

MANCHESTER

Education Guide



YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST SCHOOLS
AND UNIVERSITIES

RENAKER

Manchester is more than just an impressive place to live, it offers many great opportunities for you and your family to learn and grow in one of the UK's, Europe's and the wider world's best education hubs.

There are a wealth of state and private primary schools, secondary schools, universities and higher education institutions across Manchester - which match and surpass the high quality you would expect from a global city of its size. From Deansgate Square, there is easy access to the local area's best schools and the city's many prestigious universities, offering children and young adults an unrivalled selection of top learning environments.

At primary level, the nearby schools offer children a well-rounded education with respective Ofsted ratings ranging from Good to Outstanding. The variety of local secondary schools is also impressive; from historic schools dating back hundreds of years to new up and coming schools which regularly set new precedents for attainment and pupil development.



University of Manchester

WWW.MANCHESTER.AC.UK

 18 mins  4 mins  8 mins

THEY SAY: THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER IS A TRULY GLOBAL INSTITUTION, WITH A REPUTATION FOR EDUCATION AND INNOVATION THAT RESONATES ACROSS THE WORLD.

What to expect: A red brick university and part of the prestigious Russell Group, The University of Manchester is the largest single-site university in the UK, and home to 40,000+ students each year - the second most across the country. Offering more subjects than any other institution, there is plenty of choice in terms of courses

- however, traditionally science has been a key area of research with 25 Nobel laureates amongst current and former students and staff.

How it performs: Recently ranked as the '8th Best University in the UK' by the Sunday Times, 93.6% of graduates go straight into employment or further study (Higher Education Statistics Agency) making it the most targeted university by the nation's top graduate employers (The Graduate Market in 2019, High Flyers Research).



NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Ernest Rutherford
Prof. Brian Cox
Benedict Cumberbatch

Manchester Metropolitan University

WWW2.MMU.AC.UK

 12 mins  4 mins  3 mins

THEY SAY: A GREAT, MODERN UNIVERSITY, IN A TOP GLOBAL CITY, WITH A DRIVING AMBITION TO DISCOVER AND DISSEMINATE KNOWLEDGE TO MAKE HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE AND BENEFICIAL TO ALL THOSE WITH THE PASSION AND ABILITY TO SUCCEED.

What to expect: Although officially formed in 1970 as Manchester Polytechnic, MMU traces its origins back to the 19th century, and the formation of the Manchester Mechanics Institute and the Manchester School of Design. The University now sits across two campuses in the city, with 33,000+ students making it the sixth largest in the UK. Offering a vast array of courses, MMU has been commended for its research and specialisms in both Business Studies and Architecture, where it is regularly listed in global Top 10s. Currently undergoing £400m of investment, MMU is set to continue to grow in coming years.

How it performs: Manchester Met is placed in the world's top 200 universities under 50 years old (Times Higher Education Young University Rankings) with 85% of research offering 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent' impact. It continues to offer graduates a great start to the world of work, with 94.6% finding full time employment within six months.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Steve Coogan
Dame Julie Walters
Thomas Heatherwick CBE



University of Salford

WWW.SALFORD.AC.UK

 32 mins  8 mins  12 mins

THEY SAY: THE UNIVERSITY DRAWS ON ITS HERITAGE OF INDUSTRIAL LINKS TO OFFER REAL WORLD LEARNING AND CREATE HIGHLY EMPLOYABLE GRADUATES.

What to expect: Established in 1967, the University of Salford dates back to the 19th century where it was known as the Royal Technical Institute, Salford. Fast forward to the present day, and the university now operates across a number of campuses within two miles west of Manchester city centre. Although the Peel Park Campus with its red brick Peel Building is the main

base of the university, the new MediaCity campus sees more than 1,500 students working within close proximity of UK media staples the BBC and ITV. 20,000 students return to the university each year to study a number of courses, including leading research in health, energy, media and the built environment.

