



King's College

TAUNTON

Child Student Visa Policy

Policy Date: September 2023

Responsibility

Individual: Director of Admissions

Review Cycle: (Annual)

Next scheduled review: September 2024

Last interim review: February 2024

King's Schools Taunton Ltd Sponsor License Number: 487GTX5Y8

King's College and King's College Prep School (the School) hold a Student Visa License as King's Schools Taunton Ltd, issued by United Kingdom Visas and Immigration (UKVI) that allows them to sponsor overseas pupils to apply for a visa to enter the UK to study at the School.

The Sponsor License is important to the School, and significant trust is placed in the School by UKVI. To maintain its license the School has to meet the UKVI's rules, regulations and sponsorship duties.

The School will issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Study (CAS) in the term preceding admission. The responsibility for making a visa application to allow a child to attend the School rests with the parents. The School is unable to assist in resolving any visa-related issues, other than those under UKVI jurisdiction, either for a current pupil or for a pupil who is proposed to be admitted.

Parents must be aware of the regular changes to the visa application process. Full, up-to-date information from UKVI and the Home Office can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/child-study-visa>.

Guardians

King's College and King's College Prep School welcome pupils from around the world and value their contributions to the school community. All parents who are not permanently resident in the UK must appoint a guardian in the UK to act with their full authority in case of emergency, or if the pupil unexpectedly requires accommodation away from school for one reason or another.

Guardians should be appointed by the pupil's own family. They can be appointed through a professional guardianship organisation, or they can be a nominated friend or relative of the family.

Guardians must be over 25 years old, resident in the UK and English speaking. Guardians may not be living in student accommodation provided by an educational institution.

In addition, guardians are required:

- To provide a point of contact, available every day throughout the school term, and to be ready to accommodate the pupil in case of an emergency or in the event of the pupil being suspended from school.
- When needed, to collect, deliver or arrange transport for the pupil to and from the airport at the beginning and ends of terms and half terms.
- When needed, to provide appropriate accommodation and care for the pupil over school holidays, half term breaks and exeat weekends, or to make suitable alternative arrangements for such accommodation and care.
- On every occasion to provide details of the pupil's holiday travel and accommodation, in writing, to the pupil's Houseparent.
- To attend parents' meetings at the school on the parents' behalf.
- To keep in regular communication with the Houseparent regarding the welfare of the pupil.

Please note that the School is unable to arrange or recommend guardians. If parents need help in finding a guardian they might want to look at the AEGIS website (<https://aegisuk.net/>).

It is the responsibility of the parent to choose and pay for a guardian who fulfils the roles to the satisfaction of both the School and the parents. It is the responsibility of the parent to inform the School immediately if the guardianship arrangements change.

Arrangements for Pupils during School Holiday Periods

It is the School's responsibility to hold detailed information about the travel and care arrangements for all overseas pupils for all holidays, whatever these might be. Parents and/or Guardians are required to inform the School of the details of these arrangements, including:

- Where the pupil will be going during the holidays (including flight and transportation details, both leaving and returning).
- Should the pupil remain in the UK, the address(es) where the pupil will be residing.
- The name, contact details and date of birth of individuals responsible for the pupil's care, if different from the pupil's nominated guardian.

The School will undertake regular questionnaires with pupils following school holidays to ensure that guardianship arrangements are promoting the welfare, physical wellbeing and emotional wellbeing of the pupils. We will also carry out spot checks to ensure that the details given are correct and to verify that the pupil is where they say they are during these periods.

Care Arrangements for Pupils Whose Visas Remain Valid After Their Course of Study Ends

Visas are granted on the basis of the length of a pupil's course, and this determines the start and end dates on the CAS. It is normal, however, for the visa to remain valid for four months after the course has ended. The School remains responsible for reporting on a pupil during this period if they have not left the UK or returned home.

Passports

A valid passport is required for a pupil to obtain their Child Student Visa. If the passport expires during the duration of the visa, this does not concern the UKVI. However, in order for the pupil to travel, a valid passport is required with at least six months left before the expiry date.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their child's passport is in date before any school trips or before returning home. Parents are required to let the School have all updated passport details and to provide a colour photograph of the main page of the passport.

Other parental responsibilities include:

- Keeping contact details up to date with the School and with UKVI.
- Informing the school and UKVI of any changes to parents' personal details that may affect visa and/or immigration status. These changes may include the parent's name, nationality, gender etc.

Changes to Programme of Study

The School is required to report any significant changes to a pupil's study programme to UKVI. This includes changes to course, duration and location of study.

Attendance and Engagement

The School must keep a record of a pupil's attendance and report any instances of regular non-attendance to the UKVI. Pupils must ensure that their attendance levels and engagement are satisfactory, or risk their Child Student Visa being cancelled. Parents are required to adhere to term dates when booking flights, as a pupil's non-attendance is recorded if they arrive late at the beginning of term or leave early at the end of term.

Working

The rules on what work a pupil can do on a Child Student Visa are very strict; the purpose of Child Student sponsorship is to come to the UK to study. Penalties for breaching these rules, even accidentally, are severe.