lesson timetable may be found via the Involve link on the **My School Portal** dashboard.

The rate for all individual lessons is £47.00 (except for horse-riding), including Learning Support. The rate for group lessons is £27.00. Lessons usually last for 50 minutes.

Information about our Equestrian offer, including costs, may be found here:

www.sidcot.org.uk/equestrian

Examination charges

Examination Board charges and any access administration charges for external exams (GCSEs, Leiths etc.) which are incurred by the School, are charged to parents. They are billed in advance or in arrears, depending on the exam. The total cost currently averages around £500 - £600 for GCSEs and around £600 - £700 for A Levels.

For those taking IB, the examination charge is approximately £750. University application fees are also passed on to parents through our billing system, if the student/parent does not pay for their application directly.

School Bank details

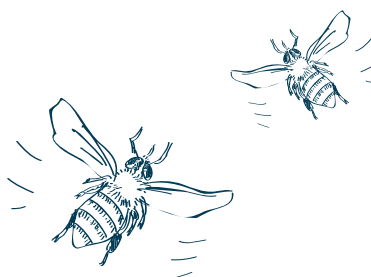
The School will let you know in writing if they are going to change their bank details. To avoid the potential of fraudulent activity, if you do receive such a notification, please ensure that you check the details against those held on the parent portal.

SCPTA

Each year a voluntary £10.00 donation to the Sidcot Community Parent and Teacher Association fund will be added to your spring term extras invoice to support the initiatives of this highly important organisation in School.

Extras

Parental permission will be sought for any trip or activity which incurs a charge of more than £25.00.



Key contacts



Head
James Jones
james.jones@sidcot.org.uk



Head of Third Form
Kate Jones
kate.jones@sidcot.org.uk



Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Samuel Drew
samuel.drew@sidcot.org.uk



Assistant Head (Pastoral)
Alexander Lickorish
alexander.lickorish@sidcot.org.uk



Deputy Head (Academic)
Rowena Hector
rowena.hector@sidcot.org.uk



Assistant Head (Academic)
Kate Champion
kate.champion@sidcot.org.uk

Useful contact information

School reception:	reception@sidcot.org.uk 01934 843102
Student absence:	absence@sidcot.org.uk 01934 845245
Health centre:	health@sidcot.org.uk 01934 845263
School transport:	schoolbus@sidcot.org.uk
Uniform queries:	uniform@sidcot.org.uk
IT queries:	itsupport.parents@sidcot.org.uk

Policies

Full details of our School policies may be found at
sidcot.org.uk/policies

Senior School Floor Plan

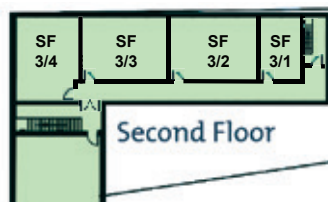
Ground Floor



First Floor



Second Floor



Key

- Classroom
- Corridor / Common Place
- Office / Clerical
- Toilet
- Storage / Technician's Area / Housekeeping
- Boarding House
- Sixth Form



Sidcot

Live Adventurously

- 1 Senior School Reception
- 2 Junior School Reception
- 3 Sports Centre
- 4 Equestrian Centre
- 5 Arts Centre
- 6 Sixth Form Centre
- 7 Trevelyan Library
- 8 Teaching Block
- 9 Science Block
- 10 Meeting House
- 11 Health Centre
- 12 Rose Cottage - Wellbeing Hub
- 13 School House Girls
- 14 School House Boys

- 15 Wing House
- 16 Newcombe House
- 17 Combe House
- 18 Main Car Park
- 19 Junior Car Park
- 20 Senior Drop-Off & Pick Up
- 21 School Garden
- 22 Forest School
- 23 James O'Connell Peace Field
- 24 Junior Sports Field
- 25 Meeting House Bungalow / Facilities Office



For Safeguarding Reasons

Please report to our Senior School Reception (1) if you are visiting our campus.



Sidcot School
Oakridge Lane
Winscombe
North Somerset
BS25 1PD



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    [sidcotschool](#)

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