



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

**PARENT
HANDBOOK
2025-26**





Foreword

Millfield Prep School is an extraordinary place and provides children with exceptional, unparalleled opportunities. Whatever their passions, pupils can find something to fully immerse themselves in. Not only is every child seen and known as an individual, but Millfield also firmly believes that every child is brilliant – and it is our mission to help them discover their brilliance and then nurture it to the full. Outstanding pastoral care is at the core of everything. Kindness and consideration of others is central to all that we are and all that we do. Happy children thrive and succeed, and Millfield is full of success stories!

Mr Dan Thornburn
Head





Mr Ben Hilton, Deputy Head (Pastoral)

We believe that for a child to be successful in and out of the classroom, they need to feel happy and secure in their environment.

We put pastoral care at the very heart of our school with an approach that includes all staff. Each week, key personnel including the Deputy Heads, Houseparents and Medical Centre Staff, hold a meeting with one agenda: the children and their wellbeing. Anything that impacts on a particular child's wellbeing will be communicated to all staff



Mrs Amy Newman, Deputy Head (Academic)

I am delighted to welcome you to the Millfield Prep academic programme where, through the breadth and depth we offer in our curriculum coupled with our small class sizes, we will help your child discover their academic potential.

The beauty of our system is that, regardless of ability, we are able to create a positive learning environment so that all children are stretched and nurtured at the same time. Pupils are encouraged to develop lively and enquiring minds with the ability to argue rationally and apply themselves to the

Pastoral

who have contact with that child, so they can offer support, if needed.

The welfare and happiness of our children is vital to running such a busy and successful day and boarding school. Healthy eating is an important part of this. Our catering department works hard to provide delicious, nutritious food for growing and active bodies and minds.

If any child feels unwell, or is in need of any additional services, we have an on-site Medical Centre, staffed by three nurses, with access to a doctor, school counsellor, physiotherapist etc. We pride ourselves in listening to all our children and making sure they feel that Millfield Prep is 'their school'. Ultimately, we feel this makes a happy and positive community in which children can thrive.

Academic

task. We take an innovative approach to learning whilst maintaining traditional values so that learning spellings and tables are still just as important as accepting how technology shaping future learning. The Junior Department follow an enhancement of the National Curriculum using the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). Years 7 and 8 follow what we term the Brilliance Curriculum that links into Nine@Millfield or onto other senior schools, should the need arise.

Group tutors, subject departments and senior staff meet on a regular basis to discuss the school curriculum and individual pupil progress and any issues are communicated to parents as soon as possible. Parents are invited to attend the annual parent-teacher meetings but can also request additional meetings should the need arise. We are a school who believe in openness of communication which is a three way process with you, your child and us so that learning is enjoyable and progress tangible.

Full details on the curriculum can be found on the school website in the Parent Area. For any other information please do get in touch.



Mr Carl Bingham, Director of Boarding

Life as a boarder at Millfield Prep is about being part of a real community or an extended family, where each member has responsibilities and duties. There is also a dedicated group of staff who are there to support your child at all times. We believe that the pupils and staff work together to create a positive, happy community in which everyone feels comfortable and has an important part to play. If you speak to parents of current or former pupils (if you ask we will put you in touch with someone), they will all talk about the family atmosphere as one of the

Boarding

reasons why their child was so successful.

Boarding is a great way for children to develop their social skills and interact with people from different countries and cultures. Pupils say that the best thing about boarding is spending time with their friends and many make friends for life as they continue through Millfield Senior School and beyond. They also love being able to enjoy the many evening and weekend events planned for them.

Boarding is also ideal to make the most of all the opportunities on offer at school, particularly the extra-curricular clubs and training that take place early morning and after school, such as squad swimming, tennis and golf, riding and music practice.

All the houses are on campus and have their own unique character and superb facilities, bright common rooms, kitchens, games areas, plenty of outside space and WiFi. The pupils are justifiably proud of their houses. I encourage you to pay us a visit – whether your child wants to board full time, or just wants to stay the occasional night!

Day Pupils

Being a day pupil in a boarding school brings many benefits and the pupils who make the most of every opportunity available to them are the happiest most successful.

Be prepared for your child to take advantage of the long days with the extensive games, clubs and activities programmes. Weekends are packed not just with Saturday morning classes but school matches, tournaments and rehearsals.

Academics, sport, music, art and drama can all be combined in one place in a balanced programme designed to bring the best out of your child. Group Tutors are on hand to guide the children throughout the week and liaise closely with all the departments and yourselves to ensure that your child is stretched but can cope.

In order for them to fit everything in and balance it with your own busy lives there are boarding options which can avoid you having to rouse the whole household to make an early morning training session.



These can be taken on a regular basis or when the need arises.

