

Frequently Asked Questions for Prospective Parents

*Please note that the answers below reflect usual circumstances and arrangements and do not reflect changes made under our COVID-19 Protocol.

Q.	A.
<p>How do I apply for a Reception place?</p>	<p>Entry to Reception is by ballot, which takes place in the May, 18 months prior to the September of entry. We welcome registrations any time up until the end of April of the ballot year. Anyone registering after the ballot has taken place will be added to a waiting list.</p> <p>To register for the ballot, we require a completed registration form, a copy of your daughter's birth certificate and a £100 non-refundable registration fee.</p> <p>Offers will be made immediately after the ballot. If your daughter is made an offer, we will ask you to pay a deposit of a half term's fees by the deadline stated in the offer letter. If we are unable to offer your daughter a place at this stage, she will be placed on our waiting list and then offered a definite place should anyone be unable to take up their offer.</p> <p>Sisters of current pupils are guaranteed a place, but we ask for a separate registration form for each child.</p>
<p>Typically, how many applications do you receive for the ballot each year?</p>	<p>On average we receive around 120 applications for a maximum of 48 places and there are around 6-8 siblings in any year with a guaranteed place.</p>
<p>What are your school fees?</p>	<p>For the academic year 2020/21 our fees are £4950 per term. Fees cover the normal curriculum, together with books and stationery. Other costs incurred by the pupil, or the School on the pupil's behalf, will be charged as extras.</p> <p>Fees and extras are subject to annual review and periodical increase.</p> <p>Fees are due and payable on or before the first day of each term.</p>
<p>Is the deposit refundable?</p>	<p>The deposit is non-refundable if your daughter does not join The Study, otherwise it will be refunded upon her leaving the School.</p>
<p>Will there be any settling-in sessions for Reception?</p>	<p>In the Summer Term prior to joining The Study, we will invite you to our 'New Reception Parents' Event'. This is a social and information event at which you will meet the class teachers, nursery nurses, senior staff and members of the Study</p>

	<p>Association.</p> <p>Following this, we will invite your daughter to join us for an informal afternoon where she will meet her teacher, nursery nurse and the other girls in her class.</p> <p>The first few days of the Autumn Term will be half day sessions. We find this helps with the transition and allows the girls to become familiar with their new setting.</p>
<p>How do I apply for a place in Years 1-6?</p>	<p>Please submit an enquiry for an occasional place via our Enquiry Form on our website or email admissions@thestudyprep.co.uk to discuss availability and next steps.</p>
<p>Why are you non-selective when most other private schools in the area are selective at 4+?</p>	<p>We have always been proudly non-selective at Reception entry. We believe that a child's true potential cannot be ascertained at 3-4 years old, and that children all learn and develop at a different pace. Our excellent 11+ results prove the validity of this approach; each child is nurtured and developed at their own pace at The Study, building lasting self-esteem and a genuine joy of learning.</p>
<p>Our friends have chosen a state school for primary and will invest in private senior school education. Why should we invest in a private prep school?</p>	<p>We believe that the Early Years is the foundation of any child's attitude towards learning. We ensure that our girls are happy and confident learners, encouraged in all they do, with a curriculum that is richly enhanced by trips, workshops, and many added experiences that may not be offered in the state sector, for example specialist teaching right from Reception.</p> <p>Our teacher to pupil ratios and excellent facilities will also add value to your daughter's experience and development at school.</p> <p>Being a top prep school, 100% of our girls are offered places at leading independent senior schools, many with scholarships. However, as much as we are proud of our excellent academic attainment, it is the good manners, respect for others, kindness and quiet confidence which Study girls demonstrate that we are most proud of.</p>
<p>Why should we choose a single sex school for our daughter?</p>	<p>We have been an all-girls school since our founding in 1893; we are specialists in teaching girls.</p> <p>There is no best type of school; children are all individual. There's no doubt that our girls thrive in our environment and their confidence and enthusiasm for all areas of school life develops quickly. Our girls move onto a wide range of senior schools, both single sex and co-ed.</p>

