INFO

PREP PLUS

ASPIRE & ACHIEVE

An independent, co-educational, selective academic fast track stream at Year 4, 5 and 6

INFORMATION & APPLICATION GUIDE

PREP **PLUS**

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THS Prep Plus is Thorpe Hall School's selective academic stream for grammar preparation with an annual intake into Year 4 and 5.

It offers the best of both worlds - the strong academic focus of a grammar type education from an earlier age underpinned by all the advantages of a first-class independent education, offering:

- smaller classes (maximum 18 per class)
- tailored one-to-one support from one of the strongest teaching teams in the area
- enriched and extended subject specialist curriculum with access to senior school GCSE teachers and senior school facilities in Years 5 and 6
- access to the School's excellent enrichment and clubs programme
- award-winning pastoral care and support with access for students and parents to the School's Wellbeing Hub
- a Future Ready programme developing skills for future academic, examination and career success

THS Prep Plus is Thorpe Hall School's selective academic stream, with an annual intake into Year 4 and 5. This flexible and dynamic concept is comprehensive and broad, and includes an 11+ programme to prepare students for top-flight secondary education. It is further supported by a unique subject specialist teaching curriculum and a strong Future Ready programme which will nurture and build students' individual talents and strengths. THS Prep Plus students benefit from the many advantages of independent co-education in a grammar style environment.

Why be Part of THS Prep Plus?

- **OUTPERFORM:** Students reach their full academic potential in a school that consistently outperforms on Value Added.
- **OPPORTUNITY:** More collisions with greater opportunities and experiences to help build a stronger resilience and independent learning portfolio.
- **ATTAINMENT:** Excellent teaching in small classes supporting faster progress and higher attainment.
- **TRACKING:** Regular tracking against ambitious and aspirational educational targets for every student.
- **FLEXIBILITY:** Flexible and unique timetabling for elite performers in sport, music, art, performing arts and other subjects to truly meet students' individual needs.
- **LANGUAGES:** All Prep Plus students will study four languages: French, Spanish, Italian and Mandarin.
- **PASTORAL CARE:** Award-winning wellbeing support in a school where the individual really matters. Ongoing wellbeing checks for all students.
- **FAST TRACK:** Fast track academic challenge for all Prep Plus students.
- **SCIENCE FOCUS:** Specialist science teaching in senior school laboratories.
- **LEADERSHIP:** Unrivalled leadership opportunities and training on leadership styles.
- **MENTORING:** THS Prep Plus students receive regular bespoke 'Stretch & Challenge' mentoring sessions.
- **INDEPENDENT:** As an independent school, we have the flexibility to manage and tailor our curriculum pathways.

Years 4 -6: Prep Plus

Fast Track 11+ and Grammar Plus Programme for Prep Aged Children

Following the hugely successful introduction of the THS Grammar Plus programme into Year 7, Thorpe Hall School is now pleased to offer the Prep Plus programme for students who successfully pass our Prep Plus assessments in English, mathematics, reading and writing.

The Prep Plus course will offer extensive 11+ preparation, an enhanced core curriculum programme and a unique Future Ready programme.

Students in the Prep Plus group are taught in separate classes for English, mathematics, science and in their Future Ready course. They will mix with all other students in the year groups in other lessons. They will all have the opportunity to attend extended free 11+ lessons during and after school hours.

The pace of their lessons will be rapid and they will be expected to undertake independent research as well. They will be working on content that will place them in the top 10% - 15% of students nationally.

Prep Plus students will also benefit from the innovative a highly acclaimed “Expect More” provision that all Year 5 & 6 pupils at Thorpe Hall School enjoy.

Prep Plus Curriculum

Prep Plus: A fast track core academic curriculum
Tailored to extend the most academically able

Core Mathematics for Prep Plus

11+

- All 11+ mathematics work

Statistics

- Collecting and analysing data (making questionnaires on Google Forms and analysing results, creating charts to represent data and present data)

Mathematics in the wider world

- Application in real life (budgeting lessons and skills, travelling and conversions)
- Classroom thinking puzzles
- History of Maths
- Mathematical links to other subjects (e.g. working in other bases such as binary in computing)
- Problem solving tasks (such as UKMT challenge questions and Bowland Maths projects)

Algebra

- Forming and solving expressions

Geometry

- Mathematical art with coordinates on Desmos
- Measurements with cost calculations
- Building models with geometrical shapes

Core Science for Prep Plus

Scientific Experimentation

- Students learn essential skills through hands-on activities such as observation, hypothesis formulation, data collection, and interpretation

Scientific Research Skills

- This includes data analysis and presentation of findings

Ethics of Science

- Students explore topics which involve responsible conduct and ethical considerations during practicals and discovery topic work

Science Technologies

- Students use iPads and associated equipment to expand their laboratory techniques together with data analysis software

