



CASTERTON
SEDBERGH PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

CO-EDUCATIONAL

NURSERY – 13



Will Newman
WILL NEWMAN
Headmaster

WELCOME

Our Preparatory School is situated in a spectacular rural location in the Lune Valley. This is an ideal place for living out the ethos of allowing children to be children. There is no rush to grow up here but the foundations are laid for nurturing the resilience our children will need as young adults, and the tenacity essential to achieving high standards.

This is evident in the unrivalled activities programme and around the clock pastoral care. Allied to all that happens in the classroom, it is perhaps the breadth of opportunity and depth of involvement that sets us apart.

From pony care to caving, mountain biking (on mountains!) to kayaking, ballet to ghyll scrambling we incubate a sense of success and achievement in each and every one of our children. We awaken in them, at an early age, the joy of a challenge met.

From aged three pupils work confidently with iPads and the older children have access to outstanding science classrooms and laboratories, with teachers who are no strangers to explosions and dissections. Facilities are first class and include flood-lit Astro-turf and tennis courts, a theatre, heated indoor swimming pool and stables.

Balancing classroom and outdoor learning, we are developing and expanding a school farm. The Prep school offers day, flexi- or full boarding to best suit the children and their families. Parents may visit the Preparatory School and Sedbergh School at any time by arrangement, but there are formal open days each term at the Prep school. Visit the website or telephone for further information.

We are excited by the curiosity and thirst for learning that each child, regardless of their academic ability, naturally displays. We work hard to allow each child to ask why, to query and to have the time to develop their thoughts into fresh discoveries and innovations. Each child is actively taught to 'own' their learning because all our teachers plan their lessons using three strands – discovering, applying and communicating. This encourages our children to use what they have learnt, to create their own ideas which are then communicated to their peers. The end result is the celebration of learning – a reward in its own right!

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STRETCHING MINDS

"Over the past term we feel that our son has grown in confidence in general and in particular his reading. We would like to thank you for your excellent pastoral care which is so evident in all that you do."

RECEPTION PARENT



CREATIVE LEAPS

"My daughter loves school and is now visibly growing in confidence. Singing and the sport have become part of her wonderful school experience. Thank you in particular for the wonderful opportunity of the choir tour to Edinburgh (and Cambridge to come)."

YEAR 5 PARENT

One of our strengths is the focus on the individual. We are not a school of rote and regurgitation. Rather, we understand that a child's future success is dependent upon their ability to use what they know and to use it in a huge variety of creative ways, most of which we as teachers could never have imagined. Every area of school life provides fantastic opportunities for creativity of all kinds.

A child will not just learn ICT skills; they will use our computer science suites to create their own programmes. A child will not just learn about castle defences; we will re-create what it felt like to be the defender. We will not just learn about the world of business; we will develop (and communally comment on!) our own enterprise schemes.

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Opportunity is vital for children and we offer that in abundance. Our pupils are active and outgoing, participating widely, without fear of failure. Unlike many, we believe that children need to learn to win with grace and when they experience defeat should do so with the same grace and sportsmanship. We offer top level coaching in major sports so that the most able will reach their potential. Of equal importance, we find sporting and activity interests for all those pupils who do not wish to engage with our main games.

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SPORTING CHANCES

"The Headmaster's comments were both accurate and encouraging; we are delighted that our son has joined the school."

YEAR 6 PARENT





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JUMP IN

Day in, day out, we encourage our pupils to give of their best in all that they do. Our ethos is 'give it a go and try your best' in order to help them develop a level of resilience and determination which will give them the best chance of overcoming challenges, in all areas of their schooling, and beyond.

"I cannot believe how much she is again enjoying school. Moving was a tough choice, but absolutely the right one!"

YEAR 7 PARENT



"Thank you for living up to all of your promises."

YEAR 8 PARENT ON THE COMPLETION OF HER SON'S PREP SCHOOL CAREER

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

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Our curriculum is both innovative and challenging. We realise that imparting information is just one element of education. Equally important is how the academic learning, the acquisition of skills and the uncovering of talents are put to use to serve the School community. This is, we believe, the foundation for becoming a future leader and a valuable citizen in the world to which our children are heading.

By the time our children are ready to leave Casterton they will have acquired the solid foundation needed for the journey ahead. And what a journey!

To travel in the mind, back to Tudor times, into the centre of an atom, through the magic and mystery of numbers, away to a far corner of the world, to a strange tongue or an ancient civilization, to document that travel, to invent new worlds and discover inner worlds of thought and feeling and belief, to learn to articulate all this and to express oneself – these are some of the joys of the journey.

“Quite honestly, it wouldn’t have happened were it not for you and your wonderful school, and for that I am eternally grateful.”

YEAR 8 PARENT
RE SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

THE NEXT STEP

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At Casterton we are
taking the first steps
on this journey;
the journey continues,
uninterrupted,
at Sedbergh.



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