



Chesham
Preparatory
School

Independent education for
boys and girls aged 3 to 13



We are
Chesham Prep

A NURTURING PREP SCHOOL
in the heart of the Bucks countryside

We are Welcoming

MR JONATHAN BEALE - Headmaster

Our pledge

“We believe that we have a crucial role to play in looking after young children’s emotional health, building their resilience and giving them the skills to cope with all that life has to throw at them. We teach children to think, not just pass exams.”

“Pupils show self-assurance from the earliest years in the school and are confident to ask questions to further their understanding.”

ISI Report 2021

“If a teacher can’t make me smile we don’t employ them.”

Jonathan Beale, Headmaster

A family-oriented school

IN THE HEART OF THE BUCKS COUNTRYSIDE

Chesham Prep is a unique school. Dating back to 1938, it has a well-deserved reputation as a friendly, family-oriented school at the heart of the local community. Set in the Bucks countryside, Chesham Prep provides a caring and nurturing environment where children aim high, work hard and achieve great things.



We are dedicated to delivering an outstanding education for all our pupils; through small class sizes, 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 for entry into Bucks grammar schools and senior independent schools.

I invite you to come and visit us at Chesham Prep to experience what we have to offer. 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.

Jonathan Beale, Headmaster



“My favourite thing about Chesham Prep is how fun the teachers make the lessons.” **A pupil**

“Parents commented on pupils becoming well-rounded, independent individuals who show empathy and consideration for others. These characteristics were confirmed by inspectors’ own observations.” **ISI Report 2021**

Our ethos

Our aim is to nurture pupils by valuing their individuality, inspiring curiosity and promoting a love of learning, alongside ambition and self-belief, to enable them to pursue their goals and aspirations. We seek to foster understanding, respect and sensitivity towards others, encouraging pupils to be good citizens, who are kind, generous, courteous and considerate.

“Though by no means tiny, this cosy, wholesome prep has a real family feel.”

The Good Schools Guide 2021

We are Nurturing

Our motto

EACH FOR ALL AND ALL FOR EACH

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



“I love how kind the teachers are.” **A pupil**

As well as a School Nurse and two school counsellors, we provide a confidential counselling service called ‘Chatline’ for children who wish to discuss any matter that might be troubling them. We hold twice-weekly staff

briefings where concerns about children’s welfare are highlighted to ensure that all staff can support those children who require extra TLC. We have introduced mindfulness clubs, yoga and mindful singing to the school.

“The school community is a very caring one. Staff go out of their way to be helpful and the happiness and welfare of the children is at the heart of everything they do.” **A parent**

Why choose Chesham Prep?



“Since starting at Chesham Prep our son has gone from plodding along at school, without much enthusiasm or zest, to a sparky, engaging, determined and confident boy with lots of varied interests and passions.” A parent

Key facts

LOCATION – our fantastic setting in the beautiful Bucks countryside, next to a working farm and with easy access into London by train or car.

CO-EDUCATION – we educate boys and girls from age three upwards, preparing young minds for the real world, developing mutual respect and healthy competition.

PASTORAL CARE – we are a family where older children act as valuable role models for younger children. Excellent relationships with parents, staff and children lie at the heart of the school's success.

ACADEMIC – we have small classes, specialist teachers and achieve outstanding results at 11+. Each child reaches their potential by working towards their own individual targets within a personalised learning plan.

CONTINUOUS TRACKING – we monitor children's progress so that we can help advise on which senior schools will best suit your child.

SPECIALIST TEACHING – from Nursery upwards specialist staff deliver lessons in Music, Spanish, French, Computing and PE. From Year 5 also in Art, DT, Science, History and Geography. Classes are set for Maths from Year 4 and English from Year 5.

FACILITIES – 7 acres of fields for sport and playtimes, an 800m² sports hall, a 4-lane 25 metre swimming pool, Forest School, Science lab, Music room, Art and DT room, IT suite, Library and Learning Support centre.

A HAPPY AND DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT – we prioritise children's happiness and enjoyment and then we engage them academically.

We are Curious

Individual pupil targets

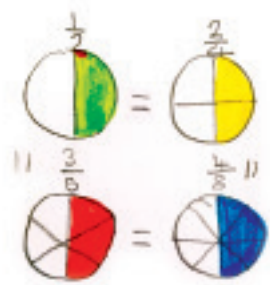
CREATING A PASSION FOR LEARNING

Small class numbers of 20 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.



