



# THE ELMS

An Introduction to  
**The Elms**



We'll help you **go further**



A warm welcome to The Elms; an incredibly exciting, dynamic and friendly place in which our pupils learn and develop.

Our strength lies in the belief that every child is a unique individual and the school aims to put the children at the heart of everything we do; releasing their potential within a safe, supportive and challenging environment.

The Elms journey begins in the Nursery, which was recently rated 'Outstanding' in all areas, where learning through play and exploration builds confidence and curiosity about the world around them. As children progress through the school, the focus on exceptional pastoral care and inspirational teaching, along with a vast array of enrichment opportunities, ensure that our children leave us with the independence and resilience to embark successfully upon their senior school education. Firm foundations and a love of learning are built along the way to ensure future success in all that they do.

Our children are happy and feel valued, ensuring that high academic standards are achieved. We have a large and dedicated team of talented teachers and teaching assistants, who are supported by many subject specialists. The vibrant learning environment and excellent resources mean that children are provided with a first rate education in which they can discover and develop their individual talents to flourish and succeed in a rapidly changing world.

I hope you enjoy finding out more about The Elms and I look forward to meeting with you soon.



**Mrs Faith Potter, Head of The Elms**

# Our Campus



## **I Nurturing confidence and an inquisitive mind**

Through first class teaching, small class sizes, exemplary pastoral care and a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities, we provide an excellent all-round education. We are small enough to know each child as the unique individual they are, but big enough to offer both breadth and depth of experience.



### **Amazing facilities**

We benefit enormously from sharing the campus with our senior school, Trent College, with full use of the superb on-site facilities from the theatre to swimming pool.



### **Specialist teaching**

Specialist subject teachers support our well qualified primary teachers to deliver an excellent programme of lessons tailored to our children's needs and abilities.



### **Valuing individuality**

We ensure that every pupil receives the individual attention and tailored support they need to enjoy school and thrive.





## Nursery & Pre-School

Within a safe and secure 45-acre campus our specialist Nursery & Pre-School buildings provide both first-class contemporary facilities and natural surroundings. We are proud to have recently been awarded 'Outstanding' in our ISI Early Years inspection and have a fantastic team of staff who work closely with parents and learn about each child's individual needs, to ensure they are happy and developing.

### Nursery

Learning is balanced across pre-planned and spontaneous activity. Each morning activities are planned around key areas of the curriculum. The afternoon's activities are then tailored around 'in the moment planning'; watching how children are playing and bringing in learning naturally to engage each child.

Our Caterpillars room is designed for children aged 0- 2 years, with areas for play, learning and rest. It has its own sleep room, changing areas as well as dedicated spaces for messy play and mealtimes. The children benefit from their own garden which has an undercover area. We also make the most of our wonderful grounds, with daily walks within our 45 acre campus.

When children turn 2 years of age, they transition into the Butterflies room, a larger space for toddlers aged 2 - 3 years, with a spacious garden, sensory room and areas for learning and play. Our older toddlers also explore our vast grounds with fun activities such as scavenger hunts and teddy bear picnics, all within our safe and beautiful setting.



### Pre-School

Children in Pre-School experience more structured and focused learning. Fun weekly lessons are attended at The Elms which are delivered by specialist teaching staff; this includes a weekly French lesson, a weekly Forest Schools visit, reading in the Library, Dance and Drama as well as time with our Reception team for Phonics and Numeracy. There is a dedicated outdoor learning space as well as a playground to enjoy. All of the children's activities are focused around play-based learning. In addition, there is lots of fun with baking, painting, junk modelling, exploring the reading den or dressing up in the home corner.

Children across our Nursery & Pre-School enjoy a variety of fun activities which are all carefully planned to meet the individual needs for their learning and development. Children are allocated a key person, who will be directly responsible for their learning, social development and welfare. The key person provides a link between home and school and is a direct point of contact for parents.

### PRE-SCHOOL DAILY ROUTINE

<b>7.30-8.00</b>	<b>Breakfast Club (please book children in)</b>
<b>8.00-8.30</b>	<b>Breakfast and outdoor play</b>
<b>8.30-8.45</b>	<b>Free play</b>
<b>8.45-9.00</b>	<b>Register, calendar, visual timetable, introduce activities in key groups</b>
<b>9.00-9.30</b>	<b>Teacher led - read, write, inc session</b>
<b>9.30-11.30</b>	<b>Adult modelled activities - indoor and outdoor, free play</b>
<b>10.00-10.30</b>	<b>Snack table</b>
<b>11.15-11.30</b>	<b>Tidy up time</b>
<b>11.30-11.50</b>	<b>Keyworker group story time, evaluate morning and prepare for lunch</b>
	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13.20-13.40</b>	<b>Circle time in key groups</b>
<b>13.40-15.15</b>	<b>Child led activities linked to next steps - indoor and outdoor, free play</b>
<b>15.15-15.30</b>	<b>Tidy up time</b>
<b>15.30-15.45</b>	<b>Keyworker groups - evaluate the afternoon and prepare for home</b>
<b>15.45-16.00</b>	<b>Group story time</b>
<b>16.00-16.30</b>	<b>Tea</b>
<b>16.30-17.00</b>	<b>Adult led games, story, singing</b>
<b>17.00-18.30</b>	<b>Join with Nursery</b>



