

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

1. These principles and practices outline the contribution made by the boarding ethos of the Stephen Perse Foundation (the '**School**') to the achievement of the vision and the aims of the School. Full time boarding provision is available to UK and International Sixth Form students aged 15 or over who are at the Stephen Perse's Sixth Form.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. The School's boarding community is a varied and diverse one and students have different backgrounds and needs. It is the aim of our boarding provision to be able to treat all boarders as individuals and provide an environment in which all may flourish.
5. We are committed to ensuring that students who board receive the domestic, pastoral and tutorial support necessary to promote their development as individuals, as members of the Sixth Form, and as members of the wider school community. We provide good quality, comfortable, safe and secure accommodation with attractive communal facilities and wholesome food. The School will ensure ready access to healthcare agencies and supervision appropriate to the age group and to the needs of our boarders.
6. Our boarding houses not only provide a safe place for students to live and study, but also enable the development of important skills such as getting on with others, and striking the right balance between study and leisure. We also promote a responsible respect for the beliefs, possessions and characteristics of others, important for communal living and preparation for life at university and beyond.
7. In this context, boarders are advised, helped and watched over by boarding staff. Boarding Staff take their pastoral duties seriously, being personable and professional in dealing with students, their parents, guardians, teaching and non-teaching colleagues. Boarding Staff act as role models for the students in their care and place the health, safety and welfare of the students foremost; they provide good day-to-day advice, guidance and encouragement to students and are managed by the Head of Boarding. They work closely with the School's pastoral team regarding any welfare and wellbeing issues.
8. We expect our Sixth Form boarders to develop a responsible attitude to the exercise of the relatively greater personal freedom of the Sixth Form. We intend 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.
9. The School'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 inspection, which took place in October 2021, inspectors commented that the boarding provision “safeguards and promotes [our students’] welfare”.

10. 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 available to boarders during the evenings and at weekends.
11. The boarding houses comprise single study-bedrooms. Room sizes may vary within the houses but all include study space as well as a bed and storage. All rooms have en-suite bathrooms and all have free wi-fi. All students have access to a common room with a digital TV and DVD player, and facilities for making tea, coffee and snacks.
12. Breakfast, lunch and evening meals are provided every day, during term time and May Half Term, prepared by the School’s external catering provider. The food is varied and healthy and always includes a vegetarian choice. The Catering Manager is very pleased to consider suggestions from boarders for additional or alternative dishes. We cater for most special dietary needs, from vegetarian to Halal.
13. All boarders are fully supported medically and have access to excellent medical care and counseling services if needed.
14. Our boarding provision 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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Version Control

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Policy owner	Head of Boarding
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