

BOARDING AT

Bootham





A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Welcome to boarding at Bootham!

Bootham School is a leading UK boarding school, situated only a stone's throw from the beautiful historic centre of the City of York. The students who make up our thriving boarding community come from both near and far and make up a friendly, energetic and welcoming 'home away from home'.

At Bootham we seek to help all our boarders achieve academic success, balancing that with plenty of fun and the development of character. We strive to create an environment that cherishes each individual in a warm, welcoming way, giving young people everything that they need to flourish.

Many of our boarding students join us at age 11 and stay at Bootham until going to one of the top UK universities. Other students join us for GCSEs (preferably in Year 9), or in Sixth Form to study for A Levels, in order to benefit from all the tried and tested opportunities that a British boarding school education can provide.

One of the joys of living in a boarding house is having the opportunity to spend time -and form bonds- with people from all over the world. Our boarding community at Bootham is a truly diverse one: some of our boarders come from as close as York itself (and its surroundings) and as far away as the other side of the globe including America, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malta, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Poland, Switzerland and Thailand. At Bootham we are lucky to be able to live in an environment in which we can learn from and celebrate a range of individuals and cultures, with each making their unique contribution to boarding life. Indeed, the international nature of boarding brings huge benefits for all members of the School: students learn to understand different peoples and cultures, gaining the necessary global outlook for success in today's world.

Boarding at Bootham is often described as providing a "home away from home." The School provides a nurturing and friendly atmosphere: boarding houses are small enough to allow for a flexible and fair environment which takes into account the needs of the individual; but large enough to enable students to form a range of friendships that will last them for life. Boarding life enables the young people in our care to grow within a strong community, in which they can be fully themselves, learning from those around them. Students at Bootham are offered the chance to be part of a unique and wonderful environment which provides both safety and challenge; everything our students need to flourish.



“ The quality of boarding is excellent... The School has engendered a powerful sense of community and there is a high emphasis upon contributing to society...Boarders also value the friendships they make with one another, and actively seek to live in harmony together.”

- Independent Schools Inspectorate Report

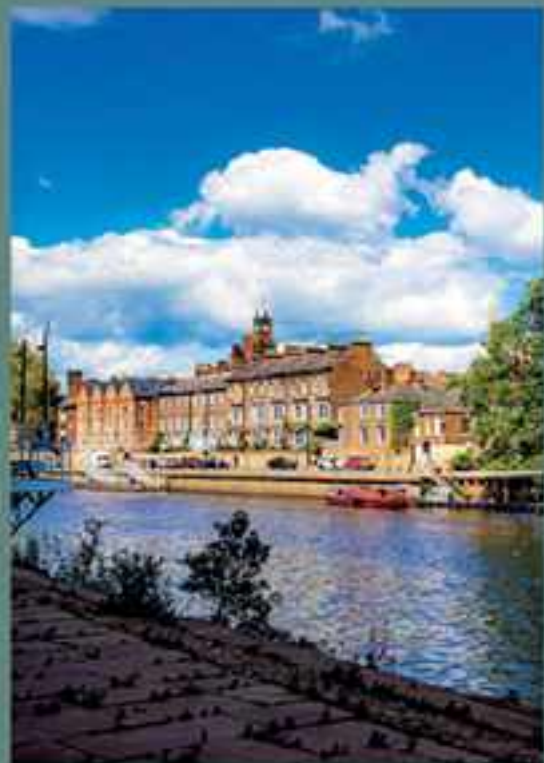
A panoramic view of York, England, featuring a mix of historic architecture. In the background, the Gothic spires and towers of York Minster are prominent against a cloudy sky. The middle ground is filled with a row of multi-story brick and stone houses with white window frames. In the foreground, a large, well-maintained garden with a central lawn, flower beds, and a gravel driveway is visible.

YORK

Recognised recently by the Sunday Times as the best place to live in Britain, York is a unique and fantastic place for our students to call home. It is a City steeped in history, renowned for its stunning architecture, and buzzing with life and activity. It is a national and regional centre for artistic and intellectual life and our boarders are able to soak up the academic, cultural and social benefits of living in such a vibrant city. York regularly hosts a range of festivals, ranging from food fairs to cultural exhibitions, historical re-enactments; there is always something going on for our boarders to get involved with and they are encouraged to make the most of all that the City has to offer. It is also home to two renowned universities, which also provides intellectual opportunities for students to take advantage of.

York is perfectly positioned in the heart of the country close to stunning national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty; it really is a city with something for everyone.

York is also ideally placed for easy access by both domestic and international students. It is less than two hours from Central London by train and within easy reach of other major cities such as Edinburgh, Newcastle and Manchester. Manchester and Leeds-Bradford international airports are easy to get to.



