**Quaker Schools in Great Britain and Ireland: A selective bibliography of histories and guide to records**

Unless otherwise stated all the printed sources listed are available in this Library. The records and archives of Quaker schools are held either at the school (if it still exists) or in local record offices. Their location is given where known, and to obtain access to them you must write to the school or to the place of deposit. It would also be worth writing to the relevant Old Scholars Association, c/o the school. Addresses are given for schools still in existence. Throughout the guide the abbreviation LSF is used when referring to this Library.

**Explanation of sources in the Library**

For a general study of Quaker schools see William A.C. Stewart, *Quakers and education as seen in their schools in England* (1953) [040.9 STE].


LSF has several printed or typescript works including lists of scholars. These are usually arranged alphabetically, by year of entry to the school (but may have only perfunctory indexes), and a few lists are selective. Where schools still exist, there are usually complete runs of their annual reports, school magazines, and old scholars’ association reports, unless stated otherwise.

LSF has 2 card-indexes of some 250 privately-run Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland which advertised in *The Irish Friend* 1837-1842, *The Friend* 1843-1890, and *The British Friend* 1843-1875. These are arranged alphabetically by city, town or village and by proprietors’ names, but don’t include lists of pupils. There is also a geographically-arranged file, ‘Quaker schools’, which includes information on some 200 (mainly private) Quaker schools, drawn from prospectuses, memoirs and other sources.

*The Natural history journal*, (Pers/NAT) conducted by the societies in Friends’ schools, Vols 1-22 (1877-1898) is also informative.
Types of Quaker schools

A working distinction can be drawn between

(1) **Committee schools**, governed by committees appointed through regular business meetings of the Society, which were primarily boarding schools e.g. Ackworth, Sidcot. Records of these schools have largely survived.

(2) **Meeting schools**, initiated by individual Quaker meetings, likely to be held on meeting premises, and intended primarily for children of local Friends, e.g. Gildersome, Reeth. Few records of these schools have survived.

(3) **Private schools**, founded and run by individual Friends or dynasties, e.g. Ballitore. Usually little or nothing of these schools has survived.

In the bibliography examples of the second and third types are usually given only where their histories have been written, or records are known to survive. Stewart (pp 46-47, 76) noted that London Yearly Meeting in 1691 knew of 15 schools run by individual Friends or groups of Friends; that a committee in 1760 knew of 21 boarding-schools (including the Clerkenwell workhouse school) and many day-schools; and that in 1840 Edwin O. Tregelles visited 59 private schools.

**Bibliography**

**Guide to abbreviations:**

(C): Committee school  (M): Meeting school  (P): Private school  (B): Boys
(BG): Boys and girls  (G): Girls  (D): Boys and girls separately

H: Histories (* includes list of pupils ; + includes list of staff)  L: Lists of pupils
P: Periodicals (OSA: Old Scholars Association)  R: Location of records

Dates of foundation and closure are also given.

**Great Britain**

**Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 7LT (C, BG) 1779-**

H  Henry Thompson, *A history of Ackworth School*, 1879  044.06  ACK
Elfrieda Vipont Foulds & Edward Milligan, *So numerous a family: 200 years of Quaker education at Ackworth*, 1979  044.06  ACK
Ackworth School, *Then and now: Ackworth School bicentenary exhibition catalogue*, 1979  044.06  ACK

L  *List of the boys and girls admitted into Ackworth School ... 1779 to ... 1879,*  044.06  ACK
Joseph Spence Hodgson (comp), *Superintendents, teachers and principal officers of Ackworth School from 1779 to 1894*, 1895  044.06  ACK
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Joseph Spence Hodgson (comp), *Supplementary list of the boys and girls, teachers and officers of Ackworth School ... 1879 to ... 1900, 1901* 044.06 ACK
Edgar B. Collinson (comp), *List of the boys and girls ... 1879 to ... 1930,1932* 044.06 ACK

List of Ackworth scholars 1931-1978, 1979 044.06 ACK
Teachers & officers of Ackworth School 1895-1979, [1980] 044.06 ACK
'Alphabetical list of scholars 1779-1979', prepared by Arthur G. Olver Ref. Shelves

**P**
- Ackworth School Annual reports, No. 1 (1790)-; Pers/ACK/2
- OSA Annual reports, No.1 (1881) - ; Pers/ACK/6
- *The Cupola: the Ackworth School magazine*, vols 1 (1925)-; Pers/ACK/4
- *Phonographic Star*, nos. 2 & 5 (1844); Pers/ACK/4
- *Ackworth School Review/Ackworth Recorder* (1888/1890); Pers/ACK/4

