

Social Justice in Quaker Education: Shaping Change Makers for the Future



LEIGHTON PARK
FOUNDED 1890

Quaker Faith and Practice

We do not own the world, and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving consideration for all creatures, and seek to maintain the beauty and variety of the world. Work to ensure that our increasing power over nature is used responsibly, with reverence for life. Rejoice in the splendour of God's continuing creation.

Advices and Queries - No. 42



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Leighton Park's Goal

“To develop internationally-minded people, who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.”



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Values-Led Education

Simplicity, Truth, Respect,
Integrity, Peace, Equality,
Sustainability



What does a Quaker Education at Leighton Park look like?

Educational philosophy built on **values based education**, underpinned by Quaker Values of:

Sustainability, Truth, Respect, Integrity, Peace, Equality, Simplicity

So who are we and what is our core goal ?

Co-educational day and boarding school in Reading with approx 570 students on roll.

We nurture students to be **agents of positive change** in the world

We deliver a bespoke curriculum and cocurriculum designed and guided by our Quaker values and respect for each individual in order to empower students to imagine a better world

Success criteria?

Students with the ability to **understand** and **address** societal inequalities using their unique gifts and talents

Graduates who are informed, empathetic, and motivated to promote fairness in their communities, around the world

Increased levels of happiness, gratitude and wellbeing as a result of service and volunteering opportunities



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Quaker Educational Principles Aligned with Social Justice

Leighton Park School: A Case Study in Social Justice & Action

Ethos & Culture

- Respect for All:

Every person has unique worth and dignity - first names only, strong student voice.

- Equality in Action:

Inclusion and empowerment of diverse perspectives - DEI working group, Belonging Ambassadors.

- Community Emphasis:

Fostering cooperation, dialogue, and understanding across backgrounds locally in Reading, nationally and internationally - award winning partnerships programme.



What is CAS?

- CAS is a framework for experiential learning, designed to involve you in new roles.
- The emphasis is learning by doing and then reflecting on these experiences.
- CAS activities should involve working collaboratively, include new roles, provide opportunity for learning, growth and reflection.



— **Creativity** is interpreted broadly to include a wide range of arts activities as well as the creativity students demonstrate in designing and implementing service projects.

Action can include not only participation in individual and team sports but also taking part in expeditions and in local or international projects.

Service encompasses a host of community and social service activities. Some examples include helping children with special needs, visiting hospitals and working with refugees or homeless people.



CAS Goals

- An appreciation of the potential of the human spirit
- Knowledge, skill and understanding
- An awareness of humanitarian issue across the world
- A recognition that education imposes lifelong ethical responsibilities
- Confidence in one's ability to initiate and adapt to change.



The background of the image is a collage of various book covers. Visible titles include 'FISHBOWL' on a green cover, 'HATE' on a pink cover, 'SIXTEEN' on a blue cover, and 'Heathcliff Boys' on a teal cover. There are also some covers with abstract designs and text like 'ONLY' and 'BUTTER'.

SERVICE

OPPORTUNITIES

**Sixth
Form**

Gold DofE, Oakleaf Diploma, Literacy Ambassadors, AMICUS, Amnesty, Female Lead Society and Social Entrepreneurship

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Silver DofE, AMICUS, Amnesty International

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CAS: Silver DofE, Sports Leadership, Literacy Ambassadors, LP Buddies, Social Entrepreneurship

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Bronze DofE, Rotary Interact Club, Female Lead Society, Net Zero Cub

8

CAS: Textiles, Sports Leadership, Engineering and Creative Writing

7

CAS: Music (Brass, Wind and Wood), Food Technology and Community Art

Co Curricular for Social Change

Values-Led Clubs: Focus on equality, respect, and sustainability

- Female Lead Society: Tackling gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and women's rights
- Student Ambassadors: Trained leaders who campaign and educate on women's issues
- Recognition: GOLD UK Feminista Award 2024, recognizing student-led gender justice efforts

Outcome: Students actively participate in initiatives that reflect Quaker values, preparing them as advocates for justice- they are now preparing a student led conference for students across Reading.

Power of Partnerships



Partnerships Dinner