



HOLMEWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL

Statement of Boarding Principles

Holmewood House aims to provide a happy, friendly and purposeful atmosphere in which pupils develop a high moral code and respectful conduct towards others. The development of their own talents — academic, athletic and cultural — is seen as a means of taking this progress to maturity.

The boarding pupils reside in the Mansion House. In addition, the boarding house offers safe, secure and well supervised residential accommodation. The boarding house acts as the focus for a sense of belonging, of support, of commitment, of friends and of place. Our boarding house provides a particularly compassionate and caring environment which becomes home for each of its boys and girls. We see the life of a boarder as an extension of the pupil's home where interest and guidance are offered and self-discipline nurtured. Our boarders develop tolerance, respect for others, sociability, personal independence and self-esteem.

Each boarding pupil has a form teacher/assistant form teacher who regularly monitors academic and pastoral progress and who will advise the pupil on the best means of moving forward. The houseparent's, the Teaching staff, the Medical Centre and indeed the whole of the Holmewood Community place great emphasis on individual guidance and support for each boy and girl in the boarding house.

By celebrating diversity and actively promoting equality, we want boarding pupils to feel valued, know that they are valued and respect others within a culturally inclusive environment. In order to ensure everyone can thrive and meet their full potential, it is essential that inclusion and equality of opportunity be at the core of the Boarding House ethos.

We aim to promote inclusion, actively tackle any form of discrimination and actively foster social cohesion in all areas of boarding life. We seek to remove any barriers to access, participation, progression, attainment and achievement. We take seriously our contribution towards creating a cohesive community.

The Boarding House aims to promote positive behaviour and pupils are educated to understand what good behaviour is and what its benefits can be. Boarders are encouraged and enabled to make and sustain respectful friendships within and outside the boarding community.

Boarders enjoy supervision of their work and are able to spend more of their time engaged in profitable activities (instead of travelling to and from school). Boarding offers the experiences of shared living, accepting community values and learning to take into account the point of view of others. In the evenings and at the weekends there are a range of enriching activities available to all. For many families, full, weekly or flexi boarding offers all of this while still allowing frequent contact with what can be very busy home and professional lives. The boarding house has plenty of washing and showering facilities and extensive communal areas with a common room and a games room. Extensive networked ICT facilities give all pupils the opportunity to access the School network and the Internet. Cyber safety is taken very seriously with a range of policies in place.

K O'Riordan July 2021 reviewed February 2022 reviewed July 2022 reviewed October 2022, February 2023, February 2024