



Hurst

Junior Prep School

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a red sweater over a white shirt and tie, is blowing a large red horn. The horn is positioned vertically, and the boy is looking upwards and to the left. The background is a dark, solid color.

Hello + Welcome

Every pupil experiences a genuine all-round education that prepares them for life.





Welcome from the Head of College

I do hope that this brief introduction gives you a flavour of our stunning campus, nestled at the foot of the Downs and benefitting from some of the finest sporting and creative facilities of any school in the country. More importantly, I hope that it will also offer you an insight into what I describe as 'the way we do things' here at Hurst: the culture of personal bests, strong values and a commitment to making the most of every opportunity on offer.

Many other schools make equally strong claims about the quality of their pastoral care and their academic provision, and talk just as passionately about the importance of a rounded education. The difference at Hurst is that this isn't just what we say we do; it is what we really commit to delivering. Not just for *some* pupils, but for *every* child. At Hurst, we aim to ensure that

every single pupil experiences an outstanding all-round education that prepares them for life.

Our results at GCSE and A-level place us amongst the top echelon of independent schools, but what sets Hurst apart is our Value Added data. This proves that Hurst pupils achieve better academic results with us than they would at almost any other school in the country. It is for this reason that ISI (the Independent Schools Inspectorate) awarded us the rare accolade of a Significant Strength for the outstanding quality of our academic provision. But this academic success does not come at the cost of a genuinely rounded education, because at Hurst we encourage pupils to immerse themselves in an exceptional programme of sporting, creative, intellectual and social activities alongside their academic studies.

As impressive as our pupils' achievements are, what really struck me about Hurst when I started here was the sense of community. Almost a decade later, it is that vibrant dynamic and that warm feeling which make me so proud to welcome you to our College.

No school prospectus can ever do justice to the sheer breadth and depth of opportunities on offer at Hurst, nor can it replicate the happiness of our pupils as they bustle around the campus. So, I do hope that once you have leafed through this prospectus you will book in to see us in person, as nothing can quite match the experience of feeling it for yourself. I look forward to meeting you and your family, and hope that you will see these pages reflected in reality.

Dominic Mott
Head of College



Welcome from the Head of Junior Prep

In the Junior Prep School, children are at the centre of everything we do at Hurst. Childhood is a precious time, and we have a responsibility to make our pupils' time at school as special as possible. We aim to nurture every pupil so that they flourish, making the most of every opportunity to learn and grow.

Hurst is a happy, vibrant, and welcoming community with an ethos embodied by our core mantra of 'Work Hard, Do Good, and Engage'. We are ambitious for every pupil to achieve their full potential. We foster a love of learning beyond the classroom, always encouraging children to explore and discover the world around them.

As a through school, we ensure that every single pupil engages with the outstanding breadth of opportunities available to them at the College. The majority of our pupils will seamlessly transition into the Senior Prep and later Senior School, where they will further benefit from the specialist staff and outstanding facilities that make Hurst so unique. We hope that each of our pupils will discover a passion that stays with them for the rest of their lives.

I do hope that you will come along to visit our Junior Prep School, to see for yourself how much we can offer your child. I would be delighted to meet you, show you the school, and answer any questions you may have.

Nick Oakden
Head of Junior Prep School





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The Hurst Culture

A Hurst education extends far beyond the classroom. As part of a vibrant, dynamic community, pupils acquire an awareness of right and wrong, a sense of duty, and a respect for others.

The College exists for the benefit of its pupils and provides them with extraordinary opportunities to develop life-long talents, skills, and friendships. Every single pupil commits to the way we do things, embracing our key mantra of 'Work Hard, Do Good, and Engage'.

Throughout the Junior Prep, pupils' academic and cultural education is consistently supported by a well-rounded PSCHÉ programme, through

which pupils learn how to value themselves, each other, and the wider world in which they belong. As they transition from Reception to Year 6, pupils gain the confidence and skills to thrive and excel, making the most of every opportunity available to them.

As they transition through the College, pupils develop ambition and a clear sense of purpose. They leave Hurst as mature, independent individuals.



“My children are so happy at Hurst, I cannot imagine them going anywhere else. The breadth of lessons, the amount of physical activity and the fact they never want to leave at the end of the day speaks volumes.”

