



BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

Naturally grounded for a wider world









WELCOME



The effect of Beeston on its pupils is powerful and long-lasting. Leavers treasure their experience here and find it a terrific springboard into the many senior schools they go onto, as grounded and capable contributors, with a spirited approach to life.

Learning to become a good role model is at the centre of Beeston's mission. We celebrate difference and encourage children to embrace the many opportunities on offer, with energy, empathy and – no doubt, on occasions, bravery, too. On the basis that happy children learn, everything we undertake is devoted to the aim of developing confidence alongside each child's individual potential. The family feel of Beeston means we get to know each other well, providing friendship and support across the age ranges, and through the variation of activities that make up the school day.

Choosing the right school for your child is a huge decision; perhaps one of the most important a parent makes. I very much look forward to continuing the conversation which begins with these pages.



Fred de Falbe, *Headmaster*



MISSION, AIMS & ETHOS

Our Mission is to inspire and develop happy and confident young men and women, ready to take on the world and contribute to it, in a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment, which they love and respect.

Everything begins with the conviction that happy children are ready to learn. Academic success is paramount, but only part of the all-round development of children at Beeston, where all activities are focused on the many aspects of character: the personal and social, the creative and physical, the moral and spiritual and the logical and linguistic. Recognising these enables us, together, to maximise the chances of success so that the children understand, and are committed to, their own personal development, through the Beeston Brief. This is rooted in attitudes which we encourage and expect at

Beeston towards self, others and the environment summed up in three words:

- BRAVERY – take risks and take responsibility
- ENERGY – go above and beyond with your effort so you are your best self
- EMPATHY – kindness, manners and trust, towards yourself and others

The aims and ethos of Beeston are:

1. To educate the children to the highest academic standards and ensure they achieve places at their first choice of senior school
2. To provide an outstanding and broad education which includes art, sport, music, drama and a wider co-curricular programme
3. To develop positivity of outlook, leadership and self-reliance in all our pupils through building successful and caring relationships
4. To develop partnerships, between the school, parents and the wider community
5. To foster a spirit of enquiry and an understanding that we learn from our mistakes
6. To embed good habits and routines to best maximise health and wellbeing amongst all in the community
7. To develop a respect and appreciation for self, others and the environment we enjoy
8. To understand and use technology to its best effect, safely and wisely
9. To engender a sense of responsibility towards self and the world beyond
10. To encourage pupils to be adventurous, inclusive, loyal, broad-minded and generous.

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'Well done to you, keeping your cool under what must be incredible pressure. Great team, great school and great decision I made to send my daughter to Beeston!' *(Year 1 parent on lockdown remote learning package).*





CURRICULUM



The curriculum at Beeston is designed to enable every child to reach his or her potential and prepare him or her for life after Beeston. Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences: the personal and social, the creative and physical, the moral and spiritual and the logical and linguistic, drive our curriculum planning and values.

The traditional academic disciplines, including Latin, are complemented by music and drama, art, computing, design and technology and Forest School. Together with a very full games and activities programme, this broad and varied curriculum supports our holistic approach to education.

All of these contribute to the development of confidence and

of character, where kindness and resilience go hand in hand - winning or losing with equal grace, being quick to offer thanks, congratulation or compassion. The outcomes from this approach are superb and children go on to a very wide range of senior schools, often with scholarships or awards.

This process begins in the Pre-Prep where the day begins with hour-long literacy and numeracy sessions, followed by reading time. English, mathematics and the humanities are delivered by the form teacher as discrete subjects, with all subjects taught by specialists in discrete classes from Year 5 upwards.

The classes are small, set where appropriate, reflecting the

requirements of the scholarship and /or entrance exams at 13, with children aided where necessary by a remarkably well-resourced Learning Support department.

Pupils' progress is monitored from an early age to ensure that potential is fulfilled and any difficulties are identified as early as possible. This progress is regularly assessed, both formally and informally, and parents are kept up-to-date about levels of effort and attainment through the reporting system and regular parent-teacher meetings. Parents are encouraged to discuss their children's progress with staff at any time.

What makes our school's curriculum **different** is the **diversity of its delivery**. From Google Classroom to the Beach Classroom, there is flexibility to allow for personality and the many different ways children learn effectively, within a structured background.

'We are immensely proud of our record – last year 65% of our leavers gained scholarships to different schools. Our greatest hope is that all pupils move on, proud of what Beeston achieved for them and they achieved for Beeston.'

Paul Leaver (Deputy Head Academic)





DESTINATIONS



Being the last genuinely independent boarding prep school in Norfolk, we stake our reputation on finding the right future school for each child.

