



## Education Guardianship Policy

### **To parents who live overseas**

The School requires that for all pupils whose parents live abroad a UK based Guardian must be appointed to act as the parents' representative in this country during the pupil's time at Bloxham.

It is not the responsibility of the School to find or appoint the Guardian, this responsibility rests solely with the Parents. It is not now considered good practice for schools to do so, since the responsibility of the Guardian is to the pupil and his or her parents rather than to the School.

### **The role of the Guardian**

The Guardian must be willing to act as a parent would and therefore must:

- be able to be contacted by the School at any time of day or night during term time in case of emergency.
- be responsible for the pupil at all times when his or her parents are out of the country.
- be responsible for making suitable arrangements for the pupil during exeats and holidays whenever the pupil is unable to return home, and should inform the Housemaster or Housemistress of these arrangements well beforehand (such exeats include Half Term each term and an additional long weekend towards the end of November and the Early May Bank Holiday).
- be willing to receive the pupil at home if he or she is too unwell or is suspended or required to leave the School for any other reason.

It is highly desirable for the Guardian to be willing to:

- attend a parents' evening and take or communicate decisions regarding the pupil's education, pastoral care and other needs.
- attend a pupil's special days: Founderstide, prize giving, matches, concerts etc.
- be willing to look after the pupil for the occasional weekend away from School in addition to half terms etc.

### **Who the Guardian might be**

Guardians can either be:

- Relatives living in this country.
- Friends of the family who are willing to take on the responsibility and living in this country.
- A guardianship agency: we are not permitted to make recommendations about these but can provide names and addresses of agencies that are known to us.
- An Education Guardian must be resident in the UK at a suitable proximity to the School and be capable of providing care for a child in a happy home environment as would a reasonable and responsible parent.
- It is expected that the Parents will appoint an Education Guardian via a reputable organisation, preferably a member organisation of the Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS). AEGIS can be contacted via their website [www.aegisuk.net](http://www.aegisuk.net)



## **School support for the Guardian**

The School seeks to support the Guardian fully in the same way that we would support a parent. In particular, the Guardian:

- is free to contact the pupil's Housemaster or Housemistress at all times concerning the pupil's progress and regarding arrangements.
- will receive a School Calendar of events at the beginning of term and notification of all School announcements and holidays.
- will receive copies of School reports in the event of the pupil being unable to return home in the holidays and in addition to parents, if that is what parents wish.
- will be very welcome at all School functions to which parents are invited.
- will at all times be encouraged to take an interest in the pupil's progress and welfare.

Parents who reside outside of the UK are expected to complete an Education Guardianship Form which provides the School with full details of the Education Guardian and the responsibilities which the Parents have delegated to them.

Parents must inform the School immediately if there are any changes to any details relating to the Education Guardian.