# Reception

There are two Reception classes at The Elms. Children benefit from small class sizes, recently refurbished learning and play space, a dedicated area for art, messy play and baking, and design technology. Reception also have access to their very own EFYS playground.

The Reception classes are taught by a Class Teacher, with a Teaching Assistant. The Class Teacher is with the children for the vast majority of their day as we feel that young children benefit from the continuity and consistency of having a main Class Teacher.

Specialist teachers are used to enrich the curriculum in the areas of Physical Education, Dance & Drama, Music, French and Forest Schools. There is also a weekly visit to our Infant Library.

We are very lucky to be able to provide our children with so many real-life experiences in the form of visitors and trips. Some examples have included a stickman day at Beaumanor Hall and walks to our local shops to buy ingredients for our cooking lesson. Teaching and learning in Reception will take place in many forms:

- Whole class input – a short time on the carpet as a whole class or cohort
- Teacher-led one to one time
- Teacher-led small groups
- Differentiated streamed ability groups; for example in phonics children may learn in small groups of 4/5 children.
- Outdoor learning
- Free-flow child-led play within continuous provision

Child-initiated, play-led learning is a key part of our work in Reception as it is important that children demonstrate their skills, vocabulary and knowledge independently within their play. Children will want to learn if it is fun and of interest to them, hence teachers will play alongside children to deepen and extend their learning.

We encourage children to take ownership of their learning; this means they are fully invested in their play and will want to learn and ask questions.

## RECEPTION DAILY ROUTINE

<b>7.30</b>	<b>Breakfast Club open in the Obolensky (Please book children in)</b>
<b>8.00</b>	<b>Morning care opens on the Foundation Stage Playground for Reception</b>
<b>8.30</b>	<b>Children are welcomed in the classrooms</b>
<b>8.40</b>	<b>Registration followed by Teacher Led Activities</b>
<b>10.25</b>	<b>Morning Break</b>
<b>10.45</b>	<b>Teacher Led Activities</b>
<b>11.40</b>	<b>Lunchtime for Reception Children in the Obolensky dining hall</b>
<b>13.00</b>	<b>Registration &amp; beginning of afternoon session for Reception followed by Child Initiated Activities</b>
<b>15.25</b>	<b>End of Day for Reception and Infant Children</b>
<b>15.25-18.00</b>	<b>Prep, After School Care, Clubs and Activities</b>



## I Infants – Year 1 & Year 2

At The Elms we are experts in helping our pupils become the best they can be. Your child will flourish in an inclusive infant and junior school where pupils are encouraged to have a positive and inquisitive attitude to learning.

The classes in the Infants are taught by a class teacher with a full time teaching assistant. The class teacher teaches the children for the vast majority of their lessons as we feel that young children benefit from the continuity and consistency of having a main class teacher.

Specialist teachers are used to enrich the curriculum in the areas of Physical Education, Dance & Drama, Music, French, Forest Schools, visits to the Library with our qualified Librarian plus we introduce a weekly Computing lesson.

During their time in Year 1 and Year 2 children will learn to read, write, paint, draw, sing, dance, do mathematical activities and work on the computer. Read, Write, Inc. is the phonics programme that we use within the Lower School. All staff across the Infants have been trained to deliver this.

There will also be lots of opportunities to enjoy PE, Games and Gymnastics. From Year 2 we introduce weekly Swimming lessons and the recorder as part of the Music curriculum.

Teaching at The Elms goes beyond the limits of the national curriculum. Our teachers have the freedom to enhance their lessons with added creativity and adapt topics to make them more relevant or suitable to the needs of their pupils.

### YEAR 1 & 2 DAILY ROUTINE

8.00	<b>Morning Care Open – playground in front of Elms Lower School</b>
8.30	<b>Children are welcomed into the classrooms</b>
8.40	<b>Registration followed by lessons</b>
10.40	<b>Morning Break</b>
10.55	<b>Lessons</b>
12.00	<b>Lunchtime for the Infants in the Prince Obolensky Dining Hall</b>
13.00	<b>Registration &amp; beginning of afternoon session for Infants followed by lessons</b>
15.25	<b>End of Day for Infants</b>





## Juniors – Years 3 – 6

As children move from the Infants to the Juniors, all children have a form tutor to take responsibility for their pastoral welfare. Form tutors also teach the children in their class for many lessons, but do not teach the children for all lessons.

