

BADEN POWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Situated within the heart of Hackney in London's East End we are a school that serves a vibrant and diverse population. Situated in one of the most deprived political wards in England and Wales, we understand the importance of our contribution to our children's lives and also that of their families. Our commitment to serving both the children and their families has built strong bonds and ensured we have a strong sense of community linked to the school.

Our approach to school improvement is to be selective on what we target – to much leads to dilution – and to drive those three or four key areas for the year until we are secure that we have been successful within those areas. The successes that we have had were achieved by the strong commitment of all staff to securing excellence for our children.

We work as a collegial force and the support that brings for each of us as leaders and teachers is our strength and ensures that we are all moving in the right direction. Our Governing Body has been instrumental in ensuring that we focus on

professional development related to the chosen areas with wholehearted support of the allocation of funds that may be required.

We have worked as a team to enhance our curriculum delivery with a focus on academic excellence across all subject areas while ensuring that our children experience and develop relevant subject skills that progress across all year groups and key stages. We are now focusing on ensuring that our children experience the cultural wealth of the city they live in.

Our journey is ongoing and as a team we seek to find opportunities for improvement while maintaining what we have already achieved. My own personal philosophy is influenced by Collins research into the components that go to make a great company and of his many designated attributes the one that has had the greatest impact upon myself is that when success is achieved, praise and recognise others contributions and when we are not moving in the direction we wish then look in the mirror and take responsibility. This simple personal mantra has driven my own choices and ensured that we have established a community built around trust which allows us to take risks free of blame. This to me has been one of the underlying foundation stones of our continual improvement.

Our drive to ensure that we provide the best for all our children and families has driven our new approaches to serving that community with a greater focus on how to provide our children with the tools that will allow them to live with a secure feeling of mental wellbeing. We have moved beyond this to ensure that we are also working with parents to help them gain a greater understanding of mental wellbeing and how it applies to both children and adults.





Our most recent focus has sprung from our conviction that our children should be the equal of all and should hold themselves within that belief. From this we identified vocabulary development as a crucial element in aiding our children's intellectual, emotional and social growth. We identified it as a component that needed a whole school focus from foundation stage to year six.



From the research on vocabulary development sprung other branches of pedagogical interest that we felt contributed to our children's growth – from vocabulary development to articulation – from articulation to comprehension – from comprehension to the reading skills that need to be developed to tackle mathematics. From this we have now developed a whole school focus upon developing key comprehension skills that will aid our children in developing their language and mathematical understanding.

We are also currently developing our creative arts curriculum so our children can develop avenues of expression that will help them develop key skills for their future.

With a focus on drama, art, design and music we seek to open up new experiences that will allow our children to communicate with the world in the myriad of art forms that surround them within the capital.



Our successes, and our ambitions for our children, could not have been achieved without the dedication of a strong, devoted team of teachers, support staff (in all guises from the classroom to the front office) and leaders, who have worked relentlessly to provide the highest standard of educational provision for our children with the sole aim of promoting their intellectual, social and emotional growth.