New Horizons in Science

- Students stay updated with current trends, breakthroughs, and challenges in science

Scientific and Mathematical Modelling

- Students start to look at trends and patterns in data

Changemaker and Young Inventor

- Students undertake activities which encourage them to identify problems, develop creative solutions, and implement them through invention and innovation

Scientific Thinking and Analytical Skills

- Students are encouraged to evaluate evidence, think logically, and solve problems systematically

Core English for Prep Plus

In addition to the normal English curriculum and extended 11+ preparation:

- Students will learn one classic (The Jungle Book), an autobiography (Boy) and one Shakespeare (A Midsummer Night's Dream).
- Deeper inference skills with understanding of writer's intent and effects on reader/audience.
- Vocabulary development with study skills on verbal reasoning and word play.

Debating, Speechmaking and Oracy:

Debating and oracy will form a core part of our Prep Plus curriculum with regular opportunities to compete. All pupils will study debating and speechmaking as separate writing units within the Writing curriculum.

School community writing project:

To cultivate the growth of our Prep Plus pupils as proficient writers, it is crucial to foster a vibrant "community of writers." Within this supportive environment, students engage in reading, sharing, contemplating, and discussing their written pieces collectively with the aim of publishing a termly school newsletter.

Digital Literacy:

In Prep Plus we recognise the importance of digital skills in the modern world. With the digital sector forming a significant part of the UK economy, we understand the necessity of preparing our pupils for a future where digital proficiency is paramount. Prep Plus pupils will have termly projects developing their written work into digital technology opportunities such as encompassing green screens, augmented reality and virtual reality.

Prep Plus: A Dedicated Future Ready Skills Programme

All Prep Plus students will have Future Ready lessons to include:

- Independent research skills
- Problem solving
- Digital literacy
- Independent research
- Entrepreneurship
- Creative thinking
- Lateral thinking
- Project management
- Global awareness
- Current affairs
- Presentation skills
- Public speaking
- Resilience
- Stress tolerance
- Ideation
- Content writing
- AI Skills
- Drone technologies
- Emotional intelligence
- Leadership

APPLY

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The Prep Plus Assessments

There will be an annual Prep Plus assessment which will take place immediately after half term in the Spring term in Year 3 or 4.

Entrance Assessments will be taken in:

- **Mathematics**
- **English**
- **Reading and writing**

We are looking for all-round academic excellence, flair and the ability to think independently and tackle questions with academic and creative expertise. The assessments are designed to take account of an applicant's level at the time of the test, rather than where they would be expected to be at entry. Past papers are not available.

How to enrol for the Prep Plus assessment

All parents who want to enrol their child for the Prep Plus assessment should complete the assessment form on our website, at **www.thorpehallschool.co.uk/prep-plus**

This must be done before the half term of the summer term; the exact deadline, and the assessment date, for the next intake, can also be found on this page.

If your child is not currently at Thorpe Hall School, we recommend that you have toured the school, and ask you to complete the school registration form before enrolling for the assessment.

Applications for THS Prep Plus are welcome from both internal and external candidates.

All will be judged equally on merit.

If you have any queries relating to Prep Plus, please email prepplusinfo@thorpehallschool.co.uk

A Thorpe Hall Preparatory School Education: Unique, Innovative and Future Ready.

Independent

We are able to tailor our curriculum more effectively and innovatively to the needs of the modern child and to the skills they need to master for their future success.

We are not restricted by the national curriculum, SATS and other standardised syllabi. We can engage in creative, modern and forward-thinking learning for all children.

Subject Specialist Teaching

All our Year 5 and Year 6 children benefit from our extended and unique subject specialist taught curriculum which better prepares them for the transition to secondary school. The emphasis on independent learning, entrepreneurial thought and expecting more leads to children significantly outperform against their abilities.

All children in Year 5 and Year 6 learn four languages (Spanish, French, Italian and Mandarin), media, creative digital arts, food and nutrition, design and technology, robotics, and VR as part of their normal weekly curriculum.

Year 4 children in the Prep Plus programme will also access specialist teaching, and learn 3 languages.

Facilities

Children access the senior school specialist venues for many subjects, thus enabling us to extend the repertoire of skills and material we can teach them

Preparation for Life

Thorpe Hall School is proud of its Preparation for Life and Future Ready programmes, which include extensive careers input and learning opportunities.

Leadership

Children follow an extensive leadership programme and develop strengths in project management and real-life enterprise skills.

Academic Success at 11+

Thorpe Hall School supports 11+ examination success through customised 11+ tutoring and coaching, at no additional cost. We ensure our 11+ candidates have the best chance of securing a place at our local grammar schools, or in our Senior schools's own THS Grammar Plus programme.

Find out more here:

www.thorpehallschool.co.uk/expect-more-from-years-5-6

SCAN HERE

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SCHOOL

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