



TAUNTON
SCHOOL



PREPARATORY SCHOOL

YEARS 3-8



Taunton Preparatory
School received
the highest grade
possible ('Excellent')
in all areas following
our latest inspection
in March 2017.



If you are looking for a school that combines excellent academic progress with a tremendous range of opportunities outside of the classroom, then you are right to be considering Taunton Preparatory School.

This prospectus, as well as our website, will give you a very good insight into the life and work of our school, but nothing can be a true substitute for a visit and I would welcome the chance to meet you and show you around.

As well as seeing many prospective parents such as yourselves, during 2017 we were visited by The Good Schools Guide and by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. After several days of close scrutiny, both of these external authorities published glowing reports which provide expert, objective and trustworthy evidence of the outstanding achievements of our pupils and staff. These reports have been summarised for you on the inside back page of this prospectus.

I have a wonderful job and feel honoured and privileged to lead this lovely school. What makes it special, above all, is the warmth of the atmosphere and the strength of the relationships between the staff and pupils and between the pupils themselves. The staff and I know that there is nothing that is more important than working in partnership with like-minded parents, to develop in our children the attitudes and values which will make such a positive difference to their futures.

I very much hope that you will come and see us and I can promise you the warmest of welcomes.

Andrew Edwards, Headmaster



About our School

When choosing a school, you need to be clear about its defining features. Here are ten things to help you understand what we offer at Taunton Preparatory School.

Around 270 boys and girls aged between 7 and 13 with an average of 15 pupils per class. 2 classes in Year 3 grows to 4 classes in Year 8.



A non-selective school, welcoming pupils of all abilities, personalities and interests. Attainment and progress of each year group well above national average. Beyond the classroom, a superb breadth of opportunity.



Every year, significant numbers of pupils join each of the year groups. New pupils are warmly welcomed and fit in quickly.



A happy boarding community of around 30 boys and girls spanning the whole age range from 7 to 13. Full, weekly and flexi options are all popular.

Saturdays are a vibrant part of the school week. Sports fixtures plus morning lessons for Years 7 and 8 and an optional Enrichment Programme for Years 3 to 6.



Pupils in Years 7 and 8 enjoy developing their leadership skills at the top of the Prep School. They also spend an increasing amount of time benefiting from Senior School facilities, teachers and elite sports coaches.



Pupils with English as an Additional Language can either join the Prep School or our specialist facility called Taunton School International Middle School (TSIMS).



The Nursery, Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior School, together form one School, on one impressive 56 acre site. The Prep School has superb facilities of its own, including a swimming pool and a performing arts centre.



By the end of Year 8, pupils have held on to all of their childhood years and have become confident young people, ready to work, play and socialise, alongside the young adults of the Senior School.



The large majority of our Year 8 pupils move into our Senior School and are not required to sit Common Entrance examinations. Pupils destined for other senior schools can sit CE and Scholarships and are fully supported.





The School Ethos

The school enjoys a reputation for excellence in many fields and we have pupils reaching extraordinarily high levels of expertise in a wide range of academic and co-curricular pursuits. At the heart of all that we do, however, is the strong belief that children will achieve their best when they are happy.

Our pupils understand that if they try their hardest and if they show kindness and respect, then there is no more that can be asked of them. This means that they relax and smile!

It is a whole school aim that we *inspire, challenge and nurture* young people to succeed in a *global community*. Our pupils are *inspired* by doing things which they enjoy and because we foster their natural love of learning. They take the initiative and embrace the *challenges* which stretch out before them and they are confident in the *nurturing* and support which they receive.

Our *community* is one big relaxed, friendly family, in which we look out for each other and grow as individuals. As our pupils move up through the Prep and Senior Schools, they all benefit mutually from a gradually increasing internationalism which will help equip them for the global society of tomorrow.

Our children know that all areas of learning and personal development are of equal importance and are inter-connected. We look to find the talents inside each individual and joyfully observe how success in one area leads to progress in another.

Towards the top of the Prep School, the challenge increases accordingly. It may be trying something new, or it may be setting even more ambitious goals within an established interest. All of our Year 8 pupils take on responsibility and leadership in one way or another and experience the deep fulfilment which comes from giving back and making a valued contribution.

School motto:
'Carpe Diem' - Seize the Day.

"All groups of pupils demonstrate exemplary attitudes to learning... they are highly motivated to learn and succeed."

Independent Schools
Inspectorate 2017

*“A terrific
all-rounder.”*

The Good Schools Guide 2017





ACADEMIC

Academic

Focusing on the development of each child as an individual underpins everything that we do.

