



TWYFORD
SCHOOL

IT'S ALL HERE
TWYFORD
THE COMPLETE
EDUCATION

Day and Flexi-Boarding Prep School for Girls and Boys aged 2-13

Our role here at Twyford is to give each child the most complete education – academic, cultural, emotional, physical – so that they, each and every one, can have the best start at living their best life, for themselves and for others. It is as simple as that.



A Very Special School

The happiness and fulfilment of each and every child at the centre of all we do.

Every child has unique gifts and we believe that the overtly positive and encouraging educational environment which exists at Twyford will enable our pupils to flourish and thrive. We are a School that is ambitious but supportive, challenging but nurturing, forward thinking but proud of our 200 year history.

Twyford has established strong relationships with the very best independent schools in the country. We pride ourselves on guiding every child in our care to the right next step and, in the process manage the applications and prepare them thoroughly for pre-testing. Our pupils have achieved remarkable results, with many winning coveted and wide-ranging scholarships along the way.

In a world that is complex and often uncertain we strive to equip our leavers with the skills and values that will enable them to be flexible thinkers, competent collaborators, combined with a strong moral compass and sense of duty. Above all else our hope is that pupils look back on their experience at Twyford and say that they had the best time of their lives.

THE PARENTS

We visited three or four Prep Schools when choosing where to place our son and daughter. We started to really think about what makes a good school. Not just what it does, but how it does what it does and why.

Our trip to Twyford was astonishing from the moment we drove through the narrow gap in the high wall in the village. We had never suspected what lay behind that wall – a vast horizon of rural beauty and fabulous old buildings.

So, before we even got out of the car we had the feeling that this would be a surprising, mind-opening educational encounter. We were right.



IT'S ALL HERE





**RESPECT
KINDNESS
HONESTY
RESILIENCE
RESPONSIBILITY
FRIENDSHIP
IT'S ALL HERE**

Firm Foundations

Twyford is one of the oldest prep schools in the country, possibly the oldest! We are proud of our heritage and the beautiful history and architecture around the School. We embrace Christian values and teach children from the earliest ages to be gracious, considerate and respectful of others. At Twyford a child that becomes adept at 'kindness' is celebrated as much as the academic, artist, athlete or the musician.

We are also proud of having some of the most modern facilities and forward thinking approaches to education. Classrooms are modern, bright and well-equipped with the latest technology. Our sports and outdoor facilities are simply outstanding.

Understanding that mental and physical development happen at different stages for different children is at the heart of a Twyford education. We shape and nurture each individual learning journey so children never feel overwhelmed but maintain their confidence and enthusiasm for creative learning throughout their time here. Our outstanding teaching team draws on this belief to bring out the best in our children, inspiring a self-belief that serves them so well for life.

The worn stone steps in the corridor to Upper School are a wonderful reminder of two centuries of education provided at Twyford.



THE HEAD



The children here are in their most formative years. This is the time of their lives when all sorts of behaviours, attitudes and habits are established. Our huge range of activity, inside the classroom and just as importantly outside it, is the key to success. But why is this so?

The point is that, with so much on offer for all ages from 2 to 13, every girl and boy quickly finds something that they are good at and enjoy. And then the magic happens - the one thing they are good at gives the confidence to try another thing and another thing. If they enjoy them, they become good at those as well. Being good becomes a transferable skill across school work, sports, music, drama, anything.

It becomes a positive expectation of success. And that is a gift for life. That is our aim at Twyford.



*“Pupils are kind to each other,
demonstrate excellent behaviour and
strong moral understanding.”*

ISI report 2022



IT'S ALL HERE



Prep Life

There's something for everyone at Twyford: in creative learning, on the sports fields, in the outdoors through Twyford Explorers, in drama, music and art, design engineering, in swimming, chess, philosophy, cookery or languages, the list goes on.

With optional Saturday school starting from Year 4 (compulsory from Year 6 onwards), our exciting Saturday Activities Programme (SAPs) offers the environment for children to explore things that might tickle their interest.

Our House system offers regular opportunities for children to participate in all sorts of sports and activities and earn valuable House points in the process. Belonging to a House is great fun, it creates a sense of loyalty and helps children develop the skills and co-operation to work together and provides platforms for leadership.

Children from every class in the School make up our School Council, an important forum in which children can put forward ideas and initiate change. It is chaired by the Heads of School who meet weekly with the Headmaster. Ideas and requests are considered and put into action.



