



# Pitsford School

## JUNIOR SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



I love  
being at this  
school!

Junior School pupil



An independent coeducational school for  
children aged from 4 to 18 years old



*Pitsford Junior School  
is a busy and thriving  
community.*

It's a unique place filled with achievement, sparkle and energy growing out of incredible chemistry between our pupils, parents and staff.

Our values and behaviours guide this success:

- The quality that we value most in our pupils is kindness – towards each other, their families and the wider community.
- We celebrate individuality and what makes us different and unique, be it our interests, culture or faith.
- Our pupils respect themselves and each other.
- Our pupils are open, honest and learn from their mistakes.
- Our pupils develop resilience when things are difficult and have a real determination to do their best.

Once  
upon  
time...



# Welcome

## to The Juniors at Pitsford

The Junior School, set in 30 beautiful acres, offers a safe, friendly and caring environment, where children flourish. The modern Junior School building is surrounded by accessible green open spaces, which inspire a healthy and positive attitude to study.

Our enthusiastic and dedicated team provide a holistic education and all staff understand the importance of delivering the best learning opportunities to the pupils in our care.

Through our broad curriculum we offer a very high standard of education and strive to instil in our pupils a love of learning, self-esteem and respect for others.

Our classes are deliberately small to ensure that everyone receives maximum attention. We have high expectations of every pupil and extend learning by taking account of each individual's interests and needs.

Our pupils love coming to school. They have a lot of fun and always seem reluctant to leave at the end of each day!

Please come and visit us soon to experience the warm and friendly atmosphere for yourself.

**Julia Willmott**  
Head of Juniors

# Key benefits of Pitsford Junior School

## Your children are taken care of all day

The School is open from 8am through to 5.20pm from Monday to Friday. Children can be dropped off from 8am to play – there is no need to book.

Our FREE 'wrap-around care' service is designed to help working parents and runs from 8am until 5.20pm each week day during term time. We are as flexible as possible to help busy working parents and arrangements can be confirmed on a daily basis.



## Our lunches are fun and nutritious!

We strongly believe that sitting down to a well-cooked lunch each day is important, not only to get the right level of nourishment, but also to develop social skills and good manners. Our own catering team freshly prepares a hot lunchtime meal on-site for every child in our care.

Tea is provided from 3.30 to 4pm for all children staying after school. After this, younger children can stay for crèche and older children can complete homework or reading in prep until 5.20pm.



## Lots to do after school!

We have an extensive list of after-school activities to choose from including Sailing, Ballet, Chess, Athletics, Knitting, Cookery, Book Club and Art. The majority of these are provided at no cost by our own staff.

Additional sport and dance clubs are organised by selected external suppliers for an extra fee.



## We talk (and listen) to parents

Everyone at Pitsford knows the importance of good communication with parents.

In the Junior School, the Junior Head has weekly drop-in sessions, and we have a very active PTA. Parents are sent two pupil reviews and one full report each year, as well as information shared during two Parents' Evenings.

## Wide extra curricular programme

Our pupils have a varied and exciting extra curricular programme that enriches their daily curriculum. The half-termly topics give many opportunities for practical, hands-on learning including theatre and museum visits, Forest School days, field trips and much more. Learning is both challenging and fun with a sensible balance of teacher-led and child-initiated tasks.

Each year we organise an Activity Camp for the whole school (residential for the older years), which includes several days of outdoor and physical activities, including Forest School, relevant to each age group.



## We are engaged with the broader community

Each of the three School Houses raises money for a local charity of their choice through 'mufti' days, cake sales or sponsored events which raise much-needed funds.

Furthermore, the Junior School as a whole works together to raise money for a charity based in Zambia. As part of an ongoing initiative called 'Pennies for Makeni', the children collect loose change each week for the Makeni Ecumenical Centre in Lusaka.





I really enjoy  
listening to  
stories at  
the end of  
a busy day

## Love to learn

Our pupils are confident, enthusiastic and above all independent learners, taught by very experienced and fully qualified teachers. We are very lucky to have purpose-built outdoor classrooms with access to acres of green space (including an orchard, garden, fields and even a wood!).

We place great emphasis on personal, social and emotional development (PSED) as well as the acquisition of language skills, particularly speaking and listening. The children learn to read when they are ready, make rapid progress and really enjoy stories and books.

Each pupil has their own individual reading programme and reads aloud to an adult each day.

### Broad curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced range of subjects through an exciting and creative curriculum.

We nurture each child and support their individual learning needs with a strong emphasis on developing skills in reading, writing and numeracy.

The range and breadth of subjects offered continues to extend the children, encouraging independent learning skills whilst continuing to develop and extend literacy and numeracy.

Each year group is under the care of an enthusiastic and caring class teacher. Specialist teachers teach subjects such as French, Music and PE.



# Being creative

## Music

We have a purpose-built music room in which visiting peripatetic music teachers deliver a wide range of weekly instrumental lessons – including violin, cello, guitar, brass, woodwind and kit percussion – as well as singing.

Our Junior Choir and award-winning Chamber Choir are both extremely popular and have enjoyed success in local competitions.

## Drama

Drama Club is an after-school activity and most of our pupils enjoy a theatre visit during the year. Speech and Drama lessons, which lead to the English Speaking Board examination, are offered to all pupils.

Everyone participates in our Christmas show, (usually a pantomime), which develops real team spirit. There are many other activities throughout the year where pupils can showcase their hard work and talent. Parents' support and encouragement are always greatly valued at these events.

The Junior School holds an annual Music Concert, which is an ideal opportunity for pupils to show parents what they have learnt in music over the year.

## Art

We use Art to engage our children's imaginations and to develop their ability to express themselves in different mediums. Specialist staff develop their technical skills in drawing, painting and sculpture, while encouraging them to experiment and have fun in the exciting experience of creating beauty and meaning for themselves.





A healthy mind  
and a healthy body



Physical  
development

Equal value is given to the arts and sport throughout the School and pupils participate in some form of physical activity every day including Rugby, Netball, Cricket, Swimming, Dance and Athletics.

We have always placed great importance on physical development and it is a crucial feature of the curriculum. Ballet, PE and Swimming lessons are taught by specialist teachers and our pupils take part in some form of physical activity every day.

# Why Pitsford?

- 30 acres of beautiful grounds, for outdoor education and **stimulating, hands-on learning**.
- Combining a traditional and child-led approach, our committed staff delivers an **exciting curriculum**, with an emphasis on **creativity and independent thought**.
- **Small class sizes** create a caring environment where every child is known and supported, developing **self-confidence, resilience** and most importantly **happiness**.
- Pupils are in a **safe** and **well-equipped** environment where their **creativity** and **self-expression** are encouraged.
- Facilities include a **multi-million** pound Junior School building, recently renovated **refectory** and new **Sports Centre**.
- We carefully prepare every pupil to **continue to thrive** at Pitsford's Senior School, Sixth Form and success in the future.

## Admission to Pitsford Junior School

Pre-registered children aged four and above will be invited in for a couple of hours during the term before they are due to start. Whilst with us they are encouraged to play with the other children and join in with classroom activities to give us the opportunity to ensure the children will be happy in their future surroundings.

Following a successful visit, the School will then make a formal offer of a place. If accepted, a deposit is paid, which is reimbursed when the pupil leaves. The deposit is forfeited if the place is not taken up.



*Come and see  
us for yourself!*

We hope you agree that the Junior School is exceptional. To fully appreciate what we can offer you and your child, please contact the Registrar on **01604 880306**, who will be happy to show you around at a time that is convenient for you.

**Alternatively why not come to one of our Open Days? See our website for more details.**



# Pitsford School

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