



# CHARLOTTE HOUSE

EARLY YEARS | PRE-PREP | PREP



# Welcome

*“In less than a year,  
Charlotte House has had  
such a positive impact on  
our two little girls.”*



# CHARLOTTE HOUSE

Charlotte House is an independent prep school for girls aged 3-11

- Small class sizes provide a nurturing environment enabling the girls to achieve their potential
- Specialist teachers offering expertise in all subjects
- Beautiful leafy grounds close to major transport links
- A wide variety of lunchtime and afterschool clubs and activities
- Flexible breakfast and tea-time clubs in a stimulating and welcoming environment
- Enrichment and extension activities including optional weekend activities
- Regular parent workshops to maximise parental support and involvement
- Vertical House system to develop a healthy competitive spirit
- Thorough preparation and guidance for 11+ transition to top local and national schools





# Outstanding

*“Our number one priority arriving in the UK was to find a school with a strong curriculum and supportive staff where our girls could fit in with their peers. We visited other schools but knew within the first five minutes of our tour that Charlotte House was the one.”*

# WELCOME FROM THE HEAD

Here at Charlotte House, we believe we offer girls the very best start in life. Your daughter will receive a diverse and dynamic education which she will enjoy in a calm yet industrious atmosphere. All girls are encouraged to think for themselves, to ask questions and to strive for the very best they can achieve.

Underpinning our clear educational principles, are our values of respect, courtesy and appreciation.

Pupil welfare is paramount to us. A happy and secure child will blossom and here at Charlotte House, we provide outstanding pastoral support.

A prospectus can only provide a glimpse of our school. Why don't you take a look yourself at what we have to offer? I would be delighted to welcome you to our exceptional school.





## Encourage

*“Your courtesy and general concern in making sure we were made to feel welcome is something we will never forget and a real factor in us deciding to move our girls to Charlotte House. Thank you for that once again.”*



## EARLY YEARS

The Early Years Department is made up of our Nursery and Reception forms. Both of these provide our youngest girls with a happy, safe and stimulating introduction to school life. Each form is fully supported by a teaching assistant.

Our bright and lively classrooms are flooded with light, colour and laughter. They embody all the themes of Early Years Foundation Stage, ensuring that girls get off to a flying start where their education is concerned.

Early Years focuses on learning through play and introduces girls to a wide range of experiences, from which they learn different skills. We also recognise that girls develop rapidly and often want to learn to read and write at an early age. Our teaching actively supports this; introducing phonics for reading, letter forming for writing and number work at an early age - alongside Art, IT, French, Spanish, Music and PE.



The girls' daily routine includes opportunities to learn and play in the garden. Nursery often joins Reception class for projects and themed activities and this is a great opportunity for them to interact with girls from a different age group.

Attendance at Nursery is flexible: from a minimum of three mornings a week, through to a full week. All girls attend full-time when they go into Reception.

