

Statement of Boarding

Ampleforth College

All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me

RSB 53:1

Person responsible for Policy	Deputy Head Pastoral and Wellbeing Ampleforth College
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Ampleforth's aim is to share with parents in the spiritual, moral and intellectual formation of their children, in a Catholic and Benedictine community with which their families may be joined in friendship and prayer for the rest of their lives. Parents at Ampleforth play an active part in school life and there are many opportunities for them to engage socially or discuss matters directly with members of staff. Links with parents are seen as an indispensable part of the support and development of our boarders' life.

The school seeks to provide an environment in which the full potential and individuality of each student can be realised. Education is understood to be concerned not only with intellectual development, but with the development of the whole person, heart, soul and mind. This is a fundamental principle within boarding, and Ampleforth seeks to provide an exciting and spiritually supportive experience for boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 19. Although the school is 80% boarding, day students are fully included in all aspects of school life. A full boarding environment can often make great demands on the students and staff involved and therefore the school is committed to the highest levels of pastoral care.

Ampleforth is an international school attracting students from many different countries around the world. The diversity of cultural backgrounds is a strength of the school community and each is respected and celebrated accordingly.

The school endeavours to help students exercise freedom in a responsible way which develops with age and maturity. The intention is to help students grow in personal integrity as they learn to co-operate, care for one another and develop an ability to build and maintain relationships with people of all ages.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and therefore the health, safety and well-being of all students is of paramount importance. The school aims to promote an open and trusting ethos, ensuring each student's right to privacy, dignity and independence. Boarders are encouraged to discuss concerns or share celebrations with staff and fellow students. A high staff/student ratio allows all members of the community to be known well as individuals.

New and younger students are introduced happily and confidently to boarding, within a carefully structured framework created to produce the necessary warmth, security and guidance needed. As the students become older, they are encouraged to take more responsibility for organising themselves. Students socialise widely across the campus through social activities held both during the week and at weekends. A spirit of mutual trust and friendliness permeates the boarding houses, and boarding gives scope for students to develop their talents in a happy and purposeful environment in which they are able to play their part within the school community and learn how to contribute to future communities to which they will belong.

Housemistresses and Housemasters and their own families live alongside the students. Assistant Housemistresses and Housemasters, Tutors, Chaplains, Matrons and other members of staff offer high levels of support to all students. Boarding is overseen by the Deputy Head Pastoral and Wellbeing and the Headmaster. Communication is a key aspect of the pastoral care system: formal meetings are held regularly and frequently, and a strong network of professional relationships within the community enables members to work effectively together.