MAIDEN ERLEGH
CHILTERN EDGE

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MAIDEN ERLEGH
CHILTERN EDGE

Headteacher's

Thank you for your interest in Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge.

We are a secondary school with a strong sense of community, located in a beautiful semi-rural setting. Our size allows us to know our students well, while also presenting the challenge and opportunity of being ambitious with the resources we have. Every decision we make centres around supporting young people to feel known, valued and inspired.

As Headteacher, I bring 20 years of experience in education, including leadership roles in both large and small schools. What strikes me every day here is the purposeful atmosphere and the way our values — Aim High, Be Inclusive, Work Together — are reflected in our students' behaviour, the commitment of staff, and the relationships between school and home.

Academically, we offer a broad and ambitious curriculum designed to stretch all learners and support every pathway. Personally, we place high value on character development, wellbeing and opportunities beyond the classroom, from music and sport to leadership and community service.

This is a school that holds high expectations and strong support in balance. We are proud of our culture, our students, and the journey we take with families.

I warmly encourage you to come and see the school in action. You will be made very welcome.

Emma Bliss, Headteacher

MAIDEN ERLEGH
CHILTERN EDGE

s welcome

Our Trust

Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge is part of Maiden Erlegh Trust, 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. Events include 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, and residentials. This year we have also combined to deliver Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award in addition to the Bronze level.
- The annual MET Careers Fair brings together employers, training providers and sixth form colleges 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

o 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: Students are supported to exceed their own expectations. Our curriculum offer is broad and balanced providing students ample opportunity to choose a suite of GCSEs to meet their needs and interests. Subject curricula are structured to stretch all learners, and academic progress is closely tracked with targeted intervention where needed.

Be Inclusive: We welcome and celebrate diversity. Our SEND provision includes individual learning plans, support assistants in key lessons, and a dedicated Inclusion Team. Staff receive regular training on neurodiversity and trauma-informed practice.

Work Together: Parents, students and staff form a genuine team. From student-led eco initiatives, community action projects, peer mentoring schemes and a proactive and enthusiastic student leadership team, collaboration is central to our school culture.

We are extremely lucky to be supported by a very engaged and hugely enthusiastic Parent Association, CESA. A dedicated group of parents are often found supporting at school events with refreshments.

- Annual events including Quiz, Bingo, raffles, prom dress sales and second hand uniform sales.
- Recent purchases including laser printer, table tennis tables and curriculum materials to support in Drama, Music, French and PE.

CESA are always keen to recruit more volunteers into the team – details of how to contact Suzanne, can be found via our web page.

action

"It's a school where people care about you. Everyone knows each other. You're not just one of many."

Year 9 Parent

What is it like

At Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge we are:

- A small, close-knit community where staff know every child
- Calm classrooms, clear routines, and high expectations
- A strong focus on literacy, numeracy and personal development
- An inclusive ethos where every student is supported to succeed
- Rich opportunities in sport, performing arts, STEM and leadership

Find out more here: Click for MECE website 'About us' Click to r

at MECE?

ead 'What Parents Say'

Click to open ‘Our school day’ info

"I'm very impressed by the high expectations for behaviour, learning, effort and achievement."

Year 8 Parent

Find out more here: Click to read about 'Student voice' Click to a

ccess our ‘Key policies’

Click to read our latest news

Find out more here: Click to read about ‘Uniform’ Click to

"Our daughter is thriving at MECE - she is challenged in lessons, has gone on lots of school trips, joined many academic and sports clubs."

Year 8 Parent

read our 'Newsletter'

Click to read about 'School meals'

“My daughter’s year have had some amazing opportunities! Belgium, France, skiing, Iceland, DofE. You would never think a small school could do so much!”

Year 9 Parent

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Our Curriculum

We offer a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum for all students:

- A strong academic core including English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Languages with Technology, Creative and Performance subjects forming a backbone of the offer.
- Targeted provision for students with additional needs (SEND, EAL, literacy catch-up), including small group support and tailored resources.
- More able students are extended through stretch tasks, high-level questioning, and extended GCSE options guidance (e.g. in Home Languages or Further Maths).
- PSMSC (Personal, Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education) is delivered through tutor time, assemblies, drop-down days and integrated into subject teaching through our broader Personal Development programme.
- Careers Education includes one-to-one guidance interviews, employer visits, college and sixth form taster events, and work shadow for all students in Year 10. All students engage with the UniFrog platform to explore and track their career aspirations.

