

# 10 THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING WHERE TO LIVE

Are you relocating or looking for a fresh start in a new area? Choosing a new home that is the perfect fit for you and your family can be daunting but we're here to help with 10 useful tips on what you should consider before you make your move.

## 1 LOCATION \*

Convenience is key when looking for a new home. Factors to be considered are whether it is close to work, schools, shopping centres and other amenities that you frequently visit.

## 3 SCHOOLS \*

Evaluate the schools in the area. Check both public and private institutions and their performance and ratings. Check the availability of places in the schools you like and if they cater to your child's interests and preferred extracurricular activities.

## 5 AMENITIES \*

Check whether the area has shopping malls, fitness centres, restaurants, parks, healthcare facilities, entertainment and recreational facilities that would be easy to reach from your home. Long commutes are costly and a waste of time.

## 7 COMMUNITY \*

Do you fit in? Finding out about the area's culture and diversity is a key factor in deciding whether it will suit your values and lifestyle. A local community with the same outlook as yours makes the transition to a new area much easier.

## 9 NOISE AND POLLUTION \*

If peace and serenity are what you are looking for, consider the proximity of the property to busy roads, airports and industrial areas. Assess the air quality too, and if there are any sources of pollution nearby that would affect your quality of life.

## 2 SAFETY \*

You need peace of mind. Before buying a property, do your research on the crime rate in the area. Also ensure that the area is well-lit and that there is a neighbourhood watch group or other help available in case of emergency.

## 4 AFFORDABILITY \*

You need a home that fits your budget. Determine whether you can afford the homes on offer in the area you like, and be sure to factor in property taxes, utilities, insurance, maintenance, and levies before you buy.

## 6 PUBLIC TRANSPORT \*

If you are reliant on public transportation, check whether you would be within easy walking distance of the bus stop or train station you would need to use.

## 8 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT \*

Are there future development plans for the area? Going into an area that is growing and improving is generally a plus because it will increase your property value and quality of life. However, you also need to avoid big commercial developments or new highways right outside your front door.

## 10 RECREATION \*

If outdoor activities and nature are your thing, make sure that there are parks, green spaces, and recreational facilities nearby.

You want your next home to be perfect so take time to visit the area on more than one occasion, assess the security and culture and explore whether it fits your lifestyle needs. For more information and expert advice on your area of interest, get in touch with one of our experienced **Chas Everitt property professionals** today.