

We are Chesham Prep

Independent education for boys and girls aged 3-13



Chesham
Preparatory
School

Independent education for
boys and girls aged 3 to 13

We are dedicated

Chesham Prep is a unique place and has a well-deserved reputation, dating back to its foundation in 1938, for being a friendly, family-orientated school at the heart of the local community. Set in the Bucks countryside, it is a caring and nurturing community where the children aim high, work hard and achieve great things.



We're dedicated to delivering an outstanding education for all our pupils; through small class sizes, the passionate and dedicated staff and, of course, the specialist facilities which children have access to from a young age. There are shared expectations for striving towards academic excellence and pupils go on to record highly impressive results in tests and exams for entry into senior schools; both Bucks Grammar Schools and senior independent schools.



There is a wealth of opportunities for individual talents to flourish in the classroom, on the sports field and through involvement in the creative arts. As our children progress through Chesham Prep, parents will begin to consider which senior schools will best suit their child's needs in the future. We are always happy to meet with parents to discuss their child's strengths and suggest suitable future schools.

"The school has surpassed our expectations on every level."

A PARENT'S VIEW

"I would like to take this opportunity to give my sincere thanks to the staff for the fabulous dedication and support they have given our girls."

A PARENT'S VIEW

I invite you to come and visit us at Chesham Prep and experience what we have to offer at first hand. I promise that you will receive a very warm welcome and find an immensely busy and vibrant school where the happiness and progress of every child is an absolute priority.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'J Beale'.

Jonathan Beale, Headmaster

"Staff are dedicated to the care of pupils and strongly support the aims of the school."

ISI Report 2016

MR JONATHAN BEALE - Headmaster

We are Committed

"Our mission is to know each pupil as an individual and identify, develop and nurture their varied talents and strengths."

We are nurturing

At Chesham Prep every child is nurtured and looked after with the utmost care and attention to their welfare and safety.



"CPS has been the most fabulous school for him and he has been cared for and nurtured throughout, as well as brilliantly taught." **A PARENT'S VIEW**

We strive to meet all our children's changing needs on a day-to-day basis. We communicate any pastoral concerns immediately and ensure that our anti-bullying measures are robust. All our teachers work hard to really get to know each child in their care. We have excellent relationships with the children and identify and solve any pastoral concerns immediately.

Our Early Years Department provides an extension of the love and security that your child has received at home. Our older children are offered a wide breadth of opportunity, the chance to develop new skills and great confidence. They are encouraged to take increasing personal

responsibility, to be self-disciplined, fair-minded, honest and reliable, all within a supportive and caring framework. We encourage them to be responsible for their own learning and to show resilience when faced with challenges.

At Chesham Prep we wholeheartedly encourage the move towards a healthier lifestyle within our school. Our goal is to help pupils of all ages enjoy balanced meals with the occasional treat!

As well as a School Nurse, the school provides a confidential counselling service called 'Chat-line' for any child who wishes to discuss any matter which might be troubling them.

"CPS has helped me to build up courage and self-confidence. I have made friends that I might keep for life." **ANGUS - YEAR 4**

MRS ALISON BUSH - Head of pastoral care

We are listening

"Three times a week we have a staff briefing where the children's welfare is paramount, any concerns are highlighted to ensure that all staff can support those children who require extra TLC."

"Pastoral guidance extends beyond the school gates, the excellent rapport between staff and pupils is most noticeable, with a balance between joviality and mutual respect." **ISI report 2016**

We are sporty

THE MAIN SPORTS AT CHESHAM PREP ARE

RUGBY	IN ADDITION
HOCKEY	PARKOUR
FOOTBALL	TENNIS
NETBALL	SAMURAI
CRICKET	BADMINTON
ATHLETICS	SKI CLUB
SWIMMING	ZUMBA
CROSS COUNTRY	JUDO
ROUNDERS	GIRLS' FOOTBALL
GYMNASTICS	LACROSSE
BASKETBALL	CYCLING

BOYS' HOCKEY
WYCOMBE WANDERERS FOOTBALL

All the children from Year 3 spend two afternoons playing sport and one session of PE, whilst Nursery to Year 2 have two sessions a week of PE. At Chesham Prep we strive to develop character and determination in our sports players. As part of their sporting journey we strive to instill in them a love of sport and teach

them the necessary skills for an excellent, practical foundation for the next stage at Senior school. Competing in fixtures is a fundamental part of our philosophy as a tool for improving understanding and skills under pressure. The results of matches are secondary to the individual improvements that can be made through gameplay.

