



COTTESMORE PRE-PREP

'INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OF THE YEAR'

Times Educational Supplement, 2019 finalist



Welcome from Lottie Rogerson

Welcome to Cottesmore School Pre-prep, a day school for girls and boys aged 4 to 8. Life here at Cottesmore Pre-prep is fun, colourful, energetic and caring.

Surrounded by a thousand acres of parkland, Cottesmore is nestled in the peaceful Sussex countryside in thirty-five acres of grounds with wonderful views. Cottesmore has all the advantages of a country school, yet it is only one mile from the end of the M23 at Pease Pottage.

Cottesmore is run very much as a family, with a natural balance between freedom, order, the needs of the individual and those of the community.

Our strategies ensure a happy, fulfilled childhood and this can be seen in every aspect of our Pre-prep offering. It is vital that your child's first educational experiences are positive, creative and are set within a caring environment; here at Cottesmore Pre-prep our teaching staff achieve exactly that in a secure and warm setting.

Please come and see Cottesmore Pre-prep for yourself; you will be made to feel very welcome.

Lottie Rogerson

Principal of Cottesmore Pre-prep





“”

Our values and ethos

Throughout the Pre-prep, including Reception, pupils are happy, love school and feel safe.

ISI REPORT 2019

At Cottesmore we encourage children to grow in independence and confidence, to persevere with challenges and to ask for help when it is needed.

Children at Cottesmore are taught to respect others, their differences and other people's feelings, to treat others as they would wish to be treated, to forgive, to share, to be kind and to do their best. Each child is encouraged to adopt a 'can do' attitude and our teaching team celebrate each attempt your child makes using this growth mindset.

We have an open door policy at Cottesmore. Parents, teachers and children work together to understand progress and formulate ways to strengthen elements of your child's learning so that they continue to explore and develop their talents.

Our Pre-prep structure promotes collaboration, giving children the opportunity to work together, to listen and to share experiences.





Learning through play

Creating inner confidence is key for any child, therefore it is our mission to find for each child an area in which he or she can excel – whether academically, in sport, in music or other areas of Cottesmore life.

Cottesmore's Pre-prep actively explores learning through play which is an approach that encourages children to explore a wealth of creative possibilities and challenges. Play is a vehicle of learning and development for children, allowing children to practice and embed their learning through exploration. At Cottesmore Pre-prep, we recognise a love

of learning and an enthusiasm for challenges produces confident, highly motivated pupils who arrive every morning with a smile.

The children spend their days in well-equipped, bright classrooms and enjoy the extensive grounds that Cottesmore has to offer. The very large playground ensures that every child has the opportunity to have fun whatever their preference. We believe that if children are happy and feel secure in a stimulating and active environment they are more likely to embrace the challenges and possibilities that a school like Cottesmore has to offer.



Pre-prep curriculum and qualified staff

At Cottesmore Pre-prep academic skills are developed through carefully planned schemes of work which borrow from and augment the National Curriculum – while doing so, we ensure that children are not over burdened with constant testing.

We seek to prepare children for the challenges and opportunities our Prep school offers and, as such, there are strong links between both sites. The children have regular contact with the Director of Sport and Head of Music. The children also benefit from regular use of the school's ICT suite, indoor swimming pool, sports facilities and dining room.

The children enjoy learning with our 'topic based' approach which discreetly encompasses key areas of the curriculum. English and Mathematics are timetabled daily to ensure continuity of progress.

A high staff-to-pupil ratio (a maximum of 14 children per class) ensures that, from entry at 4 years of age, every child is nurtured and their individuality is valued as they embrace, over time, the ideas of consideration for others, self-discipline, honesty and a desire to learn.

With smaller class sizes, our Pre-prep is able to offer each child a bespoke education with all children from Reception onwards benefitting from specialist teaching in Tennis, Chess, Music, French, PE and Swimming.

“

In the Pre-prep, pupils' attainment is high, especially in reading, writing and numeracy, supported by assessment that shows good knowledge of the pupils, enabling planning to maintain and enhance progress.

ISI REPORT 2019





Sports, Music and Drama

Within the substantial grounds there are plenty of opportunities for our Pre-prep children to enjoy a multitude of sporting activities here at Cottesmore; these range from fishing in the school's lake, to music lessons, swimming in our indoor pool and playing tennis on one of our seven tennis courts.

Music plays a large part in school life at Cottesmore and due to the thriving Prep School Music Department, children have a wide choice of instruments available to them including drums, violin, cello, guitar, piano, flute and recorder.

Many pupils from Reception through to Year Three choose to learn to play a musical instrument with our dedicated music tutors. All of our Year Three pupils play the recorder within the curriculum.

Our Pre-prep children have plenty of events to enjoy; these include our Mother's Day Assembly, the summer concert, the Christmas Nativity production and Sports Day. Parents, grandparents and friends are all invited to attend these occasions.

Along with the dramatic arts, Cottesmore pupils learn to summon the confidence to speak in front of an audience. The children are encouraged to participate in assemblies, concerts and, of course, the Christmas dramatic production.





What the children say

I love school because...

“”

I love Maths, PE, English and Geography is great! Lunch is great and Sports Day is fun.

“”

The teachers are very kind and I have lots of friends. I love school because we go swimming.

“”

PE is fun! I love school because we have tricky maths. I also love school because of swimming.





Life at Cottesmore's Pre-prep

WELCOME 8:00AM

The school welcomes children from 8:00am - 8:30am.

PLAY TIME 10:00AM

Play time at 10:00am.

