

*Our standards are high and it is our aim to provide the
best possible learning opportunities
to enable every child to fulfill their maximum potential*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Teddington School. It gives me great pleasure to introduce the School to you on behalf of both the Governors and the Staff.

Choosing a secondary school for your child is a very important decision. It is essential that you make a reasoned and informed judgement to ensure that your child has a happy and successful experience over the next five, crucial, years.

I hope that through this prospectus, our Open Evening and school tour, you get a fully rounded view of Teddington School. Furthermore, I hope that the values and beliefs that we hold as a school are ones which you believe are right for you and your child.

Teddington School, as a co-educational comprehensive school, mirrors society at large and as such we believe it is the most appropriate environment for children to learn and develop in. Our standards are high and it is our aim to provide the best possible learning opportunities to enable every child to fulfil their maximum potential academically, culturally and socially.

Through our designation as a specialist visual arts college, we are bringing new resources and opportunities into the school which will further enrich the academic life of our students. We have an outstanding academic record as well as considerable expertise in the arts and in sport, and a flourishing programme of extra-curricular activities. It is through this diverse range of opportunities that our students are able to leave us after five years as well-rounded, considerate and confident young adults.

As a Head my views are traditional. I believe that a school should be a well ordered and disciplined community to ensure that the most effective teaching and learning takes place. Equally, I believe that students should be smart in both appearance and attitude, well motivated and courteous. They should be proud of their achievements and proud of their school.

I hope that our Open Evening gives you a flavour of the very purposeful, supportive and friendly atmosphere that exists in the school. If you would like to visit us during normal school hours you are welcome to do so by contacting the school. I am always available to discuss any issues or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to meeting with you.

Yours sincerely,



RT Weeks - Head of Teddington School



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We welcome and value everyone equally

. . . Learning from one another and

learning together

At Teddington School there is a close partnership between students, staff, parents, governors and the local community. Our aim is to provide an environment in which every child will flourish and develop to their full potential.

By valuing each student in all aspects of school life we will:

- Promote self-esteem, self-discipline and respect for others within the School and the wider environment.
- Promote an atmosphere in which achievement, effort and participation are highly valued.
- Provide an encouraging and stimulating learning environment.
- Provide every student with a well balanced, high quality and relevant curriculum.

To fulfil these aims we offer a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. This is tailored to match and extend the differing abilities and aptitudes of each student.

Our curriculum is contained both within the structured timetable and also in the extensive programme of extra-curricular and enhancement activities we operate. We work hard to promote the intellectual, creative, social and physical development of our students, as well as encouraging in them a sense of personal responsibility and a commitment to the community.

Learning Together - Continuity

Girls and boys come to us from primary schools where they have learned together. We believe that learning this way is more enjoyable and more effective for girls and boys. At Teddington, girls and boys follow an equally challenging curriculum for five years - gaining appropriate skills and knowledge in these areas.

Equal Opportunity Ethos

We welcome and value everyone equally - learning from one another and learning together.

Teaching and Learning

This is our core purpose and the one to which we devote most of our resources and energy. We put extra staffing into the Upper School to keep the teacher/student ratio as low as possible and keep under review our setting policy in order to maximise achievement.

Care and Support

This is taken very seriously at Teddington School. We believe that if a child is relaxed and happy in their school environment then they are far more likely to achieve their maximum all-round potential.

Students into Year 7 will be placed in a tutor group (one of eight) with a Form Tutor whom they meet daily. They will also be placed in one of four 'Houses' (Tudor, Stuart, Windsor and York). Each House has a teaching 'Head of House' and will have responsibility, alongside a full-time non-teaching Pastoral Manager, for the development and well-being of the students in their House.

Positive Achievement

The School is structured in such a way as to enable all students to be successful. Our students deserve to leave Teddington as well rounded individuals with the best examination results that they can achieve. Our results are consistently well above the national average.



Homework enables children to *build on their experiences in school* and to encourage their development *as independent learners*

The Parent Teacher Association

The Teddington PTA, of which all staff and parents of students are automatically members, meets on the first Monday evening of each month. It organises a host of events including; quiz nights, concerts, a summer fair and many more social and fund raising opportunities for the School.

