



The  
**OliveTree**  
School  
| 3 to 16 year olds |

**Growing Hearts and Minds,  
Reaching Excellence**



# Welcome! to The Olive Tree School

| 3 to 16 year olds |

## Our much-loved school is now in its fourteenth year!

Since our beginning our aims and values remain the same: excitement for the world of ideas and learning is our priority for all ages.



## A pupil-centred school

We have relatively small class sizes, a maximum of 20 pupils, to ensure your child's learning is personalized, and to provide the best emotional support as your child grows.

## We are known for our Creative Approach

Our gallery of artwork, our theatre productions, our concerts and our engineering projects where maths comes to life. We are also committed to regular Forest School, fieldwork, gardening and other outdoor learning.

## Outstanding results at iGCSE

When young adults complete their time with us at 16, their exam results are well above the UK average. The result of an environment where learning is everyone's passion.

We'd love to meet you and your child.

Audrey Reeder



## Authorisations & Inspections

The Olive Tree School teaches the English National Curriculum to children aged between 3 and 16 and is inspected regularly by the British Council, represented in Spain by NABSS, The National Association of British Schools in Spain. Our Primary School was last inspected in March 2022, and our Secondary School in November 2020. British Council inspections take place every 4 years. We are authorised by the local government authority, the Education Department of the Generalitat as a private foreign education centre. Our registration number is 08075581

## A PUPIL-CENTRED SCHOOL. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE?

Our school follows the British government curriculum but the starting point is each pupil's current understanding and educational development. Every pupil has their own objectives for every hour of learning.

At The Olive Tree School we use a range of methods to personalize learning:

- Small classes (a maximum of 20) with excellent teacher to pupil ratios
- Sensory learning for younger children aged 3-6: nature, story, artwork, gardening, dance, drama, music, discovery
- Project-based learning in primary where Ancient Greece or the solar system come to life in 3D
- A thematic / cross-curricular approach in secondary, where abstract concepts are explored through all the disciplines e.g. Power, Migration, Energy, War & Peace
- A rich programme of arts subjects for all: two weekly hours of Music and Choir, weekly Drama lessons and an annual theatre production
- A wide range of sports including football, basketball, badminton, hockey & volleyball
- A strong system of emotional support: for younger children, warm daily dialogue; for older pupils, a personal mentor who provides regular supportive guidance
- Open doors to pupils to speak to teachers and headteachers at all times

## What Are The Results Of Pupil-centred Learning?

Research shows that the advantages are overwhelming:

- A confident child with high self-esteem
- An independent learner with strong organizational skills
- A free-thinking young adult who is not afraid of new challenges
- A balanced approach to learning and life
- Excellent listening and communication skills
- Excellent examination results & academic success in higher education



# Pre-School: Saplings

Saplings is the name of our pre-school, which combines our Nursery (aged 3) & Reception (aged 4) classes in the same lovely learning environment.

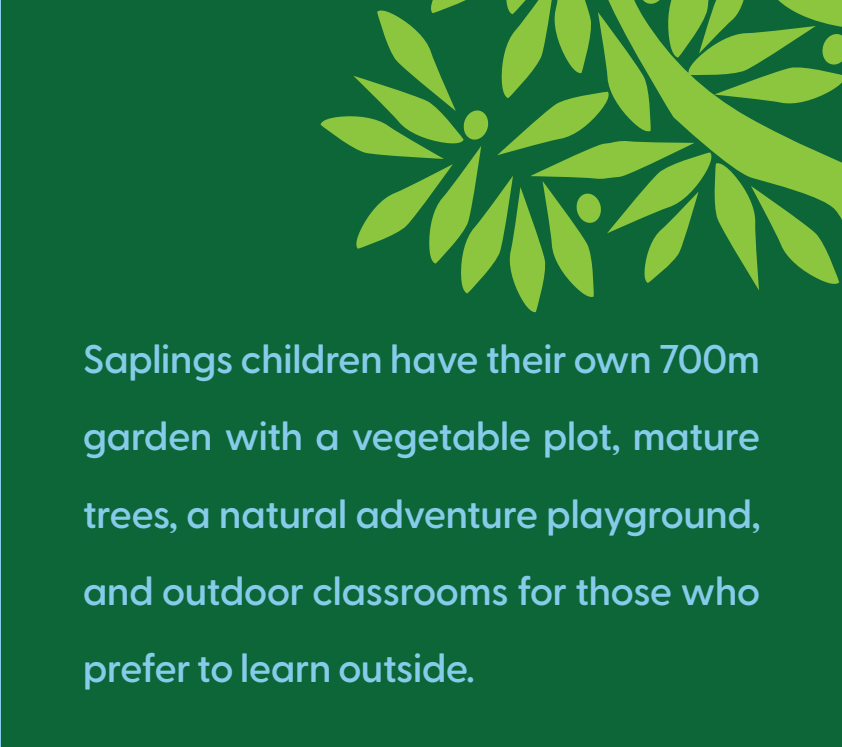
We nurture our youngest pupils so they can grow strong and healthy, ready to move into our primary school to continue their development.

