



St. James' School

A Woodard School





Welcome from the Headmaster



St. James' School is built upon the tenet of family; caring, encouraging, supporting, and inspiring. Deliberately small, we passionately believe an extraordinary education is built upon strong, trusting relationships. At St. James', these are immediately obvious.

Best enjoyed from 2-18, our dynamic curriculum blends seamlessly through our three departments: Pre-Prep, Prep, and Senior. Building from 'ABCs', 123s', and arriving at A-Levels, St. James' pupils are allowed time to follow their own passions within an environment that creates opportunities both in the 'here and now', but also for the future.

Outwardly facing and globally aware, we welcome pupils from across the globe into our school. Boarding remains central to the St. James' ethos, where the benefits of 'living your education' are available to all pupils.

Blending together a love of learning with the development of 'character', at St. James' our goal is not to educate, but to **'Future Proof'**; securing the qualifications to stand out, building the character to endear, and instilling the core values to succeed.

Do come and see what makes us special; a very warm welcome awaits.

Richard Murray

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St. James' Pre-Preparatory Department comprises of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1 (KS1).

The EYFS includes our Nursery classes; Fledglings and Sparrows and Reception Class.

KS1 includes Preps 1 and 2, where the children continue their learning journey and build on the solid foundations laid in EYFS – a chance to discover, explore, enjoy and flourish.

Within the classroom, high expectations are set for the children on an individual basis. With specialist teaching for French, Music, PE and swimming from age 4 years, children are working way above the national average throughout the Pre-Prep. We place great emphasis on discovering each child's talents and giving them the confidence they need to develop them.







Nursery - Fledglings & Sparrows

We have two Nursery Classes, Fledglings for pupils aged 2 to 3 and Sparrows for pupils aged 3 to 4.

Our experienced and qualified staff are passionate about giving your child the best start to their education so they can learn and grow in a safe, caring and fun environment. We ensure that your child's early years experience is exciting, fun and active.

Children who join our Nursery follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (EYFS) which is a broad, flexible curriculum mainly taught through games and play. We use topic based learning to reinforce all areas of the curriculum.

Children benefit from superb outdoor facilities; with a lovely secure garden with raised beds and a tarmac road

for the children's bicycles, sand pit, mud kitchen, potting shed and climbing frame, our on-site forest school where children of all ages can safely explore and learn, and the large paddock where the children enjoy various sports.

Morning sessions are 8.00am to 1.00pm, afternoon sessions 1.00pm to 6.00pm or full day from 8.00am to 6.00pm.

Morning sessions include lunchtime which is provided by our on-site kitchen and serves freshly prepared, nutritious food.

We have part time and full time places available and accept the 15 and 30 hours government funding as well as nursery vouchers.







“Children are encouraged to achieve excellence not only in their academic studies but also in the field of sport, drama, music, leadership and service.”

The Preparatory Department offers a bespoke education for our pupils and our small class sizes allow our inspirational teaching staff to ensure that each child reaches his or her potential. Every child has talent and it is our job to provide an inspirational learning environment to enable pupils to discover their talents.

Every child's attainment is tracked and monitored and all pupils know what progress they are making. They receive the support they need to be motivated, independent learners and parents are kept fully informed about the achievements and academic progress of their children.

Our academic standards are reflected in our high degree of 'Value-added' rather than a position in SATs league-tables. The children take nationally recognised examinations each year and with gentle preparation we achieve excellent Grammar School pass rates.

Children are encouraged to develop not only in their academic studies but also in the field of sport, drama, music, leadership and service. The Prep children benefit from numerous outdoor play areas, including a Forest School.



Senior Department Age 11 - 16

The Senior Department begins at Year 7 and continues to Year 13. These are the crucial years in the journey from childhood to adulthood. Our aim is to bring out the best in each and every pupil. Our independent curriculum and progressive teaching give us the flexibility to tailor our approach to the needs of each pupil.

Pupils benefit from an extremely supportive environment that creates a rich and rewarding educational experience.

Our dedicated teaching staff have the ability and experience necessary to be able to inspire and enthuse every pupil.

This teaching excellence, along with the small class sizes, equips our pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding they require to reach their academic potential. A broad and balanced curriculum places equal value on cultural, creative, technological, scientific and linguistic ability, with most pupils studying between 8 and 10 GCSEs.





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Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form benefit from their own private study area and common room. Combining small tutorial groups with high-quality teaching means that we are able to offer a personalised approach to sixth form education.

