COUNTRY LIFE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

Country

Aysgarth, Bedale

150 boys aged 8–13, mainly boarding (plus co-ed pre-prep)

Fees £6,630-£8,630

Motto Ex quercu non ex salice (Of oak, not of willow)

Long known as one of the best prep schools in the North—in fact, it's the only full boarding one—it has a reputation for producing confident all-round entrants to leading public schools. Last term was a record for scholarships (22), including a King's Scholarship to Eton.

It's ambitious ('we aim high'), outdoorsy and sporty—Olympic rower Sir Matthew Pinsent and polar explorer Robert Swan are Old Aysgarthians—and promises to allow 'boys to be boys'.

It's just off the A1 in North Yorkshire, but in a lovely parkland setting with a river plus golf and sailing nearby. The headmaster, Rob Morse, has been at two similar schools, S. Anselm's and Perrott Hill.

www.aysgarthschool.com

SCHOOL LIFE

THE COUNTRY LIFE GUIDE TO GOOD SCHOOLS