



The Aims and Principles of Boarding – (Senior School / Boarders)

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1. Policy statement

Boarding at Woodbridge will provide pupils of both sexes with the highest level of care and support in their personal lives and in their education in a safe and secure environment at the heart of the school. One of the core aims of the School is to help our pupils develop into happy, confident, caring, resilient young men and women; another is to be a community in which the quality of relationships is given a high priority, and in which pupils, parents and staff work together for the benefit of each other and the wider world. These aims are particularly significant for our boarders, as boarding offers so many additional opportunities to promote them.

The School believes that boarding can offer individual pupils many valuable opportunities and experiences –

- Friendships for life
- Safe independence
- Living and working with their peers, older and younger pupils
- Teamwork
- A stable and secure environment
- Leadership opportunities
- Extra curricular opportunities
- Self discipline and trust
- Preparation for life at university and in the adult world
- Academic support outside the classroom

The School believes that the success of boarding for each individual pupil is the result of teamwork between the parents, guardians, the pupil and staff. The Head of Boarding and Housemistress give boarders' care the highest priority and maintain frequent contact with parents and guardians over a wide spectrum of issues. They are assisted by an excellent team of tutors and through the support of expert medical cover. Meanwhile, boarders have the same access as day pupils to the full range of pastoral support available during the school day, including academic tutors, Housemasters and mistresses, the Heads of Sixth Form and Careers, and from the Well-Being Hub.

2. Values

The School believes that all pupils should:

- show respect for their person and their property
- show consideration of others at school and within the boarding community
- respect the code of conduct and rules both in and outside the Boarding House
- strive for a careful balance between work, leisure and physical activity
- be honest and courteous
- be aware that their rights will be upheld according to The Children's' Act, the Human Rights Act and the National Minimum Boarding Standards

The cultural diversity within boarding at Woodbridge is integral in helping the pupils develop tolerance and mutual understanding, skills in community living, and respect for similarities and differences in the attitudes and practices of those from other backgrounds. In line with provision for all the pupils of the School, boarders will be given the opportunity to worship and practise their own religious faiths, will be given support in developing their interests, and will be encouraged to take a full and active part in every area of School life. Boarders whose first language is not English will be given support in the study of English as an additional language.

Boarders will be expected to live and work within the ethos, aims and objectives of the School, and benefit accordingly: they are to abide by the rules, policies and procedures of the School at all times. The boarders are an integral part of the wider community of Woodbridge School.

Boarding is also available on the terms above for day pupils whom the Head believes might benefit from short term boarding, and the recreational areas are available to pupils who for logistical reasons need a haven during the early evening.

3. Compliance and Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be subject to a thorough review process including consideration at the Senior Leadership Team meetings on an annual basis. This will ensure that practice across the Senior School Boarding House is in line with *this* policy, the Complaints procedure and with current guidance and legislation.