



RANBY HOUSE

Prep School





# **We're Ranby House. At our school, we have one clear purpose – to provide every child with the best possible opportunity to lead a happy and successful life.**

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Your child's future really does matter to us.

Schools sometimes focus on grades to measure their success; but we measure ours by looking at the whole child.

Helping your child to be the best they can be in all that they do is tremendously exciting, and we know your child is developing the core skills for a successful future when we see them achieve things they never thought were possible.

Visit us. We want you to openly compare what we offer with others - to ask challenging questions, and to see our school in action – we assure you of a very warm welcome.

We look forward to meeting you and your family.

# Why us?

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Situated in 60 acres of beautiful North Nottinghamshire countryside, our school provides children with the natural space and resources they need to thrive and flourish.

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Highly qualified teachers, subject specialists and sports coaches work with all our children, from 3 to 11 years of age, in small classes, to ensure tailored teaching and learning.

Using the very best examples of learning from around the world, we provide our children with a rich and vibrant curriculum – a curriculum that’s unique to our school.

Central to this is our school’s Learner Profile and the development of ‘resilience’, ‘adaptability’ and ‘independence’. These are embedded in everything we do.

In addition to providing state-of-the-art teaching facilities for our young learners, our school also offers families excellent value-for-money, with fully inclusive fees that cover all aspects of a Ranby House education.

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**“They are not just teachers; they are really ‘school parents’. I feel I could tell them anything”**

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**FLORA**

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# Developing growth mindset thinkers

At our school, our growth mindset approach to learning underpins everything we do.

A child with a fixed mindset believes that intelligence and talent are defined at birth, often because they are told this by adults. Fixed mindset learners feel the need to look clever at all costs - because they feel learning should come naturally. Fixed mindset learners constantly compare themselves to others and aim to hide mistakes, often because they feel these are signs of weakness.

A child with a growth mindset understands that intelligence and talent is not fixed at birth but can go up or down. They learn to understand that hard work and relentless effort are the key components of future success and achievement.

Growth mindset learners compare their progress only to themselves - and see mistakes as learning opportunities.

With a growth mindset approach to learning, children at Ranby House start taking greater risks. This is encouraged at our school and, in turn, leads our children to 'fail successfully' more often. They develop a 'bounce-back-ability' which ultimately drives them to continually better themselves.

Our children understand that true success comes from relentless hard work and effort, so being able to grow stronger from failure is an important life skill that our children master.





## Healthy body, healthy mind

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We firmly believe that exercise stimulates active minds and helps concentration – but most of all, we believe that active learning is about having lots of fun.

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Starting with daily physical activity in the Nursery, our healthy body programme develops as pupils move up through the school. By the age of six, children are enjoying specialist PE, swimming and games lessons, and by the age of eight, they have the chance to be involved in sport every day of the week.

Matches against other schools give focus and teach teamwork and leadership - both on and off the field - and of course give children a chance to experience healthy competition.

We're lucky enough to have access to world-class coaches, and there's a reason why our school has produced some of the finest sportspeople in the world.

As a 'sport for all' school, getting involved is just as important as ability, so children take part in a wide variety of sports throughout the year. As well as the major summer and winter games for boys and girls, we include other options such as athletics, orienteering, judo, badminton, gymnastics and dance.

Our weekly activity afternoon also provides the opportunity to broaden experiences even further. Some choose arts and crafts, rocket building, chess or sewing, others more active pastimes such as fencing, archery, canoeing, mini moto club, climbing wall or horse riding.

# Creativity and expression

Music is an everyday part of life at Ranby House, and along with class music lessons, most of our children choose to sing in one of our choirs - or study at least one instrument through individual lessons with our experienced music teachers.

Performing music together is encouraged, and from the piano to the drums and electric guitar - children are encouraged to try a range of instruments and to be excited and intrigued by many different genres of music.

Art and Design & Technology is just as important - our children thoroughly enjoy this hands-on subject, using a wide variety of different media.

Pupils learn the properties and uses of different materials through their design and construction work in Design Technology, and take great pride in their finished projects, which are displayed at our annual exhibition.

Drama and Performance is an embedded part of Ranby House school life, and children are provided with an opportunity to perform in our on-site theatre.

Alongside the wide variety of presentations, shows and drama workshops the children take part in, our annual Pre-Prep Christmas Show and Lower and Upper Junior Prep School productions help our children to learn how to refine their performance skills, and present with confidence.



# The Pre-Prep Years Ages 3 – 7

Providing strong foundations for your child starts at the age of three when children enter our Nursery and continues through the Pre-Prep years to the age of seven.

Our youngest children enjoy their own safe and secure learning environment within the exciting and nurturing setting of our Pre-Prep building. Complete with easy access to our active outdoor play facilities and beyond into the forest, our children's independence and curiosity grows rapidly from an early age.

