

LOWER PREP



Serva Fidem



Kingswood House School | Reception to Year 4



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Headmaster's Introduction

Lower Prep offers a wonderfully nurturing and stimulating environment from Reception through to Year Four where children quickly grow in confidence. All of our boys are incredibly precious and it is important to us that they feel happy and safe.

Our Approach

It is rare to find such a magical alchemy as in our Lower Prep where shyness and diffidence gradually evolve into confidence and enthusiasm.

Our talented teachers offer a supportive environment where children receive outstanding care at the beginning of their school life. We accept boys in the term of their fifth birthday and guide them through to the end of Year 4 when they move into Upper Prep as established and valued members of our school community.

Lower Prep is situated in modern, purpose-built classrooms together with its own outdoor learning facility. It is close enough to the rest of the school that the boys can interact with their older peers but secure enough that younger boys do not feel anxious in the presence of their older counterparts.

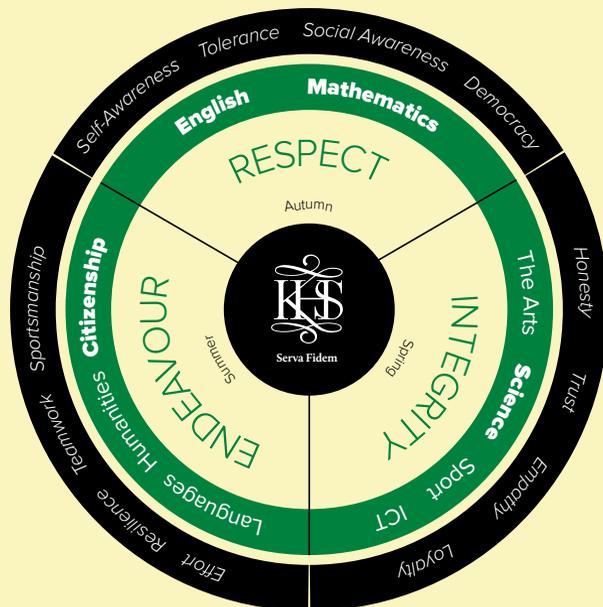
The boys are gently encouraged to become more independent in their thinking, learning and personal organisation. They spend most of their time with a class teacher, who teaches them the core subjects, but they also move around the school for their lessons in more specialist subjects.

Our parents and visitors comment that there is a conducive atmosphere of creativity and praise that enshrines day to day life in Lower Prep.





The Kingswood House Way



A preparation for life beyond the School Gate

The three precepts of Respect, Integrity and Endeavour underpin the nucleus of “The Kingswood House Way”. We believe that the need for young people to have emotional tools, such as resilience, as well as academic knowledge, has never been more important.

Reception

At Reception age, we instil the foundations of learning through play, which is at the heart of Early Years education.

Being so young, the quality of learning depends very much upon the quality of the interaction between each adult and child as well as the quality of interaction between the children themselves.

Children learn to relate to their friends, support each other and develop a growing understanding of the importance of fairness, hygiene and safety.

There is a rich variety of learning opportunities for all boys, delivered in a sensitive and encouraging manner, in the early stages of reading, writing, counting, painting, drawing and physical development.

Throughout the year, the boys go on some exciting school trips in order to foster learning out of the classroom.

Children take part in our annual Christmas Nativity as well as a renowned Spring Concert.





Curriculum:

Learning is based on seven key areas in accordance with the National Curriculum and is enriched with different resources to ensure that each child reaches their full potential.

Topics are carefully tailored and introduced to capture each pupil's attention. Literacy is taught using specific texts whilst reading and phonics also form an important part of the daily routine.

Children have a class teacher and subject specific teachers for PE, Music, French and Forest School.

In addition to the standard curriculum, boys start to learn mindfulness and take part in Yoga workshops.

There is a fantastic outdoor area where an abundance of practical topics are arranged.

We listen carefully to the boys and respond in a way which recognises the "Voice of the Child". Each day is balanced with child and adult-led activities.

Boys are consistently and expertly tracked and a detailed educational profile is documented on each child.

ENJOYING

BUILDING



Curriculum:

The curriculum in Year 1 offers a balanced range of subjects with a sensible proportion of written and practical activities.

Each day is structured to incorporate significant time for numeracy, literacy and a topic area in the afternoon.

ICT is taught in a fully-equipped digital suite with other specialist subject teachers taking the boys for French, Forest School, PE and Music.

