

## **Our Boarding Principles and Practice**

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

The College is committed to ensuring that students who come to board at CCSS receive the domestic, pastoral and tutorial support necessary to promote their development as individuals, as members of the College, and as members of the community. We provide comfortable, safe and secure accommodation with suitable communal facilities and wholesome food. CCSS ensures ready access to all healthcare agencies and a degree of supervision appropriate to the age group and to the purposes of a sixth-form college.

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

In this students are advised, helped and watched over by College House Staff. All CCSS 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.

We expect boarders at CCSS 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 half-way house between home or the more traditional boarding school and the more open experience of life beyond school - particularly at university.

Our 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. As ISI inspectors have commented that our boarding "safeguards and promotes their welfare and encourages them to respect the values and beliefs of others".

All students have their own study-bedroom. Room sizes vary from house to house but all include study space as well as bed, storage, etc. Most rooms have en-suite bathrooms and all have free broadband internet access. All houses have common-rooms with digital TV and DVD player, and facilities for making tea, coffee and snacks.

We provide breakfast, lunch and evening meals seven days a week during term time prepared by the College's catering team. 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 guidance services if needed. A qualified College Nurse is on site during normal hours and 24 hour medical care is accessible.

CCSS boarding establishes and encourages an environment within which academic excellence flourishes, personal growth is supported and the life chances of all are enhanced.