



# EDUCATION

BACK to SCHOOL



## Imagine a world... *...where children thrive*

As schools continue to hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons, Ballard is proud to buck the trend. As a thriving, co-educational day school, providing an award-winning holistic education from Nursery to GCSE, children are central to all they do. With fantastic facilities and exceptional teachers committed to providing an inspirational education for their pupils, Ballard offers the perfect balance of academic success, proactive pastoral support, and outstanding co-curricular opportunities.

This week we take a closer look at Lower Prep (Years 3 to 5).

*...where children can be children, building their love of learning through exciting opportunities, creativity and fun.*

Research highlights all the benefits of a holistic education. Engaging children in lessons is essential for their wellbeing, academic and future success. By nurturing pupils, providing an array of outstanding opportunities, and using creativity in the classroom, Ballard unlocks their imaginations and love of learning, building skills for life.

Creative learning: whether crawling through tunnels, uncovering Egyptian treasure; walking through virtual rainforests; or getting messy with digestion, lessons are inspiring and fun. Through a topic led curriculum, pupils take part in 'WOW Days' with immersive experiences such as dressing up and tasting chocolate for 'Charlie & the

Chocolate Factory', imagining what it's like to be an evacuee in WW2, building volcanoes whilst learning about Pompeii and travelling through the wardrobe to Narnia.

*...where there is something for everyone*

Lower Prep pupils have 30 co-curricular activities to choose from including travel, yoga and wellbeing, clayworks, golf, horse-riding, hip-hop, reasoning, chocolate club, harps, eco-ambassadors, showband, football goalkeeping, Latin, Spanish and Mandarin! Pupils are also encouraged to create their own clubs. Trips offer an additional dimension to learning, with visits to Winchester Science Museum, Solent Sky Museum, 'Young Voices' at the O2 and their first residential stay.

*...where children are known and encouraged to be the best that they can be*

Ballard recognises each individual child, stretching and supporting them to exceed

their expectations, whilst ensuring no child gets left behind. Achievements are acknowledged and opportunities are open to all. Their broad curriculum allows pupils to experience all subjects offered at GCSE, bar Business Studies, helping pupils flourish and maintain academic balance, alongside creativity, the arts, forest school, library lessons, sport and gymnastics.

*...where children enjoy fresh air and engage with nature*

Ballard's 34-acre site offers space for play and nature exploration, including woods, a stream, and fields. Fortnightly Forest School sessions let pupils learn independently, from lighting fires to crafting with clay. Inspired by nature, Ballard's Eco-ambassadors lead green initiatives, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2025.

*...where life skills are important*

Through their holistic approach Ballard

allows pupils to develop a multitude of skills to help them in their future. Lower Prep pupils are also offered leadership roles whether as a school councillor, house captain, sports leaders or Year 5 monitor.

*...where parents are encouraged into school*

With upcoming parent workshops and a parent, pupil and staff quiz, alongside a thriving parent association and daily drop off and pick up sessions, there are plenty of opportunities for parents to get involved with Lower Prep.

*...where children are motivated by a spirit of aspiration and achievement, building to become confident yet humble, academically accomplished individuals who are also compassionate and socially responsible*

No need to imagine, go and visit for yourself at their Open Morning.



# Co-Educational School of the Year 2024

Independent School of The Year Awards

BOOK NOW for our Open Morning on 18<sup>th</sup> October

## What our Lower Prep parents say...

"Our son can't wait to join Ballard. He loved his Taster Day and said that he felt as though 'he belonged'."

"Their focus on the individual truly shines every day, encouraging the students with small rewards and preparing them to face challenges according to their strengths which encourage them to reach higher, strive for their personal best and care about others and the world around them."

"We still cannot believe the incredible transformation over such a small period of time. Seeing our girl smile every day after school and hearing about all the activities Ballard is offering her makes us so happy."

"You should all be so proud of the work that you do every day at Ballard; it is truly a unique and special school and the pupils who get to attend are very lucky."

"It was so nice reading his report and finally feeling that it was written by people who know him! I used to read the reports from his previous school and not recognise the feedback as being about him at all."

"The change in him since starting at Ballard has been pretty incredible and I no longer start and finish the day wondering whether he will ever feel like he fits in."



"He's back to being the boy I always knew he was, and I am so grateful to you and the school for being the environment and the support that he needed to pick himself back up."

"It was our choice to send our children to Ballard, but it is our children's feedback that keeps them there, day after day. They love it. Thank you for everything you do, every day, for our children. #greatschool #learninglifeforthebest #enjoyinglifeforthebest."

"They both had a great first day back, let the adventure begin!"

"She was so happy and so excited to be starting back today."

"We couldn't have asked for a more supportive and easy transition for her into her new school life."

"The kids have been so excited about starting back to school. They've been looking forward to it so much they've been in their uniform most of the week."

"We absolutely loved Ballard - what is there not to love? It has a wonderful feeling as you walk around and we both felt very comfortable and know both our girls would fit in well and more importantly, feel safe and happy."

"An epic day Mummy', never had such a positive conversation with my son about school."



**BALLARD**  
BESPOKE EDUCATION

Award-Winning, Co-Educational Day School for ages 2-16

