



SHEBBEAR
COLLEGE

Information for

INTERNATIONAL PUPILS



SHEBBEAR COLLEGE



WELCOME TO SHEBBEAR!

Founded in 1841 and steeped in history, Shebbear College is a thriving boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 4 to 18. In 2021 we were graded Excellent for both the quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements and the quality of the pupils' personal development.

Life at Shebbear is busy, filled with academic purpose, co-curricular activity, creative discovery and outdoor adventure. We are a community where everyone is known and cherished and life-long friends are made within our safe and happy environment.

We welcome pupils from all over the world to join our vibrant, happy school! We are home to over 60 international pupils from many different countries. Boarding is offered from the age of 8 – 18 and all of our overseas pupils are fully integrated into the life of the school, and very much a part of our genuinely warm community.

Our beautiful 85-acre campus is perfectly located between Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks in North Devon. With close proximity to the stunning South West beaches and just a short drive from the historic towns of Bideford and Barnstaple and the University City of Exeter, Shebbear is a safe and tranquil environment in which to learn.

NAME: EDEN

Upper Sixth
Home country - Hong Kong

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT SHEBBEAR?

I am now in the Upper Sixth, having joined Shebbear College in Form 4 (Year 10).

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SHEBBEAR?

My parents researched schools online and they really liked the Shebbear Facebook page showing lots of happy, smiling pupils! It looked as though people really enjoyed themselves at Shebbear College and this is what stood out to my family and I and made it a bit different from the other schools we looked at.

WAS IT AS EXPECTED?

When I first joined I missed home and found it a bit difficult as I couldn't speak English very well, but I had so much support from the teachers that I soon settled in. The teachers have a holistic approach and gave excellent support. I improved so much in Science, English and Sport.

WHAT HAS SHEBBEAR COLLEGE DONE FOR YOU?

Improved my English! I attained good scores in IELTS. When I first joined, I could hardly string a sentence together in English!

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED?

I have GCSE results in 7 subjects in addition to my IELTS and I am very pleased that I am now studying for Psychology, Business and Art at A-level.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

The friendliness and sense of being "at home". The people here make all the difference.

WHAT NEW ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE SINCE BEING HERE?

Playing real rugby! (It was just touch rugby in HK). I play hooker and I love it in the thick of the action.

DO YOU ENJOY BOARDING?

Very much so with all the things we get to do... trips to the cinema, going surfing and bowling, days out and so much more!

WHAT PLANS DO YOU HAVE FOR LIFE AFTER SHEBBEAR?

I would like to go on to study Psychology at a UK University. I like the look of Bristol, Bath, Nottingham and UCL.



NAME: SIENNA

Form 4 (Year 10)

Home country - UK

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT SHEBBEAR?

I am now in my 5th term, having joined in the last term of year 8.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SHEBBEAR?

I have known the school a long time as my elder brother comes here. When I came round on a visit, I found the teaching staff really friendly - it had the feel of a family and was more than just a school.

WAS IT AS EXPECTED?

The friendliness, yes. However, I had not expected to get so much one-to-one time with teachers in class which is made possible by the smaller class sizes and this has been incredibly helpful to me.

WHAT HAS SHEBBEAR COLLEGE DONE FOR YOU?

My confidence has really grown. I am happy to speak out in class now and voice my opinions without fear of judgement. It is ok to be yourself!

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED?

My grades have improved massively! Along with this, I have attained a scholarship to study Medicine at Cambridge Summer School this coming summer.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

The fact that so much help and support is available. In my weaker subjects, I have easily found the help that I need.

There is a calm vibe around the College. There is not a huge amount of pressure. It is a supportive environment and teachers help you to find the way that you can best learn. I have been able to learn how to learn.

WHAT NEW ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE SINCE BEING HERE?

There are just so many activities to do together. Bonfire night, bingo, quiz and curry nights. There is a household feel, doing everything together. There is community. At the weekends, we get to do a variety of activities such as horse-riding and surfing.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

Certainly.. For all the reasons above!



NAME: ROY

Year 11

Home country - Hong Kong

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT SHEBBEAR?

I am now in Form 5 (Year 11) - I joined in Form 1 (Year 7).

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SHEBBEAR?

I really liked the school motto "Ad Glorium Per Spinus - To Glory Through Thorns" and I really wanted to be part of the friendly community.

WAS IT AS EXPECTED?

