



IPSWICH
HIGH
SCHOOL

WOOLVERSTONE HALL
ESTD 1878

Prep School





The IHS Difference

Focusing On The Individual

Located within our beautiful 87 acre campus, our Prep School is a remarkable place for your child to start their educational journey. With kindness at the heart of our ethos, our small classes of enthusiastic pupils and inspirational teachers result in a love of learning, happy pupils and outstanding academic progress.

It is our incredibly welcoming and friendly community that sets us apart. We inspire our pupils to achieve more than they previously thought possible. We do this by providing them with the widest possible range of experiences both inside and outside of the classroom, to broaden their minds and create new opportunities for every pupil to thrive.

As well as an exciting curriculum and specialist teaching from Reception to Year 6, our pupils have a full and exhilarating programme of daily enrichment activities, taking their learning beyond the classroom.

This introductory guide highlights the key features of our Prep School and we look forward to welcoming you for a personal tour and further discussion about how our school can help your son or daughter flourish.

Small Class Sizes

Specialist Teaching in French or Spanish, PE, Dance & Music

Daily Enrichment Programme With 60+ Activities Available

Weekly Swimming Lessons On-Site

Additional Specialist Teaching in Year 6 in Art, DT and Food Studies

Unrivalled 87 Acre Campus With First Class Facilities

Our Vision

At Ipswich High School, we understand that the world today requires young people to be so much more than simply good at passing exams.

As a school, our vision is to prepare our pupils to thrive in the 21st Century by using their talents to improve the lives of others and through doing so, make their own unique mark on the world.

In the Prep School this is achieved by:

- Placing a strong and continued value on the importance of kindness and compassion for others.
- Developing individual academic excellence at every level and focussing on fostering a love of learning and perseverance.
- Enabling pupils to meaningfully connect with individuals and communities locally, nationally and internationally.
- Providing extensive opportunities for our pupils to become confident leaders, as well as serving others.
- Developing resilience, the self-confidence to stretch themselves and encouraging acceptance of challenge.
- Regularly celebrating the individual and collective achievements and efforts of our pupils.
- Being ambitious in all that we do and not setting limits on what our pupils think they can achieve.
- Encouraging pupils to be curious and to seek out new knowledge and experiences.

If you are reading this brochure then you are already on the journey to making the very best choice for your child's future. By the time your child leaves the Prep School, they will be:

Inspired – To have discovered and become the best version of themselves, to have a true love of learning, and to have experiences of contributing positively to our local and wider communities.

Happy – With who they are now and feeling well-equipped for Senior School and the world they are growing into.

Successful – Having achieved outcomes, and enjoyed experiences, that are beyond what you and they previously thought were possible.





WOOLVERSTONE HALL NURSERY
A RURAL ADVENTURE AWAITS
at Ipswich High School

A Rural Adventure Awaits

Woolverstone Hall Nursery welcomes children from their third birthday. Our school setting is friendly, nurturing and ensures each individual child feels happy, safe, and keen to learn.

The nursery and play grounds provide opportunities for every child to grow and develop, while our incredible 87-acre location allows us to incorporate both Forest and Beach School into our nursery curriculum.

The individually designed outdoor classrooms are a fundamental part of our nursery offer. Pupils develop physical, imaginative, and social skills within the natural setting and are supported by a qualified teacher and Early Years practitioners to appreciate, enjoy and learn from the world around them.



The Curriculum Includes:

- Following a phonics programme, as well as lessons in reading, writing and numeracy.
- Weekly specialist teaching in French or Spanish, PE, Music and Dance.
- Weekly swimming lessons in our 25m indoor heated pool with specialist swimming teachers.
- Weekly Forest School and opportunities to complete Beach School activities during the year.
- Access to an 87-acre school campus, including first-class facilities.



Our Education:

- Experienced and highly skilled qualified teacher, supported by dedicated Early Years practitioners.
- Weekly visits to the Prep School library to choose a book to take home to support early reading development and foster a life-long love of books and reading.
- Termly educational visits to support the EYFS curriculum.
- Outdoor learning environment, with all-weather canopy, garden and two play areas.



Our Additional Benefits:

- Pupils from our Nursery generally enter our Reception class working above age expectation in writing, maths, phonics and other areas of the EYFS curriculum.
- Delicious, on-site home-cooked lunch.
- Opportunity to participate in the Prep School annual nativity.
- Older pupils within the Prep School and Senior School spend time with our younger pupils to play and mentor them as they enter our school community.
- Part of the whole Prep School community by attending assemblies, Sports Day, Harvest and Christmas services.

