



Twickenham
Preparatory
School



School Information



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It is my privilege to introduce Twickenham Prep School to you.

At Twickenham Prep School we strive to create and maintain a positive nurturing environment with first-class facilities and strong pastoral care; we recognise that our staff play a central role in helping achieving this.

Working within an environment that inspires outstanding performance, staff are fully supported by dedicated colleagues with a commitment to high standards and the ongoing professional development of all.

Our staff are talented, caring and enthusiastic; visitors to the School often comment on the positive and friendly atmosphere that is evident throughout the School.

Inspiring, joyous and successful are just a few of the words our oldest pupils used to describe their feelings about the School earlier this year and I very much hope that as a member of staff, you will get a strong sense of the happy and supportive community we have at Twickenham Prep.

**Oliver Barrett
Headmaster**



*An independent co-educational day school
for boys aged 4–13 and girls 4–11*





The School



Twickenham Preparatory School is a leading and successful independent co-educational day school for children aged 4 to 13 situated in Hampton, South West London. The School was originally founded on Twickenham Green in 1969 by a small group of parents and moved to its new home in Hampton in 1992 to accommodate its growing numbers.

The founding aim from its inception – to establish a school with high academic standards that was pastorally strong, caring and sensitive to the needs of the individual child – is still the heartbeat of the School 50 years on, and today, Twickenham Prep continues to achieve these aims and provides an exceptional all-round education to 285 pupils across Pre-Prep, Prep and boys in Years 7 & 8.



History

In the summer of 1969 parents at a local boys' prep school were told by its owner that the school had been sold and the new owner would subsequently become the Headmaster in place of the Rev. Donald Hill. Many parents were unhappy with this turn of events and a group of them decided to start a new school with the Rev. Donald Hill as their Headmaster. It was to be a school largely run by parents with, in those early days in particular, many volunteering their help free of charge. Soon after the School became co-educational and by the early 1990s, a roll of about one hundred pupils meant that the search for new premises was becoming increasingly urgent. So, in 1992 Twickenham Prep moved to its new home, the Beveree, a Grade II listed building, in Hampton.

Since those early days in Hampton, there has been the addition of a large, welcoming and colourful Pre-Prep, a new Sports Hall, Dining Room, Music Centre and some exciting outside spaces including an amphitheatre, sports surfacing and a nature trail. Today, the school is 285 pupils strong and is a charitable trust with a Board of Governors.

Recently Twickenham Prep celebrated its 50th anniversary and marked this special occasion with a range of events for people across the school community, past and present, to enjoy. This is an exciting time in the history of the School as it recently made a large investment in the purchase of substantial additional premises located adjacent to the main school site. The new building houses a new Art & DT Department, a digital media suite, including broadcasting cameras, an editing station and spacious additional teaching and meeting areas. TheHub@51 it is a statement of the School's commitment to provide outstanding modern provision for the pupils.

The School is a member of the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and is regularly inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI).

Aims & Ethos

The small group of parents who founded Twickenham Prep in 1969 wanted to establish a school that provided an excellent educational experience in a setting that was pastorally strong with a focus on the individual needs of each child. Their founding aim is still the heartbeat of the school: "Twickenham Preparatory School seeks to create a safe, caring and happy Christian environment in which all pupils are valued and thrive personally, socially and academically."

In order to achieve this, the School seeks to:

- Provide an excellent all-round education with exceptional teaching, subject specialisms and a vibrant and exciting co/extra-curricular programme.
- Encourage pupils to live out the school motto in everything they do – to be: "Calm, Courageous, Courteous and Considerate".
- Be pastorally sensitive to the needs of pupils, seeking to develop the confidence and resilience that they need to succeed.
- Encourage pupils to be confident, respectful and aware of the needs of the world around them, having a big-hearted attitude and approach to the needs of others.
- Strive for excellence in all they do whether academically, in sport or the arts.
- Encourage pupils to be considerate of all, irrespective of background, faith or culture.



"Twickenham Preparatory School seeks to create a safe, caring and happy Christian environment in which all pupils are valued and thrive personally, socially and academically."

