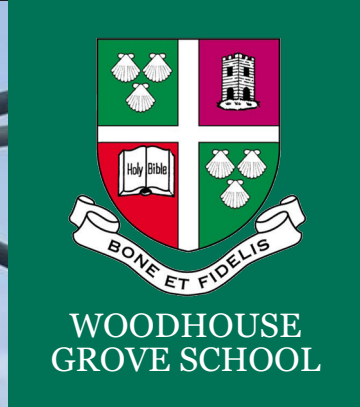




Boarding Activities Guide

2026–2027



Life Beyond the Classroom

At Woodhouse Grove, the weekend is just as important as the week. We don't operate exeat weekends, so our boarding community stays together throughout term and the bonds that form run deeper for it. From big adventures to quiet evenings in the house, everything on offer has been planned with the same care and ambition we bring to everything else at the Grove.

At Woodhouse Grove, we believe that some of the most important moments in a young person's education happen outside the classroom. The friendships formed on a trip to the Yorkshire coast, the confidence built by trying something new, the sense of belonging that comes from sharing a meal with your boarding house — these are the experiences that shape character, and they are every bit as much a part of a Grovian education as what happens in lessons.

Our boarding enrichment programme has been designed with that belief at its heart. Every weekend brings something to look forward to, whether that's an adventure further afield, a relaxed evening in the house or a chance to explore the incredible county on our doorstep. We plan carefully to make sure there is variety, balance and real quality to everything on offer; giving boarders the space to discover new interests, push their boundaries and simply enjoy being young.



Unlike many schools, we don't operate exeat weekends. For our boarding community, that is a genuine strength. Rather than the house emptying out every few weeks, our boarders stay together throughout term, which builds deep, lasting friendships that only come from real time spent together. The boarding house becomes a genuine home, not just a place to sleep, and the community that grows from that is something families notice from the very first visit.

What follows is your guide to everything that boarding life at the Grove has to offer across the year. We hope it gives you and your child a real sense of the warmth, energy and ambition that runs through everything we do.



Our Programme

Our boarding enrichment programme is built around seven categories, each serving a different purpose in your child's development. They're colour-coded throughout this guide so you can see at a glance how the term is shaped; together making sure no two weekends ever feel the same.

Yorkshire Escapes

There's a reason Yorkshire has earned the nickname God's Own County, and we think every boarder should get to find out why. These trips take Grovians out to some of the region's most iconic landmarks and landscapes.

On Our Doorstep

Not every great experience requires a long journey. We make the most of the local area with country walks, food festivals and discoveries close to campus; giving boarders a genuine connection to the corner of West Yorkshire they're calling home.

City Living

Leeds and Bradford are right on our doorstep, and these trips are how we make the most of that. From bowling and cinema to crazy golf and professional sport matches, these outings give boarders the freedom to enjoy the benefits of our proximity to city-life.

Thrill Seekers

Every half term we make sure there's at least one trip designed to get the heart racing. Go karting, ziplining, high ropes and theme park visits are among the ways we bring a genuine sense of adventure to boarding life.

Seasonal Celebrations

Life at The Grove moves with the rhythm of the year, and our seasonal activities make sure every term has its own character. Pumpkin picking in autumn, the Boarders' Christmas Ball in December and Easter egg hunts as spring arrives are just some of these seasonal moments.

Red versus Green

A little friendly competition goes a long way. Our Red v Green challenges divide the boarding community into teams for high-energy contests where the winners walk away with prizes and bragging rights. These events use friendly competition to bring the whole community together.

House Socials

Not every great evening needs to leave the building. Pizza parties, movie nights, karaoke and themed house evenings are where some of the most genuine friendships are made; informal, cosy and always good fun.

All activities are subject to change. Off-site excursions are at additional cost and require minimum numbers.

Autumn Term



Sat 6th Sept: Leeds Trip

Our annual orientation trip to Leeds City Centre, starting at Apperley Bridge station. Expect a day of exploring, shopping, and learning all about the city.

Sun 7th Sept: It's A Knockout!

