

24th May 2024

Dear Parents

The Moulsford Governors and Senior Management Team work extremely closely together to ensure that the school is in the strongest position to provide an education of the highest quality for both current and future Moulsford pupils.

With this objective in mind and after careful consideration, we are very excited to announce that from September 2026, Moulsford Prep School will take the next step towards full co-education. From this date, girls will be able to join Year 3 and progress through the school, year on year.

Our Pre-Prep (Pre-School to Year 2) has already successfully transitioned to co-education and by September 2026 (when girls currently in Reception will naturally progress into Year 3), the school will have girls in every year group. For children currently in Year 1 and above there will be very little noticeable change. We have outlined the progression for each year group in [this table](#).

With Year 3 becoming co-educational in September 2026, this allows the school plenty of time to finalise preparations for this transition, including any necessary adjustments to the curriculum, pastoral care, sports provision, facilities and infrastructure. Ben Beardmore-Gray will be sharing the plans with you in detail over the coming months, and will also be inviting input from Moulsford parents.

Societal changes form the background to this decision, with families, including many Moulsford families, increasingly seeking to educate their children together and in a co-educational environment. This is reflected across the independent sector which is seeing a clear shift towards co-education and the foreseeable political and economic changes are expected to accelerate this direction of travel. Moulsford is currently in a position of strength, from which we are able to make well considered and long-term strategic decisions. Our move towards full co-education reflects both the societal and sector changes that we are witnessing, together with our desire to support families in providing an outstanding education for both their sons and daughters. Both the Board and Senior Management Team will continue to monitor the impact of these changes on the school and will respond as necessary.

We are confident that the transition will be successful knowing that Moulsford is able to draw upon significant co-educational expertise within its existing team. Prior to leading Moulsford, Ben and Sarah Beardmore-Gray jointly ran Mowden Hall, a very successful co-educational school for seven years. Similarly, Tiffany Squire (Deputy Head), Vicki Rae (Assistant Head-Pastoral from September 2024), Caroline Scriven (Assistant Head-Academic from September 2024) and Lee Chaffey (Director of Sport) have many years of co-educational leadership and teaching experience between them. Amy Gemmell, who joins Moulsford as Head of Pre-Prep in January 2025 has run a very successful co-educational Pre-Prep of 180 children at Hornsby House for the past six years. In addition, the majority of Moulsford's teachers have previously taught in co-educational schools.

This change will mean that from September 2026, Moulsford will be able to provide our future prep school girls with the same high level of education and the wonderful opportunities that Moulsford boys have experienced over the past sixty-three years. A successful and vibrant co-educational Moulsford will enrich the lives and broaden the horizons of all its pupils and the wider school community, and we are extremely excited about welcoming girls into the Prep School.

Edward Boddington **Chairman of the Governing Body**

Moulsford Preparatory School, Moulsford-on-Thames, Oxon, OX10 9HR

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MOULSFORD

We recognise that this will be a big adjustment for many of our current parents who have only known the school as all boys. However, the key distinguishing feature of a Moulsford education has always been the quality of our offering in all areas: academic, pastoral and extra-curricular and this will not change. As a co-educational school we will continue to provide an outstanding education for both boys and girls, preparing them for a wide range of leading day and boarding senior schools in the country. Our goal remains the happiness and fulfilment of every child, and the school's values of *Kindness, Courage and Curiosity* will be key in supporting this aim.

Naturally a change of this nature may prompt a number of questions. Please [click here](#) for more information. We will be holding webinars after half term when you can find out more, and we would also be very happy to talk individually with any parents who would like further information.

Thank you to parents for all the wonderful support that you show for the school in so many ways. It is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Boddington
Chair of Governors

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