

## House Parent (RESIDENTIAL)

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

#### ABOUT SUMMER BOARDING COURSES

Founded in 2008, Summer Boarding Courses have united students from around the world through education. Delivering award-winning, future-focused courses that strike the perfect balance between academic and social enrichment.

Our courses unlock potential and ignite a spark for long-term success.

Our residential summer courses take place at some of the UK's top boarding schools and university college campuses, including Eton College, Oxford University Colleges and Headington School. We carefully select our campuses to ensure that they provide the perfect environment for our students to live and study.

Over 15,800 students from 152 nationalities have been welcomed to study with us to date.

Whether it's preparing for future studies, developing 21st-century skills or building confidence, the knowledge gained on an SBC course allows students to go forward and apply what they have learnt to other areas of their education and beyond; giving them the necessary skills to achieve their future goals.

The EL Gazette publishes a league table based on British Council inspections, and SBC have been ranked Number 1 from 2018 to 2023. We are very proud of this achievement and will continue to grow and develop our courses to offer students extraordinary experiences.

SBC is the only multi-campus summer school provider in the UK to have achieved a perfect 15/15 areas of strength by the British Council. A true hallmark of educational quality.

#### Ways we support our House Parents:

- Fully paid DBS check
- Extensive, paid, on-site training prior to student arrival
- All meals and accommodation included
- CPD and Appraisals
- Staff Wellbeing Initiative
- Access to Employee Assist Programme (EAP)
- Continual support for all staff from the Head Office Team, both on the ground and via phone/email
- Online safeguarding and prevent training
- Professional, fun and supportive environment

#### Additional Role Specific Support

Paid attendance of a certified First Aid Course

#### THE ROLE

SBC House Parents play a central role in providing pastoral care to students, taking responsibility for the daily management of a boarding house and ensuring the safety and well-being of all students within it. As leaders within the boarding house, House Parents are supported by a small team of staff and work together to create a welcoming, positive, and vibrant community where students feel comfortable and supported.

House Parents must be highly responsive and adaptable, meeting both the individual and collective needs of students. This includes fostering a nurturing and inclusive environment where students can thrive socially, emotionally, and academically during their time at summer school. With students living away from home, House Parents play a vital part in ensuring a safe, structured, and enjoyable residential experience, helping students build confidence, form friendships, and make the most of their summer school journey.

**Responsible To:** The Welfare Manager

**Pastoral Duties:**

- Oversee the day to day running of a boarding house, holding overall responsibility to build a house community and to support, supervise and account for all students within it.
- Create a welcoming and inclusive residential environment, in which all students can feel comfortable and cared for.
- Working with the wider House Team to oversee the residential daily routine to include wake-up, House Meetings, House Time and Lights out.
- Lead the daily house meeting and additional house briefings, developing communication, confidence and independent social skills within the boarding community.
- Supervise students in Boarding Houses, ensuring appropriate standards of student behaviour and ensuring a proactive approach regarding student wellbeing and ensuring a welcoming and positive atmosphere.
- Foster a strong house identity and ethos of equality, respect, and diversity.
- Ensure the supervision and care of sick students under the guidance of the Welfare Manager
- Ensure the timely and safe movement of students to and from houses to other areas of the summer school site.
- Proactively interact, supervise and support students during meal and break times.
- Maintain accurate administrative records to include house registers, activity sign-up, risk assessments, first aid & prescribed medication records and accident and incident logs.
- Be on call/overnight duty as per contract for student medical, welfare issues, and emergencies.
- If required, complete First Aid Course and serve as school first aider.
- Lead regular morning briefings & evening debriefs with House Duty staff.
- Induct staff members to the workings of the boarding house
- Attend daily House Parent meetings with managers

**Programme Duties:**

- Acquaint yourself with the House Activity session plans, risk assessments, resources and equipment during the induction period.
- Work with the Activity Manager and wider Activity Team to support the preparation, planning and delivery of House Events
- Plan, prepare and facilitate in house social activities during arrival days and House Time.
- Alongside the wider staff team, promote the social programme amongst the student body, supporting with sign-up, preparing students for activities and encouraging all students to participate.
- Support students to prepare for excursions including management of pocket money
- Where required, lead a group of students on off-site excursions, following pre-planned itineraries and ensuring thorough supervision throughout.
- Ensure that the students are safe at all times during activities, events and excursions
- Take a key role during arrival days to include preparing the house, welcoming, assisting and inducting students arriving at the boarding house.
- Take a key role in supporting student departures to include supporting students to pack, communicating logistics as directed by the Management Team, and ensuring smooth and timely departures.
- If applicable, establish in-house reward systems, house themes and competitions

**General Duties:**

- Encourage students to successfully engage in the programme, helping develop their communication, confidence and social skills
- Ensure clear communication to relevant Summer School Staff regarding student health or wellbeing concerns and complete incident paperwork and records as directed.
- Follow all Health and Safety guidelines and risk assessments.

