



St Olave's Prep School

WHERE LEARNING IS FUN

www.stolaves.org.uk

St Olave's Prep School

Traditional values, 21st century vision

For nearly 80 years St Olave's has been committed to providing exceptional primary education. From Early Years right through to Year 6, we focus on each individual child, allowing them to learn and develop to their full potential.

We combine all the traditional school values including respect and responsibility with a flexible and inspirational approach to learning for the 21st century. Our educational ethos helps to develop independent and enquiring minds whilst equipping pupils with a positive and confident outlook.

“We foster a caring and excellent environment for growth and education.”

Head Teacher



At St Olave's we aim to lay the solid foundations that enable every child to enjoy a happy and successful school life. Children are taught in a caring and supportive environment where they learn to face new challenges with confidence. Along with academic development, our pupils take away a sense of self-respect and a clear understanding of their responsibilities to others.



Learning through play

Pre-Prep (3 to 4 years of age)

For children at the very start of their school life, St Olave's Pre-Prep offers well planned activities in a stimulating environment. Our youngest pupils are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to learn about the world and their surroundings through a balance of play and structured activities. By learning to interact with others, these young pupils are gently introduced to the routine and discipline of a school day. St Olave's Pre-Prep provides an ideal first step toward Reception.

“Happy children love to learn.”

Early Years teacher



Foundations with friendships

Reception (4 to 5 years of age)

With an average of 14 children in each Reception class, we provide a supportive environment where teachers and teaching assistants help pupils tackle new challenges and discover new talents. Our broad and balanced curriculum introduces pupils to an array of engaging subjects including music, ICT, PE and French.

Storytelling, role play, creative and investigative activities all help bring lessons to life and develop enquiring minds. As their knowledge and confidence grow pupils are encouraged to work to the best of their ability and to take pride in their achievements.

“There is an atmosphere of purposeful endeavour.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate 2010







Creative minds

Lower School (5 to 7 years of age)

Our child-centred approach and broad, topic-based curriculum help children learn through first-hand experience both inside and outside of the classroom. With the focus on core literacy and numeracy skills teaching is built around topics and related activities. Pupils develop their abilities through writing, art and imaginative projects. This creative approach to learning helps to capture a child's natural curiosity while expanding their knowledge and understanding.

“First hand experiences bring lessons to life.”

Year 1 teacher



At St Olave's we are equipped to support and encourage individual development with teachers and teaching assistants available for one to one tuition. Our commitment to small class sizes ensures that each pupil's strengths and talents are recognised and valued as they progress through the school. The Lower School at St Olave's provides a strong platform for pupils to develop the skills and qualities they will need to meet the challenges throughout the Upper School.

Achieving potential

Upper School (7 to 11 years of age)

We strive to maximise each child's potential and focus on academic excellence in the Upper School in order to deliver results that match abilities. Our subject-based teaching fosters a desire for knowledge and brings depth and understanding to learning. St Olave's pupils are encouraged to demonstrate independence and commitment to their studies.

“There is a strong emphasis on creativity across all subjects.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate 2010



Over the years, St Olave's has provided a gateway to a wide range of secondary education including grammar and independent schools. With guidance from experienced teachers many Year 6 children are prepared and entered for selective entrance examinations. From their first day at the school to their last, St Olave's pupils are taught to enjoy and value education. They are encouraged to make the very most of their strengths and talents – lessons that will last a lifetime.



Opportunities for excellence

The Arts

At St Olave's the broad curriculum is enriched by a wide spectrum of specialist activities and clubs. Music plays a central role in school life and from an early age pupils participate in a variety of musical events and activities. Instrumental lessons, speech & drama and dance are also offered ensuring that school plays, concerts and performances are packed with talent and enthusiasm.

*“I can't believe school
can be such fun.”*

Year 1 pupil



The benefit of taking part in these activities at an early age extends far beyond the classroom. They offer children a means to express creativity and develop communication skills, as well as helping them to grow in confidence. Inter-school competitions and events provide pupils with the opportunity to display their abilities to a wider audience. Our commitment to providing an all-round education gives pupils access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities that complement their academic development.



Sport for all

Physical Education

PE plays an essential part in school life and all pupils are encouraged to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle. PE lessons at St Olave's are co-educational with classes taught by a qualified PE teacher. All children participate in sport and each is allowed to take part at a level that suits their ability. We offer a wide range of activities including gymnastics, cricket, tag rugby, football, netball, basketball, rounders, swimming and track events both at school and at local sports facilities.

Fixtures in a range of sports allow our pupils to develop an understanding of healthy competition and a sense of fair play. We teach the children to appreciate success in others while recognising the importance of their own individual contribution. Everyone has a role to play on Sports Day and all our pupils enjoy the rewards and benefits offered by sport and physical activity.

“Teamwork and competition are essential to a child’s education.”

PE teacher





Out and about

Enhancing learning

All pupils enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities and trips. The curriculum is enriched by visits to museums, theatres, art galleries and places of historic interest. Field trips that focus on geography, history and environmental science are arranged for all Year groups. These trips play a crucial part in preparing children for the years ahead, in school and beyond. They help demonstrate the relevance of their lessons, bringing projects and assignments to life, while encouraging an appreciation of the environment and the world in which they live.



Residential field trips are organised for Years 4 and 5 with Year 6 pupils taking part in an European activity holiday. For many children, a residential trip is an important milestone as it represents the first time away from home without their family. We provide a safe, supportive and familiar environment for children to take this step towards greater independence.

“It was a great adventure with lots of fun activities. The food was delicious.”

Year 4 pupil







Community

Reaching out

Pastoral care is woven into everyday life at St Olave's and each child's emotional wellbeing is nurtured alongside their academic achievements. Our staff work closely with parents and we encourage open and clear lines of communication between home and school. Teachers and pupils enjoy a positive relationship based on respect and understanding. From their very first day every pupil is part of a caring and supportive school community.

“The pupils’ strong moral awareness is at the heart of the school; they think of others as well as themselves.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate 2010



By participating in charity events and local activities, the children develop an awareness of their responsibilities to others. This extends beyond the local community through the active involvement of pupils and staff in overseas projects. Fund raising for a school in Africa and support for worldwide charities and conservation projects help instil an understanding among pupils of their role in society.

Home from home

School lunches and Playzone

We ensure that the children's school time outside of the classroom is happy and active. Our lunchtime menu provides all the children and staff with a healthy, hot meal prepared on-site by our own catering team. We use local suppliers and fresh ingredients where possible and always offer a selection of lunchtime choices.

Playzone provides parents with the option of flexible, wraparound childcare for pupils of all ages. Managed by staff from our school community,

“At Playzone Fred is so happy and busy with his friends that he never wants to leave.”

Parent



children enjoy games and activities with their friends outside core school hours. Playzone's breakfast club provides a light breakfast while the after-school club offers a healthy teatime snack. Children can join in fun activities, have quiet time to themselves or simply run around in the playground, while parents can be confident that their children are in a safe and secure environment. Playzone can be used on a regular or an occasional basis.



Come and join us

School tours and admissions

St Olave's offers both parents and pupils a warm, welcoming school community where children thrive emotionally and academically. By encouraging our pupils to do the very best they can we help develop a positive approach to life and learning. We hold two Open Days a year offering guided tours of the school. Parents then have the opportunity to visit on a school day where they will meet the Head Teacher and see just how we put our principles into practice.

“You can't help but be impressed by the warmth of the welcome and the children's enthusiasm for learning.”

New parent



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