Our teachers enjoy catering for all pupils, ranging from academic high flyers, to those who benefit from a steadier pace. All of our pupils embrace the very high expectations which we maintain in terms of good manners, respect and behaviour in the classroom.

Our teaching is carefully planned to ensure that our pupils are positively engaged in their own learning, that they remain curious and that they enjoy their lessons.

The progress of each child is monitored carefully, using nationally benchmarked tests as well as our own internal assessment systems. Concerns are quickly identified and discussed with parents. Evidence from tests show that all of our year groups are exceeding national age-related expectations, in terms of both attainment levels and progress.





L0: To See Size
of a jar
burning

*“Academically
a very safe pair
of hands across
the board.”*

The Good Schools
Guide 2017

A photograph of a female teacher with dark hair, wearing a blue and white patterned dress, leaning over a desk to assist a young girl. The girl is wearing a dark blue school uniform with a white shirt and a blue tie, and is focused on writing with a red pencil on a piece of paper. The background shows a classroom setting with a window and colorful decorations.

Learning Support

Every opportunity is taken to promote special academic ability and support is provided for those who need it. Our dedicated Educational Progress department has highly qualified specialist teachers, who provide additional one-to-one tuition, in English and Maths, whilst Learning Support Assistants work with our teachers in the classroom. Individual or small group tuition is also provided for pupils who have English as an additional language.



The curriculum is both broad and balanced, with an extensive programme of educational trips bringing learning to life.

All pupils study French throughout their time in the Prep School. In Years 7 and 8, they also study Latin, German and Spanish, enabling them to make informed choices for Year 9. The Year 7 and 8 programme is supported by language teachers from the Senior School to ensure that pupils are well positioned to achieve highly at GCSE.

In Year 8, pupils complete the Prep School Baccalaureate, which is a programme designed to support the development of multiple intelligences, study skills and attitudes to learning. Pupils regularly reflect upon their learning with a mentor and independently complete an assessed project.

Saturday morning lessons for pupils in Years 7 and 8 allow for an increased range of subjects, without the loss of curriculum time in other areas and prepare pupils well for life in Year 9.



Breadth of Curriculum

In Sport, Art, Design and Technology, Computer Studies, Music, Drama and Dance and a wide range of co-curricular activities, the expertise of our staff and the tremendous facilities combine to give our pupils a wonderfully broad educational experience.

Alongside our focus on ensuring excellent academic progress for each pupil, we believe in providing outstanding opportunities in all other areas of school life.

Pupils grow and learn through their individual interests and talents, which are often pivotal in developing self-esteem and pride. By discovering an ability in one area, pupils develop the confidence to aim higher in others.

As well as striving for excellence in individual areas, our pupils enjoy the breadth of opportunity which helps them become well rounded individuals. A pupil who leads on the sports field is often seen performing in a play or in a choir. It is cool to opt in, not to opt out.

There is a choice of over 80 different activities. Computer programming, horse-riding, golf, chess, jazz and modern dance, pottery, table tennis, judo and cookery are just some of the clubs enjoyed by pupils.

Music, Drama and Dance permeate throughout the school to produce a special, highly creative atmosphere. Two full-time teachers run the Performing Arts department along with over

twenty additional teachers, delivering lessons in all instruments, speech, drama and dance. Impressive results are gained in examinations at advanced levels for pupils of their age.

Our orchestras, ensembles and choirs perform regularly, with frequent trips to major cities including Paris, Vienna and Rome. There are full scale musical productions for Years 4, 6 and 8, with recent performances including Bugsy Malone and Oliver, together with many other opportunities to perform, including the Year 5 Play in a Day, the fortnightly Performing Arts Café and the Taunton and Somerset Arts Festival.

In Art and Design and Technology, expert subject specialists teach children as young as 8 years old, with resources and equipment of the highest quality. There is a kiln for pottery and advanced machine-powered tools in the DT room. In Computer Studies, class sets of iPads and two touch screen IT suites are used to build technological skills.

*“They spot
talents you
never know
they had.”*

Prep School Parent





BREADTH OF CURRICULUM





Our excellent physical education and sports programme includes three games sessions a week, a dedicated PE lesson, matches against other schools and the opportunities to take part in clubs before, during and after school.

A very strong team of dedicated sports teachers, small group sizes and outstanding facilities ensure high standards and inclusion for pupils of all levels of ability. Our 'A' teams in all year groups compete strongly against the best sporting prep schools in the country, whilst we also celebrate seeing every pupil representing the school at 'B', 'C' and 'D' team levels.