As a 'teaching nursery', a carefully structured academic and play-based learning programme means that the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum is taught - both in the Nursery and Reception classrooms and outdoors - with teaching outside forming an important part of everyday school life.

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**"I like how the teachers push you to be better than you think you are"**

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**LUKE**

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Each day is different and learning is exciting, engaging and fun, as we encourage collaboration and teamwork between the children. We also develop core English skills from an early age - using a wide variety of learning techniques - including an embedded phonics programme to teach the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Pupils in Years One and Two also benefit from specialist teaching in Spanish, PE, games, music, and swimming. All pupils make use of the excellent facilities on the school site, which includes three purpose-built IT suites, an art and design technology facility, sports centre, and theatre.

Our youngest children grow in self-esteem and confidence throughout the Pre-Prep years. We enjoy developing enquiring minds - building strong foundations for future development.





# The Prep Years Ages 7 – 11

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**“There is a real sense  
of care and team  
spirit as we all work  
together”**

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**TILLY**

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Throughout their journey with us, we ensure that our children are fully equipped to cope with the next stage of their education and beyond into life, post-school.

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The caring environment of the Prep years helps your child with that development. A dedicated form teacher delivers the core curriculum at this age, whilst a team of specialist teachers help children to gain more independence - with coaching across a wide range of different subjects.

We live in an age of rapid change and the skills that your child will need for their future are ever-changing. Our school is well-resourced with the latest computer technology - a wireless infrastructure can be accessed in every teaching room, we have three computer suites and tablet technology is available to all pupils. There are plenty of opportunities for pupils to use and apply the latest IT skills and innovation in all aspects of their learning.

We believe education is a partnership, so regular feedback and reporting to parents means you'll be fully involved in your child's learning process at every stage of their journey.

And as you begin to think about your child's education after Ranby House, our senior school site - Worksop College is ideally located only a few miles away so moving from Year Six to Year Seven is a seamless experience. As our children join Portland House, the dedicated junior space for Years Seven and Eight, they do so with their Ranby peer group and a firm set of friends.

Being one school across two sites means that children at Ranby benefit from the use of the facilities at our senior school site - including floodlit astroturf pitches, an indoor swimming pool and specialist technology and science labs. Staff regularly teach across the two schools, providing our children with consistency and continuity.





# Community Spirit

As a Woodard school based on Christian principles and traditions, we welcome families of all faiths and beliefs. Led by our Chaplain, members of staff, or groups of pupils - our weekly chapel services are lively, enjoyable and lots of fun.

Family values are promoted through all aspects of school life and are deeply embedded in our School House system. Every child is a member of one of four school houses and the houses compete against each other in school competitions and for 'house points' - allocated for a number of things, including effort, achievement and leading by example. Pupils in Year Six look after younger pupils in their 'Buddy Groups', creating fantastic opportunities for leadership and personal growth.

And as well as building confidence through extra-curricular activities, our pupils are also provided with many opportunities to develop their leadership skills. From election to the School Council, or the Eco Committee, to the award of a senior position of leadership, including Heads and Deputies of School, Captains of Sport, and of School Houses. Our children are taught to be adaptable, resilient, and independent at all stages of their journey with us.



# A home from home

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## Boarding

Whilst lots of our children attend our school as day pupils, being able to stay over at school, as part of our boarding community, provides families and their children with many benefits. In line with the demands of busy modern life, we offer a full range of boarding options to suit lots of different family circumstances.

## Full, weekly, or flexi?

### Full

For those with parents in the armed forces, as well as our overseas pupils, we offer full boarding for children as young as 7 years old. With a well-established Guardianship programme, as well as a dedicated Junior Boarding House at our Senior school site, children are happy and well-cared for.

### Weekly

As a Monday to Friday School, weekly boarders at Ranby House stay at school from Monday to Friday and go home on a Friday evening for the weekend.

### Flexi

Flexi-boarders stay at school for one, two to three days each week, going home for the remaining days in the week.

## Flexibility for busy families

Lives are increasingly busy, so we pride ourselves on catering for all types of family situation.

Offering an early morning on-site breakfast club; all meals and snacks are included - served in our purpose-built dining room, and are homemade and freshly prepared. Our activities programme, as well as homework club provides after-school support and can be tailored to suit the individual needs of each family.

Our childcare provision doesn't stop at the end of the day. Our flexi-boarding option is becoming increasingly popular with our Day pupils - offering a convenient and cost-effective way of cutting down on 'school run' requirements or accommodating evening activities and commitments during the week.



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**“I know it’s a school but it doesn’t feel like one, it is more like an extra home and extra family”**

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**ELSA**

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# Find us

We're located in 60 acres of beautiful North Nottinghamshire countryside, in a peaceful, rural location, and yet incredibly accessible.

