
ISLAND OF LEARNING

Chiswick House School and St Martin's College in Malta teach students of varying ages, abilities and nationalities to the highest of standards



Based on the beautiful island of Malta, Chiswick House School and St Martin's College offer students the chance to shine in the nurturing environment of an independent school with a focus on personalised learning.

FULFILLING POTENTIAL

Both Chiswick House School, which caters for children aged 2-10, and its sister school St Martin's College, which teaches those aged 11-18, are geared towards helping students of all abilities fulfil their potential. The schools operate an Alternative Learning Programme, which ensures that children with learning difficulties, or those with exceptional gifts, receive focused attention from specialist teachers.

'We identify the child's abilities and set out a personal education programme for them,' says Bernie Mizzi, the schools' Director. 'If, for example, a student is gifted musically, we would bring in experts to make sure that we are guiding them properly to fulfil their potential.'

Chiswick House School and St Martin's College both boast a strong background in performing arts, with an excellent track record in drama. This includes producing short films based on Shakespeare plays, which have won several national prizes. Indeed, in September 2012, St Martin's was chosen to present at the World Shakespeare Conference at Tate Modern in London to demonstrate best practice in teaching the Bard's work.

Founded in 1905, Chiswick House School started out by catering for the children of British families stationed in Malta. Over time, it grew into a respected international school for children

of all nationalities, and in 1991 it moved to its present campus in Kappara. In 1993, the school's leaders established St Martin's College, which moved to a purpose-built site in Swatar in 1997 to teach middle- and senior-school pupils, and a sixth form was added in 2007. The curriculum is Maltese but has been adapted to suit the needs of the hundreds of international students at the schools, and all classes are taught in English. In addition to the usual subjects, there is a diverse range of specialist subjects available through the School of Excellence programme, including robotics, classics and Maltese history.

'The robust academic programmes we offer ensure that around 97 per cent of our students go on to further education,' says Bernie. 'Many of our gifted children obtain ten or more O-level passes at Grade 1 and 2 level.'

Both school campuses offer a wide range of sports, including rugby, football, handball, tennis and gym work. Swimming is also given importance, with pupils having easy access to facilities at the National Swimming Pool.

Chiswick House School and St Martin's College take a rounded approach to education. This involves looking after the spiritual well-being of the children, and offering a social and emotional learning programme as an integral part of the curriculum.

There is also a firm focus on technology on the campuses, which boast various computer labs and interactive whiteboards, with more investment planned. 'This is part of our Learning 360 School Improvement Programme,' says Bernie, 'which aims to develop a professional learning community by 2015, when Chiswick House School turns 110.'

