

Prospectus

Where tradition meets innovation
and potential is realised within
a nurturing community



Leigh Academy Blackheath is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.

Our Values

We care - about our pupils and their families through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the world around us, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition - to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together - as one team because we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through global collaboration with partners in business and education.

We keep getting better - using our 'can-do' attitude and research informed approach to continuous improvement and innovation.

For admission enquiries telephone 020 8104 0888
or email admissions@leighacademyblackheath.org.uk

'Pupils behave exceptionally well. Classrooms are calm places where pupils can focus on their learning.'

Ofsted, December 2022

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Visit our website for an insight into our academy



Welcome



‘Leaders provide a curriculum which matches and far exceeds the ambition of the national curriculum.’

Ofsted, December 2022

A comprehensive education, with global value

I am delighted to welcome you to Leigh Academy Blackheath: an 11-18 comprehensive secondary school and International Baccalaureate World School that opened in the Royal Borough of Greenwich in September 2018.

Judged by OFSTED as Outstanding in December 2022, Leigh Academy Blackheath is a place where tradition meets innovation and potential is realised within a nurturing community. Our purposeful and multidisciplinary learning environment creates a climate where students not only acquire knowledge, but also master the essential problem solving and critical skills needed to succeed and lead in the 21st century. Our community is collaborative and, together, we ensure our students develop into powerful citizens for a digital future.

We believe in building strong partnerships with parents and carers, working closely together to ensure all learners succeed. We pride ourselves on the positive working relationships we form at Leigh Academy Blackheath, not only between students and teachers but also between the academy and home.

Our values of Respect, Integrity, Ambition, Scholarship and Resilience permeate everything we do and our small school, human-scale education model, delivered through a college structure, ensures the educational experience for every student is personalised.

Being part of a college family helps our students to understand the value of community and their place within it. Our inclusion team works across the academy: providing support for the individual needs of all our students.

We look forward to welcoming you to Leigh Academy Blackheath and we encourage you to visit our website or follow one of our social media platforms for regular updates.

Emma Smith,
Principal



Our Vision

We believe that every learner is entitled to an enriching, varied and personalised education: delivered through a broad and balanced curriculum that provides challenge, irrespective of need, starting point or background. Our commitment to maximising the potential of every child; teaching them the skills they need to be successful and nurturing a desire to be a lifelong learner, will prepare them for whichever career path they choose to follow. At Leigh Academy Blackheath, we inspire our learners to go beyond what they are taught and seek what they do not yet know.

Our strong learning community works together and shares the value of collaboration; every member of our academy family works together to achieve success cultivating a strong sense of belonging. Our belief in 'human scale' education, delivered through

a schools within schools model, means every one of our students is known and valued. Strong pastoral care is at the heart of our academy and we place great importance on building strong partnerships with parents and carers. Digital technology is the future. No matter what career our students pursue they will need to perform, succeed and lead with digital confidence and expertise. Our curriculum and approach to teaching and learning which ensures our students develop into powerful digital citizens on both a national and a global scale.

Our inclusive community has ambition and drive. We embrace challenge and collaboration. At Leigh Academy Blackheath we are a family and together we cultivate a culture of belonging.

Our Values

Respect | Integrity | Ambition | Scholarship | Resilience



Innovative learning with a focus on digital skills


at LAB we:

At Leigh Academy Blackheath, learning is not confined to a traditional classroom environment. We cultivate a climate for learning where all learners can effectively create, communicate, collaborate and use critical thinking and problem solving at anytime and anywhere. We place equal importance in the development of effective learning skills and positive attitudes as we do in the acquisition of subject specific knowledge and skill mastery. Our aim is to ensure all our learners realise their full potential during their time in full time education.

‘I have been impressed with the online work set and the fact that my daughter can do each lesson as if she was physically there’

Parent

- Promote safe online practice through our effective awareness and digital citizenship programme;
- Create virtual and traditional classrooms for all curriculum subjects;
- Blend together traditional pedagogy and digital learning approaches to create 21st Century learning environments;
- Teach thematically where appropriate to create strong connections across and between curriculum subjects, contextualising content and validating purpose;
- Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills through real life project based learning activities;
- Engage with specialists, industry partners and education practitioners on digital projects, shared learning opportunities and research;
- Use digital technology to increase efficiencies, improve effective time management and increase productivity through a better collaboration framework and communication structure.



A comprehensive education,
with global value

Our Curriculum

By developing depth of knowledge and establishing effective learning skills at KS3 we ensure our students are ready to embark on the academic rigour of the new KS4 curriculum and examinations. To achieve this our KS3 curriculum is delivered through the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) framework and the development of the IB learner profile attributes.

Our curriculum is constructed to promote collaborative, cross-curricular and phase learning whenever and wherever possible. Learning opportunities reflect professional business approaches with 'real-life' projects, delivered through project based learning: giving students valuable insight into working for a client, as part of a team or to a deadline.

The key elements which underpin our philosophy on curriculum are:

- Access for all;
- Development of basic skills and the acquisition and mastery of specialist digital skills;
- The development of creative thinking and problem solving within all aspects of the learning process.

Our extended curriculum

A full programme of enrichment opportunities is offered, not only to enhance learning, but also to enable students to pursue deeper understanding of areas they are passionate about, to develop particular skills and interests, and to enjoy new and exciting experiences. At Leigh Academy Blackheath, we know the value extra-curricular opportunities provide for pupils to further their outcomes, perspectives and not to mention social opportunities. This is why we strive to offer a wide range of artistic, creative and sporting activities.

‘We have been really impressed with the work that has been provided for our daughter. Also, the contact the teachers have kept with her has been amazing. Any issues or questions have been responded to quickly and she has been supported very well’

Parent



‘I really enjoy my lessons,
and the teachers are very
friendly. I love learning in
the science lab’

Founding student

A school for our community

We recognise that in today’s society young people are not often taught about their place in, or their responsibilities as, a member of their local community. We believe very strongly that our students should be given opportunities wherever and whenever possible to learn, develop and grow into powerful citizens of the future and that this should be achieved through regular and carefully planned learning opportunities during their time at secondary school.

As part of a college community, students have the opportunity to work with a variety of mixed student groups which helps them to build strong and purposeful relationships with students of different ages, gender, faith or social background. Creating opportunities for all students to build, develop and sustain positive social and working relationships helps to support the way they do this outside of the school community.

We serve the local community. Through our community projects we work in partnership with local individuals, groups and organisations to support activities, events and charities.



‘Pupils know the school’s
values. These permeate
everything they do. Pupils show
high levels of respect for each
other’s differences.’

Ofsted, December 2022

‘[Pupils] embrace the extensive opportunities for personal development the school provides.’

Ofsted, December 2022

Our home

Leigh Academy Blackheath is situated at Blackheath Standard, right at the heart of the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Our bespoke new building and academy campus, opened in September 2020, and has been designed to create a unique and inspirational place of learning to deliver our ‘human-scale’ education model. Specialist teaching areas include science laboratories, music suites and practice rooms, drama, dance and art studios, design and technology workshops, IT and media labs and specialist sports facilities.





Further INFORMATION

Leigh Academy Blackheath

Find all the information you need on our website:

[Leigh Academy Blackheath](#)



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LEIGH
Academies Trust

Education for a better world

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