

Boarding Principles and Practice

Our aim is to provide a safe and stable environment within which all boarders can develop and thrive academically, socially, culturally, physically, morally and spiritually. The school welcomes students of all faiths and cultures, and values the diversity that this brings to the community. Students are given the space to be individuals, to explore interests, while simultaneously learning to live in a close community that requires them to respect and celebrate the differences in others. True friendships and support systems are forged that are likely to remain strong for the rest of their lives.

Within the Collegiate there is a strong commitment to boarding, with a clear determination to provide the best environment for those who choose to board and to constantly seek to improve provision, using the views of everyone involved.

The boarding houses are set in very pleasant and peaceful surroundings with a variety of facilities which boarders are encouraged to use. There are extensive playing fields, a Sports Centre, the 'Village Green' (a large grassed area), an astro-turfed area for hockey, five-a-side football, tennis, etc., a fitness gym, Muggles (our well-equipped recreation centre) and a calming reflection room for contemplation.

Our aims are that students should:

- feel they belong
- grow in confidence
- feel able to speak with honesty and conviction
- feel supported and listened to carefully and openly
- develop a sense of responsibility and independence in preparation for the future.

To achieve these aims our boarding community has its foundation in the Collegiate ethos of LEARN; listen, engage, attend, respect and never give up.

We strive to listen to the needs of the students in our care and aim to teach them to listen to their own needs and those of others. We provide a secure and stable environment for all boarders, where there is always an adult presence without invading the pupils' sense of privacy. There is always someone there to care for our students and listen to their needs. We aim to create a positive family atmosphere, which enables all pupils to grow in confidence and independence.

We strive to create a stimulating and caring environment for students so they can engage with the development of their personal and inter-personal qualities in preparation for life beyond school; we promote integrity, responsibility for oneself and others, resilience, self-awareness, empathy, leadership, service and a good sense of humour, helping all to reach their full potential.

Within boarding we promote a positive and active involvement in the school and beyond. We ensure that we offer a wide range of activities, both internal and external that our boarders can attend, as well as providing opportunities for quiet, purposeful study. Pastorally, we encourage our students to show their leadership and empathy through taking up positions of responsibility or working with others to promote happiness and well-being from within the student body.

These initiatives, along with others, highlight our focus on the development of the individual; encouraging each pupil to develop their character, personality and talents within the framework of our community. We encourage them to respect themselves, each other and everyone and everything within our Collegiate.

In achieving this we develop happy, confident and responsible young people who are proud of their academic successes and personal achievements, and who are equipped and prepared for life with the resilience to never give up when faced with the challenges of adult life.