

Boarding Crisis Management

What constitutes a crisis?

There are any number of events that may constitute a crisis for boarders such as a fire in one of the boarding houses, a major epidemic of an infectious disease or an allegation of some sort of abuse by a boarding staff member, etc.

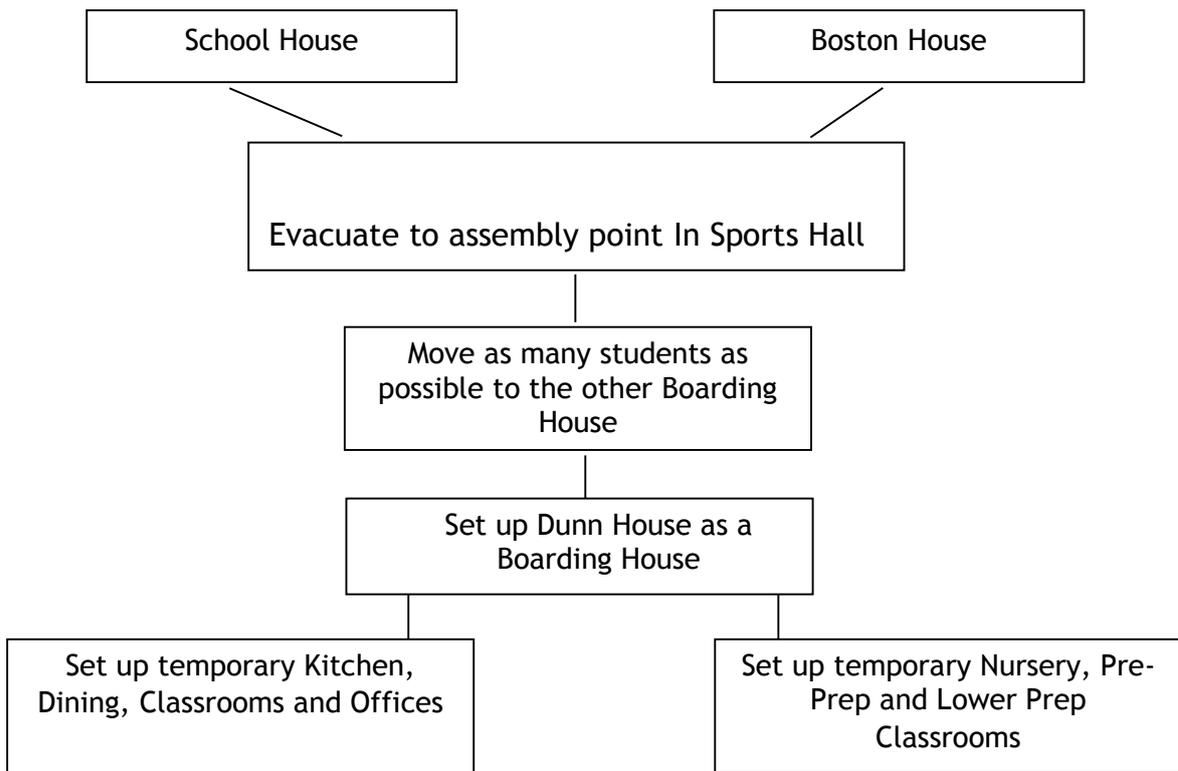
What should be our response?

Our response should be such that in every eventuality the school does everything it can to safeguard and promote the welfare of the boarders.

Major Incidents - guidelines for first 24hrs action

Fire

There are two boarding houses at Moira House and each is sufficiently separate that no two of them should ever be affected by fire at the same time. Management of boarding following a fire would take place as follows:



Once all girls have been safely re-housed, fed and clothed a further assessment for continued operation of the school would have to take place.

Epidemic

If any boarder is diagnosed as having an infectious illness they are immediately put into the medical department and plans are made to evacuate them back to their family or guardian wherever possible. If a mass outbreak of an infectious illness were to occur (particularly involving overseas students whose guardians could not accommodate them at short notice), additional boarding rooms would be annexed by the medical department (these depending on the number of cases requiring treatment).

Allegation of abuse

This would be a very serious incident. The school already has in place a system for dealing with a staff member in such circumstances so this paper will address the welfare of the boarders concerned.

- Social Services would be informed
- If in a state of distress, the boarder/s involved would be removed to the medical department
- The school would then take instructions from the social services investigating officer
- A professional, external counsellor may be employed to see the boarders through their ordeal.

Other crises

Other crises would be dealt with on assessment.

Note: Many external crises are already covered by the whole-school crises management planning document.

Related policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:

Employee Handbook
Staff Handbook
Code of Conduct for Employees
Health Safety Handbook
Boarding Staff Handbook
National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools
ISI Handbook for the Inspection of Schools, Regulatory Requirements
Teachers' Standards
Keeping Children Safe in Education
Safeguarding Policy
Dealing with a Critical Incident Policy
Evacuation Procedure
Complaints Policy (Parents)
Complaints Policy (Pupils)

POLICY REVIEWED BY JTA: May 2018

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL:



BOARDING CRISIS MANAGEMENT 2018-19

NEXT REVIEW: June 2019