CROSFIELDS
SCHOOL

We don’t just ready pupils for their journey ahead, we empower them to embrace it.

Junior Choirs come together to sing the uplifting song:
Amani Utupe – Grant us peace, give us courage

Mrs Caroline Townshend
Head

“The pages of this prospectus are designed to give you a flavour of what Crosfields can offer your family, covering everything from the practicalities of what we teach to the more intangible elements of our school’s unique personality.

In essence, we proudly provide a complete education for boys and girls aged between 2 and 16 – with a new Sixth Form opening in September 2027.

From the very first day they join, we give all of our pupils a clear pathway for growth, guiding them onward at every stage.

Immersed in the warmth of the Crosfields community, each child here feels confident in their ability to rise to the academic challenges in front of them and make great strides in their personal development, emerging as well-balanced young people of integrity – grounded and ambitious, committed and kind.

Enjoy finding out more about our school, and we look forward to welcoming you here at Crosfields in the near future.”

> **“A whole school approach to all aspects of school life builds a sense of community with shared understanding and respect between pupils of different ages.”**
>
> ISI REPORT

A magnetic spirit.

We are not a school of competing agendas and conflicting interests. We are a school where teachers, staff and pupils alike all belong to one unified team in pursuit of a common Crosfields purpose.

At its heart, Crosfields is about connection. On one level, this means inspiring pupils to connect with their own learning and development. On another, it means connecting everyone together within our inclusive school community.

CROSFIELDS
SCHOOL
CROSFIELDS

Children here feel a sense of encouragement on a daily basis, supported in everything from their studies to their co-curricular pursuits.

This can have a transformative effect on learning, ensuring pupils are active participants in a fulfilled school life. It provides the fuel for conversations with teachers and staff, and for positive interactions with their peers.

Developing confidence and valuable social skills complements academic growth while also laying strong foundations for the real-world experiences beyond the Crosfields gates, setting children up for a successful future.

Unity built on diversity.

The harmonious environment at Crosfields is a product of both deliberate design and organic energy.

We are undoubtedly a school where inclusion and tolerance are prized. And this is about more than just accepting difference, it is about a shared sense of identity, as can be seen in the spirit of fellowship fostered by our House system.

We are proud to be a place where individuals can be celebrated and, at the same time, everyone is welcomed within the Crosfields community.

Every day, the children who come to Crosfields walk into a purpose-built world full of wonderful learning opportunities.

Crosfields is a home for new experiences, with children having endless opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and talents as part of the curriculum or via their chosen co-curricular pursuits.

Our extensive campus provides a sense of freedom and space, with panoramic views stretching to Reading and the hills of Berkshire beyond.

This scale is balanced by our welcoming, close-knit school community, and the warmth that children get from being known as an individual and supported by the highest levels of pastoral care.

Mr Alex Murray-Smith
Head of Key Stage 3
and Head of Year 9

"The House system at Crosfields is all about celebrating participation and the times when pupils have competed and flourished, but we also challenge ourselves to think about ways that we can help the school community. That has led to Year 10s running a Prep clinic with Years 7 and 8, and Year 7s undertaking teambuilding exercises with Year 5. We are a growing school and it's great for pupils to be directly involved in shaping and moulding our spirit of togetherness in ways they really enjoy."

Miss Edwina Westacott
Director of Sport

"Sport really brings people together at Crosfields. We have a busy fixture schedule every week and everyone is involved, including the academic teaching staff. We know all the pupils – their talents and potential – so we can make sure there are opportunities for everyone to participate. Everyone will have their name on the teamsheet. We also make sure there are opportunities to excel, with scholars and more able pupils competing up to national level in certain sports. Whatever their level, all pupils compete in the 'right' way. Our philosophy is to strive for the best outcome, but it's not about winning at all costs. If we lose, we do so with good grace and a smile. All sport is a learning opportunity, and it makes me very proud to watch Crosfields pupils develop in confidence as they progress through the school."

“Pupils’ positive and empathetic interactions between one another exemplify their acceptance of individual differences.”

ISI REPORT

Fuel for life.

Crosfields was founded in 1957 on the promise to develop every pupil’s talents to the full, no matter what their gifts. What we offer here is not about academics alone. Crosfields is very much a school of balance, and the all-round education that we provide has been fine-tuned to bring the best out of every child.