**R**
- West Yorkshire Archive Service, Wakefield (list available in LSF)

**Ayton, Great Ayton, Yorkshire** (C, BG) 1841- 1997
known as the North of England Agricultural School until 1892

**H**
- *History of Great Ayton School*, 1891 * + 044.06 AYT
- G. Alston Watson, *Ayton School: centenary history 1841-1941*, 1941 044.06 AYT

**L**

**P**
- Ayton School Annual reports (1841-1996); Pers L/AYT (to 1925)/ Pers/AYT/2
- OSA Annual reports, (1891)-; Pers/AYT/6
- *The Beckside/ Beckside Broadsheet* [school magazine], vol 11 - no 191 (1919-Spring 1979) Pers/AYT/4

**R**
- North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton (ref. ZR1)

**Bootham, York, Yorkshire YO3 7BU** (C, B) 1823-
known as York Quarterly Meeting Boys’ School at York 1829-1915

**H**
- Francis E. Pollard (ed), *Bootham School 1823-1923, 1926* 044.06 BOO

**L**
- List of masters and scholars, 1829-1878 Box 126/20
- List of masters and scholars, 1829-1905 Box 155/31
- George H. Mennell (comp), *Bootham School register, 1914* 044.06 BOO
- Edgar B. Collinson (comp), *Bootham School register, 1935* 044.06 BOO
- *Bootham School register*, 1971 044.06 BOO

**P**
- Bootham School Annual reports (1895)-; Pers L/BOO (1895-1915)/Pers/BOO/2
- Bootham/York Old Scholars Association Annual reports 1887-1901; Pers/BOO/6
- Bootham, (1902)-; Pers/BOO/4

**R**
- at the school

**Brookfield, Wigton, Cumberland**
See Wigton

**Brynmelyn, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset** (P, B) 1881-1891?
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Conducted by John Lawrence and Francis A Knight to 1883, then F A Knight alone

Carlisle  
See Devonshire House School

Clerkenwell, London  
See Saffron Walden

Colchester, Essex  
See Lexden

Croydon, Surrey  
See Saffron Walden

Darlington, co. Durham  
See Polam Hall

Devonshire House School, Carlisle, Cumberland (P, G)  
1909-1915?
Conducted by Lucy Marianne Reynolds, as a successor in new premises to Robert Martin Lidbetter's Carlisle school for girls, c1891-1909
P Devonshire House School magazine, Nos.1-13 (1911-1915);  Pers/DEV

The Downs School, Colwall, Malvern, Worcestershire (P, B)  
1900-
Conducted by: Herbert Jones; Geoffrey Hoyland; Frazer Hoyland
H E.J. Brown, The first five: the story of a school, 1987  044.06 DOW/BRO

Gildersome, Yorkshire, WR (M, BG) (P, BG)  
1772-1796; 1796-1815
H Jean E. Mortimer, Quakers in Gildersome, 1990, pp 33-50  097.26 MOR
L The cupola: Fothergill supplement [to vol 6 (May 1935)]: Gildersome, Woodhouse and Ackworth includes a list of Gildersome pupils 1772-1791  Pers/ACK/4
R Leeds University, Brotherton Library (Brighouse MM records include a partial list of pupils, and financial documents)

Grove House, Tottenham, Middlesex (P, B)  
1828-1877
Conducted by: Thomas Binns
H A former student, "Grove House." Tottenham School 1828-1878, [1913] * Box 205
L Tottenham School, 1828-1877: list of scholars, [1878] Box 301
"Alphabetical list of scholars 1828-1877", prepared by Arthur G. Olver, typescript Ref. Shelves
P Grove House magazine, Nos. 1-9 (1851-1852)  Pers/GROVE
R LSF (copy of entries from admissions book to 1865) TEMP MSS 578
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

The Hall School, Weybridge, Surrey (P, BG) 1898-1934
known as the Village Hall School, then The Hall School. Conducted as a preparatory school by Eva M Gilpin (later Sadler) 1898-1934, then by Monica Brooks; later moved to Bratton Seymour, Somerset

H Marjory M Bates & Jean M Henderson (eds), Miss Gilpin and The Hall School: a record of adventure and achievement in education, 1949 044.06 HAL
A lasting spring: Miss Gilpin and the Hall School, Weybridge, 1898-1934. 1988 L 044.06 HAL

