



MEONCROSS SCHOOL

**LEARNING
INSPIRED BY
A SPIRIT OF
ADVENTURE**





LET'S MAKE WAVES



Welcome to Meoncross School where we aim to provide every student from Nursery through to Year 11, with a world class education, within a small, friendly and family-oriented atmosphere.

Meoncross is a school that consistently achieves high academic results, including impressive value added scores. This success is linked not only to small class sizes and highly trained and talented staff but is also the result of the school's strong focus on personalised learning, which allows every student to realise their full potential, regardless of ability.

Whilst academic excellence remains a top priority, we also passionately believe that emotional wellbeing and happiness are crucial to educational success. Thus the school places a great deal of emphasis on providing a robust and rigorous pastoral programme, helping students develop resilience, confidence and independence. At Meoncross we also recognise the critical role played by parents in children's education and we are therefore fully committed to building strong home-school partnerships, including ensuring effective communication, at every stage of a child's educational journey.

As Headmaster of Meoncross School, I am delighted to be part of the rapidly expanding Cognita Education Group which currently has 40 UK independent and 30 international schools in South America, South East Asia and mainland Europe. The benefits of belonging to a highly successful international organisation cannot be underestimated in terms of the development of best global educational practice, enhanced student opportunities, financial stability and the incredible level of educational expertise within the group. Whilst all Cognita schools operate with a high degree of autonomy, they all adopt the group's core vision of academic excellence, character education and the development of global mindedness.

The purpose of this prospectus is to provide a clearer understanding of what our school offers in terms of academic excellence and quality pastoral care. I am certain that should you visit us, (and you are most welcome to do so) you will find a school full of happy, contented children and hard-working, dedicated staff.

Mark Cripps
Headmaster

"THE MAIN ROLE OF A SCHOOL LEADER IS NOT COMMAND AND CONTROL, IT IS CLIMATE CONTROL."
Sir Ken Robinson

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CONTINUOUS JOURNEY

At Meoncross we are very proud to be a through school - enabling children to start their educational journey with us at 2.5 years, and continuing through to Preschool, Infants, Juniors and finally Upper School.



Meoncross Nursery provides a warm and friendly introduction to our youngest children set in a modern, stimulating and spacious spot at the heart of the school.

We foster an atmosphere where the children learn to value each other as individuals. They celebrate each other's successes, are caring, considerate and friendly towards their peers.

Early Years events familiarise the Nursery children with the Infant classrooms and teachers, helping them to understand better their role in our school community, whilst the annual Nativity and Sports Day help to build their confidence and encourage them to try new things.

We take the time to get to know every child, their strengths and weaknesses, which is guided by the bond they make with their key person. We work in partnership with home, and have an open door policy for parents to talk to staff. Parents' Evenings take place every term and daily contact is maintained through face to face handover periods at the start and end

of each day/session. In addition, we also use the Tapestry learning journal as an effective method of communication with parents, as well as displaying information on the parents noticeboard, and we produce written reports annually.

Every child is supported by our highly qualified Nursery/Early Years staff to maximise the next steps in their learning. When they are ready to join our Infant School, there is a transition process in place to help smooth their journey into full time education.

Children on average make greater progress in our Junior School than they would in other settings. This is nurtured by our individual approach to every child, regular assessments and tracking of their academic development, opportunities for growth and leadership, and the breadth of our curriculum.

Through these formative Junior school years, children are expertly prepared for the next step in their educational journey; our Upper School.

PROGRESS IN THE UPPER SCHOOL

Progress in the Upper School is monitored by a thorough and ongoing process of assessment to build an in-depth knowledge of the academic potential and development of every pupil.

In every subject each child is given tailored learning objectives to maximise progress and every child has an Academic Mentor whose role it is to monitor their achievements and to help guide their future progress.

A range of Gifted and Talented provision gives in-class challenges and wider opportunities for the most able children, whilst in-class learning support for students who need it is backed up by booster classes and subject clinics to enhance learning in individual subjects.