We have a matchless record of scholarships and awards to senior schools across the country, and we consistently win general scholarships as well as those across the fields of academia, sport, drama, music and art.

Over the last 5 years, our leavers have gained entry to the following schools:

Ampleforth	Queen Margaret's York
Aylsham High	Radley
Cheltenham Ladies' College	Repton
Downe House	RHS Ipswich
Eton	Rugby
Framlingham	Sheringham High
Gresham's	Shrewsbury
Harrow	St Edward's
Langley	The Stephen Perse
The Leys, Cambridge	Stowe
Norwich High School for Girls	Tudor Hall
Norwich School	Uppingham
Oakham	Wycombe Abbey
Oundle	Wymondham College
The Perse, Cambridge	

Did you know? We have 100% success rate in children gaining entry to their first choice of senior school.

100%

Kate, aged 13



Flautist

County netball player

Experimenter

'I've been at Beeston for 7 years now. My uncle, father and older brothers studied here, so there's quite a family tradition of us at the school. One of the things I'll be most grateful to Beeston for is that the school encourages you to have a go at everything. When you are young, you don't know what your strengths will be. As you move up the school you can find out what you're best at and the teachers support you all the way. I suppose you could say I'm a very busy boarder as I'm involved in lots of activities. This term I sat art, music, sport and academic scholarships for Gresham's. There have been pressures at times, but what I have learnt from this experience is that I need to pace myself and allow myself time to rest. I'll certainly be ready for senior school because I've learnt to become super organised! But it's not all about work. Being Year 8 boarders, we get the chance to go into town with our friends on Sunday mornings, which is great fun.'



THE BEESTON COMMITMENT



Wellbeing is at the centre of everything we do. Children who feel good about themselves and their lives are more engaged in school and do better.

Our pastoral care is supported by the RULER Programme, based on research from Yale University's Centre for Emotional Intelligence, where children are encouraged to recognise, understand and label their emotions, so better to regulate them. With family charters, class charters and mood meters this system is significant in helping us all promote positive attitudes and relationships.



What children can expect

- To be allowed to be children and not feel pressured to grow up too quickly
- To feel safe, but to be encouraged to take risks and make mistakes
- A sense of community, with a House system which gives a sense of belonging
- Caring, dedicated, experienced and vigilant staff
- High standards of behaviour based on mutual respect and kindness
- Effort and attainment is recognised and rewarded
- Integration across the school with different age groups playing and working together
- A wide range of opportunities for leadership across the school
- Medical issues to be dealt with quickly
- Bullying issues to be taken seriously, dealt with and resolved

Bob Hammond (*Deputy Head Pastoral*)





LEARNING SUPPORT



Around a third of our children visit the Learning Support department at some point during their time at Beeston. This could be for anything from one session per week to sort out a particular problem, to a tailored programme of up to four interventions each week for the required amount of time. There is absolutely no stigma attached to this – the children love attending, they understand the value of this and are keen to pass on the tools they acquire.

The Learning Support department compiles a profile plan for each child, including their strengths, weaknesses and how they learn best. With this is an individual programme of support which ensures clear, achievable goals are set and most effective ways of learning noted. The Learning Support department is open throughout the working day so any child needing support can drop in just for a chat, to get some advice, or help with prep.



‘Beautiful, breezy Beeston ... the sea air clearly works wonders on the young grey matter.’
Tatler Schools Guide, 2017

Did you know?

Our motto,
“Floreat Fiducia”
means “let
confidence
flourish.”





BOARDING



We believe that boarding provides tremendous benefits to families. The breadth of opportunities, with the time and space to enjoy them, is a great advantage, with staff on hand to provide supervision and encouragement, and friends to add that extra dimension of fun.

Whether Lego, leadership or trumpet practice, children get to live together and learn from each other in a relaxed family atmosphere.

Visitors of a certain age often remark on how unrecognisable boarding is now from a generation ago. The level of comfort, personalisation and accessibility to home combine to make boarding a veritable home from home.

MAIN OPTIONS

Beeston boarding

Beeston at its best – full boarding with a huge array of weekend activities. This suits families living as little as half an hour away, as well as those living further afield in the UK and overseas.

Weekly boarding

Boarding for children who need to be at home for a day over the weekend.

Flexi boarding

Building towards boarding: a set number of boarding nights per week arranged each term.

OTHER OPTIONS

Occasional boarding

Sometimes families have emergencies or travel situations which require their child to stay at school overnight. We accommodate requirements subject to availability.

