



BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

25th March 2021

Dear Parents,

RE: Boarding in the Summer and Michaelmas terms

Boarding is at the heart of Beeston life and I have been delighted that we have maintained it as strongly as we have, over this extraordinary pandemic period. I am grateful to parents and children who have borne with us by committing to the new regime of 'full boarding only' imposed, principally, to fit with our Covid-19 protocols. Whilst these must remain in place for the time being, we must look towards the business of continuing to promote boarding for families who look at it as a position to reach at a point which is 'right' for children as they progress through prep school. This letter is to set out our core purpose, as well as the arrangements and options for families over the next year.

Firstly, to say that Mr Lloyd-Peck will be continuing for a further year in his role as Head of Boarding. A reassessment of future plans, as a result of this pandemic year, is something that many of us may be familiar with and it is this which has brought this wonderful news. Mr Day will also take up a formal role as Assistant Boarding Master for the boys.

Secondly, we are committed to a boarding life which is about community and consistency, best reflected in the full boarding model that has been so successful this year. The continuity it provides for the children is vital to promote the sense of 'home, from home', and we are keen to continue it in Years 7 and 8. The wellbeing of the children is the priority here, and the model of one weekend at Beeston and one at home has worked so well, with children combining the commitment to boarding with regular down time at home.

Thirdly, we are keen to give younger children the chance to build towards this model and so support this for children of Year 3 upwards. Therefore, in Year 6 and below, a weekly option will be available, although there will be full boarders within this category, too. This leaves flexi-boarding which, though an ideal 'taster' for those considering more boarding, can be a disruption to the rhythms and routines of the main boarding community. To encourage this transition, we are very happy to welcome those willing to commit to two (or more) consecutive nights per week of boarding, over the course of a term.

I hope these outlines are sufficient to confirm to parents our commitment to full boarding and the wellbeing the children, such that intermediate options are there to enable a

transition towards it, whilst enabling children to get the best of the many activities available in the evening, without long daily journeys.

There will be more to come regarding the detail of the 'boarding life' but the many stories of different activities which are open to boarders, whether it be *Bake Off*, the animation weekend, *Beeston's Got Talent*, orienteering, kayaking, or Christmas decorations and dorm speeches or the ever-popular mystery weekends.

[Why Board at Beeston](#)

[Boarders' Bake Off](#)

In the short term, the more structured regime reflects our continued caution with respect to potential Covid-19 transmission, but this letter is to emphasise the focus and priority on the boarders and their well-being, both now and in the future.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr Lloyd-Peck to discuss any of the above.

Best wishes,



Fred de Falbe