



Moreton First

Welcome from the Head

In these pages I hope that you will gain a flavour of all that we offer at Moreton First, our Prep school for boys and girls aged 3-11. Details of the curriculum are given in the [curriculum section of the website](#).

Being part of Moreton Hall and sharing its vast range of facilities we can ensure that all our pupils have varied and exciting learning experiences. We aim to instil confidence so that each child can investigate every aspect of the curriculum trusting that they will succeed.

We believe that our pupils are the best evidence of our success and so I invite you to visit us and see Moreton First at work. You may find Transition practising phonics, Year 1 singing along to a French folk song or Year 2 in the Art block with clay covered hands enjoying a ceramics lesson. Perhaps Year 3 will be having a swimming coaching session or, be in class, engrossed in a guided reading lesson. You may find Year 4 extending their knowledge of languages, having a Mandarin or Latin lesson. Year 5 might be using the ICT suite to research the latest Geography topic, whilst Year 6 may be found in a Science lab about to see what really happens to litmus paper under acidic conditions! However I can guarantee that you will find busy and happy children.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, to answer any questions and to show you our school.

With best wishes,

Catherine Ford

Head of Moreton First

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

The Infants

Each Infant class has its own form room and form teacher who teaches most of the primary subjects. We aim to maintain small class sizes of 15-16 and ensure a teacher's assistant is available to support learning. In the event of a larger class, pupils will be split into smaller groups for core subjects. Whilst the timetable is varied and exciting most lessons are taught in the form room, ensuring the children are comfortable with their surroundings and that they are able to work closely with their form teacher. Learning takes place through a variety of child-initiated and teacher-led activities. The balance of these two styles of learning is adapted as the children mature and the demands of the curriculum change. The Infant classrooms are on the ground floor, enjoying easy access to the outside play area. All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards and from day one these are used as an integral part of delivering lessons. Visiting specialist teachers arrive to teach Chinese, French and Music and the class teacher accompanies the children to other areas for lessons such as to the sports hall or swimming pool.

Parents are welcome to come in to the classroom every morning and drop off their child. The form teacher is always available to answer any questions at that point or at the end of the school day. The Home/School diary system ensures parents are aware of any events taking place at school or any concerns that have arisen. Our dedication to reading is evident as each child is heard to read individually every day; this is recorded in the diary. It is requested that parents listen to their child read each evening and then make a record of it in the diary. This vital form of communication confirms our belief that working in partnership with parents provides children with an excellent start in their education.

Parents receive a written report for all subjects at the end of each term. At each half term parents receive a written report for the core subjects and there are two scheduled parents mornings when all teachers are available to discuss the progress of each child. As the teachers are available every morning it is hoped that any concerns will be addressed immediately, reiterating our commitment to working closely with parents at all times.

Years 3 to Year 6

The Juniors

As the children reach the Junior part of Moreton First they move upstairs. Each year group has its own form room and form teacher who teaches the class for at least one core subject and PSHE. The form teacher is in the class every morning from 8 am. Parents are welcome to come in and discuss any issues and the form teacher remains the first person to contact if there are concerns. Class sizes remain small and teachers' assistants are available to support learning when necessary. The Home /School diary maintains daily communication about daily reading, events, fixtures and Prep. The form room is still an important base and some specialist teachers arrive to deliver lessons. At the start of Year 3 Latin is added to the curriculum. The Junior children are supervised as they move about the campus enjoying lessons with teachers and facilities shared with the senior school, such as using the equipment in the Science labs, Drama in the Musgrave, Music in the Music department.

All learning is supported by ensuring all pupils have competent IT skills. Lap tops are available at all times and all classrooms have an interactive whiteboard. Each year group has a weekly IT lesson in the IT suite.

At Moreton First we are able to reflect on initiatives that have affected and altered primary education in recent years. We have held on to traditional practices that have been proved to have value, for example all children have a spelling test on Monday morning and learn their times tables. However we have welcomed exciting educational developments and deliver the curriculum in a varied and imaginative way.

