



SUPERANS CONANDO

# Coopersale Hall School

Epping's Leading Independent Preparatory School  
Girls & Boys aged 2 1/2 to 11

## HISTORY

Coopersale Hall's extensive buildings and grounds are steeped in history. The main Grade 2 listed building is an imposing mansion house set in some seven acres of beautiful grounds, lawns and playing areas all accessed by a private tree-lined lane.

### 16TH CENTURY

Coopersale Hall was once part of the Copped Hall estate, which passed to Elizabeth I in 1558. In 1562 she set up a Commission that planted the evergreen holm oak of our school badge.

### 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

The present country house was built around 1776. A print on display in the library shows the house as it was then. In the 1890s the artist Lucien Pissarro painted several pictures of Coopersale Hall, which was then owned by Mr Flux (who gave his name to our private drive, Flux's Lane).

### 20TH CENTURY

Coopersale Hall was owned by Lord Lyle, a director of Tate & Lyle and MP for Epping. During World War II, the Hall was a convalescent home for wounded officers and was associated with Sir Winston Churchill, MP for Epping in 1924, who is known to have visited.

In 1988 Coopersale Hall was acquired by the Hagger family and the school was opened in April 1989. Lord Tebbit MP was guest of honour at the formal opening ceremony. A rapid modernisation and expansion programme followed. A converted Orangery-ballroom has become the School's Assembly Hall and the cottage in the grounds houses some of our infant and junior classes. From the York stone terrace at the back of the Hall, a path leads to the adventure playground, Astroturf pitch, infants' play area and landscaped gardens.

### 21ST CENTURY

In 2011 a new 4 classroom block and extra playgrounds was officially opened and in 2013 an outside classroom was provided by the Parents' Association and a nature reserve was formed in the grounds.

## LOCATION

Coopersale Hall School is only two minutes from Epping High Street, and Central Line Station making it a perfect choice for local Epping families and those from the surrounding towns and villages such as North Weald, Harlow, Abridge and Ongar. Additionally many families travel from Woodford, Buckhurst Hill, Chigwell and Loughton.

## THE OAK-TREE GROUP OF SCHOOLS

Coopersale Hall School belongs to the Oak-Tree Group of Schools, which includes Normanhurst School in North Chingford and Oaklands School in Loughton. A successful group of local independent schools, all three are operated with the same aims of excellence and care, being owned and run by qualified educationalists who have much experience in the specialist world of teaching and learning.



# Coopersale Hall School

EPPING'S LEADING INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL





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# WELCOME TO COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL

**This prospectus has been designed to be read alongside our website to give you a flavour of how much Coopersale Hall School is able to offer you and your child.**

As a dedicated preparatory school we are committed to preparing children for Senior schools – selective and non-selective - from both the state and independent private sectors.

Many parents rely on our expertise, knowledge and close relationships with the preferred senior schools in the area. You can read more about our 11+ preparation in this prospectus and on the website.

We offer an excellent academic education, many opportunities for musical or dramatic achievement and an extensive range of sports, clubs and activities.

Above all, however, we recognise that you are looking for the best education possible for your child and we aim to provide just that.

Our parents enjoy the regular contact with their children's teachers to discuss progress and welfare. We pride ourselves on our communication with, and commitment to, the families who entrust their children to us and we share your aspirations to access the very best.

Our success rate at getting children into their first choice senior school at the end of Year 6 is outstanding, as is the

wide range of extra-curricular clubs that offer so many new and exciting opportunities for your child.

At Coopersale Hall, we place great emphasis on helping each child achieve his or her full potential, building self-esteem, encouraging high aspirations, having good manners, being polite and respectful and developing the ability to work together with fellow pupils and adults. We are proud of our happy, nurturing atmosphere and our ability to challenge bright learners or support children who require a little extra help.

Don't just take my word for it – please do get to know us better by coming for a personalised tour and discussion with me about your child's education and how much we can offer. There's a wealth of information on our website, including our latest newsletters. Do take a look at our latest inspection report, which was very complimentary about our lovely school.

