

Tennis Ethos

At Millfield Prep our aim is to produce healthy, capable and resilient young athletes with a robust set of technical skills for Tennis, whilst providing opportunities for all levels of Tennis participation and success.

Tennis is a technically challenging, but very rewarding sport, which develops fitness, coordination, athleticism and numerous mental skills. It is also a very enjoyable 'game for life'.

Who can play?

We often have players competing at National level, but at the same

time our inclusive programme allows us to offer players of all levels and abilities the opportunity to play and enjoy tennis.

Over 150 pupils are involved in the Tennis programme and have the opportunity to access at least 3 sessions per week (free of charge) irrespective of their age or ability.

Anyone can book individual or shared lessons with one of our five LTA Accredited Plus Tennis coaches, in order to develop their technical skills and we provide lots of competitive opportunities, running internal and external tournaments in the autumn term, entering national schools and national club competitions (including the Road to Wimbledon competition), alongside a very busy fixture list in the summer term.



Highlights

- Millfield Prep hosted the IAPS National School Tennis Tournament for 4 years.
- In 2018 our U13A Mixed Team were IAPS National champions beating our U13B Team in the final.
- We currently have over 12 players attending County training, one in Regional training and two on the LTA National Player Pathway (who regularly compete nationally and in U14 Tennis Europe events).
- Both our boys' and girls' teams have qualified for the Regional stages of the Year 7 & 8 National Schools competition, making them among the top 16 schools in the country.
- In 2018, our boys came 2nd, and in 2019 they came 3rd, in the Year 7 & 8 National Schools finals in Bolton.
- We enter the LTA National Club Leagues in all age groups each year and our teams qualify for Premier Division.
- We also enter the LTA Road to Wimbledon competition each year and several of our players have reached the National finals at Wimbledon.
- We run training camps in Portugal (at the 5 Star Vale do Lobo Resort) and in Devon (at Ashbury Manor).

Tennis expertise

The coaching team is led by the Director of Tennis, Sarah Thomas (MEd) a former international, Level 5 Master Performance Coach and LTA Tutor.

Coaches:

Julie Sinkins (BSc) - LTA Accredited Plus Level 5 Master Performance Coach, Welsh International and Somerset County coach.

Matt Elston - LTA Accredited Plus Level 4 and Avon County coach.

Chris Chapman - LTA Accredited Plus Level 4 and Wiltshire County player.

Micheal Aust - LTA Accredited Plus Level 3 Tennis Intern from Bath University.



Current facilities

Our Tennis facilities include seven hard courts (three with floodlights) and one indoor bubble. In addition, we have 12 AstroTurf courts during the summer months and our top players access the three Millfield indoor courts for their training.

The short-term plan is to floodlight the triple courts and the long-term aim is to have a four court indoor tennis centre.



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