Yes! I am very pleased and have been very happy at Shebbear.

WHAT HAS SHEBBEAR COLLEGE DONE FOR YOU?

I have learnt new subjects, Spanish, for example - which I had not done before . I am now much more fluent in English. I have also discovered new sports, for example Rugby which I really enjoy (as winger!).

As a person, I have changed. I feel I am much more mature in my outlook and I approach things in a different way. Teachers have helped us with life lessons, for example how to behave both in and outside the classroom.

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED?WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

I completed the 35 Mile Ten Tors challenge which was brilliant and involved lots of teamwork. I also attained my D of E Bronze award.

My progress at school has been good and my grades have consistently improved since leaving HK.

WHAT NEW ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE SINCE BEING HERE?

Rugby, Ten Tors, Dof E, Football and various activities at weekends. I have also been on school trips to France and Poland!

DO YOU ENJOY BOARDING?

Yes. It is very different from being at home. We have very clear routines. We spend a lot of time together and we learn to socialise and look out for each other. Being all together in the same environment, it is very important to have a sense of communal responsibility.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

Definitely. There have been so many good opportunities and I have learnt so much. I would tell others not to miss out on what is on offer here.



NAME: ACHILLES

Lower Sixth

Home country: Barbados



HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

I was playing in a cricket tournament and talking to one of the members of staff at Shebbear. I liked the idea of coming to play cricket in England and be in a family, welcoming, yet structured environment.

WHAT WERE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SHEBBEAR COLLEGE UPON ARRIVAL?

The facilities were just amazing: Gym, Indoor Sporthall, 6th Form Centre... .

I was not used to this. The environment was great and the people were so kind and friendly.

DID YOU INTEGRATE QUICKLY?

At first I was lost but found the friendliness of people most helpful. I was accepted by the younger children too. They found videos of me on youtube and showed me and I didn't even know they existed!

WHAT DO YOU REALLY LIKE ABOUT SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

I love the sportshall and I play basketball during the enrichment period between 5pm and 6pm. We can go to the gym at 5am if we wish but I am not very good at that!

WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING AT SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

A-Levels in Sport, Business and Economics

WHAT HAS SHEBBEAR DONE FOR YOU SO FAR?

It has enhanced my discipline. I have to do things, for example, getting out of bed on time and being ready. I have learnt that it is better to be early than late!

HAVE YOU DONE ANY ELITE SPORT TRAINING?

I am working hard on my fitness every day. I have had guidance on strength development and I undertake a training programme in the gym. This is important if aspiring to be a professional sportsman.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER SHEBBEAR?

I would like to be a county cricketer as well as play for the West Indies at cricket U19 and then full international level. My back up plan is to perhaps be a fashion designer or vlogger. I am not sure about university yet.

NAME: SIMON

Lower sixth

Home country - Germany

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT SHEBBEAR?

I arrived in September for a one year stay.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SHEBBEAR?

My agent had a list of schools to recommend. For my family and me, it was important, as christians, to have a school with a christian tradition and ethos.

WAS IT AS EXPECTED?

Boarding has been a new and positive experience for me. I really enjoy this and it has certainly fulfilled expectations. Through the boarding life, you get to know people really well and you can get very close to people and I thoroughly like this.

WHAT HAS SHEBBEAR COLLEGE DONE FOR YOU?

I have been so struck by the extraordinary politeness shown by everybody. I have never seen any bullying. It has helped me to understand how a wonderful community can be built.

WHAT HAVE YOU PARTICULARLY VALUED?

I have made a number of international friends and I really value this.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

Boarding. We can undertake so many different activities together. Rugby is completely new for me and I love it, learning about strategies, tactics, skills as well as fitness.

WHAT ELSE ABOUT BOARDING?

I enjoy having my own room but sharing a room at half term was also great. I am never bored. We are always socialising and doing things together; the activities have also been tremendous: cycling along the Tarka Trail, surfing, as well as many other outdoor fun activities.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SHEBBEAR COLLEGE?

Certainly. It is not a big school and this brings many advantages. I have got to know a lot of people, some really closely. The campus is extraordinarily beautiful and it is such a stunning environment in which to live.



NAME: AIMEE

Year 5

Home country - Hong Kong

NAME: LYDIA

Year 6

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT SHEBBEAR?

Lydia - We both joined this year in September!