I look forward to meeting you soon.



Miss Kaye Lovejoy A.D.B.Ed., Cert. Ed., B.Ed (Hons)  
Headmistress





# COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL: AN EXCELLENT CHOICE

## A Dedicated Prep School:

We specialise in preparing children for senior school education, and this begins at the earliest of ages by gaining confidence, good social skills and respect for others in Early Years and Key Stage 1. By the time they become Juniors at Key Stage 2, they have already gained excellent learning habits and a solid start in our nurturing and familiar environment.

We develop their learning over the Years 3 to 6 to ensure that they are ready for the external examinations into a wide range of selective senior schools and prepare them for the challenges of senior school life.

Most children spend the first 7 to 8 years of their educational career with us and this is where the foundations of excellence are laid, ready for the next 7 years at senior school.

## Partnership with Parents:

We value our close relationships with parents and consult with you on a regular basis. From formal parent/teacher consultations, to drop-in meetings and informal coffee morning chats with the Group Principal and Headmistress.

Parents are also welcome at exhibitions, performances, sports days, our annual Prize Day celebrations, Christmas Concerts and Nativity plays. Parents are encouraged to be involved in the life of the school and some accompany school trips or help out at school events.

## Outstanding Pastoral Care:

Parents and inspectors praise the excellent relationships between staff and pupils, together with our outstanding pastoral care.

As we are a relatively small school, we get to know every child. This familiarity helps us to encourage, support, develop and extend. Any problems are picked up and dealt with quickly. Each child's class teacher see his or her class throughout the day and all staff, including the Headmistress, are available to discuss any issues.

## Learning outside the Classroom:

We make the most of our location, taking learning outside the classroom for subjects such as Art, Science and Geography. In addition to our seven acre site, we use a number of excellent local sports facilities and offer a wide range of sports throughout the school. Trips and outings form an important part of the curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 6.

## A Personalised Education:

Our teaching groups give pupils a more personalised experience so they can reach their individual potential and make the maximum progress possible. If children require extra support, our SENDCo is on hand to assess and recommend appropriate levels.

If children are showing that they can progress at a higher level, then more challenging work will be set to ensure that they are stretched and engaged.

## Breakfast & Teatime Clubs, Holiday Activities:

We offer a Breakfast Club and Teatime Club for pupils from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Breakfast Club is available from 7.30am and Teatime Club runs until 6pm. We also provide holiday activity clubs in Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays

## Extra-curricular Activities:

There is a broad extra-curricular programme providing enriching opportunities for pupils to develop new skills, participate in sports and enjoy a range of creative and musical activities. An extensive list of over 40 clubs and activities is updated regularly on our website.

## 11+ Senior School Entrance Exam Success:

Our aim is for pupils in the Juniors to become self-confident and well-prepared for their chosen schools when they leave us at the end of Year 6. Coopersale Hall pupils are recognised by many of the top selective independent schools as pupils who have good work ethics and an enthusiastic attitude to learning. We have a 'can do' culture in which children of all abilities do well at all stages.









# EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE: KINDERGARTEN AND TRANSITION (2½-5 YEARS)

Happy children learn well, so our emphasis at this stage is on making learning fun.

Children enjoy learning in our bright, airy classrooms and outside play areas. We encourage them to express their ideas and we highlight the importance of kindness, sharing, good manners and listening to others.

Lower Kindergarten caters for children ranging from 2½ to 3 years. Children enter the class in the term in which they have their third birthday. Upper Kindergarten takes children from 3 to 4 years.

Parents are able to tailor-make their child's schooling in our Kindergarten classes, with options ranging from a minimum of three mornings' attendance to full time over five days. During the sessions pre-reading, writing and number skills are developed through a variety of activities that include art, environmental studies and physical activities. Upper Kindergarten also offers specialist teachers for Music, Dance, French and P.E.

Transition Class is for children in the year they are 5. As well as specialist Music and Dance teachers, pupils in Transition also have specialist teachers in French, ICT and PE.

