



# BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

## STATEMENT OF BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Author:          | Deputy Head (Pastoral) Senior School |
| Reviewed:        | August 2025                          |
| Next Review Due: | August 2026                          |
| Scope:           | Senior School                        |



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To: Boarding Houseparents, Common Room NB

September 2025

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## **BROMSGROVE BOARDING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE**

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In line with our School's Mission Statement, Bromsgrove aims to produce happy, creative and moral boarders who live motivated, fulfilled lives whilst enriching others' lives. We seek to develop core values of humility and confidence, compassion and ambition, respect and curiosity, and tolerance and vision.

### **PRINCIPLES OF BOARDING**

Every boarding pupil:

- should feel safe and supported within their boarding House
- should be able to thrive academically, physically, morally, spiritually, culturally and socially
- should have the opportunity to develop their talents, whether academic or co-curricular
- should have the right to be treated as an individual, respected by staff and pupils
- should have the right to work, play and relax without prejudice, discrimination, abuse, intimidation, harassment or bullying
- should feel they have a part to play in promoting a boarding community based on co-operation, relying on the qualities of kindness, tolerance, trust and generosity of spirit
- should know to whom they can turn at difficult times
- should have a right to privacy when required

Bromsgrove aims to achieve this by:

- providing a safe, healthy environment free from dangers and hazards
- providing excellent, comfortable accommodation well-suited to the needs of boarding, according to age and maturity, and with reasonable levels of privacy
- providing excellent study, leisure and recreational facilities
- providing excellent pastoral care which promotes physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- creating a community atmosphere in Houses in which pupils are encouraged and supported to flourish academically, personally and socially, preparing them for life beyond the School
- developing an open and trusting atmosphere in which a pupil feels able to approach staff or other pupils, confident that they will be treated with respect as an individual
- fostering House spirit of supportive cooperation, tolerance, kindness and trust
- providing a framework for evening study to encourage academic self-discipline
- providing a range of co-curricular and weekend opportunities and activities, related to age and maturity, that will assist the cultural, social and personal development of boarding pupils
- providing opportunities for teamwork and leadership to develop pupils' sense of responsibility
- creating an atmosphere in House where boarding pupils and staff can enjoy the positive benefits of community life
- welcoming new pupils to the boarding community with every possible support and encouragement

## BOARDING IN PRACTICE

There are six boarding Houses in Bromsgrove Senior School:

|                |                                       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Elmshurst      | Boys (LIV – UVI)                      |
| Housman Hall   | Sixth Form co-educational             |
| Mary Windsor   | Girls (LIV – UVI)                     |
| Oakley         | Girls (LIV – UVI)                     |
| Webber         | Currently an annexe of Wendron-Gordon |
| Wendron-Gordon | Boys (LIV – UVI)                      |

Each boarding House is run by a resident Houseparent (who acts *in loco parentis*), supported by a team including an Assistant Houseparent/Resident, Housemother, Tutors and boarding duty staff. All Houses are well staffed in relation to the number of pupils they accommodate.

All staff new to Bromsgrove follow a programme of induction and training, co-ordinated by the Deputy Head (Teaching). Boarding staff induction is led primarily by the relevant Houseparent, with help from the Boarding Co-ordinator. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) has overall responsibility for boarding in the Senior School, and liaises regularly with the School's Boarding Governor.

Boarding Houses have excellent facilities and social areas with Wi-Fi provision for computer access. Younger pupils are generally accommodated in rooms of up to four pupils, in which they have their own personal space, including desk and storage facilities, as well as *en-suite* bathroom facilities. Sixth Form pupils have twin or single study bedrooms, all with *en-suite* bathroom facilities.

Boarders may take advantage of the School's excellent sports facilities as well as the Library & Resources Centre (LRC), Art Design & Technology Centre (ADT) and Routh Music School at various times in the evenings and at weekends.

In short, boarding Houses provide a 'home' base in School, offering opportunities for purposeful study as well as for recreation and relaxation with friends across year groups. A sense of loyalty and community spirit is fostered by inter-House competitions (against day Houses too) and a programme of events specific to each House, supported where relevant by any House Parents' Association.

We recognise the importance of trying to work in partnership with parents, communicating regularly and, in these days of social media and live streaming, sometimes spontaneously. Boarding pupils are of course encouraged to keep in touch with home as well through their chosen media. Aside from the House staff, boarders have many people on hand to look after them should they need to turn to somebody: perhaps a senior pupil in the House, a trusted subject teacher, the School Chaplain or senior staff (e.g. Senior Master, Senior Mistress or Deputy Head Pastoral); maybe a member of the staff in the Boarders' Clinic and Wellbeing Hub or even, if required, a School counsellor/youth support worker or an independent listener. School and teenage pressures will inevitably cause the odd challenge, but there will always be someone to support and encourage a boarding pupil at Bromsgrove.



Mr A.G. McClure  
**Deputy Headmaster (Pastoral)**

Cc: Boarding Staff Handbooks, School Website