Find out more here: Click for ‘Curriculum’ info Cli

m

"My son is thriving at MECE. Talking to his teachers, I could tell that they all know him well and are keen to praise him for his achievements and encourage him to work on areas to improve."

Year 8 Parent

ck for 'SEND' info

Click for 'Learning & teaching' info

"One of the many advantages of being part of a smaller community is the feeling of being 'seen' and noticed and there really is something for everyone."

Year 7 Parent

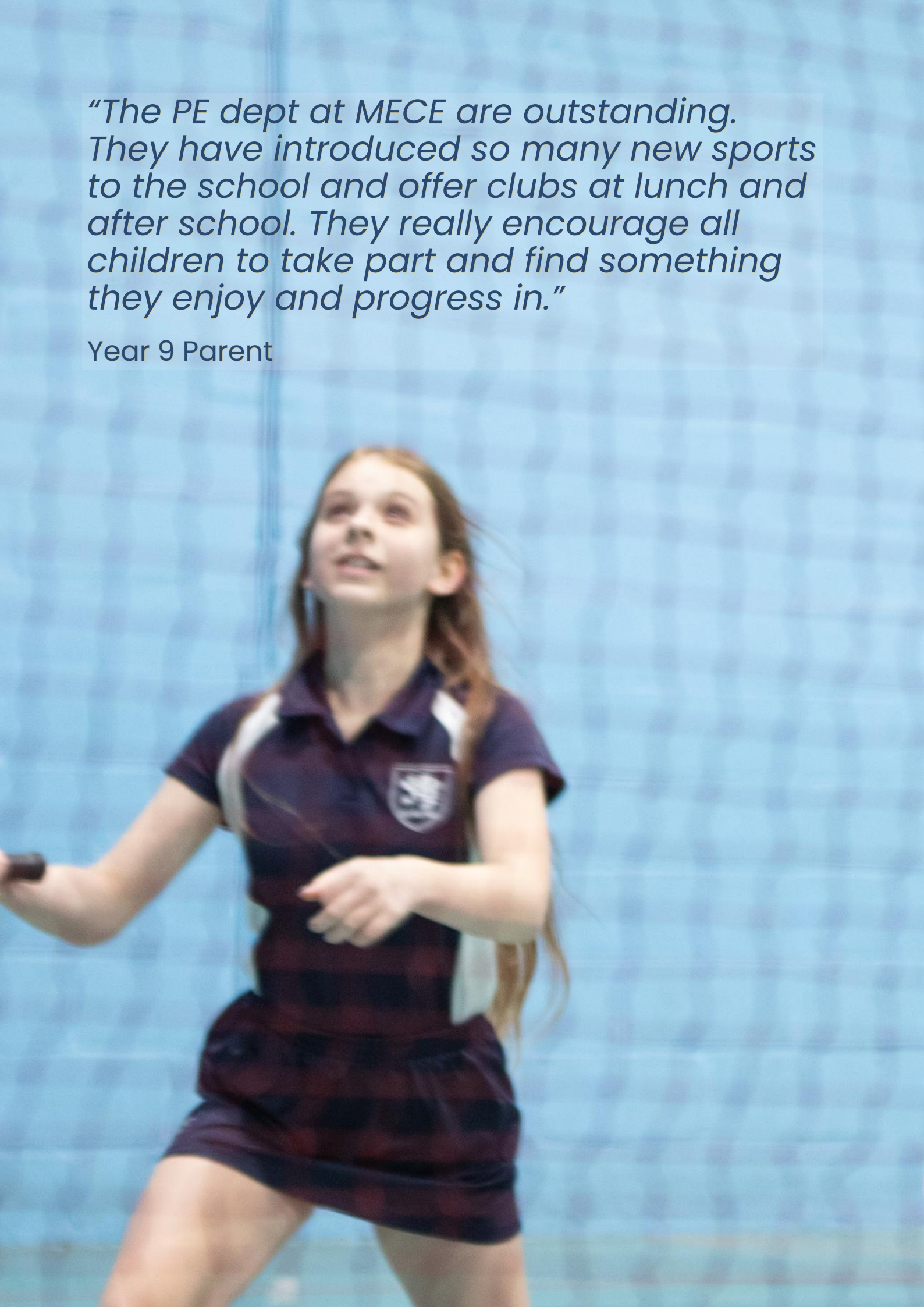
Find out more here: Click to read about our 'Subjects' Click for 'H

Higher ability student' info

Click for 'School calendar'

“The PE dept at MECE are outstanding. They have introduced so many new sports to the school and offer clubs at lunch and after school. They really encourage all children to take part and find something they enjoy and progress in.”

