

Rossall School

Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Rossall School aims to provide a safe and healthy boarding environment where every pupil is encouraged to discover and reach their full potential. Central to this is the house system where a positive ethos permeates lives and stimulates the development of valuable skills such as leadership and teamwork. Boarding houses are communities where every pupil matters and in which all can develop confidence and self-awareness, learning to live, communicate and support their colleagues in an ambitious and dynamic environment.

There are ten houses, nine boarding houses (one junior, five for boys and three for girls), and a day house for girls. Each house, with sixty to seventy pupils – is small enough for each pupil to be and feel well known and large enough to allow a variety of personalities to flourish. Care is taken to provide comfortable and pleasant surroundings.

All houses are run along the same lines, while minor variations reflect the style of each houseparent, and therefore houses enjoy a separate sense of identity. Within each house, the houseparent has overall responsibility for the pupils in their care, assisted by a deputy houseparent and at least three house tutors and a house keeper. They provide key avenues of support in a pastoral, academic and disciplinary sense which help in the nurturing of values and attitudes. Senior pupils are selected as Captains of House and monitors and provide advice and practical help to the house staff.

All meals are taken centrally in the Dining Hall which allows wide social interaction between pupils. The school has a collegiate feel, where houses are integral components, not isolated units. The facilities for enrichment activities beyond the classroom such as sports, art and drama are well used.

The school aims to treat every child in a sensitive and responsible manner. Parental contact with the school is encouraged. Staff are available for communication with parents and pupils as often as the need arises, preferring to deal with issues at an early stage and provide on-going support as required

Pupils are given advice on sources of support and help, whether this be from other pupils, staff or the on-site Medical Centre which is managed during the day by a team of qualified nurses under the direction of two doctors. After hours medical care reverts to Victoria Hospital in Blackpool.

The school is welcoming to pupils of all faiths. Cultural diversity is valued and the sense of equal opportunities for all and of healthy respect for those who attend Rossall, whatever their ability, has a strongly unifying effect on the community.