A very wide range of sports is covered, including rugby, hockey, netball, cricket, tennis, swimming, football, squash, golf, table tennis, rounders, cross-country, athletics and gymnastics.

Towards the top of the Prep School, pupils enjoy more and more use of the facilities across the whole site and have increasingly more contact with our Whole School Heads of Sport, who guide the sporting development of our pupils from Year 3 to Sixth Form. Our Heads of Sport and coaches have often played and coached at elite international level. There are opportunities to train and play matches with pupils from the Senior School, as well as the time to develop their leadership skills amongst younger children in the Prep School.

The school offers sports tours periodically, both domestically and in Europe.



Personal Development

We are a school full of smiles, where children come to school happy in the knowledge that they are all valued equally, for the unique wonderful person that they are. If they are kind, respectful and give their best, then we are very proud of each one of them. We celebrate their successes in all aspects of their lives and witness how success breeds success.

We have high expectations of our pupils in terms of behaviour and expect them to develop into fine young people, confident with good personal discipline and a growing sense of responsibility towards themselves and others. They become assured speakers and performers, looking adults and peers in the eye and conversing with interest, good manners and confidence.

Being one school on one site, with some pupils staying with us from infancy to Sixth Form means that new joiners are warmly welcomed into one big friendly family with strong relationships and values. The large and diverse nature of the community, allows our children the freedom to express their individuality, whilst growing up in an environment where they respect and appreciate differences which enhance their young lives.

All pupils are placed into one of our four Houses for the whole of their time in the Prep School and a vibrant programme of competitions and fun activities creates a sense of belonging, pride and good-natured rivalry.





Pastoral Care

At the centre of the school's pastoral systems are the Form Tutors, who quickly learn the foibles and character traits of each individual in their care. Form Tutors see their tutees every day, looking after their academic and pastoral welfare and providing support, guidance and encouragement. Pastoral Heads of Year provide an additional level of pastoral care, support and discipline, in a system which is overseen carefully by the Headmaster and the Deputy Headmaster.

“Pupils feel extremely safe, well-known and nurtured.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate 2017



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



Our pupils move into Year 9 at a stage of their development when they are ready for the challenges of Senior School. The final years at Prep School provide the pupils with the opportunity to take on leadership roles and for the school to recognise their advanced status. We call this the 'Triple R' effect: Roles of Responsibility and Recognition.

In Year 8, the School Council comprises of each term's Head Boy and Girl, four Heads of House and several 'Activ8tors', providing them with a fantastic opportunity to work in partnership with their peers and senior management for the good of the community. They meet on a weekly basis with the Headmaster and attend the Governor's Lunch in the summer term.

Other leadership roles in Year 8 include peer mentors, Head Chorister, ensemble leaders, captains of sport, digital leaders and captains of boarding. All children are encouraged to apply and take the opportunity to develop their leadership skills.

Year 8 pupils enjoy a special relationship with staff, which draws upon their increased maturity and independence. They have access to communal areas that are not open to younger children, read in Chapel and other services, tour the school with prospective parents and enjoy an action-packed PPF Programme (Past, Present & Future) at the end of the summer term. This includes a formal dinner and disco and a trip.

An understanding of spirituality and the major religions of the world, is a key part of our pupils' personal development. The school is an open community, whose ethos is founded upon Christian principles and where children of all faiths and backgrounds are welcome. Our Chapel is a place of worship and peace and is led with energy and vibrancy by our Chaplain.





Partnership with Parents



"After the Easter and Summer holidays, I always know I'll be coming back to Taunton School rather than moving to a new school."

Taunton School Military family student



Effective education depends upon the strength of the triangle that exists between the pupil, the parents and the School. When all three points of that triangle are pulling in the same direction, there is no limit to what can be achieved. Our philosophy is simple – we succeed together.

Our parents can always arrange face to face contact with any member of staff. As well as seeing Form Tutors at the start and end of the day, parents are welcome to arrange meetings with any teacher at any point in the term. Telephone conversations can always be arranged or parents may choose to communicate via email.

Parents are kept fully informed of the progress of their children by means of half termly assessment grades and regular test results, reports and parent-teacher meetings. Parents have the opportunity to look through books containing their child's work and are regularly informed of targets for improvement.

Parents are always encouraged to attend school events and their support for the school further enhances the atmosphere that characterises our school. There is a thriving Parents' Association which puts on a programme of events throughout the year, allowing parents to mix socially, have fun and raise funds for charity.

