



## Welcome to Mountbatten



This is an exciting time to join the teaching profession. As our children join the global village, they will find themselves matched against children graduating from classrooms in China, India, Brazil and Africa. Put simply, a good education has never mattered more than it does today. Whilst this is a challenging time for all schools, we can be proud of the advances in education over recent years.

Children at The Mountbatten School have a hunger to learn. Mountbatten will reward committed, highly skilled teachers with outstanding support and development opportunities, and a unique three-way career progression path.

If you would like to find out more, get in touch and come and see what Mountbatten has to offer.

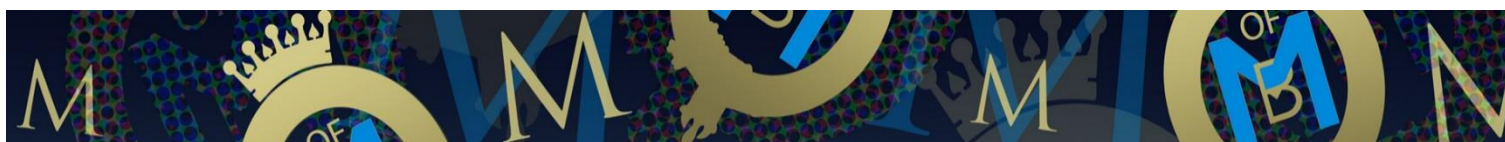


Heather McIlroy  
Chief Executive, Personal Best Education



Christopher Cox  
Headteacher, The Mountbatten School

For current vacancies, visit [www.mountbatten.school](http://www.mountbatten.school) or  
Email: [human.resources@mountbatten.school](mailto:human.resources@mountbatten.school)



## **An Introduction**

The Mountbatten School is an 11-16 co-educational, non-denominational school, founded in 1969 by Earl Mountbatten of Burma. It is part of the Personal Best Education Trust. The school has a wealth of outstanding features which have been recognised in excellent Ofsted reports and by a host of other national awards. The school is recognised for its very high-quality teaching and academic achievement combined with strong commitment to student welfare and to assiduous monitoring of each student's progress. Students are exceptionally well-behaved with politeness and common courtesies being highly valued and practised by nearly all our students.

Our primary objectives are academic excellence, fellowship, co-operation, and the development of students as independent, responsible, and involved members of the larger world community.

As a comprehensive school we cater for students of all abilities. However, we expect and require all students to be keen to work hard, to be willing to do their best, and to share our commitment to have the highest possible standards. We also expect that parents will be committed to provide all the support needed for students to gain the most from the opportunities which such a successful school can provide.

## **Location**

The school is located on the eastern edge of Romsey, a town of approximately 20,000 people. Romsey is situated in the southern Test Valley, a particularly pleasant area surrounding and encompassing the abbey town of Romsey and abutting Wiltshire to the North West, Southampton to the South East and the New Forest to the South West.



A good road network gives easy access to the recreational areas of the Solent, Dorset coast and Bournemouth (40 minutes by car). Currently, some staff live within the catchment. Many live in Salisbury, Southampton or Winchester. A good number commute from as far as Bournemouth, Portsmouth and Basingstoke.

## **The School**

The school is one of the largest and most successful co-educational comprehensives in Hampshire. Our intake is 300, and there are currently 1466 students on roll. The school serves a predominantly rural catchment area extending from the boundary of Southampton to the boundary of Wiltshire. We are the larger of Romsey's two secondary schools. The school is very popular and heavily oversubscribed.

Chris Cox, Headteacher, has been in post since October 2024 and was formerly Associate Headteacher appointed in 2015. The school is organised into eight faculties (with approximately 80 FTE teaching staff), and the pastoral structure is based on five Year groups.

The school has a number of national awards. These include the International School Award, Secondary Quality Geography Mark, Quality in Careers Award and Youth Sports Trust Gold Partner.



The school is fortunate to have extensive grounds as it was built on land that was formerly part of Lord Mountbatten's Broadlands Estate. Since the school became an academy on 1 April 2011, there has been an extensive refurbishment programme over many years. As a result, all departments are very well resourced and accommodated.

