



MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL IN READING



Contents

Headteachers welcome	p 4 - 5
Our Trust	p 6 - 7
Our values	p 8 - 9
Our values in action	p 10 - 11
What is it like at MER?	p 12 - 17
Our Curriculum	p 18 - 21
Preparing for the future	p 22 - 23
Support and wellbeing	p 24 - 25
Beyond the classroom	p 26 - 31
Working with families	p 32 - 33
Welcoming new families	p 34 - 35
Applying	p 36 - 37
MER Fact File	p 38 - 39





Headteacher's

Thank you for your interest in Maiden Erlegh Reading.

We are a high-performing, inclusive secondary school at the heart of the East Reading community. Our urban setting brings a rich diversity and vibrancy, reflecting the multicultural community we serve. Our scale allows us to know our students well and foster a strong sense of connection. Relationships are purposeful and consistent, helping every student develop their skills, talents and sense of purpose.

Our values - Aim High, Be Inclusive, Work Together - shape every part of school life. From academic challenge to creative expression and team sport, students are encouraged to participate fully and pursue their ambitions with confidence. We see our school as a place where energy and commitment to excellence go hand in hand - where the corridors are busy, ideas are shared, and young people develop the character and skills they need to flourish.

I have been part of Maiden Erlegh Reading since 2020 and previously worked within Maiden Erlegh Trust as an Assistant Headteacher. Before taking on the role of Headteacher, I served as Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for curriculum and timetabling. Alongside my leadership role, I continue to teach Mathematics, which remains central to my professional practice.

What I value most about Maiden Erlegh Reading is its diverse and ambitious community, where students and staff from different backgrounds learn from one another. The commitment of our staff, the aspirations of our students, and the strong partnerships we build with families are key to the school's continued success.

I warmly invite you to visit us and see the school in action. We would be pleased to welcome you and share what makes Maiden Erlegh Reading such a purposeful and supportive place to learn.

Mrs Sarah Gibbs, Headteacher



MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL IN READING

s welcome





Our Trust

Maiden Erlegh Reading is part of Maiden Erlegh Trust (MET), a family of schools that work together to offer outstanding opportunities to all our young people. Being part of MET brings tangible benefits to our students and staff every day.

- Students take part in our Intra-Trust Sports Programme, visiting other MET schools for matches and tournaments, and accessing excellent sports facilities beyond our own. Including inclusive events and Trust-wide activities designed to build confidence and celebrate participation
- Our students benefit from Trust-wide trips, including the annual MET Ski Trip, cultural and subject-specific visits, residentials and Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme
- The annual MET Careers Fair brings together employers, training providers, sixth form colleges and universities to support students' future choices
- Our staff benefit from Trust-led professional development opportunities and networking which support great teaching, strong leadership, and consistent pastoral care across our schools, which directly improves the student experience

Being part of Maiden Erlegh Trust strengthens our school while allowing us to maintain our unique identity.

Find out more here:

[Click to visit MET website](#)

[Click to](#)



[Click to open MET Instagram](#)

[Click to open MET LinkedIn](#)

Our values





**Aim High
Be Inclusive
Work together**

Our values in

We work hard as a school community to embody our values:

Aim High: Our students are encouraged to aim high and achieve their best. Academic tracking, early intervention and ambitious teaching strategies help students meet, and exceed, their targets. Students regularly go on to high-performing sixth forms, colleges, and professional apprenticeship pathways, with many aspiring to university and other professional pathways.

Be Inclusive: Inclusion is embedded in every aspect of school life. As a richly diverse school, we recognise and value the varied backgrounds, experiences and identities of our students. This is reflected in our curriculum, our celebrations, and the way we learn, celebrate and grow together every day.

We foster a culture of respect and belonging. Our staff are trained in inclusive practice, trauma-informed approaches and cultural awareness. The SEND team works in close partnership with teachers and families to ensure that students with additional needs are supported to access and enjoy school life fully. We also work proactively to tackle barriers, ensuring that all students feel seen, heard and able to thrive.

