

bsa | BOARDING SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

BSA Weekly Newsletter

Issue 147

Dear members

As many will be aware by now, a campaign group has been formed within the Labour Party calling for phasing out of independent schools. The 'Labour against private schools' (LAPS) group is seeking to table a [motion](#) at the party's national conference starting on September 21 which aims to "integrate all private schools into the state sector".

While BSA champions excellence in both sectors, any move to abolish independent schools is clearly a significant threat to boarding.

There is likely to be a fair amount of media debate in the run-up to Labour conference, and afterward, particularly if the motion is adopted. ISC is monitoring the situation closely and is pursuing a media and political strategy both to respond to the debate and engage with Labour on the practical difficulties that would be involved in implementing such a policy. [To read the full update on this from ISC, please click here.](#)

In Scotland, SCIS has been monitoring the government's position on Business Rates. The following clip is in lieu of the official record and includes some generally supportive comments on the sector overall from the Scottish Government. [Click here to view.](#)

Brexit

The latest government guidance to visiting the UK was released on September 12 and states if the UK leaves the EU without a deal 'EU, EEA and Swiss citizens will be able to enter the UK as they do now after October 31 2019. EU, EEA and Swiss citizens will also be able to live, work and study in the UK as they do now until December 31 2020.' [Please click here to read the full guidance.](#)

Dates for your diary

[Safeguarding one-day conference](#), London, October 16

BSA's Safeguarding one-day conference will focus on the current challenges faced by boarding communities and boarding practitioners. Topic areas include promoting the best outcomes for pupils in their overall development and in their mental health. The conference will also look at compliance issues, providing appropriate support for pastoral staff and an update from the police on the current County Lines vulnerability, and the potential threat to boarding communities. [Click here to reserve your place now.](#)

NEW DATE: [Tier 4 and Immigration one-day conference](#), London, Nov 5, 2019

Due to continued, if not growing, uncertainty over BREXIT and the impact on immigration particularly for EU/EEA students and their families, we have moved the date of our one-day conference to fall after October 31. This will now take place on November 5, 2019 in London at the Marriott Regents Park. To book your place for the latest on BREXIT, including comment from the Home Office and expert legal guidance, [please click here.](#)

Robin Fletcher
Chief Executive



Safeguarding and standards

Care inspectorate message for Scottish schools

"Draft quality framework for mainstream boarding schools and school hostels:

Since July 2018 we have been rolling out a revised methodology for inspecting care services. The changes build on approaches we have introduced in the past three years: an emphasis on experiences and outcomes; proportionate approaches in services that perform well; shorter inspection reports; and a focus on supporting improvement in quality.

"The revised methodology and quality framework reflect Scotland's new Health and Social Care Standards, which are rights-based, person-led and outcome-focused. The standards are relevant for care delivery, planning, commissioning, and assessment. [Please click here to view a copy of the draft framework.](#)

"The new quality framework is helping us to answer key questions about the difference that care is making to people and the quality and effectiveness of the elements that contribute to those differences. It also supports services to evaluate their own performance. In addition, it will be used by our inspectors to provide independent assurance about the quality of care and support. By setting out what we expect to see in high-quality care provision, we can also help support improvement. Using the framework in this way will help us develop a shared understanding of what constitutes good care and support. It also supports openness and transparency in the inspection process.

"Following a provider consultation event in June 2019 and focus groups with young people, we now invite comments on the latest draft of the framework for mainstream boarding schools and school hostels. Please let us know your views by completing our survey by no later than **Monday 23 September 2019**.

"Members can access the survey using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5YZLQKQ>"

IICSA

As previously highlighted, BSA has been asked to provide a witness statement to IICSA in advance of phase one of the inquiry into residential schools. Phase one includes residential music schools, as well as residential special schools and schools which have closed or changed ownership. The phase one hearing is from September 30 - October 11, and Dale Wilkins, BSA's Director of Safeguarding, Standards and Training, will give evidence on the afternoon of October 4.



