
Hurst
Senior Prep School


Hello + Welcome



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Welcome from the Head of College

I do hope that this brief introduction gives you a flavour of our stunning campus, nestled at the foot of the Downs and benefitting from some of the finest sporting and creative facilities of any school in the country. More importantly, I hope that it will also offer you an insight into what I describe as 'the way we do things' here at Hurst: the culture of personal bests, strong values and a commitment to making the most of every opportunity on offer.

Many other schools make equally strong claims about the quality of their pastoral care and their academic provision, and talk just as passionately about the importance of a rounded education. The difference at Hurst is that this isn't just what we say we do; it is what we really commit to delivering. Not just for *some* pupils, but for *every* child. At Hurst, we aim to ensure that every single pupil experiences an outstanding all-round education that prepares them for life.

Our results at GCSE and A-level place us amongst the top echelon of independent schools, but what sets Hurst apart is our Value Added data. This proves that Hurst pupils achieve better academic results with us than they would at almost any other school in the country. It is for this reason that ISI (the Independent Schools Inspectorate) awarded us the rare accolade of a Significant Strength for the outstanding quality of our academic provision. But this academic success does not come at the cost of a genuinely rounded education, because at Hurst we encourage pupils to immerse themselves in an exceptional programme of sporting, creative, intellectual and social activities alongside their academic studies.

As impressive as our pupils' achievements are, what really struck me about Hurst when I started here was the sense of community. Almost a decade later, it is that vibrant dynamic and that warm feeling which make me so proud to welcome you to our College.

No school prospectus can ever do justice to the sheer breadth and depth of opportunities on offer at Hurst, nor can it replicate the happiness of our pupils as they bustle around the campus. So, I do hope that once you have leafed through this prospectus you will book in to see us in person, as nothing can quite match the experience of feeling it for yourself. I look forward to meeting you and your family, and hope that you will see these pages reflected in reality.

Dominic Mott, Head of College



Welcome from the Head of Senior Prep

The Senior Prep combines pupils who have moved up from the Junior Prep School with an equal number of pupils who have joined us from as many as 20 local schools.

At whichever stage your child joins us, we have a dedicated network of teachers, tutors and support staff whose priority is to make everyone feel welcome, safe and connected. They ensure that all pupils are consistently engaged, challenged and supported in order to fulfil their potential in the classroom and beyond.

Our broad and balanced curriculum for Years 7 and 8 is delivered by outstanding, enthusiastic and subject-specific teachers. Pupils' timetables are similar to the Senior School to help with the transition to Year 9, where the cohort grows and diversifies.

Pupils are encouraged to take on leadership roles such as Prefects, Guardians and House Captains to support children in the Junior Prep.

Our co-curricular opportunities span a huge range of activities and interests to engage every pupil. These clubs and activities not only enhance pupils' learning, they provide the children with interests they can continue to enjoy beyond their school years.

You are warmly invited to visit and find out more about what makes Hurst such a wonderful school. We would be delighted to meet you and your family, to show you the campus, introduce you to our pupils and answer any questions you may have.

Simon Lilley, Head of Senior Prep School





The Hurst Culture

A Hurst education is about much more than a mercenary pursuit of grades. Pupils acquire an awareness of right and wrong, a sense of duty, and a respect for others.

The Hurst Culture extends far beyond an academic education. As part of a vibrant, dynamic community, every single pupil commits to the distinctive 'way we do things'. Our mantra of 'Work Hard, Do Good and Engage' ensures that pupils gain the confidence and skills to thrive and excel, making the most of every opportunity available to them.

The College exists for the benefit of its pupils and provides them with extraordinary opportunities to develop life-long talents, skills, and friendships.

In the Senior Prep, pupils' academic and cultural education is further supported by a comprehensive PSHCE programme, through which pupils discuss and self-reflect upon all aspects of life. They learn how to value themselves, each other, and the wider world in which they belong.