BOARDING ETHOS

"Do you try to make your home a place of friendliness, refreshment and peace...?" Quaker Faith and Practice

As a school built around established and time-honoured Quaker principles, at the very heart of boarding at Bootham is the desire to see each individual young person in our care enjoy their time with us, forge connections with those around them and grow into a unique, caring, flourishing and outward looking young adult by the time they leave us. The boarding ethos at Bootham is therefore guided by the Quaker testimonies of Equality, Peace, Simplicity, Stewardship and Truth.

Boarding at Bootham aims to be:

- ▼ A nurturing community, in which each person has the opportunity to develop intellectually, socially physically and spiritually.
- ▼ An open community, founded on honesty and trust.
- ▼ A safe community, in which disagreements are resolved peacefully.
- ▼ An inclusive community, in which no-one is discriminated against or treated unfairly.
- ▼ A confident community, in which the unique contribution of each individual is valued and celebrated.
- ▼ A thoughtful and forgiving community, in which everyone takes responsibility for themselves and others.

TYPES OF BOARDING

At Bootham we recognise the need for flexibility in order to meet the needs of our students and their families. There is a range of boarding options available including full boarding, weekly boarding or flexi boarding. Our full and weekly boarders, who stay at school for between 4 and 7 nights per week, make the houses their home. Alongside this, students can also choose to board for two or three nights every week, allowing for a break from travel and the opportunity to balance developing independence with family time.

We are very proud of our boarding at Bootham and love to welcome people into our community. Day students at the School are welcome to have a taste of boarding and stay in the boarding houses on an ad hoc basis, an option that proves very popular with both students and parents.



Choice





BOARDING HOUSES

Bootham has three historic boarding houses- Rowntree, Fox and Evelyn- each contained in elegantly designed Georgian townhouses.

The rooms are light and spacious, allowing each student a personal space that they can make their own. In the younger years students have the excitement of sharing dormitories whilst in College (our Sixth Form) they are accommodated in pairs or individual rooms (a number of which are en-suite) or live together in small flats within the boarding house, providing the perfect preparation for university life.

The boarding houses also provide a range of both quiet and active social spaces giving boarders the opportunity to catch up with friends, celebrate special occasions, join in with games of pool and table tennis, play an array of board and computer games, find peace and space to read or listen to music, or curl up in front of the television after an active day.



A TYPICAL DAY IN BOARDING

WEEKDAY:

07.15-08.00	Breakfast
08.15	Boarding House meeting
09.10-12.50	Lessons
12.50-13.50	Lunch
13.50-16.00	Lessons
16.30-17.30	Students take part in a wide range of activities with a choice from over 30 each week including <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sport- Music, Art and Drama- Charities and Social Action- Tech and STEM subjects- Hobbies
18.00	Boarders' Tea
18.45-19.45	Private supervised study time
20.00-21.00	Free time to relax in house, access the library or take part in a range of daily boarding activities including, sports, craft, board games, reading groups and baking.

WEEKENDS:

The weekends at Bootham give the boarders an opportunity for both freedom and fun.

Saturday lessons finish at lunchtime, leaving the boarders free to join in with sports fixtures, explore the beautiful and safe city centre of York (which is only a two minute walk away), make use of the School facilities and participate in a wide range of activities organised by the boarding team.

On a Sunday, the day begins with Boarders' Brunch, which offers a leisurely opportunity for the boarders to relax after a busy week and catch up over cups of tea and coffee, fruit juice and a wonderful array of delicious breakfast food. Boarders then have the choice between arranged activities and free time with friends. After supper, the whole boarding community comes together for a Quaker meeting followed by hot chocolate and snacks.



wellbeing

LEAVE WEEKENDS

Four times a year we do not have Saturday morning school – our Leave Weekends. While most boarders spend the weekend with guardians or the families of their local friends, at Bootham we recognise that for many of our international students the boarding house truly does become a second home to them, and so we are also happy to welcome students to stay with us over the leave weekends, for an additional charge. This allows students to relax in the familiarity of their own boarding houses, surrounded by friendly faces, and make the most of our outstanding facilities including the sports hall, fitness suite, art centre and the library. They are also able to take part in a range of organised activities which, for recent leave weekends, have included ten pin bowling and cinema trips, meals out, food making classes and excursions to local attractions such as York Dungeons and the York Balloon Fiesta, for the funfair and fireworks.



FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

The boarders at Bootham really are able to throw themselves into everything that the School has to offer. Evenings and weekends see them make the most of the School's facilities and boarders are often to be found on the sports pitches, in the library, working on their own art or music projects, using our state of the art facilities, using the fitness suite or bonding over a team game in the Sports Hall.

