



Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Introduction

Edge Grove School has a long history of boarding and believes that the holistic atmosphere of the school is greatly influenced by this aspect of the school community. Boarding is offered to those pupils (from the UK or overseas) who wish to board either as weekly boarders (up to 6 nights per week) or on a flexi-boarding basis (between 1 and 5 nights per week). The ethos of the school is one of inclusion and support for boarders. The boarders are housed in the original building of the school in dormitories organised by age. The Headmaster and the Head of Boarding both live in the building along with their families, as does the Housemistress and other resident members of the boarding staff, all of whom work to maintain the smooth running of the boarding community and to enhance the quality of life of the pupils whilst they are in school.

Related Policies

- Admissions Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Guidelines for Staff Dealing with Boarder's Unhappiness

Procedure

All pupils may apply for boarding places and beds are offered on a first come first served basis, with priority given to weekly boarding.

The duty and boarding staff provide a programme of activities in the evenings which allows boarders to have access to sports and recreation facilities within the main school campus and also allows them to visit cultural and other facilities off site (the cinema or shopping, for example). Pupils are provided with three hot meals a day when boarding and 'grub' (a snack) is available before bed in the evenings. Welfare support is provided through the pastoral team in the house as well as the form tutor teams; medical care is offered by the School Nurses and School Doctor (who visits regularly and holds surgeries on site) and the school has two 'independent listeners' who visit the boarders on a regular basis and are contactable by a free (0800) phone call at any time.

We aim for boarders to have a homely, relaxed life in the boarding houses. They are an integral part of the way that the school works and, whilst they inevitably make up a minority of the pupil population in the main school, they have a bigger impact on the school than their numbers suggest. Being close together within the heart of the campus, the school belongs to the boarders from 6pm and they contribute much to what is at the very heart and soul of the school.

It is our belief that we have a responsibility to provide a safe, healthy, comfortable and happy environment where the pupils who choose to board may feel they have a home-from-home and may flourish. This aim incorporates the acquiring of a sense of respect for others, regardless of race or religion. It also includes the desire to develop a respect, on the part of the pupil, for those who may differ from them by way of gender, age or education. We endeavour to make the boarding pupils feel that they are part of an extended family with the resultant enjoyment and responsibility.

Living in a community brings with it the need to develop social awareness and consideration for others. To enable each pupil to realise their potential it is necessary that certain ground rules are observed which are in place for the pupils' own comfort, safety and for the respect of others.

Aims of Boarding at Edge Grove

1. To safeguard and promote the welfare of each boarder by providing;
 - A safe, clean, comfortable, homely environment
 - A healthy lifestyle through personal hygiene management, controlled diet, exercise and medical care
 - A supporting and trusting ethos encouraging self-confidence and forgiveness based on a strong moral framework
 - Emotional support and spiritual guidance
2. To develop each boarder's ability to respond positively to responsibility.
3. To increase each boarder's level of independence.
4. To promote honesty and integrity in all matters.
5. To develop skills of social integration, tolerance and open-mindedness.

Ben Evans
Headmaster
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