

Foundation Prep Schools Year 5 Early Offer Scheme

Parents' Information Evening

Monday 10 March 2025

With you this evening...

- Crackley Hall Team
- Ed Hester, Foundation Principal
- Grove du Toit, Princethorpe College Headmaster
- Melanie Butler, Foundation Director – Marketing, Admissions and Communications
- Catherine Rogers, Princethorpe Registrar





A FOUNDATION FOR LIFE...





Background to Scheme

- Close working relationship between Foundation schools
- Listened to parental feedback
- Large proportion of pupils from prep schools already apply to Princethorpe and overwhelming majority are offered places
- Prioritise Foundation families in the Princethorpe Admissions Process
- A natural extension of our *Foundation for Life* approach



Feedback to the Scheme

- One family has already registered!
- 22 Foundation families have shown interest
- *An excellent and most welcomed idea and great to hear parents have been listened to in their suggestions of early offers to mirror the process that are in place at other local independent schools.*
- *I really do feel that this new scheme will have such a positive impact on the children and parents of the Junior schools, and has added deeper meaning and value to the 'Princethorpe Foundation.'*
- *I appreciate I was not the only parent who had previously reached out to you on this, but being part of a school community where the senior leadership team listen, take on board parent views and implement positive change really is a wonderful feeling.*
- *This is a fantastic idea, thank you.*

How will the Scheme work?

- Very similarly to the traditional admissions process but much earlier and based primarily on comprehensive data gathered in the prep school
- You choose whether to register your child for the early offer scheme and complete online registration form by Tuesday 6 May
- Crackley Hall then shares your child's up to date academic assessment data with the College, plus a confidential reference and any SEND information (If you have SEND documentation please share it with us directly too)
- The College conducts own online assessment with early offer registered children at Crackley Hall in May

How will the Scheme work?

- In early June the College Admissions Panel will sit and review all the data and information as normal and make offer decisions
- Early offers will then be communicated by the College to parents by email in mid June, these offers are secured for you
- Those wishing to apply for Scholarships do so in the normal way by end of September, candidates wishing to be considered for an Academic Scholarship need to let the College know and sit the Entrance Exams on Saturday 8 November
- Formal offers made by College at the end of November, along with any scholarship or bursary awards, acceptance deadline early March 2026 for all

Benefits to Foundation Families

- More bespoke assessment for Foundation pupils based on their performance over a longer period without the pressure of a big exam day
- Parents who are considering the College will know whether their child has a place five months earlier
- No need to sit the College Entrance Exams in November unless wish to be considered for Academic Scholarship or applying for a Bursary, if do so will be secure in the knowledge that they already have a place

Benefits to Foundation Families

- Those wishing to apply for other Scholarships (Art, Choral, Dance, Drama, Music, Musical Theatre and Sport) can focus their efforts on preparation for those
- Staff will be able to start planning earlier for next steps and for getting pupils “secondary school ready”

Your Questions

Q: Do I need to supply any academic data to the College?

A: No, there will be an internal electronic sharing of data between the schools once you have registered for the scheme

Q: What will the children be tested on in the assessment? Will it be just VR or a mixture of everything?

A: We will be using a nationally standardised assessment from CEM that tests English, Mathematics and reasoning skills.

Your Questions

Q: What if my child has a SEND or additional needs?

A: Please indicate this on your registration form, and supply supporting documents for our panel to review.

SENCOs will specifically liaise in the summer term regarding any pupil with SEND or additional needs who registers for the Early Offer Scheme.

Plans for transition arrangements and any additional support can then be discussed and if appropriate put in place at a much earlier stage to best support the pupils.

In more complex cases, or if the panel has specific questions, a meeting with one of our SEND Team will be arranged by the Registrars.

Your Questions

Q: What happens if my child is not made an early offer?

A: If a pupil registers for the scheme but is not offered a place – feedback will be given to parents as to the reasons in the summer and extra support offered as appropriate. It would then be possible to sit the main entrance exams in November.

Your Questions

Q: My understanding is that the entrance exam results feed directly into Maths sets for the start of Year 7. How will this be determined if the early offer scheme is taken up and no entrance exam is sat?

A: We will use all of the academic data made available to us during the scheme, alongside the CEM assessment, to place pupils into the most suitable group. Mathematics sets are adjusted after the first term of Year 7 once pupils have settled in.

Q: What happens if I don't sign my child up for the Scheme? Can I still apply to the College later?

A: Yes, you can apply to sit the Entrance Exams in the normal time frame, the deadline to register is Friday 26 September 2025

Timeline

Date	Event
Thursday 1 May	Crackley Hall Year 5 Taster Day and Parents' Information Session and Tour
Tuesday 6 May	Registration Deadline for Early Offer Scheme
May	Collation and analysis of information for the Princethorpe Admissions Panel
May	Online Assessment in Prep Schools
June	Early Offer Admissions Panel Sits
Thursday 12 June	Early Offers Communicated

Next Steps

- Information on Scholarships in 2026 Admissions and Entrance Examinations Booklet
- Further information including online registration link will be sent to you after this meeting in preparation for Early Offer Scheme Registration Deadline on Tuesday 6 May



- Catherine Rogers and Georgia Newborough, the College Admissions Team, can be contacted at admissions@princethorpe.co.uk or 01926 634201/297

Thank You
Time for further questions