



An inspiring place to learn



Dear Prospective Parents/Carers and Students

A warm welcome to South Chingford Foundation School, which is part of the Chingford Academies Trust formed with our partner school – Chingford Foundation School.

I would like to introduce your son/daughter to South Chingford Foundation School where we will provide him/her with an excellent secondary education. The school challenges and extends students of all abilities and backgrounds and will prepare them to contribute positively to the communities in which they live. Our commitment to quality, achievement and the 'comprehensive ethos' makes us the natural first choice of students, parents and staff in the local area who are keen to contribute to the successful development of tomorrow's young citizens.

We offer a small learning environment where everybody will know your child's name and what support will help to inspire your children to make excellent progress.

Please come and see for yourself that this is true. Visit us during the school day. We have the right mix of academic rigour, well-founded values and many opportunities for personal development. You know your children best, what suits them and the conditions they need to flourish. Visiting the school and experiencing our offer will provide the best basis for the important decisions facing you. Through our relationship with Chingford Foundation School, we will ensure that the considerable resources of both schools will be utilized to ensure the personal educational journey of your child is as fulfilling, creative and challenging as possible.

I look forward to meeting you. If you would like to discuss anything in this pack, I would be very pleased to talk with you in person or by telephone.

Mark Morrall

Mark Morrall,
Executive Principal

What OFSTED say about our school

OFSTED 2016 – rated the school ‘good’ in every aspect

“The executive principal shares a strong sense of direction and ambition for the school with senior leaders and governors. Firm and insightful leadership supports staff and pupils to bring about improvements in all aspects of their work”.

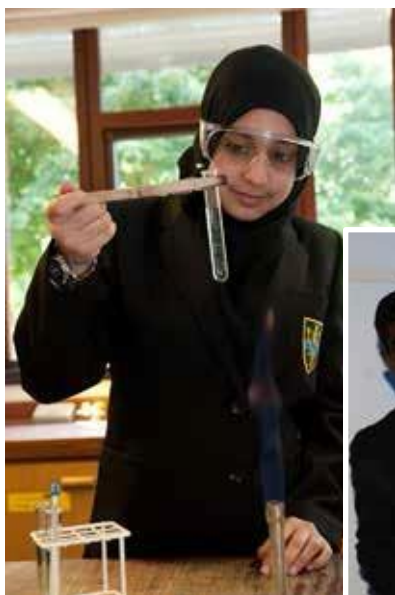
“Senior leaders provide highly effective training for staff. As a result, teaching is good in most subjects because staff are committed to continually improving their practice. Positive relationships between teachers and pupils underpin engaging and effective learning”.

“Pupils are proud of their school. They behave well around the school and in lessons. They are cheerful, polite, helpful and very supportive of each other”.

“Gaps in achievement between different groups of pupils currently in the school have either closed or are closing rapidly. The progress made by disadvantaged pupils is better than it was in the previous inspection”.

“Parents and staff are overwhelmingly positive about the school's work and the changes brought about by senior leaders and governors to improve the school further. They recognise that it offers a caring and compassionate community where pupils are kept safe and their welfare matters greatly”.

“Learners make good progress in the sixth form as a result of good teaching and strong leadership”.



Comments taken from recent Parents Forum Meetings

(Please feel free to look on website www.southchingfordfoundation.org.uk to read all the forum reports)

Parents said that the children that showed them around the school were polite, articulate and motivated and the teachers they met were impressive and enthusiastic for their students to achieve.

Parents were pleased about the information they receive about their children's progress and the attention given to individual needs.

Students were welcoming and children transferring to the school were often 'taken under the wing' of older students.

South Chingford Foundation School is 'a hidden gem'. In the short time her son has been here a parent reported that her son had received close to 100 positive behaviour points and is eager to achieve.

Whilst South Chingford Foundation School might not have the 'glitz' of other new build schools in the vicinity, it has something unique in the friendly and supportive approach it takes with students.

Without reservation all of the parents agreed that their children were having good learning experiences.



What parents say about our school (Findings from parental questionnaires 2017/2018)

Questions	% of parents either strongly agree or agree
My child is making good progress	97%
My child knows his/her targets in subjects and how to achieve them	100%
My child is taught well	97%
There are good resources for learning in this school	95%
My child feels safe	95%
Behaviour is good	95%
Individual learning needs are met well	91%
Any concerns I have are responded to promptly and well	97%
Written communication from this school is in clear English	99%
I would recommend this school to another parent	94%

The Curriculum

The Curriculum is wide ranging and provides every student with 'pathways' of opportunity to pursue his/her specialist interests and aptitudes, while maintaining a creative, broad and balanced experience of all areas of education.