We encourage all the pupils to build friendships, day or boarder. Day pupils are welcomed into boarding houses and boarders love the chance to visit their day friends. We hope that pupils here will develop lifelong friendships whether it is with someone round the corner or the other side of the globe.

Key Staff



Mr Dan Close
Deputy Head (Operations)



Mr Jo Morgan-Hughes
Director of Sport



Mrs Elly Sturges
Director of Music



Mr David Guthrie
Head of Year 8



**Miss Adrienne
McConnell**
Head of Year 7



Mr Ben Dyke
Head of Juniors



Now that you are part of the Millfield Prep community it is vital that we have open lines of communication between us, yourselves and your child. Group Tutors and Houseparents will be contacting you in the holiday to start this process. They will remain key points of contact throughout your time with the school.

We also value face to face meetings and there are formal and informal opportunities for this to happen. As a parent you will be given access to the parent portal where you can find all the key information including timetables, letters and policy documents. The school calendar, published every term, includes

Communication to Parents

vital information with useful mini guides, staff lists, contact details and numbers. Sport and activities can be followed using Fixtures Pro so you can check on team news, results and club updates. The weekly Newsletter is a comprehensive round up of everything that has been going on in the school and what to expect over the following few days. Our text messaging service will also alert you to vital last minute changes, cancelled fixtures, late returns etc. The school's Facebook pages and accounts will also help you keep track of what is going on in the school. You will receive regular updates on your child's progress with half-termly grade sheets and end of term reports. All of these are published to the parent portal.

Parents, family and friends are always welcome to matches and school events. We consider ourselves to be an open and friendly school so if you anything on your mind pick up the phone, send an email or come into school, we are here to help.

Key Policies

School Policies

At Millfield Prep we have a comprehensive range of policies that cover all facets of school life. Many of these are readily available by:

- a) clicking this link to [Key School Policies](#).
- b) going to the school website: millfieldschool.com > **Prep** > **About Us** > **School Policies**, or
- c) by making a direct request to the school office by emailing prepoffice@millfieldschool.com (available 52 weeks) and an electronic version can be sent to you.

Hard copies are also available on request if you prefer and there is no charge for this service. You will also be given access to the Secure Parent Portal which also has additional policies for your information.

Other useful information including up-to-date inspection reports can be found at: millfieldschool.com > **Prep** > **About Us** and the School Policies page.

Website Policies (open access)

Admissions Policy

Additional Educational Needs Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Attendance Policy

Behaviour Policy

Boarding Mission Statement

Boarding Principles and Practice

Cancellation Notice and Form

Caring for Sick Pupils in Boarding Houses

Children Missing From Education (CME)

Complaints Procedure

Credit Control Policy

Curriculum Policy

Data Protection Policy

Drugs Offences Policy

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

Expulsion, Removal and Review Policy

Fire Risk Prevention Policy

Fire Safety Policy

First Aid Policy

Health and Safety Policy

ICT Acceptable Usage Policy

MRBS Implementation Statement

Modern Slavery Statement

Old Millfieldian Society Privacy Notice

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE) Policy

Privacy Notice

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Risk Assessment Policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Safer Recruitment Policy

Scholarship and Bursaries Policy

Supervision Policy

Taking, Storing and Using Images of Children Policy

Terms and Conditions

Whistleblowing Policy

Additional Policies on the Secure Parent Portal

We also have additional policies on the parent portal that can be found once you have logged in. Policies include:

Prep CELS (PSHEE) Curriculum Overview 2025-2026

Communication with Parents 2025-2026

YEAR	AUTUMN TERM		SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
	1ST HALF TERM	2ND HALF TERM		
3	↑ Junior Department	←	← Parent/Teacher meeting	Moving on to Year 4 talk
	Parent/GT informal meeting Core Skills and Attainment Grades	Full reports with Core Skills and Attainment Grades	Participation and Attainment Grades with comments from the Group Tutor	Moving on to Year 5 talk Full reports with Participation and Attainment Grades
4	with comments from the Group Tutor (GT) ↓	→	→	Moving on to Year 6 Talk Core Skills Grades
5	Year 6 and 7 Parent/GT informal meeting Core Skills and	←	← Parent/Teacher Meeting	Moving on to Year 7 Talk
	Attainment Grades with comments from the Group Tutor	Full reports with Core Skills and Attainment Grades	Participation and Attainment Grades with comments from the Group Tutor	Full Reports with Core Skills and Attainment Grades Assessment Results
6	Attainment Grades with comments from the Group Tutor	Full reports with Core Skills and Attainment Grades	Participation and Attainment Grades with comments from the Group Tutor	Moving on to Year 8 Talk Full Reports with Core Skills and Attainment Grades Assessment Results
7				



MILLFIELD PREP SCHOOL

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