SMALL CLASS SIZES

We are aware of the fine balance between class size and a good social mix and we believe in an optimum number. There is time and space for all pupils to receive individual attention, whilst enjoying the benefits of team work in the classroom, on the stage, on the sports field and in the playground.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Our small class sizes and strong focus on student wellbeing means we are able to know each child as an individual. The school is fully committed to personalised learning in order that every student has the opportunity to achieve their full academic potential.



We are extremely proud that Meoncross students consistently achieve GCSE results at the end of Year 11, well above the national average:

- In our 2018 GCSE results, 41% of all grades awarded were at 7+ which is twice the national average of 21%.
- 12% of grades awarded were the new, highly demanding grade 9 which is 3 times the national average of 4%.
- Almost half of all grades awarded in English Language were at 7+ (48%) with 11% at the prestigious grade 9 against a national average of 3%.
- 36% of all grades awarded in Mathematics were at 7+ with one in ten the prestigious grade 9 against a national average of just over 3%.

The vast majority of students leaving Meoncross at the end of Year 11, go on to study A Levels at some of the region's most respected further education colleges. Many continue on to top UK universities including, Oxford and Cambridge.

The school's dedication to student success is reinforced by our team of highly skilled and talented teachers who not only understand the importance of recognising a student's strengths and weaknesses, but also know how best to differentiate work effectively, in order to cater for the needs of every child in their care. Personalised learning at Meoncross is further secured in the secondary school through our student mentoring scheme where every child from Year 7 onwards, is allocated a named teacher-mentor, who meets with them twice each term.

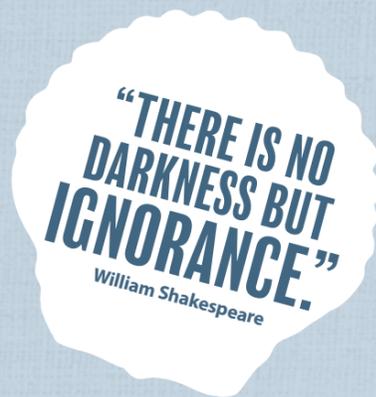
At Meoncross we also understand the vital importance of a strong and vibrant home-school relationship to children's educational success and thus we are passionate about building excellent parent partnerships. This includes an open door policy so parents are able to access staff members as quickly as possible. In addition, we believe in proactive communication with home, in order that any questions or concerns can be handled swiftly and effectively. We also place a premium on 'Parent Voice' and provide frequent opportunities to consult with parents on important issues, through our Parents as Partners programme.



"All students are unique individuals with their own hopes, talents, anxieties, fears, passions, and aspirations. Engaging them as individuals is the heart of raising achievement."

Sir Ken Robinson

CURRICULUM AND COASTAL EDUCATION



Whilst the Meoncross School curriculum is based around the UK national framework for England and Wales, as an independent school we have the flexibility to adapt our programme of study to include best educational practice.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) estimates that “65% of children in school today will end up in careers that don’t even exist yet”. At Meoncross, we want our students to develop abilities and aptitudes that will be highly valued in the future. Thus we place a great deal of emphasis within our curriculum on helping students develop specific skills, including creativity, problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration. In addition, we

fully appreciate the crucial role of emotional intelligence to educational excellence and wellbeing – especially character, resilience, independence, confidence and self-esteem.

We want our children to be able to make strong links within their learning, and firmly believe that a cross-curricular, inquiry-led approach to learning, (rather than discreet subject teaching) is the best way for children to learn effectively. Children learn best by doing and thus the school makes every effort to utilise the local environment and resources through our Coastal School programme; adding further depth and breadth to our school curriculum.



“I firmly believe that in order to better guarantee future economic well being and happiness for our children, we must help students develop resilience, which includes the confidence to take risks and to view failure as just another opportunity to succeed.”

Mark Cripps
Headmaster

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

CO-CURRICULAR & EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Like many great schools we offer The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, Bikeability and many educational and recreational trips and residential. In addition, we have Passport, a programme unique to Meoncross School that is infused with a spirit of adventure.

