



# WELCOME TO BOARDING AT PALACIO DE GRANDA

I am delighted to introduce to you our newly refurbished boarding accommodation which is available to those pupils and families who value our exceptional educational provision alongside the possibility of living onsite.

We are very proud of the care that we provide at Palacio de Granda for our boarding students who thoroughly enjoy their time with us in the evenings and at weekends and within this brochure, we hope that you will learn much about the way in which children are able to develop and grow in a very positive way.

In the past boarding or being sent away to school was thought of as a punishment. However, thanks to 'Harry Potter' and the ease of travelling, parents and students have, in recent years, witnessed the real benefits of their children spending some time away from home in a residential setting.



Support for the students' studies is one of our main aims and dedicated staff are able to offer guidance and encouragement when completing school work in the evening, or for part of the time spent at school during the weekend. This takes some considerable pressure away from busy parents. It also encourages students to become independent but also to work alongside each other and to focus and reach their true potential.

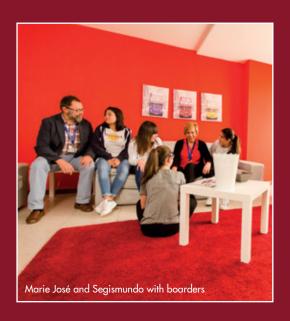
For those who live a little further away and may not wish to travel on long bus journeys, the weekly or flexible options are a great benefit and it also allows families in other parts of Spain to seek an educational package of excellence here at Palacio de Granda in the beautiful surroundings of Asturias. We are also pleased to welcome International boarders from other countries who are keen to learn more about our Spanish culture and to study here with the Spanish curriculum.

You will see in this brochure that we encourage a strong ethos of 'work hard and play hard'. We offer the perfect balance of study with social time and also opportunities to learn and develop life skills which will help the children to grow in confidence, organisation and maturity as they spend some time away from home living here with friends and caring staff. There are extracurricular activities throughout the week and special events and activities at the weekends to both entertain and provide fun and enjoyment in between organised study time.

Please do visit the school and see our boarding facilities for yourself. I look forward to welcoming you for a visit and to introducing you to our dedicated team.

## Anne Stevens

PRINCIPAL



#### THE BOARDING HOUSE TEAM

We are extremely lucky to have our two boarding coordinators: Marie Jose and Segismundo. Together they are responsible for the wellbeing and day to day lives of all the boarders and they keep in very regular contact with parents. Maria Jose is a real mother figure and has an excellent relationship with all the boarders. She is responsible, in particular, for the girls. Segismundo is a Secondary and Bachillerato teacher at school and takes an interest in all the boarders during the working day. He is responsible, in particular, for the boys in the boarding house. Overnight they are supported by a night-watchman.

In addition to the two coordinators there are specialist tutors who help supervise the studies before dinner providing additional support for all subjects, such as English, Spanish Language and Literature, Mathematics and Sciences.

We have resident Graduate Teaching Assistants who are 'big brothers or sisters' to the boarders, acting as the liaison between students and staff.

#### **BOARDING FACILITIES**

The boarding house is an individual building within the school site with a common room / games area, kitchen and medical room on the ground floor. Girls have their rooms on the first floor and the boys on the top floor. Boarders have their own gym facilities and a cosy lounge with a TV and games console. All healthy and balanced meals are cooked on site in our main school kitchens. Dinners and breakfasts are served in the main school dining room, but snacks and drinks are available from the kitchen in the boarding house. There is a full cleaning and laundry service provided and the boarding house has Wi-Fi access.

All students have their own desks in their rooms for private study and also make use of classroom facilities when working with the boarding tutors. Students have access to school facilities such as the sports hall, swimming pool and outdoor sports facilities.



