



## **BOARDING POLICY**

Farlington seeks to help girls find their future and understand their past. This begins by helping them to discover their own strengths, passions and sensitivities. We recognise their needs are not solely academic; they are social, spiritual and emotional.

The School aims to build confidence by developing personal qualities that help to form trusting and stable relationships and encourage sound moral judgements to be made. The Christian principles of the School permeate all aspects of School life.

All staff aim to safeguard, so far as is reasonably practical, the health, safety and welfare of all children. In the Boarding House at Farlington we aim to provide a relaxed, caring environment, as much like home as possible.

There are rules, but we try to keep them to a minimum, concentrating on those that are essential to the girls' well being.

### **We believe that boarding helps to develop:**

- Confidence
- Community spirit
- Independence
- Social Skills
- Cultural awareness
- Respect for others
- Self-motivation
- Responsibility

### **We believe that boarders gain from boarding at Farlington in the following ways:**

- They have an active social life
- They receive an enhanced education
- They develop close relationships with family and friends
- They have greater access to School facilities
- They develop a special working relationship with teachers
- They have a wide range of activities available

### **Our policy is that the boarding house at Farlington should be:**

- A place where girls can grow into independent adults, able to cope with the ever-changing world; they will take on more responsibility as they get older.
- A place where they learn to do their best at everything – and not mind if they do not always succeed at the first attempt.
- A place where the girls are accepted for themselves; we want them to be kind and considerate of one another's needs.



- A place where the girls can mix with other students of similar ages, irrespective of race, religion, cultural and linguistic background.
- A place for girls to have fun whilst maturing into caring adults.
- A place full of happy memories.

### **Guidelines which relate to the School's aims**

The rules and discipline procedure in the Boarding House are clearly laid out in the Boarding House Handbook. The general School rules are expected to continue after 4 o'clock. The rules are there to strengthen the good feeling and ethos in the School – which we call the 'Farlington Factor'.

### **Policy for Boarders to make complaints, etc.**

This is clearly laid out in the Handbook and in the Complaints Policy

### **Safeguarding Children**

The National Childline telephone number is noted in the Handbook and in the telephone booth. All members of the Boarding House staff have undertaken training in Safeguarding Children. Staff are aware of the policies and procedures in place laid out in the Staff Handbook and put them into action when necessary. A counsellor visits the School on a regular basis.

### **Medical arrangements**

The School Doctor holds a clinic once a fortnight for the boarders. There are two qualified nurses on site from 8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Thursday and 8.00am to 5.00pm Friday. There is a small sick bay should isolation be necessary. Any medication given to a pupil is recorded and signed for and is safely stored in locked cupboards.

### **Supervision for trips out**

Depending on numbers, one or two members of staff plus one or two 'gappers' accompany the Boarders on each weekend trip. The number of full Boarders varies each year.

### **In-service training**

Pastoral staff regularly attend courses and conferences in order to meet with colleagues in similar positions and exchange or renew ideas. The Housemistress attends the local B.S.A. Boarding Support Group and the residential BSA Conference. Other House staff attend conferences on relevant issues, such as bullying.

### **In loco parentis**

House staff and ESOL staff take this rôle very seriously. They will represent a pupil at a Parents' Evening, attend concerts and plays and liaise with parents when necessary.