



NOTRE DAME
PREP SCHOOL

A leading independent, inclusive
preparatory school in Norwich

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Ahead in learning,
a heart in community

Welcome to our community

We're delighted that you've decided to explore our school and discover more about life at Notre Dame Prep.

Reading about independent schools, one might expect to see words and phrases such as 'unique', 'small class sizes', 'excellent academic results' and so on. Notre Dame Prep offers all of these things - but what makes us different?

We have a vision! We believe education should be broad, and packed with variety, as happy children learn well and flourish. Our parents trust us to ensure that learning is stimulating and great fun.

We also operate very much as a family, where children get an opportunity to develop their individual talents, whilst integrating fully into a system that holds community at the centre. Visitors always comment on the sense of purpose in all that we do, and this is evident too in our extra-curricular and pastoral offer.

Our academic results are simply outstanding for a non-selective school - but examination success is only a part of what we do. Our mission is to ensure that all children thrive at Notre Dame Prep - and I'm confident that this will be evident as you begin to explore our school.

Please don't leave it there though - we welcome you to make an appointment to come and see us any time, or book in for our next Open Morning. The sense of purpose is tangible!



Rob Thornton
Headmaster at Notre Dame Preparatory School



A leading independent,
inclusive preparatory
school in Norwich



Guided by our values

First established in 1864, Notre Dame Preparatory School has a long tradition of success and maintaining the highest standards across everything we do.

As a non-selective school, there are no entrance examinations - nor is there a religious requirement to join our community. At Notre Dame Prep, we welcome families of all faiths, or none at all.

Regularly listed in The Sunday Times Parent Power Top 50 Independent Preparatory Schools in the UK, and graded 'Excellent' by the Independent Schools Inspectorate, we believe we are the best choice for preparing children for the next stage of their journey.

At Notre Dame Prep, all our children are cared for, supported and respected. No one is left out, or left behind, and all our children are seen and recognised as individuals.

Notre Dame Prep supports children in all areas of their development in a safe, supportive and nurturing learning environment. We provide a well-rounded and forward-looking education that prepares children for their futures beyond Prep School.

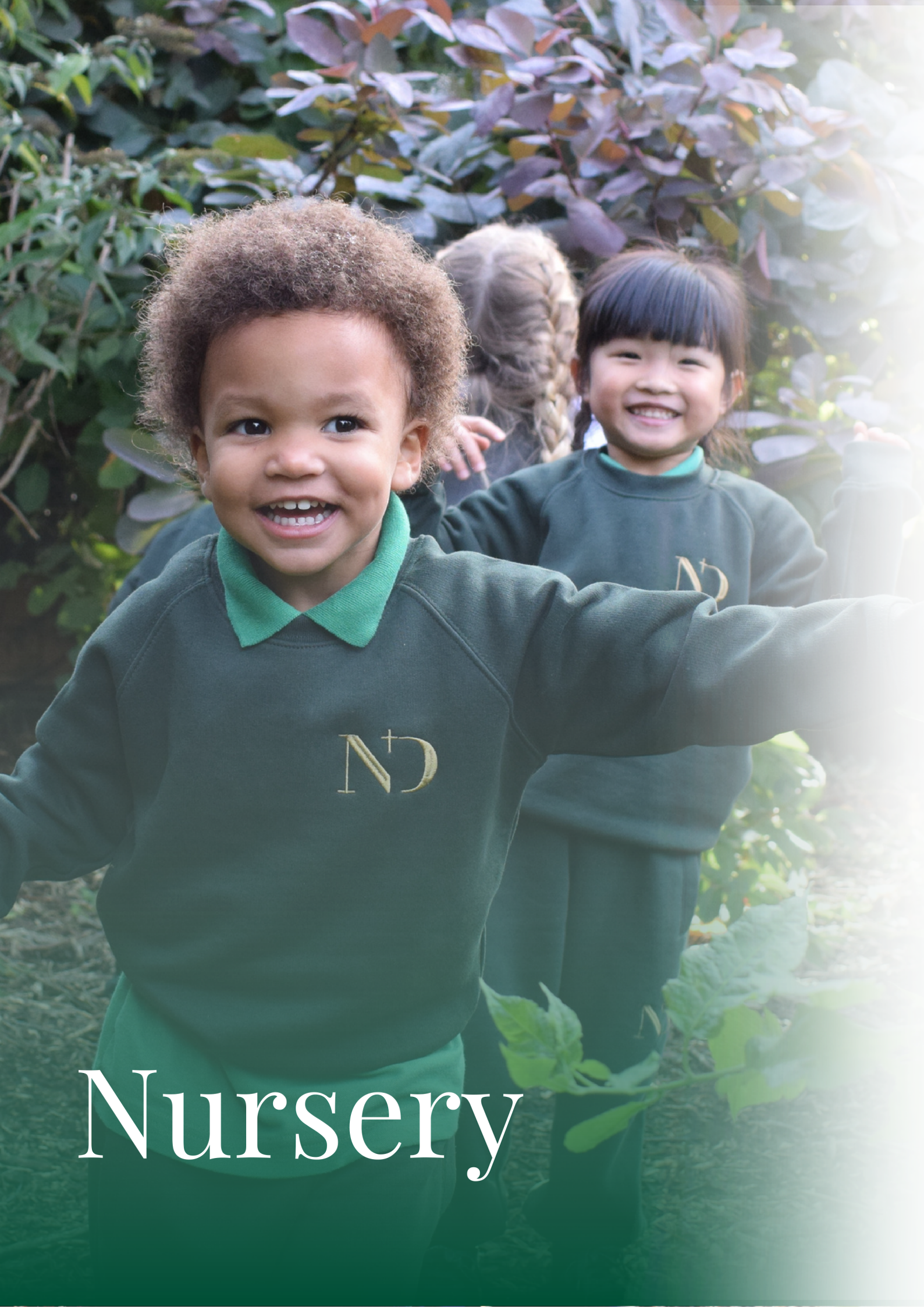
We celebrate the individual talents of each child, and our wide ranging extra-curricular activities encourage pupils to strive for their full potential in every aspect of school life.