An Outstanding Education

In the Prep School we give our pupils the best possible foundation for the future, to help them fulfil their potential and develop confidence in themselves and their abilities.

From Nursery through to Year 6, our pupils enjoy a broad and inspiring curriculum, including specialist teaching in Music, French or Spanish, PE and Dance.

Pupils are taught by our dedicated, highly experienced qualified teachers, and our small class sizes ensure that each child is known as an individual and receives one-to-one support or further stretch and challenge on a daily basis.

In Year 6, pupils also receive additional specialist teaching in DT, Art and Food Technology. These lessons, as well as several others, are taught by our dedicated Senior School teachers, who continue to educate the pupils once they move into Year 7. Year 6 pupils are guaranteed a place in our Senior School, so this focus on building relationships between teacher and pupil ensures that every pupil is confident and happy when they progress into the Senior School.

Our location and surroundings make an unrivalled learning environment. Not only does the Prep School house fantastic facilities, but the pupils benefit from lessons in the Senior School Science laboratories, Art school, Dance studio and DT suite.

At Ipswich High School, we are always striving to make sure that our pupils have the very best opportunities and are rewarded for their achievements. We also provide them with the time to pause, reflect, re-evaluate and have fun, to build their own opinions and to develop an inquisitive love for learning.



The IHS Difference

- All pupils receive a broad education, including specialist teaching from Nursery to Year 6.
- Small class sizes ensure each child receives daily one-to-one support.
- Year 6 pupils benefit from additional specialist teaching in Art, DT & Food Technology.
- A number of Year 6 subjects are taught by our Senior School teachers to encourage a seamless transition into the Senior School.
- Unrivalled learning environment, including use of select Senior School facilities.

Forest & Beach School

Pupils from Nursery through to Year 6 take part in our Forest School sessions. For those pupils in Nursery to Year 1, there is also the opportunity to enjoy Beach School.

The woodland in our grounds offer unique teaching and learning experiences in an ever-changing environment. We believe that this captures our pupils' curiosity, stimulates their senses, builds their self-confidence and nurtures their wellbeing.

Outdoor learning, ultimately, is fun and children who are happy and interested will learn quickly and be motivated to further their education.

Problem solving, independence, enquiry and perseverance skills are all promoted in our Forest School and Beach School sessions and we believe in encouraging and inspiring pupils to develop their personal, social and emotional skills by taking part in achievable, yet challenging, tasks and activities.

The Aims Of Our Forest & Beach School:

- To develop social and team working skills, as well as confidence, self-esteem and a positive outlook to outdoor learning.
- To provide opportunities for individuals to explore, investigate, learn and have fun.
- To provide a safe and non-threatening environment in which children can take risks, make choices and initiate their own learning.
- To help children respect, appreciate, utilise and care for their natural environment.
- To enable children to be independent, self-motivated and considerate to one another.



Beyond The Classroom

We are just as ambitious outside of the classroom and pride ourselves on the vast breadth of our unrivalled Enrichment Programme.

Enrichment is an integral part of each pupil's education and experience here at Ipswich High School, with pupils enjoying up to nine sessions every week as part of the school day.

Each term there are over 60 clubs and activities for our pupils to choose from. Whatever a pupil's interests, our Enrichment Programme is designed to develop these passions, as well as encouraging them to try something new in a supportive and positive environment.

"There is so much variety! This year I have done Football Club, Swim Squad, Hockey and Basketball. Without a doubt Swim Squad is my favourite! I've learnt lots of new skills, for example I can now tumble turn and I now know how to dive properly. Hockey Club has taught me how to be a better team player."

Elias, Year 6 Pupil



Students can choose from a variety of exciting physical, creative, cultural, and recreational pursuits, including:

- Drama Club
- Prep Orchestra
- Prep Choir
- Prep Dance Performance Team
- Dance-Versity
- Glitter Club
- Boulderling*
- Philosophy Club
- Cookery Club
- Chess
- Coding Club
- Lego Construction
- Swimming
- Engineering Club
- Tennis
- Triathlon Club
- Athletics
- Gymnastics
- Football
- Rugby
- Netball
- Hockey
- Cricket
- Horse Riding*
- Sailing*
- Skiing*
- Golf*

Swimming Lessons

We believe that learning to swim, and understanding water safety, are important life skills for children to learn. Therefore, at our Prep School all pupils from Nursery to Year 6 enjoy weekly swimming lessons that take place as part of the school curriculum.