It challenges all abilities and makes good use of every available resource, both in and out of teaching areas to fire imagination, creativity and bring education alive. Target setting, tracking, monitoring and evaluation of achievement are used in all areas of the curriculum to ensure progress of all students. The formal curriculum is enhanced by a range of extra-curricular opportunities (the Extension Programme), including offsite activities locally and abroad and Stepping Stones Saturday College.

All students in Lower School follow a balanced curriculum of 25 x 1 hour lessons a week. Students are taught in broad ability groups in Science, Maths, and English. The majority of subjects are taught in mixed ability groups. Art, Design, Food and Drama are taught weekly in smaller groups. Form groups are separate from teaching classes, so that students get to know and build friendship groups across as wide a range of their year group as possible. Students choose their progression subjects in the Spring term of Year 8, to begin three years of study towards GCSE examinations. As well as the core curriculum including Humanities, a language and RS, current options include DT, PE, Computer Science, Music and Drama. More information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.



Monitoring Progress and Reporting to parents

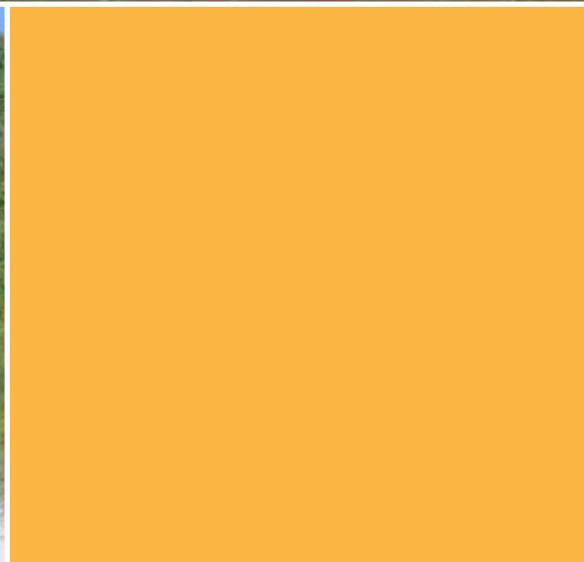
We ensure that parents are regularly updated on the progress of their child throughout the year.

Parents receive progress reports at least termly with feedback on progress and readiness to learn in all subject areas. We stretch the new GCSE 9 - 1 grading criteria throughout the school so that even from the first term of year 7 students and parents get to know this grading structure. This helps us develop high aspirations for the very top grades in our students and their families.

We have Parents' Evening for every year group once a year and additional Parent Information Evenings at key moments in our students' journey through the school such as starting the school or making GCSE choices.

Admissions

The school's published admissions arrangements are to be found in full on the separate insert to this prospectus. They can also be viewed on our website. www.southchinghamfoundation.org.uk



Extracurricular and Extension programme:

Students are provided with opportunities for a wealth of experience beyond the classroom. We believe these enrich students' learning and have direct benefits for their achievement.

These opportunities are detailed in SCF News, our student newsletter, and are promoted in school as well. All students are

encouraged to participate – there is no selection for most of the events, with the exceptions of any safety concerns.

We also run an extensive community programme during the evenings, weekends and school holidays. This provides opportunities for parents and the wider community as well as South Chingford students.

Examples of these activities include:

- Opportunity for students to undertake posts of responsibility supervising the library.
- Peer mentoring where trained students become the mentors to the new Year 7.
- Drama productions, art exhibitions and seasonal concerts.
- A wide range of sporting activities including: dance, basketball, netball and football league games, clubs, competitions and sponsored events, as well as trampoline and table tennis clubs. These take place before school, at lunchtime, after school and on Saturdays.
- Student Leadership programmes which develop community contribution and participation.
- Guitar and keyboard lessons, as well as a broad range of individual instrumental lessons.
- Music, Drama and Dance clubs.
- Chess club.
- ICT club.
- Careers Advice and visits to Careers Fairs.
- Field trips for all sorts of subjects, including Art, Geography, History and Science.
- Theatre and concert trips which complement subject work.
- Saturday coursework sessions and February and Easter revision courses.
- Charity and fund raising events.
- School journeys – at home and abroad.
- Fund-raising activities.
- Gifted and Talented holiday programmes.
- School Council.
- Duke of Edinburgh.

What makes South Chingford Foundation School different?

It is a supportive 11 – 18 mixed school with new approaches proven to add value to students' progress in learning.

South Chingford Foundation School also has 'priority access' to study at the successful Chingford Foundation School's academic Sixth Form for students aspiring to university.

We are a Brilliant Club partner school; which means able students get the chance to study in a university style, complete a university style essay and visit highly selective universities.

Parents are kept fully informed of the progress of their children.

We have a style and approach which ensures details in academic and pastoral matters are not overlooked and are given an equally high priority in a safe and harmonious environment.

Our personalised structures and motivation systems enable us to learn each student's strengths and areas for development to a degree that makes us an example of good practice for other schools.