Hitchin, Hertfordshire
See The Woodlands School

Ipswich, Suffolk (C, B) 1790-1800


R Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich (minute book only, call no. FK6/3/73)

Islington, London
See Saffron Walden

Kendal, Westmorland
See Stramongate

Lancaster, Lancashire (M, B) 1700?-1969

H R.H.S. Randles, History of the Friends' School, Lancaster, 1982 + 044.06 LAN/RAN

Leeds, Yorkshire, WR (M, B) 1756-1838


Leighton Park, Shinfield Road, Reading, Berkshire RG2 7ED (C, B 1890-1975; B,G 1975/1993) 1890-

H Sidney W. Brown, Leighton Park: a history of the school, 1952 044.06 LEI
Leighton Park School, Leighton Park: the first 100 years, 1990 044.06 LEI

L Old Leightonians Club, A list of names and addresses of the old boys of Leighton Park School, 1945 040 [Educ. 1/1]
Old Leightonians Club, A list of Old Leightonians, 1957 040 [Educ. 2/16]
Old Leightonians Club, A list of Old Leightonians, 1973 040 [Educ. 4/3]
[Leighton Park School], A list of Old Leightonians, 1990 044.06 LEI

P Annual Report (1912/13)- ; Pers/LEI/2
The Leightonian [school magazine] No.1- (1895)- ; Pers/LEI/4

R at the school
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Lexden, near Colchester, Essex (P, B) 1817-1837; 1838-1858; 1869-1903
Master, Frederick Richardson, 1869-1903
L Two "Old boys", Frederick Richardson, 1903 (includes list of pupils 1869-1903, pp 23-28)

Malvern, Worcestershire See The Downs School

The Mount, Dalton Terrace, York, Yorkshire, YO24 4DD (C, G) 1784-1814; 1831-1916
known as the York Quarterly Meeting's Girls' School at York 1831-1916
H Helen W. Sturge & Theodora Clark, The Mount School, York, 1785 to ... 1931, 1931
Mary F. Smith & Elizabeth A. Waller, The Mount School, York, 1857 to 1957
Sarah Sheils Among Friends : the story of The Mount School, York, 2007

L List of teachers and scholars, 1784-1814, 1831-1906, 1906
The Mount OSA, A register of old scholars, 1931-1932

P The Mount School Annual reports, 1912-2002 (annual lists of pupils 1919-1940); Old York Scholars Association Annual reports, 1887-1901; OSA Annual reports, 1890-2002;
Portico (incorporating Annual Report and OSA report) 2003-

R at the Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York

Newton-In-Bowland (M, BG) 1844; 1868-1911
Established under the will of John Brabbin (1768) for male and female children

Oliver's Mount, Scarborough, Yorks, NR (P, B) 1865-1890 or after
Conducted by Thomas Walton
L Prospectus, August 1868 Vol. N/77
F & E Clayton, Francis Clayton of Chiswick and his descendants, 1892 L 092.9 CLA

Penketh, near Warrington, Cheshire (C, BG) 1834-1934
H Joseph Spence Hodgson, A history of Penketh School, 1834-1907, 1907
The story of Penketh School, 1834-1934, 1934
L 'Alphabetical list of scholars 1834-1934', prepared by Arthur G. Olver, typescript
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Ref. Shelves

P  Penketh School  *Annual Reports*, 1835-1934;  
   *Past and present*, no. 1-10, 1893-1895;  
   *Penketh School Magazine*, Vol. 1-8, 1914-1922;  
   *The Navigator: the annual magazine*, No. 1-2, 1933-1934;  
   Pers L/PENK/2; Pers/PENK/6  
R  Warrington Library, Museum & Archives Service (list available in LSF)

Polam Hall, Darlington, co. Durham  (P, G)  
Conducted by: Jane Procter; Hannah & Rachel Lockwood

    044.06   POL

P  *By Kent and Skerne*, 34 (Nov 1934) - [not in LSF; at British Library]

Rawdon, Yorkshire, WR  (C, BG)  

H  Walter J. Kaye, *The history of Rawdon School*, 1882 *  
   Rawdon OSA, *A brief history of Rawdon School*, [1932]  
   Box 302

L  'Alphabetical list of scholars 1832-1882', prepared by Arthur G. Olver  
    Ref. Shelves

P  *Annual Report*, (1835-1918);  
   OSA Annual reports, Nos. 5 - 25  (1897/8-1921/2);  
   Pers L/RAW  
R  Leeds University, Brotherton Library (lists 1832-1882, 1918-1921; incomplete list of pupils 1883-1918)

