

New to Bootham, New to York

Information provided by the BSA to help you settle in

Choosing Where to Live and Getting to/from School

If you will be new to York, coming from elsewhere in the UK or overseas, you may be wondering where to live. Many of Bootham School parents live within York's outer ring road and these families can walk, bike or take the bus into school.

York centre is very congested with traffic, so finding a way to minimize your time sitting in traffic jams makes lots of sense. The villages to the north of York offer the most direct route into school, avoiding the ring road, and many of York's surrounding villages are accessible via train to York station, which is walking distance to school.

The best websites to use for identifying houses to rent or buy are www.primelocation.com and www.rightmove.co.uk and the most active estate agents include:

Savills; Stephensons; Jackson Stops; Blenkin & co; Peter Moody; Hunters; Ashtons; Hudson Moody; William H Brown; Reeds Rains; Naish; Carter Jonas.

For bus routes, please find more information on the following website as well as details of the YOZone card, offering discounted bus fares and discounts in some of York's retailers for students aged 11-18 years. www.itravelyork.info

For those families who will drive into school, the *school operates a 'one way' driving route through the school grounds for drop off*, driving entrance into the school grounds is via Portland Place which is off Gillygate. You can drive into (but not park in) school in the morning for drop off and either exit back out of Portland Place or exit out of a side gate taking you to the carpark behind Sainsbury's and then onto Bootham Row/Clifton.

Alternatively, if coming from the north, you can park briefly or drop off your children on many of the side roads such as Grosvenor Terrace, Bootham Terrace, St Mary's and Bootham Row. There are two other car parks within a short walking distance of school, one on Marygate and one on Union Terrace.

There is a gate that allows students to enter the school grounds from Union Terrace Car Park with a key pad entrance. (*The access code can be obtained from Reception.*)

More details on parking within York and preferential parking rates for York residents can be found on the Council Website, including various Park and Ride schemes which allow you to avoid driving into York altogether: www.york.gov.uk

The school day ends at 5.30pm after school activities, and for those collecting by car, parking is available for pick up at the end of the day within the school grounds.

If you are interested in exploring car sharing opportunities please send an email to bsa@boothamschool.com with Car Share as subject and including details of your main route into school. *Whilst we cannot promise anything, we will try to link you with other families travelling from your area.*

Quakers in York

York has a longstanding Quaker tradition and for those wishing to know more, as a parent you warmly invited to attend one of Bootham School's Reflect 30 Morning meetings, these start at 9:00 and last for 30 minutes followed by coffee and croissants. More information about Quakers in York can be found here: www.yorkquakers.org.uk while information about the Rowntree Society, a Quaker institution which has influenced York profoundly can be found here: www.rowntreesociety.org.uk

York Card – Explore

It is worth considering getting a York Card, which acts both as a library card while also entitling you to discounts within many of York's leisure facilities. These can easily be obtained from York Library a two minute walk from school.

York Pass (www.yorkpass.com)

As a member of the BSA you can receive a 15% discount on the cost, the discount code can be obtained by emailing: bsa@boothamschool.com prior to booking.

History and Nature

There is so much to do within and on the outskirts of York and it is worth exploring the below membership cards that then allow free access to many cultural, nature and heritage sites in the area:

York Museum Trust Card: www.yorkmuseumtrust.org.uk

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust: www.ywt.org.uk

National Trust: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

English Heritage Trust: www.english-heritage.org.uk

What's On - York

With two universities and 7 million tourists each year, York is a vibrant hive of activity. In addition to a range of day time and evening classes taking place across the city, and Open Talks held at York University, www.york.ac.uk

The following events take usually place throughout the year:

York Residents' Festival – January

YORVIK Viking Festival – February

YORK Literature Festival – March

YORK Easter Family Festival – March/April

YORK Open Studios – April

Fashion City York – April

Racing Festivals – May – October

York Mystery Plays – May/June

Eboracum Roman Festival – June

York Festival of Ideas – June

The Great Yorkshire Fringe – July

Early Music Festival – July/December

York Food and Drink Festival – September

Illuminating York - October

Aesthetica Short Film Festival – November

St Nicholas Christmas Festival – November/December

York Theatres

We are very lucky to have multiple venues for high quality music, drama, ballet and opera, including venues for fringe productions. A comprehensive listing of concerts, shows, cinema and exhibitions is available here: www.visityork.org

Sports in York

York is an easy city to discover on foot, and has a well-developed cycle path network. It also has a wide supply of sporting venues for tennis, cricket, football, golf and rugby, in addition to several options for swimming, yoga and Pilates. The best place to start investigating is the council website: www.york.gov.uk

All the above just provides a flavour of the rich tapestry of intellectual and cultural life that York has to offer.

If you are new to the area, you may need advice about simple things such as where to get curtains made, recommendations for a good dentist or decorator.....Please feel free to ask us any questions and we will endeavour to help or put you in touch with another family who can!

Or if you are interested in meeting up with other Bootham families for a coffee or chat, to help you settle in, please email us and we would be delighted to arrange some informal meet ups.

With a very warm welcome from the Bootham School Association
bsa@boothamschool.com