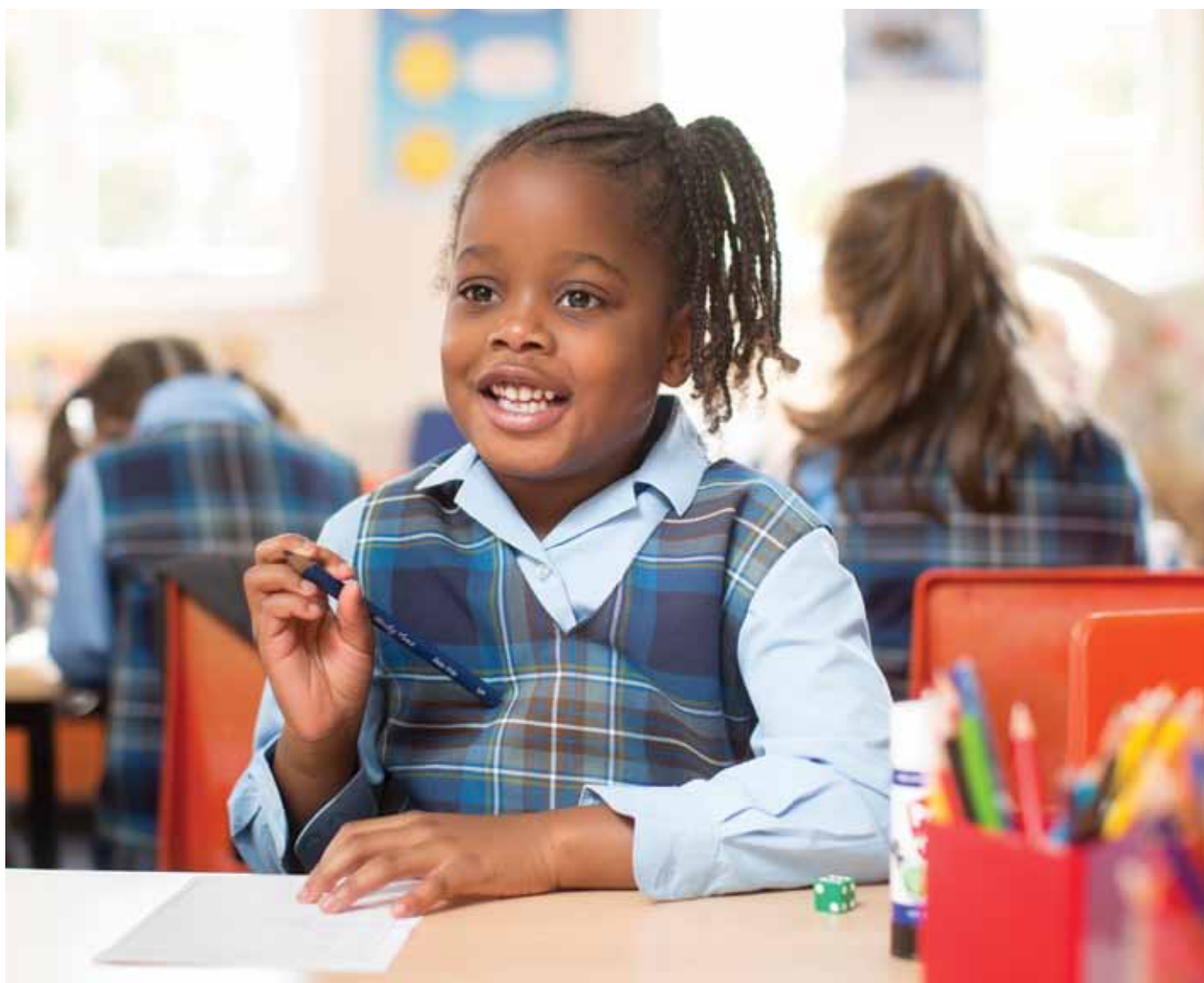
In Reception, the girls are gradually introduced to a more structured routine in readiness for their transition into Pre-Prep.



# Experience

*“I first saw your school when my daughter was just two years old and I knew this was exactly the environment I wanted her to be in.”*





## THE PRE-PREP YEARS

After a strong start in the Early Years, the girls progress seamlessly to the Pre-Prep. Each form is fully supported by a teaching assistant making an enviable adult to child ratio.

The classrooms are large, bright and airy and full of inquisitive girls with a thirst for learning. More formal learning occurs in the Pre-Prep with the girls following a timetabled approach to their lessons. The breadth of our curriculum allows each girl to experience a range of skills whilst underpinning the essentials of literacy and numeracy on a daily basis. Girls are encouraged to become more independent in order that they enter the Prep School brimming with confidence.





# Academic

*“Charlotte House has the right balance of academic achievement, sports, art and culture”*





## THE PREP YEARS

In these crucial preparatory years (Forms III-VI) the academic pace accelerates. Girls are taught more and more by specialist staff and move around the campus. New subjects are introduced, notably Latin and Drama in Forms V and VI, and the working school day is longer. Independent learning is encouraged.

The school's extension and enrichment programme offers masterclasses in a range of topics and many off site learning opportunities are created. As the girls move to the top of the Prep School, positions of responsibility are given, including the roles of House Captains and that of Head Girl. Thorough preparation, advice and support is given for transition at 11+, including Common Entrance and scholarships.





# Experience

*“As a parent doing the rounds of prospective schools this term ‘nurturing’ gets heard quite often. Knowing what parents want to hear is one thing, delivering it is quite another.”*

## OUR CURRICULUM

Our curriculum has been devised to offer the girls a breadth of opportunities and experiences whilst keeping the essential daily skills of numeracy and literacy the highest priority in our curriculum. High quality teaching and learning is at the heart of everything we do.

Our six learning dispositions are embedded into our teaching to ensure our girls are not passive in their learning; rather that they become active participants in a lifelong journey of learning and discovery.

On offer at Charlotte House are the following subjects: Art, Design Technology, Drama, English, French, Geography, History, ICT, Latin, Mathematics, Music, PE, PSHE, RE, Science, Spanish and VR.



Specialist staff teach across the year groups allowing their expertise in a subject to be enjoyed by all girls. Girls are taught in mixed ability classes but in Mathematics, girls are often streamed according to their ability.