It helps some of our parents enormously that we offer an extended School day from 7.45am to 5.45pm and we are very flexible in how these services are used.





Facilities

Our state-of-the-art facilities mean that your child has the best chance of success in and outside the classroom.

We pride ourselves on getting the most out of our specialist facilities and keeping up-to-date with advances in technology and communication. The Prep School's facilities include:

- Every classroom fitted with an interactive whiteboard and Apple TV
- Class sets of iPads
- Two touchscreen IT suites
- Library with IT suite
- Performing Arts centre including a specialist Music room and practice rooms, a Music Tech Suite, a Dance Studio and the large Centenary Hall
- Sports Hall with indoor Cricket practice facility
- 25m Swimming pool
- Tennis and Netball courts
- Extensive sports pitches for Rugby, Football, Cricket, Rounders and Athletics
- Two full-size astro pitches (shared with the Senior School) for Hockey, Tennis and other sports
- Specialist Design and Technology room
- Specialist Art Studio
- Three Science Labs
- Cookery and Food Technology classroom

We are fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful, natural open space with lots of specially designated outdoor areas for the pupils to enjoy.

Pupils towards the top of the Prep School spend increasingly more time using the Senior School facilities across the whole 56 acre campus. Examples include:-

- The Senior School Science laboratories
- Senior School Design and Technology Rooms with 3D printers, Laser Cutters and Computer Aided Design software
- The Photography room
- The Music Recording Studio
- The Squash Courts and Climbing Wall
- The Fitness Suite
- The Senior School sports halls, Swimming pools, outdoor sports facilities and Performing Arts Centre

Providing great sustenance throughout the day for our children is hugely important to ensure they are healthy, focused and energised for their busy life at Taunton School and that is fulfilled by our fantastic catering team.

Our highly qualified and experienced catering staff, prepare delicious home cooked meals for all tastes and dietary requirements. From a tasty choice of healthy and nutritious meal and snack options for breakfast, lunch and tea, to cooked and Continental breakfasts and a choice of cereals to start the day. Homemade treats and plenty of fresh, seasonal fruit is always available on a daily basis. There is no chance of going hungry.



BOARDING

At Taunton Prep School we ensure all of our boarders enjoy a wonderful, relaxed home from home experience, with caring and nurturing house parents and house staff always on hand to provide pastoral care and support along the way.

Thone House, in the heart of the Prep School, offers a thriving, fun, relaxed family atmosphere, focusing on your child's wellbeing and happiness, as they form lifelong friendships and grow in independence.

House parents, Chris and Michelle Coleman, who are supported by various house staff, including matrons, an Assistant House Parent and resident house tutors, provide excellent pastoral care and educational support to ensure the wellbeing and happiness of our boarders.

With exceptional facilities, our recently refurbished boarding house features spacious dormitories, separate boys' and girls' facilities, relaxing lounges and recreational areas. It also includes a dedicated ICT suite offering controlled access to the internet and study areas. Your child will feel perfectly at home in our friendly and caring environment. Our recreation room now includes a large cinema screen.

Mealtimes are taken care of in our highly acclaimed food hall that offers a broad range of choice to suit all tastes and requirements.

We provide fun, structured activities in the evenings and at weekends to ensure a balanced and rewarding time as a boarder. Evening entertainment and activities range from crafts, swimming, climbing, knitting, film clubs and cookery, to relaxing in front of the TV, reading books/ebooks and playing on games consoles. At the weekends children can enjoy down time as well as the many facilities on offer at both Taunton Prep and Senior School. Trips to local attractions take place on Sundays. All this, plus access to the Senior School facilities means supervised prep (homework) will not feel like a chore.

We offer full, weekly and flexible boarding at Thone House. We understand that both you and your child may be apprehensive about boarding, which is why we offer Flexi Boarding. It gives your child the opportunity to experience boarding for a short period of time to see whether it is the right option for them.

It is also a beneficial option for parents who are going to be away for a short period of time, as a one-off or as a regular arrangement, that makes life easier such as to avoid a long journey home on occasions. Rest assured that we will care for your child in a familiar environment along with their friends.

Pupils are encouraged to communicate regularly with family and friends. The house parents also maintain strong communication with you to ensure you are a part of the community. If your son or daughter has an older sibling staying at one of our Senior School houses then we encourage them to meet regularly and continue their sibling relationship.

Communication within the House is also actively encouraged with a suggestions box, Boarders' Committee and an open door policy.

