



EDGBASTON
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

PREPARATORY

The first steps of your daughter's adventure

GIRLS FROM NURSERY SCHOOL TO YEAR 6





WELCOME TO OUR PREPARATORY SCHOOL

We educate girls from the age of 2½ to 11, firstly in Westbourne, our Pre-Preparatory Department and from age 5 in the Preparatory Department.

In Westbourne your daughter can join us at any stage after her pre-admission visit – at 2½ in the Nursery, 3+ in Kindergarten, or 4+ in Reception. We have an excellent purpose-built Nursery with specialist play areas, ICT opportunities and a reading room.

In Prep, if they pass the entrance assessment, and a place is available, girls can join us in our warm and welcoming setting, where newcomers find it easy to settle and become part of our family.

The first steps to becoming a well-rounded young lady

We are proud of our academic success and record of helping guide girls into their choice of senior school. We also have a strong musical and sporting tradition, and encourage girls to follow their interests whatever

their ability – at this stage, taking part and enjoying themselves is most important. We believe in inspiring girls to become independent thinkers, self-sufficient and considerate to each other and the wider community.

We believe Edgbaston High School's exceptionally supportive and inspiring ethos makes it a special place. You are welcome to see for yourself – just visit us and talk to our pupils. They are our best ambassadors.

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The Preparatory School is at the heart of our lively campus. It is where we encourage girls to awaken their interest in learning, art, sport, music, languages and drama in a caring environment where we are committed to their all-round development.

Sally Hartley
Head of EHS Preparatory School

WESTBOURNE: 2½–5 years

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In safe hands

Nursery is a safe, secure, modern environment that provides all the care and encouragement our youngest pupils need. Kindergarten and Reception enjoy colourful, well-equipped teaching rooms, and all classes in Westbourne have a fully qualified teacher and Teaching Assistant.

At Westbourne, young girls develop their individual strengths. We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum guidelines, but many girls in Reception work above national levels. We create a good balance between learning through play and subject work, including art, music, science, PE and ballet.

See your daughter blossom

We create a strong relationship with you, to ensure relaxed, happy school days for your daughter, and we keep you informed of her progress through Information and Parents' Evenings. We also provide a full report at the end of each academic year.

Even from an early age, we make your daughter's personal and social development the highest priority. Westbourne helps girls develop confidence, self-awareness and consideration for others – and establishes behaviour and conduct that sets them up for life.

"We would highly recommend Westbourne to any of our friends and colleagues. Staff take an active interest in our daughter and really focus on her individual needs."

**Parent quote from
Preparatory School
Parent Survey 2015**

Welcome to Westbourne at EHS.
We take girls from 2½-5 years.
We hold their hands until we no longer need to.







WESTBOURNE: 2½–5 years

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Nursery

In our nurturing and calm environment our experienced staff take an individual approach with every pupil. They are keen to find out about each girl's interests and to introduce them to a wealth of different experiences.

In the earliest stages of their time with us we focus on developing the Prime Areas of learning in the EYFS: Communication and Language, Physical and Personal, Social and Emotional Skills. These are the important areas of development which will enable your daughter to become an active, independent learner and allow her to make the most of her time with us.

Our daily contact with parents is very important at this stage and we value the contact throughout the year at Parents' Evenings and social functions.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten is the second stage of the learning experience offered in Westbourne and the children are now in a classroom setting. In an active environment the children start to learn more numbers, letters and sounds through a variety of teaching activities as well as learning many other skills through play, both indoors and out.

Active steps are taken to encourage the girls to develop a good understanding of their own health and welfare and to develop good routines and habits which will carry them through life.

The children are encouraged to relate to each other, to listen, help and play together. They work in small groups and individually to encourage them to develop confidence and a positive sense of their own self and other children. They always enjoy telling visitors about their school and what they enjoy most.

"We have been thrilled with both the quality and attention that our daughter has received from the staff at EHS."

**Parent quote from
Preparatory School
Parent Survey 2015**

Westbourne is the starting point for many who stay with us all the way to Sixth Form. Our family atmosphere helps girls adapt quickly and happily to school life.

Reception

Girls move from Kindergarten to Reception in the September during the academic year of their fifth birthday. They attend on a full-time basis and are taught in mixed ability classes.

It is during the Reception year that the focus moves more towards the Specific Areas of the EYFS framework. These are Literacy, Mathematics, Expressive Arts and Knowledge of the World. Weekly RE, swimming and French lessons are introduced and ballet, started in Nursery, also continues. The girls enjoy a broad curriculum which includes directed and independent activities.

Their independence continues to grow and they start to initiate their own ideas at this stage.

Westbourne Girls Out and About

At EHS the girls have the advantage of a very varied campus to explore and being next door to the Botanical Gardens; the perfect places for activities and nature walks.

Our own outdoor classroom also affords space for a range of exciting opportunities. These might include den building or hunting for two headed dragons in the woodland. The girls also enjoy letter and number games in the fresh air.

At the end of their time spent in Westbourne the girls are more than ready for their transition to Year 1.

