

Boarding Principles and Practice Statement

Reviewed by: International Director

Date: April 2018

[Thereafter by the Joint Principals]

The King's School International College has a strongly academic curriculum and pedagogy that are particularly relevant to the changing demands of modern education. The aim is always to enable every individual to make the most of his/her abilities and to fulfil his/her potential. It is accepted that much of what is valuable in education takes place outside of the classroom. The College therefore aims to provide a very full educational experience in the context of full boarding. Such a programme can often make great demands on the students and staff involved so the College is committed to the highest levels of pastoral care.

The Management of Boarding

The Joint Principals have overall responsibility for the welfare of all students; they are also the Designated Leads for Safeguarding and report to the International Director and, ultimately, to the Headmaster of The King's School. Key issues concerning the welfare of students are regularly discussed with relevant staff in weekly meetings.

Boarding Practice

- The College full-boarding capacity is for 80 students.
- The College is run as a 'family' unit with the Joint Principals living alongside the students. They have overall responsibility for a student's work, welfare and development and are assisted in this role by a Residential Deputy Housemistress and by a team of tutors drawn from the teaching staff.
- The College has its own Resident Matron who is responsible for the day-to-day health of the pupils, working closely with the Joint Principals, School Doctor and the Health Centre. The Health Centre is staffed by qualified nursing Sisters 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is also a team of 'Twilight' and 'Night' Matrons who provide matron cover when College Matron is off-duty.
- The College provides a wide range of facilities and opportunities for its boarders beyond the classroom. These include academic clubs and talks, debates, a wide range of musical activities, art, drama, ICT and sport, all of which are available throughout the week and many at weekends. This programme involves College students mixing with pupils from The King's School, and is organised and overseen by the Deputy Housemistress.
- The College seeks to assimilate new students as smoothly as possible by providing guidance and information in a variety of ways (written, verbal and practical).

- Formal and informal monitoring of academic and personal progress and welfare are continuous during a student's time in the College.
- Students are able to contact parents, relations and friends either in person, by post, by telephone (landline or mobile) or by email, and parents are very welcome to visit the students in the College at weekends or during the week by arrangement with the Joint Principals.
- The College welcomes students from a variety of faiths and denominations. Opportunities for worship are provided, but all students will also be expected to attend some key events in the Cathedral during the year.
- The College provides for children from various countries and cultures, and for those with linguistic or specific learning needs.
- To the best of its abilities, the College promotes all aspects of equal opportunity and diversity.
- The College's Health & Well Being policy is to promote a healthy lifestyle and to give guidance on all aspects of personal and social development, including alcohol, tobacco, personal relationships and drugs. King's prides itself on the quality of food provided for boarders. There is always plenty of choice, and provision is made for special dietary needs. Students have regular input into the development of catering provision through the Catering Committee meetings.
- A high priority is placed on maintaining student's safety around the College and School sites and on the route between various venues (e.g. to and from the Birley's sports fields). In addition to clear guidelines for the students themselves, King's has also provided additional protection for all buildings by the use of digital keypads, CCTV cameras and constant monitoring by security personnel. There are 'manned' barriers on all entrances into the Cathedral Precincts. Students are provided with a lockable drawer or box in which to keep valued possessions.
- King's is committed to Safeguarding all pupils and suspected cases of child abuse would be referred to the Social Services Division in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. The Joint Principals are the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) within the College, and they are assisted in this by the Deputy Housemistress. A copy of the Safeguarding Policy may be found on our website and in the Staff Handbook which is available on the College intranet. All members of King's staff, both teaching and non-teaching, receive regular training in Safeguarding.
- In addition to College staff, students can discuss any issue of concern with members of the School Chaplaincy team, or with The King's School Counsellors. Contact details for the Chaplains, the Counsellors and the School's independent listener, along with other contact numbers such as those for the Duty Officer of Social Services and Childline are published on notice boards and on the College Calendar which is distributed each term to all students.
- The College has published and made available the Complaints Procedures for students and parents which are in line with official recommendations.
- It is essential for a school to run as a well-ordered community where both the rights of individuals and their responsibilities towards others are recognised and maintained. Expectations of behaviour are given in the College Rules which are printed in the back of the Calendar and on the intranet along with the sanctions which may be applied if the rules are breached.

- King's regards any form of bullying as entirely incompatible with the wellbeing of the community as a whole. Staff are vigilant in looking out for signs of such behaviour and any offences are treated very seriously.
 - College bounds (permitted areas of King's property) are defined in the College Rules, but permission to leave the bounds may be granted by Joint Principals, and with due regard to student's safety and welfare.
 - Students are usually allowed to take up to three exeats each term at the discretion of the Joint Principals. Requests for further exeats are always sympathetically considered. There is no limit on the number of 'Sunday leaves' a student may take so long as the appropriate permissions have been granted.
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