

NURTURING
INSPIRING
CREATIVE
FUN

THEIR FUTURE STARTS HERE...





WELCOME

St Ives School, Haslemere
t. 01428 643734 www.stiveshaslemere.com

Welcome to St Ives School, Haslemere. I hope this prospectus gives you an insight into what makes this school such a special place for children to enjoy their preparatory school education.

St Ives offers an outstanding education within a fun, supportive environment where the individual progress of each pupil is truly celebrated. We're a small school where pupils excel academically, learning at a pace that is right for them. Being small also means our pastoral care is second to none – kindness is at the heart of our community. Pupils have such a happy time at St Ives, enjoying so many different activities and experiences, that they leave us as confident, well-rounded and inquisitive learners, ready for the next step in their education.

Our varied curriculum allows plenty of **opportunity to discover** and develop each child's ability and **talents** in Sport, Art, Music, Drama, Languages and Technology as well as reaching their academic potential. Our stunning grounds give children plenty of space to explore and play and we offer weekly Forest School as part of our curriculum.

When the children leave us at the end of Year 6, they go on to a wide range of senior schools, both locally and further afield. We work closely with each family to find the right senior school for each child and are very proud of our **outstanding record** of pupils gaining places at their **first choice of senior school** and of the many **scholarships** awarded to St Ives pupils.

St Ives' excellence has been recognised nationally in recent years. We were the winner of the Small Independent School of the Year at the Independent School of the Year Awards in October 2022 and also in October 2019. We were also shortlisted for this award again in 2021. We hope you decide to come and visit us so we can show you what makes St Ives so unique.



K. Goldsworthy

Kay Goldsworthy
Head



At St Ives we strive to:

- provide a **secure** and **happy** environment in which our children are encouraged to work and play with enthusiasm and commitment
- maintain a tradition of **academic excellence** whilst offering the fullest possible range of experiences through a **broad and balanced curriculum**
- promote a **spiritual** and **moral awareness** in our pupils, based on strong family orientated principles
- ensure a friendly and **supportive** atmosphere in which everyone's individual abilities and **potential** are fully appreciated and nurtured
- promote at all times the qualities of **integrity, kindness, charity** and **good manners**
- offer an enriching, inspiring extra-curricular programme which allows every individual to extend their interests and develop wider skills and talents

Our pupils build strong foundations for future study and for life.

"My son has been a pupil at St Ives for 7 years. As a parent, I especially value the school's nurturing and friendly feel. The quality of teaching is excellent and I've always felt that my son has been cared for, understood and valued as an individual. He is so happy and has developed a real love of learning that I'm not sure would have happened to the same extent elsewhere. I only wish he could stay for the secondary years!"

Year 5 Parent

We work hard to
make every day
the best day ever.





St Ives' Nursery, The Ivies, is a **fun, stimulating** and **vibrant** setting with stunning views over the Surrey countryside. Our highly trained, experienced team provides a **warm, caring** environment where children learn to be **independent, confident, sociable** and develop a positive approach to school and learning.

Days are carefully planned to develop children's social, physical and **intellectual growth** whilst maintaining a real sense of fun and **enjoyment**. Our Nursery boasts a modern, purpose-built building with large, **bright and airy** classrooms. The children enjoy full access to an **outdoor play** and **woodland** area.

We welcome both boys and girls from the age of two. Most children join the Nursery soon after their second birthday, but children are welcome to join the Nursery at any time, space allowing.

Key person – every child (and their family) is appointed a member of staff as their key person to ensure the transition to Nursery is as smooth as possible. The key person will also visit the child at their home, prior to the child starting at The Ivies so that the child gets to know them in their own environment. The key person will naturally build a close relationship

with the child, be there to provide them support and comfort and will also be there to answer any questions or concerns the parent(s) may have.

Reception Readiness – in the last term of Nursery, the rising Reception children will take part in Reception Readiness classes. These are run by the Reception teacher in the Reception classroom, so the children are raring to go when they join our Reception class the following September.

- Open 7.45am-5.45pm every day (term-time only)
- Fun packed sessions with specialist activities including **Forest School, Music, Cooking, French, Dance** and **PE**
- **Weekly phonics sessions**
- Hot lunches served daily
- Fully equipped outdoor play area
- We are part of the Early Years Funding Scheme and accept employer childcare vouchers

We take playing seriously.

