



Early Years Information

**Kent College Preparatory School
2016 - 2017**



The Early Years

The Early Years department is an exciting and lively part of Kent College Preparatory School and is comprised of the Nursery and Reception classes. Your daughter can join from the age of 2 and a half and will begin a stimulating journey which will establish successful learning skills and inspire the joy of discovery and a desire to know more.

She will be supported and cared for by our highly qualified and dedicated staff who will help in every aspect of her development, not only academically, but also to ensure her happiness, progress and well-being.

Pupils in the Early Years Department benefit not only from the input of expert and experienced staff, but also from being an integral part of the wider Prep School, which ensures a smooth transition into Key Stage 1. Early Years pupils take part in a number of activities, concerts, assemblies, charity events and the whole school Sponsored Walk which parents can get involved in too.

In our 2016 Independent Schools Inspectorate report, the effectiveness of the Early Years Foundation stage was judged as 'excellent'. You can view the full report by visiting www.kent-college.co.uk.

"The Early Years is a welcoming and stimulating environment. The environment is happy and relaxed, while at the same time, each girl is offered an enjoyable and challenging experience." **Independent Schools Inspectorate**

Curriculum

The Early Years is a crucial time in a child's learning and development. We want her to enjoy her first experience of school and for you to know that she is safe, happy, valued and stimulated. We set out to achieve this by a carefully structured approach to learning. We follow the national Foundation Stage Curriculum which is organised around the Prime and Specific areas of Learning and Development.

The prime areas are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development.

The specific areas are:

- Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

The Early Years

Session Times and Intake

Girls can join the Nursery class when they are aged 2 and a half in the term of their third birthday. Most start with morning sessions with optional lunch, building up to full time attendance. The morning session is from 8.30am – 1.00pm. If your daughter stays for lunch you will be able to collect her at 1.00pm. The afternoon session is from 1.00pm – 3.25pm. By the time your daughter joins the Reception class she will be expected to attend full time.

Induction

Prior to your daughter joining, we have a comprehensive induction programme to ensure you and your daughter have a smooth transition from home to school. This includes an information session for parents, an individual consultation with the class teacher, and a fun Taster Afternoon for your daughter when she has a chance to meet her teachers and the other girls in her class. Our class teachers will also endeavour to visit your daughter at her present nursery (where applicable), to get to know her better before she joins us.

Trips & Activities

The Early Years is an exciting time and one which we strive to make fulfilling and inspiring for all pupils. Trips, outings and visiting guests enhances the curriculum and introduces pupils to new and interesting activities. These can include visits to Sevenoaks Wildlife Centre, Leeds Castle, Raystede Animal Sanctuary and Downingbury Farm. Visiting guests include authors, artists and charities.

Our beautiful location provides pupils in the Early Years with the freedom to play and grow in the space outdoors, as well as building knowledge about their surroundings and the countryside. Regular walks to our very own on-site bluebell woods and orchards, and learning about our surrounding countryside and the wildlife are some of the activities that the Early Years love to be involved in.

The Early Years

Communication

Communication between home and school is particularly important in the Early Years and parents are encouraged to play an active role in their daughter's progress. There are parent consultations each term and two reports per academic year. Reception parents are invited in regularly to look at their daughter's work. Parents can keep up to date with their daughter's school day by viewing our daily update on the website: www.kent-college.co.uk/prep go to 'Dream' and click on Daily Update.

The school also has an active Parents' Association which organises regular social and fundraising events such as the annual fireworks evening, summer fete and summer ball.

To contact a member of staff or member of the Parents' Association please contact the School Office on 01892 820204 or view the school website for further details:
www.kent-college.co.uk

"We love the atmosphere in the Early Years. It feels gentle, yet the girls are always so busy."
Early Years parent



Early Years Admissions Information

Wraparound care

Our extensive wraparound care provision is a flexible and easy service for our busy working families to use.

Breakfast Club

This is available from 7.30am Monday to Friday. Girls are dropped off at the dining hall where for a small charge of £6.00, they are able to have breakfast. At 8.10am they are accompanied down to the Prep school.

After School Care

Experienced, friendly staff provide supervision from 3.40pm onwards at the end of the school day.

