

FIND YOUR  
EXCEPTIONAL



TAUNTON  
— SCHOOL —

Candidate Information





# THE SCHOOL

FIND YOUR EXCEPTIONAL

Taunton School is a large, exciting and diverse school, which aims to celebrate the uniqueness of every child.

We seek to unearth potential, to nurture individual talents and to ensure every child develops into a confident, enquiring, personable young adult who has enthusiasm for learning and for life. These qualities make Taunton one of the best examples of an all-round school in HMC. When one adds its global perspective, progressive culture and commercial success, the whole is a particularly vibrant and exceptional school.

Taunton School is ambitious without pretence, is extraordinarily friendly and pupils have fun. Relationships are based upon mutual respect between all members of the school community. The staff are true enthusiasts. In a competitive market, Taunton School is financially strong.



OUR PURPOSE

CELEBRATING EACH INDIVIDUAL

OUR MISSION

UNEARTHING POTENTIAL IN EVERY CHILD

OUR VISION

DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL EVERY DAY





# THE TAUNTON TWELVE

## A CULTURE OF AMBITION

- A WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITY
- UNEARTHING POTENTIAL
- ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

## A SENSE OF BELONGING

- ONE INCLUSIVE FAMILY
- ROOTED IN KINDNESS AND COMPASSION
- FREEDOM TO BE YOURSELF



DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL EVERY DAY

## A MINDSET FOR LIFE

- RESILIENCE AND AUTHENTICITY
- INDEPENDENCE AND CURIOSITY
- INTEGRITY AND HUMILITY

## A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

- AN INSPIRING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
- CELEBRATING DIVERSITY
- CONNECTIONS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM





# THE STRUCTURE OF THE SCHOOL

## TAUNTON SCHOOL HAS FIVE PARTS:

- Taunton Senior School, referred to as TS (600 pupils, aged 13-18)
- Taunton Preparatory School, referred to as TPS (330 pupils, aged 7-13)
- Taunton Pre-Prep and Nursery, referred to as TPPS (200 pupils aged 0-7, of which 115 are in the Nursery)
- Taunton School International, referred to as TSI (80 pupils, mainly in Year 11)
- Taunton School International Middle School, referred to as TSIMS (40 pupils in Year 10 and below)



*With the exception of the International Middle School, all parts of the School are based on a single estate of some 56 acres. The Head of Taunton School, James Johnson, who joined in September 2022, has ultimate responsibility for the whole School and is instrumental in developing a shared sense of purpose, despite the differences in ages and educational programmes.*

TPS has its own Head who enjoys considerable autonomy in the discharge of his/her duties, and who reports directly to the Head of Taunton School. TPS admits boy and girl boarders from the age of 7.

In TS (13 – 18 years) there are approximately 600 students, of whom 270 are boarders and 260 are in the Sixth Form. As one of the first independent schools to have accepted both boys and girls (in 1973) we can lay claim to being genuinely co-educational and today approximately 45% of our pupils are girls.

## **The pupils and their parents**

The School's catchment area for day pupils extends as far afield as Bristol, Sidmouth, Exeter, Minehead, Burnham-on-Sea and Yeovil. The majority of UK boarders live in the South-West, although London is an important market, and there is a vital overseas element of expatriates and international pupils who come from all over the globe. These international students add an essential dimension to the life of the School. In 2022-23 over 50 different nationalities were represented across the whole school. There is also a significant contingent of boarders from military families in both the Preparatory and Senior Schools.

The more local parents come from a range of professions and backgrounds, including those engaged in agriculture, as one might expect, City of London employees who commute on a Monday and Friday, a good number of Local Government and NHS employees, the professional services and owners of small businesses. Over 50% of our parental body have no prior experience of the independent sector.

## **Taunton International**

In 1996 the School opened an International Study Centre (TSI) with the aim of supporting Year 11 students through a one year GCSE programme whilst improving their English. This has been followed by Taunton School International Middle School (TSIMS) which opened in June 2012. TSIMS is based in a nearby village, Kingston St. Mary, three miles from the School. Many of our International students join the Senior School at Sixth Form level. The vision of TSIMS is to bring international students into the School at a younger age so they have a better chance to gain the all-round skills and understanding to make the most of the rich offering of both Prep and Senior Schools. Already a good number from TSIMS have made this transition. The Principal of TSI, Adrian Hallworth, is line manager to the Head of TSIMS and Head of TSI. He is an experienced expert in his specialist field.







# THE SCHOOL'S HISTORY

Taunton School was founded in 1847 for the sons of free churchmen and others. This combination of faith and open-mindedness, very subtly, still characterises the School today.



The School moved to its present, purpose-built site in 1870. The original house, Fairwater, dating from the 18th century, is now a boys' boarding house.

In 1973 the importance of co-education was recognised and the process of admitting girls to the Senior School at all levels began. At the same time the School acquired Weirfield School, an independent school for girls.

The older buildings are complemented by modern designs including specialist teaching facilities. Recent investment in the Prep and Pre-Prep Schools has ensured that they comprise modern, comfortable and well-resourced teaching departments.

There is a robust maintenance programme throughout the School to ensure that buildings are regularly renovated and modernised.

Academic, sporting, dramatic and musical facilities are all impressive and the school is in the midst of a very significant campus development plan which has seen the opening of the new Dining Hall in 2020, the new Library and Sixth Form Centre in 2022, a new, pedestrianized,



Green Heart to the campus in January 2023 and the very recent completion of a new Multiple Use Games Area in September 2023.

Two new astroturf facilities will be built this academic year to make way for the construction of the new international school on the main school site by September 2026 which will combine TSI and TSIMS in one location.

The older buildings are complemented by modern designs including specialist teaching facilities. Recent investment in the Prep and Pre-Prep Schools has ensured that they comprise modern, comfortable and well-resourced teaching departments.





## BENEFITS

- Annual leave
- Enhanced family leave
- Paid compassionate leave
- Pension schemes
- Death in Service
- Simply Health
- BUPA Everyday rewards
- Employee Assistance programme
- Wellbeing programme
- Subsidised access to the Gym for staff and immediate family
- Staff development opportunities
- Techscheme
- Cycle to work scheme
- Eye-care scheme
- Refer a friend
- Free onsite parking



# EXTRAS

- On-site shop for treats and essentials
- State of the art Dining room
- Staff forum
- Access to student concerts, performances etc.
- Bi-annual staff parties
- Royal visits
- Charity events, balls etc







## OUR STAFF SAY...

- Great lunch
- Excellent facilities
- Fun events
- Steeped in history and tradition
- Beautiful environment
- Stunning grounds
- Collegiate
- Supportive
- Kindness
- Respect
- Amazing events
- Accessible management
- Varied benefits with something for everyone



EXCEPTIONAL TOGETHER



TAUNTON  
— SCHOOL —