



Keswick  School

11-18 Co-educational Boarding and Day

“Promoting excellence to enable all students to be happy and achieve their potential”

Welcome



Welcome to Keswick School, I hope this prospectus conveys a sense of our rich, happy, purposeful community and the passion we have for learning. We have an ambition to be the best we can be. This happens through working in partnership, encouraging pupils to take risks, seeing failure as essential for success and developing confidence and resilience.

Keswick School is a co-educational day and boarding school. We invest time in developing positive relationships. These are revealed in personal qualities such as consideration, service and endeavour. Visitors are struck by the disciplined yet caring atmosphere and pupils who are mature, respectful and tolerant.

We value academic achievement, encourage excellence but appreciate that other qualities are equally likely to lead to success later in life. Our pupils broaden their horizons through the wide range of extracurricular activities from chess, writers and illustrators and debating to rugby, rowing and the first Lego league.

To find out more about Keswick School please visit our website or, even better, come and visit us in person – I look forward to meeting you.

S Jackson MA(Oxon) MEd FRSA
Headteacher



School Aims



Tour of School



“The excellent leadership of the headteacher, first rate teaching, students’ excellent attitude to learning and knowledgeable governance all combine together in Keswick School” (Ofsted)



“Our ethos is one of community where everyone works together to create a happy, caring and supportive environment”



Our Community

Our community is built on the principle of partnership. Behaviour is exemplary, pupils are encouraged to take risks in their learning and success is recognised and celebrated.

We have a strong pastoral system. Our specialist staff include: Head of Year; school nurse, professional learning mentor, a counsellor, education support officer, the student support centre and the learning support department. Form Heads support pupils with everyday issues, target setting and guidance. Liaison between school and home is one of our strengths and we expect parents to be actively involved with school.

All year groups are represented on a School Council. This meets regularly and informs the school's decision making. There is a strong sense of service and we expect pupils to support their local communities.

We pride ourselves on offering an extensive programme of over fifty extra-curricular activities, clubs and societies ranging from debating, medicine, ethics, media sound recording, rugby, sculpture, drama, film, sailing and writers and illustrators. Many clubs and societies are pupil led and we are confident that everyone will find something to interest them.

Learning & Inspiring

At Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) pupils develop their skills as learners. We pay particular attention to achieving high standards in literacy and numeracy. This enables pupils to realise their potential. We use an accelerated reader programme to encourage and challenge pupils to read for pleasure and knowledge.

At Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11) most pupils' study 9 GCSEs. This includes English language, English literature, Maths and most students take three separate sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Extended school options included GCSE Latin and beginners Spanish which are offered after school.

All pupils undertake a Personal Development programme in Years 7-11. This includes careers education with pupils completing a week of work experience during Year 10.

Home learning has a vital role to play to support our aims. Activities are varied but include: reading, investigating, drawing, recording, creating, practising, revising and so on. We use Google Classroom as well as other websites and blogs to support home learning.





Our Curriculum

“We provide a personalised curriculum that engages, inspires and challenges all our pupils”



“Our programme of outdoor activities, trips, competitions and events builds confidence, develops teamwork and helps to nurture our community”



Beyond the Classroom

Keswick School is set within an area of majestic scenery comprising of mountains and lakes. Consequently, outdoor education plays a significant role in the development of our pupils. Activities have included climbing Latrigg and Skiddaw, walking around Derwentwater, orienteering, sailing, canoeing, raft building, rock climbing, running, cycling, rowing, skiing, horse riding, high rope challenges and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme.

We are proud that our pupils volunteer in both the local community and in school, ranging from support for local organisations such as

the Calvert Trust, Theatre by the Lake, Guide and Scout groups and charity shops to working in school as peer mentors and subject coaches.

We believe that learning should extend beyond the classroom. All students have the opportunity to participate in local, national and international trips, activity days, competitions and events. Successes include winning the National Kids Literature competition, national finalists in the Citizenship Mock Trial competition, finalists in the Ethics cup, debating, and first Lego league competitions amongst others.



We have a proud history of sporting success and encourage pupils to actively engage in an array of different sports. These include: netball, hockey, badminton, basketball, tennis, cricket, athletics, rounders, rugby, football, orienteering and many more. Pupils represent the school in competitions and tournaments around the North of England.

“We have a proud history of sporting success and encourage pupils to actively engage in an array of different sports”



i Perform

In Music, pupils can take individual and small group instrumental, singing and music production lessons.