Reading, Berkshire  
See Leighton Park

Reeth, Swaledale, Yorkshire, NR  (M, BG)  

    040 [Educ. 3/14]

Saffron Walden, Essex  

H  James B. Crosfield, *Saffron Walden School: a sketch of two hundred years*, [1902]  

L  *A complete list of scholars educated at Croydon School ... 1825 to ... 1879, 1882*  
    044.06   SAF


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P Saffron Walden School, Annual Report, (1880)-; Pers L/SAF (to 1920); Pers/SAF/2
OSA Annual reports, 1894-; Pers/SAF/6
Waldonian [School Magazine], No.1-10, (1906-08); Pers/SAF/4
The avenue [school magazine] No. 7-45 (1916-1968); Pers/SAF/4

R Essex Record Office, Chelmsford (list available in LSF)

Scarborough
See Oliver's Mount

Sibford, Sibford Ferris, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX15 5QL (C, BG) 1842-

H Herbert W. Jones & Mabel Harrod, Sibford School, 1842-1942, [1942] 040 [Educ. 1/3]
Robert W F Fowler, 'Quaker education with special reference to Sibford School' (MA thesis, King's College London), 1987 Theses 044.06 SIB/ROW

L 'Alphabetical list of scholars 1842-1867', prepared by Malcolm Thomas Ref. Shelves

P Sibford School, Annual Report, 1843-; Pers L/SIB (to 1915); Pers/SIB/2
OSA Annual reports, No. 1 (1903/4) -; Pers/SIB/6
The archway [school magazine] No. 1-29 (1947-1965); Pers/SIB/4

R Oxfordshire Record Office; later records at the school

Sidcot, Winscombe, North Somerset BS25 1PD (C, BG) 1808-

H Francis A. Knight, A history of Sidcot School ... 1808-1908, 1908 044.06 SID
Evelyn Roberts, A Sidcot pageant, 1935 044.06 SID
George W. Hutchinson, Bevan and Mabel Lean of Sidcot: a record of life and progress at Sidcot School ... 1902-1930, [1981] 044.06 SID
Sidcot School 1808-1983: 175th anniversary, 1983 L 044.06 SID
Christopher Greenfield, The white-robed queen: a view of the school at Sidcot since 1699, 1994 040 [Educ. 8/2]

L Winifred E. Newman, Sidcot School register, 1808-1912, 1919 044.06 SID

P Sidcot School, Annual Report, 1808-; Pers L/SID/2 (1808-1928); Pers/SID/2
OSA Annual reports, 1 (1878) -; Pers/SID/6
Sidcot Quarterly, Vol.1, (1890-93); Pers/SID/4
The island [school magazine] No. 5- (1907-1983); Pers/SID/4

R at the school

Stramongate, Kendal, Westmorland (M; B 1698-1814, D 1814-1932) 1698-1932

P Stramongate School magazine, Vol. 1-9 (1900-1932); Pers B/STR/4
The old Stramonian, No. 1-31 (1933-2000) [LSF set incomplete]; Pers B/STR/6
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R Committee & other records: Cumbria Archives, Kendal [FMH Kendal ref. 98: see LSF Meeting Records location list 16.b.1.]

Tottenham, Middlesex
See Grove House

Wennington School, Wennington, Lancs; Wetherby, Yorkshire, WR (P, BG) 1940-1975
known as Wennington Hall School, Wennington, 1940-1945, then Wennington School, 1945-1975
Conducted by: Kenneth C. Barnes, 1940-1973

H Kenneth C. Barnes, Energy unbound: the story of Wennington School, 1980
044.06 WEN

Weston-super-mare, Somerset
See Brynmelyn

Weybridge, Surrey
See The Hall School

Wigton, Cumberland (C, BG) 1815-1984

H Wigton OSA, A short account of Wigton School, 1892 * + 044.06 WIG
Wigton OSA, A history of Wigton School, 1815 to 1915, 1916 * + 044.06 WIG
David W. Reed (ed), Friends’ School, Wigton, Cumberland, 1815-1953, 1954 * + 044.06 WIG

L 'Alphabetical list of scholars 1815-1953', prepared by Arthur G. Olver, Ref. Shelves
'Alphabetical list of staff 1815-1953', prepared by Arthur G. Olver, Ref. Shelves

P Wigton School Annual reports, 1815-1983;
OSA Annual reports, No. 1-95 (1891/2) – 1984/5;
The Brookfield chronicle: the magazine of Friends School, Wigton, No.1 (Dec 1923), No. 3 (Christmas 1924);
The brook [school magazine] 1948-1966;
Pers L/WIG/2 (1815-1925);Pers B/WIG/2
Pers B/WIG/6
Pers B/WIG/4
Pers B/WIG/4

R Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle

The Woodlands, Hitchin, Hertfordshire (P, B) 1873-1889

H F.F.Hoyland, 'Reminiscences of a Hitchin school in the 1870s and 1880s', typescript, 1935
Box L 10/02

P 'The Woodlands journal: magazine of the Woodlands School', MS, illus., 8 vols, 18??-1889
MS. VOLS. S12a- S19

York, Yorkshire
See Bootham; The Mount
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Ireland

**Ballitore, co. Kildare (P, B) 1726-1802; 1806-1836**
Conducted by: Abraham, then Richard, then Abraham Shackleton the younger; James White


L E.J. McAuliffe (ed), *An Irish genealogical source: the roll of the Quaker school at Ballitore, [1726-1836] ... with an index ...,* 1984

R Friends Historical Library, Quaker House, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16.

**Brookfield, near Moira, co. Antrim (C, BG; P,BG) 1836-1921; 1921-*
Established primarily for the children of disowned members; under the care of Ireland Yearly Meeting. Closed by Ireland YM in 1921; Charles and Anna Sophia Benington continued a small private school there. (About 1877 a separate day school was set up for "the surrounding poor".)

H *Brookfield Agricultural School, Moira, Ireland: its origin and history*, 1890

P *Annual reports*, 1839-1922; *OSA Annual reports* 1(1908) - 2 (1908/9)

R Friends Historical Library, Quaker House, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16. (register of admissions 1836-1921)

**Lisburn, 6 Magheralave Road, Lisburn, BT28 3BH (C, BG) 1774-**
known as Ulster Provincial School until 1914


L *List of scholars educated at Prospect Hill, Lisburn, from 1794 to 1894*, 1894 [not in LSF]

P *Annual reports*, 1818- (incomplete); *OSA Annual reports*, 1896-1941; *Efesel* [School Magazine) 1929-1939; *Past And Present* (includes OSA report) 1942-1955, 1970, 1973;

R at the school

**Mountmellick, co. Laois (C; 1786-1855 D; 1855-1921 G) 1786-1921**
known as Leinster Provincial School until 1855

H *One hundred years of Mountmellick School: history of the school, with proceedings of the 1886 centenary...,* 1886
Quaker schools in Great Britain and Ireland


P Newtown & Mountmellick OSA Annual reports, (1891-1970); Pers/NEWT/6

R Friends Historical Library, Quaker House, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16.

Newtown, Waterford (C; 1798-1855 D; 1855-1906 B; 1906- BG) 1798-
known as Munster Provincial School until 1855

H Newtown School centenary: history of the school, 1898 044.32 NEW
Maurice J Wigham, A history of Newtown School, Waterford, 1998 044.32 NEW/WIG

L Newtown & Mountmellick OSA, List of scholars ... 1798-1891, 1892 in 1897-1908 volume of Newtown & Mountmellick OSA Annual reports Pers/NEWT/6

P Newtown & Mountmellick OSA Annual reports, (1891-1970); Pers/NEWT/6
Newtown Review, 1934- (from 1970's includes OSA report); Pers/NEWT/4

R Friends Historical Library, Quaker House, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16.; later records at the school

Waterford See Newtown

Quaker schools today

There are today seven Quaker schools in Great Britain and two in Ireland. Information about these schools and about education in a Quaker school can be found on the Quaker schools website www.quakerschools.co.uk/

Further information

Library opening hours:
Tues.- Fri. 10.00am - 5.00pm

Please note the Library closes for one week in the spring and in the autumn. It is advisable to telephone or email prior to visiting. New readers will need to complete a registration form and show proof of permanent address. The registration form can be downloaded from our website www.quaker.org.uk/library or requested from the Library.

For further information or help in using this Library please contact us by either emailing library@quaker.org.uk, telephoning 020 7663 1135 or writing to:

The Library,
Friends House,
173 Euston Road,
London. NW1 2BJ
www.quaker.org.uk\library

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“Grove House School, Tottenham” [Pict. Box L 1/23]
Reproduction of pencil drawing by W.D.S. [W.D. Sparkes], 1842

Grove House School, Tottenham (1828-1877) was conducted by Thomas Binns

For details of other items in the Library’s picture collection connected to Friends Schools please contact the Library

Quaker Strongrooms Blog
http://quakerstrongrooms.org/