



# Rossall

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

## STATEMENT OF HOUSE AND BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND STRUCTURE

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<b>Circulation:</b> EdWel, SLT and Common Room	<b>Next Review:</b> Summer 2025
<b>Ratified by Council:</b>	<b>Date:</b> June 2022

# ROSSALL SCHOOL

## STATEMENT OF HOUSE AND BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND STRUCTURE

Rossall School aims to provide a safe and healthy boarding environment where every student is encouraged to discover and reach their full potential. Central to this is the house system where a positive ethos permeates lives and stimulates the development of valuable skills. Boarding houses are communities where every student matters and in which all can develop confidence and self-awareness, learning to live, communicate and support their peers in an ambitious and dynamic environment.

There are nine boarding houses; one junior, five for boys and three for girls. Each house is small enough for each student to be and feel well known and large enough to allow a variety of personalities to flourish. Care is taken to provide comfortable and pleasant surroundings.

All houses are run along the same lines, while minor variations reflect the style of each houseparent, and therefore houses enjoy a separate sense of identity. Within each house, the houseparent has overall responsibility for the students in their care, assisted by a deputy houseparent, a housekeeper and five house tutors who cover the 2 hour weekday prep duty. They provide key avenues of support in a pastoral, academic and disciplinary sense which help in the nurturing of values and attitudes. Senior students are selected as Captains of House and monitors and provide support, advice and practical help to the house staff and the other members of their house.

### House Objectives

Each House produces its own handbook for its students and parents which encapsulates the following objectives and principles:

- To ensure all students receive equal consideration and are given equal opportunities
- To provide each student with the support needed to function properly in a co-educational establishment
- To enable each student to feel a valued member of the House, who has a contribution to make; to encourage all to take as much responsibility as possible
- To provide opportunities for students to do well, and to make sure that house staff know of students' achievements, congratulate them and encourage them further
- To ensure new students are specially catered for until they are fully integrated
- To promote in students the importance of integrity, trust, honesty, sensitivity, selflessness and service to others
- To have open and regular communication with parents and guardians to ensure each student's needs are fully met.
- To give guidance to students on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle
- To help students to handle time in a profitable way
- To make sure daily and weekend routines are clearly laid down
- To ensure disciplinary procedures are clearly stated, and students know how to report an offence (eg bullying, harassment, stealing) and what the School or House policy is for dealing with offences

- To ensure students know where and how they can access support for physical and mental well-being.
- To ensure there is a well-publicised procedure for the reporting of abuse or possible abuse
- To ensure that there is a well-publicised complaints procedure known to all members of the House
- To give students a sense of belonging to the entity of House and School
- To foster links with the wider community and encourage students to take an interest in the world around them.

In our houses and boarding we aim to:

- Develop the whole person academically, socially, spiritually and physically.
- Produce an open and trusting ethos in which any student will be treated and respected as an individual and feel secure.
- Create an atmosphere of tolerance, openness and trust in which teasing, harassment and bullying would not be able to develop and truth and respect for others are valued.
- Provide the conditions for the student to develop intellectually.
- Provide a range of activities that will assist in the personal, physical, social and cultural development of each student/boarder.
- Safeguard and promote the welfare of each student by providing an environment that is, as far as possible, free from physical hazards and dangers.
- Provide accommodation that is comfortable and suitable and which provides enough privacy.
- Develop students' responsibilities for themselves, for others and for the environment including their own personal health and hygiene.
- Develop students' qualities of leadership and abilities to work in a team.
- To allow students to feel able to share the good things in their lives while also being able to turn to others for advice, counselling and support.
- Develop students' ability to make decisions.
- Prepare students for the next stage in their education.