



BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

Principles:

The boarding experience at Framlingham aims to meet and develop the academic cultural, spiritual and physical needs and talents of each individual within a community which places the highest possible value on mutual respect and tolerance. More specifically we aim to:

- Foster harmonious relationships and trust between all members of College so that bullying, harassment and discrimination have no place in the school.
- Encourage endeavour.
- Celebrate success.
- Provide good facilities for study and intellectual growth.
- Provide an exciting and diverse range of opportunities to increase confidence and stimulate personal development.
- Support students in times of difficulty.
- Encourage students to take responsibility for themselves, for others, and for the wider world.
- Provide comfortable, secure accommodation appropriate to age.
- Be attentive and responsive to the wishes of students, involving them in decisions relating to their living arrangements including the development of boarding facilities and catering arrangements.
- Create a balanced, thoughtful community which recognises that young people learn by example, and sometimes by mistakes made along the way.

Practice:

a) Organisation

Framlingham College has seven Houses catering for both day and boarding students in Years 9-13 (13–18 years of age). There are four Houses for boys; Garrett, Kerrison, Rendlesham, Stradbroke and three for girls; Moreau, Pembroke, Victoria.

Each House is cared for by a resident Housemaster or Housemistress who is assisted in his/her work by a team of tutors:

- a) A resident House tutor, a non-resident House tutor and a half-tutor. These colleagues take the principal responsibility for specific House duties and the care of students in House during the day and evening on which they are on duty including weekends.
- b) A variety of academic staff, who are attached to each House. As tutors they have responsibility for a small number of tutees from the House. They monitor their academic progress throughout the year and help their tutees to maintain a balance in their extra-curricular activity programme. They also write tutor reports on each of their tutees and maintain regular contact with tutees' parents.

Houses run along very similar lines and all share the same aims and aspirations for their students. Small differences naturally exist according to location and according to the various styles and personalities of the Housemaster or Housemistress and his/her team of tutors.

The role of the Housemaster or Housemistress' spouse or partner is also very clear within each boarding house. Spouses/partners are hugely committed to their boarding houses and play a major role by watching boys and girls playing sport, acting, and participating in various school activities. However, spouses/partners have no official role in the running of the Houses; they do not work for Framlingham College, and do not ever stand in for a member of staff or supervise pupils in any way.

b) Admission

Students are allocated places in Houses in such a way as to maintain, as far as possible, a balance of skills, abilities and interests across all of the Houses. Inter-House competitions in academic, sporting and cultural activities are important aspects in encouraging House spirit and it is necessary that all Houses are able to compete favourably with each other in these areas of House life. Siblings of the same gender will be placed in the same House unless parents request otherwise and it is possible for parents with former connections with the College to request placement in a particular House.

c) Facilities

Each House offers broadly similar student accommodation although there are variations according to the styles and layouts of the different buildings. In general students will be required to share accommodation during their first three years in House. Upon entry into the Sixth Form single occupancy may be available but in Year 12 some sharing may be necessary. In Year 13 full boarders will enjoy single occupancy accommodation. Although students take all meals centrally in the main school dining room, each House has its own kitchen where hot and cold food can be prepared. The school provides bread and butter, and fruit for use in each House in the evenings. Each House has a common room area with a television and daily supply of newspapers. Each House also has centrally located IT facilities including access to the internet and students also have hard wire internet connections in their study bedrooms. There is access to a private landline telephone in each House. A full programme of activities including an off-site trip is offered each Sunday.

d) Welfare

The welfare of all of our students is of paramount importance. The work undertaken in Houses by the tutor team and led by the Housemaster and Housemistress has a vital part to play in the happiness and success achieved by both day and boarding students. It is the desire of all pastoral staff to get to know each and every student in their Houses. In so doing they will be ideally placed to support and guide each student through their time at the College. In addition to House staff, we also have the College Chaplain, a College Counsellor, Matrons, Peer Mentors and a Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy DSL) all dedicated to safeguarding the needs of students as they pass through the school.

Our own Medical Centre has three registered nurses responsible for meeting the health care needs of students. One of these nurses is resident in the Medical Centre and is available on call 24 hours a day during term time. Regular thrice weekly visits are made by the school doctors who are part of the Framlingham Medical Practice.