



RIVER ACADEMY



MAIDEN ERLEGH
TRUST



RIVER ACADEMY

Why River Academy?



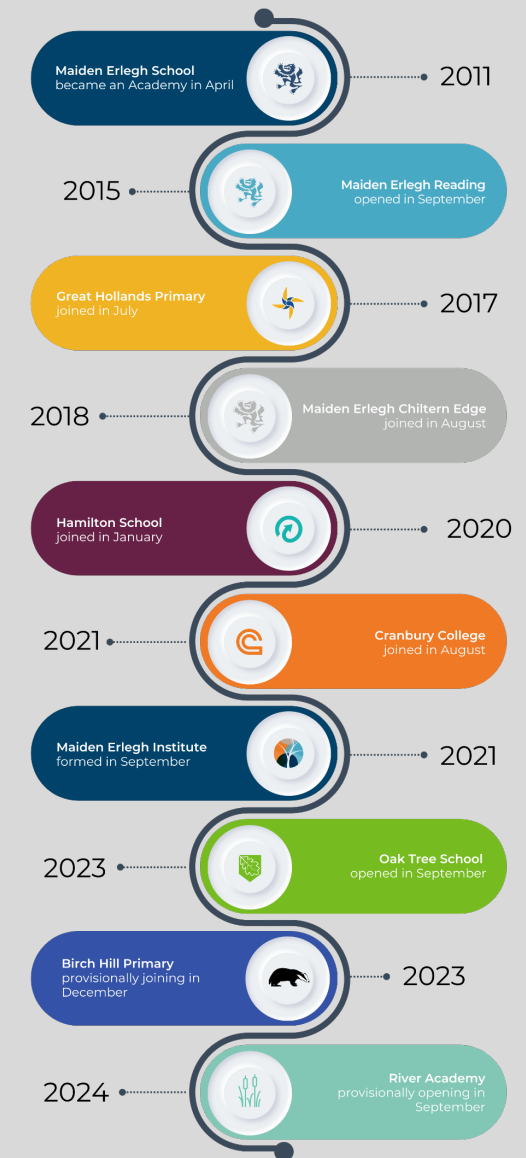


Welcome

- Maiden Erlegh Trust is Berkshire and Oxfordshire-based and currently consists of nine schools working as part of one organisation: four secondary, two primary, two special and one alternative provision.
- Our community and inclusion values and moral purpose are realised by a commitment to welcoming the full range of settings and covering all age groups and serving the local area.
- The opening of River Academy, a new secondary school, is therefore a very exciting and relevant next step.

Maiden Erlegh Trust

- ✓ OFSTED record
- ✓ Academic results
- ✓ Expertise within the Trust
- ✓ Expertise in primary, secondary, special and behavioural education
- ✓ Financially sound
- ✓ Behaviour Hub work
- ✓ CIS



Maiden Erlegh Trust

- **9th** ranked Multi Academy Trust out of **198** nationally for Progress 8
- **14th** ranked Multi Academy Trust for attainment at GCSE
- **1st** ranked Trust for progress for all students at GCSE in the South-East of England



Buildings and Facilities



- £1 million of new IT equipment
- New buildings including ...
 - 🌿 MUGA
 - 🌿 Main Hall
 - 🌿 Drama Studio
 - 🌿 Sports Hall
 - 🌿 Activity Studio



RIVER ACADEMY

Pre-opening Inspections



Department
for Education

Ofsted



RIVER ACADEMY

Experience



RIVER ACADEMY

Headteacher

Andy Hartley



- **Headteacher**
Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge,
Sonning Common
- **Deputy Headteacher**
Brakenhale School, Bracknell
- **Assistant Headteacher**
The Downs School, Compton





RIVER ACADEMY

Staffing

- Fully staffed
- Specialist teachers
- Well qualified
- Experienced
- Full time – with three shared members of staff



