

**Belleville Primary School**

**Overview**

**October 2016**

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about Belleville Primary School. This overview provides additional information about the school.

***Belleville is an “Outstanding School” (Ofsted 2007) which prides itself on providing an excellent broad and balanced curriculum and ensuring high standards in the core subject areas.***

* **Context and Organisation**

Belleville is well above the national average size and is in the largest 0.5% of primary schools in the country. The school roll continues to rise reflecting the popularity and success of the school. From September 2009, the school became four form entry as the number of pupils increased with the creation of an extra Reception class.

The roll in September 2016 was over 900 with a 26 FTE Nursery class (2 classes all part-time, morning and afternoon), five forms of 30 in Reception and four forms of 30 in Years 1 to 6.

Belleville expanded on to an additional site, Meteor Street, in September 2011 and is now at full capacity with one class in each year from Reception to Year 6.

Belleville is extremely popular with approximately 200 parents/carers attending the open days each year; we receive the most applications in the borough and have a significant waiting list. The school converted to Academy status in October 2011.

* **Location**

We are located in a sought-after residential area close to Wandsworth and Clapham Commons. There are excellent transport links nearby by bus, tube and rail.

Belleville is one school located on two sites. The Webb’s Road site is a Victorian three-story building with Nursery, separate art room and three playgrounds. The site has benefited from major refurbishment over recent years, particularly in enlarging the classrooms and replacing the windows. The improvement of this site to better support learning continues to be a high priority.

The Meteor Street site is a single storey building approximately 1km away from Webb’s Road on the other side of Clapham Common. This site received £2.3 million in refurbishment in 2011 and offers great potential to the school as a whole.

* **Pupils**

Approximately 52% of pupils are from non-White British groups. The proportion is larger and the mix of heritages is more diverse at the older end of the school. The next largest ethnic groups are White Western Europeans (16%), with White Other, Mixed Other and Black Caribbean all around 5%.

Over 35 languages are spoken in the school although, apart from Nursery to Year 2 where the numbers are greater, only a few children are at the earliest stages of learning English. 21% of pupils have English as an Additional Language with 11% of children speaking French as their first language. Between 20 and 30 children enter the school with no or very little English each year.

Pupil mobility is high. The impact of this changes with age and is greatest in the oldest cohorts. The vast majority of this is due to families moving out of the area for various reasons. The pupils come from a very wide range of circumstances. The school is located in a highly advantaged electoral ward; many children live in an adjacent highly disadvantaged electoral ward. The pupils and their families are broadly representative of all aspects of the local community, have positive attitudes to learning, high standards of behaviour and excellent attainment across the curriculum.

* **Community**

Parents/carers are extremely supportive of the school.Visitors to the school find it an exciting, vibrant place to visit. We have a very effective PTA whose events are enjoyable and well attended. We have a strong and well established governing body.

* **Profile**

In 2011, Belleville was one of the first 100 schools in the country (and one of only five London primary schools) to be awarded National Teaching School status. National Teaching Schools are outstanding schools with a leading role in the training and professional development of teachers and leaders, in order to contribute to raising standards across the education system. In 2014, we became one of the first thirty-two National Maths Hubs. Belleville is also a designated National Support School and the Executive Headteacher is a National Leader of Education.

These highly regarded designations reflect our outward looking approach. Members of staff have provided direct support to a number of other schools and we run a range of courses to develop teaching and leadership. We have a key role in various networks of schools which work together on projects and improvement initiatives. We also have links with schools and educational organisations across London, nationally and internationally. This gives us opportunities to learn from others, in order to further improve provision at Belleville.

* **Staff**

We provide a very high standard of education for Belleville children by employing the best possible teachers and support staff. We have many highly motivated teachers who have blossomed within the school’s supportive environment. We always seek to appoint enthusiastic and proactive teachers; ensuring the quality of their professional development is a key part of sustaining Belleville improvement as a school, whether newly qualified or with many years of teaching experience.

We believe children directly benefit from the high level of support we provide all teachers. John Grove is the Executive Headteacher and we have two full time Headteachers, a further part time Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers (both currently on maternity leave) and two Assistant Headteachers who are all non-class based. The extensive support in phases is directed at improving the quality of education in all classes. We also employ other experienced teachers who are responsible for supporting teachers to improve the quality of learning and teaching in their classes.

* **Curriculum**

We pride ourselves on providing a broad, balanced and well-structured curriculum, enhanced by the use of specialist teachers. Ensuring high standards in core subjects of English, maths and science is at the centre of the Belleville curriculum. At Belleville, the breadth and quality of education beyond the core subjects is outstanding. We are extremely proud of the high standards and varied opportunities that are offered to pupils across the curriculum and as extra-curricular activities. We employ specialist teachers for Music, Art, ICT, SEN, French, PE and Gymnastics and also employ musicians, artists, actors and coaches on a part-time basis. The school has been awarded Arts Mark Gold (2007, 2010), Basic Skills (2010, 2012), International Schools Award (2014), Healthy Schools and Active Mark in recognition of the high quality of its work across these areas of the curriculum.

* **Extra-curricular**

We offer an impressive range of extra-curricular activities before school, at lunchtimes and after school. These are constantly changing and cover a wide range of interests e.g. Capoeira, Orchestra, Sewing, Cricket, Book Club, Choir, German, Spanish, Football, Mandarin, Athletics, Bible Drama, Gymnastics, French, Netball, Drama, Ballet, Catch Drama, Illustration, Italian, Tennis, Homework, Street Dance, ICT, Handwriting, Guitar, Code Club, Animation, and Strings, Woodwind, Percussion and Brass in Music.

In addition to the trips offered to all children in all year groups, the older children have a residential journey each year. The Year 5 children have a three day residential to Ufton Court and the Year 6 children have a week long residential in Scarborough.

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