

Woodbridge School

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

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.

Procedure

Boarders' care and welfare will be given the highest priority by the Housemaster and his wife, the House Tutor and his wife, and through the support of extra medical cover. In addition, 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 the School Chaplain.

The criteria for admission to the boarding house is the same for day pupils of similar age, except that those for whom English is not a first language will be required to take a test to ensure that they have levels of comprehension that will enable them to make progress in lessons.

The boarding house (School House) provides well-maintained accommodation offering its residents a generous mix of social, study and recreational rooms. The boarders' bedsit rooms (mostly single, with some double and some larger rooms) provide privacy, and there is appropriate segregation of boys and girls. The overall quality of the accommodation, including washing and storage facilities, and of the catering for the boarders is kept under constant review.

Within the context of a School, boarders will be given access as far as is practicable to all the normal opportunities of teenage life, including television, internet, and other entertainments. They will be encouraged to mix with day pupils and those from outside the School, and, at certain times on both weekdays and weekends, will be allowed to visit the town and other local attractions either independently or as part of specially organised boarders' cultural visits, as well as having access as appropriate to facilities on site outside the normal weekday working hours.

The cultural diversity of the members of School House will be celebrated, and will be integral to 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. Boarders whose first language is not English will be given support in the study of English as an additional language.

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 cultural and athletic interests, and will be encouraged to take a full and active part in every area of School life.

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. They are an integral part of the wider community and therefore are neither granted special privileges, nor expected to suffer greater restrictions than any other member of the School, unless such privileges or restrictions are required to help ensure their safety, and to assist appropriately in the smooth running of School House.

Boarding is also available on the terms above to day pupils whom the Headmaster 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.

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