



THE LYCEUM  
SCHOOL

THE LYCEUM SCHOOL EVERYDAY INSPIRATION

THE LYCEUM AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 3-11

3-11

CONTENTS

02 EVERYDAY INSPIRATION

04 EXCITING FUN AND CREATIVE

06 LEARNING TOGETHER

10 RICH AND NOURISHING LEARNING

12 OUR CURRICULUM

14 BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

18 STRETCHING OURSELVES

20 MUSIC IN OUR HEARTS

22 CREATIVE TO OUR FINGERTIPS

26 THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

28 FINAL MESSAGE



THE LYCEUM SCHOOL EVERYDAY INSPIRATION

Welcome

The Lyceum is a unique school, a happy place where learning is rich, fulfilling and exciting, where our pupils make exceptional progress in their time with us.

Our school is an oasis of calm in the heart of London where we nurture our children with time, expertise and care.

The children’s happiness and joy in learning is most important to us.

We are a co-educational, non-selective school. We have a topic-based, holistic approach to teaching and learning, and have placed the performing and visual arts at the centre of our curriculum. Our approach, our location and our strong family atmosphere make The Lyceum a truly special place for children to grow and learn.

This prospectus can only give you a glimpse of our school, so we hope you will visit us to find out more.

All the staff (and children)  
at The Lyceum School

THE LYCEUM AT A GLANCE

- ESTABLISHED 1997
- NON-SELECTIVE
- INDEPENDENT
- CO-EDUCATIONAL
- 3 TO 11
- SMALL CLASS SIZES
- LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE CITY
- HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS
- CREATIVE CURRICULUM – PERSONALISED TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS
- EXCELLENT STAFF/PARENT PARTNERSHIP





**"From the EYFS onwards, the pupils' personal development is excellent. Within an atmosphere of friendship, respect and trust, pupils become confident, articulate and responsible young people."**

ISI Report 2014



**"The Lyceum is a wonderful school, full of happiness and joy"**

Lottie, Year 6



exciting, fun  
and creative



The Lyceum is a remarkable school, where learning is exciting, fun and creative every day.

There are no school bells here: we start our day with music, and at every turn you'll hear singing and playing, discussion and laughter.

We aim high and our learning is always academically challenging, but never dry and boring. We love stories: we read, perform plays, write poems, dance and sing. We observe and learn about our world not by memorising facts but by exploring, doing and understanding. At The Lyceum, your child will become an enthusiastic learner, keen to try new experiences.

Above all, we are here not only to prepare your child for the next stage of their education, but also for life. We develop your child's talents and their character, confidence, compassion and resilience.







**"Pupils' excellent relationships with each other and with the staff are supported by the outstanding pastoral care shown by teaching and non-teaching staff."**

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We are warm and friendly and love being a small school where our staff and children know each other well. Coming to The Lyceum is like joining a happy school family where every child learns to care for others just as we care for them.

We are a non-selective school, and embrace each child as an individual, helping them to find their own way and to discover their strengths.

We encourage your child to work hard and to challenge themselves in everything they do. Year after year our children do exceptionally well academically, creatively and in performance, and we are enormously proud of their achievements.

Most of all though, we want your child to be happy here. They will learn in small classes and every single day they will be surrounded by people who really care about them.



learning together







**"Pupils develop their knowledge, understanding and skills most effectively, supported by the wide range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences that the school provides."**

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## rich and nourishing learning



Children love to learn and Lyceum children never lose their excitement and pleasure in finding out about the world they live in.

Our approach to education is based on the simple fact that children learn best when they are engaged and interested. Our lessons are lively and active and your child will quickly build skills and knowledge almost without realising.

When you visit The Lyceum, you will see that through the centre of our school runs an open area that links all our classrooms. We call this the River, not only is it a practical space where all the staff and children come together, but it also symbolises the unbroken flow of learning at The Lyceum all the way from the nursery to Year 6.



**"The Lyceum is special because we do fun things like drawing, art, junk modelling and we do experiments and we also have awesome topics."**

Sophie, Year 2



### Preparing for 11+

By working closely with our children and their parents, and through our links to destination schools, we are extremely successful in helping each child to gain a place at a school that will suit them well.

We begin preparing for 11+ selection in Year 5 and at the start of Year 6, in order to help prepare for their exams, the whole class spends two days away in Essex on our 11+ preparation camp, doing mock exams, receiving feedback, focusing on the 11+ selection ahead of them and the work they will need to do.

Mid-term, we run an exam day in school so that your child experiences exam conditions with an unknown invigilator and the all-important interview, and receives feedback.

Our children enter the selection process well-prepared and confident that they have made good choices, and we are always delighted with the results.





## our curriculum

**“When I first came to this school in Year 3 I wasn’t good at reading at all ... but as the terms went by and the years passed I started to go to a special class with the speech and language therapist ... He is so kind and really, really, really, really helped me, and now I barely ever get my head out of the book I am reading.”**

Sam, Year 5

Because successful learners – whatever their age – don’t shut their learning into separate compartments, neither do we.

We encourage your child to observe and learn from everything they experience. As they move through the school they will build their knowledge, skills and – just as crucially – their confidence and flexibility as learners.