"I have tremendous admiration for the PE staff who have such commitment, energy and enthusiasm and inspire and engage the children." **A PARENT'S VIEW**



“Pupils’ physical development is excellent. An inclusive approach enables all pupils to represent their school in matches and sports teams have enjoyed a consistent record of success in inter-school fixtures on a competitive circuit and at national level.” **ISI report 2016**

FACILITIES INCLUDE

- 4 ACRES ONSITE PLAYING FIELDS
- 800M² SPORTS HALL
- SPORTS ASTRO PITCH
- ASTRO WICKET, GRASS WICKET AND BOWLING MACHINE
- SPORTS OFFICE AND CHANGING ROOMS

Professionally qualified coaches in rugby, hockey, netball, cricket, football, athletics, gymnastics and swimming. Specialist staff teach all classes from Nursery to Year 8.

FIXTURES PER YEAR PER SPORT

RUGBY	240
HOCKEY	148
ROUNDERS	60
CRICKET	88
FOOTBALL	130
NETBALL	148

PLUS 20 TOURNAMENTS OR FESTIVALS PER YEAR

“I love hockey because the teachers make it extremely fun. My hope for next year is to get in the IAPS team.”

HOLLY - YEAR 5

“I’ve loved cricket ever since I started playing it in the bottom team but CPS have taught me so much that now I am in the top team.”

HARRY - YEAR 6

“The school sport is wonderful. Our son loves the matches and loves the supportive nature of his fellow team mates.” **A PARENT'S VIEW**

We are creative

Art is presented in a lively and interesting way throughout the school. We place the emphasis on learning through fun, discovery and an increasing use of knowledge and skills.



We cover Drawing, Painting, Collage/Textiles, 3D/Clay/Modelling/ Sculpture, Printing/Graphic Design, Artists/History of Art and Photography.

The school has a specialised Art and Design Room with an extensive range of facilities including a kiln, screen printing and silk painting.

We teach Design and Technology throughout the school from Nursery to Year 8. From Year 5 up the pupils have

the opportunity to work in the specialist technology room and they learn to use hand and power tools to shape, join and combine a variety of materials in a safe environment.

We put the pupil in charge of their own Design and Make projects, encouraging them to value their ideas and choices. They will also work in groups where ideas are put forward and adapted, whilst at the same time they learn to operate as part of a team to produce an end product.

“Creativity throughout the school is excellent, notably in music and art.” ISI report 2016



“I like art because I like to do lots of detail in my drawings. I want to be an architect when I grow up.”

TESS - YEAR 6

We love performing

We believe that the Performing Arts can provide our children with the tools to build confidence and character and encourage them to use their imaginations and push their creative boundaries.



"I really love music because I really like singing. I think of it as letting your voice be free."

FINN - YEAR 3

"When I grow up I will be an actor, this school's drama makes it an amazing experience."

LUCY - YEAR 5

The dedicated and purpose-built music block provides excellent facilities for class music and instrumental tuition within acoustically designed and sound-proofed rooms.

Music is a key part of our school's curriculum. Whether it is in the class music lessons, which start from Nursery, recorder groups, the string and woodwind ensembles, the orchestra, the choirs or individual lessons, our children are encouraged to involve themselves to the full.

Our children love performing on stage. There is always great excitement around the auditions for our school plays and smaller assembly pieces. Every year we have a variety of performances taking place, including Nativities for the Early Years and both a Spring and Summer term production for the Junior and Senior Schools. The pupils have the opportunity to create a platform to express themselves, whether this is through jumping into the shoes of another character, crafting their own stories or speaking clearly in front of an audience.

"I just wanted to say how inspired I have been (again!) this morning by what CPS achieves. The performance the children put on at the Music festival was unbelievable." **A PARENT'S VIEW**



When I grow up
I want to be...
“a Power Ranger.”
“I want to teach maths.”
EYFS PUPILS

MRS HILARY RUDOL - Head of EYFS

We are supportive

“In EYFS it is vitally important that a child fosters a love of learning and inquisitive mind and a sense of self-worth; we believe that a happy child will learn.”

“In the EYFS, all members of staff know and care for each child very well. Their high expectations are responded to enthusiastically by the children.” ISI report 2016

We are the Early Years

Foundation stage, nursery & reception



Our Early Years Department is a happy, friendly and welcoming place. We pride ourselves on developing very close relationships with both the children and their families.

