

Being a day pupil in a boarding school



Flexible solutions for all the family

At Leighton Park we understand how busy life can be, for every member of the family. We are not a 9-4 school: day pupils join in with the busy life of a boarding school, both before and after lessons. Day pupils feel so much part of the residential community that parents often comment that their children want to stay late at school!

To reflect the differing needs and circumstances of each day pupil and their family, we offer a flexible range of arrival and pick-up times - all included in the fees. For example, day pupils may arrive for breakfast leave after activities, after tea or after supervised prep. This offers peace of mind for parents that their child is safely, happily and productively occupied after school. Many parents also find this reduces the stress of rushing from work to pick up their child. They are also able to avoid some of the rush hour traffic.

"My stress is reduced as I can pick up my children when I, or they are ready. The children do their prep and socialise with their friends in a safe environment with no pressure on parents. It's a huge benefit".

A parent

Home from home

All day and boarding pupils are active members of the houses. This enables day pupils to be fully integrated into the residential community and provides all pupils with a home from home environment. After lessons are over pupils can take part in the many activities on offer (see page 13 for further details) or return to the house and relax. Each house has its own library, study area (equipped with computers), games and television rooms.

Flexible hours

There are a number of options for dropping pupils off in the morning or picking them up after school - all included in the fees:

- Pupils can arrive in time for breakfast (7.30am).
- Fryer pupils (Years 7 and 8) may leave either after lessons (4.20pm); or after activities (5.30pm); after an evening meal (6.00pm) or after supervised prep (up to 7.30pm).
- Years 9 and above may leave between 6.00pm and 9.00pm and are welcome to stay for additional activities and prep.

Supervised prep

Many day pupils choose to stay and do their prep in school on either an occasional or a regular basis. In Fryer this is supervised in the house dining room; senior pupils have their own study space. Pupils and their families often comment that with prep completed at school they can enjoy the evening at home without the worry of getting homework finished. Wireless broadband is available across the whole campus for students using their own laptops.

"Being a day boarder at Leighton Park has helped me become more organised. I like having teachers and friends to ask about my prep as I think this helps me to do it better. I feel I've also built stronger links with the staff and pupils because we spend more time together"

A day pupil

Staying overnight

Occasional overnight stays (flexi-boarding) are generally available, offering pupils a homely, safe, organised and caring environment. This may be on a regular one or two nights a week basis or on an ad-hoc arrangement. In addition, if the need arises, permanent or short-term moves to weekly boarding can normally be accommodated. These options are much appreciated by many families.

An international community

Life at Leighton Park is founded upon Quaker principles, which emphasise tolerance, peace, understanding and respect for other cultures and faiths. There is a real sense of a community of equals in which pupils from the UK and around the world can prepare for life as world citizens. Friendships quickly develop between pupils from diverse backgrounds, enabling them to discover new cultures and appreciate perspectives different from their own.

"As a pupil, there is no place where I can imagine having been happier or more supported. I was encouraged to achieve and to do so on my own terms."

Reflections of a Sixth Former

Staff availability

Pastoral and senior staff can always be contacted should you wish to discuss anything to do with a pupil's progress or welfare.

