

UK Boarding Schools

UK's Oldest Boarding Schools

- **The King's School Canterbury, 597 AD**
 - Created by St. Augustine whilst on his mission to evangelize England
 - Girls introduced to the school in the early 1970's, fully co- educational as of 1990



- **The King's School Rochester, 604 AD**
 - ‘EXCEPTIONALLY HAPPY AND FRIENDLY SCHOOL’
 - the personal life of students, in combination with their academic and sporting or musical pursuits, are all in a contented balance
 - the oldest choir school in England



- **St. Peter's School York, 627 AD.**
 - fully co- educational in 1987
 - Open to students ages 3- 18 years
- **The King's School Ely, 900 AD.**
 - Founded under the rule of Henry VIII
 - School with great tradition
 - **'LEARN FROM THE PAST- LOOK TO THE FUTURE'**; member of the league of exceptional



- **Salisbury Cathedral School, 1091 AD**

- Founded by St. Osmund, the nephew of William the Conqueror
- has one of the most unique atmospheres out of all the schools in England
- most beautiful teaching rooms in the country
- introduced girls to the school in 1987



- **Eton college**

- Most prestigious British boarding school
- Founded 1440 – to date still single sex - boys school
- Graduates continue on to Oxford and Cambridge
- Most famous: Prince Harry and William, John Maynard Keynes, David Cameron, George Orwell



- Thomas Hughes' 1857 novel Tom Brown's Schooldays restored the prestige of the large boarding schools among the middle class
- They welcomed the social and moral training which they offered
- The demand for more boarding schools of the public school type coincided with the rapid increase in the wealth of the middle classes and the construction of the railways.
- New boarding schools were established:
 - ❖ Cheltenham College (1841), Marlborough College (1843)
 - ❖ Rossall School (1844), Radley College (1847), Wellington College (1853),
 - ❖ Epsom College (1855), Bradfield College, (1859), Haileybury (1862),
 - ❖ Clifton College (1862), Malvern School (1863) and Bath College (1867).,
 - ❖ were designed to make boarding education accessible to those sections of the middle class who found difficulty in paying the fees of the older and more expensive public schools.

Basic facts

- British boarding schools take on children from age of 3, though recommended is from age 8-9.
- Costs are high but guarantee a good education with teachers of high quality
 - basic boarding school fees can reach \$54,900 a year (+ additional expenses 10%).
 - more than 67,000 students from across the world attending UK boarding schools
- Boarding schools have modernized – carpets, possibility to have toys, mobile phones, modern technologies but also Jacuzzis, heated swimming pools, en-suite bedrooms (no more draft dormitories and dreary common rooms)

- Many bad experiences from ‘boarding school survivors’
 - Many tales of bullying – initiation rituals, assignment to prefects, paying for protection from senior pupils - all under with the knowledge of the teachers
 - Taking children out of family environment breaks their emotional language – their family ties – could lead to psychological changes

Negatives vs. Positives

- Boarding schools lead to elitism – they do not allow children to interact with other children or people from different social environments
- Children have no-one to protect them – no parenting during puberty
- lack of role models
- model of a family – weekends at home take on the form of a holiday, unnatural environment
- children know no emotion (emotionally poor), are deprived of love, of solving everyday situations in a standard non-institutionalized manner
- interaction with other sex not developed due to separation at all girls/boys schools
- Building individuals – raising tough / strong individuals from an early age, who know they must fend for themselves to achieve in this world
- Haven for children, who have a bad situation at home – enables them to escape to a stable environment
- Set rules, knowledge of hierarchy and preparation for the adult world in a safe environment
- High level quality of education – close relationships to teachers and fellow students – establishing ties and contacts for life
- Small class sizes, vast resources and intensive drilling sessions - students get into the world's top universities (in Britain, Eton and Harrow are passports into Oxford and Cambridge)