Balancing academic progression with support for emotional wellbeing allows our pupils to thrive. This brings equilibrium to their experience and provides a stable platform from which they can develop as individual learners and together as a pupil community.

“Wellbeing of pupils, including those in early years, is actively promoted through carefully planned and resourced lessons, both inside and outside the classroom.”

ISI REPORT

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Our curriculum has been designed to be intellectually challenging and inspiring in equal measure. We want all of our pupils to be in a position to achieve the highest grades of which they are capable.

Curriculum Breadth / Strong Enrichment / Individualised Pathways / High Aspirations / Holistic Education / Specialist Teaching / Specialist Classrooms / Visiting Speakers / Careers Links / Curriculum Trips

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

As well as the general support of the school community, pupils can rely on our pastoral care and wellbeing provision to provide them with access to the people and resources they need, when they need it.

Full time Mental Health Practitioner / *Woody* our therapy dog / Pupil Voice Sessions / Peer Mentoring & Pupil Leadership Opportunities / House Competitions / Hub Lessons & Support / Forest School / Enrichment Activities / Residential Trips

LEARNING

PRE-PREP

From Nursery to Year 2, our focus is on supporting children at the start of their school journey, ensuring they develop an association between learning and joy. In small class sizes and within bright, engaging spaces, we provide access to a mixture of child and teacher-led activities, guided by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. At this stage in their development, children are also given their first taste of specialist teaching and school trips, allowing them to grow in confidence and independence, and supporting their transition to life in the Juniors.

The curriculum we have developed has been designed to reflect our ambition for Crosfields pupils to grow as open-minded, insightful and intelligent young people.

While each subject is taught with academic rigour and depth, we also incorporate curricular links across subject areas, which is vital for enriching intellectual curiosity, encouraging lateral thinking and sparking creative thought.

JUNIORS

From Year 3, pupils continue to access specialist teaching, and by Year 5 pupils will follow a secondary-style timetable. Classroom learning is balanced with school trips and opportunities to participate in class performances. We track each child's development in a variety of ways, including written tests in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. For Year 5 and Year 6, Summer term tests take the form of more formal timetabled exams, for which pupils are supported with revision lists as well as dedicated revision lessons.

SENIORS

From Year 7, pupils study a broad and balanced curriculum. They are then supported in making GCSE choices in Year 9, with the core of maths, English (language and literature) and science complemented by a choice of four subjects from French, Spanish, art, drama, music, design technology, history, geography, religious studies, computing, PE, psychology, business, and economics. Our teaching philosophy ensures all pupils make progress in their learning while the most capable are stretched and challenged to their full potential.

PRE-PREP

Nursery/ Pre-School:

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional development
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design
- French
- Forest School
- Games
- Music
- Swimming
- Dance

Reception:

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional development
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Phonics
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Religious Studies
- Computing
- Expressive Arts and Design
- French
- Forest School
- Music and Movement
- Games
- Music
- Swimming
- Handwriting
- Dance

Year 1:

- Maths
- Mental maths
- English
- Phonics
- Handwriting
- Music
- Science
- PSHE
- Music & movement
- French
- Topic – History/ Geography
- PE – Gym/ Games/ Swimming
- Computing
- Art/DT
- Forest School
- Religious Studies

Year 2:

- Maths
- English
- Phonics
- Handwriting
- Music
- Science
- PSHE
- French
- Topic – History/ Geography
- PE – Gym/ Games/ Swimming
- Computing
- Art/DT
- Forest School
- Religious Studies

JUNIORS

Year 3:

- Maths
- English
- Phonics
- Science
- Topic – History/ Geography
- Religious Studies
- PSHE
- Drama
- Art and Design
- Music
- French
- PE
- Swimming
- Games
- Computing
- Enrichment – Forest School/ Cooking

Year 4:

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Topic – History/ Geography
- Religious Studies
- PSHE
- Drama
- Art and Design
- Music
- French
- PE
- Swimming
- Games
- Computing
- Enrichment – Forest School/ Cooking

Year 5:

- Maths
- English
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies
- PSHE
- Drama
- Art
- DT
- Music
- French
- Latin
- PE
- Swimming
- Games
- Computing
- Enrichment – Forest School/ Cooking

