

Education and boarding inspection summary for Ampleforth College

Ampleforth, York, North Yorkshire YO62 4ER

Inspection dates: 27-29 September 2023

Outcome

The education overall effectiveness judgement is: good

The judgement for the experiences and progress of children in the boarding provision is: good

What is it like to attend this school?

- Pupils flourish at Ampleforth College. The school has made some considerable improvements of late, successfully addressing previous shortcomings with determination and vigour. Christian values underpin the promotion of equality, tolerance and respect. The school's 'Benedictine' principles are woven through all aspects of school life.
- Pupils are happy, courteous and resilient, and they try to be the best that they can be. They strive to reach the high expectations that leaders and staff set for them, academically and personally. Leaders expect pupils to behave well and they do. Leaders are tenacious in ensuring that the arrangements for safeguarding are effective which, in turn, contributes to pupils feeling safe. Pupils, including those who have special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND), work hard and achieve well.
- There is a strong sense of community at Ampleforth College. Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the education and care that their children receive. Pupils talk enthusiastically about the excellent opportunities for character development through the Christian Living programme of personal, social, health and economic education. They relish participating in community work such as reading to pupils in a local primary school or visiting a residential care home
- Students in the sixth form feel privileged to hold leadership roles such as bullying ambassadors, food ambassadors, head boy and girl and house councillors. They are strong role models for the pupils in other year groups across the school.

The inspectors made **one** recommendation to help the school improve, covering leaders supporting teachers to assess how well the curriculum meets the needs of all pupils.

The school **meets all of the independent school standards**.

What is it like to board at this school?

- This is a Roman Catholic co-educational boarding and day school, rooted in Benedictine values. The school is set in a rural location and has extensive grounds, which are used for pupils' activities. The school is adjacent to Ampleforth Abbey.
- The school provides education for 399 pupils, from Year 7 to Year 13. Boys and girls attend the school in all year groups. The school has 312 pupils who board full time in eight boarding houses. In addition, all day pupils have bedrooms in boarding houses allocated to them. This allows ad-hoc boarding and enables day pupils to enjoy activities in the evenings and at weekends.
- Each boarding house has a house master or house mistress in day-to-day charge. A range of other staff care for pupils, including academic tutors and matrons. A member of the senior leadership team, who is suitably experienced and qualified, holds overall responsibility for the boarding provision.
- This inspection was carried out at the same time as an inspection of the school.

The school **meets all the national minimum standards**.

The inspectors made **no recommendations** to help the school improve.

- View the full inspection report for the education provision:
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/27/121735>
- View the full inspection report for the boarding provision:
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/1/SC007916>



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