‘YOU VERSUS THE WORLD!’



Court Cricket

For most visitors, arriving at Twyford in the summer time is a pleasant and peaceful experience. The walk from the car park to the School Office is a tranquil stroll across the Headmaster's lawn, with the playing fields to your left and the rolling South Downs beyond. A peaceful stroll that is, unless you happen to arrive at break or lunch. For at these times, the tranquillity is disrupted as you encounter the tradition that is Court Cricket!

At its most basic level, Court Cricket is like normal cricket – batters, bowlers, fielders – but there are fundamental differences.

Teams

As one Old Twyfordian described it, (in language overly dramatic only to those who haven't played it), Court Cricket is not a team game, 'It's you versus the world!'

The Pitch

The pitch is 'Court' – an apron of concrete in front of the bare wall of the memorial library, which also acts as backstop. The concrete wall is peppered with almost a century of dents from over-enthusiastic swinging of bats, or, dare we say it, dubious batting techniques.

Batting

Batters are required to 'slog' every shot. Defensive shots result in instant dismissal, meaning Court Cricket is not for the purist. And there are numerous ways to be 'out' – bowled, caught one hand-one bounce, caught one-handed off the trees, hitting into certain bushes, hitting on to the main School roof (a very long hit indeed), hitting

on to the Headmaster's lawn, hitting cars or hitting visitors to the School! There's no need to worry though as the duty staff issue a rallying cry as visitors approach to pause the play to create a safe passage through Court. The current bats are Kwik Cricket (plastic) bats, which make a loud 'thwack' when connecting with a fast moving ball!

Bowling

Bowlers stand in line to bowl and a 'bowled' or 'edge behind' is rewarded with batting (if a batter is caught, the catcher bats). Bowlers can bowl from an 'angle' but must declare 'angle' before they release.

The real essence of Court Cricket though, is to be found in the ball, of which there are many types, all known by their Twyford abbreviations. All bowlers are required to declare their ball 'type' before they bowl. The standard balls are as follows:

TB – a standard tennis ball

Skinny TB – a shaven tennis ball – faster and lower bouncing.

SSTB – a tennis ball half covered in tape – swings violently!

STB – a fully taped tennis ball – fast and unpredictable.

It is not unusual for up to 100 children of all ages to be playing at once, or at least hovering in the vicinity in the hope of taking a lucky catch. But fielders have to keep their wits about them, with two hard balls being slogged into the crowd every four or five seconds! Accidents rarely happen, but on the odd occasion they do, children seem to take a 'hit' with surprising grace, as if just an unfortunate but accepted bi-product of Court Cricket!



**BAKING
BARBECUES
DODGEBALL
HIDE & SEEK
MOVIE NIGHTS
POOL
SWIMMING
IT'S ALL HERE**

Home From Home

Boarding is an integral part of Twyford life. Our boarding house, Orchard Close, is a modern, bright and comfortable home from home with 16 en-suite rooms, sleeping between three and eight Year 4 to Year 8 boarders. It offers a friendly, family atmosphere with extensive gardens, art room, boarders kitchen, games room, music practice room and lots of fun activities.

We extend flexi-boarding for families that wish to access the convenience of boarding, whether it's for a one or two night stopover, the occasional sleepover to attend a club, or for a full week; we're happy to work around you.

All our teachers help with a boarding evening and our Matrons are always there to give support, lend a sympathetic ear and tend to any illness. We have Gap Assistants, who are naturally popular with the children and lend their energies to a full house life.

This safe and homely environment exudes a strong sense of community where friendships are built and flourish across all ages.



Come and watch a game of Court Cricket, a choir practice, a play rehearsal or take a peek at a few lessons. What you will know for sure is that our children want to play and have fun but also they want to learn. To learn all sorts of things and to do them well.

Our greatest reward is the sudden light of enthusiasm in a child's eyes as they find something - whatever it is - that intrigues them and captures their imagination. At this age, imagination is the highest kite you can fly and we see the children become the heroes of their own adventures. Our job, inside the classroom and outside it, is to create the spark that will feed their enthusiasm. If this sounds fanciful, just take a look at our scholarships board and our destination schools.

IT'S ALL HERE

THE TEACHER







Learning to Fly

Throughout their time here we support every child's learning journey by building confidence, nurturing creative thinking, harnessing an engagement and enthusiasm towards learning. Our children have a voice, which they have the confidence to use. Encouraging children to feel proud of who they are and confident in what they do is at the heart of our academic success.

