

An Introduction to Forest Pre-Prep and Preparatory School

Forest Preparatory School consists of two sections: our Pre-Prep for pupils aged 4 to 7 (EYFS and Key Stage 1) and our Prep School which teaches pupils aged 7 to 11 (Key Stage 2)

Forest Pre-Prep

Forest Pre-Prep forms the first part of the Forest School journey and pupils are taught in co-educational class sizes of 16 children. Our Pre-Prep goes up to 7 years of age (Year 2). Each Pre-Prep class has one full-time teacher and a full-time teaching assistant.



The children are taught mainly by their form teacher, but during the week there are lessons taught by specialist teachers as well, for example; computing, drama, music, swimming and PE.



In the Pre-Prep we teach a 'creative curriculum' meaning that the subjects are taught in the context of a topic, such as 'Let's Celebrate', 'Circus, Circus?' or 'People from the Past. We start each topic off with a 'brilliant beginning' and this enables us to capture the children's interest and start our learning journey with a bang. Examples include a giant snow globe in the playground in which children climbed through to experience winter weather for the start of our 'Whatever the Weather' topic and a visiting workshop day from the STOMP performers that kicked off our 'Sound and Light' topic. Please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Pre-Prep staff for more

information about our exciting curriculum.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS) CURRICULUM

Children in Reception follow the Early Learning Goals for the revised Statutory Framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are seven areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage which cover the main areas of young children's development. These areas are: Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World, Expressive Arts and Design.

In Reception, there is a balance of structured activities and free-play learning activities, both indoors and outdoors each day. Developing children's social skills



is a major part of the Reception curriculum. The skills necessary to become a proficient reader are given high priority. Forest Preparatory School follows the Little Wandle Phonics scheme. We use Big Cats reading books supported by many well-known reading schemes to develop reading skills. There are numerous fun activities given to the Reception pupils to prepare them for more formal work in literacy and numeracy in Year 1 and 2.

KEY WORKER

Every child in Reception is assigned a key worker to help ensure that every child's care is tailored to meet their individual needs. The form tutor is the key worker for children in Reception and they help the child to become familiar with their setting whilst also building a good relationship with the child and their parents and carers.

KEY STAGE 1 (YEARS 1 AND 2)

After the Early Years Foundation Stage, children begin to follow broadly the National Curriculum, beginning with Key Stage 1 for five to seven year olds, in Year 1 and Year 2. In both Reception and Key Stage 1 we teach the subjects through a creative curriculum wherever possible and topics change each half term. This gives the children a context in which to learn and encourages qualities such as collaboration, independence, creativity and resilience.



Handwriting and phonics are practised regularly. Tables and number bonds are learned once they have been thoroughly investigated through practical activities.

Children are introduced to Mandarin from Year 2, and this becomes the core Modern Foreign Language throughout the Pre-Prep and Prep School.

Forest Preparatory School

When the pupils transition from Pre-Prep to Year 3, class sizes are 24 pupils with a full-time teacher and shared teaching assistant (Years 3 to 6).

KEY STAGE 2 CURRICULUM

One of the many advantages of being an all-through School from 4 to 18 years of age is that we are able to prepare the children for their secondary education, for university, and beyond. We can help pupils develop their skills and their understanding to ensure they stand the best chance of success for many years to come. Our ever-evolving curriculum is designed to provide them with these opportunities and at the heart of our curriculum design is the development of pupils' metacognitive skills, teaching them how to



become highly effective learners in an array of contexts. Forest Preparatory School is different from many Prep Schools; we are not working to prepare pupils for an end-point at eleven or thirteen years of age; the focus of our teaching looks much further to the future.

Our pupils learn Reasoning, Thinking and Study Skills as well as Philosophy for Children, they learn a musical instrument for two years to experience the learning curve first-hand and realise that learning is not always easy, but will bring rewards and benefits if one perseveres.



Mandarin is our core Modern Foreign Language from Years 2 to 6; the best time to learn a language is from a young age and we ensure children make the most of this opportunity by teaching a language which is challenging, and which may be of considerable benefit later on in life. We also provided a taster to European languages from Y3 with a different language each year. Pupils also have Games, PE, Dance, Drama, Swimming, Music, Science & Engineering, Design Technology, Art and Computing lessons.

Pupils participate in an activities programme, which introduces useful 'life skills', for example, 'Mini Medics, 'Grow a fiver', debating skills, and they are provided with timetabled lessons specifically to reflect on their learning.

Our timetable allows us the flexibility to offer so many different opportunities in addition to the important subjects of English, mathematics, science, geography, history, economics and RE. Our challenge programmes (Academic, music, sport) ensure those pupils in Year 6 who excel in one of the above areas follow a bespoke path to broaden their horizons.

Academically, in all subjects, the pupils make excellent progress and whilst our aim and focus is for boys and girls to leave us as enthusiastic and inquisitive individuals, we are delighted with the Prep School pupils' success at scholarship level, as the girls and boys regularly win awards to the Senior School at Forest.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Our Academic Support teacher is available to advise staff and to further assist any children who require support, in liaison with parents.

CLUBS

We offer an enormous selection of clubs and activities at Forest School and children from Reception to Year 6 can sign up to a variety of clubs during the year. These take place before School, at lunchtimes and at the end of the School day.



Forest Pre-Prep & Preparatory School Day

Pre-Prep Day		Prep School Day	
0730	Breakfast Club (additional charge)	0730	Breakfast Club (additional charge)
0800	Pupils welcomed by the member of staff on duty and are to go to their classrooms. (The Pre-Prep gate opens at 08:00am. The school is not responsible for pupils dropped before this time other than those registered at Breakfast Club).	0800	Pupils supervised in the Prep School playground
0830	School commences. Pupils are expected to be in their classroom by 0830. Morning registration followed by Assembly or form time.	0830	School commences. Pupils are expected to be in their classroom by 0830. Morning registration and Assembly or form time.
0900	Lessons commence	0900	Lessons commence
1015- 1030	Quarter (break)	1015 - 1030	Quarter (break)
1145	Lunch in the Dining Hall	1200	Lunch in the Dining Hall
1220	Break	1230	Break
1300	Afternoon Registration	1300	Afternoon Registration
1305	Afternoon lessons commence	1305	Afternoon lessons commence
1425	Break	1425	Break
1530	School ends for Reception to Year 2	1540	School ends for pupils in Years 3 to 6
1545	After School Clubs commence	1600	After School Clubs commence
1600	After school care commences (additional charge)	1615	Late Prep commences (additional charge)
1800	After school care concludes	1800	Late Prep concludes