

Frequently asked questions

Why have the fees been raised?

The Junior School relies almost exclusively on pupil fee income to fund its activities and this is currently insufficient to cover even the running costs of the Junior School. Since Roedean has been responsible for the Junior School, it has analysed the costs very carefully and compared them with other good schools in the area. The unavoidable conclusion is that the present fees are too low for a school offering this quality of teaching. Therefore, after very careful consideration, the Council of Roedean has decided to revise the fee structure for the next academic year.

Will class sizes increase?

Yes, as we hope the school roll will continue to grow. We recognise that too small a class is not in the best interests of the pupils' developments in terms of class dynamics and inspiration, neither is a class that is too big.

My son/daughter is about to join Reception, who will be teaching my child?

The Reception and Nursery class will now be known as the Foundation Stage. Pupils will have the expertise of a qualified teacher and qualified Nursery practitioner. This will enable us to continue to deliver first rate Early Years education, for which we were awarded an 'Investors in Children' award in July 2009, and make the foundation stage learning experience seamless.

My daughter is in Year 6 and has loved the specialist teaching. Will this end?

On the contrary, the Junior School is committed to delivering specialist teaching wherever possible throughout the school.

The current specialism in sport from Years 3-6 include hockey, tennis, swimming, gymnastics, dance, football, athletics, cricket, rounders and they will continue, as will specialist teaching in Design Technology, ICT, French, Year 6 Science and Music. Our unique two year programme of free string tuition in Years 5 and 6 will also continue.

If classes are combined, how can you deliver the curriculum?

We have been trialling a model in Years 3-6 in maths this year. This places all children in adjacent classes together and following teacher assessment the children are placed in ability, not age, appropriate groups. Teachers are assessing the children on a daily basis and if necessary the children move groups to best match their ability. This model has been so successful that we aim to roll it out across more subjects. Age should not restrict development but ability should be matched, supported and challenged.

Will the length of the day change?

No, it will remain the same.

Will bursaries be honoured?

Yes, all current bursaries will be honoured at the same level as now.

Is there any additional financial help available?

Yes, there may be means-tested help available.

Will I be able to pay my fees monthly?

Yes, this facility is available at no extra charge.

Will the Pre-Prep lose all their additional curriculum activities?

No, Yoga, French, Spanish, Dance, Gymnastics, Karate, Music and Drama will still continue.

Where will the children have their lunch?

This will be provided in the Junior School hall from September 2010. The children will still receive a nutritious lunch provided by the School.

Will swimming still begin in Nursery?

Yes, as now swimming will begin in Nursery and continue until the end of Year 6

Will after-school care continue?

Yes, as long as there is sufficient demand.

Will the minibus service continue?

Yes.

Will we still have opportunities to meet the teachers?

Of course. This is an essential part of our ethos and we plan to introduce additional informal gatherings to complement the existing arrangements.

Will we still receive termly grade cards?

Yes, the feedback from you has been very encouraging. The information we now gather regarding your son or daughter's education is very comprehensive. This enables us to track progress and set future targets.

Is it possible for the parents to create a group to organise social and fund raising events?

Yes, we would relish the opportunity to work with parents in building a community.