

## **Statement of Boarding Principles and Practices (September 2020)**

At Sexey's School, we have an unrelenting determination to be exceptional in all that we do. We provide high quality, affordable boarding where young people can develop socially, emotionally and academically as part of an exceptional caring learning community. Boarding encourages students to achieve academically and become well rounded, and forward-looking young people, well equipped to achieve in an ever-changing modern world.

### **Character**

We believe in developing all aspects of a young person by providing them with a wide range of opportunities and challenges to develop their personality, independence, leadership and life skills. Our 7 Core Values are the building blocks of character; these are empathy, respect, courage, honesty, kindness, forgiveness and resilience. We work with parents to help develop the young person's character and confidence.

### **Coeducational Community**

Our mixed age boarding houses are coeducational, girls and boys mixing socially in a family style environment although the dormitory areas are very separate. Students develop a strong sense of belonging to their community and lifelong friendships develop.

### **Care, support and safety**

The accommodation, routines and staff provide a very safe and supportive environment in which the students can relax and feel safe. The safeguarding and welfare of all members of our community are of paramount importance. Caring staff get to know the students well, celebrate their successes and support them through any challenges that they face. There is an onsite Health Centre staffed by a team who are able to provide high quality social, emotional, physical and medical support as needed. High quality pastoral support is provided across school and boarding with specific support around emotional wellbeing.

### **Respect and Diversity**

We celebrate the diverse skills and cultures that our students bring to the community and learn from each other. Students and staff have mutual respect for each other. We have high expectations of student behaviour creating a calm working atmosphere in which students can work effectively.

### **Opportunities**

Vast ranges of sporting and interest activities are on offer for students to develop their wider interests and many social trips and activities are on offer to the vibrant weekend community. Students play a key role in co-construction and the development of the school and boarding community with regular 'House Council' and 'Food Forum' meetings.

### **Spiritual**

Spirituality is an important part of life for many of our students and as a Church of England School; the school has strong links with St Marys' Church in Bruton, where students attend once a month. Students of other faiths are welcomed and opportunities for them to practise their religion are provided.