Until 5.30pm free of charge (includes refreshments for Year 2 and below)

Until 6.30pm £15.50 includes refreshments and supper

Until 7.30pm £25.50 includes refreshments and supper

Girls from Nursery to Year 2 are supervised in the Prep School hall where they are able to play in a relaxed atmosphere.

After 5.30pm a charging system is introduced and girls then proceed to the dining hall for supper at 5.45pm. After supper they move to the Junior Boarding House where they can stay until 7.30pm.

Holiday Care

During the holidays we understand that arranging childcare can be difficult. With this in mind, we have introduced holiday care provision during part of the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays meaning that your daughter's education and holiday care are catered for in an environment that is familiar to her when you are working or have other commitments. Please contact the Prep School Office on 01892 820204 or email prepschool@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk for further information.



Kent College Early Years

Free Entitlement

Kent College offers the Early Years Education Free Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds. All children are eligible to receive a maximum of 15 hours free nursery education per week.

Kent College offers three different patterns of delivery to access the Free Entitlement as follows:

1. A morning session in the Early Years lasts from 8.15am – 11.45am. 3 hours free entitlement will be given for each morning attended and the additional time will be paid for by parents. Lunch is not automatically included, fees have been structured whereby parents can choose to include lunch or not.
2. A full day session in the Early Years lasts from 8.15am – 3.30pm. 6 hours free entitlement will be given during this time and the additional time will be paid for by parents. Children should be collected at 3.30pm or may stay on for After School Care for which separate charges apply (Wraparound Care is free of charge up to 5.30pm).
3. If parents only want to access their free entitlement, sessions are available each morning from 10.15am – 1.15pm, 3 hours each morning. This session does not include a school lunch and parents are asked to supply a packed lunch for their child. Parents must collect their child promptly at 1.15pm. If some morning sessions in the Early Years are already full, we may not be able to offer the full 15 hour entitlement, or if all mornings are full, a waiting list will be in operation until a space becomes available.

Please be aware that the Government provides the entitlement for a maximum of 38 weeks a year, but as we are open for 34 weeks a year we will be able to provide the entitlement for a maximum of 34 weeks. The amount of grant available varies depending on the number of full weeks in a term. It will not be possible for you to claim the additional 4 weeks from another setting.

Information regarding a child's sessions in the Early Years have to be sent to Kent County Council at the beginning of each term and parents must ensure that they have returned the Parental Declaration form to the Bursary so that the entitlement claim can be made. It should be noted that once the claim has been sent to KCC, usually within 4 weeks of the start of term, it cannot be changed until the following term; so if a child increases their hours during the term or starts at half term, no change in entitlement will be given until the following term.



Early Years Admissions Information

Nursery Class Termly Fees

	Sessions (inclusive of the Early Years Free Entitlement)	Fees (per term)
A	1 morning (excluding lunch) 8.15 - 11.45	£140.38
B	1 morning (including lunch) 8.15 - 12.30	£182.42
C	2 mornings (excluding lunch) 8.15 - 11.45	£280.76
D	2 mornings (including lunch) 8.15 - 12.30	£364.85
E	3 mornings (excluding lunch) 8.15 - 11.45	£421.14
F	3 mornings (including lunch) 8.15 - 12.30	£547.27
G	4 mornings (excluding lunch) 8.15 - 11.45	£561.52
H	4 mornings (including lunch) 8.15 - 12.30	£729.69
I	5 mornings (excluding lunch) 8.15 - 11.45	£701.90
J	5 mornings (including lunch) 8.15 - 12.30	£912.11
K	1 full day	£332.07
L	2 full days	£664.13
M	3 full days	£996.20
N	4 full days	£1,584.80
O	5 full days	£2,173.40
P	Nursery and Reception Full Time (without nursery grant)	£2,943.00

Early Years Admissions Information





Contact

Prep School Reception : +44(0)1892 820204

Email: prepschool@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk

Admissions Department:+44(0)1892 820218

Email: admissions@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk

Further information on life in the Preparatory School can be found in the Preparatory School Admissions Information booklet and by visiting www.kent-college.co.uk.