



MAIDEN ERLEGH CHILTERN EDGE



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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](#)



[Click to open MET Instagram](#)

[Click to open MET LinkedIn](#)

Our values

A photograph of two young boys on a football field. They are wearing red mesh football bibs over dark blue shirts. The boy on the left has dark hair and is smiling while looking towards the boy on the right. The boy on the right has light brown hair and is also smiling, looking down. They appear to be in conversation. In the background, a football goal with a white net is visible, along with a green field and some trees in the distance. The overall tone is positive and collaborative.

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.

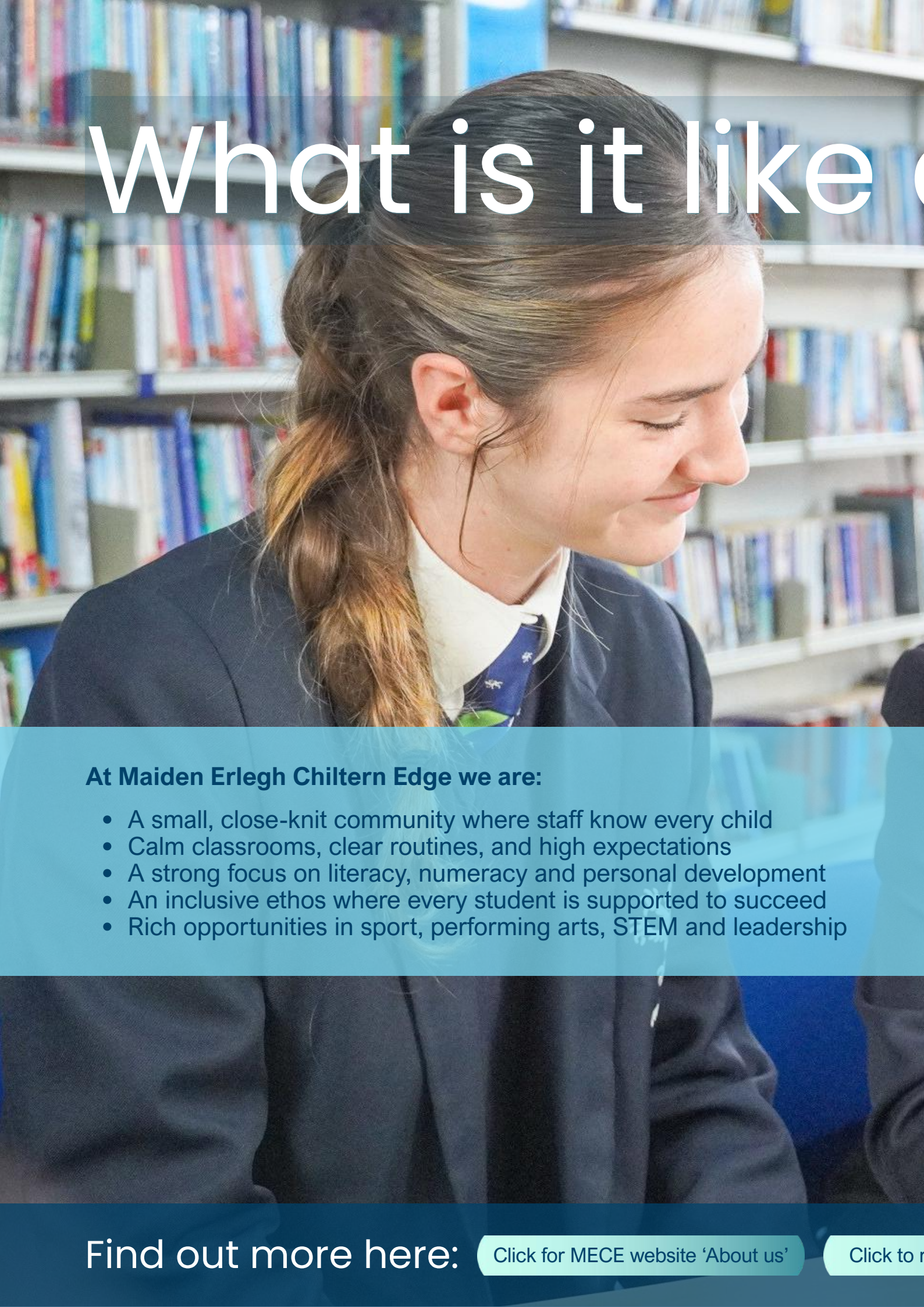
CESA are always keen to recruit more volunteers into the team – details of how to contact Suzanne, can be found via our web page.

action

A young Black male with short, dark, curly hair is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. He is wearing a dark blue school blazer over a white collared shirt and a dark blue sweater. On the left breast pocket of his blazer, there is a small, embroidered crest featuring a lion rampant. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green grass, trees, and a goalpost in the distance.

"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 n](#)

at MECE?



[Read '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](#)



[Access our 'Key policies'](#)

[Click to read our latest news](#)



Find out more here:

[Click to read about 'Uniform'](#)

[Click to](#)



Roll up! Roll up! See the acrobat at the Tate.

Thanks to BP throughout the year the Tate is able to re-hang each of its galleries with New Displays and so bring you more of its masterpieces.

For instance, until April you can see Fernand Léger's dynamic *The Acrobat* and his partner.

Léger's art celebrated a Utopian future for the common man, so many of his pictures idealised popular leisure activities. His favourite was the circus.

To Léger, the acrobat was a hero high up there risking his life each evening, lost in that extraordinary planet.

Now, thanks to BP, you can catch him before he leaves in April for a flying visit to Paris.



All together better

Mail - J. Watkinson - Outlook

"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'](#)

A photograph of three students in school uniforms sitting on a grey metal bench. In the foreground, a girl with long brown hair is smiling at the camera. Behind her, another girl with long brown hair is looking off to the side. In the background, a boy with red hair is leaning on the bench, looking down. They are all wearing dark blue blazers over white shirts and dark blue sweaters. The background is a blurred blue wall.

"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



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](#)

[Click](#)



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

[Click 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



[careers interviews/advice' info](#)

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

Support and v

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

[Personal development' info](#)

[Click for 'Inclusion' info](#)

Beyond the cl

A photograph of two children in school uniforms standing against a black curtain. The child on the left is a boy with blonde hair, wearing a white mask and a dark grey suit with a blue tie. The child on the right is a girl with blonde hair, wearing a gold and pink mask and a dark grey suit with a blue tie. Both children have their arms crossed.

"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](#)

classroom



[‘Duke of Edinburgh’ info](#)

[Click for ‘Parent association’ info](#)

A photograph of two young men in school uniforms, seen from the back and side, looking out a large window. The window reflects a bright, sunny day with a clear blue sky and some greenery. The student on the left has dark, curly hair, and the student on the right has light brown, wavy hair. They are both wearing dark blue school jackets over white shirts. The background outside the window shows a modern building with large glass panels and some trees.

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.





Follow us for more:

[Click to open MECE Instagram](#)

[Click to](#)





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](#)

A man and a woman are sitting at a table, looking towards the camera. The man is on the left, wearing a dark grey sweater, and the woman is on the right, wearing an orange button-down shirt. Behind them is a colorful display board with various papers and a bowl of snacks. The word 'families' is written in large white letters on a grey background in the top left corner.

families

[How to support your child'](#)

[Click for 'Wraparound care' info](#)

Welcoming new



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



[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. 420

Location: Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9LN

Year Joined Maiden Erlegh Trust: 2018

Ofsted: Good (2022)

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](#)

[Click](#)



[Click for 'Key staff' info](#)

[Click for 'Safeguarding' info](#)



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CHILTERN EDGE

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