

Boarding Principles and Practice

At Queen Ethelburga's Collegiate, we seek to provide a safe and secure home, in a happy and caring community, where students can enjoy their childhood while learning the principles of adulthood.

The Collegiate welcomes students of all faiths and cultures and values the diversity that this brings to the community. Students are given the space to be individuals, to explore interests and take pride in themselves and their endeavours, while simultaneously learning to live in a close community that requires them to respect and celebrate the differences in others. True friendships and support systems are forged and are likely to remain strong for the rest of their lives.

The Collegiate has a strong commitment to boarding, with a clear determination to provide a high-quality British boarding experience, offering a positive family atmosphere for those who choose to board. We constantly seek to improve provision, in response to the views of everyone involved. Our aim is to provide a stable environment, within which all boarders can develop and thrive academically, socially, culturally, morally and spiritually, promoting both physical and mental health.

Our boarding community embodies the Collegiate for all members of the community to Thrive at QE. There is always someone there to care for our students and listen to their needs, providing a friendly adult presence without invading the students' sense of privacy. The Collegiate prides itself on being committed to the parenting and care of young people.

Our aspirations for our boarders are that they should:

- feel they belong
- grow in confidence
- feel able to speak with honesty and conviction
- feel supported and listened to carefully and openly
- develop a sense of responsibility, growing in confidence and independence in preparation for the future.

We strive to create a stimulating and engaging environment that enables students to develop their personal and inter-personal qualities in preparation for life beyond school. We encourage students to take responsibility for themselves and others and to engage in both leadership and service. We promote integrity, resilience, self-awareness, empathy, and a good sense of humour, helping all to reach their full potential.

The boarding houses are set in very pleasant and peaceful surroundings. Boarders are encouraged to access our excellent facilities and to take advantage of many exciting opportunities. There are extensive playing fields; a 'Village Green'; a purpose-built Sports Centre with a fitness gym; an astro-turfed area for sports such as hockey, rugby, five-a-side football and tennis; and the professional production space, The King's Theatre. Muggles, our well-equipped recreation centre, is popular with our students and our calming reflection room provides the opportunity for quiet contemplation.

Within boarding we foster a positive and active involvement in the school and beyond. Our innovative Co-curricular programme offers an extensive range of activities, both internal and external, that our boarders can attend, as well as providing opportunities for quiet, purposeful study. Pastorally, we encourage our students to show their leadership and empathy through taking up positions of responsibility or working with others to promote happiness and well-being from within the student body.

These initiatives, along with others, highlight our focus on the individual, encouraging each student to develop their own unique character, personality and talents. They become happy, confident and responsible young people, who are proud of their academic successes and personal achievements, and who are equipped and prepared for life with the resilience to never give up when faced with the challenges of adult life.