The PTA provides a valuable forum where parents can make good social contact with both staff and other parents and by working in partnership make an invaluable contribution to the quality of school life. The PTA Covenant Scheme is an excellent way of providing a regular income to PTA funds and all parents are encouraged to become involved in the activities of the Association.

The National Curriculum

The Education Reform Act requires all schools to work within the framework of the National Curriculum.

The main subjects, referred to as 'core' subjects, are Mathematics, English and Science. The others, known as foundation subjects, are Modern Languages, Design and Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music, Information and Communication Technology and Physical Education and Citizenship.

In addition schools must make provision for Religious Education and Personal & Social Education. Students are grouped in a range of ways to ensure they learn effectively. This may be in ability groupings, broader bands, tutor groups or mixed ability groups. This policy is kept under review to ensure the approach is flexible and takes into account curriculum changes.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

All Students have the opportunity to study: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Religious Education, Information Communication Technology, German, French, Design and Technology, Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education and Personal & Social Education/Citizenship.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

The curriculum at KS4 consists of English and English Literature, Mathematics, Core and Additional Science (Two GCSEs which give equal representation of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology), Personal & Social Education, Physical Education, ICT, RS, Humanities, Modern Languages, the Creative Arts and Design & Technology.

Options include: Art, Food Technology, Drama, Geography, German, French, Latin, Graphics, Media Studies, Music, Textiles, Business, ICT, Product Design, Photography, Separate Sciences and Physical Education. The courses followed are predominantly GCSE full courses or the equivalent.

Homework

Homework enables children to build on their experiences in school and to encourage their development as independent learners. Homework will vary in type and style and may include reading, research, topic work, etc. Your child will be given a homework diary and timetable. We ask parents to sign the diary each week. In the first year students will be given two or three subjects for homework each night and the time spent on this should be about one to one and a half hours. This will increase as students move higher up the school.



We believe that Praise and regular formal recognition of achievement is *a vital part of effective student development*

Learning Support

The Learning Support Team play a key role in assisting students with their learning. The staff identify students with particular learning difficulties and devise individual education plans to suit the needs of the individual.

The Learning Support Department aims to provide inclusive, multi-sensory intervention to ensure that students gain full access to the National Curriculum (required under the SEN Code of Practice 2001 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995).

Talented and Gifted Students

The school provides a diverse range of extension opportunities for its more able students. Such opportunities enable students to enhance further their interest, knowledge and abilities in chosen areas. The school has a member of staff who is the designated Able, Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator.

Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education - PSHCE

We believe our PSHCE programme underpins the curriculum and enables each student to fulfil their potential. The programme covers a wide range of topics which relate to students' interests and experiences and includes the themes of:

- Sex Education
- Health Education
- Careers Education & Guidance
- Political & Economic Awareness
- Environmental Education
- Multi-Cultural Awareness
- Citizenship

At Teddington we emphasise the importance of personal responsibility and good relationships with all members of the School whilst recognising and accepting that each student has their own individual strengths.

In school there is an atmosphere of care and concern for each individual within a clear framework of firm but fair discipline.

The School's carefully structured system of pastoral care and curriculum provision is the overall responsibility of members of the Leadership Team.

Tutor groups are mixed ability and every effort is made to take account of primary school friendship groups. Students will develop a strong allegiance to their House through a range of academic, sporting, cultural and social activities. The Form Tutor, Head of House and Pastoral Manager will remain with their child throughout their years at the school to ensure continuity of care and family relationships.

Teaching is done in mixed ability groups in Year 7, with the exception of Mathematics and Science where students are grouped by ability. Further such ability grouping takes place in Year 8 and thereafter. To ensure consistency of class numbers and abilities, teaching groups are modified at the beginning of Year 8 and then again in Year 9.

Discipline

The discipline at Teddington is very good. Visitors are invariably impressed by the purposeful working atmosphere in the School. The vast majority of our students are polite and mature young people who have a positive attitude towards their work, their teachers and each other. Effort, hard work and participation in all aspects of school life are valued highly and students are rewarded through a system of Merits and Commendations. Academic, sporting and social achievements are publicly celebrated at our



We believe that *extra-curricular activities* *are an essential part* *of the learning process*

regular weekly Assemblies and the Annual Review and Awards Assemblies to which parents and Governors are invited.