PRE-PREP (RECEPTION-YEAR 2)

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St Ives' Pre-prep department has a wonderfully **warm** and **nurturing** atmosphere. This, combined with the **buzz** and **enthusiasm** of staff and children alike, makes it a very **happy** place to be. With stunning views across miles of countryside, the bright, colourful classrooms are a fantastic environment for learning and play.

Teaching standards are very high, with experienced, dedicated teachers and assistants committed to doing their very best for the children in their care. This is evident in the **fantastic results** and **progress** that our children achieve. Core subjects are taught by class teachers, while children have **specialist teachers** for **Music, PE, French, Computing** and **RE**. **Small class** sizes allow teachers to really get to know each child and to tailor and differentiate learning according to their **individual needs**. In addition, 'Individual Time' each week sees each child provided with a specific piece of work targeted to their individual needs at that time.

Our pupils' **happiness** is extremely important to us and **pastoral care** is a priority. Personal, Social and Health Education is taught weekly, dedicated weekly Pre-prep assemblies foster a sense of community, a Worry Box is available for any children needing a listening ear, and our Wellbeing Champion is dedicated to wellbeing across the school.

Outstanding grounds and play areas provide an exhilarating outdoor space for play; while the acres of forest on our grounds enable Nursery-Year 3 children to take part in Forest School every week.

*Happy children make
the best learners.*





Years 3 & 4

The next stage in the St Ives journey marks the transition into the Prep school. This often represents a new level of **independence, self-reliance** and **organisation** as the children move around the building for specialist lessons. Maths, English and Science remain at the core of the curriculum but there is generous provision for areas such as Music, Art, Computing, French, Spanish, PE and Drama.

Years 5 & 6

While our focus continues to be on a very rounded provision, children are guided in **exam technique** to help them **achieve entry to their first choice of senior school**. We are not only proud of our **entry success** but also of the **positive feedback** we receive about our pupils' preparation for senior school. We regularly send children with scholarship awards to schools such as Churcher's College, Guildford High School, Seaford College, St Catherine's School, Cranleigh School, Tormead, Prior's Field and Frensham Heights.

We also provide a strong post-examination programme for Year 6, which incorporates life skills, community work, business enterprise, team building and local charity work.

"If I had to sum up St Ives in one word it would be AMAZING!"

Pupil

*Preparing for
the future.*



Sports

There is a generous allocation for Sport in the timetable at St Ives with pupils taking part in many team sports from **hockey, netball, football, cricket** and **rounders** to more individual sports such as **cross country, gymnastics, swimming, athletics** and **tennis**.

We know that not only is sport good for **health** and general **wellbeing**, but also helps develop an appreciation of **team spirit, fair play** and confidence. We pride ourselves on the **sporting achievements** of the children and everyone has the opportunity to represent the school in matches against other schools. We have two full size **tennis and netball courts**, a grass **athletics track**, a grass **hockey pitch**, a cross country course and a **gymnasium**.

Music

We aim to foster an **enthusiasm, interest** and **commitment** to the study of Music and equip children with the musical skills that will enable them to enjoy and appreciate a range of Music throughout their lives. As well as weekly Music classes, there are three **choirs** and an **orchestra** for children to attend which provide opportunities for pupils to achieve their **full potential** and experience **success** both in the curriculum and during extra-curricular activities. We benefit from a team of **excellent peripatetic teachers** who offer tuition in singing and a wide range of musical instruments.



Drama

Drama lessons encourage children to be **expressive** and **creative** and to build and develop **confidence** in their performance and presentation skills. All children perform throughout their time at St Ives and these performances are memorable moments that bring a smile of achievement to everyone involved.

Art

The Art department at St Ives is a fun and **buzzy** environment where the children thrive. The art lessons explore and **expand imagination** in every child through learning a wide variety of key skills and techniques. **Inspiration** and **creativity** are huge contributors towards building these skills.

Design & Technology

Design & Technology allows children to use their creativity and imagination to **research, design, develop** and **evaluate** a variety of everyday products, as well as develop **key life skills**. It is a fun and practical subject enjoyed by children across the school.

"There has never been a day when our child has not been excited about coming to school. St Ives has helped her develop into a confident, well rounded & happy young girl who is now ready to grasp the next exciting phase of her academic career".

Year 6 Parent



Languages

At St Ives, we believe learning foreign languages is essential for the modern world, with benefits which include greater academic achievement, greater cognitive development and a positive attitude towards other languages and cultures.

Children start learning **French** in Nursery, with **Spanish** added to the curriculum in Year 3.

