



Cranbrook
School

1.06 BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Our mission:

- To provide an outstanding all-round education with academic fulfilment at its heart
- To add value to our local community and provide exceptional boarding for those outside it
- To develop curious, resilient and empathic young adults, who are confident to follow their own paths

Our values:

- Kindness
- Integrity
- Curiosity
- Aspiration
- Individuality

Our motto:

Maiores tento praesentibus aequus
Equal to today, I reach for greater things

Statement of Vision: To have a national reputation:

Our top priority is that our boarders are happy, healthy and well cared for - encouraging them to achieve their full potential academically, socially and physically.

We aim for our boarders to achieve academically alongside developing confidence, independence, team work, leadership and to contribute to the local community.

There are six boarding houses at Cranbrook. Each boarding pupil that joins the school will be in the care of a resident Head of House assisted by tutors and matrons. House tutors also monitor all aspects of a student's progress throughout their time here. Boarders also benefit from supervised homework time as well as increased access to the School's resources out of class hours. There is an Independent listener and Counselling service who are available for all of our boarding students however it is hoped that pupils feel confident to share worries or concerns with the onsite staff.

<u>Date Approved:</u>	January 2023
<u>Date of Renewal:</u>	January 2026
<u>Reviewed by:</u>	SLT
<u>Ownership:</u>	KB

The welfare of our boarding pupils is of paramount importance and good food is an important part of that process. We have an excellent team of caterers who provide three meals a day in the School dining hall and cater for all dietary needs and there is a boarding food council to help further enhance our catering provision.

There is a spirit of enjoyable, but hard-fought competition (inter house competitions) and a range of opportunities to be creative. Sport and music thrive in the boarding community.

We offer excellent facilities and well-structured time for our boarders to achieve their potential. Each House is a “home-from-home” to ensure all boarding students have an enriching and positive experience.

Each House has a unique feel fostered by the strong leadership of our Heads of House and by the expertise of our boarding support staff. Our facilities and provision are constantly under annual review so that our offer to parents and their children remain amongst the best in the country.

The School Context

Cranbrook School is a selective, co-educational Academy with day and boarding provision. Boarding entry points occur at Year 9 and at Year 12. It has a large Sixth Form of 300 students from an overall school population of 800. The school serves the affluent rural community of Cranbrook and surrounds. The ability level on entry is above average and the proportion of high achievers in each year group is higher than the national average

Boarding Strategy

Our first priority is to ensure that our exceptional standard of care in boarding is continuously reviewed, evaluated and where possible enhanced, such that boarding positively influences the quality of our pastoral work throughout the school. We have set ourselves the aim of maintaining outstanding status in the next boarding inspection as one of the most effective and popular state boarding schools nationally. We understand that we have an ongoing commitment to review key systems including: academic and extra-curricular support, student induction, marketing, and accommodation and infrastructure upgrades and refurbishments.

Distinctive Aims and Special Features

Cranbrook is a longstanding member of the State Boarding Schools Association with a commitment to offering staff training opportunities through the BSA. The last boarding Ofsted inspection was conducted in May 2018, where Cranbrook achieved Outstanding for its boarding provision. Cranbrook has the boarding capacity to accommodate approximately 250 boarders in six boarding houses, two of which are girls only and four for boys (one of which is a junior boy boarding house). Cranbrook’s special feature is the nature of it being a mixed, selective state boarding school.

Positive Contextual Factors for Consideration

The school has been extremely well served historically by its Trustees so that boarding and teaching accommodation are of a very high order. There is a thriving extra-curricular offer (now known as the Co-Curriculum) so that there are high levels of participation in the sports, music and drama programmes. Applications for boarding places at Year 9 are high. Almost all year 11s go on to sixth form and then university. Competition for Sixth Form boarding places is strong, especially on the girls’ side, with many families seeing boarding as an excellent preparation for university. Boarders have consistently produced excellent value-added data, regularly outperforming the day side of the school. Our boarding staff have considerable boarding experience with a good mix of external and home-grown expertise affording a balanced and considered approach to boarding.