The School has a clear Behaviour Policy and there are a range of sanctions for students who misbehave. These range from extra work, detentions and daily reports to exclusion. Sanctions run parallel with student support to help improve future behaviour. Equally, we believe that praise and regular formal recognition of achievement is a vital part of effective student development. We rely on parental support in helping us to achieve improvements in behaviour where necessary.

New Students

We take particular care to help new students to settle quickly into the larger community of the secondary school and there is a close liaison with primary schools. All parents of new students are invited to an evening at the School in the summer term before their child joins and every new boy and girl is invited to spend a working day at Teddington in July.

In September we offer a unique induction programme which includes off-site team building activities to better enable our students to settle into their new school life.

Reports

Parents and students receive one written report or consultation and are tracked throughout each term. In addition students are set targets at the beginning of the year, which are reviewed in the summer.

Parents who wish to discuss their child's progress with specific members of staff may do so by contacting the school for a convenient appointment. The Head, the Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Houses and Pastoral Managers are also available when needed.

We encourage parents to use a note in their child's homework diary as a means of communicating with subject staff. If a child is absent from school the reason for the absence must be provided in writing to the form tutor.

Communication Between School and Home

Parents are involved with the life of the school from the start.

- There is a Home/School Agreement that is signed by students, parents and the school.
- A lot of information is shared with parents via the school website and our monthly 'Parent Updates'.
- The Parent Teacher Association meets monthly and its meetings are attended by the Head and Senior staff.
- Information Evenings provide an opportunity for parents to participate in an active learning experience or to join in a discussion led by an outside speaker on a topical education issue.

Extra-Curricular Activities

At Teddington we have a tradition of high standards of achievement in Art and Design, Music, Drama, Physical Education and sport. Each year this is demonstrated by exhibitions and performances which are always well supported.

Art

At Teddington School we have a tradition of high standards of achievement in Art and Design. Each year this is demonstrated through exceptional GCSE



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results, extra-curricular activities and exhibitions of student's work. With Arts College Status Teddington's students have access to excellent facilities, the latest technologies and ICT software packages to assist them in their Art and Design development.

The School's Artists in Residence programme provides opportunities for students to work with artists, designers and craftspeople on both school and community projects. Access to school based weekend and holiday art activities enable students to work independently and experience new and exciting approaches to the visual arts.

Drama

The School's drama productions are of an exceptionally high standard and give many of our students the opportunity to gain invaluable experience on stage or behind the scenes.

Music

The School has flourishing orchestras, choirs and bands and there are regular opportunities for practice and performance.

Sport

We encourage as many students as possible, of all abilities, to take part in a large variety of physical activities and sports. Clubs are seen as an extension of Physical Education lessons for all to enjoy. Alongside this we run competitive teams in all major sports, both after School and on Saturdays. All students take part in regular inter-class competitions as part of the PE curriculum.

We encourage all students to reach their highest possible potential and to enjoy taking part. We provide them with every opportunity to develop their skills and expertise.

The School has been awarded the prestigious Sportsmark and Artsmark awards for consistent excellence in these areas.

Clubs and Activities

Many non-sporting clubs and activities take place in the lunch-hour and after school. These include a wide range of academic, arts and sports based activities to suit the needs and interests of all our students.

The school's Library and Resource Centre, including the use of all ICT facilities, is also open to all students every lunchtime and after school.

A Breakfast Club operates on two occasions per week giving students the opportunity to undertake supported learning prior to having a breakfast.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

We run a thriving Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme with over 50 students involved in achieving their bronze award. Students spend time undertaking a physical recreation, learning a new skill, providing a service and undertaking a two day expedition.

Educational Trips

We run a range of residential trips and activities throughout the academic year. There is an innovative Team Building Course that takes place at a local outdoor centre, for students newly entering the school. We remain committed to the value of such activities in promoting independence, self-reliance and teamwork.

Our Modern Languages Department organises student exchanges to Konstanz in Germany. Science, Technology, Humanities and Creative Arts candidates go on visits as an integral part of their coursework studies at both Key Stage 3 and 4.



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Information and Communication Technology

In the Lower School (Years 7-9) all students receive a discrete lesson of ICT each week, which focus on a wide variety of skill areas. These include data collection, report writing and computer aided design.

