



WARWICK SCHOOL - BOARDING INDEPENDENT PERSON POLICY

Regulatory	Yes
Version	2024.1
Author and Reviewer	WS Head of Boarding
Approving Body	Warwick School Governors' Committee
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Next Review Date	October 2026

Boarding Independent Person Policy

Principle

Standard 11.4 of the National Minimum Standards (NMS) requires that “the school identify at least one person other than a parent, outside the staff, and those responsible for the leadership and governance of the school, who boarders may contact directly about personal problems or concerns at school. Boarders are informed who this person is, and how to contact them and they are easily accessible.”

Aims

- To ensure that every boarding student is benefitting from boarding, and is happy, safe and successful.
- To enable boarders to obtain support and guidance when they feel unable to talk to a member of boarding or school staff or other agencies.

- To provide an alternative person, other than school or boarding staff, to whom students can turn when having problems that they would like to talk through with someone

Practice

- The independent person is appointed by the Foundation.
- The name and email address will be included in the parent student guide and displayed throughout the boarding house.
- The independent person information will be included each week at the weekly house meeting.
- The independent person information will be displayed on the wellbeing boards in each boarding house and in the skype rooms.
- The independent person will be DBS checked before commencement of the role.
- The independent person will offer advice and guidance for students in order to ensure a happy and safe environment and will report any matters of concern to the appropriate body, organisation or member of staff.
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- The independent person will not offer confidentiality to a student making a disclosure and is duty bound to report any information which may result in harm to a child in boarding or elsewhere.
- Updated information, advice and guidance on situations likely to arise e.g., bullying, drugs etc. will be passed on and the independent listener will be required to read the introduction to safeguarding handbook before attending a safeguarding training course at the earliest convenience.
- The independent person agrees to strict confidentiality with regards to matters arising from duties as the independent listener agreeing to discuss matters only with the appropriate body, organisation or member of staff.
- The independent person may withdraw his/her services with one month's written notice. The school and boarding programme reserves the right to cancel the arrangement with the independent listener and seek alternative provision if it is felt this is in the best interests of the boarders.