



Ark Putney Academy

Prospectus







Welcome to Ark Putney Academy



Dear Parent,

I'm proud to welcome you to Ark Putney Academy, a non-selective school for children between 11 and 18.

In April 2017 we received a section 8 Ofsted visit which reinforced our grade as 'Good' and we have been building on this success with constantly improving exam results at both A Level and GCSE. Our students make outstanding progress at both Key Stage 3 and 4.



We are proud of our newly refurbished listed building, with new indoor and outdoor sports facilities, a stunning art studio, and bright, comfortable teaching spaces. This refurbishment has made our school a truly exceptional place for children to learn.

We welcome all students who are ready to work hard and get involved in all aspects of school life. I look forward to working with you and your child to secure their future success.

Alison Downey

Principal

At Ark Putney we have a holistic view of educating young people.

Our mission statement is:
Preparing every student to be a pillar of any community.

By this we mean that we are focused on developing students to be the very best they can be in all aspects of their lives not only through academic progress but also by acquiring the soft skills that will enable them to be successful in the world such as good manners and the ability to speak confidently. We also expect our students to develop through participation in sports and arts activities and contributing to charity and community projects.

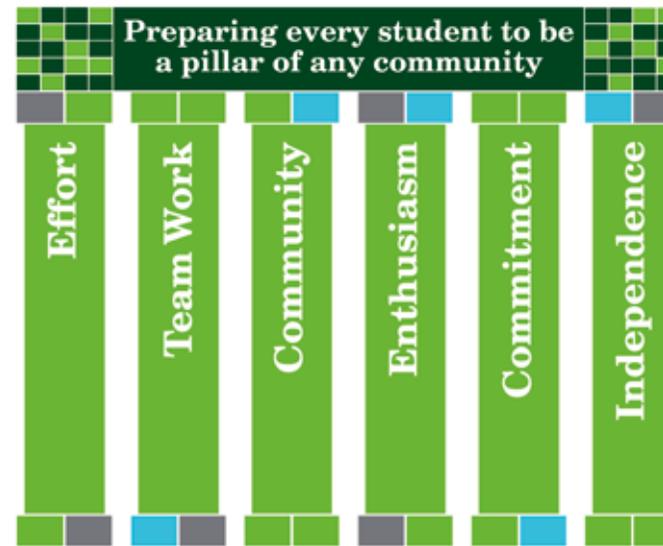
This can be illustrated by our core values as listed below.

Value 1
An appreciation and
curiosity
for life and learning

Value 2
The **courage**
and **ambition**
to unlock their
full potential

Value 3
A desire to
contribute to
society in a
positive way

Value 4
A sense of
self-awareness
combined with the
integrity to be
compassionate
towards others



The main drivers for our core values are our Six Pillars as shown above. These permeate academy life and are visible in everything that we do, think and say at APA. They are also a focus of our assemblies, reflections and tutorial activities. They help to guide us in how we behave, what we do and what kind of people we want to be.





We are an Ark school



We are proud to be part of the Ark family – a network of over 30 high-achieving schools across Birmingham, Hastings, London and Portsmouth. Each of us has our own unique character and ethos but we all share the same mission – to ensure that every child, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to go to a good university or into the career of their choice.

A strong focus on teaching and learning has seen Ark get some of the best results in the country – at primary, GCSE and A level – but we are about more than just exam results. We want our young people to develop far beyond the classroom which is why we offer a range of exciting extra-curricular activities. Highlights include network-wide sports events, performing for packed crowds at our annual Music Gala and Shakespeare's Schools Festival, taking part in work experience with some of the UK's biggest companies and summer schools at top universities.



I completed my teacher training with Ark Schools last year, it's been so beneficial to share knowledge with the other schools in the network, and it gives us the ability to offer our students fantastic opportunities such as performing at the Barbican.

Rosie Singleton
Head of Turing House

Building a brighter future

We are now in our £30 million refurbished building and premises, which provides us with an inspiring learning environment that the whole school community can be proud of:

Exceptional sports facilities

Our indoor facilities include a four-court sports hall, where students enjoy games from softball and cricket to badminton and trampolining. We also have an activity studio for dance, boxing, yoga and other aerobic activities.

We have recently completed renovations to our outdoor facilities. We now have a state of the art 3G Astroturf space with two courts and one large pitch for rugby and football. In addition to this we have an outdoor gym planned for November 2017.



I love getting involved in extra curricular activities. I'm on the football and rugby teams. The highlight of my year is the football tour.
Cameron Goodchild
Year 10





Stunning creative spaces

As part of the refurbishment we have created a new art facility stretching the entirety of our top floor. With panoramic views of the London skyline, this makes for a truly breath-taking and inspiring space for our students to express themselves creatively.

We also proudly opened our brand new 200 seat drama theatre (pictured above) in May 2017. This is a fantastic performance space with a fully lit and audio rigged stage as well as a green room and rehearsal areas.