Recognising where a little more support is needed or the opportunity to stretch themselves beyond the curriculum, is all in the mix. We are extremely proud of our academic record. Every year children achieve scholarships in a wide range of fields including academic, sports, music, art and drama. We have an impressive record of getting children into their school of choice and a reputation for giving good advice on the most suitable schools for the nature of the child.



“Pupils’ academic achievement is outstanding, reflecting successful fulfilment of the school’s aim to recognise excellence while promoting an enduring love of learning.”

ISI report 2022





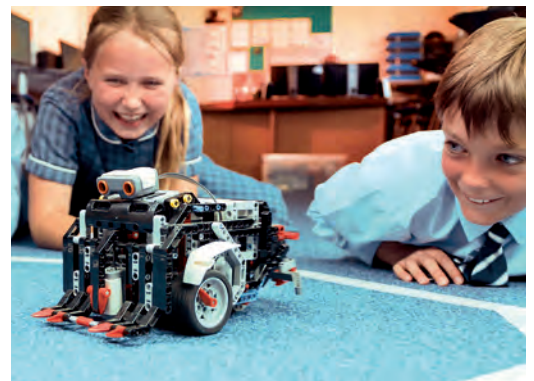


Boundless Creativity

A light, spacious and purpose built studio is home to our Art and Design Engineering & Technology Department. Our Art programme inspires children to experiment with lots of different media including sculpture, ceramics, modelling, screen printing, painting and drawing.

Children are encouraged to explore the things that interest them. They are taught artistic skills to develop their abilities and learn about proportion, the use of colour, balance and perspective. From Year 6, children can join the extra-Art Club where they can enjoy exploring new ideas and further develop their individual styles and interests.

In Design Engineering & Technology children develop a range of skills across a variety of projects, as well as developing their own dexterity through traditional hand-crafts. Recently, our Robotics club have designed hydraulic arms and created coding for operating robots.





Twyford's Got Talent

There's a weekly music class and singing practice in every child's syllabus. There are orchestras, wind band, jazz band, singing groups, choirs and musical productions going on throughout the year. Parents enjoy our popular lunchtime concerts and some children are involved with professional productions such as the Opera at the Grange. We have been nominated for the 'Best Music Department' at the Music Education Awards and enjoy an excellent reputation for the quality of our performances and the musicians that we send out into the world.

Our music teachers inspire great things by taking time to explore personal tastes, to find an instrument, group or song that appeals and makes music enjoyable. With our combination of talented teachers, well-resourced teaching rooms and rehearsal facilities, Twyford is a wonderful platform for music in its many forms.

Treading the boards in one of our many School plays is something that every pupil will experience. If you're less inclined to be under the spotlight, there's plenty of opportunity to operate as part of our production team. One of the most popular events is our 'Twyford's got Talent' show which draws laughter and awe in equal measure – it's amazing what children can do! Year 8 children take part in a 'Shakespeare Week' run by professional actors culminating in their own end of year leavers' production. Drama is part of the School timetable and all children are offered tuition for the English Speaking Board and LAMDA exams.

Music is part of the fabric of School life; everyone takes part. An impressive 80% of children choose to have individual music lessons; with over 250 lessons in progress each week.





ABSEILING ARCHERY BADMINTON FENCING GOLF JUDO KAYAKING WATERPOLO X-COUNTRY YOGA IT'S ALL HERE

Sport to enjoy, sport for all and a great choice of sports; that's part of life at Twyford. Enjoyment, teamwork and good grace are our pillars.









Sport For All

We provide outstanding coaching and training to help children recognise and develop their full potential. Our fixture list extends to 20 different prep schools and on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, and also Thursday afternoons for younger year groups, as many as 25 teams throughout the School are in action.

Weekly PE and swimming lessons are enjoyed by every age group in our modern Sports Centre. Sports include rugby, netball, cricket, hockey, football, lacrosse, water polo, badminton, cross country and athletics. We have exceptional sports pitches and facilities in our beautiful 25 acres of grounds, as well as the best match teas on the circuit it's been said!



THE MATRON



I think we all know that the greatest gift of an adult to a child is time. Time to listen. Time to chat about nothing in particular that is in fact about something in particular.

Time to let each girl and boy know that they are cared for and that the care is unconditional
- as it is at home. The care is always there.