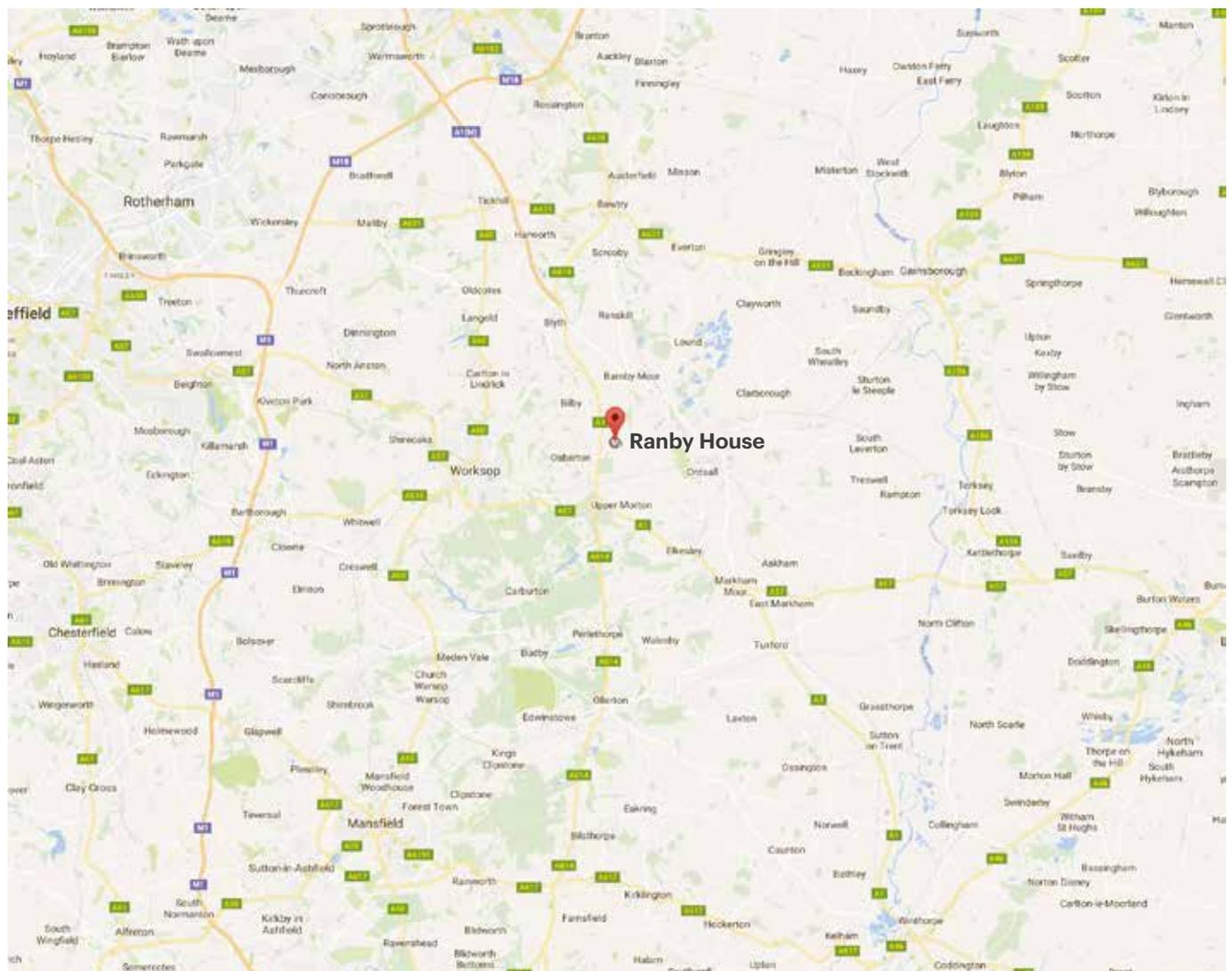
Located on the outskirts of Retford, we're just a few miles from the M1, with many of our children joining us every day from the towns and villages of Nottinghamshire, as well as Sheffield and Doncaster. We have an impressive fleet of minibuses, and many parents choose to use our extensive transport network to help with the school run.

**Ranby House, Retford**  
**Nottinghamshire, DN22 8HX**

# Get in touch

As well as our numerous open day events, we also encourage all families to come and have a personalised, individual tour. Please get in touch to come and visit us and find out if our school could be right for your family.

**admissions@wsnl.co.uk**  
**01909 537100**  
**wsnl.co.uk/prep**





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**Contact us**

Call 01909 537 100

Email [admissions@wsnl.co.uk](mailto:admissions@wsnl.co.uk)

[wsnl.co.uk/prep](http://wsnl.co.uk/prep)



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Leading  
Independent  
Schools