A maximum of 24 children.  
3 teachers are always present, making for a ratio of 1 teacher to 8 children.

We create a warm, caring environment for their first steps in reading, numbers, early science, music and movement, art and drama.

“Saplings (young trees) is a safe, trusting, family focused space that encourages exploration and individuality”.

Saplings Leader:  
MARIANNE NEWTON  
PGCE In Primary Teaching  
Leeds Beckett University  
Bsc In Psychology With Drama,  
Manchester Metropolitan University



Saplings children have their own 700m garden with a vegetable plot, mature trees, a natural adventure playground, and outdoor classrooms for those who prefer to learn outside.



After lunch, our Reception children (4 and over) have one hour of free playtime in the big garden where they play with children of other ages. Our Nursery children (those aged between 3 and 4) have the option of having a short sleep or relaxing with stories and puzzles.

After lunch, we have a brain break session. We sit in a circle for a moment of peace and calm; we can talk about emotions and senses. Children work through any tension that they might be feeling.



## A Typical Day In Our Saplings Class

We start the day with our welcome session. Each child chooses a pillow, sits with a talk partner and asks each other how they are feeling today. They then sing the days of the week song and talk about the plan for the day.

In the mornings, there is a guided early reading group, a first steps in writing group and a maths and craft activity, led by a specialist teacher.



Our Saplings class provides a learning environment where children are encouraged to be independent and to develop self-confidence. It is spacious and has an airy, warm, family feel.

Areas include role-play, art table, cosy library, early writing table, maths table, ICT, construction, small world, creative zone, sensory area, sand and water. Our free-flow philosophy ensures children have constant access to learning in the garden.

There is a careful balance of focused activity with creative play opportunities.



During our afternoons, we have a wide range of activities which vary day-to-day, including our project work, yoga or guided meditation, cookery, art skills, sports and balance, quiet reading, music and movement, forest walks, drama and dance, and sensory integration.





# Our Primary School

Small is beautiful: We have a maximum of 20 children per class.

Between ages 5-7, there are two teachers in the class-room at all times, making for a teacher-pupil ratio of 1:10. Between ages 8-10, the qualified class teacher is supported by a learning support teacher all through the morning.

“Small classes make for personalized learning, closely guided by an adult”.

## Primary School Leaders:

**JOSH RUTLEDGE**  
Head of Key Stage One  
Incorporating Pre-school (Saplings) and Years 1 to 3  
BA Hons in Geography, Northumbria Univ.; PGCE, Sunderland Univ.

**ANNA JOHNSON**  
Head of Key Stage Two: Years 4 to 6  
BA Hons in Drama, York Univ.; PGCE Primary Education, York Univ.



NABSS Primary Inspection Report – March 2022.  
“Teachers demonstrate good subject knowledge and provide stimulating lessons that engage pupils. Teaching is highly personalised to be appropriate for each child and activities have a clear purpose. This results in the effective use of class time and high levels of student productivity.”

## Project-based learning

Our Primary curriculum is delivered through project-based learning. We do not use text books. For example, a project might be Ancient Egypt. Through this project, we explore history, geography, English, drama and art. It is an active approach where the child creates, builds, acts, cooks and discusses. In addition, pupils learn Music, Art & Design, Drama, Choir, PE, Spanish and Catalan.

Outdoor learning such as Forest School, and school trips to explore the local towns and coastline help children to understand their environment.

