Ackworth School

Information for application

Ackworth School, Pontefract Road, Ackworth, Pontefract, Wakefield, WF7 7LT
The History of Ackworth School

Ackworth School was founded in 1779 by John Fothergill on behalf of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and the School Committee (or Board of Governors) is still accountable to this body. The School was established for Quaker boys and girls and the Quaker Christian ethos, with its emphasis on quiet reflection and the search for God within oneself and within others, lies at the heart of the School. We are the oldest co-educational boarding school in the UK.

Our school motto is:

“No Sibi Sed Omnibus”

(not for oneself but for everyone)

We encourage our pupils to be mindful of the Quaker testimonies of simplicity, trust, simplicity, peace and sustainability. Quakers believe that their lives are about kindness, peace and tenderness. They are generous with their commitment to causes and to others; they listen carefully so that they can help where needed; they speak plainly to avoid mistakes and to hold witness to the value of truth. They believe that it is what we are rather than what we do.

What is it like at Ackworth today?

It maintains its ethos and traditions and is still governed by the Society. The school is academically non-selective and provides an excellent range of facilities and extra-curricular opportunities throughout both the junior and senior schools.

There are currently 310 students in the senior school 11-18 and 150 in Coram House (Junior School 3-11). Approximately one quarter of the senior students are boarders. The School also has an International Studies Centre providing academic English Language programmes. The school is set in beautiful grounds in the village of Ackworth and enjoys excellent transport links to nearby towns and cities such as York, Leeds, Harrogate and Wakefield. The Dales and the Peak District are just over one hour away. We are also a HMC school and a member of IAPS.

Our pupils do not just come to Ackworth for this added value, we also recognise the importance of preparing the next generations for an evolving and increasingly competitive global marketplace. To do this we focus on developing the individual character of every child, and during their journey with us, we aim to cultivate vital life skills through building relationships amongst the pupil body and teachers alike. We want our pupils to develop a prepared mind for life beyond school. This requires confidence, resilience and compassion, all built up over a period of time, and in a variety of ways, both within and beyond the classroom.

At Ackworth we pride ourselves on being completely inclusive. Our pupils are free to develop their individuality and it is one of the things that makes us special. We have a specialist Autism Resource and some of our pupils from there access mainstream lessons. They do so without fear of feeling different but in addition to this their fellow peers learn to accept them as part of their class. Our pupils support each other. We operate a system of family dining whereby our
tables consist of a mixture of age groups. You will find a first year sitting with a sixth former every day. They form friendships; the younger children feel supported; it breaks down barriers.

Indeed, a higher than average proportion of our pupils have special educational needs and this is supported and nurtured at all levels of the school. As a non-selective school, our exam success demonstrates that we really do work hard to ensure that as many of our children succeed to a level that maximises their capabilities and talents. Without the support of all of our committed staff, both teaching and support, we would not be able to achieve this progress and added value.

We want teachers who believe in our purpose as educators and are proactive in immersing themselves in school life during term time. We would like them to role model the qualities we hope to instil in our pupils throughout their journey from the nursery through to the end of the Sixth Form. Teachers are expected to take part in the extensive extra-curricular programme and can choose to offer an activity that they are passionate about. This includes our weekday programme as well as weekend boarder activities.

We welcome all staff to have their own children educated at Ackworth and we provide a remission on fees from the junior school through to the sixth form.

We have an excellent catering facility and this provides all meals during the working day. Staff have access to well being support and an independent listener.
Aims and Ethos

- To develop a well integrated and self-disciplined community, with an international dimension, in which the values of Quakers are seen to underpin the school.
- To help all pupils to progress at a pace appropriate to their age, aptitude, interests and ability, to achieve the best external examination results of which they are capable and to leave school equipped to lead a full and responsible life in the adult world.
- To provide, and encourage the use of, the widest possible range of opportunities, e.g. sporting, creative and recreational, outside the formal curriculum.
- To help pupils to grow in self-respect and to appreciate and enjoy the benefits of good health.
- To encourage pupils to consider others before self, to look for the good in people and to be honest and trustworthy at all times.
- To encourage service to others within and beyond school.
- To provide, in conjunction with parents and guardians, care and support for pupils as they develop and mature.

School Results and Achievements.

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<th>A Level</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pass rate</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
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<td>Grades A* - B</td>
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<td>54.9%</td>
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<th>GCSE</th>
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<td>Grades A* - B</td>
<td>85.6%</td>
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Applications

If you feel that you can meet the above requirements, please submit a letter of application along with the Ackworth School application form to the Head. Only applications containing the requested information will be considered.

Applications should be sent to:

Mr Anton Maree
Ackworth School
Pontefract Road
Ackworth
Pontefract
WF7 7LT

Or by email to: recruitment@ackworthschool.com

Phone: 01977 611401

Applicants should read carefully the application procedure – guidance for applicants, Safer Recruitment policy. Our recruitment privacy notice is available on our website.

Ackworth School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and all applicants will undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and an enhanced DBS and Barred list check with Disclosure and Barring Service.

Ackworth School is an equal opportunities employer.
Contact
Joanne Colley
Ackworth School
Pontefract Road
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WF7 7LT

Tel: +44 (0) 1977 611401
Email: recruitment@ackworthschool.com