



## **NZ private schools top UK counterparts - Financial Times London**

New Zealand's private schools are knocking their British counterparts off the top of the global league table for English-speaking education, international research suggests.

The findings could give New Zealand an edge over Britain among wealthy Asians seeking the best education for their children – particularly since New Zealand's top schools are generally cheaper, London's Financial Times newspaper reported.

**Among English-speaking countries, New Zealand tops the league table of private schools in maths and in science** in the Pisa education survey, published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

British private schools beat their New Zealand counterparts only in reading.

Rising teacher pay has increased costs at British schools and the strong pound has also made the schools more expensive for overseas-based families.

This year's annual fees at Eton College are £26,490 or \$NZ69,491.

(This compares with approx \$NZ22,000 for overseas students at Queen Margaret College)

**"New Zealand independent schools represent the best value on the planet."**

There was also "a perception" among parents that New Zealand was safer "to send your 14 or 15-year-old daughter to than the UK or the US".

***US private schools underperformed both British and New Zealand schools where figures were available.***

- NZPA Financial Times London January 2007