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St. John's Prep. & Senior School



Dear parents,

Welcome back to the Summer Term 2025.

As we return to what will be a packed term involving GCSE and 'A' Level exams, the start of the Young British Pilot course, a National Final involving our Year 7 students on the 20th May, trips to Greece, Paris and York in the middle of May, our Sports Day on the 3rd and 4th July for the Senior and Prep School respectively and our summer production of The Wiz at the Wylyotts Theatre on the 10th July, we take a moment to reflect on what has been a very interesting Easter break.

The Telegraph

St. John's Prep and Senior School featured in **The Daily Telegraph** twice, once for an academic achievement and the other relating to sport. The latter led to our school being discussed on Sky Sports!

On the 16th April 2025, St. John's was once again named in The Telegraph's Best Private School Value for Money list and was awarded the **highest possible rating of Very Good**. This list takes into consideration both the grades each school achieve in their last GCSE and A Level examinations (2024) and also the fees they charge. Schools are then given a rating ranging from **Very Good** all the way down to **Below Average** or even **Poor**. It is extremely pleasing to see that St. John's is consistently awarded the highest rating as it is a reflection of the efforts our students, teachers and senior leadership put into the school year after year.

Parents can see the Telegraphs full list of schools and their ratings by clicking on the following link and then typing in either the schools name or postcode.
www.telegraph.co.uk/money/private-school-labour-tax-raid-best-value/

For those parents that do not have a Telegraph subscription, we have provided snapshots of the article both relating to St. John's and those schools in our area.



INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS' BURSARS
ASSOCIATION



National Nurturing
School Award
2024



Email: admin@stjohnsprepandsenior.co.uk Website: www.stjohnsprepandsenior.co.uk

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Find the best value private schools in your area

Find out how much fees are increasing at Eton, Harrow and your local school, including Labour's latest tax raid



Image credit: Alamy

Ben Butcher
Data Editor

16 April 2025 7:00am BST

11 comments

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Private schools began charging VAT for the first time from January 1.

One in five schools have passed on the full 20pc increase in higher fees for parents, Telegraph Money analysis reveals. The majority have not (for now, at least).

On average, Britain's private schools have raised fees by 13.7pc between the first and second terms, when the policy took effect.

Our league table analyses the fees of over 1,200 fee-paying schools across Britain to see how those local to you have adapted to Labour's tax raid and, crucially, how this affects value for money through exam results.

Is your private school offering value for money?

Search by area or name and select a school to see more, including termly fees, historic price rises and grade comparisons

Enter a postcode for schools in your area, or search for a specific school

EN2 8BE X

Year group (must select one)

Year 13

Year 11

Year 8

Year 6

Year 2

School type

Boys

Girls

Mixed

St John's Preparatory and Senior School X2024 fees
£5,8002025 fees
£6,612Fee change
£926 +14%Value
Very good

2025 fee increase

Average fee increase since 2022

Find the best value private schools in your area

Find out how much fees are increasing at Eton, Harrow and your local school, including Labour’s latest tax raid



Image credit: Alamy

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EN2 8BE

Year group (must select one)

Year 13Year 11Year 8Year 6Year 2BoysGirlsMixed

School type

St John's Preparatory and Senior School

2024 fees

£5,800

2025 fees

£6,612

Fee change

£926 +14%

Value

Very good

2025 fee increase

This school +14%

National average +14%

Average fee increase since 2022

This school +27.2%

National average +29%

2023 GCSE grades 7-9 vs other schools

This school 67.47%

National private average 48.4%

National average 21.7%

Age range

3 to 19

Boy : girl ratio

65 : 35

Total pupils

486

Boarding or day

No boarders



Year group (must select one)

Year 13

Year 11

Year 8

Year 6

Year 2

School type

Boys

Girls

Mixed

School name	2025 Fees	2024 Fees	Change	Value for money	i
St John's Preparatory and Senior School (<1mi.)	£6,612	£5,800	14%	Very good	
Mount House School (2mi.)	£7,842	£7,110	10.3%	Poor	
Queenswood School (2mi.)	£10,812	£9,840	9.9%	Below avg	
Palmers Green High School (4mi.)	£7,603	£6,790	12%	Very good	
Dwight School London (5mi.)	£9,890	£8,450	17%	N/A	
Mill Hill School Foundation (6mi.)	£10,150	£9,025	12.5%	Good	
Haberdashers' Girls' School (7mi.)	£9,515	£8,347	14%	Very good	
Normanhurst School (7mi.)	£6,115	£5,275	15.9%	Below avg	
Haberdashers' Boys' School (7mi.)	£9,879	£8,663	14%	Good	
Highgate School (8mi.)	£10,596	£8,830	20%	Very good	