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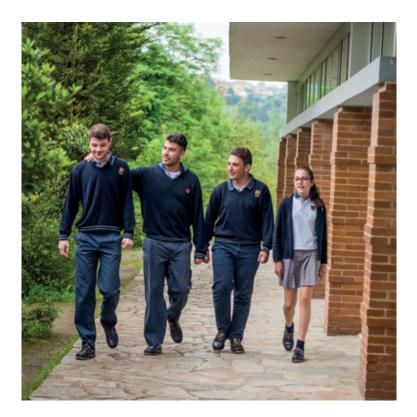






## **BOARDING OBJECTIVES**

- We offer a comfortable learning environment in which students can study in the best conditions.
- We provide the support necessary to enable each student to make progress and reach their academic potential.
- We provide a living environment where there's harmony and a good understanding between students of different ages, their tutors and boarding staff.
- We develop fellowship, mutual respect and support.
- We encourage healthy competition and study habits.
- We help develop the attributes in each student that will help them become independent and able to problem solve and face future challenges.



# **TESTIMONIAL**

# **ALESSANDRO, AGED 18 FROM ITALY**

"I first met some of the Palacio de Granda students in London when I was on a school holiday trip when I was 16 years old. I heard many good things about their school and they were really friendly and encouraged me to think about spending some time in Spain.

After I talked to my parents, they agreed for me to study here for perhaps one term so that I could improve my Spanish as well as my education and it was a really good idea because I had always been interested in going to University in Madrid in the future. However, the boarding experience for me has been so fantastic that I have stayed here for two full years. My language skills are now really good, especially my Spanish and I am looking forward to going to University in Madrid to study Dentistry. I know that without Palacio de Granda I may not have been so fortunate to do this.

My parents can see that I have learned to live with other young people and to solve my own problems and grow up away from my parents. I missed them when I first came, but with SKYPE and Whats App, I have always been in touch and I would go home in the holidays.

I am so pleased that I have been to Palacio de Granda – it will always be a very special memory for me of growing up away from home, but enjoying my studies and making new friends. I recommend students from other countries and also from Spain, to come and be a boarding pupil and to experience all the things I have enjoyed here. You will love it!"

## WHERE BETTER?

# A TESTIMONIAL FROM THE MOTHER OF A SPANISH BOARDING PUPIL

"It has been an honour and a privilege that my daughter has been at this School. At Palacio de Granda my daughter has made new friends, has had new experiences, has learnt the value of daily study away from distractions and has had the great fortune of crossing paths with inspiring, caring and supportive teachers."

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BOARDER

Wake up



7:45

Breakfast



8:30

School starts



9:00

Morning lessons



Lunch



Afternoon lessons



End of school



16:30

Snack & free time or extracurricular activities



Private study & study with tutor support



18:00 20:30 –

Dinner



20:30

Free time or private study before bed



22:30



"At weekends, study periods are interspersed with free time and other organised activities..."

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Extracurricular activities range from sport, to languages, to robotics or music. Each term a programme of activities is organised and new ideas are always welcomed according to the interests of the students.

At weekends, study periods are interspersed with free time and other organised activities. These range from a trip to the local shopping centre, the cinema or bowling or trips to go walking, cycling or surfing. The school is located in a semi-rural area on the outskirts of Oviedo, offering the best possible facilities in a natural setting. It is a short distance to the coast or to the national parks and mountains.

Weekly boarders return to their homes on Friday after school for the weekend returning on a Sunday evening. Often, the students choose to stay at school for occasional weekends to focus on their studies nearer examination times.









## **LOCATION**

Asturias is a green paradise, where there is a mixture of beautiful beaches and stunning mountains, fishing villages full of colour and the charming capital, Oviedo, a city full of history, pedestrian streets, statues, squares and fairy tale buildings.

Asturias is an ideal base for exploring and sports in natural surroundings. This region offers many activities and it is a paradise to discover, from the Senda del Oso, with its brown bears and cycle routes in a landscape of great beauty, to the Lagos and Montañas de Covadonga with its hiking trails and to the beaches by the Cantabrian Sea, ideal for surfing. Asturias offers a host of spectacular places to visit to enjoy the activities, the scenery, the culture and the food. This region leaves no one indifferent and everyone is keen to return.









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