



Glenalmond College
Space and time to learn

A Guide for International pupils



What sets Glenalmond College apart?



Location & Demographics

Glenalmond College has, without doubt, one of the most stunning locations in the world.

It is a co-educational, full boarding school set in the beautiful Perthshire countryside in Scotland.

- Glenalmond welcomes boys and girls aged 12-18 years.
- Set in over 300 acres, Glenalmond provides a clean, safe and secure environment to learn and develop.
- We are only one hour's drive from Edinburgh or Glasgow airports. Glenalmond is, in fact, quicker to reach from Heathrow than many schools in England.
- Of the 350 pupils who attend Glenalmond, around 85% are full boarders, most of whom take full advantage of school life, seven days a week.
- Most of our British boarders, as well as our international boarders, stay in school at the weekends.
- This means that our pupils speak English all the time, and our international pupils benefit from a truly immersive experience, where their command of the English language goes from strength-to-strength

Provision for International Pupils

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

- We have an excellent specialist EAL department for our international pupils. This provides general EAL teaching, and work with subject teachers to provide subject-specific vocabulary for each pupil
- All pupils who have a native language other than English are given a diagnostic test by the EAL Department upon arrival at Glenalmond.
- Pupils who require EAL will have between three and seven hours of EAL per week. In the Sixth Form they will receive two hours a week if required.
- Pupils can join help sessions to help them prepare for the IELTS exam.
- Pupils are expected to have at least an Intermediate level of English on arrival and they should be able to manage the normal academic curriculum of the school.

Exam entry for international pupils

- Exam entry and qualifications are geared to age and stage. By arrangement with the English Department, international pupils may sit GCSE or A Level examinations in English but we also aim to provide pupils with an internationally recognised qualification.
- From the age of 16 and above, pupils may be entered for the IELTS exam (International English Language Testing System). This excellent qualification is recognised by universities world-wide and allows non-native speakers of English to prove their proficiency in the language which is often needed for university entry or employment later on in life.



Boarding and Pastoral Care

- Boarders stay in school every weekend, including Exeat Weekends and there is a full programme of activities if they wish.
- There are 7 boarding Houses on campus and all of them have internet access.
- Boys houses are Matheson's, Patchell's, Reid's and Skrine's. The girls' houses are Goodacre's, Home and Lothian.
- Dorm sizes vary by House, and age of the pupil. Older pupils will be in single or twin rooms, while younger pupils may be in bedrooms of 2 or 3 others.
- Each house has a Housemaster or Housemistress whose family home is attached to the boarding house.
- There are also Tutors for each house. The Tutors are responsible for a small group of pupils, helping with their academic progress and pastoral care.

Guardianship

- All pupils whose parents do not live in the UK are required to have a designated UK Guardian.
- Guardianship can be facilitated for international pupils.
- Guardian agencies can provide host families for leave-outs and half term holidays, or pupils can choose to stay in school for leave-outs.
- Glenalmond can arrange transport to and from the airport.



Curriculum and Facilities

- Glenalmond pupils follow the English curriculum (GCSEs and A Levels)
- We offer a wide curriculum, with over 25 subjects at A-Level. This means that all pupils are able to select the subjects that best suit their abilities and their university and career ambitions
- International pupils can be helped to sit GCSE or A Levels in their own language
- There is a high level of academic achievement across a broad range of abilities. The value-added scores are high compared to other schools
- One of Glenalmond's academic strengths is our teachers. Most of the full-time teaching staff live on campus, and are dynamic, energetic and committed
- We have excellent facilities for academia, sport, music and drama. This includes a theatre, music recital hall, indoor swimming pool, and sport pitches
- As a full boarding school, we have classes on a Saturday and a full weekend activity programme. With around 85% of our pupils staying in school every weekend, we offer a very wide programme of extra-curricular activities, as well as a variety of clubs and societies to support academic work
- International pupils are encouraged to join clubs and societies, and to take part in the activities available. This helps them integrate with the other pupils, improve their English language skills and enjoy life at Glenalmond



Examples of clubs, societies and activities at Glenalmond College:

Sports

Rugby

Hockey

Cricket

Lacrosse

Dance

Tennis

Cross-country

Athletics

Swimming

Golf

Sailing

Basketball

Climbing

Squash

Football

Fishing

Cycling

Horse-riding

Mountain-biking

Yoga

Zumba

Strength &
Conditioning

Triathlon

Outdoor Activities

Community Service

CCF

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Conservation

Leadership Training

Hill walking (Munro)

