

# Guide for Years 3-8



Wycliffe





“A small prep with big ideas.”  
Good Schools Guide 2021



In essence, as leader of this school, I believe in childhood; that sense of fun, being outdoors and active as much as possible, getting messy, exploring and holding on to that wonderful sense of curiosity right into the early teenage years. Our Academic offering is strongly connected to our vision and offers a unique, challenging programme where our pupils are encouraged to question perspective and actively seek to learn. With small classes and committed teachers, Wycliffe gives highly personalised attention to the learning of each child.

In order to reach their academic and personal goals young people also need a strong emotional awareness and resilience which underpins their knowledge and understanding of themselves - this is supported through our exceptional pastoral care. Learning beyond the classroom we also believe, is core to a child's development. The extra-curricular, sport and arts provision at Wycliffe is wide-reaching and all-encompassing – with something for everyone.

My vision for the school is clear - strong academics, a range of opportunities to challenge and inspire all children and a personalised pastoral care system to support all in our community. I plan to continue the strong sense of the individual as a Global Citizen and the Pioneering Spirit which enables us to write our own story; hopefully a varied, adventurous, and satisfying one.

Helena Grant  
Head of Wycliffe Prep

Write your own story...



## Our Purpose

Inspire and educate every individual in mind, body and soul.

## Our Vision

Wycliffe will promote a pioneering spirit and encourage individuals to flourish and embrace their futures as global citizens.



## Aims for our pupils

**A**chieve their full academic, spiritual, physical and creative potential.

**B**ehave with ‘unassuming confidence’\*, showing generosity of spirit, respect for others and appreciation of diversity.

**C**ultivate social and environmental awareness and an understanding of their role as global citizens.

**D**evelop skills, self-knowledge and resilience to face positively all future challenges.

**E**xhibit creativity, innovation and independence in their approach to learning and to life.

**F**eel happy and secure.

## Embracing Global Citizenship

We prepare our young people to succeed and find their passions in an increasingly Globalised world. At Wycliffe we aim to do this by embracing the school vision of promoting a Pioneering Spirit and encouraging individuals to embrace their future as Global Citizens.

Cultural diversity is an important part of the Wycliffe experience and crucial to our pupils becoming true global citizens. A third of Senior and Prep School Pupils are International, which allows us to share and learn from each other’s cultures. At the same time, becoming a positive citizen of the world it is vital to understand our own environments and culture.

As a Round Square school Wycliffe is part of Round Square’s internationally diverse network of 200 like-minded schools in 50 countries on

six continents. These schools inspire pupils to become future leaders and custodians of our planet and importantly share a commitment, beyond academic excellence in terms of personal development, responsibility and understanding through service, challenge, and adventure.

We are developing a unique curriculum which includes facets of the six IDEALS or ‘pillars’ that make up the Round Square continuum (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service) and these align neatly with Wycliffe’s values. They have provided an opportunity to work in collaboration with schools across the world and every pupils will take part in a Round Square collaboration every year.

## Pioneering Spirit

The concept of Pioneering Spirit encompasses all that education is about– challenging yourself, working collaboratively, getting through really tough times and sometimes falling over, dusting yourself off and carrying on.

We promote a pioneering spirit by developing critical thinking, enhanced through opportunities in problem solving and considering perspectives, all the while shaping a love of learning.





## Encouraging a love for learning that inspires children to achieve

Children flourish in the happy, caring environment of Wycliffe Prep School. We celebrate diversity and, in our beautiful Cotswold grounds, children have the freedom to explore and be themselves. We nurture each and every child, whether they are gifted and talented or find school life more challenging.

The well-being of every pupil drives everything we do and our supportive community provides a stable, caring environment. We believe that if children are happy and without worry then they will achieve.

Pupils' progress is enriched through extensive and varied experiences outside the classroom. Residential trips, curriculum extensions and tailored programmes ensure that each boy and girl builds resilience, confidence, responsibility, respect and empathy.



“The gifted are stretched, those who need it are supported; all are nurtured and encouraged to fulfil individual potential.”

Good Schools Guide 2021



## Years 3 to 6

We nurture independence and establish educational foundations during these key years. We believe children need space to grow and be known as individuals. With our beautiful grounds and small class sizes (average of 18 per class), pupils thrive with the extensive individual attention they receive and the opportunity to explore their own interests and capabilities.

### Nurturing well rounded pupils with a broad curriculum

In Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 English and Maths are taught every day and are a key focus throughout the three years. Computing, Modern Foreign Languages, Humanities, Science, Music, Art and Drama are taught weekly, and Games or PE is timetabled every day, except for Thursday when a separate activities programme takes place.

In year 6, Saturday morning school is introduced that will continue throughout years 7 and 8. Designed to to enrich the curriculum, Saturday mornings are thematic sessions that we use to develop some of the critical skills pupils will need in later life.

### Sports for all abilities

Sport is inclusive and children are encouraged to try new things, where their willingness to have a go is celebrated. The main Sports are Hockey, Netball and Cricket for girls, and Rugby, Football and Cricket for boys. Pupils also enjoy Swimming in our on-site pool, Athletics, Tennis, Squash and Cross-Country.







## Years 7 and 8

Pupils in our Years 7 and 8, experience a rewarding two years as they increase in self-confidence, develop their intellectual maturity, cultivate leadership skills, and take greater responsibility for their learning. We encourage their interests, try new activities, develop their own sense of self and become more resilient.

### Safe, purpose-built environment

Etheridge Hall is a modern purpose-built teaching and learning block for Years 7 and 8. Classes of less than 20 ensure pupils have a highly personal learning experience and are working at the best of their ability. Our broad and unique curriculum known as the Encompass Programme is taught by specialist teachers in outstanding facilities. They learn three languages French, German and Spanish as standard, to ensure they can confidently choose their language option in the future.