University of
Reading



University of
BRISTOL



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY



Durham
University



University of
Sheffield



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



Our Vision

- ✓ A school in the community and for the community
- ✓ High challenge in the classroom based on evidence-research and case studies of success
- ✓ A place where staff want to come and work
- ✓ Simple systems for behaviours
- ✓ Removing barriers for learning and attendance
- ✓ Creating a sense of joy and belonging
- ✓ No disadvantaged gap



Our Values

- Community
- Empathy
- Respect
- Excellence
- Determination





Culture

- High expectations of work, behaviour, readiness to learn
- Clear behaviour policy
- Celebration and rewards
- A clear uniform and identity
- Homework and study support
- Calm corridors and classrooms
- Clear 'Teaching and Learning' methodology
- Parent School agreement
- Oracy and respect at the forefront



We are a phone free school

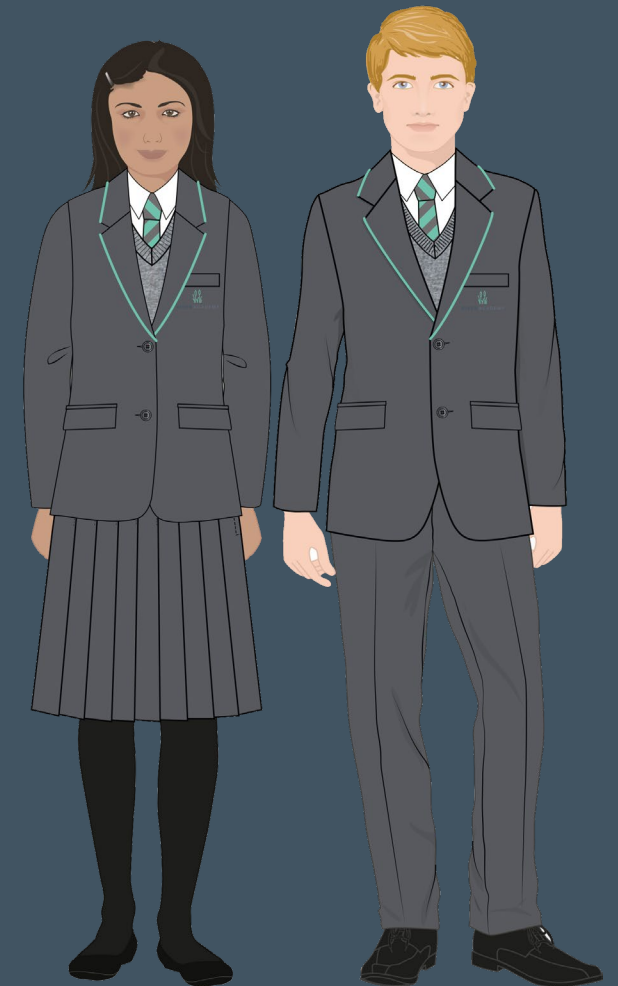
- They are collected in at the start of the day and handed back at the end of the day
- Any phones found in the day will be confiscated and parents will need to collect in school hours





Uniform

Whilst there will be some branded items, we will be keeping these to a minimum with most items available direct from the high street.





Teaching and Curriculum

- Our vision focuses on relentlessly and ambitiously developing all students into citizens for today's modern world by equipping them with skills and knowledge for future education, employment, and adulthood.
- The curriculum will be an integrated matrix of taught and enrichment subjects aimed at developing academic and course learning, cultural capital, personal development, student leadership and the preparation for the world of work and life in modern Britain.
- Our curriculum is delivered by talented specialist staff.



Curriculum Offer

- Academic
- Setting for core subjects
- French in Year 7, French and Spanish in Year 8
- The Spring support curriculum
- Wednesday elective programme for all





Big focus on knowledge and recall

- GCSE skills
- Memory and recall is a great life skill
- Knowledge of the world is so important- knowledge is power!
- You can't do the analysis, or understand the importance or explain 'the why' until you know the facts
- A home learning programme that is pre planned and synchronised with the taught lessons





Lesson Routines – Year 7

- High staff visibility between lessons
- Meet and greet at the door
- Seating plan
- Do Now
- All Hands Up/No Hands Up questioning
- Mini Whiteboards checking for understanding
- Scaffolding and modelling with the board
- 'Silence is Golden' for written work
- Track the speaker or the learning
- Active Observation from staff – 'catch them getting it right'– Merits
- Working through booklets with core knowledge emphasised