Bright, spacious classrooms and specialist teaching spaces

Our classrooms, specialist rooms and corridors have all been refurbished, and are brighter and more spacious. This contributes to the creation of a 21st century teaching space where children are comfortable, happy to learn and have all the facilities they need. We have a dedicated music area complete with recording studio and instrumental practice rooms. We have also completed the installation of a state of the art languages lab which will allow students to practise their acquired languages skills at their own pace.

Achieving our goals



Six Pillars

We expect all our students to uphold our six pillars as they go about their day to day life in the school. These are:

Commitment - To show determination and resilience in every challenge you face

Community - A willingness to positively contribute to academy life and beyond, with the courage to support others to do the same

Teamwork - To work effectively with others and enable everyone to fulfil their role to complete a common task

Effort - To work to the best of your ability at all times in everything that you do

Independence - To demonstrate a level of self-discipline and sense of responsibility for your own success

Enthusiasm - To demonstrate a desire to positively engage and contribute without reservation

The Academy has a reward system that promotes the APA Pillar values and motivates students to meet expectations. An important part of the ethos of the Academy is to celebrate success and progress, in every element of Academy life.

Students who consistently display our Pillar skills are nominated by Heads of Year and Heads of Department to receive Pillar badges which can be seen on their blazers. In lessons, students are marked on their effort, homework and classwork every 6 weeks which forms our Attitude To Learning (ATL) league for each year group. This is non-academic and focuses solely on Effort, Commitment and Independence. The top 20% of the ATL league participate in a rewards trip at the end of the year.

At end of term celebration assemblies, students with the highest attendance and highest Pillar points are entered into prize draws. Students also receive post cards home and are rewarded in many different ways if they are making strong academic progress.

Our rewards system is accessible to all students because it targets improvement and application rather than attainment.



It's been fantastic to see how invested the students are in the Pillar System. The Pillars filter through everything we do in the Academy and provide students with a strong basis for the values they should carry with them throughout life after they complete their education.

Josh McInerney
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care





Community

Our House system provides students with a sense of belonging and ownership and cements the skills promoted by the Six Pillars. Our Houses are named Brunel, McQueen, Rowling and Turing after four influential figures from modern British science, art, literature and mathematics.

Each student belongs to a House and contributes towards the ATL cup, the Attendance cup and the overall House cup. The total points of each student are collated at the end of every term and the House with the highest score wins, there is also an overall winner at the end of the year. We have a House activity scheduled every week. This ranges from chess matches through to dodge ball with the aim being maximum student participation. We seek to offer something that every student can become involved in.



We also provide every student in Year 7 and 8 with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument free of charge. This amazing opportunity is offered with the intention of broadening student horizons, whilst developing character and resilience.

Joining our school



If your child joins our school, we'll go through several steps to make sure they feel happy and secure.

First, their new Head of Year will meet them, so they can get to know each other. Members of our Senior Leadership Team and sometimes our Special Educational Needs Coordinator, will then visit your child's primary school, to learn about your child from teachers who already know them.

As well as looking at academic data from the student's primary school, we'll arrange for your child to sit GL tests, along with reading and comprehension tests. This way we can really understand the support they need.

If your child speaks English as a second language, our English as an Additional Language (EAL) Coordinator will give them a specialised induction, to help them get up to speed.

We ask students, parents, and teachers to sign a home-school agreement – this acknowledges that we will all do whatever we can to help students succeed.

We send home four data reports and one written report each year, and invite parents to parent-teacher meetings. By maintaining close links between home and school, we can create an environment in which your child can excel.





Our admissions policy

Our school is a non-selective, mixed academy for children between 11 and 18.

You can apply for a place using Wandsworth Council's Common Application Form.

We prioritise children with Education Health and Care plans. Then, if we are oversubscribed, we prioritise children in the following order:

- Children who are in public care, or who have been in public care in the past
- Children of staff members where the staff member is filling a specific shortage of skills (only one place per class)
- Children who have a sibling at the school at the time you apply – by 'sibling' we mean a whole, half or stepbrother or sister who lives at the same address
- Children of staff members who have worked at the school for more than two years (only one place per class)
- Children who live closest to the academy, based on a straight-line distance from the main school entrance to the child's home



Ark Putney Academy

If you'd like to know more about Ark Putney Academy, please get in touch.

We'd love to hear from you.

Pay us a visit

Ark Putney Academy
Pullman Gardens
London SW15 3DG

Get in touch

Telephone: 020 8788 3421
Email: info@arkputneyacademy.org
Web: arkputney.org



We appreciate that the transition between primary and secondary school can be difficult. Ark Putney Academy is serviced by a number of different bus routes and is just a short walk from Putney or East Putney Stations. Our student travel ambassadors can accompany new students on public transport to and from school. We hope this will help to make the transition a lot less daunting.