A team-building activity to put the rest to shame, *It's A Knockout* is a brilliant way to make new friends, build connections, and burn some energy.



Sat 12th Sept: Volleyball Challenge

Our first Red vs Green challenge – who will be the champions? No need to have played before, everyone is welcome to give it a go.

Sun 13th Sept: Knaresborough Trip

Visit the historic riverside town of Knaresborough, take a photo with the famous Knaresborough Viaduct, visit Mother Shipton's cave, and see the castle ruins.

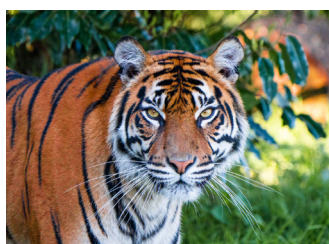


Sat 19th Sept: Karaoke Party

One of our most fun in-house events, our Karaoke Parties are always a great time, with plenty of laughs and singing.

Sun 20th Sept: Clip and Climb Ilkley

Whether you're a seasoned climber or a complete beginner, Clip & Climb Ilkley will push you to new heights, with laughter, bravery, and a lot of fun.



Sat 26th Sept: Quiz Night

General knowledge and quick thinking are key; Quiz night is back and the stakes are higher than ever. Who will be taking home the bragging rights this time?

Sun 27th Sept: Chester Zoo

Chester Zoo is one of the best in the country, and a firm favourite with our boarding community. A brilliant day out with the whole boarding family.



Sat 3rd Oct: Pumpkin Patch Trip

Head out to the pumpkin patch for one of the most popular seasonal traditions in the Grove boarding calendar; a perfect afternoon of fresh air and good company.

Sun 4th Oct: Laser Tag

Two teams, one arena and absolutely no mercy. Laser tag is fast, competitive and enormous fun; the ideal way to round off a weekend before the half-term push begins.



Sat 10th Oct: Halloween Party

The annual Halloween party is a boarding tradition that never fails to deliver; expect spooky decorations, great music and great costumes.

Sun 11th Oct: Group Canal Walk

A gentle walk from school along the canal; a chance to take a breath before the second half of term begins.



Sat 7th Nov: Bonfire Night

Gather around the fire with the boarding family for one of England's most beloved autumn traditions; fireworks, and warmth to close out the week.

Sun 8th Nov: Laser Tag

Two teams, one arena, no mercy. Laser tag is fast, loud and fiercely competitive; exactly what a Sunday needs.



Sat 14th Nov: Cinema Trip

Kick back and let someone else do the storytelling. We head to the cinema for the latest big release; popcorn very much included.

Sun 15th Nov: Harrogate Trip

Harrogate is one of Yorkshire's most beautiful towns and this is your chance to really explore it; our scavenger hunt takes you through its streets and hidden corners.



Sat 21st Nov: Ready, Steady, Cook

The clock is ticking, the ingredients are a mystery and the competition is fierce. Red v Green *Ready Steady Cook* is the most competitive evening of the term.

Sun 22nd Nov: Go Karting

Helmets on, engines revving. An afternoon at the go karting circuit is fast, fun and surprisingly competitive.



Sat 28th Nov: Boarders' Basketball

Lace up and get to the court. Boarders' Basketball is great sport, great energy and house pride very much on the line.

Sun 29th Nov: Ice Hockey Match

Wrap up warm and get behind the home team. A Leeds Knights ice hockey match is loud, fast and brilliant fun.



Sat 5th Dec: Pottery Painting

Get creative with house crafts and pottery painting; a chance to slow down, make something and enjoy some well-earned calm before the end of term.

Sun 6th Dec: York Christmas Markets

York at Christmas is something special. Wander the famous markets, soak up the atmosphere and pick up a gift or two.



Sat 12th Dec: Boarders' Ball

Dress up, turn up and dance. The Boarders' Christmas Ball with bumper cars and silent disco is the highlight of the autumn social calendar.

Sun 13th Dec: Ice-Skating

One last skate before the holidays; wobbly ankles, warm drinks and a lot of very happy faces.