The curriculum is based on seven areas of learning: Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Literacy; Mathematics; Understanding the World; Expressive Arts and Design.

Children begin to develop their reading and writing skills following a phonics-based 'letters and sounds' programme. They take part in assemblies, school events and sports day. They enjoy gardening, craft, stories, imaginative play, music and PE. Recently, there was a visit from Animal Ark, who brought various farm animals into school for the children to learn about and hold.

Our children watched in amazement as eggs, incubated at school, hatched into chicks in the classroom. We are very keen to use our fabulous setting to enhance the learning experience.



## Home-School Links:

We understand that learning begins before a pupil joins us, so we spend time getting to know families and finding out about each child. To help parents understand what goes on at school, each child has a home - school journal. This journal holds drawings, photographs, and written work from the classroom. Families can add similar pictures and material from home life to help our young learners make connections between school and home. You will have close contact with your child's keyworker to help them settle in to school happily.

We observe pupils as they progress, making sure that the more able are extended and our specialist support teachers help children who require additional help.

## Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

Pupils in Transition Classes can also take part in some extra-curricular activities such as piano, Spanish, fencing (Little Musketeers), Mini Reds (LTA Tennis) and Rainbows. Breakfast and Teatime clubs are also available should you wish to extend the school day.

Easter, Summer and Christmas Holiday clubs are also available.

## Excellent...

*"My daughter could not have been given a better start to her school life. The staff were so supportive and caring. It's not just my daughter who's been looked after, but me as well, as a first time mother"*

*Transition Class Mother*







# INFANTS: YEARS 1 & 2 (5-7 YEARS)

**The enthusiasm for learning and the excellent relationships with teachers continue into Years 1 and 2.**

There is a smooth handover from the Early Years into Transition that provides effective continuity for the children. We follow the national learning strategies from Year 1 upwards, enhanced by the introduction of French, Drama, Computing, Music and PE taught by specialist teachers.

Each child is treated as an individual with their needs formally and informally assessed. We use a specific system of assessment, PIPS (Performance Indicators in Primary Schools), to give us a picture of your child's attainment against nationally expected levels. Regular class assessments help our teachers to monitor progress in different areas of learning and to adjust and differentiate their teaching accordingly.

## English:

Children regularly read to an adult as they progress through our phonics-based 'letters and sounds' reading scheme. Reading record books help parents to share reading at home, and children are encouraged to talk about what they have read and to begin to read more widely.

Children are given spellings to learn each week and they are encouraged to apply the spelling patterns to their own writing. They develop their writing skills and use basic punctuation. Handwriting skills are practised and they are encouraged to form their letters and numbers correctly.

## Mathematics:

Pupils continue to develop their number skills and by the end of Year 2 will use addition and subtraction, and will be learning about multiplication and simple division.

The topics include: shape and space, time, handling data, money and measuring. Numeracy is taught in a practical way using games and problem-solving.

Children are encouraged to enjoy Maths and to become confident with core mathematical principles such as number bonds and times tables.

## Additional Subject Areas:

Children have a broad range of other subjects across the week that include Science, Computing, Music, PE, French, RE, Art and DT, Geography, History and PSHE. Learning is further enhanced with trips and outings.

Learning is not confined to the classroom. We use our spacious grounds and classes are often held outside. We invite a number of visitors to school who help the children understand more about the world in which they live. Recently we had a visit from the Fire Service, the Police, a nurse and the Essex Air Ambulance. Children also went on trips to the Tower of London and the Barbican for a Music Workshop.

## Home - School Links:

A small amount of homework reinforces the work done in class and helps to involve parents in their children's learning.



There are regular parent coffee mornings, class assemblies, formal parent evenings, written bi-annual reports and, most importantly, an open door policy whereby parents are welcome to discuss their children's progress and development with their teachers at regular intervals.

We also run a number of Parent Workshops to assist parents with helping at home. Recently these have included "Parlez-vous Français?" and "Science in the Home".