Work Together: Students, staff and families are partners in learning. Our Student Leadership Council, peer mentoring, and parent feedback forums all reflect a culture of collaboration. We work together to build a school where respect and responsibility underpin success.

action



What is it like



At Maiden Erlegh Reading we are:

- A respectful, inclusive and ambitious school where students feel safe, supported and engaged in purposeful learning
- High expectations and consistent routines across all year groups
- Dedicated staff who build strong relationships and tailor their teaching to student needs
- Focus on literacy, numeracy and personal development throughout the curriculum
- Enrichment, leadership and cultural experiences for all
- A diverse, inclusive school community where everyone is encouraged to participate and aspire

Find out more here:

[Click for MER website 'About us'](#)

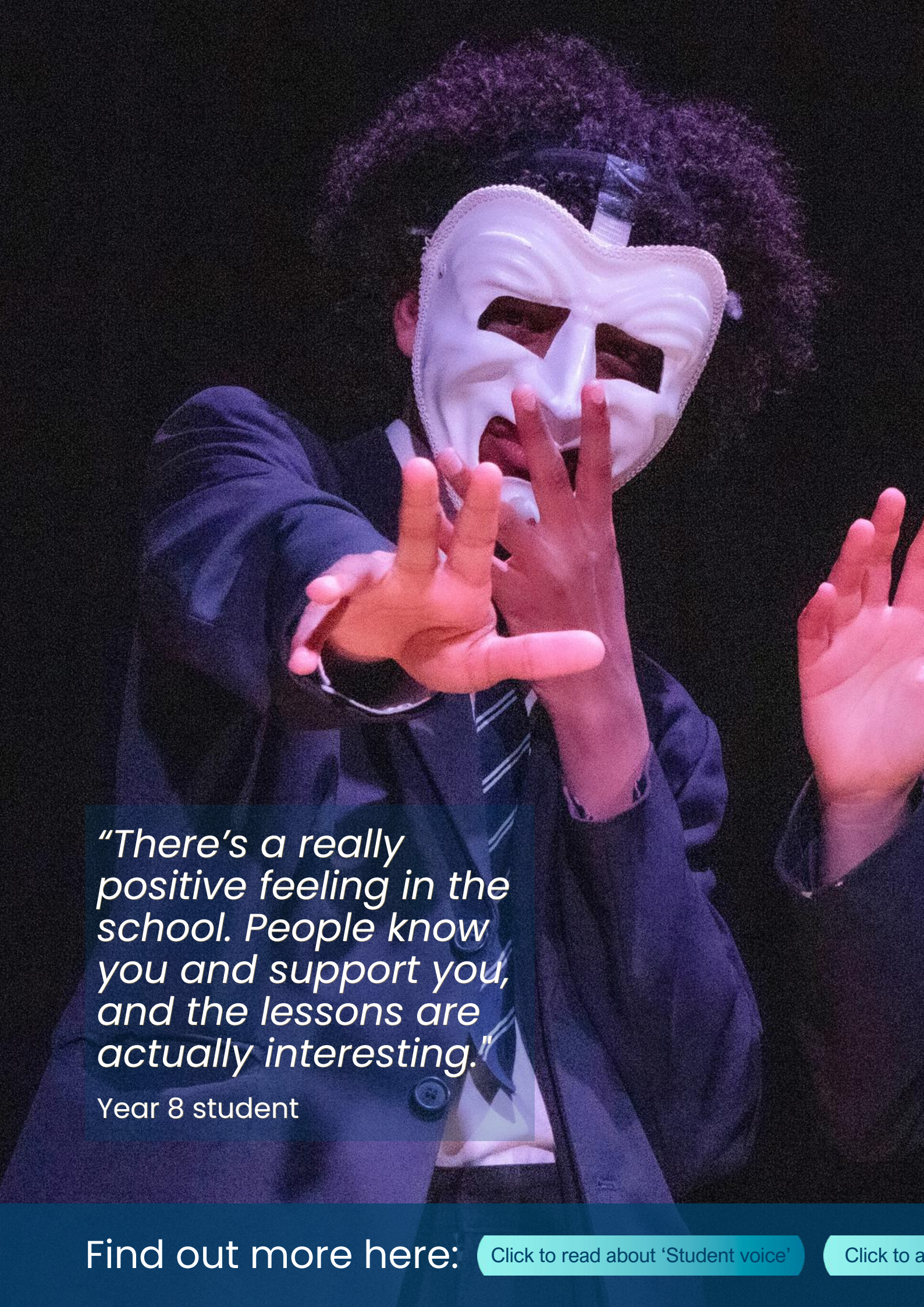
[Click to](#)

