



Founded in 627 AD, St Peter's is the fourth oldest school in the world and one of the country's leading schools. We are proud to be the Choir School for York Minster, responsible for educating York Minster's choristers. Our academic results are outstanding but we believe that independent thinking and a love of learning are just as important as excellent grades.

We offer co-education from 2 to 18 and our three-school structure enables us to give a tailor-made experience for each age group, while giving access to the facilities of the whole school and a strong sense of belonging. Situated just minutes from the heart of York, one of the nation's greatest and most beautiful cities, there is a strong sense of being part of a modern, dynamic community where we walk, as our motto says, 'over ancient ways'.

Welcome

Our aim here at St Peter's 8-13 is a bold one: we want to nurture every individual in our care, inspiring them to go out and change the world.



The children in the St Peter's family will grow up, move on to our senior section and go out into the wider world. We want to inspire them to see that they can really make a difference in that world. We will help nurture characters centred on integrity, kindness and respect.

It takes courage to live a life like this, to be a dynamic individual who dares to live each day to the full. You need to learn to be resilient, embrace mistakes and to bounce back. We feel that this best happens when a child feels nurtured within a family environment, a safe place where they can flourish.

St Peter's 8-13 provides the children with extraordinary opportunities to discover their passions.

If you feel that this is the sort of community, where your child will be nurtured and inspired to change the world around them, please get in touch so that we can show you the School in action.

Andy Falconer
Head of St Peter's 8-13



Nurturing each & every child



Our eight learning habits are not just words. They underpin all that we do.

By coaching children to develop awareness of the different behaviours they can use when approaching a learning task or a social situation, we help them build the skills and confidence to tackle any challenge.



Collaboration



Initiative



Perseverance



Curiosity



Empathy



Creativity



Embracing Challenge



Flexible Thinking

We're a school that values traditions, whilst taking a refreshingly different approach to what learning and being a child is all about.

There's something special about a school which focuses on the needs of 8-13 year olds.

Our community has a cohesive feel, with no one feeling too small or too big to enjoy the many shared events that make up our weeks, terms and years.

Our House system offers supportive environments, bringing together pupils from across all year groups in friendly communities, who then work together in sports competitions, for musical events and on projects. Pupils and teachers from each House eat lunch together, enabling them to build relationships in an informal setting.

Staff mentors work with small groups of children across the 8-13 age range within each House, to offer guidance, support, encouragement and a sounding board for problems large and small.

Our youngest pupils feel part of our School family quickly; they socialise with 11, 12 and 13 year olds, just as they might do with siblings at home. There are older children to learn from and to model the attitudes of friendship and learning that make for a happy, thriving school.

Our 11-13 year olds are able to enjoy being children for longer, without the pressures of being surrounded by older teenagers. They are able to focus on their learning, their friendships and developing life skills. When they move up to the senior school, it is as confident 13 year olds, excited about the next part of their educational journey.

In the final two years, there are opportunities for the children to take on leadership responsibilities, something they might not be offered at this age in other schools. They help to organise events; lead groups such as the Charity Committee, School Council, Eco-Committee and Food Committee; help in the running of their House; take part in our Serving Others programme, and possibly become Heads of House. They take part in a Young Enterprise project, spend a week at an outdoor adventure centre, go on an optional sports tour to either Italy or Spain, and finish their time at St Peter's 8-13 with a Gala Evening which they put on for their parents. Our Year 8 pupils move on to senior school more confident, rounded and self-aware than they would have been as 11 year olds.

Pupils' skills and self-awareness, developed through our growth mindset approach, mean that our 13 year olds are reflective, resilient learners who see making mistakes as part of the learning process and not something to fear.



“

There is always someone to help you. You achieve things that you did not think were possible.

”

We are passionate about the benefits of co-education: after all, it is the way the world works! We develop boys and girls who are able to get up and speak to a room of people. We help them grow to be compassionate, caring and confident. We know from our strong relationships with our leavers that this approach works.

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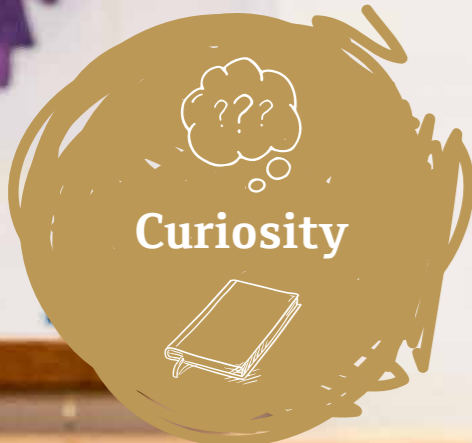
Your mentor is the person you go to and they help make sure that a little problem does not become a big problem.