The children enjoy a variety of activities together as a whole department such as the Christmas Nativity play, school trips and other celebrations. We also join the Junior School for assemblies and Harvest Festival. The children also have the pleasure of getting to know some of the Senior School children as children in Years 7 and 8 are assigned as helpers and spend weekly timetabled sessions with the children.

We value and reward not only academic achievement but also kindness, thoughtfulness and good behaviour. With classroom assistants in all the classes, the children enjoy an excellent teacher-to-pupil ratio of never more than 1 to 10. The children also receive specialist teaching in Music, Computing, PE, Spanish and French.

Chesham Prep is very much a family school. As the youngest members of that family we, in the Early Years Department, believe it is our role to build the solid foundations that will enable every child to thrive, succeed and make the most of every opportunity offered.

“Your natural ability to encourage him to try new things whilst offering him the helping hand he needs has been incredible this year. As a result he has grown enormously in confidence and is now so much happier to step into new situations.” **A PARENT’S VIEW**

“I love coming to school because all of the teachers and pupils are super kind.”

HENRY - YEAR 4

MRS ALISON BUSH - Head of the Juniors

We are progressive

“All our teachers work hard to really get to know each child in their care; excellent relationships with parents, staff and children lie at the heart of the school’s success.”

“Extremely strong subject knowledge and an infectious passion are apparent in all teachers across the school, which undoubtedly contributes to the pupils acquiring skills and confidence beyond expectations of the typical child of a similar age.”

ISI report 2016

We are the Juniors

Years 1 to 4, Key stages 1 & 2



The Junior School years are exceptionally important as children grow tremendously in independence, which in turn leads to greater confidence and self-esteem. They start to take more responsibility for their own learning. In the Junior School we have a balanced curriculum where the children benefit from teaching by specialist teachers for Spanish, French, ICT, PE and Music. At the same time the pastoral provision is exceptionally high, as they are very much under the wing of a form teacher who liaises with the specialist teachers to

ensure excellent communication and provision. From Year 1 to Year 3 the classroom teacher is supported by a Teaching Assistant, continuing the teacher-to-pupil ratio of 1 to 10.

From Year 1 all the children are placed into Houses where the emphasis changes from focusing on individual success to collaborative success and achievement. From Year 3, all the children begin swimming lessons and will experience for the first time playing as members of a sports team against other schools.

“Our nervous son has been moulded into a happy, polite, conscientious and confident young man, what more could we ask for?” **A PARENT’S VIEW**



"In Year 5 I have enjoyed being able to move around the school and have my own folders."
EMILY - YEAR 5

MR NICK VINCENT- Head of the Seniors

We are growing up

"Once the children enter the Senior School their independence, self-reliance and organisational skills continue to flourish."

“Excellent relationships between teachers and learners, based on warm enthusiasm within clear boundaries, foster great interest in their own learning and pupils are proud of their achievements.” ISI report 2016

We are the Seniors

Years 5 to 8, Key stages 2 & 3



We teach children to be forward-thinking, adaptable and independent and they grow into confident individuals with excellent social skills, a strong moral awareness and a good understanding of core values.

They will learn how to question, to think for themselves and to work successfully with others and be proud of their own and others' success.

"Teachers regularly encourage thought-provoking discussions and are not afraid to

challenge pupils to develop a sense of honesty and healthy debate." ISI Report 2016

As the oldest members of the Chesham Prep family, the senior children are taught by subject specialists and move between specialist teaching rooms.

We prepare them for their senior school years as they are encouraged to take more ownership for their learning and are invited to apply for positions of responsibility in the school such as House Captains, Prefects or Head Boy and Head Girl.

"Thank you for everything you do to inspire confidence in our kids." **A PARENT'S VIEW**

We are passionate about learning

Small class numbers of twenty ensure that teachers quickly get to know their pupils. Every child reaches their potential by working towards their own individual targets within a personalised learning plan.



Groupings are flexible so that those children who need extra time to consolidate their learning can have it and equally, those children who grasp a concept quickly are able to move on and work at a faster pace.

We believe that children should be provided with as broad and varied a curriculum as possible from a very early age. To this end we provide additional subject specialist teachers for Physical Education, Music, Computing, French and Spanish from their first week at school. From Year 3 they

start to learn to play the major team sports and they begin swimming lessons. When children reach Year 5 they, in effect, begin secondary education as all lessons are taught by different subject specialists.