Our school has a unique family feel, and our relationships with pupils, parents and grandparents are important to us. We encourage you to get a feel for the school's warm and supportive ethos by coming to see us.



Notre Dame Prep provides support for children and parents alike, in an inclusive environment.

Notre Dame Prep Parent



Nursery

Hello Minibeasts!

Our Minibeasts Nursery caters for children from the age of two to four years old, with a dedicated class provision for age groups within that bracket. High staff ratios in Nursery ensure individual attention is given to each child, alongside strong and dedicated pastoral care.

Following the EYFS curriculum, our Nursery children are encouraged to ask questions, discover new things and try to solve problems without fear. Music and PE teaching is also delivered by specialists from the upper school.

We place an emphasis on teaching children to be sensitive to the feelings of others - children learn to take turns, share fairly and treat living things with care and respect.

Full day Nursery sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. Our Nursery has a minimum session requirement of two full days per week in order to ensure consistency and foster confidence.



Caterpillar Room

Our Caterpillar room is well suited to the youngest children in Nursery, a cosy space well equipped with age-appropriate resources and direct access to their own outside space where they can explore and play.



Butterfly Room

Once children are ready, they move into our Butterfly room, a lively and exciting environment where they can continue their journey through a range of interactive learning experiences. Children enjoy large, well-resourced discovery spaces both indoors and outdoors, and direct access to the garden enables them to explore the world around them as they play.



Prep School



In Prep School, children develop the confidence to investigate and solve problems, and begin to take responsibility for their own learning. We aim to enrich their experiences, broaden their social horizons, and help our children to develop a work ethic that stands them in great stead for the future.

Our teaching is planned around specific learning objectives that delivers - and goes far beyond - the National Curriculum. Our staff also bring their wide ranging specialisms, curriculum expertise, and passions to their work, and pupils enjoy specialist teaching in music and drama.

The happiness and well-being of our pupils lies at the heart of all we do, providing the necessary foundations in a small and nurturing environment.



Pre-Prep

Pre-Prep (Reception) marks the very first year of the main school and completes the final year of EYFS. Learning in Pre-Prep is topic based, and includes visits to local museums and exciting venues.

Children in Pre-Prep also enjoy specialist teaching in both PE and Music.



Each child has their own online 'Learning Journey', and we work closely with families to help support their learning both in school and at home.

Key Stage 1

Throughout their time in Prep 1 and Prep 2, children continue to develop their foundational skills in Phonics, Reading, Writing and Maths, becoming confident and independent readers, writers and mathematicians.

The children also encounter a variety of topics that cultivate a love of learning with History, Geography, Art and Design.



Music and PE lessons are taught by specialists, and local area trips, alongside all-school events such as Sports Day, allow the children to enjoy a whole host of wonderful experiences.

Key Stage 2

Children in Prep 3 through to Prep 6 become independent learners and make excellent progress in all aspects of English and Maths. Foundation subjects foster a real passion for learning, supported by visits, guest speakers and residential trips. Notre Dame Prep sees excellent results in the end of key stage assessments in the summer term of Prep 6.



Notre Dame Prep ensures that children are fully prepared for the next stage of their journey, with many of our children accepting places at leading local senior schools.

Extra-curricular



At Notre Dame Prep, our extra curricular programme offers a wide variety of activities and clubs, with something for everyone.

