

The Annemount Nursery and Pre-preparatory School Prospectus



Thank you for your request for information about Annemount. Please find attached application materials, along with information we will answer some of your questions.

Annemount is an independent pre-preparatory school with a thriving Early Years department, located in Hampstead Garden Suburb. Our history is long and our commitment deep, having instilled a lifelong love of learning in our pupils since 1936.

We welcome the opportunity to show prospective parents our premises and educational programme, which combines the latest in teaching and technology with sound tradition. Ours is a school that offers a rigorous curriculum along with experiential learning in a diverse, nurturing environment.

If you are interested in applying to the school, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. We would be more than happy to invite both parents to visit the school for a tour and to answer any questions. Do not hesitate to email the school to make an appointment.

We appreciate your interest in Annemount and look forward to meeting you soon.

Geraldine Maidment
Principal



Annemount
Nursery and Pre-preparatory School

18 Holne Chase Hampstead Garden Suburb London N2 0QN
T 0208 455 2132 F 0208 381 4010 E headteacher@annemount.co.uk
www.annemount.co.uk

The Annemount Nursery and Pre-preparatory School Early Years 2¾ to 4 years (Nursery and Kindergarten)

We welcome children from 2¾ to 4 years to our Early Years programme. We offer a gentle, caring and stimulating environment where children develop their self-confidence, sense of security and self-esteem.

In order to join Annemount, children need to be fully toilet trained, able to communicate and happy to separate from their parent or principal carer.

Our Aims

Our aim is to bring out the personality of each child, allow them to develop at their own pace and provide them with the guidance and freedom that is needed for them to feel calm, happy and positive. We pride ourselves in encouraging children to develop good thinking skills. Each child's development is carefully observed and appropriate support is offered to all pupils, including the gifted and talented, according to need.

Literacy

There is much emphasis on language, communication and listening skills. We familiarise the children with all the sounds of the alphabet in a fun and exciting way. For the children who are ready for reading, we encourage word-building and games and introduce the reading scheme. Writing is introduced in stages with the correct holding of the pencil, mark making and letter formation.

Numeracy

We emphasise practical experience: the children handle and collect various objects which they count, classify, group and talk about. Numeracy is also taught through games and songs. A range of resources are used to support their learning.

Science

Children are encouraged to weigh, measure, compare and anticipate outcomes during their weekly cookery session. Other practical experiences, such as sand, water and experiential play, provide basic scientific learning.

Music

The children sing regularly and make music with various instruments, which they are taught to handle and play. Children are encouraged to develop their voices as well as a sense of rhythm and pitch. Our pupils may choose to learn the violin through the Suzuki Method from the age of three.



Early Years 2¾ to 4 years continued

Arts and Crafts

We encourage creative expression and imagination. A wide range of materials and resources are offered to the children to explore and experiment with.

Physical Education

At Annemount we have gym and playground equipment for use under supervision. The children learn co-ordination and balance and develop tremendous confidence. Kindergarten children participate in our annual Sports Day.

Dancing

We offer dancing with a specialist teacher and pianist to all Early Years pupils.

Drama

We offer drama and improvisation in small classes for pupils from the age of 3.

French

French is taught in small groups, as an optional extra, for pupils from the age of 3.

Computing

For pupils age 3 and over, Computing is offered in small groups as an optional extra.

The Garden

Annemount has its own large garden where the children spend time in complete safety. There is a sand table, playground and sports equipment, and a gazebo. The youngest pupils have their own playground and garden. Many learning activities take place in the garden. The PTA invites a mobile farm to school in the Summer term. The school's annual Summer Fete takes place in the garden.

Play

We do not forget that from 2¾ to 4 years old the children need to learn by "doing" and through play. We encourage them to use the home corner, to dress up and to spend time with constructive toys, puzzles, games, arts and craft.

Book Corner

There is a large book corner with all the latest good children's books as well as the classics.

Lunch

Children bring a healthy packed lunch if they stay until 1.00pm or full days. Mid-morning milk is provided as an optional extra. All children bring a piece of fresh fruit to school each day for break.



The Annemount Nursery and Pre-preparatory School

Pre-preparatory Department 4 to 7 years (Reception, Year One and Year Two)

Our Aims

The Pre-Preparatory Department becomes more formal as the children's ability to concentrate increases. The balanced and rich curriculum is taught to a high standard ensuring steady progression in all areas of learning. We are committed to understanding how each child learns best so that they are well prepared and ready for future schools. Our aim is to bring out the personality of each child, allow them to develop at their own pace and provide them with the guidance and freedom that is needed for them to feel calm, happy and confident.

The philosophy of the school is to provide a well-balanced and broad education, so that the pupils will go through life curious to learn, interested in the world around them, loving books, enjoying people and having both the confidence and courage to tackle new tasks. The school encourages positive attitudes. The potential of each individual is brought out. The children are encouraged to respect others at all times. This approach brings an inner self-confidence and social awareness. The children's mental, physical and emotional needs are taken into account and they are encouraged to express their feelings and communicate their thoughts.

The staff team is very dedicated; some staff members have been at the school a very long time. In each year group, we ensure a high staff ratio. The school feels like one big happy family in which each member has an important role. The different age groups meet together when there is an Assembly and in the playground. Lunch is not provided, but children bring a healthy lunch box to school.

