



## Housemaster/Housemistress at Ripon Grammar School

### School Information

Ripon Grammar School is one of a small group of selective co-educational state boarding and day schools. As a place of learning and as a community of individuals, it is unique. Founded in Saxon times and re-founded in 1555, we have served our local community ever since. We are a community school with most of our day students coming from the school's catchment area.

Set in extensive and beautiful grounds at the heart of the historic city of Ripon, and with just over 940 students, we are big enough to challenge, but small enough to know each student by name and we pride ourselves on fostering a strong and caring school community within which every individual can thrive. There are just under 90 full time equivalent staff, both teaching and non-teaching.

Boarding inevitably contributes to the vibrant nature and diversity of the school, adding to the feeling of belonging our students so often display.

Academic results and 'value added' progress are exceptionally strong at both A Level and GCSE; a testimony to both the hard work of students and the high calibre of teaching. Many of our students go on to study at some of the most competitive universities in the country. We do much to encourage leadership and personal development, all underpinned by a strong set of core values.

### The Leadership Team

The Strategic Leadership Team is highly experienced, cohesive and clearly focused on school improvement. The team currently comprises Headmaster, Deputy Head [Pastoral], Deputy Head [Curriculum], Assistant Head [Sixth Form], Assistant Head [Boarding] and Assistant Head [Teaching and Learning].

In addition to the SLT, the Strategic Development Team meets fortnightly and is responsible for delivering the Strategic Development Plan. Membership of this is currently the SLT, Inclusion Manger [SENCO].

### Boarding at Ripon Grammar School

<http://www.ripongrammar.co.uk/boarding/>

People often assume we are an independent school. We're not. Unlike private schools, our education comes free, with boarding typically costing one third of independent school fees. The same selective criteria are used for boarding and day students. All boarding applicants must hold a British, EU or EEA passport.

The majority of our boarders board weekly and are resident in the Yorkshire region. However, we have 30 termly boarders who herald from the Caribbean, the Middle East, Nigeria, Spain and the South-East of England. The current boarding capacity is 105 with 89 on roll currently across both houses.

There are two boarding houses, Johnson House for the girls and School House for the boys. The boys' house also consists of an annex for senior girls. Both houses provide a warm, supportive and

caring environment for the educational and social development of our boarders. The houses each have comfortable accommodation in a lovely setting in the 23 acres of school grounds. Each house has its own team of staff led by a Housemaster/Mistress. We employ a mixture of teaching and non-teaching staff in the boarding houses and a team of 12 staff work on a rota basis. We also annually recruit two language assistants, of different nationalities, who live in the boarding houses and work both in the day school and in boarding.

### **Boarders' Personal Development**

Whilst we are proud of the academic achievements of our boarders, which equal or outperform their day student counterparts according to the value-added measure, we endeavour to ensure our boarders have the opportunity to access a wide range of opportunities to nurture their personal development. Boarders have their own programme of activities and access to the co-curricular programme of the school and the opportunity to take part in local clubs and engage with the community of Ripon. Leadership and participation in key groups such as the Boarders' Council and School Council is encouraged and our boarders have a real sense of belonging and being at the heart of the RGS community.

### **Extract from the statement of boarding principals and practice**

At Ripon Grammar School we are committed to providing our boarding students with a unique and fulfilling experience that will contribute to their personal, social, and academic development. Our boarding programme is designed to offer students a safe and supportive environment that will enable them to thrive and grow into well-rounded individuals.

Our focus is not only on academic excellence but also on the development of wider life skills that are essential for success in the real world. We aim to provide our students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills, teamwork, communication skills, independence, and time management.

We believe that our boarding students have a crucial role to play in supporting each other and our duty staff members. We encourage a culture of mutual respect, kindness, diversity, and inclusivity, where all students feel valued and supported. We expect our Heads of House and other student managers to set a positive example and to help foster this culture within the boarding house.

*January 2025*