Saturday school runs from 8.30am to 12.15pm and involves an invaluable enrichment programme with themed blocks of learning to develop some of the key skills that pupils need in later life. These include; debating, how to research, working together as a team to problem solve, and examining some of life's great questions.

### Embracing Leadership responsibilities

During the last two years at Prep school pupils have the opportunity to take on roles of responsibility such as Sports Team Captaincy, Prefects or Heads of School. Year 8s are expected to accompany visitors on school tours and make conversation with them, this combined with being role models for their younger peers

encourages maturity and independence.

### Making the move to Senior School

Wycliffe Senior School teachers work alongside their Prep counterparts to ensure that the transition from Year 8 to Year 9 is smooth as pupils learn a curriculum that seamlessly runs into Year 9. We find that the nurturing Prep environment and smaller class sizes builds children's confidence, so that when they join the Senior School in Year 9, they are self-assured and ready for the move.

### Embracing interests and developing a true sense of self

Years 7 and 8 offers the chance for children to grow up more gently and become an adolescent in a safe and trusted environment without being involved in the social and academic world of young adults and the pressures of exams. Through our Value Added educational programme in drama, music, art and activity clubs pupils are able to explore their interest and develop new passions. They have the opportunity to take leading roles in plays, choirs, teams, clubs and sporting activities if they desire. It is about discovering what makes them happy and their heart sing.

“Pupils demonstrate high levels of self-confidence as a result of individual support from staff who know them very well.”

ISI report, November 2022



# Boarding

## Being part of the Wycliffe family

Boarding has always been a big part of life at Wycliffe Prep, and pupils genuinely feel that it is their second home. Approximately 65 Boarders from Year 3 to Year 8 live in two Boarding Houses; Pennwood is home to 35 boys, and Windrush accommodates 30 girls. Most of the Boarders are from HM Forces' families with about 15 from other countries such as Russia, Spain, China and Italy.

The majority of Boarders stay at the weekends and they can stay over Exeat Weekends for no extra charge.

Flexi-boarding and occasional Boarding is very popular with our Day pupils. It can be invaluable for working parents and if pupils have late activities at the College. Every week additional Day pupils join the Boarders, be it for one night or four.

The Boarders make the most of the College's extensive Sport facilities on their doorstep, enjoying Games on the all-weather pitch, Tennis Courts or going Swimming. Prep (homework) is at set times in the evening so school work is always up to date.

Weekends are also busy with activities organised by the Housemistress and Housemaster, in consultation with the boys and girls. Bowling, football, pizza and movie nights are all popular. Important childhood events such as birthdays and the tooth fairy are all celebrated!

Children are allowed mobile phones in the Houses (we have house-wide WiFi) and they can video-call, text or call. You may also contact the Housemaster or Housemistress by phone or email.

“ Crossing the footbridge at the end of the day is like ‘going home.’ ”

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## The bustling life beyond the curriculum

There's no time to be bored at Wycliffe – extra-curricular life is as diverse and stimulating as our academic provision. Pupils are encouraged to try new activities, to push themselves out

of their comfort zones and to develop existing talents. Most importantly they are encouraged to have fun, make friends and expand their horizons.

On Thursday afternoons Years 3 to 8 go off timetable and choose an activity to take part in – from mindfulness to eco-warriors; from dance to chess, among many others.

Musicians can have weekly individual Music lessons in a wide variety of instruments and enjoy

making music together in the Prep Symphony. The choirs and different music groups regularly perform to audiences at end of term concerts.

Drama is a key strength and the Studio Theatre is a bespoke performance centre where pupils learn skills on and off stage. There are annual productions for all pupils in Years 4, 6, 7 and 8.

Besides the Sport and Games that form part of the curriculum, pupils have an active fixtures list all year round in which all children take part. Wycliffe is inclusive and every child has a chance to play regardless of ability, and participation is celebrated.

“ Throughout the school, pupils benefit from a broad range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences that enable them to acquire a wide variety of knowledge and skills.”

ISI report, November 2022





## Pastoral care

### Our supportive community

There is no doubt that our Pastoral Care is exceptional. Each pupil is able to talk to a variety of staff for support – their Class Tutor, Head of Year, Matron, Head of House, the Deputy Head Pastoral and the Chaplain. Nearly all worries are managed – and solved – by the team.

For wrap-around care, children are able to arrive at 8.00am for Breakfast Club and may stay until 6.00pm. At the end of the day they join in with

Homework Club and after-school activities such as Choir or Tennis.

Supper is available at 5.30pm and Day pupils are welcome to join the Boarders and, if they need to, children may stay for an hour or later (by prior arrangement) in the Boarding House.





# Joining Wycliffe

Our Admissions process is simple, whilst still being robust, thorough and fair. We work on the basis that each application is highly individual and therefore we treat each one as such. We can take applications at any point in the academic year – there is no formal deadline to submit an application.

## Five Steps to Joining Wycliffe

- 1.** Come and see Wycliffe – at an Open Morning or book a tour, either in person or virtually . You can have a one to one meeting with the with the Head or a member of the Senior Management Team.
- 2.** Complete and send the Registration Form.
- 3.** Send copies of your two most recent school reports (for those who require additional support, please send your most recent Educational Psychologist’s Report).
- 4.** Come and visit us for a Taster Day. Then sit the Online CAT assessment (under invigilation).
- 5.** Wycliffe inform you of the decision regarding an Offer of Place.

To apply to join Wycliffe, please contact:

Mike McDonnell, Prep Admissions Manager [Mike.McDonnell@wycliffe.co.uk](mailto:Mike.McDonnell@wycliffe.co.uk)  
01453 820471 or 07857 614284





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