Hurst pupils are ambitious with a clear sense of purpose, and leave the College as mature, independent individuals.





"My children are so happy at Hurst, I cannot imagine them going anywhere else. The breadth of lessons, the amount of physical activity and the fact they never want to leave at the end of the day speaks volumes."

Current parent

Academic Provision

Hurst provides a stimulating and engaging academic environment. Pupils are stretched and challenged, they acquire the skills to work independently, and develop a love of learning that extends well beyond the classroom.

While expectations are high in all aspects of College life, pupils strive only towards achieving their own personal bests. Through the Challenge Grade and tutorial system, high aspirations are realised for every pupil at all levels. Academic success is not measured against league tables, but value added for every individual. At Hurst, excellence is defined by the progress and success of *all* pupils.

Alongside their studies, an inclusive super curriculum enables pupils to participate in a wide range of activities; from Geography field trips and foreign language competitions to Maths challenges and Science masterclasses, pupils develop leadership and life skills at all levels.

As a genuine through-school, Hurst encourages every pupil to develop an intrinsic motivation to fulfil their potential and a much deeper understanding of the world in which they live. In the Senior Prep, staff guide pupils in all aspects of College life, preparing them for the next stage of their Hurst education.

> "The tailored approach to teaching promotes independence and helps pupils to make good academic progress."
>
> Independent Schools Inspectorate





"Education at Hurst is deliberately outward-looking. The range of activities provides many opportunities for our students to try new ventures, confront risks and learn from the experience."

Lloyd Dannatt, Deputy Head of College


order
THINKING
Hurst

“It really is a fantastic community. A strong culture, and out of this, children support each other.”

Current parent









Hurst

Co-Curricular Programme
Beyond the classroom

Whether it be part of our thriving Sports, Music, Drama, Dance, or Outdoor Education departments, every pupil is encouraged to engage with all of the co-curricular opportunities available to them.

Trying new activities brings pupils a strong sense of achievement, fun, and wellbeing. Hurst provides pupils with a wide variety of experiences across the board, from rock bands, water sports, and ballet to conservation projects, skiing, and climbing. All pupils benefit from the College's outstanding facilities, including the recently built Performing Arts Centre, Music School, Dance Studio, Astroturfs, playing fields and indoor pool.

Excellence at Hurst is not just defined by the success of our elite students. Our inclusive calendar of fixtures, trips, and events ensures that all pupils enjoy the challenge of representing the College in a whole range of pursuits; 'no-one is left on the bench'. Pupils develop essential skills in teamwork and leadership, whilst strengthening their resilience in line with our mantra of 'keep on keeping on'.

> "Hurst pupils are all strongly supportive of each other, whatever the activity, a characteristic for which the College is renowned."
>
> Current parent




North Library
Entrance Hall


THE
CAT
IN THE HAT
COMES BACK!
By Dr. Seuss





“A parent told us this is not a school for those who want to fly under the radar and just get to the end of their school days: ‘the thing you do at this school is engage – it can be anything, there are endless opportunities.’”

The Good Schools Guide









Hurst














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"My children are doing well academically and get involved with all sorts of activities – but above all they are happy – and that is the most important thing."

Current parent


Hurst
Hurst

Community and Pastoral Support

Hurst provides a safe and homely setting where everyone is welcomed, respected, and valued for who they are. Caring and committed staff champion the physical health, mental wellbeing, and overall happiness of all pupils, and support is always available to those who need it.

Hurst has a genuine family feel. Pupils are allocated to one of four houses, where different year groups look after each other within an environment that fosters healthy competition and collaboration. Whether during inter-house competitions or charity fundraising events, Senior Prep pupils are encouraged to take on leadership roles to support their peers. As School Guardians, Prefects, and House Captains, we expect them to be good role models for the younger pupils.

Throughout the Prep School, Guardians work across year groups to foster a welcoming and inclusive playground space. Our mission to be an openly inclusive school - further promoted by our joint student and staff Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) group - encourages our pre-teens to become more confident in themselves.

