

PREP SCHOOLS

Competition news, TV stars and developments



« **NEW SPACE**
Notting Hill & Ealing High School has opened a new sustainable Junior School building. The carbon-neutral building features 14 new classrooms, Sixth Form classrooms, teaching spaces, a library and a hall with performance seating. Junior School Head, Kate Bevan, said: 'The construction and design choices reflect the values we instil in our students.'

CHANGING FACES

Heads on the move



Simon Ridley is the new Head of **Bryanston Prep**. Head of Bryanston, Richard Jones said: 'Simon's prior leadership experience assures us of a seamless continuation of the progress made to date.'



Ross Montague is the new Headmaster at **Eaton House Belgravia**. He has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in educating the youngest children, preparing them for the top 7+ destination schools.



In September 2024, Emma Károlyi will take over as Head of **St George's School Windsor**. Emma is currently the Head of Junior King's School in Canterbury and has over 30 years' experience in education.



Joe Lewis is the new Headmaster of **Saint Ronan's** from September 2024. Joe is currently a Senior Housemaster at Millfield School, where he has run a boarding house for the past six years.



« **PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE**
The Powerhouse Project and **Bryanston** have announced their first sport summit focused on empowering women and girls through sport on 15 March 2024. Hosted at Bryanston, the event will provide the opportunity to bring together leading women from across Sports Media, Sports Coaching, Sports Business and Sports Wellbeing. They have partnered with Nike, The Football Association and Right to Dream.



« **PUPIL STARS IN THE VELVETEEN RABBIT**
A pupil from **Hazlegrove School**, Phoenix L, is starring in the film adaptation of *The Velveteen Rabbit* now available on Apple TV+. Phoenix auditioned for the role in 2022 and filming for the movie took place in Dublin. The cast also includes Helena Bonham-Cater as Wise Horse, Nicola Coughlan as the Playroom Fairy, Alex Lauther as Velveteen Rabbit and Tilly Vosburgh as Momo.

AWARD LAUNCH

The second edition of the Khalifa International Award for Early Learning 2024 has launched. The award invites educators, researchers and organisations to submit new initiatives in early-years childhood education. The total prize fund comprises \$200,000 which will be divided between four winners. The two categories for the 2024 award are 'Best Programmes, Curricula, Teaching Methodologies and Practices' and 'Best Research & Studies'.



« **HEADINGTON SCHOOL MERGER**
Headington School in Oxford has announced its merger with **Rye St Anthony**. This will result in a Senior School for girls aged 11-18 on the Headington site and a Prep School for boys and girls aged 3-11 on the Rye site.



« **FOREST SCHOOL SUCCESS**
Devonshire House School has a forest in their grounds. It's a 100 percent natural wooden area where children can find a variety of bugs, plants, birds and learn how to take care of our environment. The school launched its Forest School curriculum led by a qualified and trained Forest School leader, Mrs Peacock. All four to seven-year-olds enjoy the benefits of Forest School once a week.



« **BBC YOUNG CHORISTER 2025** »
A Year 8 pupil at **Wells Cathedral School**, Belinda Gifford-Guy has won the 2023 BBC Young Chorister of the Year competition (Junior category). Belinda is now a specialist singer on Wells Cathedral School's celebrated vocal programme, which helps many former choristers build on their incredible early musical experiences.



MOVING TO CO-EDUCATION

From January 2024, **Christ Church Cathedral School's** (CCCS) Pre-Prep (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will become co-educational. The Montessori-inspired Nursery currently welcomes girls and boys. The sports and extra-curricular activities on offer will not be defined by gender. Mixed sports will include Tag Rugby, Football, Chess, and Life Skills essential for modern life, amongst others. They will be introducing new activities including Dance and Gymnastics. There is no plan to change the Prep School (Years 3-8), which will remain all boys.

« CO-ED ANNOUNCED

Godolphin School has announced that from September 2024, Godolphin Prep will be open to boys and girls in all years. Head of Godolphin, Jenny Price, said: 'This decision marks a pivotal moment in Godolphin's history... By extending our welcome to boys, we aim to enrich our school community with a broader range of perspectives, talents, and experiences.' Godolphin Senior will offer co-education from September 2025.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS



St Philip's School has announced it is to become a school for boys aged 4-13, effective September 2024. This expansion means that from September 2024, St Philip's will be based at 5 and 6 Wetherby Place in SW7.



Francis Holland Schools Trust will open **Francis Holland Preparatory School** in Chelsea from September 2024. Francis Holland Prep will take over the 20,000 sq/ft site which is currently the home of The Hampshire School.



Bede's Prep School has created holistic rooms to enrich pupil wellbeing and support children's development. The 'Nurture' programme aims to help pupils overcome social, emotional and mental health needs.



A Wellbeing Pod has landed in the Prep School gardens at **St Catherine's, Bramley** thanks to the Prep School PTA. The Armadillo Pod will be a calm space for girls to have a breather, think about their emotions, and elevate their mood.