

Kings Bournemouth

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Boarding at Kings Bournemouth plays a significant role in the personal and academic development, welfare, safety and enrichment of our student's lives. The great majority of our boarders are from overseas and, for many of them, it is their first time away from home. We recognise this by providing our students with a high standard of pastoral care, supporting them to settle into new routines, adapt to new cultural expectations while developing their skills and maturity to live independently and thrive at university or later on in life.

We teach students to respect each other and the wider community, live harmoniously and look after their own health and wellbeing. We understand that every student is different and we encourage and support them to achieve personal growth alongside the best learning outcomes for their individual ability, circumstances and needs.

Boarding Basics

- We accommodate students aged 15 and over. Our Boarding house provides separate sections for males and females under the age of 18 and an additional section for those aged 18 and above
- Our Boarding House can accommodate up to 45 students
- A wide range of nationalities are represented each year
- Our Boarding House is situated in a quiet residential area with a 5 minute walk to shops and restaurants and a 25 minute walk from the school campus
- The majority of the bedrooms are single but we do offer 7 twin rooms. All bedrooms are en-suite
- Bedrooms are sectioned off to safely and effectively separate males/females and over 18s. We are able to alter sections by use of access control doors so that we can cater for different ratios of sexes and ages each year
- Students are allocated to the same bedroom throughout the academic year and are able to arrive early in preparation for the start of term one if they wish. Students will only ever be allocated a new room if requested or due to a maintenance issue or emergency
- Students are able to stay in the Boarding House throughout the holidays
- We provide students with healthy, nutritional and varied half board meals.
- Students have access to two well equipped communal areas. They also have access to a small kitchenette which features tea/coffee making facilities, drinking water, fridges and a microwave.

Staffing and Pastoral Care:

- Our boarding team is made up of a full time Boarding Manager, four full time Residential Houseparents and a full time Chef

- The Boarding House is fully supervised 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is also an additional member of the boarding team available on call, in case of emergencies
- Our welfare team, senior leadership team and DSL also have strong pastoral relationships with our boarders as well as their academic Group Tutors
- We contract external companies to provide our cleaning and maintenance services
- Our Chef prepares and serves all meals onsite. Our Chef also provides pastoral care in the form of being a trusted staff member with a positive relationship with all of our students.
- All Houseparents are level three trained in Child Protection and also receive annual pastoral and safeguarding training.
- Our boarding team organise, promote and run an in house social activity programme for all boarders

Personal Development:

Our aim is to recognise the challenges our students face when they arrive to the UK – whether that be cultural, developmental, communicative or social difficulties. Our team provides support and guidance to ensure that our students learn to overcome such challenges, to adapt and thrive in a safe and secure environment. We believe that effective communication, encouraging students to have the confidence and belief to aim higher and exposure to greater responsibilities will enable them to grow and develop.

- We provide students with a full induction on arrival and take the time to ensure that students settle well, prior to the start of term. Inductions include orientation, emergency and safety procedures within the boarding house, facilities guide, house rules, meeting key staff and how to contact them. There are also opportunities to form friendships with other boarders
- Our welfare team also check in with new arrivals, conduct Welfare Reviews and Individual Healthcare plans if required. We also arrange for our students to register with the local GP Practice during the first few weeks
- Room allocation is managed by our Boarding Manager and every effort is made to ensure that students are accommodated suitably. Room allocation requests are also considered and approved if possible
- We encourage our students to make their bedroom space their own
- Students are asked to keep their rooms tidy as if it were their own home. The cleaning team will not tidy bedrooms. This is monitored by our Houseparents. Bedrooms are cleaned once a week and bed linen changed. Communal areas are cleaned three times weekly
- Students are shown how to use the laundry facilities, make tea and coffee and clear their crockery after meal times
- Students should leave for school on time, remembering their school bags and anything they need for the school day
- If a student feels unwell, they should report to the duty Houseparent immediately. If they are too unwell to go to school, the Houseparent will ensure that they are well cared for within the boarding house
- The views of our students are actively sought by way of student meetings, Welfare Reviews, Surveys and Suggestion Boxes. We listen to our students and encourage them to suggest ways to improve their boarding experience

- Students are able to travel away from the boarding house at weekends and during holidays but we must receive permission and details of the trips from the student's parent/guardian. Students must travel and stay with a responsible adult
- We encourage students to take part in social activities and to participate in wider community events
- We expect students to follow house rules and abide by a set curfew. This is to ensure that our students are safe and get adequate rest.
- Our Chef provides students with nutritionally balanced, varied daily meals. Dietary requirements and preferences are met and our students are invited to suggest meal ideas from their home countries
- Different cultures and religions are celebrated by way of special events and social activities
- Our Kings Disciplinary policy will be referred to in any case of poor behaviour. For lesser disciplinary issues, our Houseparents may issue students with Breakfast/Gating cards
- Staff are well equipped to identify any potential welfare or safeguarding concerns and report them without delay via the correct channels