The School Today

Twickenham Prep School has a wide catchment of children from adjacent areas. The School is two form entry with maximum class sizes of up to 20 children from Reception to Year 6, when girls leave after sitting 11+ exams and with boys sitting 13+ exams and remaining until Year 8.

A testament to the success of the School is the record number of boys currently in Years 7 and 8. The School is committed to 13+ for boys and believes in the benefits that these years contribute in preparing the boys for the next stage of their education.

Although non-selective at entry in Reception, Twickenham Prep ensures that each pupil reaches their full potential by focusing on the individual needs of each child as they progress through the School. Pupils' progress is monitored, evaluated and developed, resulting in high standards of achievement across the curriculum.

The destination schools for leavers are the leading independent day schools in the South West London area and on occasion boarding schools, with the School having a strong and consistent record of girls and boys gaining academic, sport, art, music and performing arts scholarships in recent years.

Twickenham Prep School is a registered charity (No. 1067572) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 3475951). Overall management of the School is the responsibility of the Board of Governors with day-to-day running of the School delegated to the Head. The School has maintained a consistently strong financial performance in recent years. Further details are available via the Companies House website.

The School currently has 70 staff (academic and support), a peripatetic music department of eight teachers, a dedicated supply bank of academic staff, various external companies providing co/extracurricular clubs and a team of external learning support professionals. The catering department is in-house and the cleaning is outsourced.





Pre-Prep

Twickenham Prep School is proud of its excellent Pre-Prep department. A wonderful, friendly and purposeful atmosphere pervades the modern, purpose-built learning environment. There are six classrooms (with two classes in each year) with each classroom enhanced by its own dedicated garden with access to a delightful nature trail. A well-stocked library completes this light, airy and spacious building, the features of which were referred to in the School's last inspection report in glowing terms.

The Pre-Prep is renowned for its safe and caring environment, vitally important in enabling children to feel happy, secure and enthusiastic to learn. Small classes of no more than 20 and well-qualified, highly-motivated and committed staff mean children are provided with a holistic education where academic, social, emotional, physical and spiritual learning are promoted within the curriculum. Each child is valued and supported, and positive learning experiences are promoted in a nurturing environment. Children are encouraged to develop their self-confidence and respect for others in an atmosphere where positive discipline is practised by all.

Reception classes (the EYFS) follow the Early Learning Goals. Children achieve these at their own pace through a series of stepping stones. Year 1 and Year 2 follow the National Curriculum subjects. All classes receive specialist lessons in the subject areas of ICT, Sport, Music, French, Strategic Thinking and Library on a weekly basis.



Prep

In Year 3, pupils progress to the charm of the old Beveree building where they can experience the delights of well-equipped subject rooms including a fully networked Computing room and a professionally designed and purpose-built Science laboratory. The Music and Art & Design facilities, built in 2012, provide an outstanding addition to the learning facilities. All subject rooms have been refurbished with new furniture and ICT facilities to represent the best of modern education practice in this delightfully historical building.

Prep staff are specialists in and enthusiastic about their subjects and their teaching. This means that Twickenham Prep pupils are encouraged to develop their self-confidence and respect for others in a positive working environment.

There are ten classes in the Prep School with two each in Years 3 to 6 and single classes of boys taking the Common Entrance syllabus in Years 7 and 8. The girls at Twickenham Prep leave to go to a range of leading senior schools at the end of Year 6 including Lady Eleanor Holles, Surbiton High School, Kingston Grammar, Tiffin Girls, St. George's College, Sir William Perkins's, Radnor House, St Catherine's Twickenham, Wimbledon High School and Notre Dame.

Pupils in Year 3 have their own class teacher with subjectspecialist teaching in Art, French, ICT, Library, Music, Sport and Strategic Thinking. From Year 4 pupils follow a secondary-style timetable, visiting specialist teachers for all subjects.

The School is particularly proud of its all-inclusive approach to sport, drama and music. All pupils take part in annual school productions and concerts.

