

Millfield School

Street, United Kingdom



Sixty-plus sports and an Olympic-length pool anchor a 240-acre Somerset campus built for athletes and scholars alike.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	59/100
Academic outcomes	63/100
University placement	61/100
Prestige & heritage	71/100
Alumni network	11/100
Facilities	78/100
Transparency	55/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Millfield’s defining fact is physical scale used with intent: a ****240-acre**** Somerset campus, more than 60 sports, and an Olympic-length pool. That is not decorative abundance. It shapes the school’s identity and the pupil it serves. Millfield is a British boarding school for ages 11 to 18, founded in 1935, Anglican in foundation, and accredited by ISI and HMC. The school’s public case rests on an old but still effective proposition: serious coaching and serious teaching in the same institution, with enough space and staffing to let pupils pursue one pursuit at a high level without surrendering the rest of school life. Parents who want a narrow, cloistered, **bookish hothouse** should look elsewhere. Millfield is broader, louder and more physically driven than that.

What puts it on a shortlist is the combination of elite sporting infrastructure with credible academic outcomes. For the Class of 2024, **74%** of **265** leavers went to top-100 universities; there were **7 Oxbridge** places and **53 Russell Group** destinations, with Bath taking 12. That is strong enough to rebut the lazy assumption that a sports-heavy school cuts corners in the classroom. It also has reach beyond sport: Wikidata records 134 notable alumni, including 58 elite athletes but also figures in politics, business, the arts and scholarship. Still, sport is the clearest organising principle here, and families need to be honest about that. Millfield suits ambitious, energetic children who want a timetable with momentum, competition and access to specialist coaching. It does not suit pupils who want a small, quiet school or who need a **gently paced** environment to thrive.

The fees place it squarely in the upper tier of the British independent market: an average annual day fee of **£39,465** and an average annual boarding fee of **£60,615** across the full ladder it covers. At that price, parents should demand substance, and Millfield does offer substance: age 11-18 focus, full boarding, a large campus, visible university outcomes and a model that has produced generations of high-performing athletes. The catch is equally clear. This is a **high-octane** school with a strong internal culture and a conspicuous appetite for performance. The right child will find it exhilarating. The wrong child will find it **relentless**.

STRENGTHS	TRADE-OFFS
• World-class sporting provision (co-curricular score 10.0) • Boarding and day options across a broad age range • 10:1 student-teacher ratio • 74% of 2024 leavers reached top-100 universities, including Oxford and Cambridge • Extensive, continually invested facilities including new indoor cricket and golf centres	• Boarding fees of £55,000 a year sit at the premium end of the market • Day fees of £30,000 a year • Average class size of 18 means teaching is not tutorial-scale • A large-scale campus can feel less intimate than smaller rivals

ADMISSIONS

Millfield School is a boarding and day school in Street, Somerset, founded in 1935, with places for older pupils; the supplied source states 13–18, while this listing covers 11–18, so families should verify the precise lower-entry year with admissions. The declared curriculum is British with A-Levels, taught in English. Typical entry points are therefore likely to fall within the senior-school years rather than the prep stage, but the school material provided here does not set out named intake years, application deadlines or a published admissions calendar.

The same caution applies to selection. No primary-source material here describes the assessment format, interview structure or any distinctive filtering process, so it would be wrong to infer tests or audition routes. Likewise, bursaries or other financial-aid arrangements are not described in the material supplied. What is clear is the school's scale and boarding focus: ages 11–18 in this listing, boarding as the principal model, and fees published at £55,000 for boarding and £30,000 for day places. Families should expect a formal admissions process, but should confirm details directly with the school.

NOTABLE ALUMNI (134)

SPORT: Mary Rand, Andrew Castle, J. P. R. Williams, Olly Morgan, Brian Barnes, Gareth Edwards, Chris Robshaw, Matt Perry

MUSIC: Tony Blackburn, Ola Onabule, Ella Eyre, Dominic Sherwood, Ted Dwane, Polly Money, Lily Allen

DRAMA: Nicollette Sheridan, Alex Pettyfer, Rose Leslie, Sefi Atta, Jason Connery, Jeremy Gilley, Nabila Khashoggi, Sally Reeve

VISUAL_ARTS: Richard Lin Show Yu, Kaveh Golestan, Ralph Douglas-Montagu-Scott, 4th Baron Montagu of Beaulieu, Melissa Percy, Jago Eliot, Ella Eyre, Lily Allen

LETTERS: Sophie Dahl, Sefi Atta, Paul Philippe Hohenzollern-Lambrino, Kaveh Golestan, John Sergeant, Rosie Thomas, Peter Roebuck

POLITICS: Ben Wallace, Ruth Kelly, Michael Brougham, 5th Baron Brougham and Vaux, Ian Liddell-Grainger, Peter Kemp, Alex Burghart, John Skeffington, 14th Viscount Massereene

SCIENCE: Ruth Kelly, Paul Philippe Hohenzollern-Lambrino, Rosalind Maskell, Philippa Browning

BUSINESS: Ruth Kelly, Salem bin Laden, Richard Harding, Ness Wadia, Damian Aspinall, Roland Rudd, Tom Alexander, Dominic Chappell

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_f2bc9425f9.