



OXFORD International College

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

GUARDIANSHIP Policy and Terms & Conditions

Last reviewed:	July 2024
Next review due:	July 2025
Reviewed by:	Principal

Our policy on guardianship

In order to help us to promote and safeguard the welfare of every student at Oxford International College (OIC) Oxford, we require parents who do not live in the United Kingdom, or who are away for an extended period of time, to appoint an Education Guardian to act on their behalf. An extended period of time is deemed to be any period during term time of more than one week.

This applies to all students irrespective of their nationality or age and is in accordance with the Children Act (1989), the Protection of Children Act (1999) and the Care Standards Act (2000). These legislative acts protect the rights of children and make 'proper and appropriate care' a requirement.

During term time OIC is responsible for students' welfare and takes on delegated parental responsibilities while they are at College. However, there are times when the OIC needs to be able to hand over these parental responsibilities to another adult, who must be a properly appointed Education Guardian, for example before the beginning and after the end of each term, during College holidays, including half- term breaks, when a student is seriously ill, when a student may be suspended or excluded by OIC etc. An Education Guardian is not the same as a legal guardian. An Education Guardian is appointed by parents, whereas a legal guardian is appointed by a court of law.

It is the responsibility of parents to appoint an Education Guardian. Please note that the College is unable to arrange or recommend guardians. It is also the responsibility of the parents to inform the College immediately if the Guardianship arrangements change. Failure to do so may be considered a breach of your agreement with the College.

In compliance with the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools, the college will take appropriate steps to ensure that the guardianship arrangement is promoting the welfare, physical wellbeing, and emotional wellbeing of the boarder. Any concerns about an educational guardianship arrangement should be acted upon immediately and referred to any relevant agencies.

Guardians must meet the following conditions

We strongly advise parents to appoint an education guardianship organisation which is AEGIS or BSA accredited:

AEGIS: <https://aegisuk.net/parents-agents/>

BSA: <https://www.ukbsa.com/bsa-certified-agent-and-guardian-scheme/>

If you do not wish to appoint an accredited guardianship company, an education guardian *may* be an individual such as a family member and in such cases, the guardianship arrangements must be approved by the College.

In all cases, our policy is that people acting as Guardians for our students must:

- be over 25 years of age;
- not be students in full-time education;
- be UK residents and living full-time in the UK;
- reside within 2 hours travel of the College;
- be able to communicate clearly and comfortably in English, both orally and in writing.

Families who do not have access to an individual in the UK who meets all these conditions must find a suitable guardian by using the services of an accredited and reputable guardianship organisation.

Under no circumstances will college staff be appointed as an educational guardian for boarders.

The responsibilities of Guardians

An appointed Guardian must be prepared to:

1. Be a 24-hour point of contact for parents, the student and OIC Oxford,
2. Act with delegated parental authority in the case of an emergency or crisis.
3. Provide both pastoral and educational support and promote the physical and emotional wellbeing of the student.
4. Liaise with the college and parents over holiday arrangements for the student including transportation arrangements.
5. Make appropriate arrangements for medical care for the student.
6. Subject to the consent of the student's parents where required, inform the College in writing of arrival and departure travel arrangements when a student arrives at or leaves OIC Oxford for a weekend or a longer holiday period. OIC Oxford must know the exact details of a student's accommodation and method of travel, including flight numbers if applicable, in all cases when the student is going away from OIC Oxford.

Guardians should also respect the rights, religion, and customs of the student, and adhere to what is commonly regarded as best practice in the Guardianship and hosting of students. This includes having in place a proper agreement with the student's parents in which the Guardian's responsibilities are clearly set out.

If a satisfactory Education Guardian has not been appointed

If a student does not have a Guardian when required to do so by OIC, or if the appointed Guardian is considered by OIC to be unsatisfactory, OIC will invite parents to find a new Guardian.

Should parents fail to do so within one week, they will be required to use an AEGIS or BSA-accredited guardianship organisation.

Students must have a suitable guardianship arrangement in place by the date of their enrolment at OIC. Failure to provide details of a satisfactory guardianship arrangement by enrolment (or re-enrolment for continuing students) may lead to the student being withdrawn from their place at OIC .

Informing us of a Guardianship arrangement

We ask both the Parent(s) and the nominated Education Guardian to complete the relevant forms and to return them to us prior to the student's enrolment and in accordance with any deadline set by OIC. The Forms are designed to inform us of the guardianship arrangements and to provide us with the practical detail that we need.

If the proposed guardianship arrangement, as described in the forms that the parents and the nominated guardian complete, does not meet the conditions set out in the policy, we will write to the parents to ask that an alternative arrangement be made.

Forms to be completed by the Parents and the Education Guardian

The forms that we ask the parents and the guardians to complete are shown in the Appendix below.