The superb sports fields are nearby on a dedicated 10-acre site at Kempton Cricket Club. There is an emphasis on sport with at least two games afternoons each week and the opportunity for all pupils to represent the School in the major sports of football, rugby and cricket for boys and netball, hockey and cricket for girls. Regular fixtures are held for all teams from A to C, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to represent Twickenham Prep at some time during the season regardless of ability. Additional curriculum sports activities include athletics, swimming, pop lacrosse and PE.



Years 7 &8

In Years 7 and 8, boys benefit from being taught in small groups to ensure excellent academic development in a wide variety of subject areas. This ensures the continuation of success at 13+ with boys regularly gaining places to some of the most prestigious schools in the area including Hampton, KCS Wimbledon, St George's College, St. Paul's, Reed's, Halliford, Epsom College and St John's, Leatherhead. Recent boarding destinations include Eton and Charterhouse.

Pastoral care is an important element of the programme with mixed Year 7 and 8 tutor groups and many opportunities to develop leadership skills and take responsibility in a wide variety of areas and activities. The emphasis on sport continues during the senior years with additional opportunities to develop skills in activities such as tennis, basketball, squash and fitness training.

The Year 7 & 8 programme is carefully planned to ensure a balance between academic success and extra-curricular opportunities, including a Mandarin experience and a hands-on course developing business and team skills.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care lies at the very heart of the school's ethos and underpins everything Twickenham Prep does. The School provides a nurturing environment where the happiness of pupils is the top priority. All at Twickenham Prep believe that when children feel valued and supported, they can develop their talents and flourish both socially and academically.

This is a small school and a family atmosphere very much pervades. Teachers know the pupils very well and have strong, positive relationships with them. Communication between staff is excellent and information about pupil welfare is shared at weekly meetings, meaning any problems are identified very quickly and staff work together to resolve them. The staff are caring and take a genuine interest in the lives of those they teach. As a result, pupils feel that they are able to approach them and share concerns.



Charity and Community

The golden rule at Twickenham Prep is to “treat others as you would like them to treat you” and this is clearly demonstrated in the way pupils, staff and parents support charitable causes. Led by charity captains, termly charity days see pupils devising their own ways of raising money for worthy causes. Mufti days, other fun activities and Parents’ Committee events, are all designed to support a wide variety of worthy causes. In addition to regular support for local causes such as Shooting Star Children’s Hospices, SPEAR or last year Care Sri Lanka, the school also supports the Christmas shoe box appeal and raises money for Chance for Childhood and Songwe School in Malawi, Twickenham Prep’s partner school.

With many pupils attending from Hampton and the surrounding areas, Twickenham Prep is proud of the many links and partnerships fostered with the local community. These range from local nurseries and senior schools to Hampton and Richmond Borough FC, Hampton Swimming Pool, The Little Gym, St Mary’s Church and Richmond Chess Club as well as Kempton Cricket Club and the Lensbury Club to name a few.

The School has a close partnership with St. Mary’s Primary School in Hampton, with the aim to mutually benefit from the sharing of knowledge, experience and resources by working together.

Learning Support

The School has a long-established Learning Support department which is renowned for its superb and effective work throughout the age ranges. The Head of Learning Support works in both Pre-Prep and Prep departments and manages the support of teaching assistants. The School seeks to raise levels of achievement by providing support and guidance to pupils who experience difficulties in any aspect of their learning. Through appropriate support they aim to help build confidence and self-esteem, to remove barriers and enable pupils to realise their full potential.

The School uses a variety of teaching approaches, classroom support or small-group teaching and individual one-to-one sessions. New strategies and technology are a key part of best practice in creating an inclusive and dynamic learning experience. Pupils sometimes require booster sessions for difficulties relating to phonics, basic literacy or numeracy skills and handwriting, which are on offer through the extra-curricular programme. There are currently no pupils at the school with an Education, Health and Care Plan. The School also works closely with a team of external professionals with expertise in specific learning difficulties and special educational needs to ensure that the needs of individual pupils can be met.





Co-Curricular

The co-curricular offering is incredibly varied and inclusive. There are a wide variety of activities over the course of the academic year, with many after-school clubs that complement the curriculum such as art, book club, creative writing, dance, design technology, drama and model making.