We have an exciting range of after-school clubs including Football, Taekwondo, Forest School, Musical Theatre and Multi-Sports. There is also a Teatime Club Mondays to Thursdays where children enjoy arts and crafts from 16.00 to 17.00.

Pupils have a voice in their School Council, where they have input into the running of their school and decisions which affect their daily experiences.

Once a month, parents are welcomed into the class-room from 15.30 to 16.00 to see some of the work the children have been doing which is displayed in the classrooms.

## Reporting & Parents’ Meetings

Parents receive a detailed report itemising development in the key skills areas three times a year: at the end of the first term and at the end of the school year. Parents meet the class teacher in a formal session to discuss their child’s progress and development three times a year, once each term. Parents can make an appointment at any time to speak to their child’s class teacher or a headteacher.

## Individual Support

Some children may need extra support to meet learning challenges. This may be because they have a learning difference such as dyslexia, or because they need some extra support with Maths, or English. Extra support may be required with their emotional and/or behavioural development. We have specialist teachers who provide individual support & tutoring for children who need it. The support programme is discussed with parents before implementation and is regularly reviewed and updated.





# Our Secondary Programme

## In-depth Learning Leading To Academic Success

At age 11, pupils enter secondary, which culminates at 16 in the British GCSE examinations.

Our strong academic success is based on an environment where each pupil is challenged and supported in their learning on an hourly basis. Our small class sizes of a maximum of 20 ensures each pupil is highly supported.

We are holistic: intellectual development is balanced between science, the arts (Drama, Music, and Art) and a wide range of sports.

## Our Secondary Environment

As pupils grow, they continue to access nature and beautiful spaces to foster great thinking.

They also have specialized spaces such as our theatre, the science laboratory and our large sports hall.

Our pupils also need homely areas to relax in and make their own: we have our colourful library area with sofas and self-study areas, a quiet garden, a graffiti wall, and a secondary café zone.



## Secondary School Leaders:

### AUDREY REEDER

Head Teacher

B.A. Hons. French & Span, Oxford Univ.; PGCE French, Oxford Univ.

### MARIA IRIARTE

Assistant Headteacher, Mathematics Teacher

BSc. Chemistry, Madrid Univ; M.A. Sustainable

Development, EOI, Madrid

PGCE Secondary and Primary, Nottingham University

## Pupil Welfare

A young adult needs warm, positive support from a trusted adult in order to grow socially and emotionally. Each pupil has regular meetings with the same trusted mentor, every two weeks as a minimum, more often if the pupil chooses.

Pupils also have at least 3 other trusted teachers to confide in: their class teacher, the assistant headteacher, Maria Iriarte and the headteacher, Audrey Reeder.

## Community

Our pupils develop their voice and social commitment: they do charity work, they debate at the Model United Nations conference in Madrid, they write and publish their ideas, and they debate and explore issues of global importance.

## Deep Thinking

High order thinking is part of every lesson: analysis, evaluation, justification and hypothesis are part of the creative thinking process.

We awaken curiosity in the wider world through our calendar of Inspiring Speakers who visit the school.

## Reporting & Parents' Meetings

Parents receive a detailed progress report four times per year. Parents meet the class teacher to discuss their child's progress and development at least twice a year. Some families meet the class teacher or the headteacher more frequently; meetings are held as and when they are needed.

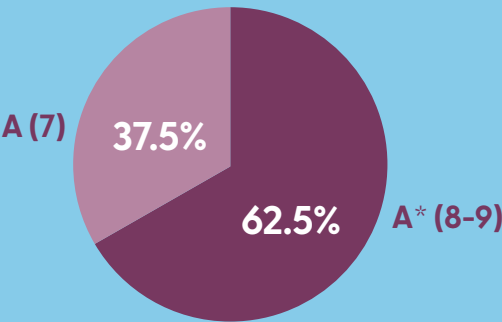
## Academic

We have a strong academic record; our 16-year olds' final exam (IGCSE) results are well above the UK national

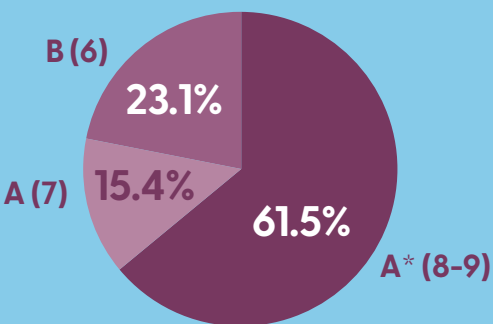
average. This is due to an environment of deep thinking and an excitement for learning.