We pride ourselves on playing and working together to build a strong, kind-hearted, welcoming community. Through your child's boarding journey, we aim to develop a sense of personal fulfilment, responsibility, respect for themselves and others and the independence, confidence and social skills necessary to prepare themselves for their future lives.

A photograph of two young girls sitting on a carpeted floor. The girl on the left is wearing a teal hoodie and has her hands clasped under her chin. The girl on the right is wearing glasses and a dark grey sweater, with her hands framing her face. Between them are several stuffed animals, including a large brown one wearing a 'Frozen' t-shirt and a smaller dog-like one. A purple and green striped blanket is in the foreground. The background shows a wooden chair and a patterned curtain.

Boarding

*"It's like one
big sleepover
every day."*

Fabian, Prep Pupil



THE NEXT STEPS

By the time that they finish in the Prep School, our pupils have been fully prepared for their next steps and are equipped with all the tools needed to move on and embrace the challenges of Year 9 with confidence.

In Years 7 and 8, pupils follow our enhanced version of the National Curriculum, ensuring an unencumbered, smooth pathway into Year 9. The large majority of our Year 8 pupils move into our Senior School and are not required to sit the 13+ Common Entrance examinations. The Headmaster and his colleagues have, however, years of experience of helping pupils go to other senior schools. We fully support those pupils and Common Entrance and Scholarship exams are prepared for, as required, to ensure a successful admissions process.

Pupils in the final year of our Prep School can apply for the full range of Scholarships available in Year 9 at Taunton School and other senior schools. There is an ethos of hard work and ambition and a high number of awards are gained, both academic and non-academic.

For pupils moving up to Taunton Senior School, transition could not be smoother. By the end of Year 8, pupils will have become familiar with the Senior School staff and site.



Pupils will have eaten, played sport, gone to chapel, studied and performed in Senior School facilities, and have become comfortable and familiar with these surroundings and their layout.

Senior School staff deliver regular enrichment lectures to Years 7 and 8 and the Head of Middle School (Years 9 to 11) explains clearly the transfer process and organises taster days.

Our Senior School offers the following:

- It is an IB World School with a choice of A Levels, International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma or BTEC.
- Extensive subject choice and option combinations.
- Performance Sport Programme with state-of-the-art facilities.
- Huge co-curricular programme including CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, music, dance and drama.
- Focus on wellbeing and excellent pastoral care.

The next steps





Taunton



Bath



Bristol



Stonehenge

Our Location

Taunton School is situated in Taunton, in the beautiful English countryside and benefits from clean air and a safe environment, away from large urban populations.

Taunton is the county town of Somerset, in the South West of England. The region enjoys good weather, areas of outstanding natural beauty and a wonderful coastline.

The cities of Bristol and Exeter are less than one hour in travel time away and Taunton is on main road and rail links to London and other major cities.

Taunton School is within walking distance from the town centre, which has excellent amenities and is the perfect place to do some shopping, meet for coffee or visit the theatre or cinema during evenings and weekends.

Taunton is quintessentially British and is home to the highly successful Somerset County Cricket Club. It has a beautiful town centre park and a traditional food and craft market.

It is close to Stonehenge, one of the Wonders of the World and the best-known prehistoric monument in Europe, and the historic city of Bath, a designated world heritage site with its grand Georgian architecture and one of the world's best-preserved Roman bathhouses.



Transport

Our efficient, safe and reliable transport network is at your disposal to get to and from school. Our fleet of 3 coaches and 11 minibuses covers a wide catchment area with convenient pick up points from Exeter to Glastonbury and Weston-Super-Mare. All of our drivers are fully vetted, DBS checked, fire and first aid trained and employed by Taunton School.

Our Spacious Campus





Visit us

We really encourage you to visit our school so that you can see what we have to offer and to experience our warm and friendly learning environment.

You can come along to one of our Open Mornings to see what we have to offer and take a tour or you can arrange a visit to experience lessons, activities and to meet the headmaster, teachers and other pupils.

Arranging a visit during term time provides the best opportunity to see the Prep School in full swing. It is a hive of activity with enthusiastic children enjoying both lessons and activities. Of course, if scheduling a visit during term time is not convenient, then we will be more than happy to arrange a visit during the holiday period if it suits you better.


We would be happy to arrange a taster day for your child in order that you can see what a whole day is like at Taunton Preparatory School.

To arrange a visit, please email our Prep Admissions Manager, at prep@tauntonschool.co.uk or call **01823 703303**.





