



Priory School

of Our Lady of Walsingham



Prospectus

Beatrice Avenue, Whippingham

Isle of Wight, PO32 6LP

(01983) 861222

www.prioryschool.org.uk

mail@prioryschool.org.uk

Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Priory School; an Independent Co-educational Day School for boys and girls aged 4-18 years. We are a non-denominational school, run with a Christian ethos under the patronage of Our Lady of Walsingham, the national shrine to Mary the Mother of Christ. Originally founded in Shanklin in 1993 out of Upper Chine School, the Matyjaszek family (Edmund & Fiona) took over ownership in 2009, and in 2012 the school moved to the historic site of Queen Victoria's school at Whippingham.

We are all very proud that Priory School maintains a family atmosphere where pupils feel safe, secure and can thrive in all areas of school life, curricular and co-curricular. Values of kindness and respect, and the development of the individual underpin all that we do, and our small class sizes facilitate expert knowledge of the child and very strong relationships between staff and pupils. Staff are skilled in helping pupils to fulfill their potential and deliver personalised and flexible pastoral care and excellent academic results. Moral and ethical decision making are central to our provision and we encourage all members of our school community to be upstanders and not bystanders.

The aim of Priory School is to offer a first-class education at an affordable cost in a well-structured and compassionately run environment in order to become the school of choice for parents and pupils on the Isle of Wight. We operate an 'open house' policy and parents considering Priory School are encouraged to book a tour of the school to see us in situ.

For more information, please visit our website, www.prioryschool.org.uk.

David EJJ Lloyd BSc (Econ), Principal



The Independent Schools Inspectorate deemed the school to be fully compliant in all areas of school life in February 2023

A recent Ofsted inspection rated the school as 'good' with outstanding features:



“... a caring school with pupils' needs at its heart.”



“Pupils' personal development and welfare are outstanding.”



“Staff care for and support pupils exceptionally well.”



“The school has a family atmosphere and pupils thrive.”



“Pupils' attitude to the school is impressive.
They are keen to learn and proud of their school.”



“Teachers are passionate about their subject and inspire pupils.”



“As a result of the excellent standards of care and welfare,
the school is a calm and peaceful haven.”



- ◆ At Priory School we believe that every child is entitled to a happy, secure and supportive learning environment
- ◆ Pupils are taught and encouraged to prioritise kindness and respect towards one another, and to work both independently and collaboratively across the 4-18 age range ~ pupils know each other very well
- ◆ Pupils should be considered as individuals both in and out of the classroom and respected for their own unique characters, gifts and personalities
- ◆ Our Christian ethos underpins all we do, regarding every pupil as a child of God with the inviolable dignity and worth that comes from this



- ◆ Self-confidence, self-motivation, self-discipline and self-esteem are all concepts that we promote unremittingly at Priory
- ◆ By affording pupils the opportunity to hone presentation and public speaking skills, and to participate in a wide-range of co-curricular activities, and subsequently celebrating their achievements, pupils are enabled to feel a sense of worth and accomplishment
- ◆ This ultimately encourages them to strive for success in their chosen field



Infant School

Early Years & Key Stage 1: Reception - Year 2

- ◆ Reception is the first year of primary school and the final year of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) before children start Key Stage 1. Priory School's EYFS provision is a unique environment that provides a seamless transition from nursery years to Reception
- ◆ Our experienced and highly qualified staff work collaboratively across the EYFS and Key Stage 1 to provide a cohesive, supportive and stimulating environment
- ◆ An exceptional feature is that given our 4 -18 nature, we are able to utilise specialist practitioners in subjects such as Sport, Science, Music and IT, facilitating a varied and stimulating day for the pupils
- ◆ Ofsted rated Early Years as "outstanding" in 2018:

“The provision provides an exceptionally rich curriculum and meets every child's learning needs very well.”



Junior School

Key Stage II:Year 3 - Year 6

- ◆ Our curriculum is wide, covering a full range of subjects. A Modern Foreign Language, normally French or Spanish, Computing and Science are taught to all pupils from the age of five years, and Junior School staff are supported by Senior School specialists and facilities



- ◆ This unique provision enables children to enjoy the security of a form base and teacher, whilst benefiting from specialist expertise before they enter the Senior School. Parents also benefit from the strong relationship developed with the form teacher and subject specific staff, particularly given our firm commitment to small class sizes
- ◆ Similarly, this provision also eases the transition into the Senior School, as Junior school pupils are already familiar with the system



“ A firm and secure transition from Junior School to Senior School with our ‘bridge years’ for years 5 & 6. ”

Senior School

Year 7 -Year 11

- ◆ Our aim, as in the Junior School, is to encourage our pupils to strive to develop their potential confidently. By ensuring that our classes remain small we are able to devote the necessary time to each individual
- ◆ The Senior School follows a wide curriculum designed to develop the talents and skills of our pupils, whether their bias is academic or of a more practical nature. Academically, pupils are encouraged to give their best in all subjects, producing a sense of personal achievement and self-discipline
- ◆ Even in the early years, emphasis is placed upon preparation for GCSE and beyond. We feel this gives an aim and purpose, looking towards future achievements with positive encouragement from the teaching staff
- ◆ We place strong emphasis on the co-curriculum and pupils actively participate in a wide range of activities and house events. Whilst academic results are strong, success is considered much more broadly

“The maximum teaching class size of 16 ensures individual focus and learning.”



“Weekly focused tutor periods concentrate on individual detailed support for UCAS applications.”



Sixth Form

Lower 6th and Upper 6th

- ◆ The Sixth Form is housed in its own suite, with both tutorial and common rooms; a greater independence is given to sixth-formers in studies, uniform and responsibilities, to assist their own personal development
- ◆ Our sixth-formers have been extremely successful in securing places at Russell Group universities such as London, Warwick, Exeter, Nottingham and Oxford
- ◆ Some of our past pupils have now entered into successful careers such as the Law, the Services (Army & Navy), Commerce, Graphic Design and Archaeology
- ◆ Subjects for Sixth Form are tailored to pupil interest and can be explored and discussed upon request