Our knowledge of each student's individuality is the key to promoting good learning habits (e.g. Lifelong Learning) and the development of strong personal qualities needed in an increasingly complex society.





What makes South Chingford Foundation School different?

Our strong approach to Rewards and Sanctions means we ensure distractions are kept to a minimum and students are trained to be ready to learn.

We place a great emphasis on learning routines in the classroom as well as on students taking responsibility for redrafting and improving their work.

Our combined specialisms in Arts, Humanities and Sports subjects mean that innovative, high quality provision is available to enable students to develop their specific aptitudes and skills.

We have an extraordinary range of extra-curricular activities in our Extension Programme, Saturday College, Easter and Summer Schools which provide many opportunities for students to invest in their learning, progress and in the life of the school. These include the Duke of Edinburgh Award and Arts Award Schemes.

The school benefits from a convenient central location in which to provide a modern education for students. We are well connected with local cultural provision in Waltham Forest. Our excellent facilities provide a centre for community activity.

We have good links with parents through a range of approaches including governance and at Parents' Forum.







Medical and General Welfare

We have a Medical Welfare Room staffed full time, where appropriate first aid and care can be given as needed.

Additionally, the school has a large team of trained first aiders, covering all areas of the school, who will administer first aid for minor injuries in situ. Where a student has particular medical needs, a medical health care plan will be written in collaboration with parents/carers upon entry to the school and updated at least annually thereafter. Where necessary, we will liaise closely with hospital tuition and therapy professionals to smooth the learning for students when they are in hospital, ensuring that they remain challenged and engaged, but that the demands on them are realistic. In year 7 our transition team works throughout the whole year with teaching assistants assigned to each form, a fully funded Stepping Stones Saturday school and a learning mentor to support those having issues in and outside of school.

Assemblies

Assemblies are delivered within a planned programme where there is a thought or theme for the week underpinned by one of the British Values. Students plan and lead assemblies regularly and these are very much valued by other students.



Form Period

Form period is also a time for learning and reflection, which builds on the thought for the week and British Values.

In the Lower School, there are taught literacy sessions in addition to the taught Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and current affairs education which takes place in different formats in all school years. This is also a time for social development and challenge, for example, lively discussion and debate and raising funds for charities. There is always time for review of academic achievement, attendance, punctuality and behaviour.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding includes child protection, education health care plans, medical health care plans, health and safety, site security, safety on school trips, anti-bullying work, promoting positive mental health and so much more.

We have a large team of Child Protection trained staff, led by a Safeguarding Lead and Safeguarding Officer.

All staff receive annual Child Protection and Safeguarding update training and are aware of the procedures for passing on concerns within school, although they also understand that they have a duty to report concerns themselves if no member of the child protection team is available. The school works closely with a range of external services to support pupils at risk of significant harm and those who need support in less critical circumstances over a period of time in order to thrive. These agencies include Children's Social Care, Police, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, 722 Drug Dependency, hospitals and family GPs, although this list isn't exhaustive.





Special Educational Needs

At South Chingford Foundation School we pride ourselves on our inclusivity and students who have been identified as having a Special Educational Need will be supported using a variety of tried and tested methods that have successfully been developed.

In some learning areas classes are set according to the students' abilities and in others we have a range of abilities. We have a team of support assistants who work collaboratively with the teaching staff to ensure the needs of all our students are met in class and are available to all year groups and across all areas of the curriculum. For those with greater needs, we are able to offer small group literacy and numeracy classes across all the year groups. Our student support extends beyond the normal school day. We

run a handwriting class and a reading and spelling programme during morning registrations and an after school home learning club which, while not exclusively for SEN students, they do find very helpful, with staff to support and guide them. Many individual learning areas also provide morning, lunch and after school clubs which are open to all ages and abilities.

South Chingford Foundation School has extensive links with outside agencies and services that are on hand to give advice, guidance and intervention where needed. Educational Psychologist service and specialist counselling, Child and Family Consultation Service, Safer Neighbourhood Officer are just some of the professionals whose aim is to support our school so we can in turn support our students.



Community School

The school's community programme supports local groups in accessing and delivering activities and classes at South Chingford Foundation School.

In the 2017/18 academic year we hosted 766 community users each week with activities on offer which ranged from adult classes with reduced rates for parents supporting vulnerable groups, Vestry Dance School caters for students from ages 3-14, we host a Greek School and cadets meet twice weekly to deliver parts of our successful Duke of Edinburgh programme.

We also hold a disability sports group on Friday evenings which encourages children from all over Waltham Forest to get involved in structured sporting activities.

In addition to these groups we also host Eastside Eagles Basketball Club, Phoenix Flames Netball and several local football groups. With this range of community activities on site we truly believe we are a committed community school which caters for our local community and its needs.