Year 6:

- Maths
- English
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies
- PSHE
- Drama
- Art
- DT
- Music
- French
- Latin
- PE
- Swimming
- Games
- Computing
- Enrichment – Forest School/ Cooking

OUR CURRICULUM

Year 7:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- French
- Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Art
- DT
- Music
- Drama
- PE
- Computing
- RS
- Games
- PSHE
- Enrichment
- Learning Skills

Year 8:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- French
- Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Art
- DT
- Music
- Drama
- PE
- Computing
- Religious Studies
- Games
- PSHE
- Enrichment

Year 9:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- French
- Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Art
- DT
- Music
- Drama
- PE
- Computing
- Religious Studies
- Games
- PSHE
- Enrichment

Years 10 – 11 GCSEs:
Core Subjects:

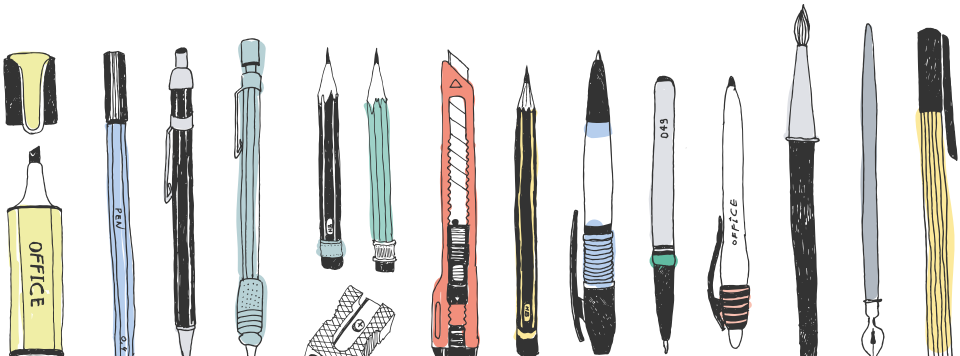
- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Combined)

Option Subjects: ***Up to 4 studied over 2 years:***

- A Modern Foreign Language (MFL) *French or Spanish*
- Art – Art, Craft, and Design
- Astronomy
- Business
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology Three-Dimensional Design
- Drama
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Science (Separate)

Year 10 & 11
continue with PSHE, Enrichment and Games

At Crosfields, we believe creativity lives inside everyone. Our role is both to support pupils in discovering their own creative talents and to help them find enjoyment in the creative process, developing skills such as reflective thinking and perseverance.



CREATIVITY

The facilities and resources available to us here allow pupils to be exposed to a broad range of artistic experiences. This includes drawing and painting, but extends to textiles, ceramics, print, photography and more, with crossover into other subjects to maximise cross-curricular learning.

While we aim to inspire every pupil via trips and workshops, our end-of-year exhibition is a chance to celebrate those who stand out through their levels of application or sheer talent. And our lunchtime and after-school clubs are invaluable for giving children across the school chances to learn new things, to coach others, or to simply enjoy being in a creative space.

MUSIC

With over 300 music lessons taking place every week, there is an endless soundtrack to school life at Crosfields. As well as fine-tuning their solo instrumental skills, children have the opportunity to participate in ensembles and choirs together.

Piano/Violin/Viola/Cello/
Harp/Flute/Clarinet/Alto
Saxophone/Bassoon/
Trumpet/Cornet/
Trombone/French Horn/
Classical Guitar/
Electric Guitar/
Bass Guitar/Drums/
Which instrument will
guide your musical story?

PERFORMING ARTS

At Crosfields, an education in the Performing Arts gives pupils an understanding of the craft of acting and production, but more than that, it provides a powerful platform for pupils to express themselves, to build their confidence, and to develop integral skills that will benefit them in life.

Our inclusive approach means all pupils have the chance to experience stage-time in front of an audience, whether in class-based performances or larger-scale theatrical productions, where they can shine as part of a collaborative cast supported by our specialist teaching staff.

We are passionate about nurturing the diverse creative talents of all our pupils. By cultivating connections between the Arts, drama, music and academics, we ensure opportunities are embedded throughout their journey, from Nursery all the way to Year 11.