Creativity and self-expression are important skills that we encourage and foster, with opportunities for children to be involved in annual drama and singing performances, and music concerts throughout the year. Individual lessons are offered in recorder, guitar, violin, piano, woodwind, singing, drums, and the ukulele, as well as in speech and drama.

Notre Dame Prep teams regularly compete in sporting events across Norwich, Norfolk and beyond, enabling children to develop excellent team skills and a drive to exceed their personal goals.

Our pupils also enjoy participating in clubs ranging from the arts, sport and music, which change regularly each term.



I like learning with lots of friends and being a prefect - especially looking after the younger ones!

Notre Dame Prep pupil







Facilities

Creative learning

The school's library is a vibrant, comfortable and welcoming space used by children of all ages. The library offers a range of material for interest and reading ages.

The school Hall is the centre of life at Notre Dame Prep. The space is used for mass, school assemblies and gatherings, drama and music performances, and is also where fresh, daily lunches are served by our onsite catering team.

Older classes also enjoy an opportunity to take to the stage each year, with the summer musicals performed at Norwich's iconic Playhouse Theatre.

Music is a great strength at Notre Dame Prep, and our pupils enjoy a dedicated space to practise their instruments or their lines for upcoming drama performances.

The Cathedral of St John The Baptist

As an independent Catholic school, Notre Dame Prep is honoured to have a strong relationship with the nearby Cathedral of St John the Baptist on Unthank Road.

Our children perform regularly at St John's Cathedral and in particular for our Carol Service, Prizegiving and Easter Concert.

The wonderful outdoors

Alongside secure playgrounds and a dedicated outdoor space for our Nursery classes, Notre Dame Prep also has access to a beautiful hidden garden with mature trees and shrubs - where pupils of all ages are encouraged to spend time outdoors and learn in all weathers.

Pupils also benefit from an all weather, multi-games pitch on site for internal games, PE lessons and sporting events. Notre Dame Prep pupils also enjoy an opportunity to demonstrate their sporting skills on the pitches at the University of East Anglia for Sports Day, Easton & Otley College and classes take regular trips to the local swimming pool for swimming lessons.





Wrap-around
care



To assist our community in childcare, Notre Dame Prep offers both before and after school child supervision, a popular offering that helps to support busy families. Before school care starts from 8am, with prior arrangement from the head. At 8.30am, the children go to their respective classrooms for registration and the start of the school day.

In addition to extra curricular clubs, for an additional charge we offer flexible after school care in the form of supervised play and activities for pupils in Nursery through to Prep 2, as well as Homework Club for children in Prep 3 through to Prep 6. After school care can be extended to include a light tea and we provide activities and supervision until 5.45pm if required.



Admissions and fees



For the latest information regarding our termly fees for Nursery, Pre-Prep and the Prep School please visit our website. You'll also find up to date prices for after school care, extra curricular clubs and meals.

Notre Dame Prep is a member of the Government Nursery Grant Scheme, which provides funding for a maximum of 15 hours per week for all 3 and 4 year olds.

We also offer Sibling Discounts of up to 20% on basic fees, where there are siblings attending the school.

We operate on a rolling admissions process, meaning you can speak to us anytime about enrolling your child at Notre Dame Prep. We have no specific catchment area either and we welcome children from across East Anglia to join us.



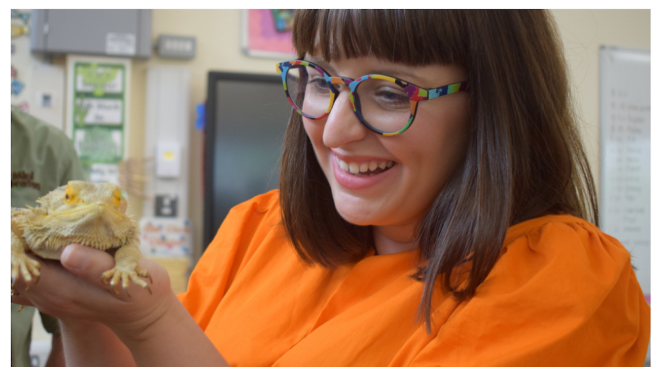
**Choose Notre Dame Prep
for a small community feel
and teachers who know
your child well!**

Notre Dame Prep staff member

Open mornings

The best way to get a feel for our school is to come and see us! We warmly welcome visits at both our regularly scheduled Open Mornings throughout the school year, and individual appointments and tours.

We will tailor your visit according to your family's individual requirements and the age ranges of your child(ren). A tour will also give you the opportunity to meet with members of our dedicated team - and most importantly, to see our nurturing, caring and inclusive ethos in action!





01603 625593

admissions@notredameprepschool.co.uk

147 Dereham Rd, Norwich, NR2 3TA



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