Year 9 Parent



"My son and daughter really enjoy playing a wide range of sports with their friends at lunchtime, including volleyball, basketball, fitness in the gym, table tennis and badminton."

Year 7 Parent

Preparing for t

We prepare students for qualifications and life beyond school:

- Focused and timetabled careers guidance begins in Year 7, helping students understand pathways and options.
- Every student completes a careers action plan.
- Year 10 students undertake a week-long work experience placement work shadow placements.
- We engage and promote sixth form and college fairs, and support all students with applications and transition planning.
- An annual Careers Fair run by Maiden Erlegh Trust bringing together sixth forms, colleges and employers.

Find out more here:

Click for 'Careers' info

Click for 'Ca

the future

reers interviews/advice' info

Click for 'Unifrog' post school option info

Support and w

Our pastoral system is the heart of school life. Every student has a form tutor who is the first point of contact in a day and a conduit between home and school. Year Leaders, specialist staff and our Inclusion Team work closely to ensure all students feel safe, supported and known.

- Wellbeing Support includes access to a pastoral hub, School Nurse, and sessions with external mental health professionals.
- Our behaviour approach is based on positive relationships, consistent routines and restorative practice.
- We deliver regular safeguarding education and ensure student voice is part of every wellbeing decision.

Find out more here: Click for 'Health & wellbeing' info Click for 'P

wellbeing

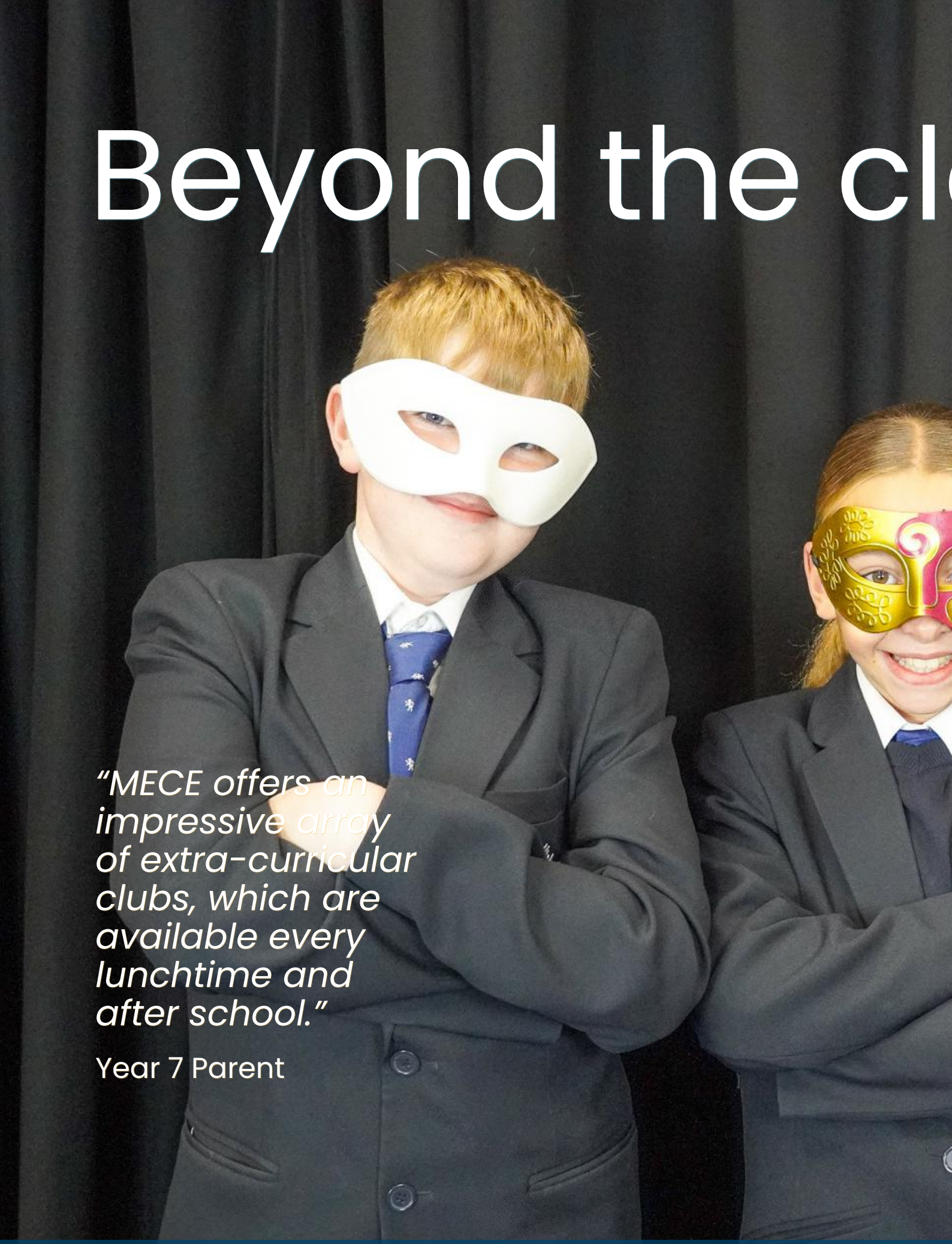
"We love the 'small school approach' and nurturing environment MECE provides."

