

Yearly Meeting 2025

Friends House and online, Friday 23 – Monday 26 May 2025

January 2025

Dear Friends,

Everyone who worships with Quakers in Britain is invited to join us at Yearly Meeting from Friday 23 to Monday 26 May 2025. Guests from other parts of the world and from other faiths are welcome too. This is a chance to take part in activities that deepen our connections as a spiritual community. Our meeting and activities will combine our Quaker discipline with new approaches to the issues we must explore together. For some Friends, this may be your first time at Yearly Meeting. Others will have attended many times before. Either way, everyone is welcome to take part in this Spirit-led event.

Our discernment

Our focus will be on our peace testimony. We will explore how we as Quakers address violence and conflict in our local communities and across Britain, and identify ways we could do more. How do we address violence and conflict around us? How do we nurture the radical peacemakers among us?

Looking ahead

There will be time to agree, in a spirit of worship, the next steps from Yearly Meeting 2024's decision to move to a continuing Yearly Meeting in 2026.

Creative activities

There will be opportunities for crafting and creative participation in Yearly Meeting 2025. This will offer different ways of approaching the questions we're facing together. This can be part of our radical witness for peace and inspire everyday activism.

Worship

We hope that Yearly Meeting will be a spiritually enriching experience. We are invited to nurture each other in a spirit of understanding and forgiveness. Each session is held in Worship, seeking to understand God's will for the group. By following Quaker discipline, we can support one another and strengthen our community.

There will be opportunities to worship outside of Yearly Meeting sessions, too.

Yearly Meeting Preparation and online Yearly Meeting fringe activities

Online events, including preparation for Yearly Meeting and special interest group meetings will happen from Sunday 27 April to Saturday 3 May. If you register for Yearly Meeting, you will be given access to the online Yearly Meeting programme. Known as the Yearly Meeting Planner (and often referred to as "Sched") this includes details about these sessions. You can book them in advance through the Yearly Meeting Planner.

Opportunities for Youth, Children and Families

Age-appropriate events will be taking place at the same time as Yearly Meeting.

- Children's programme at Yearly Meeting for 0–11-year-olds: non-residential, at Friends House.
- Young People @ Yearly Meeting for 11–15-year-olds: residential at Rock UK Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire.
- Junior Yearly Meeting for 15–18-year-olds: residential at Rock UK Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire.

Register for Yearly Meeting 2025

After you register, you'll get access to all the details for Yearly Meeting and the preparation / fringe week. You will receive email updates about the event. We want to make Yearly Meeting an accessible and inclusive event. You can help us do this by letting us know your needs when you register.

Please note the following deadlines. These give us enough time to prepare to welcome you:

- Junior Yearly Meeting, see <u>www.quaker.org.uk/events/junior-yearly-meeting-2025</u>.
 - Nominations and open place applications close on Sunday 9 February.
 - Places for Junior Yearly Meeting should be confirmed by parent/guardians by Sunday 23 February.
- Young People @ Yearly Meeting bookings close Sunday 23 February.
- Children's programme at Yearly Meeting bookings close Friday 4 April.
- If you would like to attend the online fringe week and Yearly Meeting preparation sessions, then please book for Yearly Meeting by Sunday 7 April. Bookings for Yearly Meeting close on Sunday 27 April.

For detailed information please read Preparing for Yearly Meeting which can be found at the documents page of <u>www.quaker.org.uk/ym</u>.

All those organising Yearly Meeting are looking forward to welcoming you.

In Friendship,

Adurca Turnley

Adwoa Burnley Yearly Meeting Clerk