

ABINGDON



prep







Welcome

At Abingdon Prep, you will find a happy and thriving community. We are fortunate to be set in 50 acres of beautiful countryside within easy reach of Oxford, Abingdon and many surrounding villages. From the age of 4 to 13, every child is treated as an individual and encouraged to explore his own talents. We are passionate about our pupils developing a genuine love of learning in a range of different fields, and we believe that if they are enjoying school, this will happen naturally with the close support of a committed staff and the benefit of our superb facilities and “outstanding” pastoral care. As part of the Abingdon Foundation, it is no surprise that “excellent teaching”, individual attention and small class sizes deliver consistently excellent results. However, it is not just in the classroom where pupils are given the opportunity to excel. Our renowned Other Half of the curriculum promotes a healthy balance between academic advancement and a wide variety of artistic, musical, sporting, intellectual and outdoor pursuits, providing a genuine all-round education for every pupil. I look forward to welcoming you to our school so that you can see first-hand what Abingdon Prep has to offer.

Craig Williams, Headmaster



“Abingdon Prep is a very special school – everyone is made to feel welcome and the teachers are quite incredible. They are kind, understanding and very fair. They know the boys so well and gear the classes to what the boys are interested in.”

A parent

Academic

The School's approach to the curriculum is, as described by a parent, "quietly rigorous" and our academic credentials are second to none. In Reception we teach the standard Foundation Year Programme, followed by a curriculum that is based on the National Curriculum in Years 1-6. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 follow the School's own curriculum, known as AP+, and some pupils are also prepared for academic scholarship exams. The boys in Reception to Year 5 study all the core-curriculum subjects, such as English, Maths and PSHCE, with their form group and teacher, which creates a consistent and supportive classroom environment. They receive specialist teaching in subjects like Science, Languages, Computing, Music and Sport, and as they move up the school, in all subjects. The vast majority of boys then move on to Abingdon, our Senior School, at the end of Year 8, many with awards and scholarships.



“

The lessons are very entertaining and interactive. It's very easy to make friends and the school culture is one of integration and kindness.”

Year 8 pupil



Sport

Sport at Abingdon is about determination, fairness and teamwork, so no matter their level of ability, every boy is encouraged to find a sport they enjoy. We have a wide variety of activities to fit all interests, offering fencing, golf, tennis, badminton, cross-country, karate, athletics and rifle-shooting alongside our core sports of rugby, football, hockey, cricket and swimming. We teach the value of sport for all and there are regular opportunities for all boys in a year group to compete against other leading prep schools. The School's sporting reputation is excellent, with several of our teams unbeaten in inter-school competitions and many of our boys gaining places in elite squads for rugby, cricket, football, biathlon and cross-country.





Art

Abingdon Prep has a tremendous reputation for Art and CDT. Our stunning facilities are equipped to allow the boys to develop their creativity through a variety of media – from painting and drawing to ceramics, digital design, printmaking and woodworking. We also benefit from the input of visiting artists, who are invited to run workshops. Each year the boys enjoy trips to encourage their creativity. Boys regularly win awards in competitions including Young Art Oxford and they relish hosting Art Weeks when we open our doors to visitors. As well as timetabled art lessons, there are weekend workshops and flourishing art clubs where pupils enjoy a relaxed chance to be creative. Our scholarship programme also offers the opportunity for particularly talented pupils to enjoy detailed study, and these boys have a successful track record for winning artistic awards to senior schools.



Drama

Drama is enjoyed by all our pupils, from the nativity play in Pre-Prep to ambitious annual Junior and Senior Section productions. The discipline of auditioning and rehearsing improves the boys' concentration and memory skills, while performing to large audiences in the Senior School's 450-seat Amey Theatre is a fun and rewarding achievement. We have a bespoke drama studio where boys learn a variety of key skills, enjoying role-playing, mime, improvisation, comedy and performances. We also offer 1:1 or paired LAMDA tuition and extra-curricular activities for those who want to pursue drama beyond school, with some boys winning scholarships or going on to perform in professional stage and screen productions.



Everyone is encouraged to have a go – whether it be sport, drama, music or art. The number of clubs on offer is huge and there is something for everyone. We are very lucky to be part of this fabulous school.