# Participation

*“Charlotte House is a school with a focused yet caring quality.”*



# SPORT

Our approach to our Sports Programme is that all girls should be able to access as many sporting opportunities as possible. We believe sport teaches far more than the benefits of exercise alone. We do encourage competition both as inter-house events as well as the fixtures we enjoy with other local schools. Selection for teams and squad places are earned on merit.

All girls from Nursery to Form VI benefit from specialist PE teaching. Swimming is introduced in Form III.

Girls participate in and enjoy athletics, cross-country, dance, swimming, netball, rounders, tennis, pop lacrosse and gymnastics. There are also opportunities for the girls to experience a range of other sporting activities, including football, tag rugby, uni-hoc, cheerleading, Zumba and skipping.





# Opportunity

*“Thank you for everything, especially your steady and determined guidance through the transition process.”*





## MUSIC

All girls receive weekly music lessons from our Director of Music. Individual instrumental tuition for a number of instruments is available to girls in Form III upwards.

Girls have the opportunity to play in ensembles or orchestra groups. Our school choir performs regularly at functions and events throughout the school year.



# Creative

*“May I take a moment to thank you for the enriching academic experience both my daughters have had at Charlotte House. I am absolutely certain that upon their return to the States, they will be way beyond their peers as a result of the superb curriculum implemented by your exceptional staff.”*





## ART

Art is taught in our specialist Art and Design Studio allowing the girls to express their individuality through a variety of techniques and different mediums.

Visits to galleries and exhibitions are arranged to enrich the girls' understanding of art. Girls' pieces of work are entered into local and national competitions and we produce a strong field of potential art scholars each year.





# Teamwork

*"Girls mature and grow with confidence throughout the school."*



# DRAMA

Opportunities for drama exist for girls throughout the school. Emphasis is given to enhancing skills in teamwork, confidence building and creativity rather than solely on productions alone.

Mime, improvisation and hot seating are amongst many of the experiences the girls enjoy from their specialist Drama teaching.

All girls are involved in an annual production allowing classes to work collaboratively on a piece of theatre. Recent productions have included A Midsummer Night's Dream, Wind in the Willows and Pepys' Show.





# Engaging

*“Dropping her off and picking her up each day shows me the wonderful atmosphere at Charlotte House.”*





## EXTENSION AND ENRICHMENT

Aside from the taught curriculum, many opportunities are given to enrich the girls' learning. Special arrangements are made for our very gifted pupils, allowing individualised learning programmes to be established.

We also recognise that each child is an individual and may, on occasion, require some extra support. Regular visits and visitors are organised as are planned talks and workshops. Our commitment to engage children with skills in critical thinking are evident through our Thinking Skills club and the Thinking Skills board. Cultural Sunday and the Masterclass Programme have been established to broaden the girls' experiences and understanding of the world.





# Friendship

*“The culture, the ethos, the teaching, and every other aspect of the school is so right.”*





## WORKING TOGETHER

Our girls are given many opportunities to work with other girls across the ages. Our House system, led by a House Captain and supported by staff members allows girls from Nursery to Form VI to work together. This may be supporting one another in an inter-house sports event, or perhaps an inter-house Maths challenge. Our recently designed House gardens are one such venture enjoyed by all.

Our School Council recognises the contributions from all ages and our Eco Club engages girls across the Prep School years.

Girls in Form VI are assigned to the younger classes to act as monitors to help them with their boots and bags. The older girls are often seen helping the younger girls get ready for their day ahead. All the girls enjoy playing in our extensive grounds with one another.





CHARLOTTE  
HOUSE

# Supportive

*“Charlotte House has never failed to impress me since my very first visit to the school and I am proud to be a parent here.”*



## MOVING ON

As with every prep school, our responsibility towards the end of a child's time with us is to prepare her thoroughly for the demands of schooling beyond Form VI.

This is not achieved overnight but is a gradual process as the girls move through the school. Managing a busy timetable, including homework, attending clubs and matches, as well as being taught by different staff in different areas of the school all help with managing this change. We dedicate time to examination preparation and technique, interview practice and honing skills in verbal reasoning.

Ultimately, it is our diverse curriculum, our excellent teaching and the girls' positive attitudes to learning that all help prepare our girls for transition at 11+.

We work very closely with parents to help ensure that every child in Form VI receives offers from the right choice of school. We maintain excellent links with our secondary schools in both the state and independent sector and girls receive a handful of offers from which to choose their next school.



# CHARLOTTE HOUSE

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 CHARLOTTE HOUSE PREP SCHOOL