

Stephen Perse Foundation
Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

These principles and practices outline the contribution made by the boarding ethos of the Stephen Perse Foundation (the '**Foundation**') to the achievement of the vision and the aims of the Foundation. The boarding provision is available to students attending the Stephen Perse Sixth Form and SPF International and those enrolled on the IGCSE 1 year programme.

Boarding policies and procedures are reviewed regularly against the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools, the arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of those who board.

The ideas of 'encouraged responsibility' and 'managed independence' underlie all aspects of Sixth Form life at the Foundation and come into their own in the Boarding Houses. It is one of the reasons why we believe we attract a substantial number of students who have never lived away from home before, as well as many with previous boarding experience.

The Foundation's boarding community is a varied and diverse one and students have different backgrounds and needs. It is the aim of the Foundation to be able to treat all boarders as individuals and provide an environment in which all may flourish.

We are committed to ensuring that students who board at the Foundation receive the domestic, pastoral and tutorial support necessary to promote their development as individuals, as members of the Sixth Form, Stephen Perse International and the Stephen Perse Senior School, and as members of the Foundation's community. We provide comfortable, safe and secure accommodation with suitable communal facilities and wholesome food. The Foundation will ensure ready access to healthcare agencies and supervision appropriate to the age group and to the purposes of our boarders.

Our boarding houses not only provide a safe place for students to live and study, but will also enable the development of important skills such as getting on with others, and striking the right balance between study and leisure. We will also promote a responsible respect for the beliefs, possessions and characteristics of others, important for communal living and preparation for adulthood.

In this context, boarders will be advised, helped and watched over by Boarding House Staff. All Foundation House Staff take their pastoral duties seriously, being presentable and professional in dealing with students, their parents, guardians, teaching and non-teaching colleagues. House Staff act as role models for the students in their care and place the health, safety and welfare of the students

foremost. House Staff provide good day-to-day advice, guidance and encouragement to students. House Staff will be managed by the Head of Boarding and will work closely with the Foundation's pastoral team regarding any pastoral issues.

We expect boarders at the Foundation to develop a responsible attitude to the exercise of the relatively greater personal freedom of the sixth form. This is intended to provide a valuable halfway house between home or the more traditional boarding school and the more open experience of life beyond school - particularly at university.

The Foundation's boarding provision is regularly inspected, with areas such as catering and boarding staff being officially commended. However, boarding is not just about food and accommodation for our students. In the most recent inspection, which took place in October 2018, inspectors commented that the boarding provision "safeguards and promotes their welfare and encourages them to respect the values and beliefs of others."

Boarders are welcome to stay every weekend of term or subject to approval from parents/guardians and the Head of Boarding, boarders may request an exeat (Friday to Sunday). For those who stay, the boarding houses continue to operate as normal and activities/events are organised for and are available to boarders during the evenings and at weekends.

The boarding houses comprise of either single or twin study-bedrooms. Room sizes may vary within the house but all include study space as well as a bed and storage. All rooms have either en-suite bathrooms or shared ensuite bathrooms and all have free broadband internet access. Each boarding house has a common room with digital TV and DVD player, and facilities for making tea, coffee and snacks.

Breakfast, lunch and evening meals are provided Monday to Friday and brunch and an evening meal are provided at weekends, during term time, prepared by the Foundation's external catering providers. The food is wholesome and healthy (there is always a vegetarian choice), and the Catering Manager is very pleased to consider suggestions from students for additional or alternative dishes. We cater for most special dietary needs, from vegetarian to Halal.

All boarders are fully supported medically and have access to excellent medical care and counselling services if needed.

The Foundation boarding aims to establish, maintain and encourage an environment within which academic excellence flourishes, personal development is supported and the life chances of all are enhanced.

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