“It’s fun to learn when we are working and playing together.”
Katya
Reception

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PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT: 5-11 years

EHS offers girls in the Prep Department a broad and balanced curriculum, many opportunities to extend their knowledge and a wealth of challenges.

We aim to develop in the girls a positive approach to problem solving and a 'can-do' attitude when facing challenges. Resilience is key to effective learning and well-being.

We encourage and value independence in the girls' working and thinking skills and foster confidence in all areas of school life.

We also want the children to be interested in the environment around them and in the wider world and their place in it. To that end, each year we adopt a charity which might be local, national or international to support through our weekly 'silver bag' collection. We also take part in national campaigns and respond to disaster situations.

We want the girls to become global citizens who know how to treat all people and their planet with respect.

"I love this school! Those who are bright have lots of stimulus and those who are less high-flying are encouraged to explore talents that lie in areas other than academia."
**Parent quote from
Preparatory School
Parent Survey 2015**

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Welcome to the Preparatory School at EHS. We take girls from age 5-11 years and give them a lively love of learning to last a lifetime.



PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT: 5–11 years

A great place to learn

Pupils achieve high academic standards under the expert guidance of supportive and highly qualified teaching staff. They will encourage your daughter to develop as an individual and explore her abilities, tastes and interests. A full range of academic pursuits and extracurricular activities is available to help us to identify each girl's particular interests and talents.

All girls' studies go beyond the National Curriculum, and your daughter will benefit from small class sizes, focused attention from form teachers, and classes from specialist subject teachers in science, music, PE and languages.

Prep offers a fully equipped science laboratory, two ICT suites and a library, and shares the swimming pool, gymnasium, extensive playing fields and Octagon performance space with the rest of the School.

"As parents, we are very happy that our daughters love going to school. It is clear that there is a nurturing environment at the School and also an expectation on the girls to achieve and do very well academically. In our view, EHS is the best Preparatory school in the city."

**Parent quote from
Preparatory School
Parent Survey 2015**

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Our pupils' pride in their school, and their enjoyment attending it, come from our warm and welcoming ethos, our 'can-do' attitude and our belief in teaching respect for others.

SUPPORTING CREATIVITY AND ENDEAVOUR

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A noted music department

There are many opportunities to take part in music. The department has two choirs, an orchestra and numerous ensembles, including wind, string, recorder and guitar. Girls can play in school concerts and festivals, and enjoy other performance opportunities including assemblies – and in their final year, an annual production involving staff from the Music Department.

Excellence in the sporting arena

We have outstanding facilities and specialist teaching to help girls develop their gymnastic, dance, swimming, and games skills, including netball, hockey, tennis, rounders, athletics and cross country. Many girls represent the School in competitive fixtures and inter-house competitions. There are also plenty of extracurricular clubs to enjoy.

A place to grow

The School's allotment offers many learning experiences outside the classroom, with the Gardening Club a popular choice for older pupils.

Pastoral care at EHS is key to the enjoyment and development of all pupils. Trusted staff, individual attention when required, and an emphasis on forging friendships ensure focus on every girl's well-being.





LEARNING IN THE WIDER WORLD

Throughout the year, we enhance the curriculum with many outings, visits and workshops. These include a number of residential opportunities. Year 4 enjoy a short, three-day break to Culmington Manor in Shropshire to experience a range of exciting, outdoor activities. The annual Year 5 week-long trip to Cranedale Field Studies Centre in North Yorkshire allows the girls to hone their Geography and Science skills with investigations in the forest and at the coast.

Girls in Year 6 also have the chance to spend a week in France in the Summer Term.

Girls can take part in National competitions, Summer schools and sporting events – perfect for developing their interests and talents, and learning new skills.

“The School meets its aim to provide a caring pastoral system highly successfully... The quality of relationships between staff and pupils is excellent, and those amongst pupils are strong and supportive. Pupils appreciate the support given by teachers and feel valued within the community.”

**Independent Schools
Inspectorate Report
October 2009**

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Workshops help your daughter understand more about the lives of others. They learn how people lived in the past, and what life is like in other parts of the world.

Opportunities from an early age

We invite girls wishing to join the Preparatory Department for an assessment day. This also gives them the chance to meet current pupils, and get an idea of what life will be like here.

We monitor and assess girls continuously during their time in Prep. When they leave Year 6 they are well prepared for the transition to Senior School.

Year 3 Scholarships

A number of internal and external scholarships are available for girls entering Year 3. The assessments take place during the first half of the Spring Term.

"There are always lots of things going on here and lots of interesting things to do."

Simran
Year 4

The quality of relationships between staff and pupils is excellent, and those among pupils are strong and supportive.

Independent Schools Inspectorate Report
October 2009





EDGBASTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Edgbaston High School is easy to reach by public transport. Alternatively, areas including Barnt Green, Catshill, Bromsgrove, Solihull, Walsall, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, Streetly, Kinver, Stourbridge, Hagley and Halesowen are covered by the School's own minibus services or by private coaches organised by parents.

Edgbaston High School for Girls
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Edgbastonhigh.co.uk



- Bus stop
- Car park
- Train line