

2025-26



An Introduction to **The Elms**



THE
ELMS



I Contents

Introduction	05
Nurturing Confidence and an Inquistive Mind	06
Nursery and Pre-School	08
Reception	10
Infants (Years 1 - Year 2)	11
Juniors (Years 3 - Year 6)	12
Specialist Teaching	14
Lunchtime	15
Wraparound Care	16
Our Bus Network	17
Admissions and Next Step	18
Campus Map	19

| The Elm's Values



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.

Handwritten signature of Mr. James Hadfield.

Mr James Hadfield, Head of The Elms

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 the 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 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 Caterpillar 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 Butterfly 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 explore our vast grounds with fun activities such as scavenger hunts and teddy bear picnics.



Pre-School

Older children in Pre-School experience more structured and focused learning. Fun weekly lessons at The Elms are delivered by specialist teaching staff; including weekly Forest School, reading in the Library, Dance and Drama as well as time with our Reception team for Phonics and Numeracy. There is a new dedicated outdoor learning space and new playground to enjoy! All of the children's activities are focused around play-based learning. 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 activities which are all carefully planned to meet the individual's needs. Children are allocated a key person, who will be directly responsible for their learning, social development and welfare, and be their link between home and school, acting as their direct point of contact.



Caterpillar Room (age 0-2)

Breakfast	08.00–08.30
Staff 'ELF' activities	08.30–09.30
Morning snack	09.30–10.00
Nappies/Free play	10.00–11.00
Outside play	10.45–11.30
Lunch	11.30–12.00
Sleep/quiet time	12.00–14.00
Nappies/Outdoor play/Free play	14.00–15.30
Tea	15.15–16.00
Free play/Home Time	16.00–18.00

Butterfly Room (age 2-3)

Breakfast	08.00–08.30
Self 'ELF' activities	08.30–09.30
Snack/Nappies	09.30–10.30
Free play/Activities/Outside play	10.15–11.15
Singing Session	11.15–11.30
Lunch	11.30–12.00
Sleep/Quiet time	12.00–14.00
Nappies	13.45–14.30
Story time /Free play/Activities/ Outdoor play	14.15–15.15
Tea	15.15–16.00
Free play & Home time	16.00–18.00

I Reception

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 fantastic new EFYS playground, designed to support continuous provision through outdoor learning and exploration.

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, plus visits to our Infant Library.

Our children benefit from 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.



Breakfast Club open in the Prince Obolensky Building (please book children in)	07.30
Morning care opens on the Foundation Stage Playground for Reception	08.00
Children are welcomed in the classrooms	08.30
Registration followed by Teacher led activities	08.35
Lunchtime for Reception children in the Prince Obolensky Building	11.40
Registration and beginning of afternoon session for Reception followed by Child Initiated Activities	13.00
End of Day for Reception and Infant children	15.25
After school care	15.25-18.00
Clubs	15.30-16.30

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 and weekly Swimming 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. There will also be lots of opportunities to enjoy PE, Games and Gymnastics. In Year 2, we introduce the recorder as part of the music curriculum and specialist Art and Design & Technology lessons.

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.



Breakfast Club	07.30
Morning Care open - playground in front of Elms Lower School	08.00
All pupils to be in school	08.30
Registration followed by lessons	08.35
Morning Break	09.50
Lessons	10.10
Lunchtime for the infants in the Prince Obolensky building	11.50
Registration and afternoon lessons	12.50
End of day for infants	15.25
After School Clubs (optional)	15.30

I 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.

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 to participate in one form or another. Individual instrumental lessons are available and most of our junior pupils participate in an orchestra or ensemble.

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

As part of our Performing Arts programme we aim to present a production each year; including each year group.

All children in the juniors have the option to take part in residential visits. We believe this gives children an opportunity to grow and develop their independence, to learn new skills and to form new friendships across their year group. (There are additional charges for these).



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

Children in Years 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.

Breakfast Club (optional)	07.30
Morning Care open (upper School playground)	08.00
Children in school no later than:	08.30
Registration	08.35
Morning Break	09.50
Lessons	10.10
Lunchtime and Music Ensembles	12.00
Registration and afternoon lessons	13.00
End of day for juniors	15.40
After School Clubs (optional)	15.40–17.00



| 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.

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 barriers to learning that hinder progress. Tailored support is available to pupils who require extra guidance and 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.

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.

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.

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.



| Wraparound Care

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.

Chargeable Breakfast Club is available for children in Reception to Year 6 from 07.30.

A chargeable After School Care runs from 15.25 – 18.00.

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.

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)

- Karate
- Disco Dance
- Bricks 4 Kidz
- Little Wickets
- Jumping Clay

Example clubs for Juniors (Year 3 to Year 6)

- Arts
- Spanish Club
- Swimming Squad
- Eco Design
- School Magazine
- Coding/Minecraft
- Chess



| Our Bus Network

Our extensive school bus routes make The Elms a possibility for families across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. With over 100 stops on the network, pupils from Year 3 at The Elms through to Sixth Form at Trent enjoy a high level of service and reliability.

Our Bus Routes are:

- CALVERTON ROAD
 - KINOULTON
 - DERBY SOUTH (LITTLEOVER)
- LOWDHAM
 - MANSFIELD

Quality Assured Services

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.



Scan here for details of the stops, times and prices.

Admissions and Next Steps

Choosing the right nursery, pre-school and school for your son or daughter is a big decision. Our aim is to provide parents with all the support and information you need, every step of the way. The best way to find out about The Elms in more detail is to arrange a personal tour. Visits are hosted by a member of staff and aim to give you an introduction to our grounds, facilities, teachers and school ethos.

Nursery and Pre-School

Tours of the Nursery are typically available on Tuesday to Thursday at 17.15.

We are currently at capacity on many days in our Nursery and Pre-School, please contact our Admissions Manager to establish our current availability and to discuss next steps.

Reception to Year 6 Entry

Tours during the term time are a fantastic opportunity to see the school in operation. These are available weekdays between 09.00 and 15.00. Tours of Trent College are also available.

Reception Applications

We offer taster sessions for those children who have registered. Offering them the opportunity to experience a few hours in the reception class where the teachers will assess their readiness for Reception and observe how they interact with the Staff and Pupils. We do have limited places in Reception so urge early applications.

Year 1 to Year 6 Applications

Once registered, individual taster days are arranged for children to experience a day at The Elms. They will join a class within their current year group and participate in their exciting lessons and enrichment opportunities. Formal entrance assessments are undertaken for entry to years 4, 5 and 6. These assessments can either take place during their taster day or on a separate visit.

Mrs Hannah Spraggett
Admissions Officer (The Elms)
admissions@trentcollege.net
0115 849 4950



Formal applications for a place at Trent College should be made via our online registration form. Scan here

Our Campus



- Whole School**

 - 1. **Bottom Field**
Grass Sports Pitches
 - 2. **Turner Field**
Grass Sports Pitches
 - 3. **Chapel**
Trent and Elms Assemblies
 - 4. **Main Gate**
Vehicle and Pedestrian Access
 - 5. **The Prince Obolensky**
Whole School Dining Sports Changing
 - 6. **Swimming Pool**
 - 7. **Medical Centre**
 - 8. **Sports Hall**
 - 9. **May Hall Theatre**
- The Elms**

 - 10. **The Elms Hall**
 - 11. **Pre-School and Lower School**
- 12. **Nursery**
 - 13. **Upper School**
 - 14. **Music**
 - 15. **Playground**
 - 16. **Eco-Garden**
 - 17. **Catterns Astro Turf Pitches**
 - 18. **Forest School**

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