



PRINCE'S MEAD

NURSERY PRACTITIONER

Full-time Maternity Cover

Fixed-term

from January 2025

at Prince's Mead School

Winchester

Prince's Mead School, Worthy Park House, Kings Worthy, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 1AN
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PRINCE'S MEAD

A word from Adam King, the Headmaster:

Thank you so much for your interest in this role at Prince's Mead.

Prince's Mead is an ambitious, vibrant and exciting school with a tremendous spirit where, above all, happiness reigns.

Situated on the outskirts of Winchester, the school is ideally placed to benefit from the cultural heritage of a historical city as well as enjoy the scenic countryside of the beautiful Itchen Valley.

I am now into my third year of headship at Prince's Mead and still firmly believe that it is a truly special place with a caring and supportive community. The Crown Values are the bedrock of the school and the purpose and aims of the school provide strong direction. Together, the Governors work closely with myself, the Bursar and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to provide a strategy and implementation plan to make the school the best it can be.

Most recently, we have rolled out one-to-one devices (together with a new VLE), expanded our provision of Forest School and extended the teaching of Drama throughout the school. The Pre-Senior Baccalaureate (PSB) framework is embedded throughout the school and has, without doubt, raised the attainment of every pupil.

I hope you enjoy reading this information pack, browsing our website and looking at our social media posts. It's a very exciting time to be joining the team at Prince's Mead and I look forward to receiving your application.

Kind regards,

Adam King
Headmaster



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BACKGROUND TO THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1949 in Winchester, Prince's Mead is a co-educational day preparatory school for children aged 3 to 11. These characteristics allow it to stand out from other independent schools in the area and place it in a unique position to enable children to move on to a wide variety of secondary schools and particularly the very good 11+ day schools in Hampshire and beyond. Senior school destinations are never prescriptive, however, and the school works closely with parents to prepare children for the full range of possible choices.

Prince's Mead is located in a glorious setting, occupying Worthy Park House; a large former Georgian residence dating back to 1820. With wonderful views across the Itchen Valley, the twelve acres of grounds complement the house and provide a perfect setting for delivering education as well as an impressive sport offering and other co-curricular activities. Enhancements have included a multipurpose sports hall, music practice rooms and the latest development of four new classrooms and a modern kitchen and dining hall (completed in 2019). This latter work has also allowed for the redevelopment of the Coach House in order to provide an Early Years facility, which is proving highly popular. Focusing on our teaching provision we are pleased to be rolling out the Pre-Senior Bacculaureate (PSB) model and our exciting investment in a Virtual Learning Platform and personal devices.

Prince's Mead is very strong academically and offers a fantastic breadth in its curriculum. There are dedicated classrooms for Science, ICT, DT and Art. Music is important both in the classroom and through peripatetic music teachers. The school is known for its outdoor education and has its own Forest School in Gray's Wood. Children experience several day trips throughout the year and by the end of their time here will have climbed two mountain peaks in the UK. Prince's Mead is the only prep school in the country to have a teacher in charge of Adventure and Exploration! Many more details about the curriculum and extra-curricular offerings are available on the school's website at princesmeadschool.org.uk.

The school is the only independent school in the area to operate a free minibus service in the mornings and afternoons. The red minibuses have become iconic in the local community to



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assist with travel. The school currently has over 290 children on roll and there are exciting plans to develop the buildings and facilities further.

The school met all standards of regulatory compliance when it was inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in May 2023 and was found to be excellent in all areas of the Integrated Inspection.



GENERAL OVERVIEW

We are seeking an outstanding EYFS Practitioner who is passionate about early childhood education, to join us as maternity cover. They must hold a minimum Level 3 in Early Years Childcare, or equivalent.

We believe in a child-centred approach where our curious youngest children are provided with stimulating play and are encouraged to free-flow in their learning and play, both inside and outside.

Our school is renowned for the partnerships that we build with our parents and families. This starts with our Nursery Practitioners who are each responsible for a group of key children. In this way, each child feels known, understood, safe and cared for.

Prince's Mead Nursery offers a warm, welcoming and nurturing environment for children aged 3 to 4 who transition into Reception. Our Nursery is set within the grounds and close to our school community, offering a safe and stimulating home from home experience.