Try boarding weekends

Try Boarding Weekends are our special, fun-packed themed weekends open to ALL Beestonians to experience the full 'Beeston Difference'.

Did you know?

We now have an extended two week Michaelmas half-term, in line with other schools.



George, aged 13



World traveller

Scholar

Home Skyper

'I was eight when I took the flight from India to London to begin my education at Beeston. Although I was scared before I flew, the journey itself was easy. Someone from the airline helped me through all the stages and I got to wait in a special departure lounge where they looked after me.

Once I arrived at Beeston everyone made me feel welcome and I had a boarding buddy who helped me if I didn't know what to do. In my free time, I could Skype my parents which meant I wasn't homesick. They moved back to the UK last year and while I love having them closer, I do miss the excitement of taking the flight to school.

I've changed a lot since I have been at Beeston. For instance, I didn't really like sport when I was younger, but now I can say I'm actually quite good. I'm also proud to have been chosen as a scholar. I would never have believed myself capable of that before.'



WRAP-AROUND DAY



The 'wrap-around day' ensures our day pupils can access the wide range of opportunities enjoyed by boarders.

The key is flexibility. Children arrive from 8.00am and may leave at 4.30 pm, 5.45 pm or stay until 7.15 pm, so they can take part in a wide range of activities, which are included, along with their meals, in the school fees.

Children in Years 6 to 8 have the option of doing evening prep at school, so that they don't have to take work home with them. Parents tell us that the flexibility suits busy family lives and conveniently extends their working day.



'I love the fact that I can collect all my children at the same time on my way home from work. It makes life so much easier knowing that all their homework is finished; they're fed and watered and I don't have to bundle them up and charge them off to swimming lessons because they've already done it at school.'

Parent of four

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Did you know We run supervised school mini-bus routes for children aged four upwards, from Dereham, Fakenham, Norwich and Aylsham.





SPORT

We aim to strike the balance between ‘sport for excellence’ and ‘sport for all’, encouraging a competitive spirit but with a strong emphasis on fair play and team work. Throughout the year, all pupils – whatever their strengths – will represent Beeston in a team sport.

For a small school, we have an unusually large pool of sporting talent and regularly punch above our weight.

The previous six years have seen us reach nine IAPS national hockey finals. We are incredibly proud of our sporting achievements: over the last 12 years our children have been awarded 39 sports scholarships to 14 national senior schools.

Games and PE are taught by experienced, well-qualified staff as well as specialist external coaches. Together they support a vast number

of teams competing across all age ranges, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally in the major sports, as well as the minor sports. As part of our able, gifted and talented programme, specialist one-to-one coaching is available for children in cricket, tennis, swimming, fencing, ballet and horse riding.

Children enjoy:

Archery	Gymnastics
Athletics	Hockey
Badminton	Horse riding
Ballet	Kayaking
Basketball	Mountain Biking
Beach games	Netball
Camping	Orienteering
Canoeing	Rounders
Chess	Rugby
Cricket	Sailing
Cross Country	Scottish Country Dancing
Cycling Proficiency	Shooting
Dance	Squash
Fencing	Swimming
Football	Table Tennis
Geo-caching	Tennis
Golf	Volleyball

Our facilities

- Full-size astro-turf
- 20 metre outdoor heated swimming pool
- Large sports hall
- Shooting range
- Rubber-crumb outdoor multi-sports surface
- 4 rugby pitches
- 3 netball courts
- 4 badminton courts
- 5 rounders pitches
- 8 tennis courts
- 4 cricket wickets
- Athletics field
- Putting lawn



Did you know?

Girls play cricket during the summer term and football as an after-school activity.



ACTIVITIES FOR ALL



Children find our extensive programme of extra-curricular activities an enjoyable path to self-discovery. Imaginations are sparked, hidden skills often come to light, new friends are made and pupils gain a real sense of achievement. Making full use of our 35 acres of countryside, our programme of over 40 activities gives children the opportunity to try something new.

Evening activities, from astronomy to animation, kayaking to cribbage, give children the chance to develop their talents.

The pace at weekends is more varied so boarders have plenty of downtime and the chance to pursue enthusiasms more informally (often with day children getting involved too), whether it be *Beeston's Got Talent*, bingo, beach visits or jewellery-making.



Did you know?

Being in 'Nelson's County', Beeston has its own fleet of Toppers for the children to sail on Wroxham Broad.