Year 8 Parent

ersonal development' info

Click for 'Inclusion' info

Beyond the cl



"MECE offers an impressive array of extra-curricular clubs, which are available every lunchtime and after school."

Year 7 Parent

Find out more here: Click for 'Extra-curricular activity' info Click for

assroom

'Duke of Edinburgh' info

Click for 'Parent association' info

We believe school should be inspiring, challenging and fun. Our enrichment offer includes:

- Sports teams in football, netball, cricket, athletics and cross country and other opportunities as they arise.
- Creative arts: annual drama productions, art exhibitions, and music clubs
- STEM Club, Coding Club and Chess Club.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award for Year 9 and above.
- Recent trips have included: Geography fieldwork, Professional theatre visits, annual MET Ski Trip, Iceland Trip, Trip to Normandy, visits to artists' studios, and a partner exchange with a school in France.

We celebrate student voice and give students real responsibility, from School Council to Eco Committee to anti-bullying ambassadors. Our Student Leadership team meet regularly with Senior staff and routinely will plan educational and fundraising events across the year.

MAIDEN ERLEGH
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
MECE PE STAFF

Follow us for more:

Click to open MECE Instagram

Click to

open MECE Facebook

Click to open MECE LinkedIn

Working with f

We build strong partnerships with parents and carers. Communication is regular, open and honest. Families are kept up-to-date with progress and supported to be part of their child's journey.

We offer:

- Weekly Headteacher newsletter and Quarterly "MECEMatters" publication.
- Termly progress updates and annual face-to-face Parents' Evening for each year group.
- Targeted Information evenings for each year group.
- A responsive parent support email system.

Find out more here: Click for 'Parent guide to assessment' Click for 'H

families

How to support your child'

Click for 'Wraparound care' info

Welcoming ne

We know how important it is to feel informed and supported when joining a new school. At Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge, our transition programme is designed to make students, and their families, feel confident, connected and excited about September.

- From the spring term, families receive our Transition Tuesday bulletin, full of updates, introductions and insights into life at MECE as well as monthly Transition newsletter.
- Students are invited to a range of transition days, where they can meet staff, tour the school and take part in activities with their new peers.
- New families are also invited to community events, such as school performances and summer celebrations, to build connections before term begins.

Our approach ensures that every student begins to feel they are an important part of the MECE community before they begin year 7.

Find out more here: Click for ‘Prospective families’ info Click for

ew families

r ‘Primary transition’ info

Click for ‘Free school meals’ info

MECE Fact File

School Name: Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge
Type of School: Secondary (11–16)
Headteacher: Emma Bliss
Number of Students: Approx. 330
Location: Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9LN
Year Joined Maiden Erlegh Trust: 2018
Ofsted: In 2026 Ofsted highlighted our progress in academic outcomes and national examination results. Our comprehensive personal development programme, highly effective careers provision, and the many opportunities students have to prepare for life beyond school.
Performance Highlights: Progress 8 above national average
Special Features: Small school, inclusive ethos, enrichment focus, strong community links
Website: www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk
Contact: 0118 972 1500 | meceoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org

Find out more here: Click for 'Ofsted' info Clic

k for ‘Key staff’ info

Click for ‘Safeguarding’ info

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