## Extra-curricular Opportunities:

Pupils take part in the House competitions, as well as in assemblies and many other school events.

Spanish, Multisports, Fencing, French, LAMDA Speech & Drama, Tennis, Flute, Piano and Violin, Rainbows and Karate are some of the clubs and activities on offer to this age group.

Breakfast and Teatime clubs are available to children who need to extend the school day. Easter, Summer and Christmas Holiday clubs are also available.

# Excellent...

*"I have two children at school in both Infants and Juniors. Both children are very happy and love going to school"*

*Infant and Junior Father*







# JUNIORS: YEARS 3 TO 6 (7-11 YEARS)

**This is where you will see the main benefits of choosing a dedicated independent preparatory school for your child.**

Throughout Years 3 to 6 we are preparing your child for entry into senior education at 11+. Pupils are taught in small teaching groups that offer excellent pupil-staff ratios, enabling teachers to get to know them well and to plan for their individual needs.

Specialist teachers in many subjects help the class teachers to bring out the best in your child. Whether he or she has academic, artistic or sporting talents, there are huge opportunities for pupils to try new pursuits.

Our extensive range of clubs and societies means that by the time they leave at age 11, they will have had the opportunity to try a variety of activities such as fencing, golf, Spanish, country dancing, speech and drama and a wide array of musical instruments.

Happy children achieve more and this is borne out by our consistently excellent academic results in 11+ independent schools' examinations.

## Curriculum:

All pupils follow a programme that includes English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, French, Music, Geography, History, RE, Art, Design Technology, Drama, PSHE, Reasoning and PE.

We are guided by the National Curriculum but always aim to offer a richer learning experience, such as looking for opportunities for trips and visits and tailoring the learning to meet the individual needs of the pupil. The most able are challenged and extended, and those who need support can work at a pace appropriate for them. Regular assessments in the core subjects are held each half term to ensure good progress is being made. Alongside these are regular spellings and mental maths tests, while the focus on writing skills continues.

## Home - School Links:

Regular homework continues through Years 3 to 6, gradually increasing with age. Pupils are set reading and spelling homework as well as written work, exercises or research projects to reinforce and extend the learning in the classroom. At the start of the academic year, parents are given a homework timetable so that they can support their children.

Our open door policy continues, with parents able to see their child's teacher regularly on an informal basis, or to attend coffee mornings after class assemblies. There are also regular formal reports.

## Extra-curricular Opportunities:

As well as a number of sports clubs, art clubs, drama and music activities, recorder ensemble and choir, pupils in Years 3 to 6 can continue with individual musical tuition in clarinet, guitar, flute, piano, saxophone, singing and violin. They also continue with LAMDA lessons for speech and drama.



We take part in competitions locally with the Independent Schools Association (ISA). Cross-country, netball, football and athletics teams all take part in regional events. We also regularly enter art and writing competitions. Every year there is the opportunity to be involved in school shows and events.

Our older pupils in Years 5 and 6 have many opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem. They can be on the School Council, playground buddies to younger children, Games Captains, Librarians or Head Boy or Head Girl.

By the end of Year 6, your children will have become valued members of the Coopersale Hall family - respected by their younger colleagues, to whom they act as role models of our core values.

## Preparation for Senior Schools:

We are here to help you decide on the most appropriate course of action when you come to choose a senior school for your child.

Detailed information on our specialised programme can be found overleaf on page 10 and there is much more information on our website.

## Excellent...

*"At Coopersale Hall we have watched our boys mature and grow in confidence as each year has gone by. They have been able to represent the school at different activities. I have also been delighted to watch other pupils being given sporting opportunities when they may not have this chance at a bigger school. The joy and enthusiasm they showed at just being able to represent their school is a great testament to Coopersale Hall".*

*Year 6 & Year 4 Mother*





## PREPARATION FOR SENIOR SCHOOL

We specialise in preparing our pupils for 11+ examinations and the transition to their senior schools. We promote more independence and responsibility as they progress towards senior school life. Coopersale Hall's reputation as one of the top preparatory schools in the area is held in high regard by the local senior schools.

