



King's College

TAUNTON

Boarding Policy, Principles and Practice

Policy Date: September 2024

Responsibility

Individual: Head of Boarding

Review Cycle: (Annual)

Next scheduled review: September 2025

Last interim review: September 2024

Boarding Principles and Practice

King's College aims to provide a caring and stimulating boarding environment, where boarding contributes to pupils' overall development. Learning to live and grow up in a boarding community offers opportunities for pupils to develop as individuals in a number of important ways:

- Developing values – from experience and sharing come respect, tolerance, courtesy and a growing responsibility for others (practised particularly as mentors and prefects)
- Developing self-awareness and resilience – becoming aware of one's strengths and weaknesses and those of others
- Developing increasing physical and emotional independence and independence of thought, particularly valuable in preparing for life post-King's

There are six houses at King's College, three girls' houses and three boys' houses, all containing a mix of boarding and day pupils. Evenings and weekends see a range of activities both in school and off-site for pupils to involve themselves in and to develop their talents and interests. Opportunities for leadership, present in many co-curricular activities, are also promoted through the prefect system, which is an important part of the pastoral structure in our boarding houses.

Our boarding practice aims to:

- Promote the welfare, safety and health of every individual.
- Foster a sense of community and belonging among our pupils, encouraging positive relationships, mutual respect, and a supportive atmosphere.
- Provide the academic resources, study spaces, and support to help our pupils excel in their studies
- Facilitate opportunities for personal development, encouraging pupils to explore their interests and talents.
- Prioritise the mental and physical well-being of our pupils through wellness programs, counselling services, and initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle.
- Encourage independence among our pupils, helping them develop essential life skills that prepare them for future challenges.
- Offer a variety of recreational and social activities to create a balanced and enjoyable boarding experience, fostering a sense of camaraderie and fun among our pupils.
- Establish transparent and open communication channels with parents or guardians, keeping them informed about their child's progress and well-being.
- Encourage teamwork fostering an environment where pupils can work with each other to achieve common goals.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to develop leadership skills within the boarding community.
- To continue to raise awareness and embed equality, diversity and inclusion amongst our community.

Our driving aim is for our pupils to be fulfilled and a general state of happiness and this has at its heart the need for them to feel secure and cared for by well-qualified and experienced staff who are well disposed to children and who are supported in their caring tasks by regular and appropriate INSET.

A boarding education provides opportunities to encourage the development of both the individual and the community and is also a means to instil and develop personal values.