<p>My daughter is very bright, confident and outgoing. Is The Study the right school for her?</p>	<p>The Study is not a school for one particular 'type' of child. We have a wonderful mix of personalities, all of whom make the most of school life and opportunities afforded to them.</p> <p>Our experienced staff team caters for all individual's needs, regardless of a child's starting point. The School has a strong reputation for appropriate support, stretch and challenge of all our pupils and our academic success speaks for itself.</p>
<p>My daughter is very shy and quiet, is The Study the right school for her?</p>	<p>Our aim is to bring out the best in all our girls, whatever their personality. Children do not develop on a trajectory but our happy, encouraging and nurturing environment allows the girls to blossom. As teachers, our aim is to help the girls discover their individual strengths and general academic self-belief. All girls have a chance to perform, compete and most importantly, be valued for who they are.</p>
<p>How do you get such good results at 11+ if you take such mixed ability children?</p>	<p>Few girls fall neatly into categories of ability; all will have their own areas of strength. Targeted teaching takes place in the classroom to ensure all girls are challenged and supported appropriately. The high teacher/pupil ratio in the younger years, and use of support and challenge groups, enables a strong start to school life. Further up the School, the girls are grouped to enable the best possible outcomes.</p>
<p>English is our second language. Do you have specialist teacher to help with our daughter's English?</p>	<p>Yes. We have a specialist English as an Additional Language teacher who works with individuals or small groups across the School. An initial informal assessment is undertaken to ascertain how best to support each girl.</p>
<p>We are not Christian but you say prayers and sing hymns in assemblies. Are you a Christian school?</p>	<p>Whilst the School is Christian, non-denominational by tradition, we welcome families of all faiths and none, and our school community is representative of the diverse world in which we live.</p> <p>Our aim is to give the girls an understanding, tolerance of respect of all major religions and this is covered within the RE curriculum and our values based ethos. Whilst we celebrate the major Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter, we also aim to recognise festivals across other religions too. We encourage families to share any cultural celebrations within School.</p>
<p>How ethnically diverse is the School?</p>	<p>We have over 20 nationalities at our school, and although the majority of our families live within SW19, it is an area, being close to both central London and the Home Counties that attracts families from all over the world.</p> <p>We celebrate all the nationalities, cultures and religions that make up our vibrant school community.</p>

<p>What proportion of families are Wimbledon based? Do any come from further afield?</p>	<p>Around 60% of our families live close to the School, either in Wimbledon Village or in the wider SW19 area. Other families are based in SW18, SW20, SW15, and a few come further afield from areas like Kingston and Surrey.</p>
<p>Will my daughter get homework?</p>	<p>Yes. Age appropriate homework is set for all the girls to reinforce learning taken place in School. In Reception, this will largely consist of letter sounds and reading; this builds year on year. We encourage the girls to foster a love of reading, both at school and at home. We encourage parents to read to and with their children. The girls have a busy school day. Homework encourages good learning habits and independent learning for the older girls to take forward to senior school, however, play, rest and family time are equally important. With this reason in mind, homework is not set at the weekends.</p>
<p>How many reports will my daughter receive each year?</p>	<p>Written feedback in the form of a report is sent home twice a year.</p>
<p>How often is there a Parents' Evening?</p>	<p>Parents' Evening takes place twice a year, in the Autumn and Spring Terms. A full written report is sent home at the end of each academic year. Other opportunities are made available to invite parents into School to see their daughter's work and classroom. We have an open door policy and staff are happy to answer questions and queries on the gate at drop off and pick up, in the girls' link books and via email.</p>
<p>How do you deal with bullying?</p>	<p>Bullying is not tolerated at The Study; our Anti-bullying policy is available on our website. Our school values encourage kindness, tolerance and respect towards one another. These values are embedded in school life through our PSHE lessons, assemblies, form time and compassionate supervision of the children. Communication amongst staff and children is at the heart of our strong pastoral care. We always encourage children to talk to us about any concerns.</p>
<p>How strong is your pastoral care?</p>	<p>The Study is a hugely caring and nurturing school where the girls feel secure and valued. The girls learn mutual respect and a sense of responsibility and happiness for one another. All children have a Form Teacher who is usually a child's most familiar adult and the person to whom they would turn to. Equally, all staff in school play a vital role in ensuring the girls are happy and thrive in all aspects of school life. We are a mutually supportive community and encourage a partnership between the girls, the parents and the staff in school.</p> <p>Our pastoral program is supported by the amazing work of EQPrep who play a valuable part in our PSHE program, building the children's resilience, understanding of emotions and mental wellbeing.</p>