Our message to our pupils is: aim high!

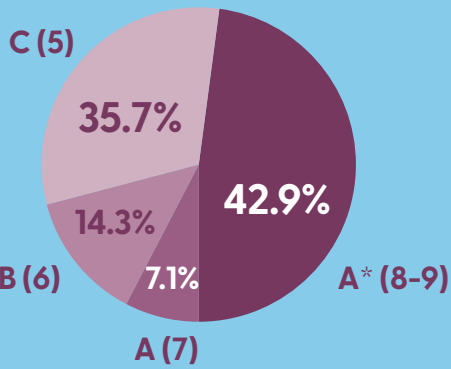
## MATHS IGCSE RESULTS 2023



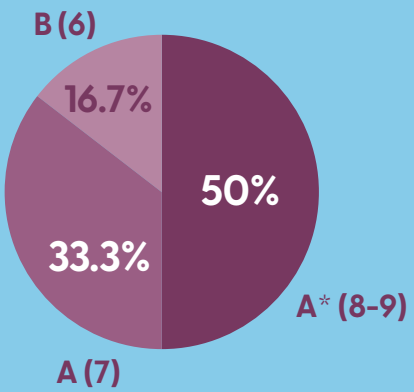
## ENGLISH IGCSE RESULTS 2023



## SCIENCE IGCSE RESULTS 2023



## HUMANITIES IGCSE RESULTS 2023





# Our Teachers

Our teachers are pupil-centred. What does this mean and how might we distinguish this from a more traditional teacher? Our teachers plan and create all of the learning in their classrooms; they don't follow textbooks.

- They speak much less than their pupils. The learning they create is exploratory: every hour is varied.
- The teacher models excitement about learning, reading, ideas; it's contagious!
- The teacher is non-judgemental and fosters tolerance for a range of viewpoints.
- The teacher is not looking for right/wrong answers but instead poses open questions designed to open young minds and launch the pupil into high order thinking.
- The teacher has a close bond with each pupil; a deep understanding makes for personalized objectives for each child and for effective emotional support when needed.
- The teacher is always calm and trains pupils in their own peaceful conflict resolution.



Marianne Newton



Joshua Rutledge



Anna Johnson



Aeysha Mendham



Aileen Hamilton



Aina Bosch



Brooke Cairns



Maria Iriarte



Zoe Simmons



Will Smith



Hannah Tait



Jara Sanchez-Ocaña



Joan Bonastre



Lulu Melotte



Lindsay Corr



Cam Lamont



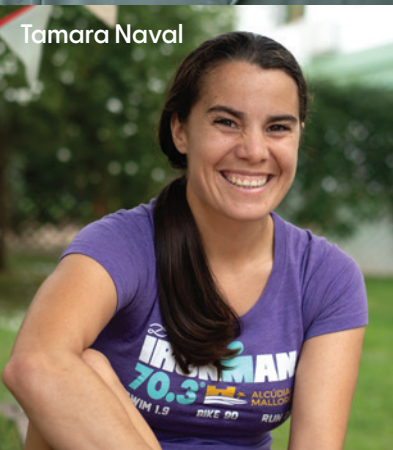
Annette Pollard



Marie Fowler



Paula Hetherington



Tamara Naval

## After School Clubs

- Taekwondo
- Football
- Junior & Senior Teatime Club (Arts & Crafts)
- Junior & Senior Musical Theatre Club
- Padel Club
- Multi-sports Club
- Individual Music Tuition
- LAMDA – drama, acting and singing exams