Our broad range of activities enables each boarder to explore their skills and passions and include:

- ♥ **Local delights:** Tours of York, local tourist attractions, food festivals, famous Christmas markets and summer trips to the nearest seaside towns of Whitby and Scarborough.
- ♥ **Cultural activities:** Museum trips, cinema trips, creative writing classes, reading groups, art gallery visits and access to the music rooms and art studios.
- ♥ **Sporting and outdoor pursuits:** Use of the fitness suite, netball, tennis and basketball courts and sports hall, football tournaments, ice skating, walking in the moors and hills and boarders' sports days.
- ♥ **Just for fun:** Ten pin bowling, quiz nights, talent shows, shopping trips, treasure hunts and games nights.






WELLBEING

The emotional, academic, physical and mental, wellbeing of our young people is of utmost importance at Bootham and a commitment to the highest standards of pastoral care lies at the heart of boarding here. It is the focus of everything that we do.

Boarding staff are a crucial source of support for every boarder. The team is committed to ensuring the very best care for our students, which includes helping boarders to develop a sense responsibility for themselves, to others and for the environment in which they live. By creating an atmosphere of kindness, honesty, loyalty and trust within the House, boarders are enabled to flourish and find opportunities to contribute to our community.

The School has an onsite health centre with a dedicated team of staff who look after the needs of students requiring medical attention, provide health education and simply a quiet place to rest when respite is needed. Surgery sessions are held in school regularly for those boarders who wish to see an experienced doctor. The team provides the highest standard of care, within a warm and welcoming environment. We also have a trained counsellor, with a specialism in child and adolescent mental health.



Students also have the option to speak to the Peer Listeners, a group of senior students who provide an impartial listening service for any pupils who need someone to talk to; members of the boarding community are always part of that team. Peer Listeners are trained by a specialist team of counsellors and educational psychologists in effective questioning and listening skills, and provide a vital service that is central to ensuring that the boarders always have access to a friendly face and a listening ear.

An essential part of wellbeing is the provision of healthy, nutritious and delicious food. The catering team works hard to ensure that a wide range of fresh food is on offer, tailored to suit the full range of dietary needs. In consultation with the boarders' food committee, the chefs devise a range of special events throughout the year to celebrate events that are important to our boarders such as Thanksgiving and Spring Festival. Additionally, the boarding houses make provision each day for access to cereals, fruit, and bread, as well as hosting their own occasional treat nights, when pizza or ice cream is on the menu!



“ There is a strong informal support system within each House, with older pupils actively setting out to be role models for younger pupils.”

- Independent Schools Inspectorate Report

ACADEMIC WORK

ACADEMIC WORK

At Bootham, our small classes allow us to nurture potential from an early age. Our teachers have the freedom to create a dynamic and inspiring environment within the classroom, encouraging academic achievement and curiosity in our students from a young age. Similarly, our students are confident enough to ask questions and to contribute ideas of their own. This produces a mature and mutually respectful learning relationship between teachers and students. We pursue an unashamedly academic programme of study which nonetheless prizes the full range of subjects on offer equally. Students, among them the brightest and most intelligent that our highly experienced staff have taught, are nurtured as individuals in the classroom, whilst being encouraged and enabled to achieve the very best academic results that they can. As a result, our academic results and added value performance bear comparison with any school in the country.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

One of the great strengths of our provision for international students at Bootham is the work of the EAL department. A team of specialist teachers provides the highest standard of support for those for whom English is a second language. EAL staff have very close links with the boarding team and are highly skilled at helping members of the international community at Bootham to feel at home and to flourish academically. This provision is included in our fees, not charged for separately.

PRE-A LEVEL COURSE

Some international students need an extra year of study before starting their A level course. This allows them to secure their English Language skills before starting on these very important examinations. The Bootham School A Level Foundation Course allows international students to develop the technical language and skills they will need to be successful in their A Level course and future academic careers. The programme includes academic, social, cultural and physical activities to broaden learning including:

- ✔ Comprehensive Cultural Programme to enrich the understanding of the English language and British culture
- ✔ A varied curriculum including Music, Drama and Art, Business or Economics
- ✔ Physical Education
- ✔ Study Skills
- ✔ Personalised Support

RECENT UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

- ✔ Oxford
- ✔ Cambridge
- ✔ London School of Economics
- ✔ Central St Martin's
- ✔ Imperial College
- ✔ Durham
- ✔ Bath
- ✔ Royal Vet College
- ✔ Bristol
- ✔ Warwick
- ✔ Royal Academy of Music
- ✔ University College



BOOTHAM
SCHOOL
AGES 3-18

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