<p>What is the teaching staff turnover like?</p>	<p>We have a very low turnover of staff and pride ourselves on our dedicated and long serving teachers and support staff. There is a healthy mix of highly experienced staff, some of whom have been successfully teaching our girls for over 20 years, to teachers who are starting their careers with us and bring new ideas and innovation to the curriculum.</p>
<p>Can my daughter have music lessons in school?</p>	<p>Yes. Normally we offer peripatetic tuition in a range of musical instruments from Year 2 upwards and Speech and Drama tuition (LAMDA) from Year 4 upwards. Music is a huge strength at The Study, in addition to class music and drama lessons, we have 15 peripatetic music teachers who teach our girls on a wide range of instruments, from piano and violin to the oboe and harp. We have orchestras, choirs, ensembles and a wide range of performance opportunities open to our girls.</p> <p>The music and LAMDA lessons are delivered by fully qualified, visiting staff and the cost is payable directly to the teacher each term. Pupils are withdrawn from non-core lessons and break times throughout the day, on a rotation basis, and a limited number are delivered before and after school.</p>
<p>What clubs are available?</p>	<p>We run a wide variety of early morning, lunchtime and afterschool clubs, beginning in Year 1 and building to an impressive range of up to 40 clubs.</p>
<p>What time is the school day?</p>	<p>Please see here for a full schedule of the school day at Wilberforce House and Spencer House. Please note that Reception and Year 1 finish at 12:30 on Fridays.</p>
<p>Do you provide early morning care?</p>	<p>Yes. Girls can arrive at Wilberforce House from 8.10 and will be supervised in the Hall until their classrooms open at 8:30. At Spencer House, girls can arrive from 8.00 and will be supervised in the playground until their classrooms open at 8.20.</p>
<p>Is there an after school care facility?</p>	<p>Yes. This popular service is based at Wilberforce House and is run by our own staff, Mrs Gonzalez and a team of professionals who are teaching assistants. The provision is offered from 15.15/15.30 -17:00 or 18:00, Monday to Thursday. Costs: 15:15/15:30 to 17:00 = £15 per session or 15:15/15:30 to 18:00 =£20 per session.</p>
<p>What are the arrangements for lunch?</p>	<p>A delicious selection of hot home cooked meals and a fresh salad bar ensures a wide and healthy variety for the girls. Weekly lunch menus are available to view in the Parents' Login area of the website.</p> <p>School lunches are compulsory for all girls and are charged at £245 per term (Reception & Year 1) and at £295 per term (Year 2 - Year 6) for 2020/21.</p>

Is a morning snack provided?	Yes. A balanced morning snack is provided in school. Snacks consist of a balance of fruit/vegetables and a carbohydrate.
How do you deal with food allergies?	Food allergies and dietary requirements are accommodated by our caterers, Harrisons. Our chef is happy to speak directly with parents should they wish to discuss a specific allergy and how we can accommodate this.
Where is the sports ground?	<p>Our Sports Ground, where the girls go to from Year 1 for their PE lessons, is at Wimbledon Rugby and Football Club, Beverley Meads Recreation Ground, Barham Road, Wimbledon, SW20 OET.</p> <p>We have two netball courts as well as the use of a large area of green space for cricket, football and athletics training.</p>
Where do I buy the school uniform?	Our uniform supplier is School Zone www.school-zone.co.uk . A full uniform list will be included in the joining information sent to all our new families. The 2020/21 uniform list is available on our website should you wish to have a look.
Do you have a school bus?	We have two school minibuses, which are used to shuttle the girls between the sites, as well as to the Sports Ground at Beverley Meads. For class trips further afield, we hire a large coach to transport the girls and staff. We do not currently have a private school bus to collect girls from residential areas.