Our objective is straight forward – to ensure that your child leaves us as a well-educated young adult with the confidence to face new challenges, take on responsibility and demonstrate leadership ability. We recognise the need to balance support for each individual academically,

as well as building confidence and independence in preparation for University or work. Please see our pupil success stories for more details on the destinations of our students

In addition to careers lessons, students take part in our Life Skills programme. This includes practical support and preparation in areas of financial management, cooking, car care, interview techniques and are aimed at preparing students for University and the world of work.

“The support the staff provide is overwhelming, extending many opportunities and extra curricular activities simply not offered at any equivalent school in the area, they are open to all students of all abilities and interests. Due to the close knit nature of the school I have got to know the majority of the school community and met many approachable fellow students whose friendships I'm sure will last a lifetime. “

————— Harry Gavan-Major —————

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Music

The Director of Music and his team of Peripatetic Tutors, there are numerous performance opportunities every term at St. James'.

They range from the relaxed informality of our Friday afternoon Musical Interludes to extremely festive and impressive annual School Wassail in the Markham Hall (pictured below and left).

Children of all ages also have the opportunity to take part in external performances; from singing Christmas Carols for local businesses to the 'Big Hymn Sing' at Grimsby Minster and the impressive Young Voices Concert in Sheffield.

Children from age 3 have weekly music lessons and children from Prep 1 are invited to begin learning musical instruments with our numerous Peripatetic teachers.



“We pride ourselves not only on the sporting progress made and achievement of our most able pupils, but also on the opportunities offered to all”

At St. James’ we pride ourselves not only on the progress made and achievement of our most able pupils, but also on the opportunities offered to those for whom enjoyment, experience and the development of team skills are the main objectives.

The experienced and committed games staff have created a sporting programme that makes the best use of our own

facilities and those in the surrounding area. Pupils benefit from the use of local specialist facilities

Children from Reception to Year 6 have swimming lessons and all students have games lessons as part of the curriculum; with PE lessons being introduced (in addition) at Prep 3.





**“The experienced and committed games staff
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“We have developed an extensive extra-curricular programme available throughout the School.”

Our aim is to ensure that pupils have the opportunity to discover their talent and we have developed a varied and extensive extra-curricular programme available throughout the School.

Pupils enjoy sports after school, through our clubs and also through fixtures both locally and nationally.

Pupils are also able to access the local network of sports, clubs and facilities and are actively encouraged to participate, on a regular basis.

In addition to the vast range of sporting and musical activities, we also offer a wide range of other opportunities suitable for children from age 3 upwards.

From Forest School Club to Clay Pidgeon Shooting there is something for our pupils to take part in every night of the week.

Senior pupils also have the opportunity to join the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

“A home away from home”

Boarders at St. James’ are part of a co-ed boarding community housed across from the Main School site. We have students from all over the world and Europe boarding alongside students from the UK.

The boarding houses are supervised by caring, friendly and understanding residential staff. Medical care is available within the school from our School Health Co-Ordinator, who makes a significant contribution to the care and welfare of our boarders.

Our boarders can thrive in a caring and friendly atmosphere: a home away from home.

Accommodation is purpose built with pupils in double rooms and the senior boarders in single rooms. Activities are planned throughout the school term which consist of visiting local places of interest, sporting activities, theme parks and much more. We believe that student enrichment helps to make happier boarders at St. James’ and therefore

will do our very best to facilitate any request to join teams or clubs on an evening.

In addition to these sporting and cultural activities, music is also promoted throughout the school. Some students join the various music groups we have within the school, have one to one music lessons or join the Grimsby Youth Orchestra who practice weekly at the school.

Houseparents communicate regularly with parents and guardians via either email or telephone. Parents will also receive weekly information from the School office regarding the activities available to their children, the lunch menus and good news throughout the School, so that they feel part of the community.



What our parents say...

“An incredible school, where students thrive in a warm, positive and nurturing environment. Highly recommended” Pre-Prep Parent

“We currently have both of our children at St James’ school. We came to the school over 4 years ago now and have never looked back, both of our children are absolutely thriving. There are many reasons that we love St. James’ school, the small class sizes, caring environment. The teachers really get to know the children and understand their individuality and they are very approachable. It has a lovely outdoor setting to play in and explore, even a forest school and there any many out of school clubs which help to build the children’s character. But first and foremost the thing we like about St. James’ school is that our children are happy, they look forward to going to school every morning and feel part of a family there. “

Pre Prep and Prep Parent

“I have been a parent at the school for over 12 years and a staff member for 14. The individualised approach to teaching and small classes have had such an impact on each of my children's education. In addition to what happens in the classroom, the chance to learn how to golf and sail; certainly opportunities that I would not have been able to find the time to give them. Whether your child is gifted or needs a little extra time and assistance; the school ensures that each child reaches his or her potential.” Senior Parent





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