Our on-site 25m heated indoor swimming pool provides the ideal location for these lessons, which are taught by our two experienced, qualified swimming coaches.

Swim Squad

Pupils that show an aptitude for swimming will be invited to join the Swim Squad. This enrichment is by invitation only and will teach pupils skills such as diving and tumble turns, as well as improve all aspects of their stroke technique and stamina. From this, some pupils may be selected to represent the school in swimming galas.

Private Swimming Lessons**

Children also have the opportunity to sign up for private swimming lessons. These take place in our pool every Monday after the school day has finished.



*Some on-site Enrichments are subject to an additional charge.

**Private Swimming Lessons are also subject to an additional charge.

For Your Peace of Mind

Private Coach Routes

We offer an extensive private coach service for our pupils, with routes running throughout Suffolk and Essex. Pupils from Year 1 are welcome to use our coaches.

Prep School class teachers take a coach register each morning. This register is then checked at the end of the school day before the children are escorted to their specific coaches.

Wraparound Care

Wraparound care at Ipswich High School enables our pupils to have a safe and relaxing environment before and after the school day, whilst providing our parents with a stress free and seamless childcare solution.

In the morning, parents can drop their children off from 7.30am. After School Club is available from 4.15pm to 6pm. Pupils can opt to complete their homework or engage in activities, supported by our staff.





House System

Our reinvigorated whole school House system launched in 2021.

The four Houses are Aqua, Ignis, Terra and Ventus.

These names and logos were created and voted for by our students.

Across the school, each pupil and nearly every member of staff is a member of a House, and siblings will always be together in the same House.



The House System & Prep School

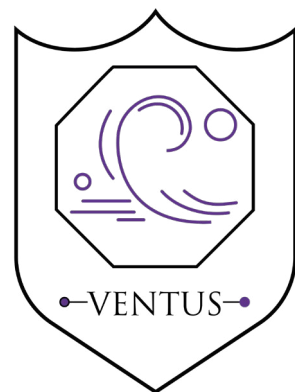
All Prep School pupils have unique opportunities to participate in and develop leadership skills within our House system.

We have an impressive number of House competitions running each year that pupils are able to compete in and the variety is huge. From the Young Musician and Prep Vocal Championships, to dance, sporting events, a swimming gala, poetry recital, dressing up for World Book Day and even a talent show – there really is something for everyone.

Unlike so many other House systems, we have designed ours to make sure that every pupil in the school can find events that they genuinely want to participate in and where they feel they can excel.

By participating in these events, pupils will be winning House Points for their House, but also competing alongside their friends in the Prep School, as well as students right across the Senior School and Sixth Form.

Perhaps most importantly, as a Year 5 or 6 pupil there is the opportunity to develop leadership skills by applying for and becoming House Captains and Vice Captains. These are the most senior House student leadership positions in the Prep School and are prestigious positions. Those appointed play their part in leading their House and running events, as well as supporting and working with the Senior School House Leaders and the House Presidents in the school's Sixth Form. They are also expected to be a positive role model for all of our younger pupils.





A Day In The Life

Join Noah, Year 6, and Evie, Year 3, for a typical day in their lives as Prep School pupils at Ipswich High School.

Noah's Day:

08:35 - 09:00 Registration: First I go to registration with my form teacher. She told us about a House Aquathlon event that is happening this week - I am super excited as I love swimming!

09:00 - 10:40 Lesson 1 & 2: It's double Science and we are learning about electricity. The lesson was really fun as we were building circuits to try and turn a light bulb on.

10:40 - 11:00 Break: Break time and my friends and I play football on the playground.

11:00 - 12:00 Lesson 3: Next, I have English. We are working on presentations about our favourite authors and I am writing about Anthony Horowitz.

12:00 - 12:50 Lunch: Lunchtime and I chose sausage and mash - one of my favourites! For dessert I had chocolate cake with custard and then we went outside to play tag.

12:50 - 13:30 Enrichment 1: I have Engineering enrichment now which is really cool. I really like that our enrichments let us try lots of new things.

13:30 - 13:35 Registration: It's afternoon registration time with my form teacher.

13:35 - 14:30 Lesson 4: In Computing today we talked about how to be safe online. We talked about some potential online problems like bullying.

14:30 - 15:30 Lesson 5: Now I have French and we are learning how to say which foods we like and don't like.

