



## **KIMBOLTON SCHOOL POLICY ON EDUCATIONAL GUARDIANSHIP**

### **Introduction**

Boarding students bring diversity and enrichment to Kimbolton School. Our teaching and pastoral staff provide vital support to pupils whose parents are overseas, aiding integration and helping students get the most out of their time in the UK. An Educational Guardian provides extra support, independent of the school, and acts as the overseas parents' representative in the UK.

### **Guardianship Arrangements**

Each boarder, whose parents will be resident outside the United Kingdom for all or part of the academic course, must have an appointed Educational Guardian in place before entry. The Educational Guardian must have been given legal authority to act on behalf of the pupil's parents when necessary. They must continue to have an Educational Guardian while they are in attendance at Kimbolton School, even after they have turned eighteen years of age.

The responsibility for choosing an appropriate Educational Guardian rests solely with the pupil's parents. It is important that parents choose a responsible adult and one they feel confident will support their child in day-to-day circumstances, as well as in emergencies. Parents must ensure that their chosen guardian is fully apprised of any necessary information pertaining to their child's health and wellbeing in order to enable them to fully support the child.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on the appointed Educational Guardian and, if the child requires a visa under Tier 4, that the intended carer in the UK also meets the requirements set by the Home Office.

If using an agency to appoint the Educational Guardian the School encourages parents to use AEGIS (the Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Pupils) accredited guardianship agencies. AEGIS is an authoritative association for inspecting and accrediting guardianship organisations. Some agencies that have previously acted as Educational Guardian's for Kimbolton pupils include Quest Guardians, White House Guardians and Bright World Guardianships.

On appointment, parents must provide the School with full contact details for their nominated Educational Guardian using the attached form. The form must be signed by all persons with parental

responsibility for the pupil. To ensure continuity of care, parents must then immediately notify the School of any changes to those details throughout the time that their child is in attendance.

The School reserves the right to refuse to accept the nomination for an Educational Guardian for whatever reason it deems appropriate. Any change of Educational Guardian during a pupil's residence at Kimbolton School must be notified in writing to the School and must also be acceptable to them.

The Educational Guardian will be expected to sign a form to confirm the commitment they have made to the child, using the attached form, although any agreement will remain between parents and guardian, with parents responsible for any costs involved.

If at any time the School is concerned about the care arrangements, staff will seek to satisfy themselves that the arrangements are suitable.

If, after having made reasonable attempts to contact the appointed Educational Guardian, the school is unable to make contact, we reserve the right to appoint an interim Emergency Educational Guardian if we consider that circumstances warrant this. The cost of this will be passed on to parents.

For students requiring a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK, the required CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance to Study) will not be issued until the school is satisfied that suitable guardianship arrangements are in place.

### **Duties of the Educational Guardian**

The information given below is intended to guide parents in their choice of a suitable Educational Guardian for their child. It is not intended in any way to be intrusive, but to indicate the areas which the School feel are essential to the pupil's safety and well-being.

- ◆ The Educational Guardian must be permanently resident in the UK and be in close enough proximity to the pupil and the School to provide suitable care.
- ◆ The Educational Guardian must be able to provide a 24-hour point of contact during the school year and update the school to any changes (eg. Should the Educational Guardian be unavailable or on holiday).
- ◆ The Educational Guardian may be a family member, or a guardianship agency. It is, however, essential that the Educational Guardian is sufficiently proficient in the English language to be able to converse easily with the School.
- ◆ A family member would need to be over the age of twenty-five years. A university student resident in student accommodation or halls of residence would not be considered a suitable Educational Guardian by the School.
- ◆ The Educational Guardian must be able to respond quickly in the event of an emergency. They must be in a position to provide suitable temporary transport, accommodation and care, on the same day as it is requested, for the pupil should they need to leave the school in **any** circumstance.

- ◆ The Educational Guardian must be able to arrange suitable, supervised, accommodation for the child during boarders leave weekends and mid-term breaks if the child is not travelling home. It is the parent and not the school who is responsible for ensuring that the necessary checks have been carried out to safeguard the welfare of the child while staying under such arrangements. Details of these arrangements must be reported to the School at least one week in advance. Unsupervised hotel, bed and breakfast or university halls accommodation are not considered to offer a suitable level of care.
- ◆ If requested, the School will make arrangements for shared travel to and from Heathrow Airport using a reputable taxi or coach firm on the official arrival and departure dates at the beginning and end of each term, with the costs being added to parents' end of term bill. Educational Guardians are expected to make all other necessary travel arrangements.
- ◆ The Educational Guardian will be expected to uphold the ethos and values of the school at all times, and will be expected to respect and support the rights, religion and customs of the pupil.
- ◆ The Educational Guardian will be expected to act on behalf of the parent when necessary and represent them at parents' meetings, including all calendared Parents Evenings.

The School can accept no responsibility for the Pupil when he/she is in the care of the Parents or the Educational Guardian. This includes holiday arrangements when the pupil is not travelling home and also when they are travelling to and from the School.

Parents and Guardians must adhere to specified term dates. The Boarding House is open on the day prior to the start of each new term to facilitate travel arrangements, and from 6pm on the evening prior to return after boarders leave weekends and half term breaks. At the end of each half term pupils are expected to leave the Boarding House by 6pm on the final day. Educational Guardians will be responsible for arranging accommodation outside these times should early arrival or late departure be deemed unavoidable.

Parents and Guardians are always most welcome to visit the School and boarding house by appointment and to contact the Boarding House Staff if there are any concerns.

**May 2020**

To The Headmaster, Kimbolton School

## PARENTS - NOTICE OF EDUCATIONAL GUARDIANSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

### PUPIL DETAILS

Pupil Name	
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### EDUCATIONAL GUARDIAN DETAILS

Full Name	
Home Address	
Telephone – Home	
Telephone – Work	
Telephone – Mobile	
Email Address	
Occupation	
Date of Birth	
Relationship to Pupil (if applicable)	
Guardianship Agency (if applicable)	

I nominate the above named person to act as the Educational Guardian for my child while they are a full time boarding pupil at Kimbolton School.

I understand that the School's guidelines are for the safety of my child and that the School reserves the right to refuse a nominee for guardianship.

I understand that the responsibility is my own for the final choice and vetting of the suitability of the Educational Guardian, whom the School has accepted as my proposal.

I have read and understood the Kimbolton School Policy on Educational Guardianship document and state that I believe the nominee meets these requirements.

Signed (Parent 1)
Name
Date

Signed (Parent 2)
Name
Date

To The Headmaster, Kimbolton School

## EDUCATIONAL GUARDIAN – EDUCATIONAL GUARDIANSHIP AGREEMENT

Pupil Name	
Guardianship Agency (if applicable)	
Educational Guardian's Full Name	
Home Address	
Telephone – Home	
Telephone – Work	
Telephone – Mobile	
Email Address	
Date of Birth	
Occupation	
Relationship to pupil (if applicable)	
Is your household English-speaking?	
Is there any reason in law, or in any other way, which makes you, or anyone in your household, unsuited to care for a young person in your home?	YES/NO( <i>please delete as necessary</i> ) If YES please give details

I, the undersigned, state that the information which I have given above is correct.

I have read and understand the Kimbolton School Policy on Educational Guardianship document and have agreed to accept responsibility for the above named pupil while they are a boarding pupil at Kimbolton School.

Should any of the above information change I will inform the school and the pupil's parents immediately.

Signed (Educational Guardian)	
Name	
Date	