Pupils have an excellent attitude to learning, reflecting the high expectations of their teachers.

In Early Years, children make excellent progress due to well-planned activities. This includes a well-structured and expertly delivered Phonics programme, using



high-quality resources for Numeracy to encourage engagement.

In Junior School, children learn through the Creative Curriculum following a single subject such as the story of Sir Charlie Stinky Socks which results in building castles in History, medieval maps in Geography, and testing waterproof capes in Science.

In Senior School, all lessons are taught by specialist teachers and are set for English and Maths. The pupils are fluent, articulate communicators who enjoy engaging in discussion and debate in class and can grasp complex concepts.

“Which historical characters would you have to your party?’, ‘Let’s act out the battle scene!’ and ‘Right, class, it’s time for a bit of pond dipping!’ are all in a day’s work for the (very bouncy) teachers here. ” **The Good Schools Guide 2021**



“Pupils’ knowledge and understanding strongly reflect the impact of the enthusiastic and often dynamic teaching.”
ISI Report 2021

We are Adventurous

“...pupils chase tractors and talk to the neighbouring cows.”

Tatler Schools Guide 2021

“For the Years 7 and 8 kids there’s Survivor Club, building on the epic popularity of everything Bear Grylls. Kids solve ‘survival scenarios’, learn to build shelters and orienteer their way back to school from a drop-off point (without a smartphone...).”

Muddy Stilletoes 2021

Beyond the classroom

LEARNING FROM NEW EXPERIENCES

We run over 30 clubs, complementing lessons and allowing pupils to further hone their skills in sport, music and other creative activities. See our website for the full list.

The children enjoy Forest School whatever the weather. They learn how to make fires and toast marshmallows, as well as cooking food such as sausages and pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. The children love hunting for mini-beasts and building bug hotels for them, building assault courses and tyre swings, and making concoctions in the mud kitchen. There is often some art and craft on the go and pressing flowers is a favourite activity.

Lessons in the classroom are enhanced by regular trips to relevant places of interest. From Year 4, children are invited to attend annual residential trips. These offer pupils the opportunity to develop their independence away from home, helping them grow in confidence as well as acquiring skills in a wide range of land-based and water-based activities.



“The star of the show here is the outside space. Sitting next to a working farm, there are cows a-plenty to spy from the school rooms, and a feeling of rural tranquility.”

Muddy Stilletoes 2021

We are

the Early Years

THE EARLY YEARS

Happy, friendly and welcoming

FOUNDATION STAGE, NURSERY AND RECEPTION



“Parent after parent agreed that the two magic ingredients are the school’s ability to nurture and inspire.” **The Good Schools Guide 2021**

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.

We value and reward not only academic achievement but also kindness, good behaviour and thoughtfulness. With teaching assistants in all the classes, children enjoy an excellent teacher-to-

pupil ratio of never more than 1 to 10. The children 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 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.

“Early literacy skills develop rapidly in the EYFS due to the well-structured and expertly delivered phonics programme and this continues steadily in the junior years. **ISI Report 2021**



MRS HILARY RUDOL - Head of EYFS

We are supportive

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

Foundation
Stage

NURSERY AND
RECEPTION



MISS KELLY ATYEO - Head of the Juniors

We are progressive

“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.”

“Pupils are self-assured from an early age and show mature levels of self-esteem and resilience as they progress through the school.” **ISI Report 2021**

THE JUNIORS

Building greater confidence and self-esteem

FOUNDATION YEARS 1 TO 4, KEY STAGES 1 AND 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.

“Our nervous son has been moulded into a happy, polite, conscientious and confident young man. What more could we ask for?” **A parent**

We are
the Juniors

Years
1 to 4

KEY STAGES 1 AND 2

MR MARTIN COOK - 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. We equip them with the skills and experiences to discover and develop their talents, to open up their range of opportunities for the future.”

“Thank you for everything you do to inspire confidence in our kids.” A parent

THE SENIORS

Forward-thinking, adaptability and independence

YEARS 5 TO 8, KEY STAGES 2 AND 3

“Pupils show independence of thought when encouraged and enjoy debates, discussions and the opportunity to give an opinion, particularly at the top end of the school.” ISI Report 2021



Happy children thrive at Chesham Prep. The staff encourage every pupil not only to meet their potential but to exceed it. Life in the Senior School provides exciting opportunities for pupils to develop positive patterns of learning at an influential time in their development.