15:30 - 15:45 Break: It is afternoon break time and we play football again!

15:45 - 16:15 Enrichment 2: For my second enrichment I go to Prep Club. Finishing my homework now means that I can spend time with my family when I get home.

Evie's Day:

08:35 - 09:00 Registration: My form teacher takes the register and then we all say one thing that made us happy yesterday. I said that I really liked dressing up for World Book Day.

09:00 - 10:40 Lesson 1 & 2: We got to go into the Senior DT classroom today with Mr Thompson to work on our Roman chariots that we are making out of wood. I got to use some of the tools and was very careful with them.

10:40 - 11:00 Break: I ate my snack and then I played on the balance beams in the playground with my friends.

11:00 - 12:00 Lesson 3: In Geography we are learning about volcanoes and lava. I even got to hold a real volcano rock.

12:00 - 12:50 Lunch: I am always excited at lunchtime because the food is really tasty. I had vegetable lasagne and a mango yoghurt. It was my friend's birthday so we sang Happy Birthday to her.

12:50 - 13:30 Enrichment 1: Choir is my favourite enrichment because I love singing. We are learning a new song today for the Harvest Festival. I want to be in the big choir when I am in the Senior School.

13:30 - 13:35 Registration: It's afternoon registration time, we discuss what is happening this afternoon.

13:35 - 14:30 Lesson 4: In our Maths lesson we set up our own shop and had lots of fun buying things with pretend money and adding up how much we needed to pay and how much change we needed.

14:30 - 15:25 Lesson 5: Forest School is the best as we get to explore and learn outside. We built dens and had hot chocolate and biscuits. Then we collected leaves and learnt which trees they came from.

15:25 - 15:45 Break: It is afternoon break time and I chat with my friends.

15:45 - 16:15 Enrichment 2: I have Triathlon Club to finish the day. I had never tried Triathlon before so was nervous to begin with, but the coach was very supportive and now I feel more confident and it is lots of fun.





"The best thing about school is all my friends. There is always someone to talk to or play with at breaktime and everyone is so nice. In the enrichments you get to know and make friends with the older students too. I am the only one from my year that goes to Mindfulness Club but the Year 4s were very friendly.

History is my favourite subject because we learn about lots of things that happened in the past. I like all my enrichments but, the best is probably Cookery Club because you get to make lots of tasty food with the teacher and it is really fun!"

Emmeline, Year 3



"My favourite things about Ipswich High School are the opportunities we get to try new things and how fun the teachers make the lessons. My favourite subject is Maths because my teacher teaches us in a very fun way. I like the Prep School playground and the Enrichment Programme is great.

Cycling Club is my favourite enrichment because it has made me a better cyclist and challenges me. The best thing about the enrichment programme is the wide range of things we get to do, including lots of sports."

Zavier, Year 6



"I like how supportive the teachers are. If I don't know the answer to a question, they give me the chance to work it out for myself, which makes me feel more confident. PE is really good fun here, we get to try lots of different types of sport and activities like gymnastics, hockey, cricket and the girls also do netball.

My favourite enrichments are either Glitter Club or Coding – it's hard to choose! Coding Club is in the Senior School, so it is really exciting to go there and use their computers. We get to make our own games and the club is taught by the Senior School computer teacher so when I go to the Senior School I will already know him!"

Thomas, Year 5



"My favourite subjects are definitely PE and English. I really like writing stories and creating characters which we get to do a lot in our English lessons. I love sport and there is the opportunity to try so many at Ipswich High School through lessons and the enrichments, which they do really, really well. I really enjoy Netball enrichment. I am in the A team for Netball and we get to play against other schools which I really enjoy.

The lunches here are really good too and really tasty. We get to try food from different parts of the world too."

Evelyn, Year 5



Interested? These Are Your Next Steps...

We understand what a big decision it is for you to choose a school for your son or daughter. At IHS we make the application process as simple as possible.

Book A Private Tour

We always recommend a private one-to-one tour with our Head of Prep School. This allows us to get to know you and learn more about your child and their future aspirations.

For further information about the Prep School at Ipswich High School and to arrange your private tour, please contact our Registrar.

T: 01473 201058 | E: admissions@ipswichhighschool.co.uk | W: ipswichhighschool.co.uk

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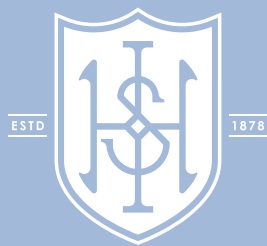
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