How it performs: The University of Salford ranks at 111th in the UK (Sunday Times Higher Education) but regularly features in the top 10 for subject-specific rankings including Media and Health & Social



Care. With strong links to local business and industry, 86% of its graduates find work or go onto further study within six months of graduating.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

L. S. Lowry
Peter Kay

Royal Northern College of Music

WWW.RNCM.AC.UK

 16 mins  5 mins  7 mins



THEY SAY: THE RNCM IS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATOIRE LOCATED IN THE HEART OF MANCHESTER, WITH A REPUTATION FOR ATTRACTING TALENTED STUDENTS, TEACHERS, CONDUCTORS AND COMPOSERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

What to expect: Now in its fifth decade, the RNCM is relatively young, but its rich history spans back to 1893 when Sir Charles Hallé founded the Royal Manchester College of Music. In 1973, this institution merged with the Northern School of Music, and the RNCM was born. Today, the College is a thriving conservatoire with around 320 teaching staff and 880 students from nearly 60 different countries. The college offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses looking at all aspects of musical performance and composition.

How it performs: Research Excellence Framework (REF) rated the RNCM the UK's leading music college for research and in 2017 the College was ranked Gold in the Higher Education Funding Council for England's first Teaching Excellence Framework. The RNCM has also been awarded two Times Higher Education Awards: Excellence and Innovation in the Arts (2015) and Outstanding International Student Strategy (2016).

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Helen Sherman
Eva Thorarinsdottir

Manchester Grammar School

WWW.MGS.ORG

 56 mins  11 mins  18 mins

THEY SAY: THE AIM AND ETHOS OF MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL IS TO TEACH BOYS TO 'THINK FOR THEMSELVES AND DEVELOP A TRUE SENSE OF SCHOLARSHIP', FIRMLY FOLLOWING THE MOTTO "SAPERE AUDE" MEANING "DARE TO BE WISE".

What to expect: Founded in 1515, MGS' long and prestigious history has seen it establish a reputation as one of the country's top academic and independent institutions. It is also the UK's largest independent day school for boys and prides itself on providing an inspirational and

creative environment in which its pupils flourish. MGS offers places based on assessment for boys aged 7 through to post 16 with annual fees of £12,930, or £4,310 per term.

How it performs: The most recent ISI inspection (May 2019) awarded the school with the highest grade in all areas. Last year's GCSE results saw 89% of pupils earning grades 9, 8 or 7 (A* or A) across all subjects, while 89% of A-level grades were A* - B. In 2018 it was also recognised as the Northwest's top independent secondary school.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Chris Addison
Faisal Islam
Sir Ben Kingsley



Manchester High School for Girls

WWW.MANCHESTERHIGH.CO.UK

 50 mins  11 mins  17 mins

THEY SAY: MHSG HAS A VISION TO INSPIRE GIRLS TO PURSUE THE 'HIGHEST ACADEMIC, PERSONAL AND MORAL STANDARDS', AIMING TO EMPOWER THEM TO BECOME 'RESPONSIBLE GLOBAL CITIZENS, WHO HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE WORLD'.

What to expect: The school is revered for the quality of its teaching and the life skills it provides its students to help them achieve their best and equip them for their future careers. The accommodating and wide subject offering is complemented by its state-of-the-art facilities and the

school's rich social and cultural environment. MHSG is open to girls from ages 4, 7, 11 and 16 and entry is subject to assessment by interview and GCSE grades for Sixth Form. Fees range from £7,650 to £10,683 per annum depending on year group.

How it performs: MHSG's most recent ISI inspection (November 2019) shows the school meets all of the required standards. The school also showed strong results in last year's GCSEs, with more than half of all grades being 8 or 9 (A or A*) over 90% of A-level results being A* - B.



NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Anushka Asthana
Emma Barnett
Judy Finnigan,

Chetham's School of Music

WWW.CHETHAMS.COM



22 mins



8 mins



9 mins

THEY SAY: CHETHAM'S IS THE 'LARGEST SPECIALIST MUSIC SCHOOL IN THE UK', AND SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1969 HAS PROVEN ITSELF AS A 'CENTRAL PART OF MUSIC EDUCATION' FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY.

What to expect: Chetham's is not just an independent music school, it also offers excellent academic courses for students and a multitude of pathways into further education or professional development and careers. Students can join from age 8 and stay through until 20 and two thirds of the 300 pupils are accepted as boarders. The

school boasts a superb array of facilities, particularly for ICT and the sciences, but it is famed for its music buildings and programmes of study. Chetham's also embraces the freedom and vibrancy of the surrounding city and strives to bring a real community feel to its curriculum and culture. Places are subject to auditions and fees can vary from £25,821 to £35,697 depending on age, nationality and boarding status.

