



# PINEWOOD

*Est. 1875*

## **BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE**

### **A policy to promote the safeguarding and welfare of boarders**

#### **Principles**

Pinewood children are offered a flexible package that is very often child-led. Boarding at Pinewood promotes a level of independence in children whilst nurturing them in a safe, caring environment. We aim to help the children develop a greater sense of who they are, become more self-reliant, allow them to develop strong friendships and appreciate a positive and fulfilling interaction with the adults who care for them.

#### The rationale behind boarding:

**Children** enjoy being with their friends in a happy and supportive atmosphere.

They want to take advantage of the school's extensive grounds and facilities.

**Boarding** dispenses with the tedium and stress of a school run.

**Boarding** can be a means of escape for a child from a sibling with whom there is a difficult relationship, or can provide companionship for an only child.

**Boarding** provides the older child with valuable experience if they are moving on to a similar environment at their Senior School.

**Boarding** can provide them with an evening environment that is conducive to independent study.

**Boarding** fosters in children a sense of independence, responsibility and spirit of tolerance.

#### Practice

Pinewood provides boarding facilities for 57 boys and 40 girls.

In overall charge of boarding are Mr Fogden and Miss Parris.

Children can be weekly boarders or regular boarders.

Boarding is available on any Sunday night for weeklies and by arrangement for regulars

The resident members of the boarding team comprise: -

The Headmaster and his wife

One Assistant Housemistress

4 Gap students

In addition, **1** female and **2** male members of staff live on site and assist with duties.

The deputy head lives on the school drive and is available at any time in the event of an emergency, as is the live-in caretaker who lives onsite.

No member of staff can do boarding duty after supper unless they have done the boarding induction programme.

Children can board from Year 5 (9 year-olds).

In Years 5 and 6, a child can board for one night (the night must be the same throughout the term)

In Years 7 and 8, it is recommended that a child who boards must do at least two nights (again on a regular pattern).

On occasions a child can be in for further nights, if space permits, when parents are away.

### Routine

0700	Wake up call. Wash, dress and tidy.
0730	Breakfast. (Cereals, fruit juice, tea, a cooked main course and toast)
0745	Children are free to leave the dining-hall after clearing their place.
0815	Registration.
1830	Supper – a two-course hot meal
1900	Free-time, Activities. (Tuck on a Monday and Thursday for weeklies 1730)
2000	Roll-call and staggered bedtimes.
2110	Last lights out

### Supervision

Along with the Houseparents, the Headmaster and his wife always attend breakfast, as well as the matrons who have woken the children.

At **1830** the Headmaster or his Deputy, alongside the Houseparent, supervises supper (a roll-call is taken) and a system of clearing afterwards. The duty staff come on at **1850** (two male and two female full-time members of the teaching staff, assisted by the gap students, and surgery matron).

There is a formal activities programme published at the start of each week which is advertised to children and the duty staff then deliver on each evening. These comprise of an outdoor activity (weather permitting), a sports hall activity, and indoor creative activity, academic work and relaxation. The older children require less maintenance while the younger ones look to the adults for direction. All outdoor activities occur on the pitches side of the school building where there is a clear area for duty staff to patrol.

Prior to examinations children can have regular supervised study/revision sessions at 5.30 p.m. or after supper.

At roll call time (indicated by a bell just before **2000**), children collect their reading books from their lockers and then assemble in the dining room where a final roll-call is taken. At this point in time the ½ duty male and female members of staff secure the building and then report back to the other members of the boarding team in the dining-hall and relate anything of note that may have happened over the course of the evening. They are then free to sign off. Children go up to shower and change and can watch T.V., under supervision, until bedtime. A final lock up is completed by the on-site caretaker.

The duty team stay until **2145** when they hand over to the resident members of staff who are then responsible for the welfare of the children. The evening duty log is filled in. Night bells are situated on both floors if a child needs an adult after lights-out.

### Discipline and Rewards

A book is kept in the Matrons' Room where incidents are recorded. This is then read at breakfast by the Houseparents, and acted upon where necessary informing the Heads of School and form takers. Boarding discipline and punishments are explained to the children termly. Punishments can include such things as

early bedtimes, removal of tuck, detentions, extra clearing duties, points down and, in extremis, the loss of the privilege of boarding at Pinewood. Various rewards exist for positive behaviour.

Reviewed October 2020  
Reviewed by Tom Fogden. Houseparent  
Next Review Date: October 2021