



BRIGHTON
COLLEGE

Brighton College

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice



Boarding at Brighton College

Brighton College has a long history of boarding and believes that the community atmosphere of the school is greatly enhanced by the presence of boarders.

Two types of boarding are offered by the College for UK or overseas students. Full boarding, seven days per week, though pupils can spend time with their guardians or host families at weekends, and weekly boarding, five or six nights per week. Weekly boarders go home on a Friday after school or Saturday after fixtures and return on a Sunday evening before 21:00 registration or on a Monday morning. The boarders are housed in six boarding Houses of which three are for boys (Abraham, Head's and School), two for girls (Fenwick and Riley) and one is a mixed House for Sixth Form pupils (Alexander). Some of our Sixth Formers rotate through annexes linked to those Houses – Stewart, Christie, Griffith and Walpole.

Each House has a dedicated live-in Housemaster or Housemistress, two Deputy Housemasters or Housemistresses, a Matron and a team of Tutors, whose pastoral work is essential to maintain the smooth running of the boarding community and to enhance the quality of life of the pupils whilst they are in school. Each has its own building and facilities, identity and ethos - but with a common framework for the pastoral support of the pupils.

The ethos of the school is one of inclusion and support. We are very proud of the high-quality pastoral care given to all pupils at Brighton. Pastoral care is provided by the tutor team and specialist boarding staff in each House who themselves are an integral part of the school community. This provision hinges on the excellent working relationships established between staff and pupils to make each pupil feel **supported, encouraged and known**.



Admissions to Boarding

Pupils may apply for boarding places at 13+ (Y9) or 16+ (for Sixth Form), although on occasion we have spaces available for pupils to enter in other year groups. The pupils are assessed for admission along the same lines as all other pupils in the school; by entry test and by interview (sometimes conducted online for overseas applicants). Some scholarships (sports, academic and under other categories) are also available for boarders. The Admissions Office, under the direction of the Director of Admissions, handles all registrations and admissions to the College (for both boarding and day pupils). On occasion we may deem a pupil unsuitable for boarding either before they start in the College or during their time with us. Ordinarily they would be able to continue as a day pupil in such instances.

Facilities

The boarding Houses are continually maintained and enhanced by refurbishments, starting with a major refurbishment some five years ago. This has been followed by extensions and refurbishments to provide more (and better) accommodation for both girls and boys. New House was built to increase the boarding facilities for girls in 2013, and Alexander House was purchased and converted in 2017 to cope with increased demand for boarding places. We won the BSA Award for our boarding accommodation in 2019 and we were named 'UK Boarding School of the Year' by the Sunday Times in 2025.

All Houses have their own separate recreation spaces with kitchen facilities for boarders to use and ICT facilities. The boarding staff provide a programme of activities for evenings and weekends which allows boarders to have access to sports and recreation facilities within the main school campus and also allows them to visit cultural and other facilities off-site (the theatre, paintballing and go-karting for example). The Simon Smith Building, the School of Science and Sport and the new Richard Cairns Building provide outstanding social and sports facilities for the boys and girls of all six Houses.



Wellbeing

Pupils are provided with three meals a day when boarding, and also have access to the informal environment of the school's cafés. Wellbeing support is provided through the pastoral teams in the Houses, the Wellbeing and Counselling teams, the medical care offered by the Health Centre which operates 24 hours a day, and spiritual guidance by the Chaplain. Boarding at Brighton College is overseen by the Director of Boarding, Jane Hamblett-Jahn. The Designated Safeguarding Lead for the school is Mr Paul Coventry. Boarders can also contact the Independent Person, Rabbi Gabriel, to talk about any worries or concerns.

Boarding Ethos

The life of a boarder at Brighton College seeks to develop the whole pupil, by addressing what we consider to be the important facets of a rounded education which prepare pupils for life after school. In line with the whole-school aims and ethos, we offer activities for pupils which complement and develop their academic life, and which enhance and add quality to the co-curricular. We provide an environment for pupils in which they can achieve at the highest level academically and otherwise, where the differences between pupils are celebrated and where the aim is to ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged. Personal pastoral care and positive staff/pupil relationships provide the support and care to nurture and enhance this. Boarders have access to facilities and opportunities to explore their interests and enthusiasms including sports facilities in the evening, cultural activities such as celebrations of the Orthodox New Year and organising and attending their own charity events such as the Fenwick Fashion Show and 'Boarders Got Talent'.

Boarders are an integral part of the way that the College works and, as they make up a large section of the total pupil population, and they have a significant impact on the school. Being close together at the centre of a compact campus, the College belongs to the boarders from 5pm, and they contribute much to what is at the very heart and soul of the school.



Reviewed 1.06.26 by Director of Boarding and 6.06.26 by Deputy Head (Pupils).

This statement is published on the College website, to parents on My School Portal, in the Boarding Handbook, on the policies page of the Staff Hub and to pupils and staff in the Boarding Handbook, and on House noticeboards. A translated version is available on request.