



## Selecting the Right School

**With so much choice in Hong Kong, choosing the right school for your child can be a daunting prospect. Shrewsbury International School offers a personalised selection process. – By Ben Keeling**

Families at Shrewsbury benefit from an individualised identification and selection service that takes full advantage of a thriving international school sector.

Over the last decade, a total of 16 vacant premises or greenfield sites have been assigned and allocated for the purposes of international education – the Hong Kong Special Administrative region now hosts a total of 55. And this doesn't account for the rather dramatic rise in the number of private school places available.

For the first time in a generation, families arriving in Hong Kong have a broad range of high quality options. Perhaps more significantly, they now also have choice.

This is good news for both parents and schools – it presents an opportunity to seek true alignment in

values and vision: a relationship that has been shown to have enormously significant impact.

Former interim Chief Executive of the National College for School Leadership, Maggie Farrar, has described parents and families as the 'co-constructors of the learning experience'. She goes on to identify that 'the development of a relational trust between [a school and its community] is a prerequisite of better partnerships, leading to better outcomes.'

A shared set of values leads to improved results – the selection of a school should therefore be a deeply personal process. The availability of a wide range of academic pathways offers a unique opportunity.

No longer captive to a system working beyond capacity, parents in Hong Kong are able to intelligently tailor the educational pathway of their child as interests and strengths change and evolve.

An early decision to focus exclusively upon the provision of outstanding primary allocation at Shrewsbury builds directly upon this golden opportunity and has already reaped rich reward. Our learning spaces and the relationships we foster have been shaped by what we know about early childhood development – the needs and interests of a child at five differ enormously from those observed at the age of 15.

From within our award-winning campus, children receive a broad, balanced and aspirational range of opportunity. They are also offered personal guidance and direct support at their point of departure, most commonly to either enter the secondary school system here in Hong Kong or the British independent system back in the UK.

Understandably, this particular benefit has proven especially popular with incoming expatriates, often based in the region for an undetermined length of time.


Secondary School selection at Shrewsbury is undertaken over the course of three years and



draws upon our ever-developing knowledge of each individual child. Guided by a detailed action plan, exploration, selection and application are tracked closely to ensure that every student is placed into a school that allows them to thrive. For our 2018/19 graduates, the process has proven to be enormously successful and has led to as diverse a range of outcomes as you might expect from such a personalised service.

Onward journeys are supported by a wealth of respectful partnerships and a detailed school database.

With such a broad range of options now available, schools have become increasingly assured on the unique benefits they offer to students. And this growing confidence has brought about a greater willingness to engage and collaborate.

Parents interested in learning more about the benefits of our school selection service are very welcome to reach out to the school team directly on [admissions@shrewsbury.hk](mailto:admissions@shrewsbury.hk). We offer regular tours of the school every Tuesday at 10:00am. 



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**Shrewsbury International School Hong Kong** is a specialist primary school centred around traditional British values and an innovative approach to teaching and learning. It opened in August 2018 and offers a wide range of provision for children aged between three and eleven predominantly from an international background. The newest member of the Shrewsbury family, the school builds upon the reputation of its sister school, which was founded by Royal Charter in 1552 as one of Britain's best reputed schools. [www.shrewsbury.hk](http://www.shrewsbury.hk)

