

Queen's College, Taunton

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Boarding Principles

Queen's College is a Boarding School for boarders and day pupils from 0 to 18. Founded in 1843 on Methodist principles, we seek to be a Christian, but not a narrowly denominational, school. We welcome pupils from non-Christian traditions, as well as those from all Christian backgrounds.

Through our boarding practice and pastoral care we aim to do the following:

- To create a supportive, family atmosphere within the Boarding Houses in which all boarders feel safe, secure and happy.
- To develop respect: for oneself, for others in the community and for the environment.
- To help boarders develop all of their talents be them academic, sporting, artistic, or in the performing arts.
- To help boarders understand the value of team work and provide them with the opportunity to develop leadership.

To help support these aims we encourage all of the members of the boarding community to:

- Act with kindness towards others. Show respect for the views, feelings and property of others in the whole school community.
- To do their best whether it is in academic or extracurricular activities and be prepared to embrace a challenge. To endeavor to make a positive effort to enjoy life and develop personal resilience.
- Behave honestly and with integrity at all times.
- Think for themselves

Boarding Practice

House structure, staffing and routines

We have 4 boarding houses. These include a junior boarding house from years 3 to 8 (Cotlake) of 35 beds, a senior girls' house of 95 beds from years 9 to 13 (Hutton), a senior boys' house from years 9 to 13 with 73 beds (School) and a second senior boys' house for years 9 to 13 with 36 beds (Channon). All the boarding houses are on the school site with the exception of Channon that is a 4 minute walk from the school.

Each boarding house has a resident houseparent, an assistant resident houseparent, at least one other resident tutor and a team of visiting tutors and support staff.

Each boarding house produces their own handbook for pupils and parents that provide the detail around the daily routine and structure of each house.

Most boarders are full time boarders although some board on a more flexible basis. We have no exeat weekends and boarders are free to return home or to visit guardians at the weekends providing any school commitments are met. There is no Saturday school but there is a wide range of co-curricular, sporting activities and trips available at the weekends.

Boarders are fully integrated into the life of the school. Ever boarder is a member of a Day House and they share tutor groups, house assemblies, social spaces and, of course, lessons with the day pupils.

Guardians

Every Queen's College student whose parents live outside of the UK is required to have an adult guardian in the UK, preferably within one hour's driving distance of the School. This requirement applies to all students, including those in the Sixth Form, regardless of age.

A guardian may be a relative, friend of the family or a guardian agency and must be aged over 23 years old. It is essential that a guardian is nominated before the student joins Queen's College and that the Registrar is given the guardian's name and contact details before the student joins the School.

Support for Boarders

There is a fully staffed medical centre which operates 24 hours a day. There is also a visiting doctor two mornings a week and we also provide a physiotherapist (at an additional cost). If a pupil needs to see a dentist or a doctor or other medical professional, the medical centre staff will make the necessary arrangements.

All meals are provided for all the boarders in the main school dining room although there is provision within each house for boarders to prepare their own food. Boarders with special dietary requirements are also catered for.

Laundry is carried out within each boarding house.

For overseas boarders, transport to and from Heathrow airport and Bristol airport is provided at the beginning and end of each term.

Pastoral support is provided primarily by the House team but also by tutors, subject tutors and other pupils.

August 2018

Jon Shepherd, Head of Boarding

Next review August 2019