



Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice

Reviewed June 2025 by: TAB, SL, PDJ

Approved by: SLT

Next Review: Sept 2026

Principles

At The Pilgrims' School it is hoped that boarders will live happy and purposeful lives within a homely, relaxed, and secure environment. In a fast changing and multicultural world, boarding at Pilgrims' represents a huge opportunity for pupils to learn about themselves and others, embracing diversity, cultural differences and to prepare for their future with confidence.

We believe that in developing a sense of independence, self-discipline, and self-worth, they will also learn to live happily in community, showing respect and care towards others and valuing their worth.

Our aim for each boarder is that he:

- Learns to acknowledge their own needs and feelings, and those of others, and to be sensitive towards both
- Learns to be adaptable and flexible in their relationships
- Learns the importance of playing his part in the functioning of a community
- Learns to develop a sense of responsibility for himself and others
- Will enjoy strong connections with his peers and find a sense of belonging
- Will develop a sense of organisation and self-discipline
- Will learn to value friendship, trust and loyalty
- Will learn to be responsible for his own health and hygiene

The focus of boarding staff is to manage boarding time, activities and pastoral conversations in support of these aims, promoting a safe, homely and nurturing environment.

It is the school's aim and policy that the school promotes an integrated community, recognising its several unique constituencies. The only major distinction between the day and boarding Commoners is that the boarders sleep at school. In that the Choristers and Quiristers have busy and parallel timetables, there is no competition between the two choral foundations; they regularly perform together. Within the wider boarding community there is no distinction between the two boarding houses in that both run on similar lines and offer either the ability to stay at school or to go across the street to sleep. Community is consistently nourished by boys playing games together, working in class together, and playing instruments together whilst celebrating individual outlooks, common goals and shared values. All boys of the school are divided among the five *Sets* (houses) for intra-school competitions, and this without distinction to their status.