

Policy	Boarder Guardianship Policy
Version	1.0
Synopsis	This policy details what provision is made by Shaftesbury School to ensure that boarders have appropriate guardianships and the limits to which Shaftesbury School can be held responsible for children outside of our care.
Introduction	May 2016
Review Date	
Related policies	Safeguarding
Reviews:	

Shaftesbury School does not appoint guardians on behalf of parents. It is the parent's or legal guardian's responsibility to nominate a guardian or guardianship organisation that meets all the requirements as set out in this policy.

Shaftesbury School and the boarding programme is responsible for each student's welfare and undertakes parentally designated responsibilities on behalf of the parents and legal guardians of each boarder. The period of this responsibility is limited to term time and all times when the boarder is in our care. It does not cover:

- Travel to the school on arrival days. The school's responsibility for the child begins the moment they arrive/return to the boarding house and register that they have arrived/returned.
- Boarders will be assumed to be still in our care whilst being transported to railway stations or airports on transport arranged by the school. This ends upon arrival at the railway station, airport or designated point of travel.
- Parental or guardian-approved time away from boarding/Shaftesbury School with family or friends with or without supervision.

It is a legal requirement that all students in boarding school in the United Kingdom have a guardian to assist in caring for the young person. The appointed guardian must be:

- Be at least 18 years or older and be of good character. The school reserves the right to reject the appointment of a guardian if deemed unsuitable. Families may wish to appoint a relative or close friend but guardians can be arranged through professional guardianship agencies. The school does not recommend any one particular guardianship agency but a list of such can be found here: www.aegisuk.net
- Be resident in the United Kingdom at all times for the duration of the guardianship
- Be available, within reason, to assist and accommodate with any medical, behavioural or pastoral needs as they arise
- Where appropriate, liaise with the boarding staff regarding holiday and exeat arrangements and make these clear to the boarding staff on request. The school must be made aware of any changes to travel or accommodation arrangements.

Arrangements for time away, holidays and Exeats must be submitted to the boarding house in a timely manner. If any arrangements for guardianships, travel or other time away from the school are deemed unsuitable then the school reserves the right to review suitability for boarding in the interests of safeguarding the child's welfare.

Guardians as well as parents are welcome to attend school events, parent's evenings fixtures and other school events where appropriate. Parents are required to complete the parent/guardian declaration before the boarder enrolls at the school and update the school in a timely manner should there be any changes to the arrangements.