A parent



A young boy with short, light brown hair is shown in profile, focused on playing a gold saxophone. He is wearing a white button-down shirt and a black neck strap. The background is a blurred blue wall with vertical lines. The image is partially covered by a dark grey geometric shape in the bottom right corner.

Music

Music is celebrated and enjoyed across the school, with class music lessons beginning in Reception and allowing boys to experience a range of music from classical and jazz to folk, pop and African drumming. There are plenty of opportunities for every boy to perform, whether in our informal recitals, the annual House Music Festival, or our whole-school concerts at Christmas and in the summer. From Year 1 we offer individual music tuition on a wide range of instruments, including free 'taster' lessons, and boys also have the chance to join our various orchestras, choirs, and ensembles. There is provision for boys wanting to pursue music at a higher level, with many achieving excellent results in the Associated Board instrumental exams and winning music scholarships to senior schools. Regardless of a boy's age or ability, playing for enjoyment as well as improvement is encouraged.

“

My son has prospered because of the spectrum of support available at the school. It has a holistic environment where, although the academic education is important, sport, drama and music play vital parts. I am so glad he has been a Prep pupil.”

A parent





The Other Half

We are extremely proud of our extensive range of outstanding extra-curricular activities, which we call the Other Half. In both timetabled and after-school slots across the week boys are free to choose from more than 50 activities each term, as diverse as coding, gardening, debating, touch-typing, archery and Lego robotics. The aim of our Other Half programme is to inspire young minds, not just through excellent teaching but by providing a rich variety of experiences both inside the school and beyond it. In a typical school year, our pupils will have the chance to take trips that involve canoeing, walking, outdoor adventure, museums, sports training, theatre and bushcraft, both in the UK and abroad. Whichever activities and outings a pupil chooses, we encourage them to enjoy varied interests and to try something new, as we recognise that much of our boys' confidence comes from the excellent relationships built up with staff as they continue their learning beyond the classroom. We also encourage pupils to give as well as gain, getting involved in community volunteering and raising thousands of pounds each year for the School's nominated charity.

Room to grow

Children need space, whether it is in the classroom, during breaks, or in after-school activities. We have 50 acres of school grounds for the boys to explore and enjoy, including two adventure play areas, a Pre-Prep sandpit and play area, an outdoor learning space incorporating our Forest School and a garden looked after by the gardening club. As well as our rugby, football and cricket pitches, we have an all-weather pitch, a beautiful pavilion, an indoor swimming pool and a multi-activity sports hall. The boys also benefit from dedicated art and drama studios, private music rooms, a science laboratory, CDT and computing suites and a well-stocked library.





Transfer to Abingdon School

Pupils, for whom Abingdon School is an appropriate next step, receive an offer of a place for Year 9 at Abingdon School at the end of Year 5 at Abingdon Prep. The offer is based on the continuous assessment of each Abingdon Prep pupil. There is no separate entrance examination – which is a requirement for boys from other prep schools. The offer is subject to a boy maintaining his profile of achievement in Years 6 to 8 at Abingdon Prep.

Admissions procedures

Details of our admissions procedures by year group can be found on our website at abingdon.org.uk/prep. The Admissions Manager, who will be happy to arrange a visit, can be contacted by email: admissions.manager@abingdonprep.org.uk or telephone +44 (0)1865 392303.

A registration form is available from the Admissions section of our website.

