

Activities and Free Time

STANDARD: 10

Standard 10 – activities and free time		Evidence
10.1	There is an appropriate range and choice of activities for boarders outside teaching time, including sufficient and suitably timed free time each day. Suitable risk assessments are in place for any activities which may put boarders at risk of harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document: Boarding Handbook • Document: Trips and Visits Policy • Sample Trip pack • Document: Weekly activities • Document: Weekend Activities • Document: Town Leave
10.2	Boarders have access to a range and choice of safe recreational areas, both indoors and outdoors, and there are safe areas at school where boarders can be alone if they wish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy and boarding house tour
10.3	Schools where there are unusual or especially onerous demands on boarders ensure that these are appropriate to the boarders concerned and do not unacceptably affect boarders' welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to The Wellington Academy
10.4	Boarders have access to information about events in the world outside the school, and access to local facilities which are appropriate to their age.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boarding house information services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital television service - Internet access - Breakfast News reports daily

Trips and Visits Procedure

The Wellington Academy Boarding House recognises the value and importance to offer its boarding students' opportunities outside of the school day to engage in a wide range of activities, this should also consider general interests across the wider house.

All boarders will be provided with a list of weekday and weekend activities that they are able to sign up for each week, this will be made available to all students and parents during the first week of a new academic term. The list of these activities is also displayed in the display cabinet by reception.

Weekday Activities

Boarding students have access to a wide range of facilities on site including a 3G Astro Pitch and a Gym, however, weekday activities also try to encompass onsite activities for students to participate in. Students have access to the following to use during their free time:

- Junior and Senior Common room
- Girls and Boys Hubs
- Playstation and Xbox
- Board games
- Computers
- Wii
- Netflix/Disney+
- BBC iplayer/ITV Hub

Alongside this there is a weekday activity programme, this allows the above to have allocated time in addition to other clubs that are led by staff, some of which include:

- Craft Club
- Gaming Club
- Climbing Wall
- Science Club
- 6th Form and Y11 Support

Weekend Activities

In addition to the onsite and inhouse provision during the week, consideration is made that at the weekend every effort is made to offer students activities offsite.

Some examples of such trips are listed below:

- Thorpe Park
- Go Karting
- Cinema
- Shopping trips to local areas
- London
- Paintballing
- Zoo

It is recognised that the interests of the borders will change over time, therefore all students have the opportunity via the boarders committee to request that consideration be made for a specific trip.

Payment for weekend trips is included within the annual boarding fees. Every attempt is made by the Director of Boarding to ensure that the cost of trips falls into the boarding fees, however, there may be exceptional circumstances

where parents will be contacted to make a small contribution towards the cost of some trips, every effort will be made to keep this to a minimum.

Prior to all trips the Director of Boarding will ensure that the following is completed and kept electronically for reference:

- A risk assessment for the venue/location/timings of the trip
- Costings of the trip
- Any Health and Safety considerations that need to be identified.
- Numbers, gender, and age of students attending
- Emergency contact details for all students and parents

All students will be accompanied on trips with a staffing ratio of 1:14, all will travel to the destination via a school minibus.

Town Leave

In addition to more structured time and activities, The Wellington Academy Boarding House also recognises the needs for its boarders to be given opportunities to meet with friends/family outside of these parameters.

On joining the boarding house all parents are asked to give permission for students to leave the boarding house without the supervision of staff on duty, however, it is also recognised by staff and parents that misuse of this privilege can result in sanctions being imposed e.g returning late/inappropriate behaviour whilst unsupervised.

The following applies when a student has permission to have town leave:

- The timings of this are indicated on whether it is summer/winter town leave
- All students must let staff know they are leaving the house and where they are going.
- On return to the house, they must advise staff that they are no onsite

There are occasions where students are permitted to stay overnight at a friend's/guardian, in these circumstances both parties must complete the appropriate permissions sheets. This ensures that during this time they are no longer the responsibility of the Director of Boarding. Copies of these forms will be kept on the individual students one note files.

Completed by: Shelly Willis

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Date: 22.04.2021

Authorised by: Matt Price

Job Role: Director of Boarding

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