



**BEDSTONE**

[www.bedstone.org](http://www.bedstone.org)

Junior School 4-11 years





# A Happy Introduction

Welcome to the first stage of a Bedstone education.

Parents visiting for the first time are often captivated by our wonderful location, a tranquil, child - friendly environment settled deep in the Shropshire countryside. In a world where the stresses of modern life can all too soon impinge on young lives, Bedstone's strong family philosophy sets out to preserve the joys of childhood. We know that happy children thrive.

Children can join us from the age of four, and from that moment become part of a happy, secure community, where everyone is valued as an individual and inspired to be the best they can be. As they progress through the junior school years and on upwards into the senior school we love to see all our children emerge as confident, articulate young people.





## A Wonderful Start in Life (4-6 years)

These first few years can make all the difference later on in life. In these early years we mix learning with play, ensuring that every boy and girl can immerse themselves in a childhood filled with wonder and discovery.

Bedstone is a warm, happy and lively community, where every child is encouraged to take advantage of all the opportunities on offer and inspired to discover, and build on their individual talents. The school provides outstanding resources within and outside the classroom, and this enables us to offer a broad and well-rounded education.

From the start, in small classes, our committed and enthusiastic staff get to know each individual child, providing the guidance to develop confidence and a healthy appetite for learning.





## Exciting and developing young minds (7-11 years)

The atmosphere in class becomes progressively more purposeful, and there is an increasing sense of determination to do well, providing a firm foundation for secondary learning. Every child is special to us, and in small classes close monitoring ensures that every boy and girl has the opportunity to achieve and often exceed their potential.

There is so much more to education than just exam results. This particular period of their school life also includes a greater awareness of their own personal and social development. Children are inspired and encouraged to cultivate a strong sense of independence, self-identity and confidence so that by the time they reach 11 years old they are well prepared and eager to move seamlessly into the senior school - the next stage of their Bedstone education.







# Enjoying Learning (7-11 years)

The curriculum develops as the children get older, and because we share the extensive facilities of the senior school we are able to provide excellent learning opportunities, these include senior school resources in French, Science, Music, PE, and Art. Strong emphasis is placed on the recognition of individual effort and attainment, with all our teachers ensuring that learning is an enjoyable experience. Particular care is taken to support gifted children, and our SEN provision is second to none for those who might need additional help with their learning.

Outside the classroom a Bedstone education embraces an extensive programme of curriculum-related visits to museums, theatres, galleries, exhibitions and workplaces. We also welcome a host of visitors to the school each year who share their experiences and expertise, from the world of art, writing and poetry, or perhaps representatives of the emergency services or charities.







# Creativity and Imagination

The performing arts of music, dance and drama form part of daily life at Bedstone, providing a rich and varied balance to academic pursuits. Children are encouraged to participate at all levels in a range of activities designed to stimulate imagination and creative expression, as well as to help build confidence through performance.

Children love making music from singing to learning to play a variety of musical instruments; as each year progresses excitement mounts as they have the opportunity to perform together in a variety of concerts and performances.

We are justly proud of our facilities, and these include a Performing Arts Studio where children from an early age can learn the art of ballet, and a fully equipped theatre with professional sound and lighting that houses all our drama productions.







# Energy and Endeavour

From the earliest years the children are introduced to the world of sport and healthy exercise. To start with there is a focus on simple skills, such as hand-eye co-ordination, and the important opportunity to learn to swim, but as the children reach eight years they are introduced to the concept of competitive team sports, where they have the prospect of representing the school in inter-school competitions.

The major sports are rugby, football, and cricket for boys, and hockey, netball and rounders for the girls, with everyone enjoying athletics during the summer term. Add to this the now famous Three Counties Primary School Cross Country in the autumn, which we both host and in which we are most often victorious, and the sporting calendar is busy and varied.





## Boarding – a family experience

With its distinct family atmosphere junior boarders quickly feel at home at Bedstone, while parents are reassured by our outstanding reputation for pastoral care. Children can board with us from the age of eight years, and our whole focus is on their individual health and happiness as they adjust to the busy life here at Bedstone.

Junior school boarders are looked after by resident houseparents who, with young families of their own, give exceptional support and care for each of the children they are responsible for.

There are separate boarding houses for boys and girls providing comfortable and well-equipped 'homes' during term time. All meals, however, are taken together in the main dining rooms - the noisy chatter and laughter would bring a smile to anyone's face.







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