The children are always encouraged to do their best and are given the opportunity to perfect their skills through practice and praise.

Literacy

There is much emphasis on language, communication and listening skills. Children are encouraged to read independently through word-building and games, followed by the introduction of the reading scheme. Children's reading is heard each day, and once they have a reading book, they also read at home. The pupils are taught to write independently and creatively. In Year One and Year Two the children become quite prolific, producing impressive pieces of well-presented original work. The school has a good library of classics, as well as the latest popular children's books.



Pre-preparatory Department 4 to 7 years continued

Numeracy

In Reception the children continue to practise and perfect their basic understanding of number through both practical and formal activities. Mental arithmetic is encouraged. In Year One this understanding is consolidated and extended further through a formal mathematical scheme. In Year Two children continue with the scheme whilst preparing for entrance exams with ample practice of the four basic functions of number and their application to problem solving.

Science

A new science topic is introduced termly from the National Curriculum. Children are invited to explore, estimate, anticipate and record their findings. The annual Science Week includes visits from Science specialists as well as field trips.

Humanities

The teaching of topic work is central to the curriculum and children explore new topics each term, such as: Toys in the Past and Present, Romans, Tudors, Victorians, World War II and Mapping. The topic work incorporates the teaching of research skills and is supported by appropriate field trips.

Music

The children sing regularly and make music with various instruments, which they are taught to handle and play. All children learn the recorder as well as how to read music from Year One. Children are encouraged to develop their voices as well as a sense of rhythm and pitch. Children are able to take up the violin from the age of three. There is an After School Music Club. The children support the local music festivals each year.

Arts and Crafts

We encourage creative expression and imagination. A wide range of materials and resources are offered to the children to explore and experiment with. The children participate in The National Gallery's "Take One Picture" initiative and visit the museum each year.

Physical Education

All children go to the gym every week from Reception. The children learn co-ordination and balance with specialist teachers and develop tremendous confidence. All the children participate in our annual Sports Day. Children in Year One and Year Two are taught to swim by professional instructors. These lessons are also offered as an option to pupils in Reception. There is also a weekly After School Football Club taught by a qualified coach.



Pre-preparatory Department 4 to 7 years continued

Computing

Computing is offered by a specialist teacher as part of the curriculum.

Drama

We offer drama and improvisation with a specialist teacher as part of the curriculum.

Dancing

We offer dancing with a specialist teacher and pianist. These classes are part of the curriculum.

French

Year One and Year Two learn French in small groups with a specialist teacher. French is offered as an optional extra to Reception pupils.

Chess

Chess is offered by a specialist teacher as part of the curriculum for Year One and Year Two and as an optional extra for Reception.

Clubs

After School clubs are very popular and include Art, Cookery, Music, Debating, Creative Writing, Handwriting and Football.

Lunch

The children bring a healthy packed lunch. Mid-morning milk is an optional extra. All children bring a piece of fresh fruit to school each day for break.

Future Schools

The Principal takes a personal interest in the placement of children in their future schools and meets with parents regularly to ensure that there is a successful outcome. Children from Annemount go to a range of prestigious London schools, and full preparation is given to those who will sit tests and have interviews. The school enjoys a high success rate for entry to academic schools.

Uniform is compulsory for all children from Kindergarten. The PTA regularly holds gently used uniform sales.



The Annemount Nursery and Pre-preparatory School

Admission checklist

How to apply to Annemount School

Tour

We encourage both parents to tour the school. Please email the school to make an appointment with Geraldine Maidment who will guide you around the school and answer your questions. These meetings are planned for 9:30am.

Application

Complete and return the registration form, along with the £120.00 registration fee, to the school office. Due to high demand for places, please submit your application as early as possible. The school will invite all registered children to an informal visit during the academic year prior to entry.

Deposit

During the autumn term prior to the new academic year, all registrations are checked and all the families are contacted. They are invited to commit to their child's place by means of a deposit of £500, which is in part payment of the first term's fees but is not refunded if the place is not taken up.

Settling in Procedure for all Early Years pupils

When your child starts school we may stagger the intake so that the settling in period is as smooth as possible. We always suggest that the parent or carer is available for the first five days of school. If it is necessary for the parent or carer to stay near the child in the classroom, it is better for the adult to sit at the side of the room with a book so that the other children do not become confused. The accompanying adult needs to be quiet, interacting as little as possible. Their very presence will help the child to feel safe and trusting. If a child is obviously showing signs that they are really not yet ready for school we can defer the place for a term.

OFSTED <http://www.OFSTED.GOV.UK>. Please search under "Independent Schools".



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The Annemount Nursery and Pre-preparatory School Registration Form

Date

Name of Pupil

Nationality of Pupil

Country of Citizenship

Date of Birth

Proposed Entry Date

Mother's Name

Father's Name

Mother's Nationality & Citizenship

Father's Nationality & Citizenship

Address

E-mail address

Home Telephone

Work/Mobile (Mother)

Work/Mobile (Father)

Proposed Future School(s)

Current School (if any)

Siblings' information:	Name	Date of birth	School

Any additional information relevant to Early Years developmental progress

Source of referral to Annemount

There is a **non-refundable** registration fee of £120 to reserve a place. Please make cheques payable to Annemount and return with the form to 18 Holne Chase, London N2 0QN.



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