How it performs: The school was assessed by the ISI in January 2020 and was deemed to have met all the required standards, with 'excellent' teaching across the

board. Both its GCSE and A-Level results from last year are similarly impressive with 96% and 92% of pupils passing with grades from A*-C respectively. A large percentage of pupils also go on to further study and achievement in music and the performing arts.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Max Beesley
Olivia Chaney
Doug Naylor

Trinity Church of England High School

WWW.TRINITYHIGH.COM



18 mins



5 mins



7 mins

THEY SAY: TRINITY PROVIDES A WELL-BALANCED, OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC EDUCATION TO STUDENTS OF ALL FAITHS AND COMMUNITIES OF MANCHESTER.

What to expect: Established in 1984, the high school prides itself on ensuring young people are safe, secure, cared for and happy and are able to develop into articulate, well-qualified citizens of the world. The school has developed significantly in recent years, the latest addition being its sixth form which opened in September, 2016. Trinity is uniquely placed in the heart of the University District and as such enjoys close links with many

academic departments and benefits from a wide range of other superb facilities right on its doorstep.

How it performs: Ofsted rated the school as 'Outstanding' during its last inspection and 65% of pupils at Trinity gained at least 5 A* to C or 9-4 grade GCSEs including English and Maths. At A-level, the sixth form also boasts impressive results where pupils recently achieved a 98% pass rate overall, with a 34% pass rate at A*-B.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Danny Welbeck
Keir Thomas



Withington Girls School

WWW.WGS.ORG

 58 mins  11 mins  21 mins

THEY SAY: WITHINGTON GIRLS' SCHOOL IS ONE OF THE UK'S LEADING INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS, WHICH HAS 'SOME OF THE BEST ACADEMIC RESULTS IN THE COUNTRY' THAT THEY ATTAIN WITHIN 'A LIVELY, HAPPY AND CARING ENVIRONMENT'.

What to expect: WGS was opened in 1890 and while it may have grown substantially from its beginnings as a pioneering school for only four female pupils, it still maintains the founding principles of helping girls achieve an excellent standard of academic achievement. Today, girls from ages 7 to 18 can

enjoy a supportive and friendly environment that teaches a wide range of subjects and instills important life lessons. Beyond this, the school boasts excellent facilities and prides itself on the breadth of extra curricular activities available to its pupils. Fees per term range from £3,065 to £4,084 depending on age and some means-tested bursaries are offered each year.

How it performs: The school recently received the Sunday Times' accolade for being 2020's top independent secondary school in the north-west. The school's GCSE and A-Level results are consistently well above the national average

and last year 59% of all GCSE pupils earned Grade 7 or above (equivalent from A* to A). Equally 93% of A-level pupils earned A* to B grades in their subjects. The last ISI inspection (September 2017) described the school as 'excellent' and praised WGS for the quality of the personal development of its students.

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Kate Abdo
Sarah Burton
Judith Chalmers



Manchester Grammar Junior School

WWW.WWW.MGS.ORG/194/JUNIOR-SCHOOL

 56 mins  11 mins

THEY SAY: THE JUNIOR SCHOOL OFFERS A CHALLENGING AND CREATIVE CURRICULUM TO INSPIRE OUR PUPILS TO BECOME PROBLEM SOLVERS AND TO TAKE RISKS FROM EARLY IN THEIR SCHOOL CAREERS.

What to expect: With automatic entry into the senior school, MGS' Junior School gives boys aged 4 to 11 the perfect start to their education. As an independent school, children are able to learn a wide range of topics outside of the National Curriculum, and they are encouraged to take up additional activities in areas such

as Robotics or Business Studies. The school also studies a variety of languages including Spanish in Year 3, French in Year 4, Latin in Year 5 and Italian in Year 6. Applications are welcomed for entry to any of Years 3, 4, 5 or 6, subject to spaces being available and applicants will be invited to attend an Assessment Day of taught lessons for selection.

