

## **Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice**

The Hall Grove boarding experience provides an excellent opportunity for pupils to build confidence staying away from home in a safe and familiar environment and helps to prepare them for life at a senior boarding school.

## **Boarding Aims & Principles**

- 1. By living together, enables pupils to learn about social interaction, teamwork and their responsibility to each other, whilst ensuring safeguarding measures are followed throughout.
- 2. Provide pupils with a home from home experience of the boarding way of life.
- 3. Provide additional opportunities for pupils to participate fully in and enjoy the school's cocurricular activities, trips and outings.
- 4. Provide supervision for a range of evening study and music/drama practice.
- 5. Provide pupils with an amazing experience of community life in preparation for senior school entry.

In summary, we aim to provide a safe and secure family environment, and a fun and happy experience of boarding school life.

## Our Approach in Practice

Hall Grove houses its boarders in the main School House above the House Parents & Headmaster's residences, in newly refurbished comfortable shared bedrooms with access to showers and toilet facilities, a sitting room, snug and small kitchen. The House offers a unique boarding experience which is an extension of home life, benefiting from the close attention of the House Parents and Boarding staff.

Boarders fall into three groups: regular weekly boarders, regular flexi-boarders who stay for one or two nights, and those boarding on an occasional "hotel night" basis, if spaces are available. It is a flexible and valuable service for parents offered to pupils in Year 4 and above (younger children may be accepted in exceptional circumstances) and is flexible enough to be able to cope with last minute-changes. We are different to many boarding schools in that our children are predominantly local and boarders have many opportunities for contact with their parents even whilst away from home.

The House Parents and dedicated boarding staff provide activities, home-from-home care and general supervision, living as a family which includes eating together. Our boarding staff are experienced members of staff, assisted by GAP students, who are able to get to know the children both academically and pastorally. Before settling in for the night, the boarders eat supper, have Supervised Prep, and take part in Clubs and other Extended Day activities. Boarders are listened to and their views taken into account. Regular boarders have the opportunity to personalise their bedroom with suitable posters and family photographs. Where needed, regular boarders are provided with a secure place to keep personal items although "tuck" may not be brought to school.

Our approach to boarding reflects our approach generally and our School Policies apply to Boarding pupils in the same way as to Day pupils.

## Updated September 2022. BG.