



WILMSLOW  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL

# THE WILMSLOW PREP PATHWAY



# PHASE 1 DISCOVERY

## KINDERGARTEN AND RECEPTION

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**In the Discovery phase your child will start their love of learning through exploration, work and play in a small, kind, friendly, nurturing and well-resourced environment. We introduce and develop the following:**

- Fundamental elements of Reading, Writing, Spoken Language (including sequencing and vocabulary development), Mathematics and Science.
- Creative skills through a wide variety of experiences.
- Strong fine and gross motor skills.
- Knowledge and understanding of the world around us.
- Specialist Teachers for PE, Music and Modern Foreign Languages, enhancing the breadth and depth of knowledge and skills.

- Learning Support specialist SENCO develop and/ extend individuals' learning.
- Teaching Assistant support across the curriculum, ensuring a highly tailored focus for individuals' learning and progress.
- Baseline assessments, to carefully track and monitor progress and inform next steps.
- Strong partnerships with families to consolidate learning at school.

Regular communication is vital throughout all stages of your child's Pathway, and particularly in his or her first years at WPS. We welcome regular informal communication – staff make themselves available at the earliest convenience to discuss any aspect of your child's performance.



# PHASE 2 STRONG CORE

## PREP 1 AND 2

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**In the Strong Core phase our children transition from play based learning to a more formal learning environment, strengthening their independence and learning processes ready for the juniors, through:**

- Clearly defined programmes of study for every area of the curriculum, providing a robust and carefully planned structure for the development of knowledge and skills.
- Extension of skills and understanding in the key curriculum areas of Reading, Writing, Spoken Language, Mathematics and Science.
- Individual, specific targets for learning in English and Mathematics.
- Differentiated and tailored lessons to meet the needs of each individual.
- Skills extension in handwriting and presentation.
- Enhanced knowledge and understanding of the world with a carefully planned Humanities curriculum.
- Specialist Teachers for Science, Computing, Drama and Art/Design Technology in addition to the Phase 1 Specialist Teachers (PE, Music and Modern Foreign Languages).
- Learning Support from specialist SENCO providing tailored programmes of work for all levels of ability, including Gifted and Talented.
- Teaching Assistant Support for core curriculum (English and Mathematics) ensuring a highly tailored focus for individuals' learning and progress.
- Using and applying knowledge and procedures to solve problems and develop skills in spoken and written language.
- Formal and informal tests and careful tracking and monitoring of progress. By the end of this phase, the children will have a strong core set of skills and have already become independent creative thinkers and problem solvers, growing in confidence and ready to meet the pace and challenges of the WPS Junior years.







## PHASE 3 EXTENDING BOUNDARIES

### PREP 3 AND 4

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**In the Extending Boundaries phase the pace and challenge step up and we extend the boundaries of each child's potential and start the focused preparation for senior school choice.**

The Senior School Transition Leaders, alongside the Form Teachers will talk to you about your aspirations for your child's senior school progression and share their thoughts.

Our expectations are of increased focus and concentration from your child to reach their full potential in Prep 6, and are achieved through:

- Extended goals for learning.
- Individual, tailored learning targets in English and Mathematics.
- Development of confidence and competence with key skills, including quick recall of key facts.

- Tailored teaching to reflect individual needs.
- Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) support for core curriculum (English and Mathematics) to enable focus on extension activities, and develop further understanding as needed.
- Specialist Teachers for PE, Music, Modern Foreign Languages, Science, Computing, Drama and Art/Design Technology.
- Formal and informal tests, and careful tracking and monitoring of progress.
- Learning Support from specialist SENCO providing tailored programmes of work for all levels of ability, including Gifted and Talented.
- Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning as part of the curriculum in preparation for senior school examinations.
- Further development of independence, along with organisational and time-management skills.
- High expectation of quality and quantity of work produced in a given time-frame.

The combination of increased focus on development of the skills noted above, and the meticulous tracking of progress mean that at this stage we are already starting your child's preparation for senior school entrance examinations, whilst developing an enduring love of learning and providing many opportunities for each child to shine.



# PHASE 4 SENIOR TRANSITION

## PREP 5 AND 6

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**In the final phase of the Wilmslow Prep Pathway we build on the prior phases, accelerating our emphasis on tailored teaching for each pupil, which means that your child has a choice of senior school that is right for them at II.**

Our experienced Senior School Transition Leaders ensure personalised communication about the progress of your child. Our successful track record in enabling choice at II, over many years, is built on the following:

- Timetabling which prioritises English and Mathematics.
- Specialist Teachers for English and Mathematics focusing on senior school preparation.
- Personalised thorough senior school advice.
- Dedicated development of examination techniques.