APPENDIX



GUARDIAN NOMINATION FORM

Nomination Form to be completed by PARENTS in BLOCK CAPITALS please

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO COLLEGE studentservices@oxcoll.com

Student's full name					
Student's date of birth					
Full names of the student's parents					
Guardian's title (please circle)	Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Dr
Guardian's full name					
Guardian's full address (and the address of the Guardianship organisation where applicable)					
Guardian's relationship to student	Guardianship Agency		Individual (please specify)		

Guardian's telephone number		Mobile	
Guardian's email address			

The above-named person/organisation has agreed to act as an Education Guardian to our son/daughter and to undertake the following responsibilities:

1. To provide a point of contact throughout the College term and to be ready to accommodate our son / daughter at short notice in case of an emergency or crisis.
2. To provide suitable accommodation for our son/daughter and an appropriate degree of care and supervision during half-term breaks and longer holidays if they are not coming home to us.
3. If travel arrangements do not coincide with the beginning/end term dates, to provide accommodation and care for our son / daughter for the periods which fall outside OIC's term dates.
4. To make suitable alternative arrangements, if they are unable to accommodate our son/daughter and to inform OIC of any such arrangements. Please note that we do not consider unsupervised stays in hotels, university residences or similar to be acceptable options.
5. To be ready to liaise with OIC on our behalf in any matters relating to our son's/daughter's education and welfare (e.g. academic progress, personal issues, matters of behaviour and discipline, physical and mental wellbeing, uniform and equipment, pocket money, etc.).
6. To inform OIC in writing of arrival and departure travel arrangements when our son/daughter arrives at or leaves OIC for a weekend or a longer holiday period.
7. To be ready to attend important parent/teacher meetings or any other special meetings at OIC on our behalf.
8. Subject to our approval, to provide the name of an alternative UK contact if s/he (ie, the nominated Guardian) has to leave the UK at all during OIC's term-time.
9. To inform the college of any change in contact details
 - I confirm that the above-named person is over 25 years of age, lives full time in the UK and is UK resident, resides within 2 hours travel of the College, and is not a student in full- time education and is able to communicate clearly and comfortably in English, both orally and in writing.
 - I undertake to notify the College in writing if a change of Guardian should become necessary. In such a case, I undertake to provide full contact details of the new nominated Guardian to the College and to ensure that they complete a new GUARDIAN AGREEMENT form for the College.
 - I accept the College's Guardianship Policy and Terms and Conditions.

Name of Parent 1: Name of Parent 2:

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:



GUARDIAN AGREEMENT FORM

To be completed by the EDUCATION GUARDIAN in BLOCK CAPITALS please.

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO COLLEGE studentservices@oxcoll.com

Student's full name					
Student's date of birth					
Full names of the student's parents					
Guardian's title (please circle)	Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Dr
Guardian's full name					
Guardian's full address (and the address of the Guardianship organisation where applicable)					

Guardian's relationship to student	Guardianship Agency (please specify)	Individual (please specify)	
Guardian's telephone number		Mobile	
Guardian's email address			

I understand the duties of an Education Guardian include the following responsibilities:

1. To provide a point of contact throughout the College term and to be ready to accommodate my ward at short notice in case of an emergency or crisis.
 2. To provide suitable accommodation for my ward and an appropriate degree of care and supervision during half-term breaks and longer holidays if they are not going home to their parents. I fully understand that unsupervised stays in hotels, university residences or similar are not acceptable options.
 3. If travel arrangements do not coincide with the beginning/end term dates, to provide accommodation and care for my ward for the periods which fall outside OIC's term dates.
 4. To make suitable alternative arrangements if I am unable to accommodate my ward and to inform OIC of any such arrangements.
 5. To be ready to liaise with OIC in any matters relating to my ward's welfare (e.g. academic progress, personal issues, matters of behaviour and discipline, physical and mental wellbeing, uniform and equipment, pocket money, etc.).
 6. To Inform the College in writing of arrival and departure travel arrangements when my ward arrives at or leaves OIC for a weekend or a longer holiday period.
 7. To be ready to attend important parent/teacher meetings or any other special meetings at the College on the parents' behalf.
 8. To provide the name of an alternative UK contact if I leave the UK at all during term time. I understand that such a person must meet all OIC's conditions for Guardians as set out in OIC's Guardianship Policy and Terms and Conditions and also be approved by the student's parents.
- I confirm that as the appointed Guardian of the above-named student I undertake the responsibilities listed above.

- I confirm that I am over 25 years of age, lives full time in the UK a UK resident resides within 2 hours travel of the College, and not a student in full- time education and is able to communicate clearly and comfortably in English, both orally and in writing.
- I accept the college’s Guardianship Policy and Terms and Conditions.

Guardian’s name:
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Signature:
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Date:
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