A Caring Community

Twyford has a clear focus on the all round wellbeing of the children. Our pastoral care underpins every aspect of School life and is a central priority throughout all phases of a child's time here. We believe in a holistic approach to education which embraces our values whilst building confidence and resilience in our children to allow them to flourish. We continually strive to create a supportive and nurturing environment where every child can be a unique individual, with unique needs, strengths and potential.



“A culture of acceptance and extensive provision of support from the School.”

Ofsted Inspection 2022



We strongly believe that
engagement leads to
confidence and confidence
leads to achievement.

BUSHCRAFT
CAMPFIRE
CLIMBING
HORSE RIDING
ORIENTEERING
ROCK-POOLING
SAILING
WOODLAND
IT'S ALL HERE





Twyford Explorers

Healthy body, healthy mind is a philosophy that hasn't changed over the many decades at Twyford. Within our grounds we enjoy incredible adventure facilities and woodlands where children can explore the natural world.

Our woodland shelter is popular as an outdoor learning centre, the location for pitching tents, evening stories and a gathering point for woodland projects. We often cook around the fire pit, making pitta bread, soup or toasting marshmallows together. Children learn bushcraft skills and how to enjoy the great outdoors safely.

Children from Nursery to Year 8 participate in a wide programme of outdoor pursuits which include residential adventure trips that extend in both length and skill base as the children advance through the School. They experience climbing, orienteering, sailing and canoeing trips throughout their time at School as well as our Year 6 and Year 8 trips to France.



THE GRANDPARENT

We love coming to see our grandchildren at School, doing all the wonderful things they can do here. They really can have experiences that they could simply not have elsewhere.

Most of all, though, we love that there is an innocence here that lets the children stay younger longer. That is so important. All the open green space, the campfire, the bonfire, the woods, the expedition to the beach to explore rock pools. It reminds us of a time when there weren't so many pressures on children as there are today. Twyford helps keep those pressures at bay for a little longer and we thank them for that.

IT'S ALL HERE







Whether it's a summer visit to the beach, performing in a play, hunting for minibeasts in Forest School, learning an instrument or attending a ballet lesson, everyday delivers variety and something new.

Pre-Prep

The majority of our pupils begin their Twyford education in the Pre-Prep (Nursery to Year 2). As our Nursery provision begins for children from 2 years, we are uniquely positioned to give pupils the very best foundation before their next chapter in the Prep school begins. The Pre-Prep provides a huge breadth of opportunity and learning experiences, and whilst the days are full of adventure, they are balanced with academic learning too; literacy including phonics, mathematics, history, geography and hands-on science are also an integral part of our curriculum.

The staff within the Pre-Prep are a wonderful team of highly experienced, qualified, caring and inspiring professionals. Small classes with Teaching Assistants and a high staff to pupil ratio enables personalised learning and for the interests of all our pupils to be nurtured. Our staff will always go the extra mile to ensure our children get the

very best out of their education, equipping them for their next step into the Prep school, motivated and enthusiastic, with a love of learning.

As well as having our own excellent resources, we make full use of the Prep facilities too. Pupils eat in the Prep Dining Hall and enjoy music, swimming, gymnastics and other sports. They also take full advantage of the wonderful Mulberry Pavilion for dance, drama workshops and our weekly Celebration Assembly.

Wrap around care is provided from 7.30am to 6.00pm everyday, to help parents juggle their work and homelife commitments knowing their children are happy and well cared for. We offer a wide range of after school clubs including sports, mindfulness, Twyford Explorers and cookery.



Our own Pre-Prep fruit and vegetable garden is looked after by Gardening Club and our rabbits, ducks and chickens are well loved members of Pre-Prep too.

BALLET
COOKERY
GARDENING
MAGIC
MARSHMALLOWS
MINIBEASTS
IT'S ALL HERE





The Great Outdoors

We make the most of learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom. Pre-Prep has its own Forest School which pupils attend each week, come rain or shine. Gathering around the campfire for hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows is a firm favourite as well as den building and hunting for bugs!

Play time is a hive of activity; racing a fleet of pedal cars around the racetrack circuit, exploring the adventure playground or performing to each other on the outdoor stage. We also have an orchestra of outdoor instruments, a water play zone and a large open games area.







Each class has their own free flow Nursery garden enabling all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage to be experienced inside and out.