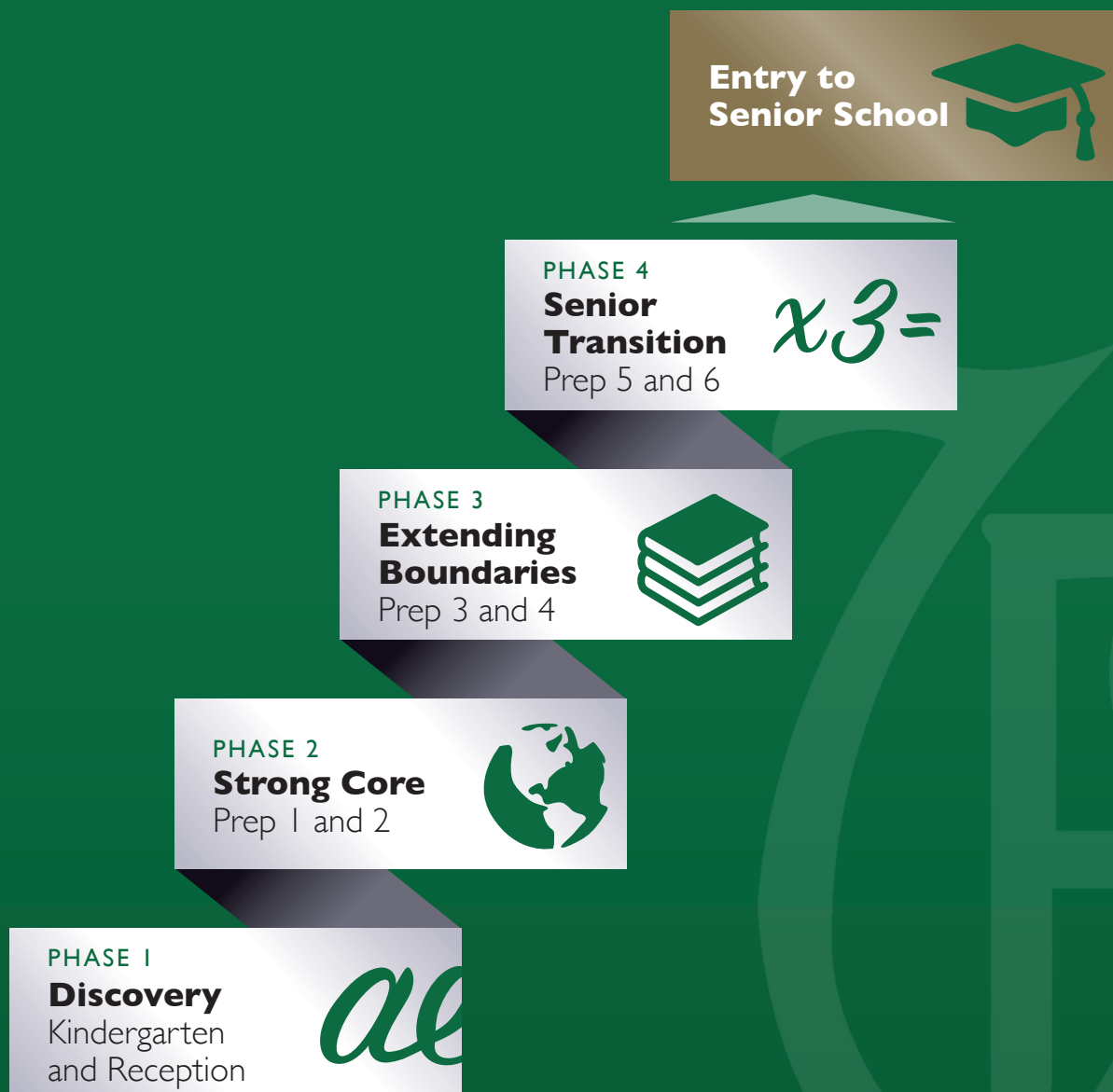
- Interview coaching.
- Individual and small group tutoring to challenge and extend each pupil.
- Specialist Teachers for Science, Computing, PE, Music, Modern Foreign Languages, Drama and Art/Design Technology.
- Learning Support from specialist SENCO providing tailored programmes of work for all levels of ability, including Gifted and Talented.
- Regular formal and informal testing to track and monitor progress and inform teaching programmes.
- Wellbeing mentor to support pastoral development.
- Ambassador Roles with specific responsibilities.

By the end of Senior Transition, we are extremely proud of the extraordinary steps our pupils have made with us. They leave us for their senior school as confident, independent learners with creative and enquiring minds, ready to face the next stage of their education, with enthusiasm, energy and dedication.





# THE WILMSLOW PREP PATHWAY



**At WPS, we structure our education throughout your child's school career so that they fulfil their individual potential by the time they leave us at 11.**

Our innovative and balanced curriculum, delivered through inspiring, focused and tailored teaching, incorporates the key elements of the national curriculum, but takes learning well beyond these boundaries.

As a result, WPS has a proven track record of academic success ensuring that our pupils transfer into the senior school that is right for them.

Key to our success is The Wilmslow Prep Pathway – our unique approach, which is divided into four key phases, each designed to deliver our set of clearly defined aims:

- To inspire academic excellence through a broad, balanced and varied curriculum.
- To develop pupils with lively, enquiring and creative minds.
- To value each child as an individual so as to maximise his or her potential and confidence.
- To offer a safe, caring and kind environment.
- To encourage self-respect and respect for others.



**The Wilmslow Prep Pathway ensures that your child has an inspiring start to their education, ensuring the best preparation for senior school, whilst giving them every opportunity to shine in their own areas of talent along the way.**

Underpinning every phase of the Pathway is close communication and partnership with parents. A successful partnership between the School and the parent body forms the basis for our pupils to thrive.

**The following are key elements of this partnership:**

- Open and regular dialogue informally and formally, including termly Parent Consultation Meetings, followed by informative summary reports with key assessment data.
- Regular, differentiated homework for Reading, Phonics and Mathematics and Science is set, as it is key to progress and discipline. Parental support is essential to ensure that this is completed and returned on time.
- Alignment on our values of polite manners, good behaviour, courtesy, friendship and respect at all times, and our high expectations regarding behaviour, focus, application and standards.
- Constructive and professional input to, and support of, our Parent Partnership Group, as well as our teaching staff.



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