TALINTON
SCHOOL
PREPARATORY
Thorne
"Children Please Sign"
in all Reception



"I never thought private education would be accessible, Taunton School made the process of applying for an Assisted Place easy and I found them approachable and friendly."

Current parent

Assisted Places and Scholarships

We believe that every child should have access to a life changing education. At Taunton School, we offer Assisted Places and Scholarships so that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

We know that for many parents, the dream of sending their child to a top independent school is out of reach financially. You may also have concerns that your son or daughter may struggle to fit in socially and academically.

One of the School's most important aims is to do all it can to provide education for able pupils, regardless of financial circumstances.

Assisted Places are means-tested financial support and last the whole time your child is at Taunton School. Scholarships' are not means tested and are recognition of excellence and outstanding ability. All offers are subject to assessment, with pupils demonstrating outstanding ability in one or more areas.

11+ Scholarships (Year 7) and Awards (other year groups)

We offer Academic, Sport, Music, Performing Arts, DT, Art and All Rounder Scholarships to candidates for entry into Year 7 and subject to suitable progress they continue through to the end of the Sixth Form. Your child must be under the age of 11 on the 1st of September to qualify for entry. There are also Awards, which are merit-based and offer a discount on fees. They are available for entry into years outside the Scholarship entry years.

For further information about 11+ Scholarships, including deadlines and the application procedure for entry, or Assisted Places please contact the Prep Admissions Manager on **01823 703303**, email prep@tauntonschool.co.uk or visit our website.



We believe that every child should benefit from an exceptional education, which is why we offer significant financial support for military families in receipt of CEA. We know that military families are often moved from one place to another and sometimes at very short notice. We can provide the continuity and security of an uninterrupted education in one place.



Admissions

We accept pupils at every stage of their education.

Informal assessments are taken for pupils entering Years 3 to 8. Our admissions process is easy.

1. Initial Enquiry/Registration

If you wish to register your interest in your child joining the School, contact us and we will ask you to complete a registration form and return it to us with the registration fee. (NB: This does not guarantee a place at this stage).

2. Entry in to Year 3 up to Year 8

Your child will be invited into school for a 'Taster Day' during which they join their peer group for the day to gain a real insight into life at Taunton Prep School. We will contact you at the end of the day to discuss next steps. With your permission, we will contact the child's current Headteacher for recent school reports and a reference.

3. Offer of a place

Once we are in a position to offer a place, an offer letter will be sent, with an Acceptance Form and a copy of our Standard Terms and Conditions.

4. Acceptance of a place

Completion and return of the Acceptance Form, together with the acceptance deposit (which is returned to you when your child leaves the School), will secure the place and form the contract with the School. Confirmation will be sent, together with early joining information.

Please feel free to call for information, advice or support at any time or for details on Scholarships and Assisted Places.



Excellent Inspection report



Our School received an outstanding Inspection report in our latest inspection in March 2017.

Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI)

The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), equivalent to Ofsted in the state sector, judged our school as “Excellent” in the quality of the pupils’ academic and other achievements and “Excellent” in pupils’ personal development - the highest rating available.

Inspectors reported that pupils’ attainment is often well above national age-related expectations and that pupils’ progress rapidly. It states: “All groups of pupils demonstrate exemplary attitudes to learning.” It continues that pupils are “highly motivated to learn and succeed” and “exhibit great delight in finding out more.”

Inspectors also found that pupils demonstrate outstanding self-confidence, exhibit strong moral understanding and are extremely respectful towards others.

Inspectors noted that “Pupils’ exemplary attitudes towards learning are nourished by the teachers’ substantial expectations of them, and due to leaders and governors successfully embedding the school’s ethos.”



The Good Schools Guide review

We were delighted to have been reviewed by The Good Schools Guide in January 2017.

The independent reviewer praised our school describing it as having ‘wonderfully welcoming’ staff, amazing facilities and excellent pastoral support.

The reviewer commented: “This is a school for every child, a place where values of humanity come first, where happy children find out who they are and what they can do and then go on and play out of their socks.”

“You quickly pick up on the social atmosphere here because everyone is so naturally nice and courteous, welcoming of strangers, and that’s not something you find everywhere by any means.”

The review praised our teaching stating: “Academically a very safe pair of hands across the board - just the right blend of extra-mile dedication and judicious professionalism.” Maths, DT, and the performing arts centre were singled out for acclaim alongside the benefits of sharing teachers and facilities with the senior school.

Read more on our website.



Independent, bold, audacious,
resilient, courageous, fulfilled.



TAUNTON SCHOOL

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