Our broad curriculum and wide range of extra-curricular activities motivates and develops a love of learning, encouraging children to be curious and try new experiences. They learn how to question, to think for themselves and to work collaboratively.

“Throughout the school pupils have excellent levels of social development, enabling them to work naturally, happily and effectively with others.” ISI Report 2021

We are

the Seniors

Years
5 to 8

KEY STAGES 2 AND 3

We are Sporty

THE MAIN SPORTS AT CHESHAM PREP

- RUGBY

HOCKEY

FOOTBALL

NETBALL

CRICKET

ATHLETICS

SWIMMING

CROSS COUNTRY

ROUNDERS

GYMNASTICS

BASKETBALL
- IN ADDITION

PARKOUR

TENNIS

SAMURAI

BADMINTON

SKI CLUB

ZUMBA

JUDO

LACROSSE

CYCLING

WYCOMBE WANDERERS FOOTBALL

An inclusive approach

NURTURING TALENT AND BUILDING CONFIDENCE

All children in Year 3 and above have two afternoons of sport a week plus a weekly PE lesson, whilst Nursery to Year 2 have two sessions of PE a week.

We strive to develop character and determination in our young sports players. We instill in them a love of sport and teach the skills they need to provide an excellent foundation for the next stage of their development at senior school. Our philosophy of encouraging children to compete in fixtures helps provide them with the tools they need to perform under pressure.

Chesham Prep enjoys a great deal of success at sport and regularly hosts teams at regional, county and national level.



“I have tremendous admiration for the PE staff who have such commitment, energy and enthusiasm to inspire and engage the children.” **A parent**



“I love sports and the teachers make it easy to learn.” **A pupil**

FACILITIES

- 7 ACRES OF PLAYING FIELDS ON SITE
- 800M² SPORTS HALL
- 4-LANE 25 METRE SWIMMING POOL.
- ASTRO PITCH
- ASTRO WICKET, GRASS WICKET AND BOWLING MACHINE
- 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

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

PLUS TOURNAMENTS AND FESTIVALS

“My kids are not particularly athletic, but they feel they are.” **A parent.** **The Good Schools Guide 2021**

We are Creative

Learning through expression

NURTURING TALENT AND BUILDING CONFIDENCE



Art is presented in a lively and interesting way throughout the school. We place emphasis on learning through fun and discovery, enabling pupils to develop their knowledge and skills.

We cover drawing, painting, collage, textiles, 3D, clay, modelling, sculpture, printing, graphic design, artists, history of art, photography, screen and silk printing.

The school has a specialised Art and Design Room with an extensive range of facilities including a kiln.

We teach Design and Technology throughout the school from Nursery

to Year 8. From Year 5 pupils work in the specialist technology room where they learn to use hand and power tools to shape, join and combine a variety of materials in a safe environment.

Pupils are in charge of their own Design and Make projects, encouraging them to value their ideas and choices. They also work in groups, putting forward and adapting ideas, learning how to operate as part of a team to produce an end product.

“Throughout the school there is a tangible positivity from both pupils and staff which fosters pupils’ healthy and happy approach to life. Pupils’ positive attitudes result from the way staff genuinely care about their pupils and actively model enthusiasm and mutual respect. ” **ISI Report 2021**



We love Performing

“My favourite subject is Drama because sometimes it is nice to be someone else for a while.” A pupil

“Great excitement among pupils about the productions including nativities in the younger years.” The Good Schools Guide 2021

CHOIRS • ORCHESTRA • WIND ENSEMBLE • STRING ENSEMBLE • DRAMA GROUPS

A chance to shine

NURTURING TALENT AND BUILDING CONFIDENCE

We believe that the Performing Arts provide children with the tools to build confidence and character, encouraging them to use their imaginations and expand their creative boundaries.



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-class music lessons, which start from Nursery, ukelele groups, the string and woodwind ensembles, the orchestra, the choirs or individual lessons, our children are encouraged to involve themselves to the full.

Children love performing on stage. There is always great excitement around the auditions for our school plays and smaller assembly pieces. Every year a variety of performances take place, including Nativities for the Early Years and a spring and summer term production for the Junior and Senior Schools. 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.

“Praise and more praise – the consensus is that it hits the sweet spot of inclusivity and allowing children to be children, but also making sure they deliver on academics.” **Muddy Stilettos 2021**



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boys and girls aged 3 to 13



“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.” **A past pupil**

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The Independent Association
of Prep Schools

“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 for sport.”

A past pupil