Parents receive a written report at the end of each term. At each half term a short report is sent home, informing the parents of progress in all subjects. There are two scheduled parents' mornings during the year when all staff are available to discuss each child's progress.

Drama is taught as a curriculum subject and twice a year all pupils of Moreton First take part in a production. Drama club takes place on Wednesday after school. The drama productions are of the highest quality, using our own supply of costumes, make up, microphone and staging facilities. Weather permitting, the summer productions take place in Moreton Hall's amphitheatre.

Moreton First Curriculum

It is evident that at Moreton First we are able to offer a creative and varied timetable yet the success of our pupils would not be achieved without the delivery of a strong core curriculum. All children from Reception onwards have at least a one hour lesson daily in English and Mathematics. We strive to develop excellent skills in the subjects for all pupils. Teachers plan together and are able to monitor and assess work across year groups ensuring consistency in aiming for the highest standards.

Prep is set for the Juniors in Maths, English, Spelling and Latin. At the end of the school day there are two Prep sessions for the children. Pupils may choose whether to take part in an after school activity and then settle to complete Prep assignments. For other children it may be preferable to complete Prep in the first session and then be collected at 5.15pm.

Learning Support

In Moreton First we are able to offer Learning Support in a variety of forms. Individual support can be delivered during lesson time or children can be guided through programmes outside of the classroom by our SENCO. We do not charge for any additional support that we offer.

For the more confident a programme of stretch is offered to ensure each child achieves beyond expectations.

The School Day

Flexibility is a keynote in the timing of the school day. We offer a full ‘wrap around’ cover at no extra charge. Pupils may be dropped off for breakfast (no charge) and teachers are in their classrooms ready to talk to children and parents from 8am. Throughout the year there are regular ‘taster’ boarding nights for girls in Years 3-6 and occasional ‘sleepover’ weekends for boys.

Breakfast	7.30am	
Assembly	8.30am	
Lessons Start	8.40am	
Break	10.50-11.05am	
Lunch	12.00- 1.00pm	(Moreton First)
	1.00 – 2.00pm	(All others)
Lessons Finish	4.00pm	(Moreton First)

	5.15pm	(All others)
Tea	4.00 – 4.15pm	(Moreton First)
	5.15 – 5.30pm	(All others)
First Prep or Activity	4.15 – 5.15pm	(Moreton First)
Second Prep	5.15 – 6.00pm	(Moreton First)
Moreton First Sign out and Collection	6.00 – 6.15pm	(Moreton First)
Supper	6.15 – 6.45pm	(Whole School)

Extended

The ethos of Moreton First reflects that of the entire school community: education is about more than just pure academic success; engage the child on many levels and the result will be a confident, fulfilled, happy individual who is able to fully embrace the challenges of life.

To this end Moreton First offers an outstanding Extended Curriculum, covering Spoken English, tuition on a range of musical instruments, choir, extra sport, swimming, horse riding, ballet, art, ceramics, drama, cookery, and many others. Activities run every afternoon and every weekend.

Music

Pupils of all years at Moreton First have a weekly Music lesson taught by Moreton Hall's specialised Music teachers. All children are part of either the Infant choir or Junior choir, practising weekly to achieve the highest standard of choral singing. Individual singing or instrument lessons can be arranged to take place during the school day, ensuring that pupils do not miss core subjects to pursue this exciting and creative part of education. To share pupils' progress and success with parents all children take part in at least two concerts a year. The committed Music staff produce a varied programme to celebrate the musical talents of Moreton First pupils. These performances, together with the Drama productions, offer our pupils opportunities to develop self-confidence which we believe is the driving force to achieving success.

Forest School

Forest School is an outdoor learning environment where learning occurs through the intrinsic interest of the child, according to their preferred learning style. This is evident in high motivation and involvement, active participation, measured risk and positive attitudes to learning.

Moreton First has its own dedicated Forest School area which includes enclosed sheltered and private spaces, wide open spaces and shared spaces to spark the imagination and encourage movement and sociability on a grand scale.



