

5.2d STATEMENT OF BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

1. 'Harrow Hong Kong is fundamentally committed to ensuring that all our children are safe, and that their welfare is our top priority'. Therefore, the School proactively promotes and safeguards the welfare and wellbeing of every member of the School community and follows the Minimum Standards for Boarding under British Schools Overseas (BSO) guidance, as well as the AISL Harrow Standards.
2. Harrow Hong Kong's boarding principles are the embodiment of our Social Vision, leadership attributes and Harrow Values, and through boarding, we aim to foster 'a caring, respectful community in which everyone thrives', promoting the values of Courage, Humility, Honour and Fellowship.
3. Boarding is an opportunity for our pupils to further develop as global citizens in line with our global citizenship statement: "We are global citizens who recognise the diversity of the world and are aware of our place in it. We take leadership roles in our local and global communities, working collaboratively to create a kinder, more peaceful and sustainable world."
4. The number of boarders in each House is kept at a number which allows the House Master or Mistress and their House Pastoral Team the opportunity really to get to know the pupils in their care and ensures there is a genuine sense that their House is a home away from home.
5. In the Prep Houses, there are study bedrooms for two, three and four pupils; in the Senior Houses, there are study bedrooms for two and three pupils, and some single rooms (usually with a shared bathroom).
6. Each House has a House Master/Mistress and an Assistant House Master/Mistress resident within it and Prep Houses also have a resident Gap Tutor. Additionally, the School has a team of resident matrons who provide further support to our boarders, and a Health Care Centre offering 24-hour care.
7. Each evening after enrichment activities and supper, boarders have dedicated prep (homework) time and the resident pastoral team are supported by boarding tutors who offer subject specialist or organisational/study skills help to our pupils. On some evenings, sports, social and creative activities are laid on, as facilities such as the Sports Hall, swimming pool, sports fields, tennis courts and music practice rooms are available to boarders out of school hours. At other times, there are opportunities for boarders to relax, read and unwind after their work finishes and before heading to bed at their allocated time.
8. The quality of relationships and community life, and the personal formation of character are fundamental to life at Harrow Hong Kong. Boarding provides rich opportunities for interacting with pupils from a wide range of backgrounds and for developing more profound relationships with teachers and peers. This comes in part from the daily experience of living with other people, through which pupils develop the important skills of human interaction.
9. One of the particular strengths of a House is the vertical integration of different year groups, which effectively creates a large family unit, allowing appropriate opportunities for older pupils to care for and support younger pupils. The result is a close-knit, family atmosphere in which all pupils feel happy, secure and valued and into which new pupils are welcomed and assimilate smoothly.

10. The partnership between parents and the School is crucial in enabling our pupils to flourish as learners, people and leaders, and the School seeks actively to engage parents in the pastoral issues relevant to their children as they grow up.
11. The School offers the option of weekly boarding from Year 6 (when pupils enter the Upper School) in which pupils go home on Friday evening at 4.30pm and return by 8.00pm on Sunday evening. All pupils can apply to become boarders at the School either upon entry into Year 6 or if places become available.

Reviewed: October 2024

Next review: October 2025

Owner: Principal Deputy Head (Pastoral and Wellbeing)