



# Yarrells School Senior School Prospectus

Years 7 & 8 (Age 11 - 13)



*Where Children Love to Learn*





Yarrells offers an enhanced curriculum and an enriching, accelerated learning programme with the distinct advantage of:

- Expert staff teaching their specialist subjects
- Exceedingly good preparation for senior schools
- A vibrant curriculum
- Enrichment activities
- Leadership development
- Off-site and residential trips
- Individualised learning within smaller tutor groups

## Why Years 7 & 8 at Yarrells?

Years 7 & 8 at Yarrells provide a richly rewarding experience. Ours is a remarkable school that delivers high academic standards within a dynamic, creative and extensive curriculum integrating music, drama, dance, the visual arts, and sport. Senior pupils are given significant responsibility and they participate actively in the life of the school where they develop leadership skills and grow in maturity, poise and self-confidence. Those reflecting on their time at the top of the school affirm that they derived great enjoyment from their senior years at Yarrells and benefited greatly from the experience.

## Focus on the individual

We work to ensure each pupil is extended and encouraged through a rigorous, personalised learning programme. At Yarrells, we pride ourselves in offering all our pupils the individual care and support they need to ensure they achieve entrance to their best choice of senior school.

Pupils benefit from learning within smaller tutor groups, with expert staff teaching their specialist subjects.

Seniors are allocated a staff mentor to meet with them regularly to offer support, guidance and opportunities for advancement. At Yarrells, our pastoral care is exceptional and pupils flourish through the attention of a dedicated team, committed to helping individuals reach their full potential. We are ambitious for every child and we derive great pleasure in engaging with our senior pupils to ensure they enjoy an active role in the life of the school and make a substantial, positive contribution. Our pupils are keen, confident and motivated young people who eagerly embrace the enriching experiences offered at Yarrells.

Increasingly larger schools, with big classes, do not afford young people the very best opportunities for learning and personal growth. Moving on, at just eleven, to what can be overwhelmingly large schools can be avoided by choosing a school such as Yarrells, providing an exceptional education in a stimulating, nurturing environment, that sends its pupils on to their senior schools as happy, confident individuals.



## Leadership & Responsibilities

All pupils in Years 7 & 8 are given significant leadership opportunities at school. In addition to formal responsibilities, they are all expected to take the initiative in helping younger pupils, and to set a good example to the school. Every senior is a leader.

Seniors will learn, both formally and informally, about leadership in different situations. We elect Tribe (House) Captains, Prefects, School Councillors and Eco Monitors from amongst pupils who exhibit particular leadership qualities, or demonstrate potential, and who set a good example to others. The leaders are involved in decision making about various initiatives and projects across the school and they also run assemblies and organise events. The pupils are not merely given titles, but are expected to be active in their roles to benefit the school, the wider community and also themselves, as they develop important skills in leadership, teamwork and responsibility.

## Proven Success

Our teachers work closely with individual pupils to prepare them brilliantly for the next step in their secondary school phase, whether it is for state or independent schools. We develop pupils' motivation, confidence and study habits to help them achieve well in any future setting.

We offer exceedingly good preparation for common entrance exams and scholarships to prestigious secondary schools. All pupils, regardless of their ability will be stretched and challenged in an academic environment rich in experience, within a very happy school community.

Yarrells has proven success in ensuring children gain entry into their chosen senior schools. We also have an excellent record of helping children achieve scholarships to prestigious senior schools. In recent years our pupils have been awarded scholarships to Canford, Bryanston, Clayesmore, Ballard, Talbot Heath, Milton Abbey and Bournemouth Collegiate schools.

## Home & School Partnership

To ensure a successful and happy experience in these important years before pupils move to larger senior schools, we promote an effective home/school partnership. Working together with parents is of great importance to us at Yarrells and we communicate with parents frequently. The school sends out a weekly newsletter and other notes to keep parents abreast of activities, topics, events and relevant issues. We also provide regular feedback, including termly reports and parent consultation evenings, with added opportunities for parents to meet teachers on a more regular basis if required.

## Academic Excellence

Yarrells aims to provide the widest possible educational experience to the highest academic standards in a supportive environment that seeks to bring out the best in its pupils. Lessons are taught by specialist subject teachers, in dedicated classrooms, within smaller tutor groups, ensuring individual attention. Pupils are provided with a stimulating, inspiring curriculum where they are encouraged to be creative in their thinking and to develop independence as learners so that they become personally motivated and increasingly responsible for self-directed learning.

Pupils study Common Entrance 13+ subjects and Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum in order to prepare them for the requirements of their preferred senior schools. We offer extra subjects such as Latin and sessions on life skills, leadership and personal development. Our young people will continue to have opportunities for public speaking and performance to build confidence and self-esteem and to provide a further platform for ongoing achievement and success.

Smaller tutor groups enable the work to be tailored to individual requirements so that pupils' needs are well catered for, whether they need extension or support. The curriculum is designed to extend and challenge all pupils.

Tuition is also aimed at developing study skills and exam techniques and to facilitate independent learning. Children leave Yarrells with a solid foundation of skills upon which to build and are prepared well for important exams in the future and equipped to be successful in their future chosen path.

## Scholarships

Scholarships are available each year at Yarrells. Academic, music, sport and performing arts scholarships are available for particularly talented pupils. We are looking for evidence of ability as well as potential and growth.





# Enrichment Programme

Our senior pupils are offered an enriching experience, not only through their daily engagement at school, but also through a specifically planned programme of extra activities, including offsite and residential trips, designed to extend their knowledge and skills.

Pupils are able to participate in a wide range of experiences, so they can discover and explore their talents and interests and develop a range of personal, social and leadership skills. This enhances the curriculum and promotes happiness and motivation.

Staff also arrange other short trips and visits, as well as guest speakers and school-based workshops to extend pupils' knowledge and understanding of particular subjects and aspects of the curriculum.

## Lions Lair

The Lions Lair business programme forms part of Year 7 & 8's PSHCEE curriculum which we have added to their course to give a fulfilling and exciting finish to their final year.

The programme provides opportunities:

1. To encourage young people to think creatively and develop an understanding of the world beyond school.
2. To encourage an entrepreneurial perspective at an early age.
3. To develop an understanding of a development process. (found in the D&T, IT and Business Studies Syllabus)
4. To prepare students for the next stage in life;
  - Independence required at secondary school.
  - Develop individuality and work without teacher input
  - To be self-motivated.
5. Skills that they have developed include:
  - Teamwork
  - Thinking for yourself
  - Confidence in yourself
  - Presentation and communication skills
6. To develop the whole person



## Preparing for the Future

Working with local schools and businesses we have introduced our pupils to the world of work. This has included business leaders supporting them through their Enterprise programme. We have developed a Young People's Index alongside an HR expert which helps pupils to understand themselves better and how they work best with others. This has culminated in a Career's Day where the pupils worked on practical problem solving activities run by a wide variety of local businesses.



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