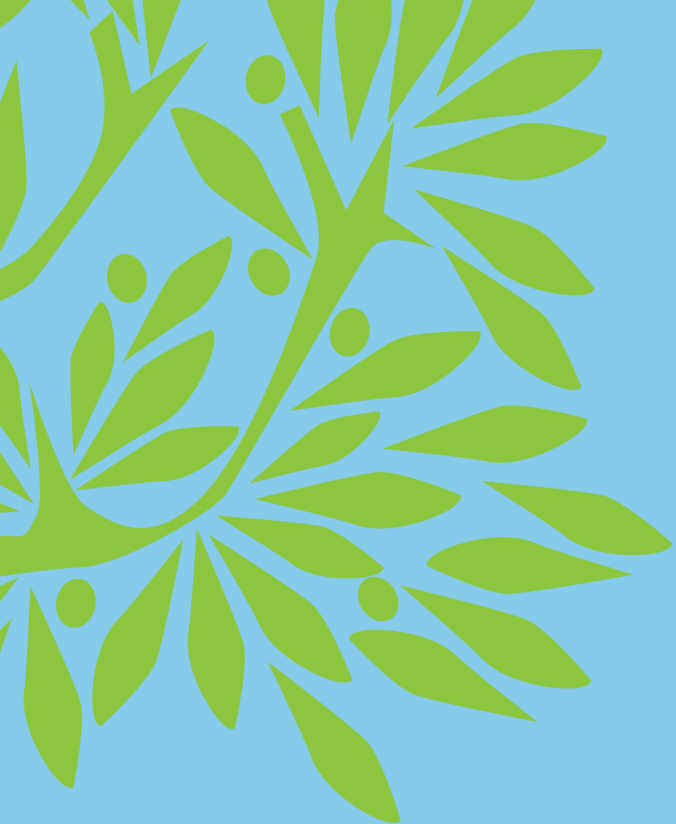
## School Lunch Provider

### Art de Cook

Our children benefit from a 3 course Mediterranean diet every day supplied by our catering provider, which specialises in locally sourced, nutritious, healthy food.

[www.artdecook.com](http://www.artdecook.com)





## DISCOVER OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Q K C E A J L G Z A  
D S E I D H L D K O L H W L  
T G S W F G Y V Q U A I V O N G E C  
O P N J G B E K J E U F O U E C L U K V  
T Y Z L C W Z T A B Y P S U O O B L F Y Q S  
X J B G O Z A K V X X B D B J S R S C S K C E G  
E B T K Q V C U M J P E P Y B R W K Q S Q K J H A  
P L M Z Y N Q E L J B R I T I S H K A C X L I S I V  
I E P I L X G F T K O L L T T N F A M I L I A R H B L K  
O E F A P M L G U V Q H P K Z B B S C R E A T I V E P D  
M U X E H T Q A T U T C H S D J Q Q N E A K N H B F C W A P  
N X H B E N G A G I N G P P V G I X E D E V E L O P M E N T  
Y Z N E P E N C O U R A G E T N D O K S E D Y F R O W P B C  
B F Y J O B X O B T T D C W G J D P Y J O K N J U O K G M R  
A Q E X Y A L O H J R E S P E C T O L M D F T C D X V Z O B  
D B K F J Y K K Q S J O V E R C O M E A I A X U X S L W M C  
J A H O U O C N F C W O S R C V I S D S Y Y A X U G C C Y G  
G E I N S P I R I N G F D W B O C C D S C F K I C E T A V E  
H I R W L F U C J D I Z Q P G A F K H S M J U K U S D R J X  
Y U H D Y B L L L J C J C T J M A R A I E U I L B O G E P R  
F U L F I L L E B S Z I A Y O N F C L L V I Q T Q M N J  
S B Y T K L Y I X J R K I N D N E S S S D R F Y M K L Q  
T T L H T E H J A C A D E M I C A G P I C T C K N E  
P Y F K L X A X O D V C D Z U A D I V E R S I T Y V  
V M C A O P R G Q K F P O T E N T I A L P Z N K  
Y N P A I J E N O U T S T A N D I N G V W R S  
U A L F T N I F R D E T M S U Z D P V Z  
J K N A X W N E X C E L L E N C E V  
O Z O J X G Z P H Y U Z B I  
R N W F V D Z E K R

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Want To Schedule A Visit?  
Contact Us!  
We Will Be Glad To Answer Your Questions:

[admissions@olivetreeschool.cat](mailto:admissions@olivetreeschool.cat)

[www.theolivetreeschool.es](http://www.theolivetreeschool.es)