LUNCH TIME 12PM

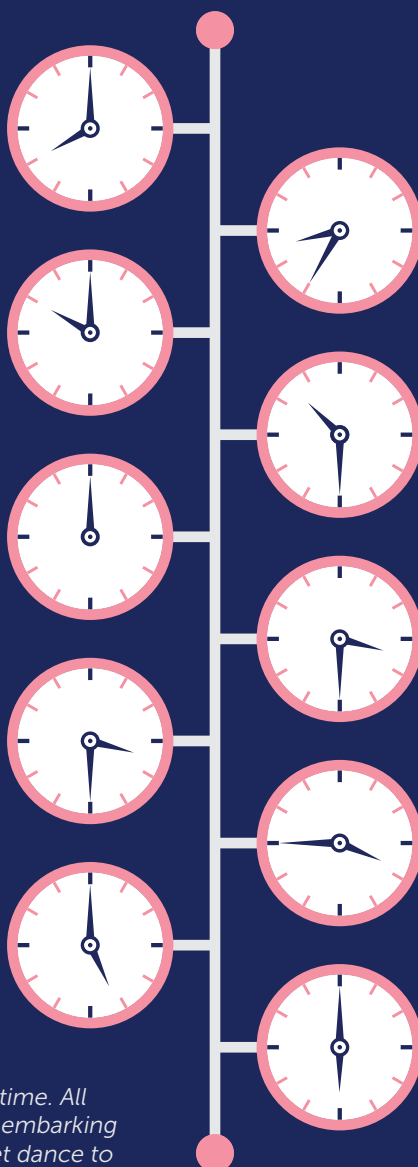
During lunch time (Dining Room) 12.00pm - 12.35pm, children are served by staff.

SNACK TIME 3:30PM

Snack time 3:30pm until 3:45pm.

TEA TIME 5:00PM

Optional Tea at 5:00pm.



REGISTRATION 8:35AM

Registration is at 8:35am, after which either individual reading continues or lessons begin.

SNACK TIME 10:30AM

Snack time at 10:30am, with homemade snacks made on site.

DAY ENDS 3:30PM

The School Day ends at 3:30pm.

'AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS' 3:45PM

'After School Clubs' at 3:45pm until 4:45pm*.

PICK UP 6PM

Pick up at 6pm.

**Monday to Thursday afternoons, during term time. All children attending a club enjoy a snack before embarking upon all sorts of activities from chess and street dance to sports club. All clubs are chargeable.*



School food



All of our catering is prepared in-house by our own chefs. We provide menus that are varied and interesting, based on fresh produce and good nutritional principles.

Lunch is provided every day and consists of two freshly prepared courses with vegetables or salad. Freshly made savoury cheese scones or pizza swirls, milk or fruit are provided mid-morning.

Specific allergies and dietary requirements are catered for with an emphasis on providing a close equivalent for your child.

Tennis Club

Ballet (specialist teacher)

What happens after school

Arts and Craft

French Club

Swimming Club

Sports Club

Construction

THERE IS AN
OPTIONAL AND
VERY POPULAR 'AFTER
SCHOOL CARE'
PROVIDED UP UNTIL
6.00PM. A COOKED
SUPPER IS ALSO AN
ADDED OPTION FOR
CHILDREN AT 5.00PM.



Pre-prep extra-curricular and trips



As a complementary addition to the curriculum taught here at Cottesmore Pre-prep, the children benefit from a large variety of in-house workshops and school events. In-house activities have included an enjoyable Roald Dahl theatre workshop, a dance workshop and celebrating World Book Day by dressing as a favourite book character. In addition, the children have enjoyed celebrating Harvest Festival, bonfire night and fireworks festivities, the Nativity play, a trip to the pantomime and an annual Christmas party.

The children have recently enjoyed school trips to Hampton Court, Arundel Castle, celebrating National Science Week at Herstmonceux Observatory and have taken part in a glorious day at the beach.

Each year Cottesmore hosts a World Awareness Week across the whole school; this enterprise promotes a particular focus on a particular country; the lessons, the food and activities are all based around the specific culture.

“ ”

Being part of Cottesmore is being part of a family for all of us, parents and pupils alike, everyone from the kitchen team to the energetic, inspiring teachers, the secretaries and the sports teachers – motivation, care and kindness rule.



Moving on up

Managing the transition to the Prep School

“”

Children move to the Prep School after Year 3. *This extra, nurturing year in Pre-prep is offered to children ahead of Prep school at the age of 8.*

Over the course of the year the children are gradually introduced to all that the Prep school has to offer. They share their games sessions with the first year of the Prep school and they are given the opportunity to represent Cottesmore in matches whenever possible. Prep school teachers also come and offer showcase lessons throughout the year so that the children become familiar with them. During the summer term, in preparation for the following September, the children are invited to stay later and also have their lunch and breaks with the Prep school children.

Pupils develop extremely well as they engage in an active and creative curriculum; they are very well prepared for the next step in their education.

ISI REPORT 2019

Visit us

We strongly encourage all parents to visit our Pre-prep to see exactly what we offer and to experience our inspiring and caring environment, first-hand.

How to apply

To book a private tour at your convenience or register for one of our Open Mornings, please contact our Admissions team on 01293 520648; or by email; admissions@cottesmoreschool.com





bsa | BOARDING
SCHOOLS'
ASSOCIATION

isc | independent
schools
council

iaps

ISBA | INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS' BURSARS
ASSOCIATION



COTTESMORE SCHOOL
BUCHAN HILL, PEASE POTTAGE
WEST SUSSEX, RH11 9AU

+44 (0)1293 520648
admissions@cottesmoreschool.com