

A Brief Introduction to Harrogate and Harrogate Ladies' College



The town of Harrogate, renowned from the eighteenth century for the healing qualities of its spa waters, has now transformed itself into one of the country's leading conference and exhibition venues. With its blend of traditional and modern, Harrogate offers visitors and residents excellent restaurants, shopping and accommodation, combined with a cultural history which is second to none. It is still

possible to relax in the Victorian Turkish Baths or visit the Royal Pump Rooms whilst knowing that the town enjoys excellent road and rail links to Leeds and London and has 3 major airports, Leeds/Bradford, Newcastle and Doncaster, nearby. Manchester Airport is 90 minutes away. Harrogate offers a rich and varied programme of Theatre, Music and Art, which is complemented by the vibrant and thriving cities of Leeds and York, both only 20 miles away. Its location on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park means that some of the most beautiful and spectacular scenery in the country are on its doorstep. It is no surprise that, according to a recent local government survey, Harrogate district residents' satisfaction levels are higher than both the national figure and that for North Yorkshire as a whole, Harrogate is consistently ranked in the top 10 in surveys of the best places to live in the United Kingdom.

Founded in 1893, Harrogate Ladies' College is situated in a quiet residential area of Harrogate, only ten minutes' walk from either the town centre or open countryside. The School's boarding houses are all set in their own gardens. It has fine modern facilities including a Sports Centre, an indoor swimming pool and design studio. Together with its prep department (Highfield) and pre-prep (Bankfield), continuous education is provided from age 2 – 11 for boys and 2 – 18 for girls. A sound all-round education is offered. There is a Sixth Form centre which offers A-levels (including a vocational A-level in business) and a variety of leisure activities. Priority is given to pastoral care. Upper Sixth Formers have their own boarding house with a greater degree of personal responsibility and freedom. The School has a Christian Foundation and its own chapel. There are high achievements in sports, especially in lacrosse, and in art and music. The Chapel Choir is particularly noted. There is substantial interest in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

External examination results are excellent with the School currently being placed first in Harrogate for A Level results. The Independent ranked the school 37th in the country for GCSEs in 2009. There is a consistent record of success at Oxbridge level and the vast majority of our Upper Sixth Leavers go on to Russell Group universities.