The school's ungraded inspection in January 2024 judged that the school 'continues to be good'.

- The school offers a warm, caring community in which pupils flourish.
- The dedicated team of staff ensures that pupils benefit from strong teaching.
- Learning is enriched through a huge number of clubs, experiences and trips.
- Over time, the pupils achieve well and develop leadership, resilience and independent learning skills that equip them well for the future.
- The first-class leadership of pastoral care and well-being underpins the exceptionally safe and inclusive learning environment.
- Pupils' good humour, considerate behaviour and respectful manners make The Mountbatten School a special place to be.
- Provision for pupils' personal development is first class.
- Being an 'international school' supports promoting respect for different cultures, languages and religions.
- The school considers the workload and well-being of staff carefully and provides opportunities for staff to be involved in any changes.

### **Student Progress**

Our GCSE results are strong with positive progress 8 scores. Our academic curriculum suits our students; our EBacc achievement was amongst the highest in Hampshire. We work closely with our linked primary schools through the Romsey Pyramid of Schools, and with our local Sixth Form colleges. A very good number of our students go on from Barton Peveril, Peter Symonds and other sixth form colleges to Russell Group universities.

### **ECT Programme**

There is a very well-established programme of ECT induction and support. ECTs have additional non-contact time to meet with a dedicated ECT mentor. This mentor will usually be from within the department. The support continues with the comprehensive ECT programme in year two.

Central to the school's philosophy is the importance attached to career and professional development. As part of the appraisal process, all teachers have a career aspiration target and are asked to indicate how the school can best support this aspiration. There is a dedicated Teaching and Learning Team of Lead Practitioners and Aspiring Lead Practitioners who help all teachers and departments develop.

We are always proud when staff leave us for deserved promotion. However, there are plenty of career enhancement opportunities within school and it is not unusual for several internal promotions to be advertised each year. We have three distinct career pathways:

- Subject responsibilities (larger faculties have Head, Deputy Head and Assistant Heads of Faculty).
- Pastoral responsibilities (we have Heads of School, Heads of Year and Aspiring Pastoral Leaders).
- Pedagogy responsibilities (we have a Director of Learning, Lead Practitioners and Aspiring Lead Practitioners who work across the school to develop and share innovative practice).

In appointing staff, we are looking above all for potential. Many of our middle leaders have been appointed internally after following the school's bespoke in-house training programme.

We value innovative practice and particularly promote the use of new technologies. We have nine ICT or Mac suites, several class sets of Chromebooks or iPads, and each member of staff has their own iPad or Chromebook. We are a member of several local collaborative networks, some of which we lead and we have particularly close links to the Universities of Southampton and Winchester.

We have strengths in many areas; all subjects are considered important and our curriculum structure reflects this. We have good GCSEs numbers across Humanities, the Arts, MFL, Sport and Technology. We have three 'academies' in Music, Sport and Science where we have enhanced provision and where we support our primary schools.

Since becoming an academy in 2011, there has been an extensive campus development programme; nearly all departments have outstanding accommodation and facilities. Technology, Art, Science and PE have all had major refurbishments. Our sports facilities are excellent and have been recently enhanced with a third-generation pitch.

We have very strong international links and the range of international residential trips and visits are exceptional. France, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain the Azores and the Gambia have all been visited in the last year. Next year will be similar.

### **Personal Best Education**

The Mountbatten School is part of the Personal Best Education Trust. Our Chief Executive, Heather McIlroy has been in post since 2022 having previously been our Headteacher since 2007. Personal Best Education Services is the Trust's extremely innovative trading subsidiary that has a growing range of services and international opportunities for young people and our community.

### **Further Information**

Our website demonstrates the many reasons why the school has such an excellent reputation within the locality and why our students achieve outstanding examination results. In particular, you may wish to view the most recent Ofsted Reports (September 2018 and January 2024). Our weekly newsletters give a further flavour.

Whether this is your first post in teaching, a return to teaching after a career break, a change of schools, perhaps to rediscover your love of teaching, a promotion, or seeking to be part of our valued support team, we welcome your interest and application. Mountbatten is a great school; the majority staff have been with us for many years and many return having worked somewhere in between. Come and find out why!