BSA Academy

The BSA Academy brings together professional development opportunities for practitioners working in boarding and is designed to provide a clear pathway to ensure the highest standards in the boarding sector. [Click here to find out more.](#)

Conferences

['Diversity' - Annual Conference for Heads](#), May 5-6, 2020

Edinburgh International Conference Centre

We are pleased to announce that bookings are now open for the Annual Conference for Heads. This year's theme is 'Diversity', delegates will have the opportunity to be inspired by world-class speakers and network with colleagues from across the boarding community. Conference sessions include:

- **Increasing the diversity of school markets** Mungo Dunnett, Founder, Mungo Dunnett Associates
- **Supporting young people in boarding** Anthony Seldon, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Buckingham
- **Social Mobility: chance or choice?** Sonia Blandford, Social Mobility Expert & Professor of Education, UCL Institute of Education
- **Safeguarding within a diverse world** David Smellie, Partner, Farrer & Co., and Dale Wilkins, Director of Safeguarding, Standards, and Training, BSA

- **Religious diversity in schools** - A panel discussion with school chaplains.

BSA Awards 2020 – open for entries

In 2018, the BSA held its first Awards Dinner which celebrated the achievements, hard work, and dedication of schools and individuals to boarding. We are pleased to announce that the awards will take place again in 2020 and winners will be announced at the BSA Conference for Heads Awards Dinner on May 5 in Edinburgh. [For more information and to enter, please click here.](#)

Day Seminars

Guardianship: best practice, Sept 24, Wycombe Abbey School

Educational guardianship is key in supporting international students studying at UK boarding schools. Learn more about guardianship and the role of a guardian to ensure your students are properly care for in, and out, of school grounds. This seminar will be led by BSA partner organisation, AEGIS (The Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students).

Boarding essentials

Whether you are just starting out in Boarding, or want to refresh your skills, this is a seminar designed to help develop your understanding of working in the boarding environment. With a strong emphasis on safeguarding, you will look at the latest legislation and guidance, alongside the potential challenges you could face. This seminar will help you work safely and effectively with boarders.

- [Sept 26, London](#)
- [Oct 02, 2019, Fettes College, Edinburgh](#)
- [Oct 10, 2019, King's College, Taunton](#)
- [Oct 17, 2019, Brillantmont International School, Switzerland](#)

Accredited Training

2019-2020 courses are now open and delegates are invited to book now:

- Advanced Certificate Course, [click here to book now](#)
- Autumn Diploma, [click here to book now](#)
- Certificate in International Boarding, [click here to book now](#)
- Certificate in Professional Practice for School Nurses, [click here to book now](#)
- Advanced Certificate in Boarding Practice (Pupil Welfare & Support), [click here to book now.](#)

Publications

The BSA publishes a range of publications from our termly magazine to digital [Briefing Papers](#) and books. Working with researchers and boarding experts, the BSA has created books relevant

to the sector that help staff and parents better navigate their way around important topics current in boarding. For the online order form, [click here](#), titles include:

- Running a School Boarding House
 - Duty of Care
 - Parenting the Boarders
 - Being a Boarder
 - Mirror Mirror
 - Truly World Class.
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Educare

Through renowned e-learning service Educare, the BSA offers two online self-learning programmes for boarding staff, both domestic and international. These courses are designed to underline and reinforce the crucial knowledge and skills that are necessary to any role in boarding schools, and the associated pastoral duties.

- [Induction to Boarding](#)
Made up of three modules to cover the legal framework, setting and maintaining standards and the fundamentals of working effectively.
- [Induction to Boarding for International Schools](#)
Made up of four modules that cover working effectively, assessing and meeting the needs of boarders, best practice guidelines on the boarding environment, safeguarding and child protection and school policies, procedures, and protocols.



International

Upcoming international events:

- [**Boarding essentials**](#), Oct 17, 2019
Brillantmont International School, Lausanne, Switzerland
Whether you are just starting out in boarding, or want to refresh your skills, this is a seminar designed to help develop your understanding of working in the boarding environment. With a strong emphasis on safeguarding, you will look at the latest legislation and guidance, alongside the potential challenges you could face. This seminar will help you work safely and effectively with boarders.
- [**Creating a culture of wellbeing**](#), Oct 18, 2019
Brillantmont International School, Lausanne, Switzerland
This wellbeing of both boarders and staff play a vital part in creating a positive atmosphere in boarding. Effective pastoral care focuses on each individual and strives to give them the necessary support and skills to thrive. Putting wellbeing at the centre of the boarding environment allows boarders to develop and grow beyond the classroom as they live and work together. Delegates will gain a better understanding of how to support wellbeing by embedding positive habits and skills that help develop resilience.