WAS SHEBBEAR AS EXPECTED?

Aimee - Yes, it is great... so much wide open space and so green. It is so different.

Lydia - And it is as good as the pictures showed!

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE COLLEGE?

Lydia - I really like PE and Maths.

Aimee - The open space is so lovely and the people are so friendly and polite.

DO YOU ENJOY BOARDING?

Lydia - Yes. We have loved going to Atlantic Village (local shopping centre), playing on the beach at the weekend and also spending time with Ruddle House Master, Mr Sanders' children.

Aimee - There is also lots of space and great play areas at school so we enjoy that too! The other weekend we went Horse Riding - it was brilliant, and last weekend we took part in a Golf Day which was so much fun!

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED SO FAR?

Lydia - Our English is so much better after a couple of months!

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SHEBBEAR TO YOUR FRIENDS?

Aimee - Yes. People are so kind to us.





BOARDING



Our two boarding houses, Pollard Boys and Ruddle Girls are home to all our boarding pupils. The houses have a warm, friendly atmosphere where pupils feel happy, safe and secure and our supportive and caring environment remains central to the Shebbear College community.

There is always someone to turn to, and our caring and experienced house staff are here to support each and every pupil. Our boarders all have a Housemaster or Housemistress and a Matron who are responsible for their academic, pastoral and social welfare, giving them the security of a family environment whilst at the same time enjoying the freedom to grow and mature.

Within each House, the weekend activities programme is full and varied, meaning that there is rarely a moment where pupils could feel lonely or bored. Weekend activities include Horse Riding, trips to the beach where surfing, sailing and water sports can be enjoyed, shopping trips and days out.

ACADEMIC RESULTS



We believe that our pupils achieve at school because they are happy here! Year-on-year we see each and every individual thriving and achieving their dreams; the mix of our carefully balanced curriculum with the extensive range of co-curricular opportunities on offer enables our pupils to reach their potential.

Fantastic A Level Results

- 31% of grades were A*
- 63% of grades were A* - A
- 83% of grades were A* - B
- 100% pass rate across the board
- 100% of pupils secured places at their choice of university

Excellent GCSE Results

- 20% of all grades were 9
- 42% of all grades were 9-8
- 52% of all grades were 9-7



UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Every year our pupils choose to study a broad range of courses at top universities including Mechanical Engineering, Politics, Pharmacy, Music, Languages, Art and Design, Economics and Business.

We strongly support each student's career ambitions and help them to achieve their dreams. Our Head of Horizons and Sixth Form tutors give invaluable guidance and support to pupils in making their UCAS applications.

- 100% of pupils gained places at their first or second choice of University
- Majority of pupils go on to Russell Group and Oxbridge
- Split between Arts and STEM subjects





APPLICATION PROCESS

If you live overseas and wish to apply for a place at Shebbear College for your child, he or she will need to take papers in English as an Additional Language and Maths, provide supporting references and undertake an interview either at school or via Skype with a member of staff.

If needed, we may recommend that a pupil receives EAL tuition if their English needs additional support to reach their full academic potential. The EAL department helps such pupils to develop both their English language skills and confidence. We develop each of the main skill areas – speaking, reading, writing and listening – while also helping pupils to understand specific subject-based terminology and language.

The wellbeing, happiness and security of all our pupils is our number one priority and we keep in regular contact with our international pupils to ensure that they are happy at school.



MEET THE TEAM



Charlie Jenkins

Head

I joined Shebbear College as Senior Deputy Head in September 2020 from Licensed Victuallers' School, Ascot where I was the Deputy Head (Academic & Co-Curricular). Before that I worked at Pangbourne College, Berkshire, where I was Head of Geography and Assistant Boarding HsM.

In September 2022 I became Head at Shebbear College and it is an absolute privilege for me to lead this exceptional school! Living in North Devon is great and in my free time I can be found enjoying the outdoors, walking and running.



Lou Wivell

Head of International Admissions

✉ lwivell@shebbearcollege.co.uk

I joined Shebbear College in September 2022 bringing with me 20 years of recruitment and admissions experience. I began my recruitment career in London and, whilst juggling a young family, went back to University to study for a PGCE.

My experience as a teacher, Head of Department and Resident Tutor in boarding has enabled me to understand fully what matters most to parents when sending their children to a boarding school. Both of my daughters flourished at Shebbear College and I am delighted to be a part of the team!



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