Twickenham Prep offers a wide variety of sporting opportunities and pupils are encouraged to try new activities and extend their abilities. The School aims to include all pupils in competitive sports fixtures, and everyone will have competed for the School during their time as a pupil. The co-curricular sports clubs are offered as part of the wide-ranging school club programme which changes termly and includes athletics, cricket, cross-country, football, netball, running and tennis.

The School has built up a formidable reputation as a centre for excellence in thinking skills. Pupils are taught strategic thinking skills and emotional intelligence from Reception using ‘Think Tank’ – an innovative and exciting programme which runs as part of the curriculum each week. Pupils are taught by external fully-trained staff and skills learnt are further developed by additional extra-curricular activities including an annual Mind Sports week held at the school.

Twickenham Prep’s success in this area is well-documented not least because the School has won the National Mind Lab Olympics for the past eight years. This significant achievement has enabled

Twickenham Prep to compete in the International Mind Lab Olympics for the last eight years, representing the UK in the international event with the Twickenham Prep teams travelling to places such as Romania, Greece, Turkey, Austria and Hungary. The School is proud to have won an individual bronze, silver and gold in the International Olympics – being the only school from the UK to have won an individual gold medal.

Music plays a key role in the life of all at Twickenham Prep; individual music lessons on offer including percussion drums, vocal training, piano, flute and saxophone complement specialist class lessons from Reception right up to Year 8, and pupils are encouraged to attend musical clubs including Choir,



Band, and Guitar Group. Recently the Choir enjoyed performing at the Royal Albert Hall and the Band treated audiences to some rousing accompaniment at the annual Carol Service.

Drama develops children’s confidence and co-operation skills and every child throughout the School participates in school productions, musicals and class assemblies. In Pre-Prep, the annual nativity is a special occasion and in Years 4 and 6 Drama is taught as a separate curriculum subject, whilst being used to support curriculum areas such as English, History, Religious Studies or PSHE. Pupils also take part in public speaking competitions within House events and at external festivals to further develop their presenting and performing skills.

Trips and activity days support the curriculum but also offer the pupils chances to try new activities, develop new skills and take part in team-building days. From Year 4 pupils can go on residential activity trips: Year 4 and Year 5 pupils travel to a PGL centre, Year 6 pupils go to France and Year 7 and Year 8 boys take part in an outdoor adventure week in the UK and a biennial trip to the WWI Battlefields in Belgium.

Beyond the curriculum

The School’s well-earned reputation for being a centre of excellence in thinking skills is also evident in their success at a national level for many years in chess.

There are many opportunities to develop chess skills at the School with a variety of extra-curricular clubs being held every week and many pupils competing in individual and school tournaments. Twickenham Prep have been Independent Prep Schools National Chess Champions at both U13 and U11 on several occasions over recent years and have reached the English Primary Schools National Chess Finals on four occasions.

Pupils enjoy the exciting range of extra-curricular activities that are available to them such as fencing, karate, kayaking, sailing, coding, advanced coding and touch typing.

Further information on Twickenham Prep can be found at
www.twickenhamprep.org.uk



Benefits

The School offers an attractive range of benefits.

Current benefits are details below:

- Pension Scheme
- Life Assurance cover
- Income Protection cover
- Personal Accident Insurance
- School Fee Remission Scheme
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch
- Complimentary drinks and snacks
- Occupational Sick Pay Scheme
- Health Care Plan
- Employee Counselling and Advice Line
- Childcare Voucher Scheme
- Cycle to Work Scheme





Application Process

Current vacancies can be found on the School's website. For further information please visit:

<https://twickenhamprep.org.uk/vacancies/>

The TES website is used for all teaching positions and some support positions.

Applications are accepted directly from the TES website.

The School reserves the right to interview and appoint at any stage during the recruitment process.

TPS is committed to:

- Encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion within the School and eliminating unlawful discrimination. We aim to create an environment where staff and pupils can flourish and be supported to work at their best. We understand the value that diversity and inclusion can bring and we aim to be truly representative of all sections of society and the communities that we support.
- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

All prospective candidates should familiarise themselves with the following documents prior to making an application:

- TPS Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- TPS Recruitment & Selection Policy
- TPS Staff Privacy Notice





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