

## **The Armidale School's Boarding Program**

Our Boarding Program has been developed in accordance with AS 5725:2015 Boarding Standard for Australian Schools and Residences (the Australian Boarding Standard) to ensure the provision of a quality, safe and holistic boarding service.

Our Boarding Program provides a comprehensive set of policies, procedures and processes that systematically addresses each of the requirements of the Standard and our legal obligations.

Good governance and management processes are used as part of our Boarding Program to govern and oversee the strategic planning and operation of our boarding school and incorporate its leadership and administration into overall governance.

### **Boarder Child Protection, Safety and Wellbeing**

We have developed a comprehensive Child Protection Program which takes into account all our students, including boarders. We regularly conduct risk assessments of child protection issues within our boarding services and environments and have developed specific strategies to manage child protection issues, including working with children clearances, supervision, recruitment and training.

We have also developed a comprehensive Student Duty of Care Program that takes into consideration the safety of all students, including our boarders. As part of our Student Duty of Care Program, we have undertaken a risk assessment of our boarding school and developed specific strategies to manage student safety including boarder safety policies and procedures and timely documentation and reporting of critical incident and emergencies.

### **Boarding Staff and Recruitment**

We are committed to ensuring that our recruitment practices create a safe environment for our boarders. To this end, we have established policies and procedures for recruiting boarding staff, our governing body members, volunteers and third party contractors, and for assessing their suitability to work with children. All staff engaged with our boarding school have working with children clearances, must pass background checks and undertake extensive training in relation to child protection, professional boundaries and duty of care.

### **Boarding School Community Engagement**

We engage in partnerships with parents/carers, families and the wider community to enable contributions to the quality and accountability of boarding service delivery, including boarder support and wellbeing.

We have developed various policies and procedures to fulfil our commitment to community engagement and champion regular contact between parents/carers and boarders as often as possible.

## **Boarding Facilities**

We are committed to providing quality, safe, functional and comfortable facilities to help our boarders to have a valuable boarding experience. We take responsibility for the day-to-day management and maintenance of our boarding facilities and their improvement.

## **Overseas Boarders**

We have developed and effectively implemented a comprehensive Overseas Students Program that ensures our compliance with our obligations under the ESOS Framework including our requirements under the National Code for the purposes of Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) registration.

As part of this program, we provide different homestay and care arrangements for overseas students at our boarding school, including boarding arrangements for younger students.