Additional information

Early-birds club

After-school club

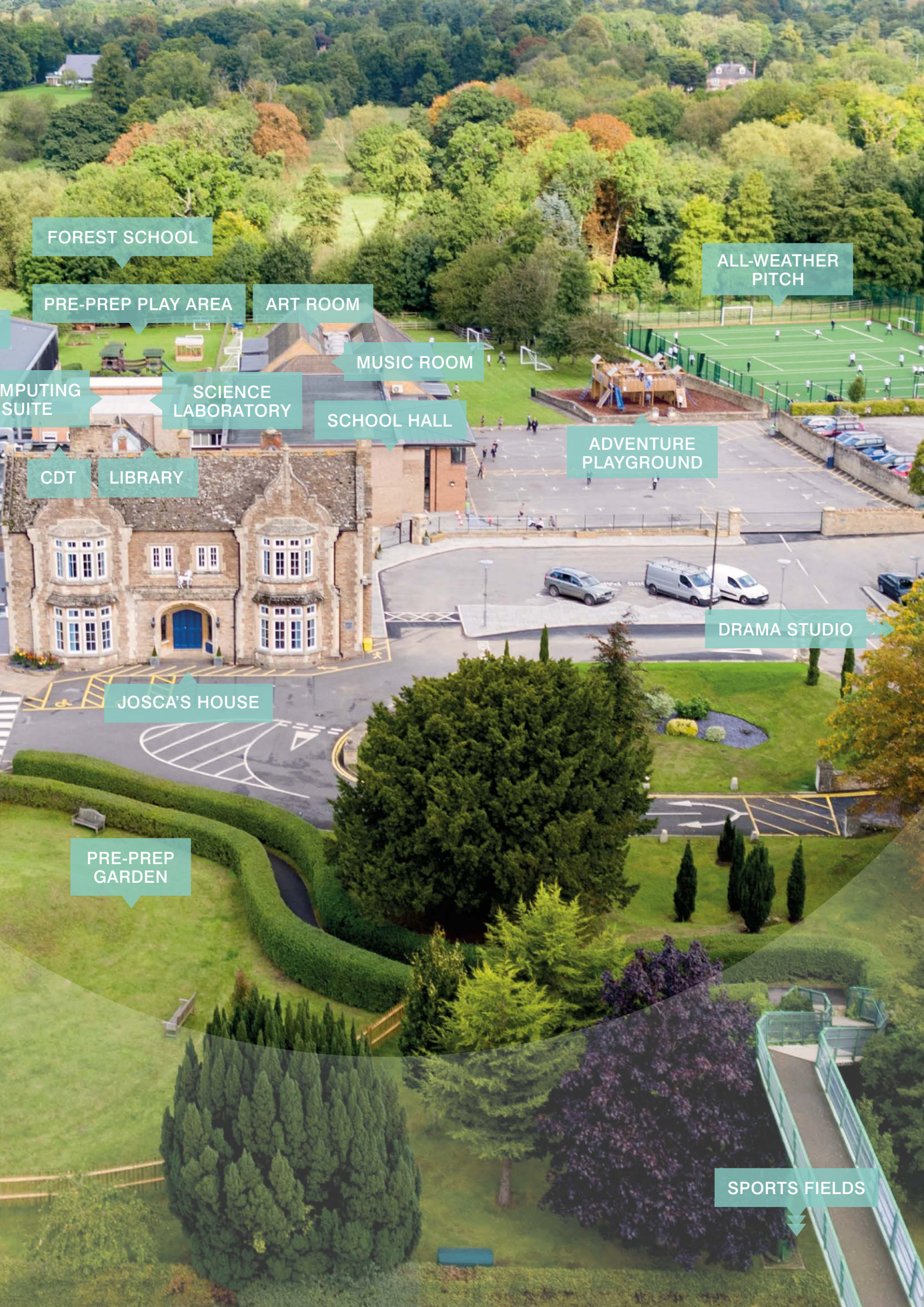
School holiday activities

Well-balanced, nutritious school meals cooked on the premises

Minibus service

Abingdon Prep has its own minibus service which collects from the surrounding area. Please check the school website for further details. The minibus service is available to boys from Year 1.





FOREST SCHOOL

PRE-PREP PLAY AREA

ART ROOM

MUSIC ROOM

COMPUTING SUITE

SCIENCE LABORATORY

SCHOOL HALL

CDT

LIBRARY

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

ALL-WEATHER PITCH

DRAMA STUDIO

JOSCA'S HOUSE

PRE-PREP GARDEN

SPORTS FIELDS

What next?

Please get in touch with us to find out more. You can...



Call for further information
+44 (0)1865 392303



Browse our website
abingdon.org.uk/prep



Book a visit – email:
admissions.manager@abingdonprep.org.uk



Complete the
registration form



independent day school for
boys aged 4 to 13 years

Headmaster:

Craig Williams

Josca's House, Kingston Road
Frilford, Abingdon
Oxfordshire, OX13 5NX

+44 (0)1865 391570
admissions.manager@abingdonprep.org.uk

To contact the governors of the school
email: heads.pa@abingdon.org.uk

abingdon.org.uk/prep

The School's Aims and Ethos, Policies and Inspection reports are available on the school website.

Abingdon School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Abingdon School

A company limited by guarantee,
registered in England and Wales.

Company No. 3625063
Registered Charity No. 1071298

Registered Office:
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