Boys in Year 1 study Transport and Seaside in the Past as well as The Travels of Barnaby Bear.

Our small class sizes enable outstanding teaching and learning. We know all our boys and they know all of us!

Year 1

During Year 1, boys typically become more sociable and strong friendships are formed. Interactions between adults and themselves, as well as with their peers, remain important as each boy continues to learn tolerance, respect and appreciation of others.

The concepts of freedom of speech and democracy are explored so that children feel confident in expressing an opinion and discussing it as part of a group.

There is a carefully-cultivated atmosphere of supported individual accountability – we want the boys to make the odd mistake but to have the resilience to cope emotionally and the diligence not to make the same error twice.

A strong programme of pupil mentorship, organised via our forward-thinking House Family system, enables older boys to take on responsibility for helping younger children understand and manifest the values of the Kingswood House Way. We have found that this approach yields outstanding results in terms of the boys' well-being and happiness.

Trips and workshops in Year 1 reinforce information covered in class. Boys visit beaches, castles and bakeries!

They also experience Yoga and Cooking workshops in school.



Year 2

As the boys move into Year 2, they tend to be more self-conscious. We provide manifest opportunities to help them grow in independence by introducing life skills and emphasising the values of the Kingswood House Way.

Teachers plan carefully to ensure that lessons are dynamic and stimulating. Wherever possible, they are practical because we believe that this element of learning garners the best engagement and enthusiasm.

Whilst pupils continue to benefit from a broad and engaging curriculum, there is still a significant focus on English and mathematics since an early understanding of these skills underpins success in so many other subjects in due course.

Curriculum:

In Year 2, Seasonal Changes and Humans form the foundations of an enriching science curriculum.

There is a fascinating opportunity to compare and contrast the Arctic and Antarctic with the Amazon Rainforest and Brazil.

Evocative studies of Florence Nightingale and the Great Fire of London allow for interactive historical debate. Boys also have enormous fun constructing their own Castles and learning how to defend them!

Literacy and numeracy lessons are consolidated and enhanced with specialist ICT resources.



There is a competitive 6+ scholarship examination for a range of internal and external awards into Year 3.

Boys are given the platform to develop a team ethic by joining the Kingswood Singers or representing the school in sports fixtures.



EXPLORING

Year 3

The primary objective of life in Year 3 is to provide a platform for our boys to demonstrate the confidence and independence they have derived hitherto.

Boys are gently encouraged to take increasing responsibility for both their actions and their possessions.

Creative and critical thinking skills underpin the classroom methodology and propagate a willingness in each individual to try new things and achieve more than they believe is possible.

Under the watchful gaze of their teachers, Year 3 boys start to become role models for the younger pupils in Lower Prep.

Commendations and certificates for effort or achievement are celebrated in front of our school community in weekly assemblies with the Headmaster.

Prep Club is an optional skills-based session which is delivered after the school day.

Activities include creative writing, spelling, grammar, numeracy, board games and art.



Curriculum:

Science topics include Rocks, Soils and Food – during which our boys learn how to be a super human.

When studying the Victorians, the pupils have an eye-opening taster of living life in a Victorian classroom.

Boys make their own Anglo-Saxon weaponry and learn how to defend themselves with swords!





Sport plays an increasing role in Year 3 with an abundance of house matches, school fixtures and skills practices, together with Year 4, on Thursday afternoons. Certificates for Man of the Match or Sportsmanship are awarded each week in assembly and recorded in the newsletter.

OMPLISHING

CHALLENGE

Boys are encouraged to try a number of engaging extra-curricular clubs such as Football, Cooking, Chess, Lego, Judo, Golf and many others!

Curriculum:

Boys are placed in sets for numeracy and some aspects of literacy. There is a clear transition from Year 3 to Year 4, denoted by more rigorous content across all subjects.

Some key topics covered include: Ancient Egypt, Villages in India and Specific Habitats.

Boys are internally assessed every term in core subjects. Written assessments take place at the end of the term in their classrooms.

Effort and attainment are reported to parents each term in grade cards.

GINING

Year 4

In the final year of Lower Prep, boys are enthused by academic challenges and inspired by creative arts and sport in keeping with our commitment to a genuine all-round education.

Teaching is carefully differentiated to allow each boy the opportunity to make strong headway and to develop a natural, avid curiosity. An inclusive and stimulating programme of study ensures that academic foundations are secure.