Passport takes place once every week as part of the timetable and pupils follow a range of activities, some chosen, some directed. From Ultimate Frisbee and beach clean-ups to micro:bit Robot Wars, there is an exciting range of activities pupils can select from and be part of.

All of this helps pupils develop their confidence, independence and interests as well as, of course, contributing to their wellbeing.



WELLBEING & WHY IT MATTERS

At Meoncross we believe that mental wellbeing in childhood is the single greatest predictor of success in adult life.



Many elements of modern life mean that our children and young people have fewer opportunities to develop the resilience and wellbeing vital to happiness and health. Evidence suggests that even a small improvement in wellbeing can help children and young people flourish emotionally, socially, physically and academically. It can even help decrease some mental health problems.

This is why we have put the wellbeing of pupils at the heart of our school life. It underpins our primary aim to deliver academic excellence and helps create happy, independent learners.

This framework gives our teachers the space to create engaging opportunities for pupils to take the five steps to wellbeing. This journey begins in Nursery and continues into Infants, Juniors and through the Upper School.

“WE CANNOT ALWAYS BUILD THE FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH, BUT WE CAN BUILD OUR YOUTH FOR THE FUTURE.”
Franklin D. Roosevelt

THERE ARE FIVE RECOGNISED STEPS TO WELLBEING. THESE ARE:

Connect | with people around you, your environment and causes that matter to you.

Be active | exercise makes you feel good and can be done alone or with others.

Take notice | be aware of your feelings, of beauty and opportunity, reflect and appreciate.

Keep learning | try something new, this brings confidence, pride and satisfaction.

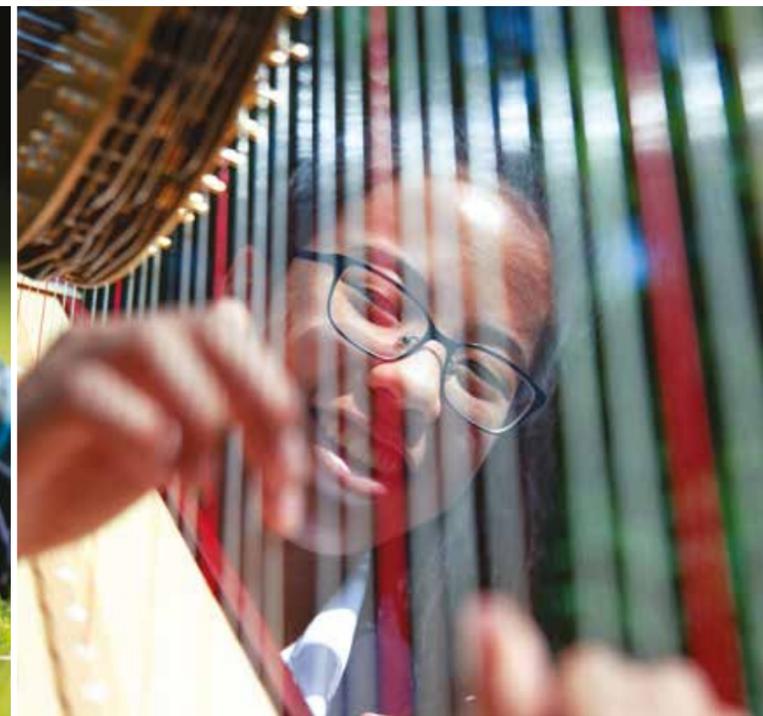
Give | doing something for someone else is rewarding and builds meaningful connections.



“Mental health is defined as a state of wellbeing in which every individual realises their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to their community.”

World Health Organization

THE WELLBEING
OF PUPILS IS AT
THE HEART OF OUR
SCHOOL LIFE.



"I believe that only when children feel safe,
happy and respected, can they achieve their
full academic potential."

