

Undefeated
team coached
by experts

Basketball at Sidcot

sidcot.org.uk



Sidcot
Live Adventurously

Elevate your basketball game at Sidcot!

In our international community, basketball has the power to inspire and unite students. Whether you're aiming to perfect your skills or just beginning your journey in the sport, basketball at Sidcot offers an unmatched opportunity to elevate your game while building lifelong friendships across cultures.



Experienced Coaching

Our experienced coaching staff includes former professional players and internationally-recognised trainers who are passionate about helping you reach your full potential. They focus on individual skill development, team strategies, and mental toughness to help you compete at your highest level.

Our Facilities

Enjoy access to top-tier sports facilities, including full-size indoor court, training equipment, and gym. Our campus provides the perfect setting for you to hone your skills, with all the resources you need for personal and athletic growth.

Meet the Head Coach

Dzianis Smilevich

Mr Smilevich lives in the boarding houses and is a core member of the boarding community at Sidcot.



Tell us about you

I started playing basketball at the age of 10, then went on to play for SDIUSHOR (the Olympic reserve team as a junior). I played in international tournaments in Russia, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Czechia and more. After graduating from school, I studied for 5 years at the Belarusian State University of Physical Education and graduated as a PE teacher and basketball coach. During my time there, I played for the university team as well as in the professional league in Belarus. I am delighted to bring my years of experience playing and coaching internationally to the league-topping team at Sidcot.

Do you have any tips for anyone looking to join? Does height matter?

Passion is important and commitment as well. Being short is not a negative as long as you are quick and accurate! Being a team player is the most important quality.

How often do you train?

Once a week on a Saturday evening there is formal training with me and the boarders also gather 3-4 times a week on their own in the evening.

What ability levels do you take?

Everyone is welcome! Our philosophy is to play as a team and get as much enjoyment from the game as possible.

A Global Perspective

Basketball at Sidcot is about more than just the game—it's a gateway to cultural exchange. Through teamwork, you'll develop connections and friendships that go beyond borders.

Day students and boarders are part of the team. Basketball is popular in most of the countries where our boarders come from, so we are lucky to have excellent players from the UK but also CSKA Moscow club, Germany, Spain, Switzerland and China for example.

Academic and Athletic Balance

We believe that strong academic and athletic performance go hand in hand. At Sidcot, we provide structured schedules and individualised academic support to ensure that you can excel both on the court and in the classroom. Our basketball programme is designed to complement your studies, fostering discipline, time management, and resilience.

Character Development Through Sport

Basketball is more than a game—it's a way to develop leadership, perseverance, and confidence. At Sidcot, our basketball programme emphasises teamwork, respect, and commitment. You'll learn how to handle challenges, celebrate victories, and grow from setbacks.

Meet Doruk, Team Captain



At Sidcot, basketball is not just a sport, it is a community of people who are united by one goal - to challenge themselves, to grow not only physically but also mentally, and to simply enjoy their time at school. Basketball at Sidcot is an unforgettable experience where a player of absolutely any level can feel the real team spirit, passion and enjoyment of the game. No matter how good you are at basketball, come to a training session and be part of this unforgettable experience and make memories to last a lifetime. Basketball at Sidcot is more than just a sport. Join us! - Doruk

Join a Winning Team!

Take your game to the next level by participating in inter-school leagues, gaining invaluable experience and exposure to different styles of play.

Sidcot's Basketball team have now had two consecutive unbeaten seasons in 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Scan the QR code for more details on all the sorting activities we offer at Sidcot.



Sidcot 2023-25 results summary

Opponent	Date	Result	Opponent	Date	Result
Wells Cathedral School	18 Jan 2023	W 42 - 21	Downside School	08 Mar 2024	W: 29 - 27
Taunton School	25 Jan 2023	W: 42 - 40	St Katherine's School	27 Nov 2024	W: 52 - 29
Queen's College, Taunton	06 Feb 2023	W: 41 - 38	Queen's College, Taunton	29 Nov 2024	W: 59 - 25
Churchill Academy & Sixth Form	15 Nov 2023	W: 59 - 16	Churchill Academy & Sixth Form	04 Dec 2024	W: 55 - 18
St Katherine's School	21 Nov 2023	W: 65 - 53	Wells Cathedral School	29 Jan 2025	W: 52 - 18
Taunton School	24 Jan 2024	W: 47 - 30	Churchill Academy & Sixth Form	05 Feb 2025	W: 50 - 28
Clifton College	30 Jan 2024	W: 58 - 50	Ashton Park School	26 Feb 2025	W: 74 - 20
Downside School	31 Jan 2024	W: 50 - 32	Clifton College	04 Mar 2025	W: 48 - 31
St Katherine's School	07 Feb 2024	W: 42 - 34	Downside School	07 Mar 2025	W: 56 - 51
Wells Cathedral School	28 Feb 2024	W: 50 - 31	Wells Cathedral School	12 Mar 2025	W: 42 - 27
Clifton College	05 Mar 2024	W: 57 - 41	Clifton College	18 Mar 2025	W: 44 - 41

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points For	Points Against	Points Difference
22	22	0	0	1114	701	413

Contact us to find out more

Come be a part of our vibrant international community and experience how basketball at Sidcot can shape your future. Let's take your game—and your education—further together.



To learn more about basketball at Sidcot and how it can fit into your academic journey, contact our admissions office at admissions@sidcot.org.uk.

Get ready to elevate your game at Sidcot School!



Case Study of Success: Meet George

After developing his game and enhancing his love of basketball at Sidcot, George was able to take his performance to the next level.

Now playing for the junior teams at the Bristol Flyers and training with a basketball academy, he hopes to study in America to play basketball following his school studies. He said, "Playing basketball at Sidcot has really cemented my love of the Sport and hopefully launched my future career! I really recommend getting involved in the team – not only is it good fun and exercise, but really great for building skills".

COMING SOON...

From September 2026, we are pleased to offer a specialist Basketball programme in partnership with Bristol Flyers, a leading pro-basketball team competing in the British Basketball League and European North Basketball League. This will include professional coaching and strength and conditioning training guided by top ranking international players.



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