Music groups perform at an array of events including the Young Musicians concert, the Spring Concert, school productions and local music festivals. We have a dedicated Music Centre which includes a recording studio and suite of Apple Mac computers and a Music production club where students learn skills in lighting and live sound.

Drama at Keswick School is based in 'The Dame Judi Dench Performing Arts Theatre'. Many students also perform at Theatre by the Lake.

There is an annual Shakespeare festival and the department runs a number of Drama clubs across the year groups and there is a youth theatre group after school. Musical productions have included 'We Will Rock You', 'West Side Story', 'Guys and Dolls' and 'Cabaret'.

Both Music, Drama and Dance collaborate to produce a week long 'iPerform festival' in the summer term and have over the years created some exciting videos involving the whole school in arts, music and dance performances.



“Our Sixth Form offers a rich and varied curriculum of A-levels to suit a range of higher education pathways”

Sixth Form

We offer a wide range of A Level subjects, as well as some vocational subjects.

Students also undertake either an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or Core Mathematics qualification in addition to their three subjects. Full details are set out in the Sixth Form prospectus available on our school website and on the Keswick School Sixth Form website:

<https://keswicksixthform.weebly.com>



Sixth Form Weebly

We have a traditional prefect system. A Head Boy and Girl are supported by a team of senior prefects who oversee year group, charity and other groups of prefects.

Prefects are role models for our younger pupils. They provide additional help and support that is a hallmark of our community.

Most of our students go to university, but a notable proportion also take up advanced or degree apprenticeships both locally and nationally. Students are guided through the UCAS process, as well as to other training and employment destinations, through a range of talks and workshops, practice interviews with local employers, and the Year 12 work experience week.

We have close links with a range of universities including Newcastle, Durham and Lancaster. Our Oxbridge preparation is extensive and we work closely with both Queen's College, Oxford and Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

Boarding

Lairthwaite House provides the boarders with a very homely, happy, family like community in which they can grow, learn and develop knowing they have the security of a very experienced team of house staff looking after them. Boarders work and play together, share experiences and aspirations, and develop life-long friendships. The Head of House and Deputy Head of House are resident and a team of House parents provide additional support.

The beauty of boarding is the variety of accessible activities the students can take part in. Younger boarders have activities

every Saturday and Sunday afternoon and the older boarders can choose if they would like to join in. Boarders have access to tennis courts and other sports facilities in the evenings.

In the summer term, we swap one night a week in prep with a fun community activity and of course boarders can take advantage of the extra-curricular activities from the school programme at lunchtime or after school.





“Boarders demonstrate a strong sense of community. They care for each other and staff value each child’s unique contribution to boarding life”

Keswick School



How to find us

By Road: North/South From the M6 leave junction 40 (Penrith) and follow the A66 towards Keswick, turn left onto the B5289 near the Crosthwaite Church and then left again onto Church Lane following the signpost up Vicarage Hill to the school.

By Rail: The nearest main line station is Penrith (25 minutes by road with hourly bus connections).

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| By Air: | Glasgow International | 2hrs 20mins |
| | Manchester International | 2hrs 10mins |
| | Newcastle International | 2hrs |
| | Durham Tees Valley | 1hr 50mins |

Day Admissions

As an Academy we are our own admissions authority.

A copy of our admissions policy is available on our website.

If you have any questions about our admissions process please email: admissions@keswick.cumbria.sch.uk or complete the contact form here:



Sixth Form Admissions

A copy of the Sixth Form Prospectus is available on our website.

To find out more about the Sixth Form and how to apply please email sixthform@keswick.cumbria.sch.uk or complete the contact form here:



Boarding Admissions

Keswick School is one of 30 state boarding schools.

To find out more about the Boarding School and how to apply please email boarding@keswick.cumbria.sch.uk or complete the contact form here:





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*“Keswick School is a place where all students thrive
and are extremely well prepared for their future”*

(Ofsted)

Keswick School:
a company limited by guarantee

Registered in England:
Company Number: 07664297

Registered Office: Vicarage Hill, Keswick
Cumbria, CA12 5QB.

Tel. 017687 72605

Email: admin@keswick.cumbria.sch.uk
Web: <http://www.keswick.cumbria.sch.uk>
Instagram: [keswickschoolofficial](https://www.instagram.com/keswickschoolofficial)



Website