Beyond the College, through fundraising and work with the Hurst Education Trust, pupils are taught to understand the value of helping their local and global communities. On campus, namely on the College farm, pupils learn how to care for the natural world and discuss how best to tackle environmental issues.

Adolescence can be a tricky time in our youngster's lives, as they experience huge physical, mental, emotional, and social change. Through our pastoral system, tutors take a lead in guiding pupils to develop as individuals and rise to any challenges they face. Tutors encourage pupils to develop the learning skills they will need to achieve their personal best in all aspects of their lives.



“Leaders have strengthened the school’s promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion, which has enhanced the school’s inclusive environment.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate





Hurst



"Pupils have opportunities to make valuable contributions to the wider community."

Independent Schools Inspectorate





"When she joined Hurst in Year 7 we had moved from Suffolk to Sussex [...] The induction and integration she experienced was wonderful, and she soon made friends. She hasn't really ever looked back."

Current parent



Moving up
to the Senior School

Hurst Senior Prep is a place of learning, building connections and gaining experience. It is also a key part of our through-school where pupils transition from the Junior Prep, through the Senior Prep and progress up to the Senior School at the age of 13.

Educationally, our overarching aim in the Senior Prep School is to provide a deliberately broad and engaging curriculum to lay outstanding foundations for GCSEs. Pastorally, our purpose is to support and guide pupils as they begin adolescence and look ahead to becoming young adults. It is important to keep in mind that almost all our pupils then transition to Hurst's thriving Senior School.

The Senior School begins with Year 9 (Shell) which leads students into their GCSE years. We remain ambitious for our pupils and each individual's progress is monitored through the Senior School's Challenge Grade Programme, the secret to our exceptional value-added results.

When students enter the Senior School they join one of twelve houses. We offer flexi and weekly boarding in the Senior School and both are popular with pupils.

Co-curricular opportunities continue and broaden, with scope for participation in more sports, outdoor pursuits, creative and performing arts, environmental conservation and additional STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) qualifications. From Year 10 (Remove), students begin the nationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award scheme. They also join Hurst's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) which encompasses the Royal Navy, Army and Air Force divisions.

Our Christian foundation remains strong in the Senior School and the weekly chapel services book-end the week, with community at the core.

The wellbeing programme expands to cater for the growing challenges that modern teenagers often face. Hurst offers an on-site Wellbeing Centre, Chaplaincy, School Counsellor, Welfare Group, student Guardian Scheme and an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Group.








By the time they leave Hurst, they are prepared.
For Life.

Arrange a Personal Visit

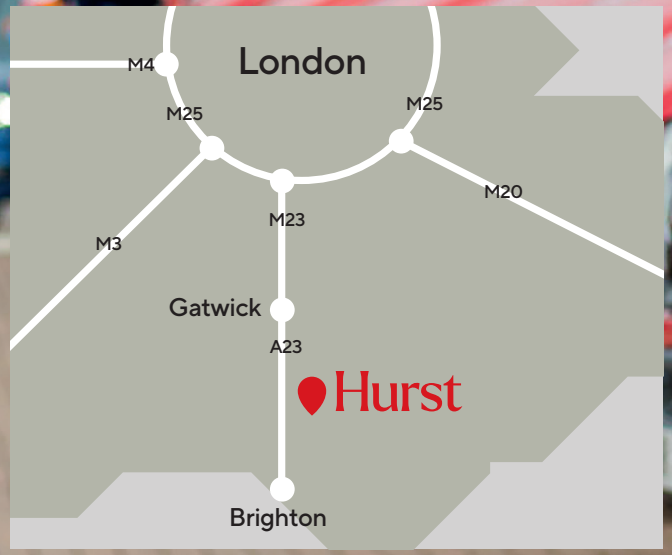
We look forward to welcoming prospective pupils and parents to Hurst to experience our vibrant community.

Contact Admissions by

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