A hyphen '-' denotes that a school has not yet publicly announced its 2025 fees, so our value for money verdict and other analysis can't be completed

Year group (must select one)

Year 13

Year 11

Year 8

Year 6

Year 2

School type

Boys

Girls

Mixed

School name	2025 Fees	2024 Fees	Change	Value for money	
Eton College	£21,100	£17,583	20%	Fair	
Harrow School	£20,528	£17,850	15%	Fair	
Marlborough College	£19,714	£16,995	16%	Below avg	
Radley College	£19,200	£17,050	12.6%	Fair	
Bishopstrow College	£18,475	£16,200	14%	Poor	
St Edward's School	£15,270	£13,395	14%	Poor	
Charterhouse	£15,006	£13,339	12.5%	Below avg	
St Mary's School Ascot	£15,000	£12,500	20%	Fair	
Bradfield College	£14,984	£13,032	15%	Poor	
Wycombe Abbey	£14,832	£12,900	15%	Fair	

A hyphen ‘-’ denotes that a school has not yet publicly announced its 2025 fees, so our value for money verdict and other analysis can’t be completed

St. John's then found itself in the Daily Telegraph again but this time relating to Sport along with Millfield School and Repton College. Coincidentally, St. John's played and beat Millfield in the Semi – final of the ESFA National Cup last term and this year's National final is between St. John's and Repton College. Although academics will always be the priority at St. John's, it still gives us great pleasure to see our Sports Department in the News. Please find below a link to the [article](#) or alternatively for those who do not have a Telegraph subscription, the actual article as published in the hardcopy version of the newspaper.

www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2025/04/10/private-schools-premier-league-clubs-academy-talent/?msockid=22668bd6f9036fac08139f18f8e36ecf

Private schools are turning into

Football used to be frowned upon in the independent sector. Now, Arsenal players are educated there, writes *Tim Wignmore*

In September, West Ham United received a series of offers for one of their brightest talents. Kyran Thompson, then 15, has already been compared to Jude Bellingham.

Manchester City, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur all courted him. But Arsenal had a trump card: a place at St John's in Enfield, one of London's leading private schools, with Thompson's annual £17,500 fees covered.

Arsenal won the battle. At St John's, Thompson combines an elite education with phenomenal facilities, including an on-site spa. He also has a model to follow for how to combine academic and football life: Ethan Nwaneri.

At St John's, Nwaneri pipped Myles Lewis-Skelly to a sports scholarship; instead, Lewis-Skelly won a scholarship at Aldenham School. Less than two years after leaving school at 16, the pair are now thriving in the Premier League.

The Arsenal contingent embody a growing trend: how football clubs are working with the independent sector. Manchester City, for example, have sent boys to St Bede's College since 2011, paying the £17,000-a-year fees of more than 60 children a year. But they do not play any football for the school.

Last year, Arsenal agreed a similar, though less comprehensive, agreement with St John's. Particularly academic boys can go to St John's, fully funded by the club. The partnership is an official Full Time Training Model (FTTM): a concept approved by the Premier League designed to allow children, aged 13 and above, to combine football and education.

Manchester United partnered with Ashton on Mersey School, a state school in Sale, in 1998. But, with more parents eager for their children to combine football and a high-class education, the club added Manchester Grammar School as a partner in 2021.

United paid the full fees for academy boys who attend Manchester Grammar, providing they pass the entrance exam. A total of 22 partner schools are involved in an FTTM with an English club; 12 are private.

Tottenham Hotspur have a partnership with Cullford, in Suffolk, from September, a member of the club's staff will be based permanently at the school. Norwich City have close ties with Langley School, which has become a regular source of players; former Norwich striker Grant Holt is Langley's football academy director.

