



**GRANTHAM
PREPARATORY**
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

UNITED KINGDOM
TO BE BETTER



The Grantham Preparatory International School

Grantham Preparatory International School is a non-denominational, independent day school for boys and girls between the ages of three and eleven, dedicated to the unimpeded pursuit of academic, musical and sporting excellence.

We are conveniently located on the outskirts of Grantham, near the A1. We are a member of International Education Systems – “IES”, with sister schools in Sidmouth, Devon, South Africa, Hungary and Boca Raton, Florida, Slovenia & Panama.

The outstanding academic reputation and record of the school is based on the maintenance of traditional teaching methods nurtured by the devotion of our highly skilled and experienced teaching Staff.

Our aim is to provide the best for all our children. We expect them to work hard to achieve as much as is within their reach; and then a little harder to achieve that which at first seemed unattainable.

The happy, family environment, which we have deliberately created, enables us to encourage each individual child to reach his or her full potential in all aspects of our school life. Our rules and guidelines, designed to promote harmony and consideration for others, give our children a feeling of comfort and security, conditions in which they are more readily stimulated.

Grantham Preparatory International School is geared to providing specialised tuition for all abilities and our strict limitation on the size of classes underpins this principle; all children, the gifted, average, dyslexic and the less able, receive individual attention. The children are prepared for Public School entrance examinations and for Grammar School selection examinations. Suitable pupils will be guided towards scholarships and given the opportunity to add their names to the lengthening list of our boys and girls who have already attained impressive scholastic awards.

SCHOOL VALUES & VISION

We believe that every child is an important unique individual who should be valued and nurtured during their time with us. An independent education is about providing a depth and quality in the curriculum and the provision of a bespoke education that is tailored to a child's individual need. We expect that all our children leave us at 11 as “independent”, “confident”, “individuals” who are tolerant of others and well prepared for the next stage of their education.

OUR AIMS AT TGPS

- To inspire and nurture our children
- To develop independent, confident individuals
- To value tolerance and respect
- To provide the best opportunities for all our children
- To provide a broad and balanced curriculum
- To be committed to excellence in all that we do





IES (International Education Systems)

We are a member of International Education Systems – “IES”, with sister schools in Sidmouth, Devon, South Africa, Hungary and Bocca Ratan, Florida.

International Education Systems is one of the few international organisations in the world to offer a structured programme of studies from Early Childhood Education (pre-school) through to University level studies.

The IES schools are officially recognised by the relevant national education authorities and all qualifications offered have both national and international recognition. Therefore, all awards made by the IES schools are also fully recognised both nationally and internationally; whether these be in the pre-school, primary or high school levels.

IES schools are closely linked to the SEK-International Institution, a network of schools and universities in Latin America and Spain. The schools are members of The International Schools Association and offer, where appropriate, qualifications awarded by Cambridge International Examinations and the International Baccalaureate, and locally are members of major school associations such as the Florida Council of Independent Schools, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (USA), the Independent Schools Association (UK), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (UK), and the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa.

IES owns and operates a growing number of schools throughout the United Kingdom, mainland Europe, South Africa and the United States of America.

IES’s mission is to provide excellence in education within an international perspective. The International Education Systems group (IES) promotes the development of young people who will have the capacity to contribute proactively to the on-going work towards a better world. Through dynamic programmes, IES will strive to develop leaders for the future who are collaborative, communicative, enquiring, respectful and creative individuals with a passion for lifelong learning. IES students will be encouraged to integrate effectively in the local, national and international communities through the diverse opportunities afforded them.

“IES, with Sister schools in Sidmouth, Devon, South Africa; Hungary and Bocca Ratan, Florida.”

Its aim is to provide high quality education, adapted to the needs of individual children, within an international perspective. We appreciate the trust that parents place in us by choosing us as the best option for the challenge of educating their children. They are the key players in the educational process and it is to them that we dedicate our expertise and efforts.

Please see www.iesedu.com for further details about this independent international educational institution.





