



KILGRASTON SCHOOL

JUNIOR YEARS · SENIOR · SIXTH FORM



JUNIOR YEARS

WELCOME TO KILGRASTON'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our Junior School introduces pupils to our special Kilgraston care; the happy atmosphere of a family blended with an educational environment that encourages young children to develop to the very best of their individual abilities in sport, music, art, drama, technology and academics.

The Kilgraston Junior School is for children aged between five and twelve years with boarding available for girls aged eight and over.

The focus is clearly on intellectual development, encouraging natural curiosity, personal endeavour, determination and achievement in all areas of the curriculum. Emphasis is placed on skills that allow individual pupils to pursue their learning in the classroom and beyond.

At the top of our Junior School pupils are given responsibilities such as House Captains, Sports Captains,



prefects or buddies. Children of all ages also join our Pupil Council, 'Eco' Committee, Charities Committee or become Librarians to help to develop their social awareness.

All of the Junior School pupils have a BFG assigned to them (a Big Friendly Girl). BFGs are Upper Sixth pupils who play a 'big sister' role to younger pupils and younger children can turn to their BFG at any time.





‘Learners have very positive and nurturing relationships with their teachers and with each other. Very positive interactions across the junior years are evident.’

HMI Report, February, 2019

WHAT WE TEACH AND WHERE WE GO

We are extremely fortunate to have a varied and dynamic curriculum in Junior School. Each day, there are six lessons, covering a wealth of academic subjects and skills. Maths and literacy lessons are taught daily. The curriculum also includes an exciting science programme filled with experiments and inquiry-based learning. Modern languages, PE, RE and Expressive Arts are all popular subjects and music often fills the glass atrium where Juniors meet for our morning activities programme (including yoga, circus skills and singing). A broad variety of after-school activities augments the curriculum and finishes the school day.

Outdoor education, in the grounds at Kilgraston and beyond, is embedded in our teaching. Our termly topics often feature an exciting class trip, which brings history or geography to life. Recent visits include educational excursions to the Science Centre, Scottish Parliament, V&A Dundee, National Museum of Scotland and the Titanic Museum in Belfast.

The Eco club are keen ambassadors and actively campaign against single use plastics and plan to recycle plastic bottles into a kayak to launch in the burn, which runs through the School grounds. Becoming a rewilding school and a sanctuary for native species is their next ambitious step.



EXPRESSIVE ARTS IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Kilgraston prides itself on its strength in Expressive Arts, and it starts with our Junior School. Our pupils have one Music lesson each week in class which focuses on singing, learning musical notation, playing various instruments and listening to different styles of music. All pupils in our Junior School are part of the choir and some may also be invited to join the Junior School orchestra. There is also the option to take instrumental or singing lessons with specialist music teachers.

Art is embedded into our weekly curriculum with pupils getting the chance to paint and draw as part of the class topics. This includes a variety of items such as our Reception and Lower First classes making their very own Viking Boat.

Each class also receives one Drama lesson each week, either with the class teacher or with our specialist drama teacher. For those looking to strengthen their performing skills, each term we have a Junior Showcase; the perfect platform to perform individually to an audience. Kilgraston also hosts House competitions in subjects such as music, art and poetry, and these involve pupils from Reception up to Upper Sixth.

Kilgraston Juniors also feature prominently in a number of external events including our annual spectacular Christmas concert at Perth Concert Hall, and the Perform in Perth competition where we always take home a huge number of awards for categories including music, reciting poetry and singing. Our superb Junior School show takes place each year, where all our Junior Year pupils can dance, sing, and act.





“When I first came to Kilgraston my expectations were normal and not very high, but within a quarter of the day, I had fallen in love with the school. I enjoyed all of the fun lessons and activities they had available, and everywhere I looked I could see smiles.”

THE LIFE OF A JUNIOR SCHOOL PUPIL

“A Kilgraston day is like every other school, but better in every way. Your very first lesson depends on the timetable, but it will probably be Maths, English or Social Studies.

“The lunches at Kilgraston are amazing; delicious, wonderful, great; did I say delicious already? Sorry, it’s just they are very good.

“At breaktime you can visit the obstacle course and go on the little bars or the wobble bridge and down into a big space where there are lots of trees and another obstacle course, monkey bars and a balancing chain.

“On the first break you can have a snack and find out what’s for lunch and run around. At lunchtime break, you can still run around, or you can go to a club like, netball, musical theatre, sewing or magazine club, and that is how I got to write this article.

“One of the main events is St Andrew’s Day, where all of the Junior Year classes join in. It is an amazing event, everyone dances with their classmates and teachers and, if you wanted to, you could dance with your mum and dad. So if you come to watch this event, you might find yourself up on the dance floor!

“And that is my school! This is my first school that I have loved from the very first day and if you like this article, I hope I see you soon. Oh, and I just want to say... COME TO KILGRASTON.”

Niamh





SPORT

As well as practising skills for particular games, our pupils take part in specific sports such as hockey, rounders, netball, gymnastics, tennis, athletics and swimming. Pupils may play matches against other schools from Upper 2 upwards. Junior Years pupils have PE lessons on three days each week, one of which is a swimming lesson in Kilgraston's fantastic indoor 25 metre pool.

'A significant number of school staff offer regular and meaningful opportunities for the girls to take part in a vast range of outdoor pursuits and extra-curricular experiences.'

HMI Report, February 2019





JUNIOR YEARS BOARDING

Mater boarding house and Austin dormitories are home to our junior and middle school boarders. The youngest members – from eight to twelve years of age live in the Austin dorms. Each dorm houses either three or four girls and has its own shower and toilet facilities as well as a common room. At thirteen, most girls are given their own study bedroom in Mater. Each spacious and bright room is fitted with a comfortable single bed, a desk and ample storage space.

Boarding gives pupils a feeling that they have 'come home' once they head back to the residential area after school. After activities there is some quiet time to get homework completed with support from the boarding team before supper. In the evening, if you take a walk through boarding, it is not unusual to find one group of girls playing monopoly whilst another is experimenting with some Chemistry, making the ubiquitous 'slime'.

The girls from all Kilgraston's boarding areas come together at mealtimes, and the Sixth Form girls help out and visit Austin and Mater almost every day. It is also common to see (and hear) all our boarders on the front lawn enjoying a massive game of 'Capture the Flag'.

There is no doubt that boarding forges a community atmosphere where lifelong friends are made; girls don't only look after themselves; they need to live and work with others of all ages.





FOOD

Kilgraston is proud to have its own fantastic in-house catering team. We aim to inspire excellent eating habits, so that children understand the benefits of eating well.

We encourage our pupils to take a 'colourful' plate each day at lunchtime, and there is a huge amount of choice including a well-stocked salad bar, soup and main dish options.

Kilgraston provides morning snack each day, and a snack after school if the pupil is staying on to take part in activities or study club; we also provide packed lunches when we go out on trips.

'Across the junior years, children are happy and enjoy being at school. They are supportive of each other in class and more widely across the school community.'

HMI Report, February 2019





Experience Kilgraston School, come and visit us.

01738 812 257 | admissions@kilgraston.com

 [@Kilgraston](https://twitter.com/Kilgraston)  [@kilgrastonschool](https://facebook.com/kilgrastonschool)

Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn, Perth, PH2 9BQ | www.kilgraston.com