Reading and Oracy

- Improving reading ages- it's such an important life skill
- Regular readers do better in life
- The knowledge and understanding of the world that you get from reading is so important
- A calm start to the day
- To communicate clearly and accurately is a great asset to you
- A school reading style to ensure greater engagement with the text





Co-curricular

- Clubs and practices – Sport, Academic clubs etc
- Music lessons about to begin
- Wednesday – 'electives' for everyone to stay and do something different to the work in the classroom





Electives

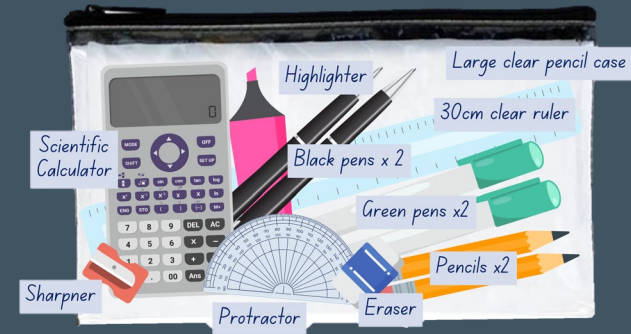
- Wednesdays – started 18.9.24
- Everyone involved
- Rowing, Readipop, Basketball, Art, Board games, Chess, First Aid, Mindful colouring and art, badminton, piano, school newspaper
- Termly swaps
- The school that plays together will be stronger





Tutor Time

- A focused and productive session to start each day checking students are ready to learn
- Equipment carried in a plastic case – no fussing in the bag
- Reading – 45 minutes per week
- Assembly – once a week





Line Ups

- ✓ At the start of the day
- ✓ End of break
- ✓ End of lunch
- A calm and crisp start to each lesson so punctuality isn't an issue as a result
- Key messages
- Positive and celebratory





Homework support/ Supported study

- Built into the timetable
- To build strong study habits
- To provide a quiet space for students to complete their homework
- We will be providing a voluntary Homework Club after school as well
- There will be a homework 'Catch Up' session each Friday to support students struggling to keep up with their set homework



Gifted and Talented Provision

- Every lesson will give students the chance to excel and will be tailored around the mantra of 'teaching to the top'
- There will be extension/gifted opportunities linked to the curriculum – e.g., Maths and Science
- The electives programme will also offer opportunities to pursue academic interests beyond the curriculum
- It is intended to offer an extension pathway with opportunities such as Oxford University visits, Latin Club, Model United Nations participation and a lecture series on things such as meteorology or economics



Celebration Fridays and Joy!

- Lessons on a Friday are 55 minutes
- Lunch shortened by 5 minutes
- Tutor time is shorter
- 14.45 and we all head into the hall and finish the week with an 'Achievement Assembly'
- Smiles all round to finish the week





Our students can be 11 years old

- Space
- Facilities
- Calm environment
- Chess, football, table tennis, chatting, basketball, volleyball, reading





Dining

- Pre-set seating which changes frequently
- Everyone eats
- Poems, question of the day, gratitude and oracy
- Community
- Nourishing food





SEND

- Everyone in all lessons
- No 1:1 TAs
- Everyone in uniform
- Interventions remove students from lessons – spelling, ELSA etc.





