



## **BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE STATEMENT**

Person responsible: Head of Boarding  
Date reviewed: September 2023  
Review date: September 2024

The Junior King's School Canterbury has a strongly academic curriculum that is continually being adapted to the changing demands of modern education. The School's aim is to enable every individual to make the most of their abilities and to fulfil their potential, and it is accepted that much of what is valuable in education takes place outside of the classroom. The School therefore aims to provide a very full educational experience, both for boarders and day pupils. Such a programme can often make great demands on the pupils and staff involved, so the School is committed to the highest levels of pastoral care.

### **The Management of Boarding**

The Head of Boarding is the member of the Senior Management Team with overall responsibility for the welfare of the boarding pupils, and she reports directly to both the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and the Head. Key issues concerning the welfare of boarders are regularly discussed in the weekly Boarding, Pastoral Welfare and Senior Management Team meetings. The Head of Boarding oversees all of the boarding staff: the houseparents; the boarding tutors; the assistant tutors; the matrons; the nurses. She is also the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. The Head of Boarding ensures that there is parity and consistency across both boarding houses, as well as compliance to regulations.

### **Boarding Practice**

- There are approximately 360 pupils in the School, of which about 80 are boarders. The majority of
- these are full boarders. Additionally, there are approximately 20 flexi boarders.
- The two boarding houses, which are regarded as the pupils' homes during their time at school, are located within the main school building. The boys' house, Kipling, is situated on the first floor; the girls' house, Juckes, is situated on the second.
- Each boarding house is run as a 'family' unit, with the Housemaster or Housemistress, and their respective families, living alongside the pupils. The Housemaster or Housemistress has overall responsibility for a pupil's work, welfare and development, and is assisted in this role by matrons, nurses, assistant tutors, and a team of tutors drawn from the teaching staff of the School.
- A team of matrons is responsible for the day-to-day health of the pupils, working closely with the Health Centre and the School Doctor. The Health Centre is staffed by qualified nurses six days a week. Overnight and on a Sunday, the Health Centre is staffed by matrons.
- ¶ The Housemaster and Housemistress are responsible for the day-to-day running of their respective boarding houses. There is a weekly boarding meeting attended by the Housemaster, Housemistress, Senior Matron and Boarding Tutors, where matters of common concern can be discussed. Additional meetings are held by arrangement.
- The School provides a wide range of facilities and opportunities for its boarders beyond the classroom. Offered both throughout the week and at weekends, pupils are able to enjoy a variety of academic, musical, artistic, dramatic, sporting and computing activities.
- The School seeks to assimilate new pupils as smoothly as possible by providing guidance and information in a variety of ways (written, verbal and practical) from houseparents,

members of the Senior Management Team, tutors, matrons and fellow pupils.

- Formal and informal monitoring of academic and personal progress and welfare are continuous during a pupil's school career.
- Boarders are able to contact parents, relations and friends either in person, by post, by telephone (landline or mobile), by e-mail and through social media apps, and parents are very welcome to visit the pupils at weekends or during the week by arrangement with the respective Houseparent.
- The School welcomes pupils from a variety of faiths and denominations, or none. There are regular whole school assemblies, year group assemblies and house assemblies during the week, and boarders are expected to attend Sunday services, which are either formal or informal in nature. Special arrangements can be made for pupils of non-Anglican faith if required.
- The School provides for pupils from various countries and cultures, and for pupils with linguistic or specific learning needs.
- To the best of its abilities, the School promotes all aspects of equal opportunity and diversity.
- The School's policy is to promote a healthy lifestyle and to give guidance on all aspects of personal and social development. The School prides itself on the quality of food provided for boarders. There is always plenty of choice, and provision is made for special dietary needs. Pupils have regular input into the development of catering provision through the catering committee meetings.
- A high priority is placed on maintaining pupils' safety around the school site. In addition to clear guidelines for the pupils themselves, the School has also provided additional protection for school buildings by the use of controlled access, digital keypads, CCTV cameras and careful monitoring by security personnel. Pupils are provided with a lockable cupboard in which to keep valued possessions.
- The School is committed to safeguarding all pupils. Suspected cases of child abuse would be referred to the Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KSCMP). The Deputy Head (Pastoral) is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) within the School. He is assisted in this by four Deputy DSLs, who are named in school. A copy of the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy may be found on our website and in the Staff Handbook, which is available on the School's intranet. All members of staff, both teaching and non-teaching, receive regular training in safeguarding and child protection.
- In addition to boarding and academic staff, pupils can discuss any issue of concern with a School Chaplain, the Health Centre nurses, or one of the School Counsellors. Pupils can also contact the School's independent listener. Key contact numbers, such as those for the Duty Officer of Social Services, NSPCC and Childline, are displayed both in classrooms and on the boarding floors.
- The School has published, and made available, the Complaints Procedures for pupils and parents. These are in line with official recommendations.

- It is essential for a school to run as a well-ordered community, where both the rights of individuals and their responsibilities towards others are recognised and maintained. Expectations of behaviour are given in both the school rules and the boarding house rules, which are displayed in all classrooms and both boarding houses as appropriate. Pupils are made aware of the sanctions which may be applied if rules are breached.
- The School regards any form of bullying as entirely incompatible with the wellbeing of the community as a whole. Staff are vigilant in looking out for signs of such behaviour and any offences are treated very seriously.
- There are six fixed exeats during the academic year, one each half of term. During an exeat, the whole school is closed. Additional stays with friends and family are warmly welcomed, provided that the appropriate permissions are sought and granted in advance.