

RUTHERFORD HOUSE SCHOOL

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED



Rutherford House School is a newly opened two form entry Free School operated by the Bellevue Place Education Trust (BPET). Located in the London borough of Wandsworth, the school first opened its gates in September 2013 with 48 Reception children starting at the school. The intake of children at Rutherford House reflects the mixed local community with families representing a range of social, cultural and economic backgrounds. In 2020 the school will have 420 children from Reception to Year Six with an average class size of 30. The pupil roll is currently 172, with 60 places offered for September 2016.

Since opening Rutherford House has offered a broad and balanced curriculum but believes in teaching the whole child through an enhanced curriculum. Teachers are encouraged to take learning outdoors and each week pupils have a Forest School lesson.

A recent Ofsted inspection graded the school as 'good' in recognition of its achievements to date. With the arrival of the new headteacher, Mrs Mallett, this September, Rutherford House is striving to become 'outstanding' and is active in its relentless drive for improvement. Subject leaders recently reviewed and developed schemes of work to ensure continuity and progression. The Read, Write, Ink phonics programme has been introduced following a review of phonics and is already having an impact on standards.

High expectations in all areas have helped to ensure children rise to the challenge and are enthusiastic and resilient in their learning.

In addition to skilful teaching of the core subjects, the school employs a number of specialist teachers who expertly coach the children to achieve highly across the curriculum. Throughout the week children have access to an enriched provision for music, languages, multi-sports, dance and swimming.

The recent Ofsted inspection of July 2015 noted that:

'The curriculum offers outstanding breadth and depth of opportunity to inspire and enrich pupils' lives. Teachers are very skilled at ensuring pupils understand why they are learning and providing opportunities to see connections between subjects.'

Forest School is an integral part of Rutherford House School and every week the children head off to Tooting Common where they develop their confidence and self-esteem in a nurturing and hands-on environment. The schools feels passionately that education is not restricted to the gaining of knowledge and the acquiring of essential skills but it also includes the personal development of each boy and girl, in its fullest sense; which includes building spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.



Ofsted recognized this strength, commenting that:

'Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is outstanding. They are taught to be mindful of the natural world through activities at Forest School and by learning to care for living things in school.'



An extensive list of extra-curricular activities are on offer which including art, sports, languages, ballet, karate and singing. All children are encouraged to participate in at least one club, many of which are led by the talented and dedicated school staff. This focus on the holistic development of the child ensures that children are well-rounded and successful individuals who achieve their full potential.

Tracking and monitoring procedures are rigorous and effective in ensuring all children make good progress.

Sharing knowledge and expertise is at the heart of Rutherford House and the senior leadership team ensure that subject leaders and class teachers are given opportunities to model to and observe each other in order to develop practice. This enables regular professional dialogue to take place amongst staff with the children and their education at the centre of each discussion.



A Rutherford House child embodies our core values of ambition, respect, reflection, enthusiasm, resilience, and partnership. These values are at the centre of all we do as a school and are aimed at enabling children to become valuable members of society and model citizens of the future.

Rutherford House School is fortunate to have an active and engaged parent body, many of whom volunteer their time to support the school in a number of ways. Reading volunteers support in each class every day, hearing children read and ensuring children have new and exciting books to take home. Some of the clubs on offer at the school are ran by parents who offer their skills in areas such as cooking, sports and art and parents also volunteers to support Forest School each week.

The Friends of Rutherford House also play an active part in the school and have recently funded the development of a new adventure and climbing trail in the playground.

The partnership between the children, parents, school and BPET is a great strength of the school and helps to ensure that the children of Rutherford House are happy, independent and successful learners.

