

# Hollygirt

SCHOOL



“Hollygirt gave my daughter her grounding. It taught her how to work and to get the best out of herself.”

Parent

BELONGING

## Welcome from the Headmistress



Hollygirt is a feelgood school. A small and nurturing environment where we value and encourage every member of our close community.

We understand how the brain learns and our approach to education is underpinned by cognitive science. We teach our students learning skills they will carry with them for life.

We develop academic potential through disciplined study and we encourage individual creativity. We nurture talent through our rich and dynamic curriculum, varied extra-curricular activities and outstanding pastoral care.

Arrange a visit to see how our unique approach and nurturing environment can provide your child with the best start in life.

Dr. Helen Barsham  
EdD (University of Cambridge), MA (Classics, Birkbeck), BA (Hons), PGCE



# CARING



“There is a genuine family feel at Hollygirt. All the staff know every child by name, regardless of which year group they specifically teach. It is heart-warming.”

Reception Parent

## Enabling

In our EYFS class, all children follow the Early Years curriculum. Working in small groups with a teacher for carpet-time, the children learn their phonics, writing skills, numbers and topic work. Child initiated activities will further the development of independent learning. Each day every child will have one to one time with their class teacher. Children at Hollygirt make excellent progress in their academic and social development. They love coming to school.



## Small Steps

Our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) classes are for children aged 3 to 5. In our bright and welcoming classroom, with its designated outdoor space, our youngest pupils are happy, secure and free to be curious. The 3 and 4 year olds work in our Nursery Class. Our friendly and caring staff aim to stimulate independent learning and to develop confidence. One thing is for sure: your child will have lots to tell you at the end of the day and your fridge will be full of their creations!





“I love how caring all the staff are and how much interest they take in the children’s lives.”

Year 4 Parent

## Next Steps

Our Junior School takes children aged 5 to 11 into Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) and Key Stage Two (Years 3 to 6). Those who join from the EYFS class are seamlessly integrated. Whilst children begin to access their new curriculum in Year 1, we also ensure all Early Years’ goals are met. We are one big happy family. All our pupils know each other well and play harmoniously together at break times. With lots of dressing up opportunities, baking and making, shows and concerts, as well as a full extra-curricular programme; life in our Junior School is busy, challenging and exciting.

As children move through Key Stage One and Two, the links with the Senior School increase and more specialist teachers become involved so the transition to Year 7 is smooth and easy.



## Supporting

In order to promote high level literacy skills, teachers will listen to children read every day until it is no longer required. As well as developing cognitively, our pupils are encouraged to take pride in the presentation of their work. We think handwriting is important; children develop their cursive writing through Key Stage One and use a fountain pen from Year 4. Our small classes ensure that we can stretch or support all abilities to enable all to succeed.



“The support for my child both emotionally and academically has been beyond incredible. Hollygirt has a special gift of getting children to become their very best selves”.

Year 7 Parent

## Respect

High expectations of all our pupils is the norm. This does not mean that we expect all pupils to reach the same level of attainment but we expect great progress. In our calm working areas, teachers can teach and learners can learn.

Throughout Years 7 to 11, the broad curriculum provides a solid foundation for learning, balancing the core subjects with the creative and practical. This prepares all for their further education and work beyond school.



## Great Strides

Academic success is only part of the Hollygirt story. We aspire to equip pupils with all the skills and attributes they will need to thrive.

We want our pupils to believe in themselves. With a feeling of self-worth and confidence, children can go out into the world and make a difference. As a small school, each individual is an important contributor to the Hollygirt community. No one is ignored. No one can get lost. No one goes unnoticed.



# HAPPY



# Pastoral Care

Pastoral support at Hollygirl is outstanding. What young people need at all stages of their school life is to feel good about themselves and ultimately to leave school with their self-esteem intact. Children at Hollygirl have the opportunity to grow up without fear, with support and care. We push boundaries, open eyes to new opportunities and develop far more than just brains.

“Pupils are self-confident, self-aware and have a good sense of who they are.”

Inspection Report





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