

## Under 18 Welfare, Care and Supervision in adult courses: Our Commitment to Student Welfare

At Oxford International UK schools, we are committed to ensuring that all students under the age of 18 are safe, supported, and well-informed throughout their stay.

We recognise that students aged 16 and 17 studying on adult programmes require a balance of independence and safeguarding, and we ensure that both students and parents/guardians clearly understand the level of care and supervision provided before enrolment.

### **Important: Level of Supervision**

Students aged 16–17 may study on adult programmes. As such:

- Students are fully supervised during lessons and scheduled activities
- Outside of timetabled sessions, students are not under continuous supervision
- Students are expected to behave responsibly and follow school guidance at all times

This is clearly explained to parents/guardians before arrival and confirmed through our consent process

### **Supervision Outside the Classroom**

Outside lesson time:

- There is no constant supervision during free time
- Staff are available at the school during opening hours for support
- Organised social activities are staff-led and risk assessed

Students are given guidance on staying safe, including travelling around Oxford and managing their free time responsibly in induction and student handbook.

### **Unsupervised Free Time**

Students aged 16–17 may have periods of **unsupervised free time**, including:

- After lessons and before evening meals
- After evening meals (subject to curfew)
- Weekends

Parental/guardian consent is required for this, and expectations are clearly set in advance

### **When Students Are Not Supervised**

Oxford International does not provide supervision in the following situations:

- Travelling between social programme activities and accommodation
- If students choose not to participate in social programme activities, between the end of lessons and returning to their accommodation
- If students choose to go out after their evening meal or during weekends

Students are expected to manage their time responsibly and follow school guidance

### **Curfew**

To support student safety:

- 16–17-year-olds must return to their accommodation by **11:00pm**
- Earlier curfews can be requested by parents/guardians

### **Travel Responsibility:**

Students aged 16–17 are responsible for arranging their own travel to and from their arrival or departure point unless an airport transfer is booked with the school in advance.

### **Travel Between Accommodation and School**

Students are expected to travel independently between their accommodation and the school.

- Students receive guidance on safe travel routes and public transport
- Host families support students on their first journey to school
- Students are provided with maps and instructions
- Parental consent is obtained for independent travel arrangements

### **Accommodation and Pastoral Care**

Under 18 students are usually placed in approved homestay accommodation, where:

- Hosts are vetted in line with safeguarding standards
- Students receive a safe and supportive home environment
- Clear house rules apply, including curfew
- Homestay accommodation must be booked on a half-board basis which includes breakfast and evening meals.

The school provides:

- A dedicated welfare support system

- Staff available for academic and personal support
- Clear procedures for raising concerns

### **Activities and Excursions organized by school:**

For individual students:

- Activities may be staff-led, but travel to and from activities may

be unsupervised For group students:

- Supervision is provided according to age:
- Under 12: fully supervised
- Ages 12–14: one hour unsupervised free time
- Ages 15–17: up to two hours' unsupervised free time in groups

All activities are risk assessed and age appropriate

### **Studying on Adult Programmes**

Students aged 16–17 studying on adult courses:

- Will attend classes with students aged 18+
- May participate in mixed-age social programmes
- Participation in some social programme activities may be restricted due to UK laws (for example, alcohol-related events) where a minimum age of 18+ applies.

This is clearly communicated to parents/guardians before enrolment

### **Parental Consent and Communication**

Before arrival, parents/guardians must provide written consent covering:

- Medical treatment (including emergency care)
- Travel arrangements
- Accommodation
- Participation in activities
- Unsupervised free time

Parents/guardians confirm they understand and accept these arrangements before the student travels

## **Safeguarding and Support**

Oxford International operates in line with UK safeguarding legislation:

- All staff receive safeguarding training
- The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Students are informed how to seek help and report concerns

Personal data is handled in accordance with UK GDPR, and shared only where necessary to support student welfare.