Our Nursery offers:

- A warm, nurturing and fun start to each child's education.
- Free-flow learning and play supervised by highly experienced staff.
- Flexible hours for families from 8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday.
- Healthy, balanced food made on site by our professional Chef.
- Stimulating and fresh setting in our stunning Coach House.



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- Extensive grounds including Forest School, Early Years garden, playgrounds, sports hall, playing fields, tennis courts, Dining Hall and 12 acres of secure countryside.
- Individual attention in a calm, focused environment building towards a seamless move to Reception.



PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

The Nursery Practitioner will work alongside the Nursery Leader and will report to the Head of EYFS.

The ideal candidate will have as a minimum:

- Level 3 in Early Years Childcare or equivalent.
- Level 2 Literacy and Numeracy qualifications.
- A strong awareness of child protection and safeguarding.
- Ability to work independently as well as be a team player.
- Secure and respectful interpersonal skills with a flexible, adaptable and positive attitude to staff and pupils.
- Strong communication skills to promote and develop effective, trusting relationships with pupils, colleagues and parents.
- A passion for an individual child's development and growth.



THE ROLE

The successful candidate will be employed, during term-time, from Monday to Friday, on 40 or 45 hours per week, and will also provide help for our holiday clubs. The duties and responsibilities listed below are not exhaustive or restrictive:

- Ensure that practice and provision in the Nursery meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Statutory Framework.



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- Support the whole team in delivering the EYFS Framework – with efficient assessment and recording of the progress and attainment of pupils.
- Help with the day-to-day running of the Nursery, including Holiday Club.
- Provide professional and outstanding care throughout the day, following the school's policies and procedures.
- Promote the aims and objectives of the Nursery, to reflect the school's Crown Values.
- Promote the high standards of the Nursery at all times to parents, staff and visitors.
- Ensure that all children attending the Nursery receive rich and stimulating experiences appropriate to their age and stage of development and be familiar with all their medical, SEND and other individual needs.
- Ensure that children are kept safe and that staff understand and follow safeguarding procedures.
- Promote and facilitate partnerships with parents and other family members, through handovers, parents' evenings and regular reporting.
- Create and maintain a culture of self-evaluation and reflective practice throughout the Nursery.
- Maintain respect and confidentiality, as appropriate.
- Engage in and maintain professional development activities.
- Attend safeguarding and paediatric first aid training.



REMUNERATION

Salary is dependent upon qualifications and experience. There are further benefits including: pension, free lunch and tea and onsite parking.



APPLICATION PROCESS

1. The closing date for applications is **4pm on Monday 4th November 2024.**
2. Applicants are asked to complete the school's application form provided (it's important to include two named referees), as well as a covering letter (no more than



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- one side of A4). The letter of application should offer a personal insight into the skills and aspirations of the candidate.
3. Prince's Mead is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure from the DBS.
 4. At the short list interview, applicants will be interviewed by the Headmaster, as well as other members of the Senior Leadership Team.
 5. Please email your completed application form and covering letter to recruitment@princesmeadschool.org.uk
 6. We reserve the right to close this vacancy early if we receive sufficient applications for the role. Therefore, if you are interested, please submit your application as early as possible.



SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Prince's Mead puts at the centre of its operation the safeguarding of the pupils of the school. There is a commitment to keep safeguarding at the forefront of every employee and volunteer's mind. We encourage a culture of challenge, not just to act when there is a need, but also in the way we think to ensure the risks of harm to the pupils' individual welfare are minimised.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Job applicants will undergo appropriate child protection screening and pre-employment checks will be carried out; references will be sought and successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and other relevant checks with statutory bodies.

Successful applicants must complete mandatory pre-employment training in safeguarding and other key areas before the commencement of employment.

We comply with the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) code of practice and have a written policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders, both of which are available on request. If shortlisted, you are required to declare any relevant convictions, adult cautions or other matters which may affect your suitability to work with children. As a result of amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (exceptions order 1975) in 2013 and 2020, some minor offences are now protected (filtered) and should not be disclosed to potential employers, and employers cannot take these offences into account.



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EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

As an equal opportunities employer, Prince's Mead is committed to the equal treatment of all current and prospective employees and does not condone discrimination on the basis of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, or marriage and civil partnership.

We aspire to have a diverse and inclusive workplace and strongly encourage suitably qualified applicants from a wide range of backgrounds to apply and join Prince's Mead.