

# SPRING26 TALKS

## THE COMPLETE OVERVIEW OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL CHOICES

### Good Schools Guide Forum

#### 10:30-11:15 What makes a good school? (north of the Thames)

This panel will help you to understand the education landscape north of the river and find the school that is right for your child.

- Lindsey Hughes, **Channing School**, *Headmistress*
- David Benson **Mill Hill School**, *Head*
- Matthew Mostyn, **St Edmund's College**, *Headmaster*
- Grace Moody-Stuart, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Consultancy Director*

#### 11:30-12:10 What is school ethos - and does it matter?

From a big chapel to no religion on the premises, the schools on this panel have some obvious differences. Yet all deliver exceptional outcomes. Heads discuss their school's core values and help you decide what matters to your family.

- Mark Beard, **University College School (UCS)**, *Headmaster*
- Adam Pettitt, **Highgate School**, *Head*
- Kath Bransby, **Waldorf**, *Education Coordinator*
- Melanie Sanderson, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Managing Editor*

#### 12:15-12:55 How important are buildings, facilities & location?

How do you compare central London schools with schools beyond the M25? This panel explores the real trade-offs: extensive playing fields versus being at the heart of London.

- Katharine Woodcock, **Francis Holland School Regent's Park**, *Head*
- Samantha Price, **Cranleigh School**, *Head*
- Helen Pike, **Magdalen College School, Oxford**, *Master*
- Lucinda Lafferty, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Managing Director*

#### 13:00-13:45 Going private: moving from the state sector

Find out why parents make the move, the best age to do it, and how independent schools assess and then integrate children who have attended state schools.

- Susan Wijeratna, **Latymer Upper School**, *Head*
- Rick Clarke, **St James Senior Boys' School**, *Head*
- Alastair Chirside, **St Edward's Oxford**, *Warden*
- Melanie Sanderson, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Managing Editor*

#### 14:00-14:45 Heads changing places - how important is leadership?

This panel of recently appointed heads discuss what changes when a new head arrives (and what stays the same) and what parents should look for in school leadership.

- Scott Crawford, **Lancing College**, *Head Master*
- Elizabeth Stone, **Winchester College**, *Headmaster*
- Ravi Kothakota, **Emanuel School**, *Headmaster*
- Grace Moody-Stuart, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Consultancy Director*

#### 15:00-15:45 What makes a good school? (south of the Thames)

This panel will help you to understand the education landscape south of the river and find the school that is right for your child.

- Chris Wolsey, **Ibstock Place**, *Headmaster*
- Alex Hutchinson, **James Allen's Girls School (JAGS)**, *Headteacher*
- Chris Hutchinson, **Royal Russell School**, *Headmaster*
- Melanie Sanderson, **The Good Schools Guide**, *Managing Editor*

## Think Academy Theatre

#### 11:00-11:30 Independent school news (north of the Thames)

Fees, takeovers, mergers, a hostile political climate – top education journalists and experts report on the latest private school news.

- Julie Robinson, **Independent Schools Council**, *CEO*
- Hero Brown, **Muddy Stilettos**, *Founder / Editor-in-Chief*
- Edward Wild, **Wild Search**, *Managing Director*
- Sam Coutinho, *Finance & Risk Adviser*

#### 11:45-12:15 Why board?

Living and learning together can be life-transforming. Find out how boarding works for 21st century families, and consider whether it might unlock something special for your child.

- Will Goldsmith, **Bedales School**, *Head*
- Julia Bird, **Canford School**, *Assistant Head College*
- David Walker, **Boarding Schools Association**, *Director of Boarding*

#### 12:30-13:15 How bursaries transform lives

A former Westminster headmaster, a recent leaver and a professional in their thirties share how bursaries transformed their lives, and discuss what it's like to be the first in your family to attend an independent school.

- Patrick Derham, **Bursary recipient at Pangbourne College**, *ex Head of Westminster and Rugby*
- David Ejim-McCubbin, **Arnold Foundation scholar at Rugby School**
- Ali Henderson, **Royal National Children's SpringBoard Foundation**, *CEO*

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#### 14:15-14:45 The changing London landscape

Jane Lunnon has led Alleyn's School to become one of London's most sought-after co-educational day schools. In this wide-ranging conversation, she discusses the changing London landscape.

- Jane Lunnon, **Alleyn's School**, *Headteacher*

#### 15:00-15:30 In conversation: Liz Hewer, St Paul's Girls' School

How do we prepare teenagers for a world we can barely imagine? Liz Hewer discusses the challenges facing all parents and what really matters - wherever your child is at school.

- Liz Hewer, **St Paul's Girls' School**, *High Mistress*