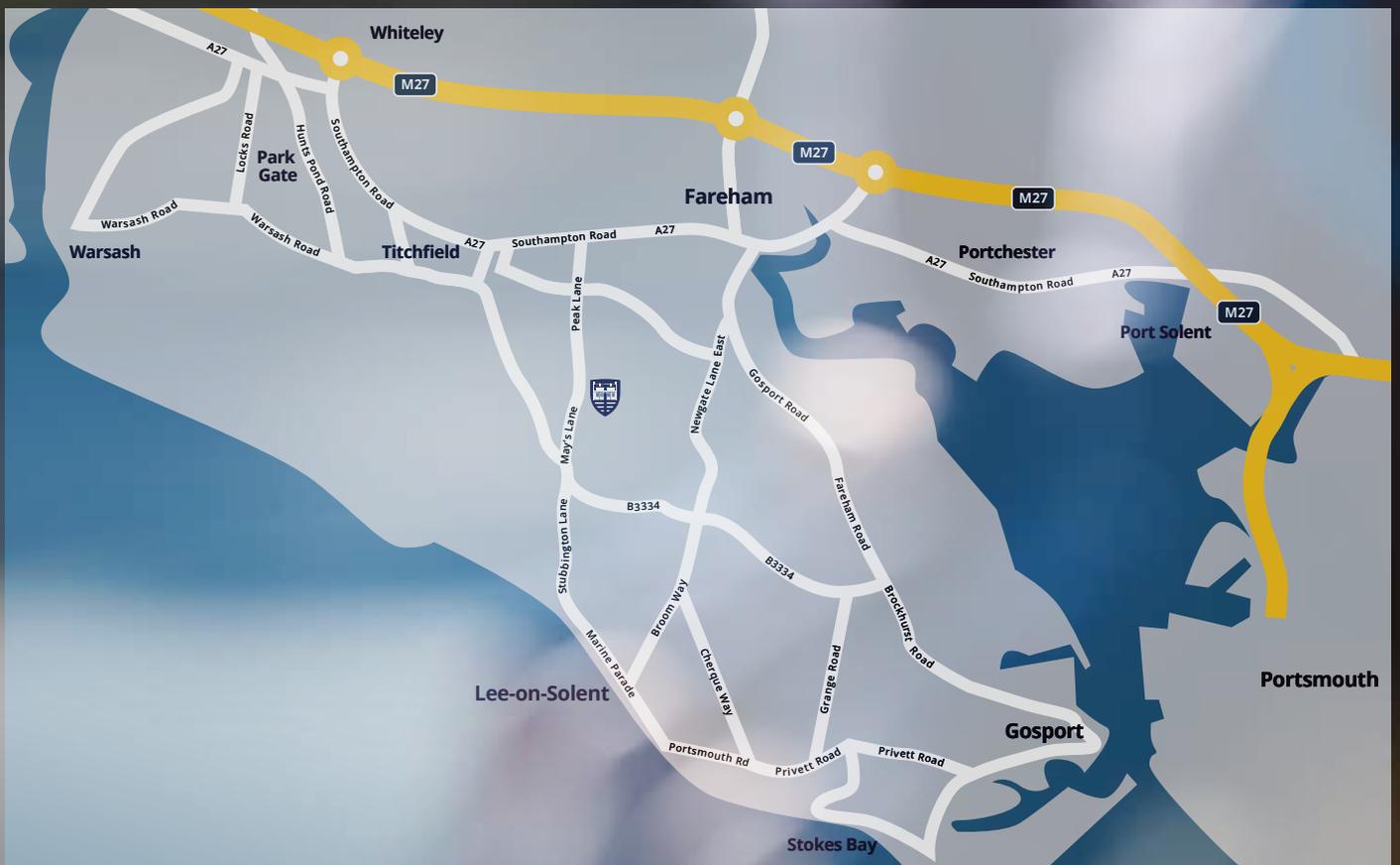
Mark Cripps, Headmaster



**“EDUCATING THE MIND
WITHOUT EDUCATING THE HEART
IS NO EDUCATION
AT ALL.”**
Aristotle



MEONCROSS SCHOOL



DISCOVER MORE

Contact the admissions team on **01329 666017**
or email admissions@meoncross.co.uk to arrange your
visit to Meoncross School.

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