How it performs: As an independent school, it doesn't sit any external examinations in junior school and all boys automatically gain entry to the senior school.



Manchester High School for Girls Preparatory Department

WWW.MANCHESTERHIGH.CO.UK/PREP

 50 mins  11 mins



THEY SAY: THE PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT IS A PLACE WHERE GIRLS AGED 4 TO 11 CAN ENJOY A BREADTH OF EXCITING AND CHALLENGING ACTIVITIES, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

What to expect: The school's wide and varied curriculum is full of opportunity and empowers girls to know they can achieve their goals. A vast array of themed days, visiting speakers and trips all help to contextualise learning and bring it to life. All pupils belong to a house named after female founders of Manchester High, developing

an understanding of the school's history and a sense of belonging. For entry into the Reception class at ages four plus, girls are invited into school for an Assessment Day. Girls applying into Key Stage 2 are required to sit an entrance test in Mathematics and English and there are problem solving and cognitive ability tests. Fees range from £8,931 to £9,072 depending on the school year.

How it performs: MHSG's most recent ISI inspection (November 2019) shows the school meets all of its required standards.

St Alphonsus R.C. Primary School

WWW.STALPHONSUS-TRAFFORD.CO.UK

 17 mins  5 mins

THEY SAY: ST ALPHONSUS IS A 'HAPPY SCHOOL' WHICH PRIDES ITSELF ON PROVIDING A 'SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT' IN WHICH THE PUPILS CAN 'GROW AND LEARN WITH CONFIDENCE'.

What to expect: The curriculum that is taught at St Alphonsus incorporates elements of the Catholic faith, but also supports and promotes learning about wider cultures and religions - embracing the local communities and life in the city. Standards of teaching are exceptional, the pupils here are safe and consistently show high levels

of achievement. There are religious admissions requirements but exceptions can be made subject to available places.

How it performs: The school's last Ofsted report (May 2014) rated St Alphonsus 'Outstanding' and noted the exceptional behaviour and the dedication and enthusiasm of its teaching staff as a key strength. The KS2 SATs results are also impressive with expected levels of attainment well above the national average across the core assessment subjects.

Notable information: The school is connected to Greensted's International School in Nakuru, Kenya.



Old Trafford Community Academy

WWW.OLDTRAFFORDCOMMUNITYACADEMY.CO.UK

 17 mins  4 mins

THEY SAY: THE SCHOOL FOLLOWS THE 'SAME VALUES AS THE OTHER ACADEMIES WITHIN THE [FOCUS] TRUST' AND THEY STRIVE TO BE FAIR, HONEST AND PROVIDE THEIR CHILDREN WITH A CARING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.