Bespoke & Therapeutic Support

- A suite of SEND support rooms
- A highly qualified team of experienced staff to support students in their transition to secondary school
- Behaviour Mentor, ELSA, Disadvantaged co-ordinator



The Bridge

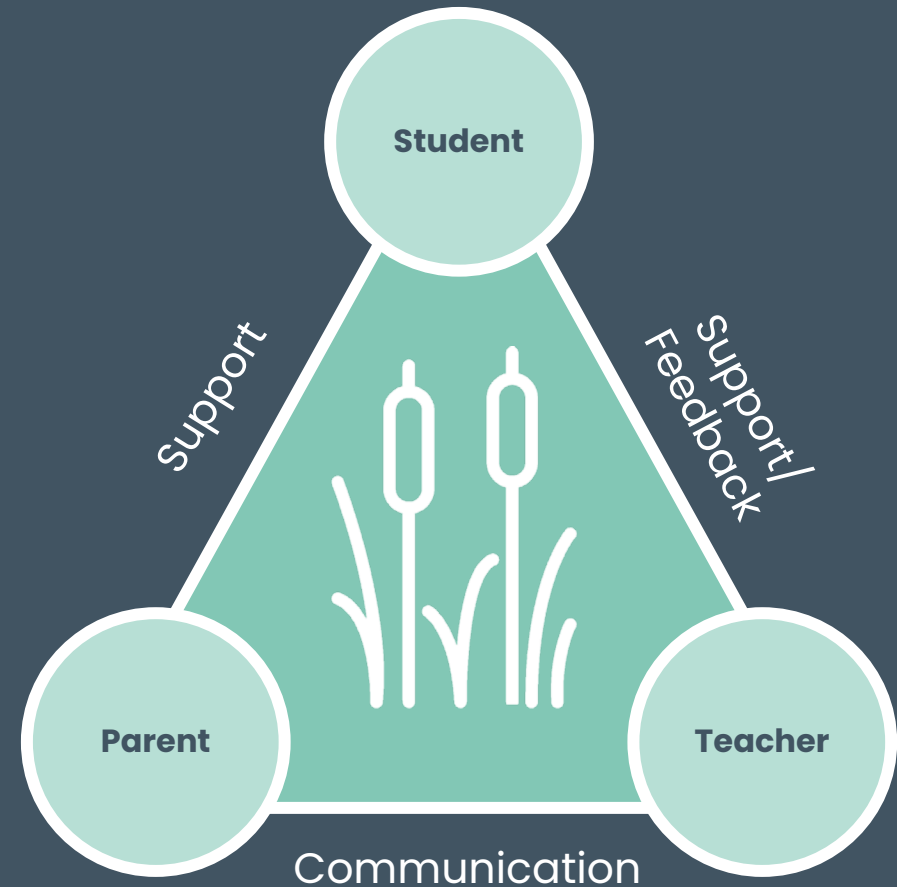


- 7 spaces for students with Moderate Learning Difficulties
- Admission is via a panel rather than the mainstream admissions process
- Your primary school SENCO should help you with this
- It is a pleasure to witness these students prosper in this atmosphere



The parents' role

- A trinity – school, parent, student
- Check the Homework App
- Ensure uniform is correct
- Clear communication if there are issues
- Be ready to come in to discuss matters face to face





Pupil Build-up

In our first year...

- Year 7 only

In second year...

- Year 7 and 8 only





Admissions

How to apply for entry 2025/26

- 180 places
- No official catchment area
- Mainstream places will be allocated by the distance from your door to our door
- We don't know what the distance will be as this is the first year of River Academy being part of the 'official' admissions process
- October 31st deadline



Questions

If you have any questions, please do ask. We will be very happy to help.





RIVER ACADEMY

Website and Social Media

Follow us

If you would like to keep up to date with the progress being made at River Academy, follow us on our social media platforms.

 @RiverAcademy

 @RiverAcReading

 @MaidenErleghTrust

 @RiverAcademy

Thank you for attending the Open Evening

For more information about River Academy please visit our website or follow us on social media:

www.river-academy.co.uk



RIVER ACADEMY

Don't rely on my word
– ask our students!



RIVER ACADEMY

What is the best thing about
River Academy?



RIVER ACADEMY

"River Academy is a great school, and the lessons are fun, and the teachers are nice."

"I would say it is the most wonderful place."

"It is really fun and gives us a lot of opportunities to become better, as a person and in school."

"It's amazing – it has high expectations which will help us in the future."

"I'm at the best secondary school in Reading!"



RIVER ACADEMY

It's a fantastic school with lots of education,
new adventures, new classrooms, brand new
books and tools for learning.