

Information for Applicants

Park Community School



Park Community School is committed to mitigating the effects of poverty in order to ensure the best possible life chances and lives lived out by our students. This is undertaken through prioritising and maximising educational outcomes. In order to achieve the very highest standards, all areas of life which the school can influence are addressed. That is, we do not strive for excellence in the classroom on its own, but also provide the widest range of support we can provide. Our ethos is summed up as **Success for All through Attainment, Resilience and Autonomy.**

General Information

Thank you for your interest in Park Community School. Park Community School is a well-established 11 – 16 Comprehensive School with 900 students on roll. We have three linked schools in Leigh Park: Riders, Barncroft and Warren Park primary schools. The school is over-subscribed with first preference choices; about 20% of students come to the school from outside its catchment area.

The school has some excellent facilities and was recently rebuilt. The school is split into 10 areas which are named after parks of the world. A Media Centre (TV Studio, Radio Station and Recording Studio) and Dance Studio complement our Sports facilities. "Butterfly Broadcasts" from the Media Centre are regular TV productions unique to the school. We also have a 270 seat Theatre, a 180 seat Lecture Theatre and a floodlit STP (synthetic turf pitch) to help deliver a high quality education. Classrooms are equipped with the latest touch-screen technology.

Class Information

All students are organised into mentoring groups. In addition to core subjects, students in Years 9, 10 and 11 choose from options, which include GCSE and vocational courses. Students study Key Stage 4 courses from the start of Year 9.

We have three off-site facilities which are an Industrial Unit, Construction Skills Centre and Small-Holding. These allow us to deliver a wide range of learning experiences to best meet the needs of all our students.

Enabling Learning

The mentor is the person who knows the student best. Most teachers in the school are mentors. Students normally remain in the same mentoring group as they move up the school. Students have projections in each subject. A computerised performance database is used to feedback regular teacher assessment. Teachers update achievement data several times a year.

Working closely with their mentors the students follow a planned programme of SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) activities. This incorporates our Rights, Respecting School work and Philosophy for Children (P4C) approach to discussion. The Welfare Support & Guidance Team has overall responsibility for the guidance, behaviour and personal welfare of students.

A Specialist Arts, Science and Maths School

There is a strong Performing Arts tradition in the school with many students actively involved. This carries over into extra-curricular work. One major school Dance/Music/Drama performance is held each term. The Arts are a strong feature of our students' school experience and also enrich their personal development, communication skills, basic skills (including teamwork) and employability.

A Learning Community

We are proud of our School's mission statement "**Success for All through Attainment, Resilience and Autonomy**".

Learning is the core of our work: Students are partners in learning, with teachers and with each other. Students' success and progress are based on their understanding of their own strengths and areas for development. Teachers value their own learning. We are committed to an effective programme of Staff Development, including opportunities for learning and growth for all our employees. All departments meet each week to plan and review their work collaboratively.

Success for All—Out of Hours Learning

We are also committed to providing a range of opportunities for all students to succeed. Staff run Enrichment and Study Clubs before and after school, as well as holiday revision sessions.

Quality of Relationship

Our aim as a comprehensive school is that all students should be given the opportunity to achieve beyond expectation, and we do set challenging targets for students and for ourselves. In order to do this we put great emphasis on the quality of relationship within the school at every level.

Staff joining the school should:

- Contribute to the development of Park Community School both through the structured curriculum, department-based learning and other activities, and planning outside the structured curriculum and department area.
- Be willing to make good learning relationships with children and be able to lead them to achieve beyond expectation - to push students until they can push themselves.
- Be able to relate well to colleagues, to work effectively in teams and to work with an open approach to teaching and learning.
- Be prepared to contribute fully in the development of the school, while taking opportunities offered for personal growth and learning in order to enable future career development.

The success of this school depends upon its staff, the local community and its students – and how we work together to respond to the world as it changes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Anders".

Christopher Anders
Headteacher

Park Community School is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks along with other relevant employment checks.

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