Private schools are also becoming a recruitment ground for clubs. In 2023, Arsenal launched the Arsenal Independent Schools' Trophy, staged at the club's academy, with tournaments at under-14 and under-16 levels.

It serves to help boys make an increasingly common leap from private schools to the Premier League. After more than a century of distrust, the private sector has learnt to love the beautiful game.

Independent schools shaped the early his-

tory of English football. In the 1840s, pupils at Charterhouse and Westminster School played early versions of the sport. Private-school old boys, led by Charterhouse, established the laws of the game at Lincoln's Inn Fields, in central London, in 1863.

Harrow alumni Charles Alcock was the lead figure in the creation of the FA Cup in 1871. The tournament was initially dominated by independent schools: Old Etonians reached six of the first 12 FA Cup finals. But as football's national appeal grew, private schools prioritised more socially elitist games.

Football has been the lone major sport in which the proportion of elite players from a private-education background is less than the seven per cent of children who attend independent school. Privately educated children long had less chance of becoming professional footballers than those from state schools. The few exceptions – like Frank Lampard, who famously earned an A in his Latin GCSE at Brentwood School – were viewed as curiosities.

No longer. Football is now more vibrant in independent schools than any time since its original golden age in the mid-to-late 19th century. This can be seen in two, simultaneous processes: the boom in the amount of football in private schools, and Premier League clubs' new eagerness to cultivate links with the sector.

In 2004, just 50 school teams were members of the Independent Schools Football Association. That number surged to 4,500 by the 2014-15 season. Today, there are 21,000-15,000 boys' teams, and another 6,000 girls' sides.

Neil Rollings, now chairman of the Professional Association of Directors of Sport in Independent Schools, started teaching in the sector in 1984. He remembers football as a widely "disapproved of game", recounting a headmaster bursting a ball that a boy had brought to school, then throwing it over a hedge.

"Football has become a principal game in schools, and it has the same advantages that rugby or cricket did in terms of resourcing," says Rollings. "The resources are three things – the time allocated to it; the calibre of people who coach it; and the facilities. All of those have improved dramatically."

"There was this artificiality of being the only club in the world where the leading schools didn't play the national game. When something is as illogical as that, it finds a way of righting itself."

The transformation reflects football's embrace by the middle classes since the Premier League launched in 1992. Yet the biggest factor, Rollings says, is simply the rise in children being given a say in what sports they play. "Back in 1984, you played a term of rugby. At Christmas you put your rugby ball away, you got your hockey stick out, put that away at Easter. Then, everyone played cricket."

"You can chart the growth of football alongside the rise of choice in school sport. Because where there is free choice, football will be the beneficiary."

Already, the recent alumni of independent schools includes a remarkable array of talent. Alongside graduates of St Bede's, who include Phil Foden and Cole Palmer, and those Arsenal protégés, the list of privately educated English players includes Jude Bellingham, Callum Hudson-Odoi and Nick Pope. Tudor Mendel-Iodow, 20, juggled his education as a King's scholar at Eton while playing for Chelsea's youth teams; he is now at Ipswich Town.



Learning the game: Arsenal's Ethan Nwaneri attended St John's in Enfield (right)

Africa and Spain. From a total of 10 football teams a decade ago, the school now runs 18 sides across boys and girls.

Millfield is one of the 10 teams in the Hudl Independent Schools League. The league was launched in 2017 and embodies the new emphasis that private schools are placing upon football. The competition's motto is instructive: Pursuing Football and Academic Excellence.

"Before, we only had the cup," explains Luke Webb, a coach who was instrumental in creating the Hudl league. All matches have three neutral match officials; each game is filmed and coded on Wyscout, the software that the Premier League uses. While independent schools once largely only offered football in one term – if at all – nine of the 10 Hudl schools now play football in two terms.

"The Hudl league is about the schools who invest in their facilities and football education," Webb says. "People always say, 'why don't you

Premier League talent factories

Five of the best Top establishments that are preparing pupils for life on and off pitch

St John's, Enfield
The school spent £500,000 on a football pitch that has its own drainage and irrigation system and now has an official partnership with Arsenal. The school has

educated Ethan Nwaneri and a host of other players in recent years – including Sean Kanu, the son of Arsenal legend Nwankwo, who is now playing professionally in Poland.