Forest School weekly sessions are usually for two hours. The major time element in a session is devoted to active child-initiated exploration and less to adult-led planned activities. Children try out and re-test ideas. They use real tools. Children do, talk and think, leading to the development of true expertise and high self-esteem.

We have a Level Three Advanced Forest School Leader on our Staff who runs weekly sessions for the Infants and this will soon stretch through to the Juniors.

The school is proud to have been granted Forest School status.

Facilities

Set in the beautiful 100 acre grounds of Moreton Hall, the Moreton First building is fully equipped for the younger pupils. It has its own library, laptop suite, music room, hall, adventure play area and dormitory and every classroom has interactive whiteboards.

Pupils also use Moreton Hall's impressive facilities: ICT Centre, Musgrave Theatre, Darwin Science Laboratory, the Music rooms, the Design Centre, Food Technology rooms, Recording Studio, indoor swimming pool, Sports Hall and All Weather Surface.

Entrance Requirements

At Moreton First there is no entrance examination. Any pupil who requires support will be given extra help from Moreton Hall's highly praised Learning Support department whilst extra stretch is assured for the more able students.

Transition to Senior School

The girls of Year 6 who intend to move on to Moreton Hall are fortunate in finding this transition very easy. All girls in Year 6 are expected to proceed to Year 7 subject to satisfactory progress. Throughout the junior years and especially in Year 6 we guarantee that strong links to the Senior school will ensure a smooth transition for all girls. The staff who teach in the Junior part of Moreton First are also teachers in the lower years of the senior school and are thus familiar faces when girls move to Remove.

Boys

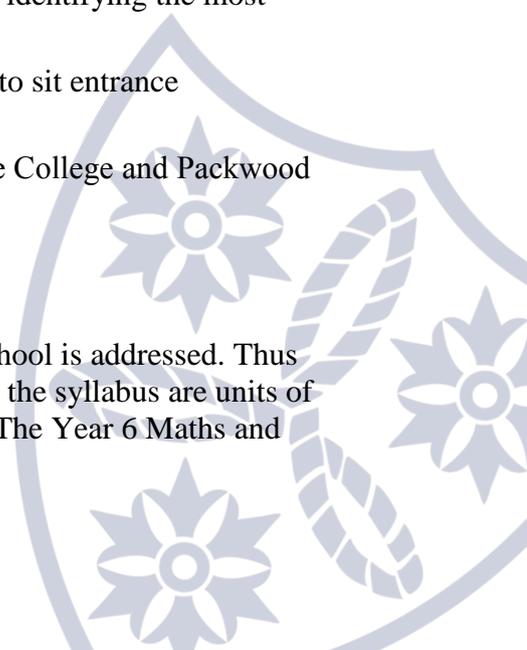
We work with parents to help the decision making process for identifying the most appropriate choice of senior school for their son.

Boys who graduate from Moreton First will be fully prepared to sit entrance examinations at their chosen senior school.

Moreton First boys have gone on to King's Chester, Ellesmere College and Packwood Haugh.

Scholarships

In Year 6 we ensure that the question of the move to senior school is addressed. Thus preparation for scholarship starts from September; woven into the syllabus are units of work which allow the practice of scholarship style questions. The Year 6 Maths and





English teachers are able to offer extra support if gaps are found in understanding and by the end of the Autumn term all Year 6 pupils will have had ample opportunity to practise scholarship papers.

[Moreton First Scholarship Page](#)

Transport

Moreton Hall mini buses travel throughout Shropshire, Cheshire and into North Wales. The routes are constantly expanded upon dependent upon demand. Please discuss with Moreton First if your requirements are not currently met.

The mini buses are suitable for even the youngest Moreton First pupils.

[You can find the bus timetable here](#)

Holiday Club

As part of the total 'wrap around' service, Moreton First offers a Holiday Club for 4 to 13 year old girls and boys throughout all of the school holidays except for bank holidays, the Christmas week, and a week in late summer. Children do not have to be at Moreton to attend the club.

Contact: Moreton First tel no: 01691 776028

Mobile tel no: 07922 177069 (Holiday time only)

[You can find the Holiday Club Web Page here](#)