at MER?



[Click to open 'Key staff' info](#)

[Click to open 'Our school day' info](#)

A young person with curly hair is wearing a white, stylized mask that covers their eyes and nose. They are dressed in a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and a striped tie. Their hands are raised in front of them, with fingers spread, in a gesture that could be interpreted as surprise, excitement, or a 'stop' sign. The background is dark and out of focus.

"There's a really positive feeling in the school. People know you and support you, and the lessons are actually interesting."

Year 8 student

Find out more here:

[Click to read about 'Student voice'](#)

[Click to a](#)



[Access our 'Key policies'](#)

[Click to read our latest news](#)

A photograph of three students in school uniforms walking past a colorful mural. The students are wearing dark blue blazers over white shirts and ties. They are also wearing purple lanyards with ID badges. The mural in the background features large, stylized figures in blue and yellow. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent blue box in the lower-left quadrant of the image.

"The communication from staff has been excellent, and we've seen real progress both academically and emotionally in our child."

Parent





Our Curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that supports students to thrive academically and personally. All students study a strong core of subjects, English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Languages, alongside creative, technical and physical education.

Our curriculum is carefully designed to support a wide range of learners. Students with additional needs receive tailored support, while those ready for further stretch are challenged through questioning, enrichment, and guidance on aspirational pathways.

Personal development is important to us. We offer a Personal Development curriculum which is further supported through assemblies, and themed learning experiences. Students explore topics such as wellbeing, identity, equality and global citizenship.

Careers education begins in Year 7 and is integrated into subjects and wider school life. Our aim is to ensure every student is ready for their next steps when they leave us.

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Curriculum' info](#)


[Click](#)

m



[Click for 'SEND' info](#)

[Click for 'Learning & teaching' info](#)

A young Black male student is the central focus, wearing a dark blue polo shirt with light blue accents on the shoulders and a crest on the chest. He is standing in a gymnasium with a blue wall and a basketball hoop in the background. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark blue box.

"A sharp focus on pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is skilfully embedded in the curriculum."

Ofsted 2023

Find out more here:

[Click to read 'Personal development'](#)

[Click for 'H'](#)



[Higher ability student' info](#)

[Click for 'School calendar'](#)

Preparing for t



We believe that excellent careers education helps students make informed, confident decisions about their future.

From Year 7 onwards, students learn about the world of work, different pathways and personal goal-setting. In Key Stage 4, every student receives one-to-one guidance interviews and takes part in work-related learning and employer events.

Students benefit from:

- A comprehensive careers programme with tailored support for different interests and needs
- Work experience opportunities in Year 10
- Visits from professionals, alumni and training providers
- An annual Careers Fair run by Maiden Erlegh Trust bringing together sixth forms, colleges and employers
- Our students go on to exciting destinations including sixth form, college, apprenticeships and beyond.

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Careers' info](#)

[Click for](#)

the future



[for 'Careers mapping' info](#)

[Click for 'Unifrog' post school option info](#)

Support and w

A photograph of two young women in school uniforms. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue blazer, a white shirt, and a striped tie. She has glasses and is smiling broadly with her arms raised in a celebratory gesture. The woman on the right is also smiling and has her arms raised. They appear to be at a school event or assembly.

Our pastoral care is built on the principle that every student should feel safe, supported and known.

Each student is part of a form group, supported by a tutor who knows them well and champions their wellbeing. Our pastoral team, including Heads of Year and phase lead team, provide additional support around behaviour, attendance and emotional development.

