



Our
future
starts here

Beechwood Park School

STATEMENT OF BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

Website: www.beechwoodpark.com

Policy Number:	BWPS - 026
Policy Applicable To:	Whole School – Boarding
Policy Revised By:	RHA
Last Review Date:	May 2025
SLT Reviewed Date:	May 2025
Reviewed:	Bi-annually
Governors Reviewed Date:	May 2025
Next Review Date:	May 2027

Overview:

In alignment with the School's Purpose, Vision and Mission and in accordance with the School's child-centred ethos, the Head of Boarding consulted with boarders regarding boarding, its principles and practices.

Boarding Staff summarised the Purpose, Vision and Mission of Boarding at Beechwood with C.I.F: community, independence, fun!

The pupils identified boarding as an experience which achieves the following outcomes:

1. To be an integral part of a diverse community of young people;
2. To develop social skills and friendship;
3. To feel safe and happy;
4. To develop academic independence;
5. To develop confidence, independence, resilience and self-belief;
6. To be better organised and to develop a greater sense of personal responsibility;
7. To prepare pupils for senior school boarding;
8. To develop respect for others and their possessions;

The Structure of Boarding

Boarders sign up for a whole term of boarding in advance. The Head of Boarding allocates each boarder their own bed and boarding space. Boarders choose to board on any combination of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday nights. There is no weekend boarding provision. The boarding staff encourage all boarders to board as many nights as possible as their confidence grows to develop greater independence and maturity.

Leadership and Governance

The Head of Boarding meets termly with the Boarding Governor and contributes to the Head's termly report for Governors. The Boarding Governor meets with boarders for a termly Boarding Forum.

Boarding Staff

Our highly-experienced Head of Boarding leads a boarding team of both male and female staff, who provide wrap-around boarding pastoral care for all boarders from Monday to Friday. All boarding staff are residential and are on duty on a rota.

Boarding staff supervise prep and music practice sessions in which pupils complete their work to a high standard. They encourage positive behaviour through the use of 'Dojo Points' and run an extensive and varied activity and trips programme to provide boarders with a variety of fun new experiences. The boarding staff host regular themed events and trips and are on hand to help boarders to manage their friendships, their possessions and their day to day questions. Boarding Staff listen to pupil views in person and through the use of suggestions forms (paper) and termly questionnaires (electronic).

Induction of Boarders

The Head of Boarding allocates Boarding Buddies to help new boarders settle into the Boarding House. Induction information is provided through the Boarding Handbook for Pupils which is given to every new boarder and is on display outside the boy's bathroom and outside the girl's common room.

Communication

All pupils have access to a landline phone and the Boarding Mobile Phone (carried by on duty staff) to contact parents or carers, or external services (e.g. Childline) and the School's Independent Person.