

STATEMENT OF BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

CATEGORY	Education
POLICY OWNER	Head of Residential Life
DATE & VERSION	05-10-2022 - Version 4
APPROVED BY	Vice Principal - Student Life
REVIEW FREQUENCY	Annual

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1. Purpose

As one of the United World Colleges, UWC Atlantic is committed to the ideal of making education a force for peace and a sustainable future. The College is a happy, friendly community of young people and adults, who show a great deal of care for, and respect for each other.

We have approximately 365 16-19 year olds studying for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Students participate in a range of co-curricular activities that reflect our mission.

2. Statement of Facilities

All students are full-time boarders, accommodated in eight mixed-gender Houses. Girls and boys are accommodated in separate wings, or on different floors. Most students are in dorms of 4, with nationalities and cultures being deliberately mixed.

Each House has its own individual character and charm. There is a day room in each with a basic kitchen, socializing space, and TV sets connected to the internet. The school Wi-Fi network covers all of the campus and provides easy and fast access to the internet. The quiet room contains some desktop computers and access to Wi-Fi and there are telephones in the corridor of each house.

There is a large sports hall containing a dance studio, multi-gym and multi-functional hall for badminton, basketball and five a side football. There is a café at the sports hall used for social gatherings and any other student social functions. The Arts Centre and its surrounding area is used for students’ events like National Evenings at the Tythe Barn or dancing evenings on weekends.

All houses are equipped with washing machines and tumble driers, and students also have a drying room in each house.

Health and safety in student houses is monitored throughout the year by house mentors and the Building Maintenance Team.

3. Implementation of Welfare and Support

During the working day, students are supervised by teachers, tutors and the Wellbeing Team. On the weekends, in the evenings and during the night, students are supported by house mentors, tutors, and night pastoral staff.

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There is a Reception open for 24-hours 7 days a week, this is where the Welcome Team is based and responds to any queries. Night staff can also be contacted through this reception when they are providing support in houses.

House Mentor’s play a particularly important role in students’ lives here. There are two house mentor’s for each student house with one living adjacent and one close by. The role of the house mentor is to spend time interacting with the students in their houses during down time and provide pastoral guidance and advice; promoting a sense of home to the house and ensuring students feel safe and secure. Tutors are attached to each house who not only advise students on academic matters, but also assist them with their co-curricular commitments, oversee their overall development, and are a central figure in supporting them in a wellbeing sense. Tutors are the first point of contact for parents in all matters. Each tutor has about 10 tutees. On average 5 tutors support a student house and work closely with the house mentors.

There are ‘Peer Listeners’ in each house. These are Second Year students who are trained in listening skills by the Student Counsellors and look out for fellow students who need support. The Peer Listeners also work closely with the house mentors to support the students in the houses.

The health of students is observed through the Wellbeing Centre. The Wellbeing Centre is staffed by nurses and healthcare assistants. Two local GPs hold surgeries there twice a week. Students staying overnight are supervised and cared for 24 hours a day. Special dietary requirements based on health, religious or cultural needs are provided for by our catering staff.

Students are also supported by Student Counsellors who are available to speak with students confidentially throughout the week. The Counsellors provide education to students, in cooperation with other members of the Wellbeing Team, through our “Life Skills Programme”. The education varies from topics like: organisation of time; sexual education; building meaningful relationships; e-safety; consent etc.

Safeguarding is considered to be of utmost importance at the College. We have a thorough [Safeguarding and Respectful Community Policy](#) and all employees are given safeguarding training on an annual basis. Students are taught about safeguarding issues, general safety and more specifically about e-safety issues. They are also informed as to how to make a complaint ([Complaints Policy](#)) against an employee, a fellow student and how to raise issues

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of peer to peer concern. No form of bullying is tolerated at the college. In addition to the College's complaints policy students are able to contact [Care Inspectorate Wales](#) if they feel they have a concern not resolved by the College.

The 'student voice' at UWC Atlantic is powerful. There are representatives from each House on the Student Council, Sustainability Council, Peace Council, Wellbeing Council and the Student Life at Atlantic College Council. The student Chair and Vice Chair of the Student Council also have regular meetings with the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Board of Governors'.

We have a diverse number of activities for students to participate in on weekends, which range from trips away from campus organised by the Activity Coordinator, weekly guest lecturers visiting the college, or 'National Evenings' in which students from certain parts of the world showcase their cultures through song, dance and comic sketches. The Student Life at Atlantic College Council is a specialised student committee for social events working closely with the Activity Coordinator and a relevant staff advisor to provide a variety of events and activities on the campus in order to offer choices for students on how to spend their free time.

4. Related Information

4.1 Relevant Policies

- [Admissions Policy](#)
- [Anti Bullying Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding and Respectful Community Policy](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)

4.2 Other Links

- [National Minimum standards](#)

5. Policy Measurement and Reporting

The Statement of Boarding Principles and Practice is reviewed annually by the Education Committee of the Board and the Head of Residential Life as part of the annual review cycle

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and as part of the whole College development plan. Part of this review process will consider to what extent it is being used as an active working document.

The document is communicated to the school community electronically on **Every** and is available on the UWCA website.

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