Computing

St Ives equips its pupils with the foundations of computing by teaching them about computation and digital systems and helping them apply this knowledge practically through writing, designing and debugging a variety of programmes, stories and games.

Children are given opportunities to use a range of information technology and learn to create a wide variety of content including podcasts, architectural designs, patterns, databases and websites. They become increasingly literate digital citizens, equipped to embrace the digital world safely and confidently. Computing enhances a range of cross-curricular skills such as logical thinking, creativity, design, resourcefulness, ingenuity and problem solving. The school has a purpose-built computer suite and a bank of Chromebooks for the children to use.

PSHE

The children's happiness and wellbeing is central to everything we do. PSHE helps to support this, by teaching children how to manage the breadth of their emotions, friendships, challenges and change. We promote children's self esteem, celebrate diversity, and teach the importance of tolerance and respect. They learn about staying safe, mental health, mindfulness and yoga, and are taught the importance of citizenship and kindness.

STEM

STEM is a new subject within the school curriculum and is already a firm favourite with the children. STEM brings together the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to help pupils solve practical challenges of the modern world. We cover topics such as building and construction, the solar system, renewable energy and the human body. These lessons are a fantastic way for pupils to develop their teamworking, problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Learning for Life

Learning for Life embraces the **wider perspective** of learning, extending above and beyond the traditional curriculum. Its purpose is to help children develop a broader range of skills and knowledge to become **independent, creative and reflective thinkers**. It is another avenue for the children to gain confidence socially and personally, helping them to make the most of their futures now, at senior school and beyond.



Set within eight acres of **idyllic woodland**, learning at St Ives is not just limited to the classroom. Our outdoor areas provide a great resource for broader educational activities. Outdoor learning brings subjects such as Science, Geography, History and Art to life and plays a key role in the day to day teaching at St Ives.

Forest School is an **exciting** initiative which allows children to **explore** and experience the natural world around them, and gives them a wonderful opportunity to learn new **skills** such as wood carving, cooking and shelter building. Forest School is somewhere where **everyone succeeds** and no-one fails. It is a great way of helping develop social and **communication skills** along with confidence and self-esteem. Curriculum subjects are brought to life through Forest School, which is available to all children and is included in the timetable from Nursery through to Year 3.

"Our boys are thriving at St Ives - the school is bursting with academic, sporting and creative arts opportunities, delivered by exceptionally talented and passionate teachers."

Parent Year 5, Year 3 and Reception

At St Ives we aim to foster a love of learning, nurture curiosity and help children see the world from a wider perspective.







St Ives is a **truly independent** school and prides itself on the **range of senior schools** it feeds locally and beyond. Typically these include local popular choices such as Churcher's College, Guildford High School, The Royal School, St Catherine's School, Seaford College, Cranleigh School, Tormead, Frensham Heights, Prior's Field and more.

Senior school scholarships are often awarded to pupils at St Ives and we are always **delighted** by the **positive feedback** we receive about our children and **how well they are prepared for life at senior school.**

St Ives pupils are going places.

"St Ives pupils are always a presence in our entrance cohort at 11+. They are very well prepared for this academically selective environment, bring warmth and a strong sense of personal responsibility to their new school, and contribute hugely to our wide extra-curricular programme. They go on to hold positions of authority in the School and proceed to some of the top universities in the country. We are proud of our long association with St Ives".

Mrs Alice Phillips, Head, St Catherine's School

"Pupils from St Ives are true all rounders with lots of enthusiasm for academic subjects, Sports, Music, Drama and Art. They prove to be an asset to any school they join as they are superbly prepared for senior school."

Mrs Fiona Boulton OBE, Head, Guildford High School

Our fee structure is tiered throughout your child's time with us, a system which we believe offers parents the best **value for money** during the early years of independent education.

Vouchers and Government Schemes

We accept both early years vouchers and employer childcare vouchers, and are part of the Early Years Funding Scheme.

Scholarships

We are delighted to offer scholarships for Year 3 entry. Awards are offered following an assessment day when children will complete tests in Maths and English and will have a short informal meeting with the Head.

We also offer scholarships in Art, Music, Drama and Sport for those children who can demonstrate outstanding aptitude and/or potential in any of those areas.

Bursaries

A limited number of means-tested bursaries are available to be offered to those children whose families experience difficulty paying the full annual fees. Applicants will be required to complete a Bursary Application Form, following which a decision will be made by the Governors. All applications are treated with utmost discretion at all times.



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