While our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum, and delivers all of its subjects, we teach through topics from Early Years onwards, in a carefully structured scheme of work that is as balanced as it is broad.

Each class learns about a new topic each term, and through this they explore every aspect of the curriculum, from Maths and English to Dance, IT and Religious Education.



For example, when Years 1 and 2 learn about the Gunpowder Plot, the Great Fire of London and the Plague, this opens up great opportunities to begin to find out about sound, forces, the UK, Baroque and Rococo art, 3D models, and musical instruments.

When Years 5 and 6 study World War Two, they also learn about forces and sound in more depth, and about electricity. They use maps at different scales, expand their knowledge of world geography, and plot the war. They explore the art of Henry Moore and Laura Knight, learn knitting, and immerse themselves in the music of Britten, Wagner and Vaughan Williams.

There’s never a dull moment in a Lyceum classroom!

### Specialist support

If your child finds a particular subject especially challenging, or their English is not yet fluent, we provide specialist support to make sure that they make good progress and never fall behind.

**“The broad, balanced and vibrant curriculum is excellent”**

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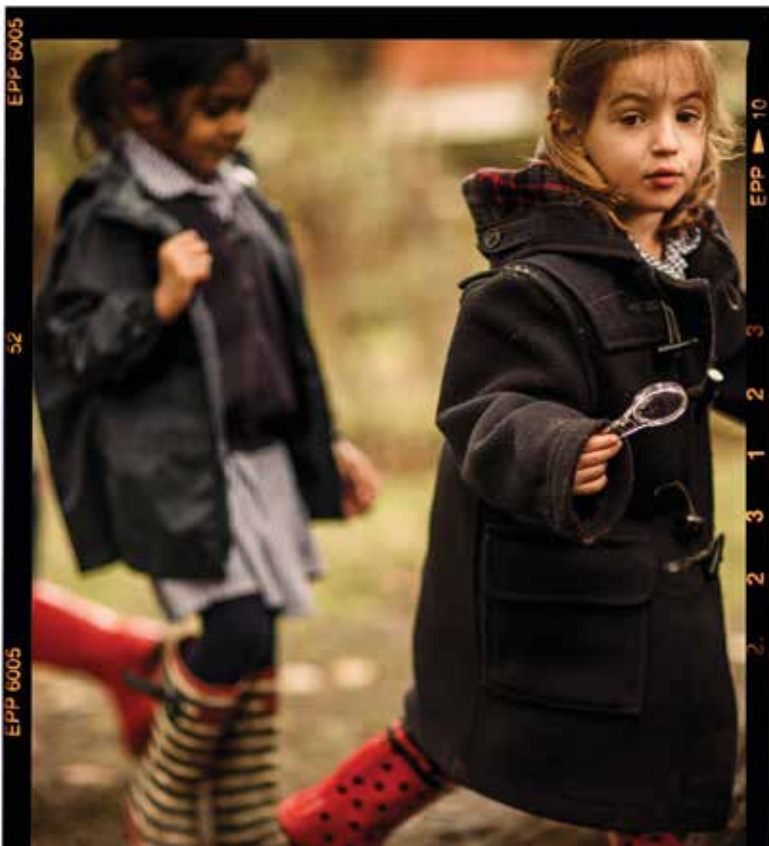




**"I love the trips we go on overnight. I learn so much and I have so much fun. I love dressing up for them. It makes it feel like I'm living in the past ... When we went to Suffolk we lived on a Tudor farm for a week. We did Tudor chores, ate Tudor food, did Tudor traditions, and dressed as Tudors."**

Rebecca, Year 5

## bringing learning to life



Ask a Lyceum child what they love about their school, and our trips always come out top – whether it's a day at the Spitalfields City Farm for our youngest children, or a week in Paris for the oldest, they're magical experiences that really bring our learning to life.

Our living history trips are unique and created by us specifically for our children so that the history they have learnt about in class is made real – mud, smells and all.

During a living history trip your child will spend a week dressing, eating, and working just like the people of the period they are studying. If they are learning about World War Two, for example, you'll wave your child off at the station just as parents said goodbye to evacuated children, and from then on your child will eat only what the ration book would have allowed, wear clothes from the early 1940s, and cope – miraculously – without TV or the internet!

Whether we're catching the tube to a museum or measuring our pulse on a science trip, we're learning by experience every second of every day.

### LYCEUM RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

Geography field trips  
Years 3 and 4

Living history trips  
Years 5 and 6

Science trip  
Year 5

Edinburgh  
Year 5

11+ exam preparation  
Year 6

Paris or Amsterdam  
Year 6









**"Without The Lyceum I would never have tried so many different sports, or pushed myself to try harder. I would never even have attempted swimming twenty-five lengths, let alone thirty-eight; I would never have tried the BMX track at the Velopark, with its steep ramps and hills; and I would never have believed I could run a mile, or even two! The Lyceum helped me to realise what I am capable of."**

Lara, Year 6

## stretching ourselves



Our school may be small, but our expectations are huge: both in class and out, we love to try new things, push ourselves hard, and have fun.

