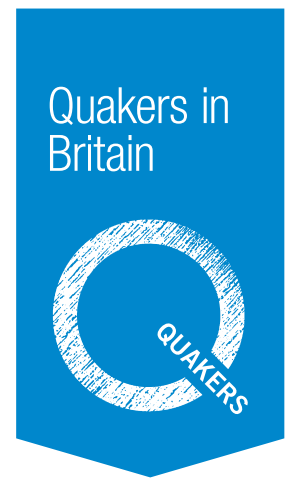


February 2024

## Yearly Meeting 2024



Dear Friends,

Yearly Meeting takes place at Friends House and online over a long weekend, from Friday 26 to Tuesday 30 July 2024.

Our testimony to truth will be at the heart of this Summer Yearly Meeting.

Our discernment will consider how Quakers have acted on previous Yearly Meeting commitments to equity and justice. Are we Living our truth? We will take inspiration from the actions of individual Friends, local meetings and Quaker work led by Britain Yearly Meeting's paid staff in pursuit of climate justice, an anti-racist Society of Friends, and inclusion of transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people.

In this general election year, we will continue considering integrity in public life: in media and politics. How do we find the kinder ground on which to listen, acknowledge and disagree, and enable a shared quest for truth?

Yearly Meeting will discern its own formal role in steering the Society of Friends and how this is reflected in our structure of meetings. We will be building on the discernment from Yearly Meeting in 2023, and the work of Friends in Meeting for Sufferings and review groups.

As always, Yearly Meeting is like a patchwork quilt, with different pieces being sewn together to make a whole. Some of these are constitutional business – the beauty of ensuring that things are set in order within our Society. Other pieces relate to issues in the world beyond.

I am looking forward to Yearly Meeting being an all-age, inclusive community. Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee sees the long weekend as an opportunity to experiment with how we meet. As well as the minuted business sessions, we will share discernment in Exploration sessions. These are facilitated activities offering ways to engage creatively with the questions being considered by Yearly Meeting, in all-age and age-specific groups. Some of these will be online, some will be based in Friends House, others close by in Woburn House and there will also be some outdoor activities. This shared discernment will be an adventure, and we ask friends to join these experiments with open hearts and minds. The long weekend will include a celebration evening on Sunday, for our work and community, and for the 400th anniversary of George Fox's birth.

## Children and Young People's programmes

There will be age-appropriate programmes for children and young people, all of which will engage with the topics of Yearly Meeting. Places will be first come, first served and should be booked in advance. Full information can be found at [www.quaker.org.uk/ym](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym).

- The **Children's Programme** is a non-residential event for 0–11-year-olds. Parents/guardians will be able to book their child/ward onto this programme by session/day.
- The **Young People @ Yearly Meeting** is a non-residential event for 11–15-year-olds. Parents/guardians will need to book their child/ward onto this programme by session/day.
- The **Junior Yearly Meeting** is a residential event for 15–18-year-olds. There are two ways to come to JYM, by nomination or by an open place – young people will need to attend the whole programme.

## Register for Yearly Meeting

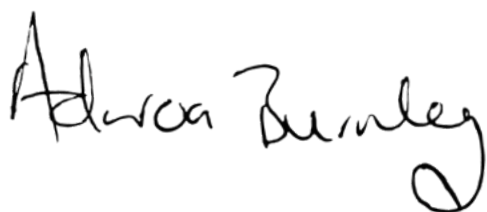
Whether you plan to attend in Friends House or online, it is essential to book your place. Registration for Yearly Meeting 2024 will open to all Friends on Monday 11 March at [www.quaker.org.uk/ym](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym).

Please note that:

- nominations for JYM close on Sunday 24 March and participant places should be confirmed by Sunday 7 April.
- bookings for places on the Children's Programme and Young People @ Yearly Meeting will close on Sunday 16 June.
- registration to attend Yearly Meeting, in person or online will close on Sunday 7 July.

Friends, as we gather in the spirit of worship, let us do all we can to provide a warm welcome to each other.

In Friendship,



Adwoa Burnley

Yearly Meeting Clerk