

Keswick



School

BOARDING



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EXCELLENCE, ASPIRATION AND OPPORTUNITY



Boarding at Keswick School

Boarding has been an important part of our school since the Victorian times. Boarders from all over the world help shape our ethos and bring a richness and diversity to our community whilst at the same time learning and experiencing independence in a safe environment.

Lairthwaite House is a co-educational boarding house over four floors with 53 bed spaces in rooms of 2, 3 or 4 students aged 11-18.

Each boarder has their own bedroom area which can be personally decorated and other rooms include a large communal common room and kitchen area, a music room, computer room, 6th form common room, laundry and sick bays.

One of the benefits of boarding is being able to take part in the large array of extra-curricular clubs and activities at lunchtime, after school and at weekends. These activities guided by dedicated house and school staff offer exciting and challenging experiences to enhance student life.

A transport service is available to and from major train stations and airports at holiday times and public transport is regularly accessible. All meals are provided in the school dining hall apart from supper which is made in house after prep.

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Dylan Cooper

Joining Lairthwaite boarding house in Year 9 was really scary, especially moving to another country and continent. The staff in both boarding and school really helped me to settle in, especially with the caring family-like atmosphere in the boarding house. Being supported at Keswick School by teachers and the prep system has helped me gain the GCSEs I needed to join the 6th form where I am currently studying Business BTEC, Geography & Music. After 6th form I am taking a gap year and thereafter hope to apply for a university place. Living in boarding has allowed me to be more grown up, independent and responsible and to form good relationships with house staff and other boarders which has led to me being appointed as a senior prefect and creating opportunities to learn leadership skills. I consider myself a good role model to the younger boarders and feel qualified to give back to the community that supported me when I first arrived. Overall my experience in Lairthwaite Boarding house has been phenomenal.



Nirjala Dura

During my past 6 years, Lairthwaite boarding house has helped me achieve my GCSE grades and create the opportunity to study A- levels. I am currently in my final year of 6th form studying BTEC Business studies, Government & Politics and Philosophy & Ethics. The boarding matrons have been very supportive, offering help when needed to ensure I get the best possible results. My goal is to study Business Management at York university. Living in the boarding house has allowed me to form good relationships with both staff and students from different parts of the world. I have also experienced responsibility through my role as senior boarding house prefect. The ability to inspire younger pupils and act as a role model is a privilege. My experience at Lairthwaite boarding house has been remarkable and all the better for the feeling that I am part of a big happy family.



Tom Ward

If you decide to join the boarding house it will be like gaining a second family and you will make some really good friends. I can say this because I have been in Lairthwaite House for four years and believe I will stay in contact with them for many years. If you are like me and you enjoy sports, then you will thoroughly enjoy the activities the boarding house provides. I have enjoyed skiing at an indoor ski slope and regularly play ball sports with all the other boarders.



Sophie Yates

I'm Sophie, I'm coming up to my 5th year in boarding. I joined in Year 9 followed by my brother, Joe the year after. Currently I am in Year 13 and Joe is in Year 12.

We both moved to the UK after having been in schools in the Phillipines and Singapore. Keswick School was an ideal option for us with lots of family and friends in the North.

Boarding is an experience in itself. From the independence you gain, to all the lifelong friends you make. I found that living in boarding expanded my friendship group and I became close to many people I would not usually be friends with. As well as this, I feel very involved with the school and have developed useful skills. The staff and students work hard to make you feel welcome and the community is great. In particular, with my brother living in boarding with me, home feels much closer. We see each other and also travel to visit our grandparents and cousins often.

We both enjoy our time in boarding and it is something that has made us both more confident and able to interact with more people.



Lucy Horder

I joined Keswick School and the Boarding House in 2013. It was a daunting experience but that's just because it was new when I joined. I received so much support from all the staff and boarders. I was so thankful that they were all so welcoming.

One thing I have enjoyed most about boarding was the weekly activities. We did all sorts of fun things such as ice-skating in winter, and paddle boarding in summer. Many school staff offer to help during these activities, which gives you opportunities to get to know teachers. I did GCSEs at Keswick School and didn't hesitate to stay on and do my A-Levels. The teachers enthusiasm and support is so amazing and the boarding house staff are always ready to sit down and have a chat about the best options and help you every step of the way.



Motumi Mapetla

Being a part of Lairthwaite boarding house is a great opportunity to make friends, receive an education and take part in something new. I joined Keswick School in Year 7 and it immediately felt like a second home.

You have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world and learn about their countries and cultures. I have many friends in school and boarding.

Being a boarder allows you to do extra-curricular activities without worrying about the need for a lift home. Boarding has changed my life and I am much more independent now. It can be a bit challenging at the beginning but if you struggle with anything there are many people to help you. You get used to being away from home and I think boarding was the best decision I have made so far in my life.



Rebecca Miller

I arrived at Keswick school as a boarder at the start of Year 9 in 2018.

When I arrived at the house, everyone was really nice and welcoming, it was like having a second family. Boarding has helped me become closer to my brother and build a stronger relationship with him. This also happened with my brother and older sister when they were both here.

I have had a chance to meet people from all over the world and have learnt about many different cultures. I have tried lots of different activities while being a boarder such as kayaking, archery and many more. I probably would have never tried these activities if I wasn't in boarding. In school and boarding I have met friends which I think I will have for a long time.

The teachers have been really kind and supportive in helping me catch up on everything that I had missed. I feel like I am getting a great education and that I fit in well within school and boarding. I am really glad I made the decision to come to Keswick School.



Leila Anderson

I joined Keswick School and the boarding house in 2017. The boarding house and Keswick School will always be one of the best experiences of my life. I have already made many friends and lots of amazing memories.

One of the reasons I joined the boarding school in the first place was because my sister was already a boarder here and to be closer to my family in Scotland.

My sister and I always had a good bond before we came here but now I feel that we have grown a lot closer by being together in the house. The family atmosphere is just like home, but with a lot more people! Having made friends in boarding made it easier to make friends in school. I have a great group of friends. I love being a boarder, it is fun and we do activities all the time.

It is an upbeat environment where we all get along and have great fun.



Mrs Appleby & Mr Wilkinson



Mrs Pickering

The Boarding House Team

Lairthwaite Boarding House is run by a very experienced and large team of staff who look after all aspects of boarders needs. Leading the team in the house is Mrs Pickering, assisted by Mrs Lee, Deputy Head of House and Head of the Music Department in school. They live in the house with their partners and grown up children. Mr Wilkinson is also resident in the house and is a House Tutor and guitar teacher. We have three, day house parents who look after the domestic

needs of the boarders during the day and if they are off school ill and six other house parents on a rota, who supervise the students from when they arrive in from school and until breakfast time the next morning. Head of Boarding is split between Mr Jackson (Head teacher), Miss Gibbin and Miss Railton (Deputy Head Teachers). Mr Pepper is the assistant site manager in charge of upkeep in the house and Mrs Pepper is the Boarding Development Manager and based in school.

For general enquiries or admissions please contact:

Sal Pepper

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‘This is an outstanding Boarding School.’
Ofsted Report (2018)



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