- **Irish Boarding one-day conference**, Nov 14, 2019
Campbell College, Belfast, Northern Ireland
This one-day conference for all those working in Boarding and in support of Boarding in Ireland and Northern Ireland is designed to cover current issues in the sector, of particular interest to the Irish and Northern Irish markets, and cultivate a community of boarding colleagues.
- **Raising standards – inspection preparation and application**, Nov 15, 2019
Northern Ireland
This seminar will give participants a comprehensive understanding of how to prepare for the boarding element of both Regulatory Compliance inspections and the Focused Compliance element of the Educational Quality with Focused Compliance inspection. This seminar will promote understanding of the principles of self-evaluation and bring attendees up to date with the latest practice and guidance internationally and in Ireland/Northern Ireland.



Member Services

If you have recently had any staff changes, contact the BSA office via bsa@boarding.org.uk to let us know so that we can update the members' directory. We will as a matter, of course, send our annual Autumn survey to all members later this month.

Member details

Due to security protocol, all member passwords have been updated to ensure that your details are adequately protected. The username, however, remains the same. Please contact bsa@boarding.org.uk to request your new password from a valid school email address. To update your school information/logo or post job adverts can be done directly on the [members' area on the BSA website](#).

Forums

BSA forums are open to all boarding staff and indeed a mixture of attendees usually makes for even more interesting discussions. We will be emailing out invitations to all members in the coming weeks. Confirmed dates:

- **South East:** Oct 3, 2019. 10:00-12:00, ACS Cobham International School, Surrey
- **Safeguarding:** Oct 10. 13:30, via conference call.
- **Scotland:** Nov 7, 2019. 11:00-15:00, St George's School for Girls', Edinburgh
- **Prep:** Nov 19. 10:00-12:00, Bilton Grange School
- **South Central:** Nov 4. 10:00-12:00, Wellington College
- **South West (SWERB):** Nov 5. 10:00-12:00, Millfield School, Somerset.

National Boarding Day, Oct 5, 2019

sponsored by Squadkit

National Boarding Day will take place on Saturday 5 October 2019. This year, the day is set to celebrate an essential part of boarding life; sport. In collaboration with our generous sponsors, Squadkit, a unique brand that offers high-quality sportswear to many of our member schools, we invite schools to get involved in fun and innovative sporting activities.

Could your pupils run the UK in a day? Or how about making quite the 'racket' with a twelve-hour continuous tennis match? [Click here for further details](#) or watch our video below...



Christmas Box Appeals

You may be familiar with the concept of the Christmas box appeal – find a shoebox, wrap it, fill it with useful and fun items, and donate it to an organisation that will ship it to children and families in countries where it's a struggle for many to put food on the table, let alone afford Christmas presents. This type of appeal continues to be a popular way for schools to engage pupils with charitable activity and develop a grateful attitude.

One small organisation has been running a Christmas box appeal for nearly twenty years as part of its work in the Balkans. [FSCI](#) (the Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion) is a human-trafficking and exploitation prevention charity that works with some of the very poorest and most vulnerable people in Europe.

If you would like to find out more about how your school could get involved in FSCI's 2019 Christmas Box Appeal go to www.fscinet.org/christmas-box or get in touch with rich.parsons@fscinet.org.

The BSA team

Our team is here to help. Please keep in touch and we hope to see you soon.

- Chief Executive - [Robin Fletcher](#)
- Chief Operating Officer - [Aileen Kane](#)
- Director of Safeguarding, Standards and Training - [Dale Wilkins](#)
- International Director - [Andrew Lewin](#)
- Head of Member Services - [Chris Ryan](#)
- Senior Training Manager - [Liz McDonald](#)
- Head of Events and Commercial - [Amy Wilson](#)
- Member Services Manager - [Beth Waddington](#)
- Finance and Administration Executive - [Janki Amlani](#)
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