Early Years Foundation Unit

In our care children thrive and make excellent progress within all the areas of learning and development. It is our aim to have happy, independent children, who are confident in their play and learning. Since 2007 we have had two inspections; both of these judged us as an outstanding Early Years and Foundation Stage setting. The unit has a family atmosphere which is safe and stimulating.

The unit offers full and part time places to children. The EYFS Unit accepts children in the term after they are three and government funding enables the children to access five free afternoon sessions. This continues until the term after they have reached five years old. Prior to commencing, we offer 6 weekly half day sessions and we visit their existing nursery to discuss their progress with their key person, this aids with a smooth transition.

We run a key person system to ensure excellent communication between home and school and work in partnership with the parents to ensure children have a curriculum which not only meets their needs but also their interests.

We have an excellent staff ratio and highly qualified staff who are supported by qualified and experienced assistants. All staff within the EYFS unit hold pediatric first aid certificates.

Children can access the outdoors all year round as the school provides warm and waterproof all-in-one suits for the children to wear. Attached to the unit is a large area covered by a canopy and on the school playing field there are several wooded areas in which the children have a den and climbing areas to explore and play in. The EYFS children also regularly use the school's adventure playground and have P.E. lessons in the hall.

Within the EYFS Unit there is an interactive whiteboard which the children can access or is used by staff to aid the children's learning. There are planned sessions in the school's ICT room and the children also have opportunities to use and play with different programmable toys, equipment and iPads.

The EYFS children regularly visit surrounding places in the school mini bus for different learning experiences, such as a village walk, fruit picking at a local farm, planting at a nearby allotment, an indoor soft play area, Belton House.

The school offers a crèche facility to help with wrap around care; it opens at 8am and closes at 6pm.



Infants Curriculum

The curriculum in Key Stage One is divided into subject areas but retains a very cross-curricular approach. The children continue to learn through first-hand experience. Wherever possible, practical activities are incorporated within each topic area to heighten the children's understanding of a concept. Their findings are recorded in individual exercise books and folders.

Key subject areas include Numeracy, Literacy, Science, I.C.T., History, Geography, Religious Education, Physical Education, French, Music, Art and Design and Technology.

In this key stage the children take part in a daily Numeracy and Literacy session. On Mondays and Tuesdays, the Literacy sessions take place within a whole class group and the children undertake creative, extended writing, punctuation, handwriting, speaking and listening activities. The remainder of the week, the children are split by ability into smaller working groups to reinforce their phonic skills through participation in the Read, Write Inc. programme. Development of a pupil's I.C.T. skills is evident throughout the academic year. The children have the opportunity to use iPads, interactive whiteboards, laptops and personal computers to aid their research, illustration, formatting and presentation.

Physical education is taught by specialist staff. The children participate in gymnastics, ball skills, early team games and athletics, on the school site (astro turf, hall and field) and once a week at The Meres Leisure Centre. In Class Two, the children visit the local swimming pool for tuition.

The children also have the opportunity to join after school clubs which include cookery, art, computers, math games, recitation and sport. These take place between 3.15pm and 4.00pm daily.

READ, WRITE INC. PHONICS

Within the Infant department, the pupils take part in Read, Write Inc. sessions three times a week. The children are introduced to the graphemes and phonemes (letters and sounds) necessary to become confident, independent readers and writers. The children are regularly assessed to establish their proficiency in Phonics and grouped accordingly.

The program of study begins in Early Years with simple Set 1 sounds, sound box activities, role play and early handwritten letter formation. The next stage involves simple ditties, blending (Set 2) sounds and further written tasks. As the children progress through the scheme, more complicated texts, comprehension and grammar exercises are introduced. The complex speed sounds (Set 3) and the study of "Red Words" (words that do not follow the usual phonic rules) complete the scaffolding that supports the children in their reading and writing tasks.

At the Grantham Preparatory International School, we have witnessed superb results through the implementation of this scheme. We have talented, expressive readers and imaginative writers who achieve outstanding results in readiness for the step up to the Junior Department.





Junior Curriculum

At The Grantham Preparatory International School we pride ourselves on our high expectations and have developed schemes of work which are linked to the National Curriculum, allowing our children to have the opportunity to succeed. Our aim is to give a wide and balanced learning experience for our pupils. Mathematics, English, Science, Music and P.E. are given prominence, with the following subjects also timetabled: History, Geography, Religious Studies, P.S.H.E., Art, French.

