



## The Mead Values, Aims and Ethos

The Mead is a community that empowers individuals to flourish. It aims to:

- enable every child to feel success;
- challenge and support every child's holistic development;
- encourage independence and initiative;
- establish a self-belief in each and every child;
- develop an enquiring mind and a passion for learning;
- prepare and equip each child to move forward in their learning journey with confidence; and
- enable every child to feel part of our family community – all under one roof.

We offer a full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education. We believe in a broad and balanced education that sets foundations for what is to come. Our children are happy and kind, always thinking of others. We seek to nurture citizens of the world who care about the world and can find their place in it, whatever or wherever that may be.

We consider that the contribution of the home is as important as School, for it is within a partnership between the children, school and home that the best hope for sound learning is to be found.

### The Mindset of a Meadite

In order to develop and strengthen these aims, we focus particularly on three characteristics that directly link to our school rule of: **Be Kind, Listen and do your best.**

- **Be kind - Compassion**  
We treat others with kindness, empathy, honesty and exemplary manners. We champion and nurture one another as a large family under one roof. As our global perspective grows, so does our respect, tolerance and sense of responsibility. We are charitable by nature and offer unfailingly warm hospitality.
- **Listen - to spark Curiosity**  
We listen carefully to all that is offered for the spark of new interests, insights and ideas. We are discerning, creative and adventurous risk takers, free from the fear of failure and inspired to seek passions, interests and a deeper knowledge and understanding. We are truth seekers, determined to investigate accuracy. We are brave future leaders, willing to challenge convention and stereotype. We are mindful, self-reflective, open minded and spiritually aware.
- **Do your best - Ambition**  
We take pride in our work and have unapologetically high expectations. Independently and collaboratively we embrace challenge and seek improvement through accurate communication, craftsmanship, resilience, perseverance and adaptability. We live at the edge of our capabilities, willing to push beyond them with confidence and optimism on our journey to becoming lifelong learners and leaders.

## **The Mead School**

The Mead is a co-educational preparatory school that provides full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age (in accordance with Section 8 of the Education Act 1996) for children aged between 3 and 11 situated in the centre of Tunbridge Wells, 300 metres from The Pantiles. Children are prepared for a wide selection of secondary schools both in the Independent and Maintained Sectors. Whilst the National Curriculum is followed throughout the school (giving pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human & social, physical, aesthetic and creative education), the emphasis is very much on the breadth and development of the all-round person in order that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress in preparation for the many opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society, that our pupils will face. Embedded and acknowledged within the school's curriculum is that of the importance and subsequent planning to ensure that pupils acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills.

The school is housed in an extended Victorian Villa and is consequently run very much as a family unit providing a happy, secure, lively, focused and stimulating environment in which all children can develop and flourish. A child who is stretched mentally, physically, culturally, musically, spiritually and artistically is one who will work harder academically, will have a broader outlook and will have gained greater self-confidence. To this end staff, children and parents work together and form a close and understanding relationship.

At The Mead individual pupil strengths, challenges and diversity of character are recognised, respected and appreciated. The school environment and curriculum are regularly assessed and monitored.

Each pupil is an individual and is treated as such throughout their time at The Mead. Subsequently, all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress. Individual class sizes are no more than eighteen. Maths is academically streamed across the year group throughout Key Stage Two.

## **Ethos**

The Wishford Schools are proud to be full of happy, positive and achieving children. An inclusive approach provides support, consolidation, enrichment and challenge as the norm. Mead pupils thrive within an environment that encourages and expects first class levels of application and effort whilst providing a broad curriculum that allows every individual learner to explore and experiment, create and learn.

The importance of self-reflection and review is key. Discussion, written drafting, self-evaluation, peer review and time to reflect quietly allows our pupils to craft and sculpture their work and learn within a supportive and nurturing environment. We have very high expectations for our pupils; high standards are the norm in terms of both academic achievement and personal development.