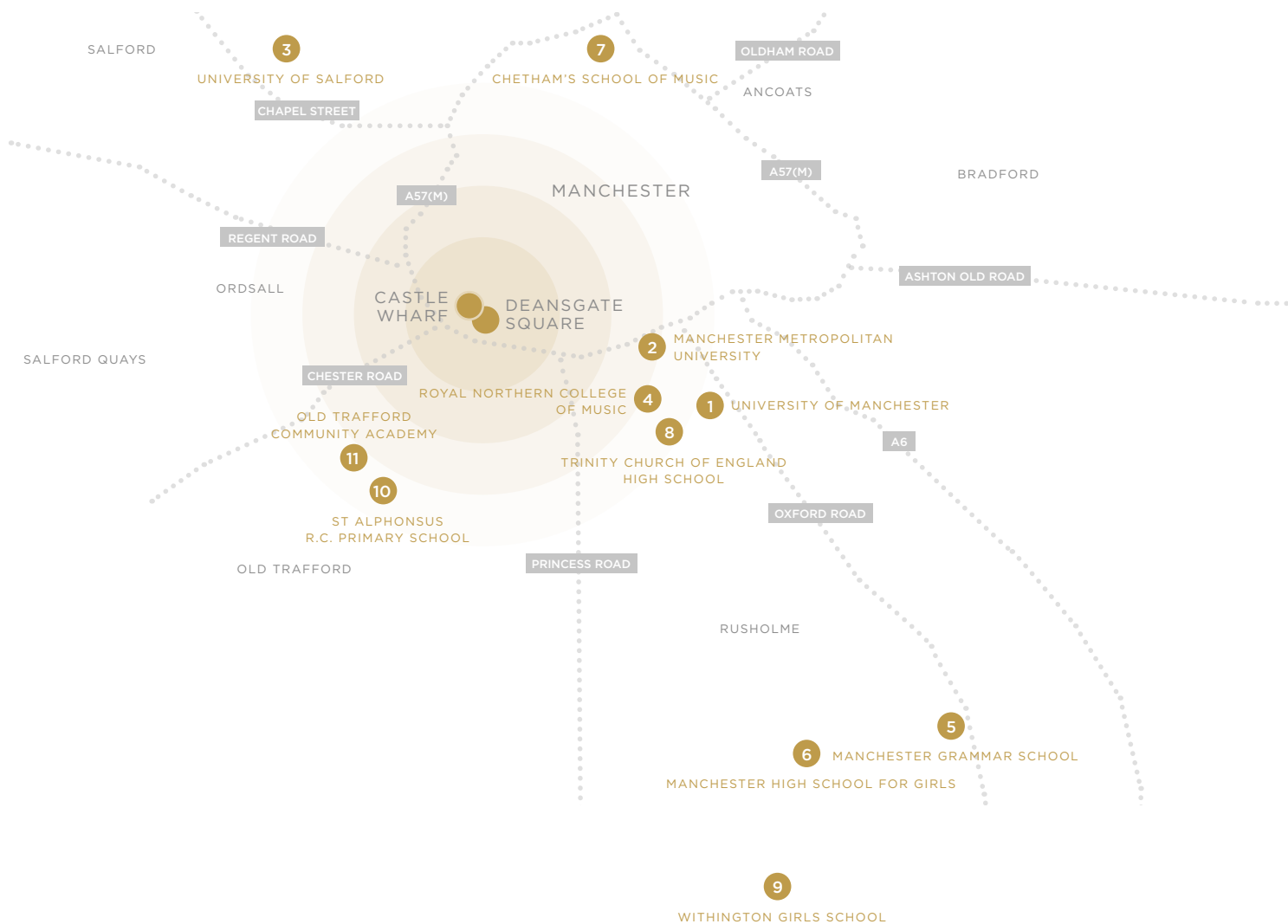
What to expect: Pupils receive a balanced but broad curriculum and the school aims to equip pupils to be ready for life in modern Britain. As a state-funded school it is open to children from all lifestyles and backgrounds in the catchment area and strives to promote their core values in all elements of their educational programmes. As the name suggests, 'community' is also high on the school's agenda. This is an academy that actively works with families and runs groups and sessions with parents to get them more involved with their children's education.

How it performs: Old Trafford Community Academy shows strong results with just over half of its cohort making the expected KS2 SATs levels of progress. In addition, the last Ofsted report (May 2017) shows the school to be consistently 'Good' and praises the friendly and welcoming atmosphere and the well-established, successful routines and teaching systems. The school is open to admissions from January and places are highly sought after.

Notable information: As part of the Focus Trust the school is fully compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.



Perfectly Placed



9 WITHINGTON GIRLS SCHOOL

	UNIVERSITIES	WALK	CAR	BICYCLE
1	University of Manchester	18 mins	4 mins	8 mins
2	Manchester Metropolitan University	12 mins	4 mins	3 mins
3	University of Salford	32 mins	8 mins	12 mins
4	Royal Northern College of Music	16 mins	5 mins	7 mins
	SECONDARY SCHOOLS & COLLEGES			
5	Manchester Grammar School	56 mins	11 mins	18 mins
6	Manchester High School for Girls	50 mins	11 mins	17 mins
7	Chetham's School of Music	22 mins	8 mins	9 mins
8	Trinity Church of England High School	18 mins	5 mins	7 mins
9	Withington Girls School	58 mins	11 mins	21 mins
	PREPARATORY & PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
5	Manchester Grammar Junior School	56 mins	11 mins	-
6	Manchester High School for Girls Preparatory Department	50 mins	11 mins	-
10	St Alphonsus R.C. Primary School	17 mins	5 mins	-
11	Old Trafford Community Academy	17 mins	4 mins	-