Langley School, Norfolk
Has close links with Norwich City, where football academy director Grant Holt once played. Parents can pay extra for their children to join the academy. Psychology sessions are also offered.

Cullford, Bury St Edmunds
Alan Lee, the former Republic of Ireland forward, is the academy director. Has a partnership with Tottenham Hotspur, who now have a permanent member of their staff working at the school.

Bradfield, Berkshire
Won three of the last four Boodles Cups, the cup competition for independent schools. Has an extensive programme for boys and girls. Past students have gone on to sign for Burnley, Charlton and Fulham.

St Bede's College, Manchester
Manchester City have sent boys to St Bede's since 2011, paying the £17,000-a-year fees of more than 60 a year. Phil Foden, Cole Palmer, Jadon Sancho and Rico Lewis are among those who attended.

Ashton on Mersey School, Merseyside
Manchester United have a partnership with the school. Former Manchester United striker Grant Holt is the school's football academy director.

Millfield, Somerset
One of the 10 teams in the Hudl Independent Schools League. The league was launched in 2017 and embodies the new emphasis that private schools are placing upon football.

pendent Schools Football Association. "Previously, a lot of those [sports scholarships] would have gone to rugby."

For players released aged 16, joining an independent school at sixth form is a way of winning a second chance in professional football. "A huge number of students get spat out at 16 and don't really know where to go," says Jono Santry, who coaches at Millfield and is manager of the Independent Schools Under-18s, a national side for boys at English private schools. "Our schools are giving an olive branch to these students."

One flag-bearer for this approach is Tyrone Mings. In 2009, aged 16, Mings was released by Southampton: a moment that normally marks the end of a player's professional dreams. His story had a different ending. Millfield gave Mings a sports scholarship in the sixth form. For these two years, Mings played his football almost exclusively at the school, then broke back into the professional game, setting him on course for a fine career with Aston Villa and England.

While coaching in the private sector, Santry was used to having his calls to scouts ignored. But increasingly, Santry finds that professional scouts need his advice about getting to games. "That's the biggest change. Now that we've got players that are good enough, the scouts are seeing them. If you go to an independent schools national team game – under-18s, under-16s, even under-14s – you will see the whole pitch surrounded by scouts."

Santry has been Independent Schools Under-18s manager for 15 years. Asked what would happen if his side today met the 2010 team, Santry laughs. "That would be unbelievably one-sided," he says. "Let's go for a conservative 6-0."

In 2016, Santry first learnt of parents who would only allow their sons to sign for a club if the contract included a guarantee to pay for a private education – effectively, an insurance policy if football does not work out. Now, when negotiating with clubs, parents are increasingly doing as Thompson's family did with Arsenal.

"We see the FTTM going from strength to strength," says Alexander Tardios, the headmaster of St John's. "I always say to my academy boys: 'If you do not make it as a footballer, do not say all your efforts were for nothing. Remember your footballing talent earned you a scholarship, which has led you to achieving good grades in your studies and now you have the qualifications to go to university and follow a new and exciting path.' This is where the game is changing."

For football in the independent sector, the biggest question is whether schools can eventually develop elite players at a similar rate to other sports. "At the moment, the minute a kid is good enough, they're taken into an academy," Rollings says. "As independent schools continue to increase their quality and provision of football, I think they could be a breeding ground."

Led by teams such as Arsenal, more clubs are showing flexibility in allowing children to spend more time at private schools. "The academies have a better understanding of the quality of football programme, the quality of coaching the kids will get within the school," observes Bent, from the IFSA. "Ten years ago, being a private school probably slightly hindered them going on. Nowadays it will probably help them. Some academies have really cottoned on to the idea that, actually, a private school is a fantastic place."

"You'll see a number of players who have come through the private sector, or gone on to play professionally at the top of the game. If you look at what's happened to rugby and cricket, I don't see any reason why that won't become a real big thing in football too over the next 10 to 15 years."

work in a state school? I wish I could, but the facilities aren't good enough."

The son of Neil, a Manchester United midfielder who earned 26 England caps from 1987-92, Webb had a fine junior career at Arsenal, and played with Cesc Fàbregas. After being released aged 18, he played for Coventry City and Hereford United but then retired aged 21 because of injury.

