



Statement of Boarding Principles and Practices

Caldicott is a preparatory school for boys aged 7-13 years old. During their time at Caldicott, boys are supported in achieving their academic potential as well as being nurtured to become considerate, well-rounded, confident and independent individuals. In the final two years at Caldicott, boarding is compulsory and all boys are welcomed in to the boarding house.

The Ethos of Boarding at Caldicott:

We want our boarders to:

- be happy.
- feel safe – not just in terms of their health and safety, but also that they are comfortable in their life upstairs and in the dorms.
- feel that they are part of a community and that they are valued.
- learn to get along with others.
- gain a measure of independence and self-organisation.
- gradually take on responsibility.

Boarding lies at the heart of Caldicott, building a unique sense of community. In line with the broader aims of the school, the boarding house plays a key role in developing the school's strong sense of family values, encouraging boys to live and work together harmoniously, build friendships and develop their independence before going onto senior school. The boarding staff are on hand around the clock, providing a happy home like environment.

The Structure of Boarding at Caldicott

There are no separate boarding houses at Caldicott, but on the first floor of the main school buildings, there is one large boarding house, which provides space for up to 140 boarders. This is split in to two main areas: The 4th and 5th Form boys occupy dorms on the first floor of the main house and the 6th Form boys live in dorms above the Music Block and Junior Corridor. These two main areas are subdivided in to corridors with a member of the boarding team living at the end of each one. This unique arrangement works very well. The size of the boarding house as a whole allows a variety of personalities to flourish but the smaller units created within the corridors mean boys feel well known.

Dormitories are decorated and accessorised in a homely and warm way. They range in size from three to seven beds, and boys are allocated a dorm with their personalities and their own choices taken into consideration.

The Boarding Parents have overall responsibility for the boys in the boarding house and two Assistant House Parents and a team of three matrons, all of whom reside in the boarding house, support them.

Facilities in the Boarding House

The snug (upstairs common room), the pantry (upstairs boarding kitchen), the boarding office, the den (laundry sorting room) and the laundry are central with easy access from all dorms.

The Health Centre is also on the first floor in a central location which can accommodate boarders who are unwell. A team of nurses are on duty between the hours of 0700 and 2130 and after these times, a member of the matron team is on call for any medical needs.

The Sports Hall, computer rooms, Library, common rooms and academic block are all in use until late evening and at weekends. The teaching staff are fully involved in the boarding community, whether it is running an evening activity, being available to help with work, being on duty in the boarding house, or reading to a dormitory.

Pupil Voice

Boys are given, through boarding and catering committee meetings, regular opportunities to offer their views on boarding and to make suggestions.