In advance of their move into Upper Prep, it is a greater expectation that the boys can independently follow a timetable, complete their prep diary and look after their possessions.

It is hugely rewarding to embed the Kingswood House values in our boys and chart their progress in later years through Upper Prep and Seniors.



For those boys who demonstrate consistent consideration for others, there is the potential to be appointed as a Lower Prep monitor. This responsibility includes having lunch with the Headmaster, fulfilling classroom duties and acting as a mentor to new children.

Upper Prep & Seniors

There is a proud culture at Kingswood House of educating the whole child, nurturing confidence and developing self-esteem. Pupils are encouraged to enjoy their learning and develop their skills in a calm environment of intellectual curiosity.

Our teachers are talented, dedicated and caring professionals who bring learning to life and inspire their charges by plentiful use of encouragement and praise. In the spirit of inclusion, children of all abilities are suitably challenged and sensitively supported in their thirst for knowledge.

Although the form teacher remains an important influence, and maintains an overview of each boy's academic and pastoral well-being, subject specialists are increasingly introduced from Year 5 onwards.

The Headmaster meets with all parents during the spring term of Year 5 to provide an overview of each child's progress and discuss suitable options for the future.

There are competitive internal and external scholarships available into Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9 for suitable candidates.

Curriculum:

The boys in Upper Prep showcase a convivial atmosphere of friendship and purpose.

Pupils continue their journey of all-round enrichment and independence so that they are prepared for the move into our Senior Years. We build each child's confidence by giving them a strong academic platform, together with important life skills, that will enable them to grow in self-belief and help them achieve their full potential.



The Peter Brooks Building

CONTINUITY

The Common Entrance syllabus starts during Year 5 and continues through Years 6, 7 and 8. It provides an excellent preparation for GCSE and ensures a commensurate level of attainment for our own Senior Years or alternative destinations.



The Next Step

Open Mornings

We hold Open Mornings every term and they are the perfect opportunity for families to tour the school and meet our boys, parents and staff.

Admissions

Prospective parents are invited to visit, either on an Open Morning or on an alternative day by appointment, when they will be given a tour of the school by pupils, have an opportunity to meet with the Headmaster and any other relevant staff as appropriate.

Taster Day

All prospective pupils are invited to attend a Taster Day. The boys will experience a day in an age-appropriate class together with their peer group. As well as informal screening tests in English and maths, we will consider each boy's overall suitability to flourish in our environment at Kingswood House. We aim to give parents some informal feedback on the day and to write with further information, including the offer of a place, within two days.

Academic Scholarships

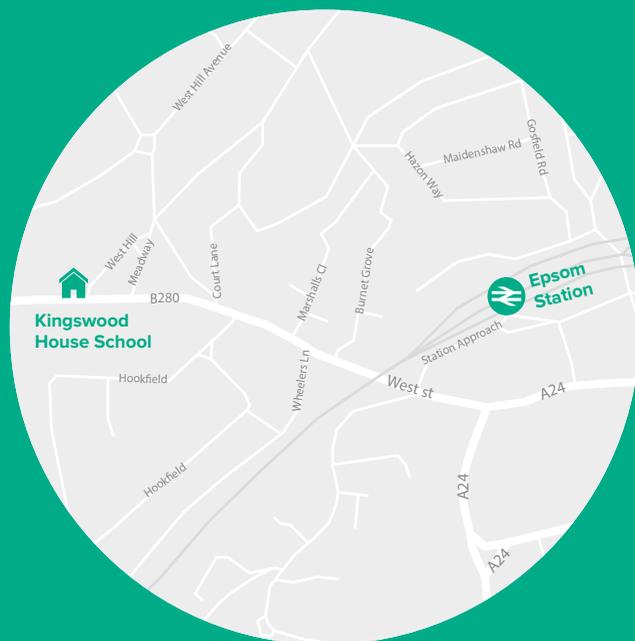
In November, we hold an internal and external 6+ Scholarship Morning for entry into Year 3. Awards may be offered to boys who show outstanding all-round ability and a strong correlation with our values. These are reviewed annually, dependent upon consistent effort and attainment.



JOIN US



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Location

Kingswood House is situated in a leafy suburb of Epsom, with easy access by road and rail. Located on West Hill, the town centre and mainline station are both within ten minutes' walking distance.

We have five minibuses that transport pupils to Kingswood House each morning. The children are collected at designated pick-up points.





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