

Izzy joined Lomond School as a boarder in Senior 1 while her parents were still living locally. She was also joined by her younger sister, Erin, who began her Lomond journey in the Junior School. Over the past 6 years, Izzy has benefitted from being part of our supportive and inspiring community of teachers, staff and pupils, receiving individualised guidance to help her achieve her academic and personal goals. She leaves Lomond School this year to study Law at the University of Edinburgh.

What is a typical week like?

Now I am in S6 I typically have 3 or 4 classes a day and then the rest are free periods. I go to extra classes during my free periods and sometimes after school if I need extra help on something. I have hockey practice on a Wednesday and at the weekend I will sometimes go stay at friend's houses or meet up with friends. In the boarding house we sometimes have movie nights or game nights too and there are lots of trips to choose from.

How do you think it has shaped you as a person?

I have definitely been shaped by my time in boarding. I have become more independent from being away from home so much which will help me when I go to university in September. It has given me the opportunity to meet so many new people and this has improved my social skills as a result, which I know will benefit me in the future.



What is your favourite thing about boarding?

I get to live with my friends during school time and it has given me the chance to learn about cultures I did not know anything about. The boarding house has given me the chance to meet people from all over the world and learn about everyone's different cultures and traditions. I have had the chance to go visit friends that I met in the boarding house in their home country. You make lifelong friends from all over the world here.

What are the biggest challenges of boarding life?

Being away from my parents most of the time is the hardest thing. Just little things like going out for dinner with my parents or celebrating birthdays for example. Especially this year when I was hearing back from universities and couldn't celebrate with my parents.

How do you think boarding has shaped your education and prepared you for your future?

As I am in school basically all the time, I have the chance to speak to teachers whenever I need to. Teachers from the school come over to the boarding house during the week to give me help with my subjects. The boarding house has prepared me for moving out of my house and relying on myself for certain things.

What would you say to another child of an Armed Forces family about boarding?

It's not as bad as it seems. However, it's not like Wild Child! I made that mistake when I came as I thought it would be just like the movies. It is always hard at first but then you get into a routine and it becomes part of your life. I am now in my last year of living at Burnbrae and thinking about moving out and not living there anymore feels very strange.

What has been your most memorable moment in boarding?

Barnardo's Children's charity asked boarding schools to fundraise with them a couple of years ago and we put on loads of events to support them. We also went to Loch Lomond Shores to stand with fundraising buckets all day. It was very amusing as it was near Christmas and I was asked to wear a Christmas tree costume. For a whole day I was stood at the shopping centre with my friends laughing at me waddling around in this Christmas tree costume!



Are there any boarding traditions that you will always remember or are particularly fond of?

I like that we all eat dinner together every night. It gives you a chance to chat to everyone which is nice. I will miss eating dinner with my friends every night.

As far as you know, what makes boarding at Lomond School different to other schools?

I think being close to town and also near Glasgow means that there are places to explore. It is quite a small boarding house and there is only one building so it means that you know everyone well. Also, there is a big Armed Forces community in Helensburgh. This is nice because it means that there is probably somebody in the same situation as you. Because of this large community, there are also lots of charities aimed at providing support to Service children via the school.