The Elms operates a system whereby the children in the Juniors are increasingly taught by a range of teachers for different subjects. This provides a gentle introduction to life at Trent College, and allows the children to benefit from teachers with specialist skills and expertise across their year groups.

Each pupil in the Junior School will be given a detailed timetable. It is important that our children become increasingly independent but we know that they do need some help in organisation initially.

Outside of the core curriculum there are many opportunities for our Junior pupils across music, sport, drama, residential trips and after school activities.

The Elms has an excellent reputation for Music and we encourage all our Key Stage Two pupils at The Elms to participate in one form or another. Individual instrumental lessons are available and we anticipate that all or most of our junior pupils will participate in an orchestra or ensemble.

Each term, there are competitive fixtures against other schools and in house matches and sports festivals.

As part of our Performing Arts programme we aim to present some type of production each year; this will always include the Year 3-6 pupils.



All children in the Juniors have the option to take part in residential visits. We believe that residential visits give children an opportunity to grow and develop in their independence, to learn new skills and to form new friendships across their year group.

Our extensive after school programme broadens the opportunities for our pupils outside of the national curriculum.

Children in Year 5 and 6 receive the perfect preparation for life at our Senior School, Trent College. Pupils at The Elms enjoy early confirmation of entry to Trent College in Year 5 without the distraction of entry tests in Year 6.

Discovery days and taster days are available, where pupils take part in some exciting and interactive lessons. The Elms works very closely with the Senior School widening the opportunities for pupils at the Juniors and giving them the best preparation for the transition to Year 7.

### YEARS 3 TO 6 DAILY ROUTINE

<b>8.00</b>	<b>Morning Care Open (Upper School Playground)</b>
<b>8.30</b>	<b>Children enter school</b>
<b>8.40</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>8.45</b>	<b>Lessons</b>
<b>10:40</b>	<b>Morning Break</b>
<b>10:55</b>	<b>Lessons</b>
<b>12.00</b>	<b>Lunchtime &amp; Music Ensembles</b>
<b>13.00</b>	<b>Registration and afternoon lessons</b>
<b>15.40</b>	<b>End of Day for Juniors</b>
<b>15.40-18.00</b>	<b>Prep, After School Care, Clubs and Activities</b>





## Specialist Teaching

Elms pupils benefit greatly from the expertise of a strong team of specialist subject teachers. Unlike many junior schools, these teachers are experts in their fields and are passionate about teaching primary age children.

Elms children are taught on-site by specialists in the fields of:

- Music
- Design Technology
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Drama & Dance
- Art
- Science
- Computing
- Physical Education

Our pupils receive the very best teaching from a dedicated staff team. Teachers work collaboratively to plan and deliver high quality, interactive lessons. Monitoring pupil progress is a continuous process at The Elms. By viewing each child as an individual, we are able to identify opportunities to support or challenge them as they learn.

### More Able & Talented

Our More Able and Talented (MAT) programme provides additional academic challenge and support to children who excel at classroom learning. The programme inspires and motivates through engaging activities, helping high-achieving pupils to reach their full potential and get the most out of their education.

### Learning Support

We are committed to helping every child achieve their personal best and removing any barriers to learning that hinder progress. Tailored support is available to pupils who require extra guidance and 1:1 assistance through our Learning Support department. The school will communicate with parents to keep them informed and involved in decision-making for their child's support plan.





## Lunchtime

Pupils across the school are served healthy, nutritious and freshly prepared lunches from our on-site catering facility. There is a three-week cycle of menus ensuring pupils experience a variety of dishes. We are very proud that The Elms and Trent College has received a 'Department for Education Healthy Schools Award' and also has a five-star environmental health rating. All dietary and individual needs are discussed upon entry to the school and can be catered for on request.

### Infants and Juniors:

Mid-Day Supervisors co-ordinate lunchtime in the Prince Obolensky Building together with the supervision of children on the playgrounds. Class teachers also have lunch with the children.