- Ensure understanding of all Emergency and Fire Evacuation policies, including site evacuation points.
- Interact with students in a manner that's both friendly and professional.
- Help ensure the students meet the Student Code of Conduct; promoting and embodying standards of behaviour that we would expect from our students at all times.
- Remain professional and empathic while managing student behaviour and approach in a positive and constructive manner in line with SBC Student Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying policies and procedures.
- Provide support during arrival and departure days both on and off-site, remaining flexible to tasks required and ensuring a welcoming and positive experience for all students
- Where required, help with off-site student transfers. This can include work at airports, train stations and transfer taxis
- Ensure the care, maintenance, and organisation of all Summer School resources and equipment, reporting any damages or shortages to the appropriate manager.
- Demonstrate flexibility, as is often required in residential roles.
- Assist at any time, whether on duty or not, in an emergency situation
- Attend training, team meetings and programme briefings as required.
- Share reflections about your experiences over the summer.

### **Safeguarding Responsibilities**

- Be committed to the safeguarding and welfare of students in your care
- Complete online safeguarding training and attend on-site safeguarding training during induction week
- To read and understand SBC's Safeguarding Policy, Staff Handbook, Operations Policy Handbook and Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (including annexes A & B)
- To be alert to the signs of abuse and neglect, and report any concerns to the DSO immediately (including low level concerns)
- To know what to do if a student tells a member of staff they are being abused, exploited or neglected
- To help students understand how to keep themselves safe and manage risk; earning their trust while maintaining professional boundaries

## **EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

### Essential

- Experience working with children in a professional & residential capacity
- Experience of, and genuine enjoyment of working with children
- Strong communication skills, ability to work under pressure, flexibility
- A strong knowledge of safeguarding legislation and processes in practice
- The ability to work collaboratively with students and taking a strengths based approach to help students develop their self esteem, confidence and resilience
- Strong organisational skills

### Desirable

- Experience of residential international summer schools
- Experience of the UK boarding environment
- Experience of working within the education sector

## **HOURS OF WORK**

A normal working week for House Parents will consist of up to 63 hours per week over six working days.

**All staff will receive one full day off per week.**

## CONTRACT INFORMATION

Our courses run from the end of June to the middle of August. Please see our website [here](#) for the exact dates and more information.

**Remuneration:** Paid weekly, one week in arrears. The weekly rate received for House Parents is £725 **PLUS** any accrued holiday to be paid at the end of contract)\* Food and accommodation are included for all residential SBC staff.

*\* Please note that given the short-term nature of these contracts at SBC and the duty of care we have to our students, holiday will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must be requested at least one month prior to taking leave. At the end of your contract, you will receive a payment for any holiday you are owed. If you take any holiday during your contract, then this will be deducted from your holiday allowance.*

## LOCATIONS:

The role of House Parent will be based at one of the following sites:

Camp Dragon  
Headington School  
Rochester Independent College  
Canford School

## SBC PERSON SPECIFICATION

All members of staff employed by SBC will be expected to bring certain key qualities to the operation. There must be a professional interest in working with young people and particularly international children. Safety and welfare of the students is of paramount importance at SBC and a practical enforcing of this belief should be a quality exhibited by all staff.

We look for staff who are:

- Approachable & empathic to the needs of students
- Enthusiastic & engaging
- Diplomatic, responsible & motivated
- Flexible within the summer school environment

*We expect all SBC staff to be able to communicate effectively with our students, using an appropriate level of language to suit the group. SBC staff must demonstrate patience, empathy and an emotional awareness towards students both individually and in within a group setting. We expect all staff to take control of students and to manage discipline and behavioural issues in a firm, positive and constructive manner.*

## TO APPLY

Please apply online at: <https://summerboardingcourses.com/work-for-us/>

We want to make sure we do all we can to set candidates up for success in this process. If you require any adjustments to help you at interview and/or you have any questions at all, please contact us at: [recruitment@summerboardingcourses.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@summerboardingcourses.co.uk)

*Please note, as this post involves direct contact with vulnerable children, it is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. However, amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013 and 2020) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected'. These are not subject to disclosure to employers and cannot be taken into account.*

## SHOULD YOU BE SUCCESSFUL

- Any gaps in your CV will be enquired about and must be explained satisfactorily
- You will have to prove your Right to Work in the UK



- You will provide the details of two recent and relevant referees who we will contact and specifically ask about your suitability to work with children and any concerns.
- You will be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS), and equivalent if you live, or have lived, outside of the UK
- You will be asked to state that you have no known reason why you cannot work with children
- Official identification and certificates will be required for our records

**Please be aware that SBC may conduct online searches for shortlisted candidates as part of our legal duty to meet out safeguarding duties.**

### **SBC SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

*Summer Boarding Courses is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We have a comprehensive Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures in place which all employees, volunteers and contractors are expected to adhere to.*

### **SBC EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

*We operate a policy of equal opportunities and welcome applications from candidates irrespective of age, sex, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or disability.*