Student Behaviour Code of Conduct

APRIL WELL LIMITED — Company No. 11924473

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This policy is publicly available. It may be shared with parents, agents, partner schools and inspectors on request.

Document Control

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This document is reviewed annually in October and whenever statutory guidance or AEGIS Standards change.

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Statement

This Student Behaviour Code of Conduct outlines the positive behaviour April Well Limited expects from students. It also provides information about specific laws in the UK. The aim is to provide clear guidance in key areas of April Well Limited's expectations. The guidance is written for the benefit of students, parents/agents and staff. Our conduct rules can be stricter than the law; legal rules may differ between the UK nations.

April Well Limited is a small guardianship organisation. Students supported by April Well normally live in boarding accommodation at their schools or with their parents. April Well Limited does not provide routine or long-term homestay accommodation. However, where necessary in clearly defined emergency or exceptional situations, April Well Limited may arrange or coordinate short-term emergency accommodation in accordance with its Emergency Procedure and safeguarding policies.

Behaviour and conduct while in the care of April Well Limited

When you are studying in the UK and supported by April Well Limited, your behaviour should be safe, respectful and responsible at all times. This includes when you are:

- living in school boarding accommodation;
- staying with your parents or another responsible adult;
- travelling to or from the UK; and
- taking part in any activities or trips linked to your education.

April Well Limited expects all students to:

- be polite and courteous to others, including school staff, April Well Limited staff, parents, agents and other students;
- follow the rules and behaviour code of your school as well as this Student Behaviour Code of Conduct;
- follow the reasonable instructions of adults who are responsible for your care and safety (for example, school staff, house parents, your parents and April Well Limited staff). If emergency accommodation is arranged, follow the age-appropriate curfew/return time agreed with you before the stay; ask the responsible adult if unclear. Use kitchens and bathrooms safely, follow instructions about appliances and hot water, and respect others' privacy;
- respect other people's culture, background, religion and beliefs;
- treat other people's property with respect and not cause damage to property or the environment;
- use appropriate language and avoid swearing, rude or abusive comments;
- not bully, harass or discriminate against anyone, whether in person or online;
- use mobile phones, social media, other digital devices, Wi-Fi and any shared computer responsibly, in line with school rules and April Well Limited's Online Safety Policy;

- tell a trusted adult (for example, a member of school staff, your parents or April Well Limited) if you are worried about your own safety or the safety of someone else. For immediate danger or urgent emergency help, call 999. April Well's 24/7 number is +44 (0)7930 416543. Ask for help even if you think you may have broken a rule; your safety remains a priority;
- follow the laws of the UK, including those set out below.

Laws regarding the consumption of alcohol

April Well Limited does not permit students to consume alcohol whilst under our care. In the UK it is illegal for people under 18 to buy alcohol in a pub, off-licence, shop or elsewhere. In most cases, it is against the law for anyone to buy alcohol for someone under 18 to drink in a pub or a public place. Being drunk in a public place can also lead to police involvement or disciplinary action by your school.

Laws regarding the use of drugs and illegal substances

April Well Limited prohibits students from using recreational drugs and illegal substances whilst in our care. This does not prohibit lawful use of prescribed medicines as directed. UK penalties depend on the substance and circumstances, including unlawful possession, production or supply. The following activities can involve drug offences:

- take drugs;
- carry drugs;
- make drugs; or
- sell, deal or share drugs (also called 'supplying' them).

If you are under 18, the police are allowed to tell your parent, guardian or carer that you have been caught with drugs. April Well Limited and your school will also treat drug use very seriously, and this may result in serious disciplinary action, including exclusion or termination of guardianship. Any action must be fair, proportionate and consider safeguarding needs. Urgent medical help must not be delayed by disciplinary concerns. Any ending of guardianship must follow the contract, give reasonable notice where possible and ensure safe alternative care and handover.

Laws regarding smoking and vaping

April Well Limited prohibits students from smoking and vaping whilst in our care. It is illegal to sell tobacco or non-medicinal nicotine vapes to under-18s. From 29 October 2026, the UK-wide under-18 sales restriction covers vaping and nicotine products, except exempt medicinal products and medical devices. From 1 January 2027, tobacco, herbal smoking products and cigarette papers must not be sold to anyone born on or after 1 January 2009. These are sales restrictions; April Well's smoking/vaping ban applies regardless. Many schools also have strict rules about smoking and vaping anywhere on or near school premises. Breaching these rules may result in sanctions from your school and from April Well Limited.

Laws regarding sexual activity

April Well Limited prohibits students from engaging in sexual activity whilst in our care, even if they are over the age of consent. In the UK the age of consent is 16. That means that it is illegal to have sex with someone under the age of 16. It is also a criminal offence for an adult aged 18 or over in a legally defined position of trust (for example, certain teaching or care roles) to have a sexual relationship with a student under 18 in their care.

Students must not:

- engage in sexual activity or intimate behaviour with another person whilst under the care of April Well Limited;
- share or request nude or semi-nude images of themselves or others, including AI-generated or digitally altered images; or
- behave in a sexually inappropriate or sexually harassing way towards others, whether in person or online.

Any concerns about sexual activity or inappropriate sexual behaviour may be treated as a safeguarding concern and will be dealt with in line with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. Indecent sexual images of under-18s can be illegal even if those involved are 16 or 17 and agree to share them. Do not forward such images; tell a trusted adult immediately so the DSL can arrange safe handling under the Online Safety Policy. You will be listened to and supported.

Laws regarding tattoos and body piercings

April Well Limited prohibits students from having a tattoo or body piercing whilst in our care. In the UK, it is illegal to tattoo a young person under the age of 18, even if they have parental consent, apart from narrow medical exceptions. Body-piercing rules differ across the UK and by body part; consent alone does not make every piercing lawful. In Wales, intimate piercing of under-18s is prohibited even with parental consent. Other intimate piercings may also breach sexual offences laws. April Well's prohibition remains applicable regardless of local minimum-age rules.

Students must not arrange for tattoos or body piercings, including during time away from school, at weekends or during school holidays, while they are under the care of April Well Limited.

Arrangements when students wish to stay away overnight

While you are under the care of April Well Limited, you are not allowed to stay overnight away from your usual accommodation (for example, your school boarding house or your parents' home) unless permission has been given by your parents and, if you are in boarding accommodation, your school, and April Well Limited has been informed in advance.

If you wish to stay overnight away from your usual accommodation (for example, at a friend's house or with a family friend), you must:

- ask your parents for permission and make sure they are happy with where you will be staying and who will be responsible for you;
- ask your school for permission, if you are in boarding accommodation, and follow the school's procedures;
- provide April Well Limited with full details in advance, including the address, dates, contact details of the responsible adult and written confirmation that your parents and, where applicable, your school agree to the arrangement.

April Well Limited does not provide routine or long-term homestay or private fostering accommodation. However, where necessary in clearly defined emergency or exceptional situations, April Well Limited may arrange or coordinate short-term emergency accommodation in accordance with its Emergency Procedure and safeguarding policies.

If you stay away overnight without proper permission or without informing April Well Limited, your parents and school may be very worried about your safety and you may be treated as a missing student. This may result in disciplinary action by your school and by April Well Limited.

Review

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 23/10/2026

Signed: 

Name: Xiaoying Chi

Role: Director and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Date: 23/10/2026