SPORT

From the all-weather pitches and grassy playing fields to our 25-metre variable-depth swimming pool and strength and conditioning studios, we have extensive on-site facilities across our 40-acre site. This affords pupils the chance to participate in more traditional sports, such as football, hockey, rugby, netball and cricket as well basketball, badminton, tennis and athletics.

We encourage everyone to test their skills and learn valuable sporting lessons within a competitive yet inclusive environment. As they progress through the school, pupils then have more choice over the sport they want to pursue. They also have the chance to develop coaching skills within our sports leaders' programme.

At Crosfields, we encourage our pupils to develop a love for the game as well as an understanding of how it should be played.

Through a diverse sporting programme, our pupils can develop their talents and their confidence while learning about health and wellbeing.

DIGITAL LEARNING

Crosfields is unique in how we embrace technology – it is embedded in our curriculum from the Early Years.

We have a natural focus on developing pupils' technical skills and honing their use of digital tools, from learning to code and building apps to evaluating AI-generated content and collaborating on cloud-based projects.

Our true emphasis, however, is on empowering children with a sense of digital agency. We want to awaken in them an understanding and excitement of technology's role as a catalyst for augmenting learning and enhancing creativity.

It is this combination – the mastery of skills allied to a curious mindset – that digitally enhances their ability to solve problems, expand their thinking and unlock entrepreneurial ideas.

Our Enrichment Programme and co-curricular offering includes more than 90 clubs. Every child has the chance to explore a diverse range of opportunities for personal development and pure enjoyment.

These activities are embedded throughout the Crosfields journey, starting in Pre-Prep and working up to the Seniors, with the specialist knowledge of our teaching staff complemented by external providers to extend the choices available.

We support pupils in developing their understanding of the wider world, whether they undertake the diverse experiences of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, sharpen their debating talents in the European Youth Parliament and Model United Nations, or gain business insight through the Young Enterprise scheme.

Life at Crosfields goes beyond the classroom; we aim for a diverse learning experience, including a wide range of intellectual and physical activities from which all pupils benefit.

Our diverse co-curricular and sporting activities present opportunities for participation and achievement, stimulating both body and mind.

By exploring the space at Crosfields, and by experiencing places beyond, our pupils develop an appreciation for the world around them.

At Crosfields outdoor exploration is woven into our curriculum. With six dedicated forest school sites on our grounds, we understand that nature provides the best classroom of all. School trips give children further chances to broaden their horizons while complementing the curriculum and encouraging togetherness. This starts with day trips from Nursery and builds as pupils rise up the school. From Year 2, pupils take part in annual residential trips, which each have a specific focus.

Senior pupils have a combination of residential trips and local team building/ leadership days. Recent residentials have included amazing locations including Barcelona, Wales, and Santander.

Forest School activities provide supervised opportunities for pupils to develop their own practical and problem-solving skills while also learning how to communicate and co-operate with others.

“Lessons are well planned and engaging. Pupils are keen to participate and are active learners in the classroom, answering questions, debating and taking part in role plays to enhance their understanding.”

ISI REPORT

There are many ingredients that we bring together in a Crosfields education to ensure our pupils thrive as happy learners.

The spirit of the community, the extensive space, the excellent teaching, the range of co-curricular activities – everything here is crafted to allow individuals to build momentum in their education, to support their own personal development, and to bring positive change to the world.

Energising a new generation.

In many cases, we have the privilege of guiding children from the earliest stages of their education all the way through to Seniors, watching as they grow in both their intellectual ability and their confidence as young people.

Over the course of their time at Crosfields, our pupils develop and grow as well-rounded people with a healthy appetite for learning.

With small class sizes, our teaching staff get to know the individual character of every pupil.

Because they feel a sense of ownership, pupils here are engaged in their learning.

When they leave Crosfields, further to their academic achievements, our pupils will have also gained social and communication skills along with an understanding of how to manage themselves and lead others. We know we will be proud to count them as one of our Crosfields Oaks alumni.

The breadth of our curriculum and our clear focus on balancing academic learning with personal development ensure we provide our pupils with the skills they need for life.

FABIENNE

“Crosfields is such a close community.”

We want our pupils to enjoy an amazing school experience that they can later reflect on as a foundation for life.