Outdoor learning has been incorporated into the school curriculum from English to Spanish, and from Maths to RE. The beautiful outdoor learning areas not only encourage and help native British Wildlife to thrive around the school, but are also used for extracurricular activities such as Environmental and Gardening Clubs.

“Pupils relish debate and discussion, and they demonstrate strong powers of reasoning and logical thought.”
ISI report 2016



“Science has been amazing, we have learnt so much. My personal favourite activity was dissecting an animal’s eye.”
LUCY - YEAR 5

“I wanted to let you know how inspiring the History lessons are. My daughter repeatedly comes home very animated, particularly after the lesson outlining the causes of the First World War and the assassination of the Archduke where they acted out the motorcade between the desks.” A PARENT’S VIEW

“I want to be an Engineer and a Billionaire.” HENRY - YR 4



“I want to be a Ballet Dancer.” AVA - YR 4 “I want to be a Mummy and a Doctor.” ROBYN - EYFS

We are ambitious

WHEN I GROW UP...



“I want to be a Chef.” ISABELLE - YR 4

“I want to be a Jet Pilot.” ABU - EYFS



“I want to be a Science Teacher.” ALEXANDER - YR 4

“I want to be like Roald Dahl, a great Author.”

GEORGIA - YR 5

“I just wanted to thank you for what was clearly a fabulous week at PGL. My daughter has come back and not stopped talking about her experiences and the fun she has had, it seems like she is walking about 7ft tall.” A PARENT'S VIEW FOLLOWING A PGL TRIP

We are adventurous

Lessons in the classroom are regularly enhanced by trips to various places of interest locally and further afield. We have visited the Houses of Parliament, the Tate and the Saatchi Gallery, the Tower of London, Willows Farm, St Albans Cathedral and Hazard Alley.



“I want to be an Archaeologist.” JOSEPH - YR 5

“I want to be a Baker.” NOAH - YR 4

From Year 4 children are invited to attend annual residential trips. These trips offer pupils the opportunity to develop their independence away from home, to help them grow in confidence, develop valuable life skills amongst their peers and give them opportunities to develop expertise in a wide range of land and water based activities outside the classroom.

We have 30 after-school activities including Sports, Drama, Art, Cookery, Music, Lego construction, Gardening, Skiing, Chess, Debating, Latin, Philosophy, Touch Typing, Needlework, Knitting, Maypole dancing and Computing.

“The range of extra-curricular activities is excellent. A wide variety of clubs is available, complementing lessons effectively allowing pupils to further hone their skills in sport, music and other intellectual and creative activities.” ISI report 2016

I love having all the workshops because we get dressed up and learn loads of new things.” AVA - YEAR 4

We are ready to leave

As children progress through Chesham Prep, parents will begin to consider which senior schools will best suit their child's needs in future. We are always happy to meet with parents to discuss their child's strengths and suggest suitable future schools.



We continuously track each child's progress so that we can help advise you at this important time.

When CPS pupils enter their senior schools, they thrive academically and adjust very easily to the demands of secondary education. The aim at CPS is to provide all children with a head start

when they reach their secondary school. We achieve very high 11+ results and a large number of our children move on to local Grammar schools. Some children transfer to Independent schools at Year 7 whilst others stay for another two years to benefit from our small classes and intensive academic rigour, transferring at Year 9.

Such are the memories that we create for our children throughout their time at Chesham Prep that many of our ex-pupils remain in contact with us and visit, often to inspire and engage with the current children.

“The pupils stated in interviews that they feel very well prepared for their move on to senior schools.” **ISI report 2016** ”



YEAR 6 LEAVER
Final thoughts
“CPS, I'll miss you. I'll never forget anything that you've given me, all these precious memories that I will remember forever, and my friends. I'm really sad to finally leave. Goodbye, CPS.”

“In the ISS on the trip to Mars.”
RECENT YEAR 6 LEAVER

Where do you see yourselves in 10 years' time?

“Travelling the world as a junior doctor, helping to cure sick people in poverty stricken places like Africa.”
RECENT YEAR 6 LEAVER

“I would like to say thank you to Chesham Prep - without you I wouldn't be half the person I am today - and thank you for igniting my passion in sport.” **AN ALUMNI'S VIEW**

“The pupils’ spiritual development is excellent. They show strong self-esteem and self-confidence and respect for the school motto, “Each for all and all for each”, exemplifying its expectations in all aspects of school life.” ISI Report 2016



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