Not all senior schools are right for every pupil so it is important that a child attends the school that is most suited to his or her needs.

Parents are consulted regularly and involved fully with the Headmistress and class teachers to assess the senior school options most appropriate for each child. The majority of our Year 6 pupils move on to their first choice of senior schools.

Alongside our tailor-made curriculum, specific preparation for 11+ entrance examinations includes:

- Practising verbal and non-verbal reasoning throughout Years 3 to 6
- Practising past papers and exam questions in English and Maths during Years 5 and 6
- Holding individual parents' evenings during Year 5 to discuss which schools to apply for and to advise about application procedures
- Holding mock interviews with the Headmistress
- Organising scholarship preparation in small groups

We are mindful that some parents often explore the non-selective state school opportunities and we can advise on the range of options available.

**In the last three years, pupils from Year 6 have accepted places at:-**

Anglo European School  
 Bancroft's School  
 Bishop's Stortford College  
 Braeside School  
 Brentwood School  
 Chigwell School  
 Cobham Hall School  
 Davenant School  
 Forest School  
 Felsted School  
 Friends School  
 Gosfield School  
 Great Baddow School  
 Haileybury School  
 Hylands School  
 Leventhorpe School  
 Mark Hall Academy  
 New Hall School  
 Normanhurst School  
 Queenswood School  
 St Edmund's School  
 St John's School  
 St Mark's Catholic School  
 St Nicholas School  
 West Hatch School

More detailed information is available on our website.



# SPORT, MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS



## Sport:

**Sport is a popular aspect of our curriculum and the Physical Education programme is very well-structured.**

All pupils have at least two hours of Games and PE each week. Some of our sports include: football, tag rugby, gymnastics, cricket, hockey, netball, athletics, swimming, and tennis. Pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 compete in local competitions as part of school teams. Our large astroturf pitch is used extensively for matches all year round and our sports field is used for sports such as football, tag rugby, cricket, rounders and athletics. Cross country competitions are held each year around our grounds for a variety of local junior school children including our own.

The curriculum is taught by specialist PE teachers from Year 1 upwards and is designed to offer a comprehensive range of experiences through which pupils are encouraged to develop the personal qualities of commitment, fairness and enthusiasm.

There are a number of after school clubs for children to continue their interest in sport, that range from netball and football clubs to running and cross country. Further extra-curricular clubs include karate, fencing, and tennis. Children in Years 3 to 6 swim at Ongar Pool throughout the year where they are taught by specialist swimming teachers. Our annual swimming gala is a very popular event with parents.

We aim to develop positive attitudes towards sport and encourage our pupils to develop their own initiative, determination and courage whilst stressing the value of exercise and fitness; healthy habits and social co-operation.

## Music:

**Music plays an important part of our school life at Coopersale Hall.**

Music is taught by specialist teachers as a separate subject to all pupils from Upper Kindergarten upwards in our fully-equipped Studio. To complement our music curriculum, a number of visiting staff offer peripatetic tuition in instruments such as piano, flute, violin and saxophone. The school choir, recorder ensemble and orchestra enhance many performing opportunities within and outside of school.

Coopersale Hall takes part in the biennial Oak-Tree Schools Festival of Music and Dance, which brings together around 150 children from Coopersale Hall and our two sister schools to showcase our choirs, orchestras and dance groups to families.

Each year we take the school choir to a local old people's home to entertain the residents. This is always much appreciated and offers another opportunity for our school to interact with the local community.

## Performing Arts:

**Drama is used in class assemblies to illustrate a variety of themes and topics to assist learning in the wider curriculum**

Through drama the pupils develop self-confidence, presentation skills and teamwork. Extra classes are offered in Speech and Drama, with many children choosing to take LAMDA examinations.

Dance is a popular activity and our specialist dance teacher works with all classes from Upper Kindergarten upwards. Choreography and movement to music teaches children counting skills, coordination and teamwork. Our dance groups perform in-school displays and the maypole dancing team shows its skills at the annual Epping May Fayre.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How involved are parents in the life of the school?