Fabienne Fisher
2011-2024

“Everyone knows everyone so people will give you a smile and they're always willing to chat. It all happens naturally. The teachers are always there for us too, giving us individual support on learning goals and encouraging us on our own path. Along the way, you pick up so many skills and so much all-round confidence. For me, Crosfields has been like a second home so it will be difficult to move on, but I can always see myself coming back here again one day in the future.”

HARRY

“There’s definitely a real family feel here.”

Harry Lewis
2011-2024

“Whatever year you’re in, you’re part of one big whole. As Seniors, we are taught to be role models, helping the younger pupils. We’re also taught that everyone has their own strengths and goals, and it’s not only about academic results. Crosfields gives so much to you as a person that it makes you want to give something back. No matter when you joined or when you leave, you know you’re always going to feel part of a family.”

KEALEY

“It is a place where you can just be yourself.”

Kealey Meldrum
2008-2015

“I joined Crosfields as part of the first co-ed intake. I was one of only two girls in my class but there was no difference in how we were all treated. I just loved it; it was a really happy time. You were always pushed to be your best, but the teachers were adaptable and flexible; it was about you and what you can do – not the person next to you. You could be academic, sporty or creative, and there was also a real focus on being outside and active. All of these things give you confidence in yourself and help prepare you for working with others in the real world.”

IVAN

“You get a sense that the teachers really care.”

Ivan Panton
2007-2010

“I always felt there were lots of opportunities to get involved in different things like sport and music at Crosfields. Everyone is encouraged to explore whatever they want to explore. As a school, it also seemed ahead of the curve in computer science, and there were great facilities for subjects like chemistry and physics. The time you spend with your teachers is so valuable and they really encourage you to become an independent learner. For me, those experiences have given me a thirst for knowledge that I know will stay with me for life.”

Our scholarship programme is designed to recognise remarkable children, whether they are already part of our school or ready to join the Crosfields community.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded in four categories – Academic, Sport, Creative and Performing Arts, and All-Rounder – scholarships attract the benefit of discounted tuition fees, but they also bring the expectation to become an ambassador for the school and a mentor to others in a particular subject area. Applicants must register via the scholarship form on our website, and submit a reference from their current school to our Admissions Team. Successful candidates will then be invited to an assessment morning focused on their chosen subject.

BURSARIES

The Crosfields bursary scheme supports children who would flourish here but whose families are not in a position to fully fund school fees without financial support.

The level of bursary awards is linked to total household income and assets, with the application process including a means-tested element. To be considered for selection, please complete the online registration form and book to attend our January assessment.

ADMISSIONS

We would be delighted to welcome your child – and your family – here at Crosfields. Whether you are ready to register your interest in a place or you would simply like more information about our school, all you need to do is follow our simple admissions process.

VISIT

Join us at one of our school Open Days or contact the Admissions Team to organise an individual tour.

Tours

We can show you around the school and answer any questions about an education here at Crosfields.

Taster events

These events run throughout the year. Please see website for more info.

APPLY

- **Fill in a registration form and pay the registration fee.**
- **Send a copy of your child's passport and the most recent school report to our Admissions Team.**

You will then be invited to an assessment morning.

Bursary

- Apply for a scholarship or bursary via our website, if required.

ASSESS

Pre-Prep

Come along to a 'Stay & Play' in Nursery, Reception Taster session, or a class visit in Year 1 and 2.

Juniors & Seniors

Assessment days each term, including CAT4 tests, a written task, a group task and a group interview.

Scholarships

Assessments in January.

OFFER

Those successful will receive an offer.

Bursary outcomes will be sent in early February.

'Offers morning' in the Spring Term

Meet the Head and key Senior Leadership Team (SLT), and have any questions answered.

NEXT

New pupils day in Summer Term

Meet your fellow classmates, teachers and get to know the school a bit better.

School values are essential as they shape a positive learning environment, encourage character development, and guide pupils in making ethical decisions, promoting respect, responsibility, and a strong sense of community.

OUR VALUES

Kindness

Being kind to each other and ourselves is the cornerstone of our community.

Growth

We are driven and determined about the goals we set ourselves.

Commitment

We are innovative, questioning and challenge ourselves to be the best version of ourselves.

Ambition

Our strides are big and small, driving us to grow in mind, spirit and character.

Integrity

We champion truth and honesty as the compass that guides our thoughts, words, and actions.

CROSFIELDS
SCHOOL

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