

Fact Sheet 2025

Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh



	DETAILS	COMMENTS
GENERAL INFO	PROVIDER	Merchiston Castle School
	COLLEGE/SCHOOL NAME	Merchiston Castle School
	ADDRESS	294 Colinton Rd, Edinburgh, EH13 0PU, United Kingdom
	CENTER ACCREDITED BY:	British Council
	DISTANCE FROM CENTRE OF TOWN	Edinburgh: 5.5 miles
	BY FOOT	Edinburgh: 1 hour
	BY TRAIN	Edinburgh: n/a
	BY PRIVATE COACH	Edinburgh: 20 minutes
	BY PUBLIC BUS	Edinburgh: 25 minutes
	CENTRE OPENING FROM/TO	1st July – 12th August
	AGE MIN/MAX	9 to 17
	STAFF ON SITE 24/7	Centre Manager, Activity Manager, Excursion Manager, Welfare Coordinator
	STAFF VISIBILITY	All staff wear uniform (purple t-shirt with logo) and a lanyard with name tag
STUDENT VISIBILITY	All students must wear the purple lanyard with name tag and emergency number	
GENERAL CENTRE FACILITIES	COMMON ROOM	Yes, communal spaces are available in Laidlaw and Chalmers. These areas should be supervised by Group Leaders
	STUDY ROOM	Available on request
	COMPUTER ROOM	No
	VENDING MACHINES	No
	LAUNDRY	£20 per large laundry bag – Laundry is done by an external service 1st Turn: Collection 7th July, returned 10th July 2nd Turn: Collection 21st July, returned 24th July 3rd Turn: Collection 4th August, returned 7th August
	FIRST-AID-TRAINED STAFF ON SITE	Yes, the Welfare Coordinator will have a First Aid Certificate
	24H RECEPTION	No, but SAC staff available 24/7
	SAFE BOX	Available in the office
WI-FI	Yes	
LEISURE/SPORT	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES	Sports Hall
	OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES	Football pitch, large grass areas
	SWIMMING POOL ACCESS	N/A
	DISCO	Yes – Discos will happen at least twice per two weeks.
	GAMES CONSOLE ROOM	No
LAIDLAW ACCOMMODATION	RESIDENTIAL	Yes, all accommodation is onsite
	ENSUITE SINGLE ROOM	Yes but Laidlaw accommodation is mostly twin ensembles
	HOW MANY STUDENTS PER FLAT	Accommodation is made of dormitories so is split into corridors of 20 rooms
	KITCHEN	No kitchen is available for summer school use.
	APPLIANCES	No kettles or toasters are provided
	UTENSILS	No utensils are provided
	TOWELS & LINENS	Provided and changed once per two weeks
	DAMAGE DEPOSIT	£60/€70 required upon arrival and returned upon departure
	LOST KEY FEE	£30
	CLEANING	Bins are emptied every day – Rooms are hoovered every second day – Linen and Towels will be changed once per two weeks
	FIRE SAFETY FINES	Individuals will be fined a minimum of £50 for any fire safety issues. Reasons for fines include smoking/vaping outside of smoking areas, covering or setting off fire alarms, disrupting fire extinguishers.

CHALMERS STANDARD ACCOMMODATION	RESIDENTIAL	Yes, all accommodation is onsite
	ENSUITE SINGLE ROOM	No (Blocks are made up of 3x10 bed dorms, 8 x twin standards, 4 x single standards)
	KITCHEN	Yes but cooking equipment is turned off
	APPLIANCES	No kettles or toasters are provided
	UTENSILS	No utensils are provided
	TOWELS & LINENS	Provided and changed once per two weeks
	DAMAGE DEPOSIT	£60/€70 required upon arrival and returned upon departure
	LOST KEY FEE & KEYRING	£30 per item
CLEANING	Bins are emptied every day - Rooms are hoovered every second day - Linen and Towels will be changed once per two weeks	
LOCAL INFORMATION	ATMs (CASH MACHINES)	Available in Colinton village (10-minute walk)
	POST OFFICES	Available in Colinton village (10-minute walk)
	CAFES	Available in Colinton village (10-minute walk)
	CONVENIENCE STORE	Available in Colinton village (10-minute walk)
	PLACES OF WORSHIP	Available in Edinburgh City Centre
	TOURIST INFORMATION	Available in Edinburgh City Centre
COURSE DETAILS ACADEMIC	ENTRY TEST	Grammar/Listening online level test. Speaking/Writing Test upon arrival
	LEVEL	A1+, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C1+
	TEACHERS CERTIFICATE	Yes
	TEACHERS CRIMINAL RECORD	All staff sign a declaration form; Disclosure and two references are required.
	CLASS:STUDENT RATIO	1:18
	LESSONS ZIG ZAG	Yes, morning or afternoon
	LESSONS PER WEEK	15 hours per week of General English (14 night stays only)
LESSONS DURATION	1 hour, 40 minutes	
ACTIVITY PROGRAMME	FULL DAY EXCURSIONS	Glasgow, Stirling & Loch Katrine
	HALF DAY EXCURSIONS	3 per week
	PACKED LUNCHES	1 per full-day excursion
	CLASSIC PAID ENTRIES INCLUDED	Edinburgh Castle and Loch Katrine Cruise
	ADDITIONAL GOLD PAID ENTRIES INCLUDED	Alhwick Castle
	ACTIVITIES	Yes, morning or afternoon, and evenings Optional Language-Based Activity Day