Current parent



Academic Provision

Hurst provides a stimulating and engaging academic environment. Pupils are stretched and challenged, they acquire the skills to work independently, and develop a love of learning that extends well beyond the classroom.

Excellence at Hurst is defined by the progress and success of *all* pupils. Throughout the College, pupils strive towards achieving their personal bests, both inside the classroom and out.

In line with Early Years best practice, Reception pupils learn primarily through play; hands-on classroom activities foster their curiosity, problem-solving, and higher order thinking skills. As they move through the Junior Prep, pupils are guided by staff as they 'learn to learn', and form tutors are there to ensure a strong academic and pastoral overview for every child.

In Years 5 and 6, pupils move around the College with greater independence, benefiting from subject specialists for all of their lessons. Many Junior Prep staff teach within the Senior School, making them well-placed to prepare pupils for any future academic challenges they may face.

As a genuine through school, a Hurst education encourages pupils to develop an intrinsic motivation to fulfil their potential and a much deeper understanding of the world in which they live.

“The tailored approach to teaching promotes independence and helps pupils to make good academic progress.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate





“Education at Hurst is deliberately outward-looking. The range of activities provides many opportunities for our students to try new ventures, confront risks and learn from the experience.”

Lloyd Dannatt, Deputy Head of College



“The Curriculum is challenging and well-matched to pupils' needs and interests. This is a significant strength of the school.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate



Co-Curricular Beyond the classroom

Whether it be part of our thriving Sports, Music, Drama, Dance, or Outdoor Education departments, every pupil is encouraged to engage with all of the co-curricular opportunities available to them.

Trying new activities brings pupils a sense of achievement, fun, and wellbeing. Hurst provides pupils with unique experiences across the board, from ballet, ninjitsu, and equestrian to Woodland School, reading clubs, and music ensembles. All pupils benefit from the College's outstanding facilities, including the recently built Performing Arts Centre, Music School, Dance Studio, AstroTurfs, playing fields, and indoor pool.

Excellence at Hurst is not just defined by the success of elite pupils. Our inclusive calendar of fixtures, trips, and events ensures that all pupils enjoy the challenge of representing the College in a whole range of pursuits; no-one is left on the bench. Pupils develop confidence and leadership skills, whilst strengthening their resilience in line with our mantra: keep on keeping on.

“It really is a fantastic community. A strong culture, and out of this, children support each other.”

Current parent







“A parent told us this is not a school for those who want to fly under the radar and just get to the end of their school days: ‘the thing you do at this school is engage – it can be anything, there are endless opportunities.’”

The Good Schools Guide











“My children are doing well academically and get involved with all sorts of activities – but above all they are happy – and that is the most important thing.”

Current parent

Community and Pastoral Support

Hurst provides a safe and homely setting where everyone is welcomed, respected, and valued for who they are. Caring and committed staff champion the physical health, mental wellbeing, and overall happiness of all pupils, and support is always available to those who need it.

Hurst has a genuine family feel. Pupils are allocated to one of four houses, where different year groups look after each other within an environment that fosters healthy competition and collaboration. Whether during inter-house competitions or charity fundraising events, Junior Prep pupils develop a character and moral values that prepare them well for life in the Senior Prep.

In Year 6, pupils can apply to be a School Guardian and House Captain, thereby taking on leadership roles to support their younger peers. Guardians work across year groups to foster a

welcoming playground space, and support the College's wider mission - in conjunction with the joint student and staff Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) group - to be an openly inclusive school.

Beyond the College, through fundraising and work with the Hurst Education Trust, pupils are taught to understand the value of helping their local and global communities. On campus, namely on the College farm, pupils learn how to care for the natural world and discuss how best to tackle environmental issues.



“Leaders have strengthened the school’s promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion, which has enhanced the school’s inclusive environment.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate



“Hurst pupils are all strongly supportive of each other, whatever the activity, a characteristic for which the College is renowned.”

Current parent





“Pupils feel safe
and secure at school.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate

By the time they leave Hurst, they are prepared.

For Life.

Arrange a Personal Visit

We look forward to welcoming prospective pupils and parents to Hurst to experience our vibrant community.

Contact Admissions by

Email

prepadmissions@hppc.co.uk

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01273 836927

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hppc.co.uk



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