TALLULAH, aged 12



Artist

Chapel Chorister

Lioness

‘I can clearly remember the first time I visited Beeston. We had come to see the school play *Bugsy Malone* and I was really impressed by the singing and dancing. My parents thought Beeston would be perfect for me, because it was small, unlike my primary school which had 700 pupils. At first I wasn’t sure about coming, as I thought I would miss my friends, but on the Taster Day, everyone made me feel really welcome, which meant I wasn’t nervous after that. Then when I was offered an art scholarship – I was so excited! My first term at Beeston was amazing because I was chosen to play a main part in the school’s production of *The Lion King*. Also, being an art scholar has taken my art to a completely new level. I practise every day after lunch. It’s really cool because I can work at my desk in the scholars’ gallery on whatever I like, from sewing to printing. It’s fantastic to be part of that.’



ART, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY



At Beeston, art is a bustling and vibrant subject, with evidence of children's industry throughout the school. Alongside a newly equipped DT studio, we enjoy the use of our MacNicol Art Centre which would be the envy of many senior schools, with its own large open plan studio, a kiln and wheel, as well as facilities for silk screening, batik and enamelling.

Children of all abilities are encouraged to use the art centre outside lesson time and the scholars' gallery is a wonderful place for quiet study.



'I love doing batik design, tie dyeing and being able to use the sewing machine myself to design and make my own jacket for my scholars' portfolio.'

Icy, aged 11

Did you know? Dogs are a key part of life at Beeston: They listen to children read, help with cross country and feature in many art masterpieces!





DRAMA

Being able to perform confidently in public is critically important, so we provide as many opportunities as possible to children at Beeston. From junior assemblies to leavers' lectures, children grow used to having an audience. The whole school production is all-inclusive, with everyone involved either on stage or in prop-building, set designing or stage management. Each year is different, but it is always an object lesson in working together.

'I never thought that I would be brave enough to have a main part, but Mr Lloyd-Peck encouraged me to audition and before I knew it I had learned all my lines by pinning them above my bed in my dorm, and got really into my character – even the accent!'

Year 8 pupil



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Did you know? Our Michaelmas Term musical production involves every single pupil in the prep school.





MUSIC



Central to the life of the school, music and opportunities to perform feature daily at Beeston.

All the children have class music, based on the National Curriculum, but there are also fifteen different musical ensembles for children to join at differing levels of proficiency, from 'Fiddlesticks' to the Chapel Choir. 90% of children at Beeston learn instruments, thanks to the many peripatetic teachers who visit, offering almost anything the children choose, from the harp to the bassoon, the bass guitar to the trombone. Most children take grades and some use these to develop their talents sufficiently to win music scholarships to senior schools.



Regular informal concerts give children the chance to try out their skills in front of a small audience, before the challenge of concerts and performances in a larger setting at school or beyond such as the Royal Norfolk Show, or local churches and retirement homes.

Did you know?

Our library is home to squishy sofas and 50 million words, which are chosen wisely with the help of our lovely Librarian and then enjoyed by all of our children for 15 minutes each morning.

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Children can join:

- Concert Band
- Chapel Choir
- Beeston Singers
- Junior Choir
- Vocal Ensemble
- Orchestra
- Guitar Ensemble
- Brass Group
- Fiddlesticks
- String Ensemble
- Scholars Group
- Percussion Group
- Rock Band
- Samba Band
- Pre-Prep All-Star Band





BEESTON FOR INTERNATIONAL PUPILS



Beeston Hall is a small, busy school which has a family feel about it, welcoming children from across the globe. Overseas pupils, whether attending for three years or three months, are fully integrated into school life within our peaceful location on the North Norfolk coast. Every child is noticed and encouraged: each playing sport every day, participating in matches, playing roles in drama productions and taking part in a broad range of activities inside and outside the classroom, all of which contribute to our children's all-round preparation and success in gaining places at the leading UK senior schools.

All-round pastoral care

Pastoral care is comprehensive and focused, with individual tutors, pupil guides and cosy dormitories to personalise, helping children settle in happily. Healthy food is prepared on site, using locally-sourced produce and special dietary requirements accommodated.

We have a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying, with pupils and staff consulted and briefed on how best to equip pupils for the challenges of growing independence in a fast-changing world.

