



## **MOOR HOUSE SCHOOL & COLLEGE**

### **Residential Care-Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice**

Objectives within Residential Care are underpinned by those outlined in the Statement and Purpose of the School & College. As such, most if not all that we do can be linked to this. We believe in the principle of learning through living and to achieve this principle we aim to:

#### **Provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment:**

Moor House School & College residential provision provides a warm, friendly, inclusive and welcoming environment where great importance is attached to pastoral care, pupil wellbeing and to being a supportive and tolerant community where students feel safe in their surroundings. This provides a platform for students to engage in real life learning opportunities that are both stimulating and enabling, Staff support students to understand risks and how they can keep themselves safe both inside and outside the home. Staff also support the students to understand how to protect themselves, feel protected and be protected from significant harm.

#### **Become confident and independent members of society**

Carefully thought-out plans, across the specialisms, break down life skills into manageable steps. The Wheel of Independence™ framework and the Compass of Independence™ framework are life-skills based programmes of learning that enable students to increase independence in the following areas: Activities of personal and domestic living, travel, safety, functional academics, time management, food preparation and nutrition, budgeting, studying, domestic activities, managing medical needs and identifying and participation in leisure activities. Progress is monitored and evaluated through individual targets, individual and shared observations and collaborative working within and between departments.

*Ofsted care report, 2020*

Independence skills are a real strength at this school.

#### **Develop and increase capacity for positive social interaction and communication:**

We recognise the importance of appropriate social communication. Opportunities for learning are provided through structured activities, supported study, meal times, focus groups, group meetings, enrichment activities and unstructured time. Games and activities provide further opportunities to develop speech and language, fine and gross motor skills in a subtle and fun way.

We recognise the need for local community inclusion and we ensure all children and young people are given the opportunity to do so. Amenities such as the cinema, theatre, shops, parks, walks, bowling and horse riding are amongst some of the available off-site activities.

*Ofsted Care Inspection 2020*

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: Outstanding

**Develop emotional resilience:**

Through 1:1 pastoral support, role-playing, group and enrichment activities students are supported to learn more about themselves and consequently prepare them for the wider world. Key- workers provide support for students to develop strategies to help regulate emotions and responses, both in private and in social settings with the aim of increasing underlying levels of self-worth and esteem.

**Build and maintain good relationships and friendships:**

Staff are skilled in understanding the range of influences that friendships can have and encourage those with a positive impact. The students are supported to develop understanding and empathy towards each other, positive relationships are reinforced, praised and encouraged. The development of safe, stable and secure relationships with staff are central to the ethos of the residential homes and enable staff to build constructive and warm relationships with the students that actively promote positive behavior.

**Response to Coronavirus**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic represents a time of severe pressure across society, which we know presents heightened levels of risk for some children. It is, therefore, especially important that the children at Moor House School & College continue to receive the services and support they need, although the way in which this is delivered will need to continue to change and adapt to reflect the current circumstances. It is our priority to operate safely and keep Moor House open to all students so that they can continue their education, develop their life skills and social skills and receive therapeutic input in order to enhance their mental health wellbeing and progress across all areas of their lives during the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

*Reviewed September 2020*