We offer a range of services to support mental health and wellbeing, including access to trained staff, and external partners. Students are also taught how to keep themselves safe and how to support others through our safeguarding and personal development curriculum.

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Health & wellbeing' info](#)

[Click for](#)

wellbeing



['Pastoral support' info](#)

[Click for 'Inclusion' info](#)

Beyond the cl



Find out more here:

[Click for 'Enrichment curriculum' info](#)

[Click for](#)

classroom



"A diverse range of clubs fosters pupils' interests and develops talents."

Ofsted 2023



School life at Maiden Erlegh Reading is inclusive, enriching and full of opportunity. We believe that opportunities outside the classroom are key to personal growth and confidence.

Students take part in a wide range of enrichment activities, including:

- Sports teams and fitness clubs
- Creative arts, drama, dance and music
- STEM and subject-based clubs
- Student leadership and mentoring programmes
- Trips and visits

Our enrichment programme is inclusive and open to all, helping students discover interests and build friendships that last.



WHITE COPY PAPER

SIZE A4 297 x 419 MM

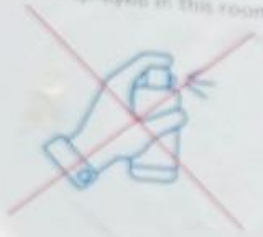
QUANTITY 25 SHEETS

WHITE COPY PAPER

SIZE A4 297 x 419 MM

QUANTITY 25 SHEETS

No deodorant or perfume
to be sprayed in this room



Absolutely
NO eating
or
DRINKING
in the Art
room!
Thank you

100 All and Assess
A quick guide

An informational poster with a yellow header and various icons and text blocks, likely providing school rules or procedures.



the MALE gaze





Working with f

We value strong partnerships with families and believe they are key to student success.

We communicate regularly with parents and carers through newsletters, online platforms and formal progress updates. This includes our monthly Pulse newsletter, half termly Safeguarding newsletter and regular Headteacher update which helps to keep our families informed, engaged and connected to the life of the school.

Events such as curriculum evenings, information sessions and celebration assemblies help families stay actively involved too. We welcome feedback and maintain open lines of communication. Parents and carers are encouraged to contact us through tutor links or our main enquiry line whenever support is needed.

Find out more here:

[Click to read 'The Pulse' newsletter](#)

[Click](#)

families

[for 'School uniform'](#)

[Click for 'School meals' info](#)

Welcoming new

Starting at secondary school is an exciting and important time. Our transition programme is designed to help students and families joining us in Year 7 feel informed, confident and connected from the outset.

From the moment a place is offered, we provide regular updates and materials to help families prepare.

New students take part in:

- Welcome events and taster days
- Meetings with key staff
- Opportunities to meet new classmates

We also share resources for families and invite them to school performances and events before September. By the time term starts, students already feel part of our community.

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Prospective families' info](#)

[Click for](#)

ew families



[for 'Transition support'](#)

[Click for 'Starting at MER' info](#)

Applying

We welcome applications from families across our local area.

For Year 7 admissions, please apply via your local authority.

We also welcome enquiries about in-year transfers and are happy to arrange school visits.

To learn more about admissions, including deadlines and open events, visit our website

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Admissions' info](#)



Maiden Erleghh School in Rea

...scent Road
...SL



MER Fact File



School Name: Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

Type of School: Secondary (11–16)

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Gibbs

Number of Students: Approx. 900

Location: Crescent Road, Reading RG1 5SL

Year Joined Maiden Erlegh Trust: 2015 (when established)

Ofsted: Good (September 2023)

Website: www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk

Email: MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org

Telephone: 0118 966 8065

Find out more here:

[Click for 'Ofsted' info](#)

[Click for 'S](#)



[School Advisory Board' info](#)

[Click for 'Safeguarding' info](#)



MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL IN READING

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading
81 Crescent Rd
Reading
RG1 5SL

0118 966 8065

MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org



MAIDEN ERLEGH
TRUST