### Pre-School:

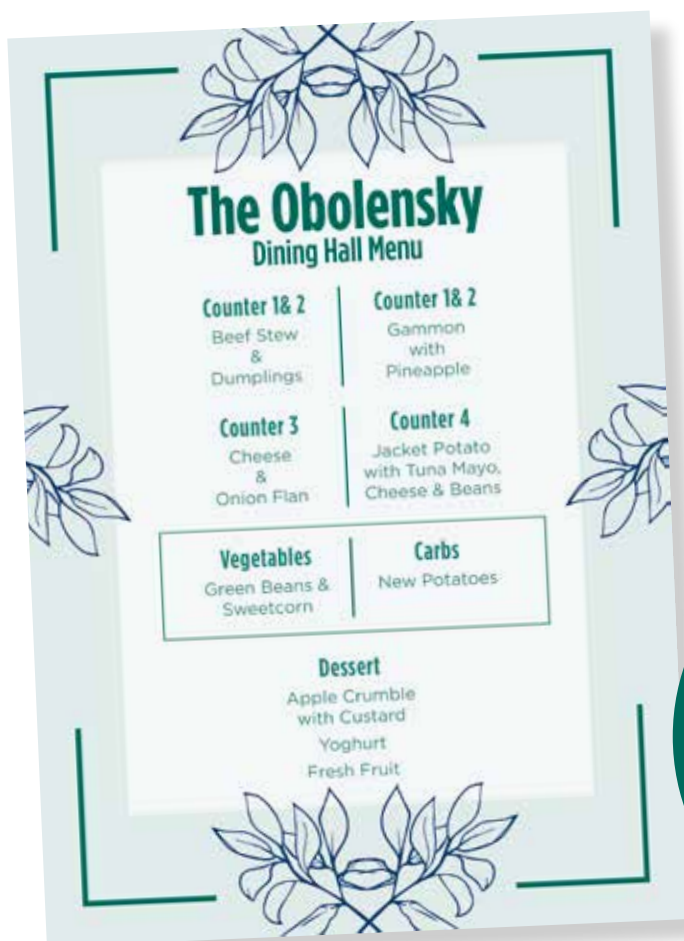
Pre-School pupils enjoy their lunchtime meals in the main Dining Room but in the comfort of their own separate room. This provides the perfect balance of experiencing the wider school community.

### Nursery:

Children who are with us for a full day are served a tasty variety of meals including breakfast, snacks and a well-balanced lunch.

Parents are required to supply formula milk and specific weaning dishes to suit personal requirements.

Breakfast	Snack	Lunch	Tea	Snack
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toast</li> <li>• Cereal</li> <li>• Porridge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fruit/ Yogurt</li> <li>• Bread based products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roast lunch</li> <li>• Pasta dish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandwiches</li> <li>• Beans on Toast</li> <li>• Rice pudding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crackers &amp; cheese</li> <li>• Fruit</li> </ul>



## After School Provision

At The Elms we offer before and after school care in a safe, familiar environment which is also easy and convenient for you as parents. It is important to us that this additional time spent at school is fun and fulfilling for each child.

Development beyond the classroom is a fundamental part of the first-class, all-round education we provide. Our diverse extra-curricular provision challenges and inspires pupils to go further with a choice of over 30 activities for children in Reception to Year 6 to participate in.

The activity programme inspires pupils of all ages to try new experiences. With a wide range of clubs to choose from, pupils have the opportunity to discover new hobbies and learn unique skills. Most activities are run by members of our dedicated staff team, however we are also pleased to be working with excellent external activity providers to deliver even more opportunities for pupil growth and discovery.

### Example clubs for Infants (Reception to Year 2)

- Soccer Stars
- Ballet
- Spaghetti Maths
- Little Wickets
- Rainbows
- Jumping Clay

### Example clubs for Juniors (Year 3 to Year 6)

- Arts
- Spanish Club
- Swimming Squad
- Construction and Goblin Cars
- School Magazine
- Beavers



For children aged 4-7 years there is a dedicated **Infant Express Bus** connecting Nottingham City Centre with The Elms.



The service is operated in partnership with Skills of Nottingham who ensure daily drivers provide a friendly welcome for pupils boarding their coaches. Being fully-qualified and DBS checked, parents can rest assured that their children will have safe and enjoyable journeys.

Details of the stops, times and prices can be found online at [www.trentcollege.vectare.co.uk](http://www.trentcollege.vectare.co.uk)



# Admissions and Next Steps

## Individual Tour:

The best way to find out about The Elms in more detail is to arrange a personal tour, available weekdays between 09.00 and 15.00. Tours of Trent College are also available.

## Taster Days:

At the moment, we are unable to welcome children for taster days at The Elms however we do hope later in the academic year, this is something we can start offering again.

Instead we welcome the whole family to visit us on a tour and can arrange a further conversation with one of our Teachers or the Head to discuss what makes The Elms so special.

To register for a place please complete our Registration Form and contact us to find out next steps for admission.

**Mrs Hayley Grange**  
**Admissions Manager (The Elms)**  
**0115 849 4940**  
**[elmsadmissions@trentcollege.net](mailto:elmsadmissions@trentcollege.net)**

## Notes

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THE  
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