Dance and Drama: Drama forms part of the English curriculum and Dance is taught in P.E. lessons. Children of all ages have the opportunity to perform in a variety of informal and more formal productions throughout the year.

Music: In addition to class music lessons, children can learn a musical instrument. They then have the opportunity of joining an instrumental group or band run at school. Two choirs perform regularly at concerts and in local music competitions.

Sport: The children participate in various sporting activities. Some of these will be part of the curriculum, while others will be after school activities. These include football, rugby, netball, swimming, rounders, cross-country, cricket, tennis, squash, badminton and gymnastics. The school competes in a variety of sports against local schools and in national competitions and tournaments.

Personal, Social and Health Education: There is allocated curriculum time to cover this subject, and class teachers deal with important social issues such as relationships, citizenship, bullying, aspects of growing up and good health. These are also addressed in our regular school assemblies.

Activities and Clubs: At The Grantham Preparatory International School we offer a wide ranging activity programme after school and in some lunch times. These include sport, music, drama, ICT, cookery, astronomy, Spanish and chess.

Parents and the Curriculum: The planned curriculum involves parents helping and encouraging children at home with such activities as reading, number work and the consolidation of acquired skills.

As we prepare our children for secondary school they benefit from having well qualified subject teachers to deliver the curriculum. There is a sharing of good practice amongst staff and many extend their subject knowledge and passions beyond the classroom through the extra curricular activities.

MATHS MAKES SENSE

We have developed our Maths curriculum by introducing and incorporating Maths Makes Sense throughout the school. Maths is important and through this programme, children are taught the skills of numeracy, measuring and drawing that can be used in everyday life.



Music & Drama

At The Grantham Preparatory School, the performing arts are regarded as an important opportunity for children to have fun, gain confidence and achieve success, whether working together or as individuals. While all children are included in school dramatic performances, and receive class music lessons, the majority, from Class One up, also choose to receive individual instrumental tuition.

We are proud that we can cater for children with a wide variety of tastes, be it rock and pop, in which we offer guitar, bass and drum lessons, or jazz and Western classical, with tuition available on piano, violin, trumpet, saxophone, flute, clarinet and recorder. Due to our excellent teachers, children achieve high levels in Associated Board Examinations, with musicians currently working up to Grade 5.

In addition to their individual success, our children enjoy making music together. Musicians at The Grantham Preparatory School take great pride in selection for one of our many instrumental groups and while the school is extremely proud of our excellent wind band and senior band, opportunities for ensemble playing also include a recorder group, rock band, samba band and string group. For our most accomplished children, opportunities also exist to join a more senior, external wind band, and to play with talented children from other Prep. Schools.

Vocalists of all ages can enjoy singing together in either of our two choirs. Around two thirds of the children in Classes four to six elect to sing with the senior choir, and their joy in joining voices is evident whenever they perform. A younger choir gives children in Classes one to three similar opportunities. The choirs regularly achieve success in music festivals and sing in concerts throughout the year, both at school and with other Prep. schools and choral societies.





Sports & Activities

Sport is an integral part of the school curriculum, both participative and competitive. Our ethos is to provide a wide range of activities for all students to allow development of their full potential and foster confidence, self-esteem and social skills.

Children will begin to understand what is involved in team membership, learning to appreciate fair play and sportsmanship.

Students will follow courses in Rugby, Tag-Rugby, Netball, Football, Cross-Country, Basketball, Badminton, Gymnastics, Cricket, Rounders, Tennis, Squash and Athletics. Junior children in the school enjoy a swimming lesson each week and take part in swimming competitions throughout the year.

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in competitive team games in Rugby, Tag- Rugby, Netball, Cross-Country, Swimming, Football, Cricket, Rounders and Athletics. We compete in Inter Preparatory School fixtures and locally in Grantham & District Primary Schools Festivals. All students are members of one of three houses, Brownlow, Newton or Hornsby and are given the opportunity to compete in Inter-House competitions in many sports.

