Purpose, Aims, Ethos and Values

The Purpose of a Bootham Education

The purpose of all aspects and facets of Bootham's Quaker Education is to liberate and equip its young people to flourish as adults and live adventurous lives that will serve to create a better world.

The Aims of a Bootham Education

In pursuing our vision and in seeking to promote the purpose of a Bootham Education we set ourselves the following aims:

- We aim to continue to grow and further develop a thriving community that reflects Quaker principles and practices, helping each individual to grow to recognise and develop 'that of God' in themselves and in other people
- We aim to help all students to become the best person that each can be and to achieve the best of which each is capable
- We aim to promote habits of hard work, self-regulation and the meeting of high standards of personal conduct in all aspects of work and relationships
- We aim to develop our students into genuinely good people who are reflective, who seek truth and light, and whose lives speak with integrity of positive, pro-social values
- We aim to promote kindness, a questioning spirit, humility, and a deep sense of social responsibility, as well as both the courage and confidence to speak up, and to work to build a better world
- We aim, as staff, to be 'patterns and examples' to our young people, modelling the qualities and values that we aspire for them to hold, and to do so with patience but in the expectation of high standards, seeking for -and helping them to seek for- 'that of God' within them
- We aim, as an employer, to provide a stimulating, fair and supportive working environment in which all employees understand the role they play in building a better world and know that they are valued for playing it

Date of last review: June 2026
Person responsible: Head
Review Group: Leadership Meeting
Approval group: Governors' Meeting
Date of next review: June 2029

Bootham School Values

At Bootham School we value particularly an approach to our community from all who work and learn here which:

- looks for, responds to and works hard to draw out 'that of God' in others and in themselves
- seeks to make a positive contribution to the Bootham community and shows respect for its Quaker values, practices and heritage
- speaks with integrity of a straightforward, kind, caring and unquestioningly respectful approach to others
- is wholehearted, demonstrating commitment both to being the best that they can be and to the hard work needed in rising to the challenge of high standards and high expectations
- speaks truth, placing honesty in all things as a priority and is able to resolve conflict peacefully
- is ambitious to improve the world for others -near and far- in whatever ways they can

Note: This policy will be checked and updated, on an annual basis, for matters of fact and process

Spring Term 2024 – Fact and Process review undertaken. No changes were required to be made

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