

 **A FOUNDATION  
FOR LIFE...**



**Princethorpe College**

An independent school for 11-18 year olds

**A Princethorpe Foundation School**

**2026**

## Early Offer Scheme

(For current Foundation Pupils in Year 5)

For those parents who choose to opt in, we are now running an Early Offer Scheme, which will allow us to make early offers of places to pupils whilst they are still in Year 5 at Crackley Hall School and Crescent School.

### How will the Early Offer Scheme Work?

The Early Offer Scheme will go through a similar process to our traditional entrance exams but allows us to prioritise the applications from the Foundation Prep schools and leverage the unique relationship we have within the schools in the Foundation.

Currently pupils in our prep schools already sit standardised assessments from Year 3 onwards in English, Mathematics and undertake a number of free writing tasks in class. For those who register for the Early Offer Scheme, these assessment scores would be made available to Princethorpe College for the Admissions Panel to review. This will show academic progress and trajectory over time and remove the possibility of a pupil "having a bad day".

Additionally Early Offer Scheme candidates would undertake an online assessment which would be administered in their current school setting by Princethorpe staff.

Once the online assessment has been completed, the Princethorpe College Admissions Panel will consider all the relevant information and early offers will be made as appropriate in the second half of the summer term.

### What is the timetable for the 2026 Early Offer Scheme?

Date	Event
Tuesday 29 April 2025	Crescent Year 5 Taster Day and Parents' Information Session and Tour
Thursday 1 May 2025	Crackley Hall Year 5 Taster Day and Parents' Information Session and Tour
Tuesday 6 May 2025	Registration deadline for Early Offer Scheme
May 2025	Online assessment at prep schools
May 2025	Collation and analysis of information for the Princethorpe Admissions Panel
Wednesday 4 June 2025	Princethorpe Open Evening
June 2025	Early Offer Admissions Panel sits
Thursday 12 June 2025	Early Offers communicated to parents

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Are all pupils who are registered for the Early Offer Scheme guaranteed places?

No, however, whilst there is not an absolute guarantee of an early offer, we want to prioritise current Foundation pupils and to be able to make offers unless there is a significant concern that we could not meet a child's individual needs.

Over the last few years the overwhelming majority of pupils from our prep schools who have applied for places have been offered a place. There have been a very small number of occasions when the Admissions Panel has felt that the College would be unable to best meet the needs of a pupil.

## What are the benefits of this Early Offer Scheme?

- Parents who are considering Princethorpe will know whether their child will have a place five months earlier
- Foundation pupils who are hoping to go to Princethorpe will have a more bespoke assessment based on their performance over a longer period and will not have the pressure of a big exam day
- Foundation pupils will not need to sit the Entrance Examinations in November, unless they are keen to be considered for an Academic Scholarship, in which case they will sit the exams secure in the knowledge that they already have a place
- 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"

## What if my child has SEND or an additional need?

You should indicate this on your registration form, and we will request supporting documents for our panel to review (including, for example, Personal Learning Plan/Pupil Passport/One Page Profile (PLP), Individualised Education Plan (IEP), Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), Educational Psychologist Report, SEND Specialist Assessment Report, Autism Diagnosis Report, Medical Report or Therapist Report).

The SENCOs at the schools already meet regularly to share and develop good practice. 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. Whilst we do successfully support children with a range of SEND needs, we are not a specialist school, and there are occasions where, despite adjustments, we are not able to meet a prospective pupil's needs.

## What if my child is not offered a place under the Early Offer Scheme?

We are fully aware that not all children develop academically, emotionally and socially at the same rate. It may be that for some pupils with potential later development, waiting until the entrance exams in November gives them a bit more time to mature. This is something to discuss with the Head of the school if you have concerns.

If a pupil registers for early entry 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.

## Is there anything extra my child needs to do to prepare if they enter for the Early Offer Scheme?

No, the teachers in the Foundation Prep schools will ensure that they are fully prepared and that the children feel confident about the online assessment.

## Is it compulsory to register for the Early Offer Scheme?

No. If you don't feel this is best for your child that is fine. You are also free to register by the normal deadline at the end of September, if you change your mind and do wish to sit the Entrance Exams in November.

## Do we have to accept a place earlier if we get an early offer?

No. The early offer holds and will be confirmed at the end of November, when any scholarships or bursaries will also be confirmed. The place is guaranteed until the common acceptance deadline in early March 2026, though of course you are welcome to accept the place offered at any stage before then.

## What if I want my child to apply for a scholarship?

Those pupils wishing to apply for a scholarship, will need to participate in the appropriate scholarship assessment, in the case of Academic Scholarships this would be the Entrance Exams in November. For Art, Performing Arts (Choral, Dance, Drama, Music and Musical Theatre) and Sport, there are specific assessment sessions which would need to be applied for and participated in.

Parents can indicate when they register if they wish to apply for any of the scholarships and should complete an application for the specific scholarship by Friday 26 September 2025.

You will be asked when the early offer is made whether you wish your child to sit the Entrance Exams on Saturday 8 November 2025 in order to be considered for an Academic Scholarship.

## What if I want to apply for a Bursary Award?

You would still need to apply via our online system. Once registered please contact [feessupport@princethorpe.co.uk](mailto:feessupport@princethorpe.co.uk) to be sent a link to the system. Those children applying for a Bursary would also need to sit the Entrance Exams in November to be considered alongside the other bursary applicants.

## Who actually makes the decision as to whether my child is offered a place?

The decision will rest with the Princethorpe College Admission Panel, chaired by Mr du Toit, the Headmaster. Mr Hester will have an overview as Foundation Principal.

## Any questions?

If you have any further questions about the Scheme or admissions to the College please don't hesitate to contact Catherine Rogers, Registrar and Georgia Newborough, Assistant Registrar at [admissions@princethorpe.co.uk](mailto:admissions@princethorpe.co.uk) or call 01926 634201/297 and they will be happy to help.



Scan the QR code for the 2026 Admissions and Entrance Examinations Booklet, for full information on Scholarships.



Scan the QR code for the Online Registration Form.