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*No one is left behind.
You get taken through
everything step by step.*

”



Inspired to learn



Specialist teaching sets the learning experience at St Peter's 8-13 apart from many other schools.

From age 8, children benefit from having teachers who are passionate about their specialist subject. They have the subject knowledge and experience to stretch every child, so pupils feel inspired and engaged in all their lessons.

Teachers work as a team to encourage children to apply their learning to challenges and projects that use thinking developed across the curriculum.

Our facilities support this learning process. Access to specialist equipment enables pupils to develop their passions and interests, whilst creative spaces inspire young learners.

As our children move through the School they grow in confidence, building relationships across year groups and with a larger number of teachers, providing a range of perspectives and fresh inspiration.

We are fortunate to be a 10-minute walk from the centre of York and yet have so much outdoor play and learning space. Whether this be the eco-garden, the library garden, playground equipment or just wide areas of grass and sports pitches, there is space for children to run around and be children.

“

Our DT lab has everything you could imagine. You get to use machinery and make really good projects.

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“

Even if you think you don't like the subject, you enjoy the lesson because the teachers make it fun.

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The confidence to take on challenge



We believe in a growth mindset. Our focus is on effort, which leads to achievement, in every subject and every activity that we do.

We encourage each child to give their best. Because of this each child will go home each day, finish each week and eventually leave St Peter's 8-13 feeling that they have been successful in their learning and knowing that when they try their hardest they will make progress.

Every child keeps a learning diary, which helps them to reflect on their personal development of the term's learning habits, asking themselves:

What did I do in this situation?

Which learning habit did I use?

Did it work?

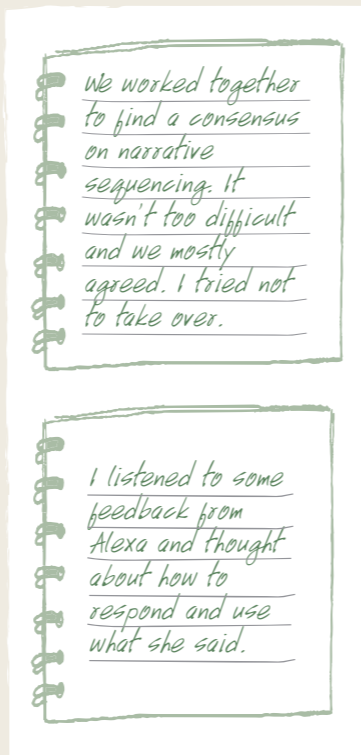
What do I need to do in the future?

Raising children with this growth mindset, so they are not put off when things don't go to plan, but respond with resilience, is at the heart of our educational philosophy.

It is in doing this that we give children the attitude that will help them be successful in whatever personal or professional goals they set themselves in later life.



To hear our pupils talk about what learning habits mean to them, please watch our video: www.stpetersyork.org.uk/learninghabitsvideo



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Fear of failure is banished. It's about what you learn. The teachers say: try again!

”



“

I'm not scared to give things a go, even in front of other people. There's a supportive atmosphere in every class.

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“

Every term we focus on two learning habits in assemblies and with our mentors and in lessons, so you really understand them.

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Creativity

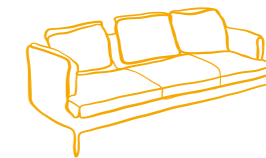
“

We support each other and the bonds between us are strong.

”



Boarding life



Children love to be active, to try new things and to be with their friends.

But they also need time to relax, and to know that they are cared for and looked after: it's a combination of the big things and the little things that make for a happy home, and boarding at Wentworth House is, in our boarders' words, "happy", "fun" and "friendly".

Boarding at St Peter's gives many of our children the chance to enjoy being children, without long commutes, babysitters, or evenings spent on social media.

It's a family set up, run by our Head of Boys' Games, Gareth Sharp and his wife Helen, who live in the boarding house with their daughters.

Children begin their day with a family-style breakfast in house before the three-minute walk to School. Evenings start with tea before physical activities such as playing outside or in the sports hall, or indoor activities such as playing on the PS4, board games or reading, with plenty of time for socialising together.