Flexible learning with EAL support

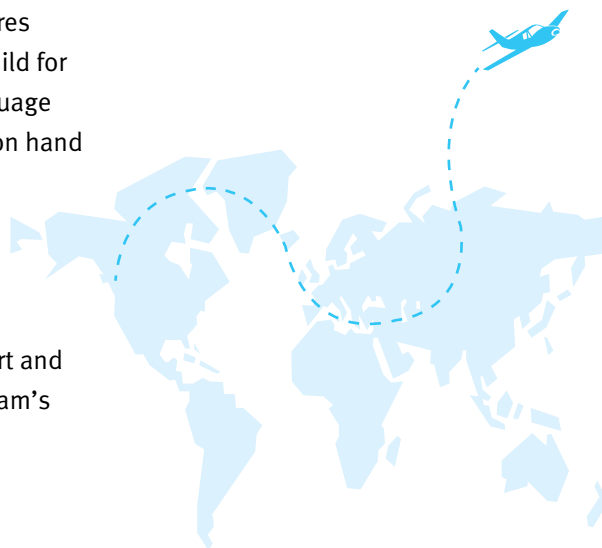
International pupils are assessed according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, and then placed in small, supportive learning groups and often one-on-one classes, carefully aligned to their developing levels of ability. Our qualified EAL teacher ensures the individual needs of each child for whom English is a second language are met, with tailored support on hand from the moment they arrive.

Convenient international links

Beeston is very convenient for international pupils, being just 35 minutes from Norwich Airport and its easy connection to Amsterdam's international hub (Schiphol).

Children particularly like this route because of the small scale of Norwich Airport and KLM's service for unaccompanied minors, one of the few airlines still operating this facility.

Stansted Airport is two hours away and London three hours away. Although there is a train station five minutes from the school, we can arrange transport with approved chaperones to/from these connections, and are happy to make arrangements for transfers on behalf of parents.



Gonzalo, aged 11



Spanish speaker

Front man

Adventurer

‘One of my mother’s friends recommended Beeston Hall to us. We thought it would be easier for me to learn English in a small school where there weren’t many Spanish students, because you can get to know everyone quickly. It’s different to my school in Spain which has over 2,000 students! The amount of green space you have here is amazing and it wasn’t hard to settle in to boarding, apart from the really early supper times! The weekends are fun too, like the time we had team Nerf Wars and went to Bewilderwood Adventure Park. Another thing I appreciate is that we do drama here. I loved everything about doing the school play, *Beauty and the Beast*, because we have nothing like it in my school in Spain. It’s also good for me to study for my Cambridge Examinations here because I can take the First Certificate examination while English is still fresh in my mind, rather than waiting until next year when all my Spanish school friends would sit it. All in all, coming to Beeston has made me far more confident and independent. I’m glad I came.’



PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS



Working together is central to Beeston's success. We encourage plenty of communication, whether informally on the touchline or at the many social events that the school organises, and more formally through reports and meetings. Both staff and Friends of Beeston* offer a warm welcome; we have an open door policy and the family atmosphere means relationships remain close long after parents and pupils have left the school.

Community

Beeston values its links with its neighbours, local schools, businesses and charities, laying on literary events, productions, tournaments and coaching at various points each year. Our children engage with local issues, such as the *Cromer & District Foobank*, and more international issues such as *Singing for Syrians*, learning first-hand about the objectives of causes.

*Parent-run organisation to support community events and fund-raising.



Dancing reels is a highlight of the Beeston year, but it could be the Summer Fete, cooking or car boot sales that bring families together for fund-raising and the building of life-long friendships.

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£80,000



Did you know?

Over the last 10 years we have raised over £80,000 to support over 60 charities.





JOINING

Children have usually joined at Year 3, but now they can join as early as Reception, or are welcome at any stage of their school lives, subject to the usual discussions and agreement that accompany the application process.

The Headmaster, Fred de Falbe and his wife Juliet, are always pleased to show you around the school and introduce you to staff and children should you wish to make an exploratory visit.

Children usually attend a taster day before joining, with existing children on hand to be 'shadows' and guides for their new guests.

Fee Assistance

Beeston Hall School is committed to enabling as wide a body of pupils as possible to access its outstanding schooling. While the scholarship discounts are modest, families can apply for a limited number of means-tested bursaries to support entry to Beeston, or to supplement scholarship awards.

Open Days

Every day is an open day at Beeston and you are welcome at any time to arrange to meet the staff, pupils and tour our beautiful site.



To arrange a visit, please contact:
Mrs Viv Farnell,
Registrar,
vf@beestonhall.co.uk
Tel: 01263 837324









BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

Beeston Hall School, West Runton, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9NQ
+44 (0)1263 837324 | office@beestonhall.co.uk | beestonhall.co.uk
Headmaster: Mr Fred de Falbe | Chairman of Governors: The Earl of Leicester
Registered charity number: 311274

