

MORE HOUSE SCHOOL

POLICY

BOARDING

Rationale:

There can be no substitute for a loving caring home, and our School does not seek to be such a substitute. However, the sense of community and the facilities available to boarders enables the School to foster boarders' social confidence, personal responsibility and resilience as well as developing their skills and interests. We believe that we can make life for our boarders secure, stimulating and happy, by providing an environment where they are cared for and supported by a partnership between parents and the School. Boarding at More House provides fantastic opportunities for pupils whatever their need, be it geographical, social or academic. Many of our boys flourish here as boarders due to these opportunities.

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Purpose:

1. To provide an environment where boys staying away from home are cared for physically, emotionally and spiritually. To keep boarders safe in their residential setting.
2. To help every young person to grow, mature and become a member of a caring and happy community.
3. To provide as many meaningful and enriching opportunities as possible so that every boy can develop his own personality and interests.

Broad Guidelines:

- The Deputy Head (Head of Residential) fulfils the role of Head of Care, and has overall responsibility, under the Headmaster, for the boarding provision and curriculum, for supporting and managing the boarding staff, and for the safety and welfare of pupils outside normal teaching hours.
- The provision is managed and delivered in accordance with guidance issued by government and the Boarding Schools' Association, and complies with the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools (September 2022) and informed by the Social Care Common Inspection Framework (last updated September 2022), published by the Department for Education. The provision is inspected annually by Ofsted's Social Care department, whose findings are published in an inspection report.
- Every boarder is provided with his personal bed-space, which may be situated within a single room, shared room or dormitory with a maximum of eight bed-spaces, depending on his age and identified needs. The Head of Care has overall responsibility for allocating

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bed-spaces informed by risk-assessment and, along with boarding staff, will use the individual boarder's wishes as the predominant criteria. However, the views of boarding staff, parents and guardians will also be taken into consideration. Parents and carers are welcome to contribute to the process of deciding room-allocations by contacting the Deputy Head (Head of Residential) directly, or their son's house-parent. Should a pupil, their parent or carer have concerns about an allocation, they are encouraged to contact the Head of Care as soon as possible to discuss their concerns.

- Every child has his own specific house-parent, whose responsibility it is to help every boy in his/her care to look after himself and grow in confidence and personal responsibility. His house-parent will closely liaise with both the boy's form-tutor, parents or carer, and any other department as necessary, and is available to discuss with parents their son's development and support.
- A wide range of recreational activities, both on and off the School site, in the evenings and at weekends, is provided to cater for the range of interests of the boys and to encourage the boys' social development and physical skills.
- Boarding staff liaise closely with the respective form-tutors, heads of year and therapeutic staff in order that they may offer additional extra-curricular educational support to boys within their personal care. They also work alongside other key pastoral support staff such as the surgery, school counsellors and the pastoral team.

Conclusion:

The safety, contentment and happiness of boys living away from home in a boarding school, is an essential prerequisite if they are to have sufficient stability to learn and thrive in the school. It is the task of the boarding team to guarantee this stability.

Appendix A - The following School policies and documents form important continuations of this policy:

- Admissions Policy
- Boarding Plans Policy

Responsible staff member	Dept Head (Head of Residential)
Ratified by the Governing Body:	5 October 2023
Signed by the Governing Body:	Safeguarding & Welfare Committee
To be reviewed (annually):	October 2024

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