



THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL  
EXETER

MADE FOR GIRLS AGE 4 – 18



11

## THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE MAYNARD

“Anaya’s first term at school has been truly amazing and that’s down to the wonderful staff. You truly have been an answer to our prayers and have given our girl the most perfect start to her schooling.

She is so happy and so loving her learning. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for making her schooling so perfect. She is thriving. Thank you.”

Mrs Stoneman, Reception Parent





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**Educating the 'whole child'** is our passion here at The Maynard, and this is what makes us different from a lot of other schools. We really do have the interests of each pupil at the centre of all our decision-making. The education we provide here is excellent - it is the measureable outcome for every one of our girls when they leave, but we want our girls to learn to 'be children' too.

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**Our Small Class Sizes.** With an average class size of 10 in the Pre-Prep and 17 in the Junior School, our Teachers and Teaching Assistants are able to get to know the pupils as if they were their own children. Every child is a unique package and each one receives individual attention. How much difference can you really make when you have 30 or more children in a class, all with different learning and emotional needs?

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**Our Safe, Secure Setting.** As an all-girls' school our pupils can learn and play in a carefree manner. They can take risks, express themselves and grow in self-confidence free from other social distractions. Anyone who visits us always says that the atmosphere here is different from other types of school they have ever visited.

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**Our 'home from home' Environment.** Due to our size, it would be difficult to find a school that provides the 'home from home' that our girls enjoy here. We are all a part of the Maynard Family; the older Junior-aged girls buddy up with the younger Pre-Prep pupils. We have regular 'Buddy times' which are so highly valued by everyone, a real time for collaboration and peer support which builds an amazingly close community. We also work closely together with the Senior School and Sixth Form with our older students running clubs for our younger girls.

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**Before and After School Clubs.** Our fully inclusive wraparound care is specially designed to allow parents the opportunity to drop off early (from 8am) and/or pick up a little later (until 5.30pm) on an ad hoc basis. A private education is a significant financial commitment - but we don't 'fine you' for having to work, we are delighted to be able to enjoy the company of your daughter for a bit longer!

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**Our Bespoke Phonics Programme.** In the Pre-Prep we teach our phonics in very small groups - the smallest being only two girls - meaning that each pupil receives the individual attention that is right for them. We group by ability rather than age for phonics, allowing the girls to move through their early sounds at a pace that suits them, ensuring that they have a secure grounding in this most crucial area.

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**A Varied Curriculum.** Our priority is for our girls to learn to be children, to play outside, to take part in shared activities and experiences, rather than always sitting at a desk. We offer a carefully balanced curriculum that includes time for creativity and expression. For our Pre-Prep girls there are weekly sessions of Yoga, Ballet, Forest School and Swimming, and our Junior pupils can also participate in extra-curricular clubs such as Martial Arts, Tennis, Drama and Cookery.

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**Our Homework Ethos.** There is no homework set in the Pre-Prep as research has shown that the addition of homework at a young age does not correlate to an improved examination performance later on. We want happy girls who are excited and willing - after all, they soon grow up! As they journey through the Junior School, homework is increased incrementally to reinforce classroom learning in a fun and creative manner whilst teaching independent study at home.

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**Specialist Teaching and Facilities.** Here at The Maynard, we are lucky enough to have access to specialist teachers and facilities for subjects such as Modern Languages, ICT, Music, Swimming and PE for everyone in Reception through to Year 6. We aim to ignite a passion for learning to stay with our pupils for their whole life and open their eyes to a multitude of opportunities.

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“ We don't want to produce little robots chanting times tables! Being confident and happy is essential to our girls”

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**Transition to Senior School.** In Year 6, we prepare the girls for their move up to the Senior School. Although remaining with their class teacher for much of the time, they also receive more specialist input from our Senior School staff. Science lessons are taught in our well-equipped laboratories and they will also have lessons in the Art, Music, Computing, Textiles and Food & Nutrition classrooms.

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**Outdoor learning** has an extremely positive impact on children's development. Pressures on teaching time and resources in other schools often means the benefits of outdoor learning are overlooked. Fewer opportunities to explore the great outdoors has shown that children's social skills are hampered, whilst their long term physical and emotional development is stifled. At The Maynard we hold regular outdoor learning sessions and have just launched our brand new Forest School where our Pre-Prep girls will enjoy weekly lessons.

12

**Our Excellent and Regular Communication with Parents.** Alongside the bespoke care and attention we give to our girls is the excellent communication we have with parents. Staff are around for a chat before and after school in person, via appointment or by phone or email. We also have regular parent meetings and curriculum evenings. In our Reception class we make use of the Tapestry App which allows us to share pictures of every pupil at key points in her learning. We send out a daily update and the parents as well as teachers can comment on that pupil's progress. For many of our parents it is a highlight of their day!

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