He believes that the brutal odds of making it as a professional – just three per cent of footballers in Premier League academies play in the top flight – demand that players focus on their academic as well as sporting education. He believes, too, that education can give players an escape, and help them to retain their enjoyment of the game itself.

In 2009, aged 22, Webb got a job at Bradfield College; he is now director of football at Repton School. The best players there have 20 hours of football-related activities a week – playing and training, alongside working with psychologists, nutritionists and performance analysts, who are often PhD students. That is more time in the football programme than Webb had per week at the Arsenal academy.

"They feel safe – psychologically safe," Webb says. "Pressure is good, but not crippling, unnecessary contractual, getting ahead of your team-mate, dog-eat-dog pressure. We don't have that."

The independent school landscape in football is very different to sports such as cricket and rugby. In those games, the best talent flocks to private schools. But in football, the demands of professional academies are such that players cannot balance representing a school and their club. For instance, Foden did not play for St Bede's: the school is used by Manchester City as an educational partner, rather than shaping their football development. "If a boy is at an academy full-time, they are not learning their football at the school," Webb explains.

Coaches in the private sector are trying to create a new path: allowing children to learn football at independent schools.

Every year, Webb can point to new evidence for the football talent within the sector. In eight years, more than 20 players have progressed from the Hudl league to the professional game. While none of these players are

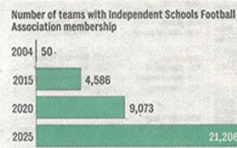
regulars at elite clubs, Hudl alumni have signed for clubs including Burnley and Fulham. "I didn't have the pick of the boys in the country," Webb says. "I had the boys that no one wanted."

The Hudl league is essentially limited to players not signed by academies. Most players are from affluent backgrounds: two-thirds of those at Hudl teams are thought to pay full fees. Children who benefit from significant combined bursary and scholarship awards often join in sixth form.

The very best players at private schools, like Nwaneri and Lewis-Skelly, still largely leave at 16. But elite schools increasingly scout players released by academies aged 16.

Coaches from leading independent schools pack into "exit trials" – matches run by clubs for players that they are releasing, designed to give the children a chance to show their talent to potential new suitors. Should they impress, players might then receive scholarship offers. "We've seen a rise in the number of pupils attending private school through either a bursary or a scholarship," says Ian Bent, head of football operations at the Inde-

Football's private school boom



to the extent that the Commission is not satisfied with the information provided, it may request further information from the applicant.

[illegible][illegible]

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) has published a study that suggests that the use of a single, low-dose, long-acting antipsychotic drug may be more effective than a combination of two or more drugs in treating schizophrenia. The study, which was conducted by researchers at the University of California, San Diego, found that patients who received a single, low-dose, long-acting antipsychotic drug had a higher rate of response to treatment than those who received a combination of two or more drugs. The study also found that patients who received a single, low-dose, long-acting antipsychotic drug had a lower rate of side effects than those who received a combination of two or more drugs.

the 1980s, the number of people who have been killed in the process of the war has increased. The number of people who have been killed in the process of the war has increased. The number of people who have been killed in the process of the war has increased.

LIVERPOOL
WEST H

WEST H
1pm

OPA LEAGUE

ports news 00:53 Tonight with Ian Ladyman and John Cross (10.30pm) **Masters** Justin Rose

Introduction of a New St. John's School App

We are excited to announce the introduction of our newly created School App which can be found on the respective app stores for android and apple. The App is an extension of our school website as well as social media pages and will contain all the relevant news, information and events for the school.

We wish all our students a productive and enjoyable Summer Term.

Administration.



St John's Prep & Senior Sch...

Info, news & events

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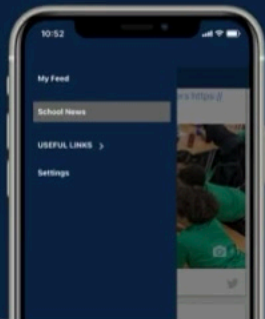
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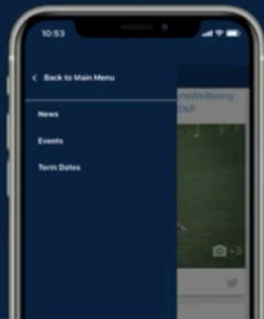
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