

6 top tips for choosing a school

- Write down everything that is important to you and your child, this will help you produce a clear list of questions, as well as what to look for whilst visiting a school.
- Make sure you visit more than one school, so you have comparisons to make.
- Always ask to meet the Head on a school visit, it is so important to have time to meet and talk with the Head to really gauge their visions and thoughts.
- What extended opportunities does a school offer, purely academic or is there a broad range of cross and co-curricular activities on offer? What can the school offer your child out of the classroom? A school which has more on offer allows you as a family not to have to compliment with a long list of out of school hours clubs, which can be an added strain on logistics, travel, exhaustion and finances.
- On a visit, are you able to soak up the atmosphere? How are the children and staff when you see them? Happy, smiling, confident children alongside welcoming staff are all key for a thriving school.
- Reviews, inspection reports and hearsay are all useful, but always remember that how you view a school could vary hugely to someone else, so go in with an open mind and let the school sell itself to you and you will soon see if it will be right for your child or family.