In the English curriculum ICT is used as one of the tools in developing the skills of drafting, correcting and editing text. In Years 7 to 9, computer technology is used to monitor simple experiments, while in mathematics students are given the opportunity to use computers as an integral part of modelling.

Subject specific ICT packages are used to enhance learning across all curriculum areas.

Equal Opportunities

The School is committed to an equal opportunities policy. This means we are committed to freedom from discrimination and to equal access to education for all members of the School community. We also aim to ensure that no student is disadvantaged by any aspect of classroom management, curriculum materials or assessment procedures.

Sex Education

The policy at Teddington School is that Sex Education should be part of the curriculum for all students, that its teaching should be complementary and supportive to the role of parents and taught in such a manner as to encourage students to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.

Every parent has the right to withdraw their child from the School's Sex Education programme. This is effected by writing to the Head to express this request.

Careers Education

The School places great importance on students' GCSE course choices in Year 9 and on preparation for either employment or college education in Years 10 and 11. The School's Careers Co-ordinator and senior staff work closely with members of the Connexions service. On offer is a careful schedule of information-giving, consultation and counselling. In addition there is the development of research skills for decision-making, the writing of applications and interview techniques.

Every Year 11 student is given the invaluable experience of a fortnight's work placement with a local company, institution or council department. On the successful completion of this placement the student contributes to a detailed record of the experience, providing a valid testimonial for future interviews.

Collective Worship - Thought For The Day

The school has an extensive TFTD programme made up of weekly themes based on moral, social, spiritual and cultural issues and reflecting important national and school events. The daily TFTD programme gives students the opportunity to collectively explore and reflect upon these issues both in class and in assembly. The TFTD programme is also available on the school website so that parents/carers and the wider community have access to the themes, readings, presentations and links.

The School Council

The Year Council meets regularly with its respective Head of House and two Year representatives are elected to the School Council. The School Council meets half termly with each year electing two representatives. The School Council has taken major initiatives recently to improve the homework system, school environment and lunch time cafeteria arrangements. A representative from this group also sits on the Richmond Student Parliament.



The school is committed to continuous enhancement of the learning environment and has an established rolling programme of school improvement

Buildings and Grounds

Teddington School stands in a beautiful position and its grounds extend to the banks of the River Thames opposite Trowlock Island.

There are two all weather artificial grass sports pitches at the rear of the School which provide an ideal surface for much of the extensive programme of sporting activities we offer. They are also a valuable community resource ensuring the growing involvement of the School in the community around it.

The buildings include special suites of classrooms for most subject areas, including ten science laboratories, and other generous modern provision for such practical subjects as Food Technology, Textiles, Business Studies, Information Communications Technology and Art. The Music and Drama block offers exciting facilities for rehearsal and production.

Subject classrooms have an interactive whiteboard, which offer innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

The Resources Centre has a learning base incorporating the latest teaching technology which includes an interactive whiteboard. It also houses an impressive range of computer technology and the more traditional library provision.

Indoor sporting facilities consist of a gymnasium, a sports hall large enough for four badminton courts, and the drama studio which has a semi-sprung floor to make it suitable for dance.

The school is committed to continuous enhancement of the learning environment and has an established rolling programme of school improvement.

The New Teddington School

Plans are well advanced for the construction of the new Teddington School. An architecturally inspirational design which will ensure the highest quality of teaching and learning for students of Teddington School for many years to come. With the existing school operating as normal throughout the build process, the new school will open in the summer of 2010.

School Charging and Remuneration Policy

The School adheres to the guidelines set out in Government legislation. Detailed copies of all school policies are available on request.

Complaints

Where parents are dissatisfied with the curricular arrangements made for their child and they have been unable to resolve their complaint by informal discussions with Senior Teachers and the Head, they may, under the terms of Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988, take their complaint further. Details of the complaints procedure are available from the School or from the Local Education Authority.

Every effort has been made to ensure that this prospectus is up-to-date at the time of going to print. However, in responding to recent legislation, unforeseen changes may need to be made in organisation and/or curriculum. We will do our best to keep parents informed of any changes and parents should ask the Head about any points which are of particular importance to them.

Design: Dan England: 020 8977 9430 - Photos on Pages: 1, 3 & 7 by Len Cross: 01 932 874970 - Print: Print Point Plus: 020 8755 0147

