

Residents in Boarding Houses

January 2025

The role of non-employed residents within boarding houses

At Radley College we fully recognise the importance of the role that a spouse/partner plays in a boarding house. This support is effective, is seen as being entirely appropriate and to be strongly welcomed: the significant value and flexibility gained from spouses'/partners' support is much to the advantage of the boarders' welfare.

The support provided by a spouse is a matter between the Tutor and Sub-Tutor/PHM and their spouse/partner. Account should be taken of cross-gender contact and pupil privacy. Examples of the support provided include:

- spending time chatting informally to pupils,
- attending meals,
- supporting fixtures or concerts or theatre performances, in the same way that we encourage PHMs to be involved.

The contribution of a Tutor, Sub-Tutor and PHM, and the support provided by any spouse/partner is discussed by the Warden.

It is of course important that the Disclosure and Barring Service screens resident spouses and partners, whether or not they are employed by the school, and this is an essential requirement.

In order to comply with Standard 19 of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools, the following also applies:

- the terms of accommodation of a resident spouse/partner are subject to the Service Occupancy Agreement signed by their husband, wife or partner upon becoming a Tutor/Sub-Tutor/PHM.
- spouses'/partners' conduct with pupils is expected to be in line with the professional conduct of the Tutor/Sub-Tutor/PHM.
- a spouse/partner must ensure that all their visitors are supervised appropriately, in relation to contact with boarders.
- unsuitable contact with children is regulated by the Safeguarding Children Policy.
- a resident spouse's/partner's accommodation may be terminated if there is evidence (at Radley College or from before) that they are unsuitable to have regular contact with children.
- a resident spouse/partner is liable to be asked to leave the residential accommodation if he
 or she is charged with or convicted of any offence which falls within the remit of the Crown
 Prosecution Service. He or she must notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any such
 charge or conviction.

The above applies for all persons over 16 who live in the same premises as boarders but are not employed by the school.