



# Top Benefits of Co-ed Private Schools



## *The key advantages of a co-educational environment*

Learning together in a co-ed classroom has many benefits for both genders. Whether at work or in the home, men and women cooperate in their daily lives all the time and students who attend a co-educational school are introduced to the benefits of this type of environment well before they enter the workforce—giving them a conceivably distinct advantage.

Sending your child to a school with boys and girls will encourage their self-esteem, improve their social skills, and better prepare them for a diverse world in which both genders play important roles. Co-ed environments teach students to have respect for their opposite sex peers, expose them to different viewpoints, and some say help to break down the gender stereotypes.

Students who “are not given opportunities to work together to develop the skills needed to interact with each other” are often left wondering the reason for their gender-segregated classrooms and may struggle with the seeming inequality, says Penn State researcher Lynn S. Liben in *The Pseudoscience of Single-Sex Schooling*, 2011.

Indeed, practice is the best way to master social skills that will help students solve conflict, problem solve and work well in groups. Co-ed schools provide students with the practice they need to master these social skills which better prepares them for success in college and in the workforce.

Learning together in a co-ed classroom has many benefits for both genders. “The world we live in is a co-ed world,” says Paul G. Kitchen, Head of School at Rothesay Netherwood School in New Brunswick, Canada. Women and men are “different, but they have the same ability to make communities work. You have to live in co-ed circumstances to truly learn this.”

## Social Skills

**72%**

Co-ed students often demonstrate comfort in social situations, and 72 percent of students say they easily make friends of the opposite sex.

**84%**

84 percent of students said they feel comfortable expressing their views in front of members of the opposite sex and commonly report healthy self-esteem.

By teaching students to deal with one another with dignity and respect, administrators at private schools like Rothesay Netherwood School are aiming to show children that both males and females contribute in equal (and equally-important) ways to the fabric of society.

## Diversity

**79%**

79 percent of parents say they feel co-ed schools reflected the true diversity of society.

**62%**

62 percent of students at co-ed schools feel they are able to participate in many activities with both same sex or opposite sex peers.