Nursery

Nursery is the very first step into the Twyford education and sets the scene for our youngest pupils to thrive during their most precious early years. We have two Nursery classes, Little Acorns for our 2-3 year olds and Oaks for our 3-4 year olds.

The Nursery setting is rich in language, active learning, exploration, creativity and child-initiated play. Pupils are encouraged to think critically, develop their independence and celebrate the tiny steps as well as the giant leaps.

Pupils have access to the excellent resources shared by the rest of the Pre-Prep and participate in a wealth of activities including cookery, Forest School, ballet, music and swimming (Oak Class). Each day is full of exciting opportunities, yet there is still time for a little lunch time snooze to recharge those batteries.

Our Nursery staff build strong relationships with parents, nurturing a shared understanding of what is best for each child. We support each child with their toilet training journey and each day begins and ends with a thorough handover with your child's key person.

The Nursery day correlates with the rest of the Pre-Prep and Prep School, so we are able to offer wrap around care before the day starts (8.00 - 8.45am) and once the School day ends (4.00 - 6.00pm). Nursery pupils staying until 6.00pm are also given a hot supper so they are ready for their bedtime routine once they arrive home. Collection times are flexible and will depend on whether your child is just attending the morning session, staying for lunch or attending a full day.

As they near the end of their time in Nursery, children become familiar with life in Reception, so that once their Nursery years are complete, they move seamlessly into the Reception class to carry on their learning adventure.

THE REGISTRAR



Obviously most of the families I meet have been to see several schools, and so they should. I take them for a walk around the grounds. They are surprised and impressed, and yet other schools have lovely grounds.

I show them all our fabulous facilities – theatre, music, performance spaces, sports hall, swimming pool, science labs. These are seen to be marvellous and yet other schools have some of these too.

I show them some lessons in progress with our small class sizes and fabulous teachers, and yet some other schools also have a good academic track record.

I talk about our ethos of kindness above all and how we develop early on the crucial life skills that will set our children apart, and yet others may claim that too.

But only Twyford offers the top flight version of all of the above. Every important aspect of a young child's education is here in one place. The complete package. The full tool kit. No gaps.

Twyford. The complete education.

Twyford Speak

Your child will soon start to use the jargon and vernacular of the School. A few essentials are interpreted below.

Backcourts	Toilets
Upper School	Either Year 6, 7 and 8 or the Main Hall/ Theatre
Bever	Afternoon break (derived from 'beverages' and pronounced "beever")
Court	The area in front of the library where Prep School pick-up takes place
Court Cricket	Played in the summer with a taped ball (rules are very complex but the children know them!)
SUG	Acronym for Sent Up Good. A reward for very good or improving academic performance, or exceptional behaviour and rewarded, by the Headmaster, with a sweet.
The Beehive	The pagoda-shaped shelter to the west end of the car park. The TPA notice board is situated on the adjacent wall.



Please arrange a visit so you can truly experience what makes Twyford so special. A very warm welcome awaits.

awards academic

1988	
A. HENCH	Bryanston
A. LITTLEWOOD	Winchester
B. WILSON	Winchester
1989	
B. RUSSELL	Sherborne
1990	
B. CHIARI	King Edward VI
	Southampton
N. DE MESTRE	Sherborne
1991	
S. WRIGLEY	King Edward VI
	Southampton
1992	
T. HODGSON	Millfield
D. JAMIESON	Millfield
1993	
	University College
	School London
	King Edward VI
	Southampton
	St. Edward's
	Oxford
	Winchester
1996	
	Edinburgh Academy
	Leamington
	Leamington
	Leamington

awards all rounders

1994	
I. ADAMS	Sherborne
K. GOODALL	Canford
1995	
M. DUNN	King's School
C. HOPKINS	Canford
1996	
C. BAYLIS	Canford
S. BLOCK	Bryanston
1999	
R. CROSSLEY	Canford
2001	
G. CROSSLEY	Canford
T. MONEY	Canford
2002	
S. CARMICHAEL	St. Edward's
	Oxford
F. HILL	Sherborne Girls'
J. JENKINS	Sherborne
K. MATHEWS	Millfield
2003	
J. DUKES	Millfield
2004	
O. BISHOP	Embley Park
A. STODDON	Harrow
T. TENNANT	Harrow
P. THORNTON	Canford
2005	
T. PASCO	Leamington



**FUN
LAUGHTER
PLAY
TEAMWORK
TRUST
WARMTH
WELLBEING
IT'S ALL HERE**



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