

Dunhurst Bedales Junior School

DUNHURST SCHOOL

Dunhurst is the Junior School of Bedales and shares a beautiful 120 acre estate with the senior school and the Pre-Preparatory school, Dunannie, just to the north of Petersfield. Dunhurst has approximately 190 pupils, of whom about 70 are boarders. The very great majority of pupils go on to Bedales at 13.

Dunhurst is one of the very few Preparatory Schools in the country which is totally free of the constraints of Common Entrance, though the National Curriculum does underpin many subject areas. This enables the pupils to benefit from a broad, imaginative curriculum, where they are encouraged to develop investigative skills from an early age, and where they learn to think for themselves. Academic standards are high and, in addition, great importance is attached to the teaching of art, design, drama and a broadly based physical education programme.

Over 84 per cent of children are instrumentalists before they leave Dunhurst, and time is set aside for all musicians to practise in the well-equipped Music School. Pupils also benefit from an exceptional range of extra-curricular activities and from being part of a happy and secure environment.

Children call teachers by their first names and there is considerable trust and rapport between them; great emphasis is placed on the distinctiveness of the community, and an acceptance that we treat each other with respect, adult and child alike. John Badley, the founder of Bedales, intended that the school should educate the 'head, hand and heart', an aim that is very much alive today. The school received a very favourable ISI Inspection Report in 2004. There was particular praise for the personal development of pupils.

Facilities are excellent and include modern classrooms, two large halls, a music school, a science laboratory, an art/pottery/textiles/workshop complex and a library adjoining the newly refurbished ICT centre. Most sports facilities are shared with the Senior School and these include a heated swimming pool, sports hall and all-weather pitch.

For more information, please look at our website: www.bedales.org.uk

March 2010

