

Pre-Prep Department

The Pre-Prep department is housed in two adjacent single-storey buildings in very close proximity to the Nursery department. Children range in age from four in Reception to seven in Year 2. There are six classrooms, two for each year group, with a maximum of eighteen children in each class. Intake to the Pre-Prep may be directly from our own Nursery or from elsewhere and at the end of Year 2 they enter the Junior department of the Main School.

Each class is taught by a qualified class teacher for most of the curriculum. However, instruction in music and recorders is given by the Head of Music of the Main School and in Year 2 French is taught by Main School staff. Several assistants work permanently in the department giving valuable help wherever it is needed. Individual music lessons, piano, singing, violin, cello, guitar and drums are available as extras as well as the option to do ballet on Wednesdays.

The Pre-Prep department is generously supplied with play areas including a large sand pit and climbing frame, hard play areas and playing fields. In the summer term Year 2 play with the Main School children and they attend the Main School Junior Chapel services. This helps to smooth their eventual integration into the Junior department the following September.

As well as encouraging strengths in academic and physical activities we stress the values of kindness and consideration in all of our pupils. When they move up into the Main School they will potentially work alongside the same friends for the next six years. The ability to get on with others and to understand their strengths and weaknesses is a crucial part of our teaching at this early stage.

