



# Your Lymington Schools Guide

THE  
GOOD  
SCHOOLS  
GUIDE

JOHN D WOOD & CO.

London, Country & International Property



## Education Overview

This is a town where regular church attendance may be the case as the majority of state primaries are Church of England, with one Catholic exception: Our Lady and St Joseph. The more limited secular choice includes the eponymous Lymington Junior and the charmingly named Tiptoe Primary.

By Ofsted rankings, Twynham School comes out top of the local secondary options as it is rated 'Outstanding' in all areas, but Arnewood School rates at the same level for their Sixth Form, with A Level results consistently above the national average. Priestlands School in nearby Pennington has a rather more eccentric claim to fame, having attempted to enter the Guinness book of records for most people standing on one leg for two minutes... Less surprising perhaps as it gained an Ofsted 'Outstanding' for behaviour!

If you are looking for schools outside the mainstream, this pretty corner of the South Coast has several options, including Coxlease, who are known for working with children who are differently abled and need additional help. Parents say that they consider themselves very lucky to find a place there. The New Forest Small School also provides an alternative education for children who may not be coping in a more 'traditional' atmosphere.

The independent preps include the non-selective Ballard School in New Milton – which takes children through from Nursery to GCSEs – and Walhampton, where the head is focussing on raising the academic standards. There is also a wide choice of well-known public schools within fairly easy driving distance, ranging alphabetically from Bryanston to Winchester.

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

## Selected Local Schools

### Coxlease School

A special independent school for 70 boys and girls aged from 9 to 18.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

Sometimes it takes Coxlease (which takes children with behavioural, emotional, social or mental difficulties) to discover undiagnosed autism, or to teach those at the high functioning end how to come to terms with it. "Once they have the right structure around them, they become comfortable and confident quickly, and the trajectory is steep." Pupils are taught in year groups and follow a mainstream curriculum, and all three sciences are taught to GCSE.

**Head: Mr Darren Harte**  
Clay Hill, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, SO43 7DE

### King Edward VI School

An independent school for 950 boys and girls aged from 11 to 18.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

struggling with something." Science and maths are possibly so popular because there are so many medical/scientific families, and it's what the school is known for. There is a terrific rapport between pupils and staff, especially amongst Sixth Formers. Fifty-plus clubs, many as intellectual as the most academic parent might hope, but some with a distinctive King Edward's twist to them.

**Head: Mr Neal Parker from September 2019**  
Wilton Road, Southampton, SO15 5UQ

### Walhampton School

An independent school for 360 boys and girls aged from 2 to 13.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

Subjects are traditional (Latin is compulsory), but learning comes alive here. The Battle of Trafalgar takes place on one of the ponds, and ditches are currently doubling as trenches for WW2 enactments. History, understandably, is a tremendously popular subject. The head is keen to take learning outside as much as possible and as a result this was one of the most deserted schools we have ever toured. "Mud is part of the curriculum," said one member of staff. There's Portmere pond for sailing and Sandwalk pond for fishing.

**Head: Mr Titus Mills**  
Walhampton, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 5ZG

### Forres Sandle Manor School

An independent school for 200 boys and girls aged from 3 to 13.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

Set in child-friendly grounds, centred around an elegant Jacobean manor; a stone's throw from the New Forest. It's hard to imagine a more captivating environment for the 'tweenager'. Imaginative teaching and learning captivate the spellbound youngsters. We especially liked the 'naughty bus' that hides on a daily basis and had been found encased in ice on our visit. Ennui not an option – daily sport and afternoon activities are as diverse as scuba diving, golf (even for the tinies) and banana boating.

**Head: Mr Jody Wells**  
Sandle Manor, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1NS

### Bournemouth School for Girls

A state school for 1,150 girls aged from 11 to 18.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

Psychology is consistently amongst the most popular A Level – "The teachers capture and ignite imaginations," said a parent. This class also benefits from regular visits from a tortoiseshell cat, curled up asleep on a chair when we visited. Around the school some lovely textiles are displayed, including a gorgeous Swan Lake dress and light up ball dress (the batteries are stored in a pack on a strap underneath – not perhaps for vigorous dancers).

**Head: Mr Alastair Brien**  
Castle Lane West, Bournemouth, BH8 9UJ

### Bournemouth School

A state school for 1,040 boys aged from 11 to 18 and 30 girls aged from 16 -18.

*The Good Schools Guide says...*

The main school building is impressively long, with an outsize clock tower. Only staff and Sixth Formers can use the echoing front hall and staircase, with walls lined with awards and achievements. Wooden boards commemorate pupils who died in the First and Second World Wars and our Sixth Form guide told us he always stops and reflects as he passes them. "It's nice to be in a school that has a real legacy," he told us, "it's hard to walk by and not look at the names of those who died. Some of them were our age."

**Head: Dr Dorian Lewis**  
East Way, Bournemouth, BH8 9PY

# Housing, Schooling & Higher Education

## Educated Investment - Property performance close to independent schools

Living near schools and universities is a good enough reason to want to invest in a property if you or your children are studying. However, there are reasons to believe that homes close to independent schools tend to hold their value better and recover faster than average in the UK. That's not necessarily because of the school but rather the fact that the schools and homes are in desirable areas for other reasons.

There is not necessarily a causal link between the performance of independent schools and local property markets. Unlike state schools, there are no catchment areas, often the critical factor impacting neighbouring house prices, plus children often have the opportunity to board at an independent school. However, there is a strong correlation between the desirability of an area and the existence of good independent schools, and consequently is a major factor impacting the performance of property markets.

Across England and Wales, outside of the super prime market, the average price of a home in Q1 2019 stood at £214,900, but where a property is close to an independent school, this increases to £289,900 -

a £75,000 difference. In London, the gap widens further with the average home in the capital reaching £475,500 in Q1 2019, but located near an independent school the average home costs £883,000 - 86% more. In the South East, a home situated near an independent school costs £502,500, while in the South West, it costs £325,600 on average. In the last ten years, homes situated near independent schools have outperformed the wider UK average. Across England and Wales, house prices have risen 19% since 2008, but house prices close to independent schools have risen to 34% and shown a faster rate of recovery than average house prices.

The same is true in London. House prices in the capital have increased 61% since 2008, but those homes situated near independent schools have seen a 76% rise. Prices near famous schools such as Westminster, St Pauls and Harrow, have risen 113%, 63% and 43% respectively, over the last ten years, but homes outside of London have seen slower price growth. Prices near Eton College, Cheltenham Ladies College and Marlborough College, have risen 24%, 22% and 27% respectively.

**ANEISHA BEVERIDGE**  
Head of Research

Can you spot the  
good schools?  
We can.

£10 off + one month's free access to UK school reviews  
online when you buy The Good Schools Guide book.  
Discount code: JDW10 [www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk](http://www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk)