“

We do so many trips. The whole house comes along. Zorbing, football, restaurants, it's always something different.

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Enduring *friendships*

Flexible options mean you can board full-time, as the majority of our boarders do, or for just two or three nights a week.

We are proud of our boarding house, because our children thrive and are happy, do well at School and make friendships which endure. They are fully able to take advantage of all our amazing campus has to offer, as well as forming positive and supportive relationships with our boarding team, and the older boarders at our Senior School.

Boarding at Wentworth is the perfect preparation for the world of opportunity, camaraderie and adventure that awaits at St Peter's senior boarding houses.



To arrange a visit to St Peter's 8-13, go to:
www.stpetersyork.org.uk





Embracing
Challenge

Try new things & discover your passion



You should hear our children talking about their experiences in music, drama, art and sport.

We give every single child the chance to discover their passion, try new things and feel part of a team.

Ideas that children or parents might have about 'musical', 'arty' or 'sporty' children often change: here, everyone has a group to learn with, to practise with, to perform with or to compete with. What unites us is that we support each other and always try our best.

Every child at St Peter's has the chance to travel across the region and represent the School, whether that is by performing in the National Shakespeare Schools' Festival, playing in the National Festival of Music for Youth or competing in a hockey tournament.

Our sports teams play across Yorkshire, as well as competing nationally, allowing everyone to play in competitive fixtures.

We are also the Choir School for York Minster, responsible for educating York Minster's 40 girl and boy choristers who are valued members of the St Peter's School community.

Our pupils develop a broad range of interests, with over 70 co-curricular activities available for children to enjoy. We encourage them to try new things, support each other and participate enthusiastically at all levels. Learning to be part of a team is what matters.

“

The trips are just incredible. You get opportunities you feel grateful for and the vibe is always buzzing.

”

“

The atmosphere in the coach after a match is amazing. You've got all your friends with you.

”



“

I don't think you could have any more music in this School. Every lunchtime there are lots of groups practising so there is something for everyone.

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A lifelong journey



A St Peter's education means becoming part of a like-minded community of learners who support each other.

It's a community that for many pupils is lifelong, with friendships, and later professional support, extending through our senior section, university and beyond.

Whilst many pupils join us in Year 4 from St Peter's 2-8, we have places available for new joiners in most year groups. Our House system works to integrate each child. It's the blend of pupils from local primary schools, from other independent schools further afield and from those who were already at St Peter's, that gives us our diverse and energising culture: if we offer your child a place it is because we know they have talents, passions and personality to bring. We will do all we can to help them to flourish.

St Peter's 8-13 plays an important part in the development of children's independence, ability to reflect and resilience. It is these attitudes, as well as academic achievement, that will form the basis for happy, fulfilled lives. The young people who leave us at age 13 have had the space, time and individual attention to develop these skills.

Our pupils leave us to join St Peter's senior school well prepared for the social and academic challenges they will face and with the attitudes to learning they will need. Those joining St Peter's have strong friendship groups with familiar faces to greet them.



St Peter's 2-8

“

Whatever age you are when you join the School, you just feel part of the family.

”

“

The teachers and my friends here want me to be happy. They want the best from me and for me.

”



St Peter's 13-18

Opportunities *to join us*

If our prospectus has made you keen to find out more, please visit us.

Our Head, Andy Falconer, will take you and your family around the School so that you can see lessons, meet teachers, explore our campus and find out what it's like to be a part of the St Peter's 8-13 family.

A visit will give you a much better idea of the atmosphere, energy and fun in our School.

If you decide to apply to us:

- You can submit an application form between September and December for admission the following September.
- After applying, we ask children to take part in an assessment morning towards the end of January, where they will sit tests based around Maths, English and Reasoning to help us understand whether St Peter's 8-13 would be the best school for them. Whilst there is no fixed pass mark, we're looking for children who will thrive on all that is on offer at the School.
- We will let you know the outcome of the assessment morning in mid-February. If we offer you a place, you have a month to accept our offer.
- If you are accepted at St Peter's 8-13, there is no entrance exam in order to progress towards our heavily oversubscribed senior school, St Peter's 13-18.
- We usually operate a waiting list. If you are offered a place on our waiting list we will explain to you what this means. We would recommend you have another School in reserve.

We offer Help With Fees of up to 100% for children applying to join us in Year 7.
For more information please visit: www.stpetersyork.org.uk/helpwithfees