

## **STATEMENT OF BOARDING AIMS AND VALUES – OAK HOUSE BOARDING**

Richard Huish College believes in creating and maintaining a safe, secure and stimulation boarding culture. It is our policy to provide breadth of opportunity for all in line with the College values (see appendices). The strength of Oak House is that it promotes pastoral welfare, happiness and fosters a strong spirit of academic achievement.

Huish has a strong team of personal tutors who work closely with the house parents and international staff to support the development of their tutees. House parents will usually perform evening duties, which allows them to develop a fuller awareness of the students in their care. Oak House has a cleaner who is an integral member of the pastoral team.

The medical welfare of the students is the responsibility of the whole Oak House and international team, and where appropriate the team will work with the Assistant Principal (Student Support) and Warwick House GP practice.

Each boarder will also benefit from the considerable range of structures in the College, for example, Student Services, Learning Centre and Careers advice. This statement, along with the Principles of Boarding establishes Huish's commitment to boarding. On rare occasions, non-International students may use Homestay provision.

House parents, Oak House staff and international staff have clearly defined roles, which are set down in their job descriptions.

## **PRINCIPLES OF BOARDING**

### **Statement of Principles**

**The following are the principles upon which boarding in this college is based:**

1. The development of the whole person and the communication of values are vital.
2. Being an open and trusting college, boarding is based upon mutual respect for all members.
3. Each boarder has the right to be able to work, play and relax free from abuse, intimidation, harassment and bullying.
4. There is equality of opportunity and respect for all boarders, regardless of ethnicity, culture, gender, race, age, faith or disability.
5. Each boarder and each member of staff is to be treated as an individual and with respect by other students and by staff.
6. Although living corporately, staff and boarders acknowledge the right of each other to privacy.
7. Each boarder has the right to extend his/her intellectual growth in an atmosphere of positive encouragement and in conditions that are conducive to work.
8. All boarders should be able to develop spiritually, culturally, morally and socially during their time in boarding.
9. Despite the often great distance separating boarders from their families, links with parents are seen as an indispensable part of the support and development of boarders in this college.

### **In boarding, we aim to:**

1. Develop the whole person, a desire for truth and a respect for others.

2. Produce an open and trusting ethos in which each boarder feels able to approach any other member of the community (staff or student), confident in the knowledge that he/she will be treated and respected as an individual.
3. Create an atmosphere of tolerance, openness and trust in which teasing, harassment and bullying would find great difficulty in developing.
4. Provide the conditions for boarders to develop their intellectual talents through well structured learning conditions, access to staff and other students, participation in activities and in an atmosphere which values effort.
5. Provide a range of activities, hobbies and opportunities that will assist in the personal, social and cultural development of each boarder.
6. Safeguard and promote the welfare of each boarder, by providing an environment that is, as far as possible, free from physical hazards and dangers of any sort.
7. Provide accommodation that is comfortable and suited to the needs of boarders, and which provides adequate levels of privacy.
8. Develop boarders' responsibility for self, for others and for his/her environment.
9. Develop boarders' qualities of leadership and ability to work as part of a team.
10. Provide suitable conditions for boarders to feel able to turn to members of staff to share the good things in their lives as well as being able to turn for advice, counselling and support during times of difficulty.
11. Develop positive relationships between members of the boarding house and local community.
12. Safeguard members of the Oak House and Huish community and the wider community by reporting any student behaviour that may indicate a potential risk including radicalisation as required by the Counter Terrorism Bill 2015