Wood Chopping

Paddle Sports

First Aid training

Life-saving

Basic Fire Training

100-mile charity walk

Bushcraft

Orienteering

Canyoning

Bothy trips

Shooting - Small-bore

Shooting - Full-bore

Academic Societies

William Bright Society

Critical Thinking

Gladstone Society

Debating

French speaking

Mandarin speaking

Spanish speaking

Engineering club

Lecture Programme

Art Master Classes

Maths Challenge

Maths Olympiad

Greek

Oxbridge preparation

Geographical Society

Craft and design

Computer club

Amnesty International

Creative Arts

Chapel Choir

Chamber Choir

Choral Society

House Singing

String Orchestra

String Ensembles

Choir Tours

Concert Band

Wind ensembles

Jazz Band

Rock Bands

Pipe Bands

Music Recitals

Cantores

Chamber Music

Musicals

Life drawing

Drama

Film Society

Stagecraft

Theatre trips

Exam Results & Universities

A-Level Exam Results 2022

A-Levels	
Grade	Percentage
A* - A	30%
A* - B	57%
A* - C	82%

GCSE Exam Results 2022

GCSE			
Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A* - A	68%	9-8	23%
A* - B	85%	9-7	47%
A* - C	96%	9-4	91%

Glenalmond College Leavers Destinations 2017-2022

Oxford	4
Cambridge	5
Top Universities	
Glasgow	26
Warwick	5
Newcastle	22
Queen's University Belfast	3
Bristol	14
Cardiff	2
Edinburgh	14
King's College London	2
Durham	12
Nottingham	2
Exeter	12
Queen Mary University of London	2
Manchester	8
Liverpool	2
York	8
Birmingham	1
Bath	7
Imperial College London	1
University College London (UCL)	7
Leeds	1
St Andrews	5
London School of Economics	1



Application Process

The main entry points for pupils to Glenalmond are in Second Form (Year 8), Third Form (Year 9), Fourth Form (Year 10), Fifth Form (Year 11) and Lower Sixth (Year 12) (usually age 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16). We are able to accept pupils in January and April, although most will join Glenalmond in September.

Second Form (Year 8, Age 12)

Entry to the Second Form is subject to our own academic assessment, which involves basic assessments in English and Mathematics, and a Zoom interview. We require a recent school report.

Third Form (Year 9, Age 13)

International prospective pupils take assessments in English and Mathematics and are also required to do a Zoom interview. We will look at school reports for the last year.

Fourth Form (Year 10, Age 14) - GCSE Programme

At 14+ pupils enter immediately into the two year GCSE course and are assessed through assessments in Mathematics and English as well as a Zoom interview. We will look at school reports for the last year.

Fifth Form (Year 11, Age 15)

Entry directly into the Fifth Form is possible and we do offer a one year GCSE programme for pupils joining this year group. The admissions process is the same as for Year 10.

Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13, Age 16-18) - A-Level Programme

For entry into the two year A Level Course, for pupils who have taken GCSEs the minimum entry requirement is 5 GCSE or equivalent standard. For pupils who have not sat GCSE exams, we will look at school reports and ask pupils to sit assessments in Mathematics and English as well as a Zoom interview.

Additional Entry Criteria -

For those whose first language is not English
For those whose first language is not English, we expect, as a minimum, an Intermediate standard (B1/IELTS Grade 4 or equivalent) of written and spoken English in order for pupils to be able to meet the requirements of academic courses. For entry into Years 9 and 10 International pupils are expected to have a lower intermediate level (B1) of English and for entry into Year 12 a higher intermediate level (B2), although this varies according to the age of the pupil and the subjects studied.

Michaelmas Term 2022

Tuesday 6 September - Wednesday 14 December
Half Term: Friday 14 October - Sunday 30 October

Lent Term 2023

Friday 6 January - Friday 24 March
Half Term: Friday 10 February - Sunday 19 February

Trinity Term 2023

Tuesday 18 April - Saturday 1 July
Half Term: Friday 26 May - Sunday 4 June

**For more information please contact the
Director of Admissions by email:**

registrar@glenalmondcollege.co.uk

or by phone

+44 (0)1738 842144



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