Friends of Coopersale Hall (FOCHS) is our very active Parents' Association, which is run enthusiastically to raise extra funds that go towards equipment and treats for the children. Our parents organise many fun and varied activities for the children, parents and families that include Christmas parties, the Easter Bunny, a Summer Fete and biennial Summer Ball.

We welcome many parent-volunteers into school, who help with running clubs and accompanying school trips.

## How do I know if my child eats a proper lunch?

Our chef specialises in providing healthy, balanced meals to children in independent education. There is a daily choice of a hot main meal with a hot vegetarian alternative. The team also provides a cold buffet, including filled baguettes and a wide variety of salads.

A choice of desserts is available daily, together with fresh fruit or yoghurts. Any special dietary needs can be satisfied if requested.

Our staff check that children select sufficient food and eat properly. They will liaise with parents if there are any concerns.

## Is my child able to get extra help?

If we identify that a child requires supplementary assistance, they may have extra lessons to help. We have a team of qualified specialists in the Learning Support Department who are able to devise individual learning programmes to ensure that each child progresses according to his/her ability.

## Do you accept the Government Nursery Grant or Employment Tax Schemes?

Yes. Essex County Council's Nursery Grant is applied to all children who are eligible (currently between the ages of 3 and 5 years).

Some companies provide their staff with Nursery Vouchers, please call us if you would like to use these.

## How soon do I need to think about senior schools?

There are many opportunities for you as parents to discuss senior school options. Our staff are on hand to discuss any questions you may have at any time. In Year 5 there is a Senior Schools Options Evening with information for parents.

As a dedicated independent prep school our emphasis is on enabling children to join the most appropriate senior school for them when they are 11. We are very experienced at tailoring our education from the very earliest years throughout their time with us to make sure that children learn how to apply themselves academically and mature into confident, well-rounded and well-educated children who are welcomed into both state and independent senior schools.



## LEARN MORE ABOUT US:

### Come and visit us:

Open Mornings in March and October

Or arrange a personal tour at a time to suit you

### See our website for all latest information about:

- Newsletters
- Headmistress's Letters
- Fees
- Entrance procedures and examinations
- Admissions Policy
- Staff List and how to contact us
- A wide range of weekly clubs and activities
- Christmas, Easter and Summer Holiday activity clubs
- Parents' Association events and fundraising

### Follow our news on Twitter and in local magazines and newspapers

Call us soon to talk about your child joining the Coopersale Hall family: 01992 577133





## GOVERNANCE

The Hagger family acts as Principals of the school and Mr Matthew Hagger acts as Chair of Governors, or Group Managing Principal.

### MANAGING PRINCIPAL

**Mr Matthew Hagger B.A. (Hons), M.Ed., PGCE**

Matthew Hagger taught languages up to A-Level for several years at several local schools. He officially joined the family business as Principal in July 2001 and runs the Oak-Tree Group in the capacity of Group Managing Principal. Matthew Hagger oversees the day-to-day running of each school in matters such as staffing, finance, education, maintenance and communication. He is at the school several times each week and meets parents on a regular basis informally, formally or for coffee morning chats.

### PRINCIPAL

**Mr Nicholas Hagger M.A. (Oxon)**

Before acquiring Oaklands School in 1982, Nicholas Hagger spent many years teaching abroad, he wrote for the Times and Guardian newspapers in the 1970s and then became Head of English and Senior Teacher at a large comprehensive school in Wandsworth. Nicholas Hagger is a published poet, philosopher and author with many titles to his name.

### PRINCIPAL

**Mrs Ann Hagger Cert.Ed.**

Ann Hagger taught at several primary schools in South London before becoming Oaklands School Headmistress in 1982. She spent 14 years in this position until the acquisition of Normanhurst, whereupon she used her extensive knowledge to help develop Coopersale Hall School in the late 1990s.



Mr Matthew Hagger and Miss Kaye Lovejoy







## Coopersale Hall School

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