Within the school itself we have two large indoor spaces, the Gallery and the Courtyard, and we use them to the full for PE, art, dance, drama, music and break times as well as our daily after-school club.

We also have great access to outdoor spaces and we try to go outside every day. Your child will spend time outdoors in a local park, doing sport, investigating science, or simply letting off steam.

We regularly use the Honourable Artillery Company's Ground – an enormous space right round the corner, and we have such a close relationship with Bunhill Fields that we have our own garden plot there, and even help the gardener plant out the bulbs each year.

We also use the swimming pool, tennis and netball courts at Golden Lane, and in the winter we ice-skate at Broadgate. Sport is extremely important at The Lyceum and your child will do a physical activity every day – and at least four times a week, this will be outdoors.

### SPORT SPORT SPORT

swimming

tennis

hockey

ice-skating

rounders

cricket

athletics

gymnastics

football

dance

netball

rugby

and many more!

### AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

There's something for everyone!

judo

chess

multi-sports

maths dance

zumba

yoga

coding

performing arts

football

languages

film

streetdance





# music in our hearts



**"I have learned to play different instruments such as the piano and the trumpet and the recorder. I have been wanting to play the trumpet since I was in Year 1 and when I started to play in Year 4 it became a dream come true."**

James, Year 5

Music runs in our veins at The Lyceum. We believe that making music is both an enormous pleasure and a wonderful bedrock for a rounded education. Making music, whether by singing, playing a solo, writing a song or playing in an orchestra builds your child's confidence and self-esteem.

We mark the start of our day by listening to music together, and each week we explore a different composer, musician, theme or instrument, building your child's knowledge and understanding.

Music is an integral part of our curriculum, and is co-ordinated and planned by our specialist head of music. She works closely with our class teachers and specialist instrumental teachers to link music to each class's topic and to build your child's skills and confidence.

By the time your child enters Year 6, they will be a confident performer and have a knowledge of music far ahead of most children their age.

**"Pupils are given excellent opportunities to express their creativity in art, drama and music and all pupils play at least one instrument. Several choirs, including a chamber choir, the school orchestra and a big band, provide pupils with many opportunities to perform together on a regular basis."**

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## FROM RECEPTION ON, OUR CHILDREN CAN PLAY

piano  
violin  
cello  
recorder  
trumpet  
drums  
guitar  
woodwind  
ukelele  
and they sing, clap and dance!

## OUR MUSIC GROUPS

junior choir  
chamber choir  
big band  
string orchestra







**"I really like the creative projects you make, like in Year 4 we made cars and bridges, and in Year 5 we made waterproof houses. My favourite project was the 3D maps in Year 5."**

Tom, Year 5



## creative to our fingertips

### Technologically creative

We love incorporating new technology into our learning. We use iPads and interactive whiteboards at school, we write eBooks and when our oldest children go to Edinburgh we ask them each to create an app that lets them share a blog, photos or even a city guide while they are away.



At The Lyceum we love to learn by doing. We create art, we write poems, we tell stories, we build incredible models, we invent machines. Our children ask questions, look for solutions, experiment.

We don't do rote learning – we do active learning, and creativity and performance are built into our curriculum, from designing wallpaper to rehearsing and performing a whole play.

We create the plays ourselves, and every child takes part acting, dancing or making music. This starts with an assembly each term in the nursery and culminates in a large-scale history play in Years 5 and 6.

As you sit in the Gallery to watch one of our plays, you'll be surrounded by art created by every child in the school. We use all sorts of techniques and media, from paint to printing, from observational drawing to knitting. We learn about artists relating to the topic we are studying, and about different styles and approaches.

That's the key to learning at The Lyceum: it's fun, so our children always want to do more.











**"The creative use of time, space and of off-site venues substantially enriches the curriculum"**

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## the world we live in

### Travelling to The Lyceum

Our location in the City allows many of our parents to drop their children off at school on their way to work.

We are near Liverpool Street, Moorgate and Old Street stations for rail and tube, and Finsbury Square for bus links.



We love our location in the heart of the City of London: it gives us amazing opportunities to discover the world we live in, right on our doorstep.

We are very much part of our local community, with great links to the people and places around us. Every day we get out and visit our parks, sports venues, museums, galleries, the zoo, the city farm, the library, the ice-rink ... and every moment of our time out of school is a chance to learn, from how to catch a bus or tube, to finding out about and appreciating the lives of the people with whom we share our city.

We look far beyond our city too, and not just on our residential trips in the UK and Europe, but also through our links to schools around the world. We learn about and celebrate a wide range of cultures, marking Chinese New Year, for example, or making Egyptian food.

We are a non-denominational, Christian-based school and we celebrate the key Christian festivals, but we teach about all religions, and children of all faiths and of none are welcome to join our school because above all, we teach empathy, tolerance and understanding.





**"They are thoroughly prepared  
for the next stage of their  
education and they leave school  
as confident and well-balanced  
young people."**

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## Final message

We hope you will come and visit us to see for yourself just how unusual a school The Lyceum is: we're the friendliest school you could ever meet, and our children are lively, creative, successful and always eager to do more.

We don't measure our success in test results, though our children do extremely well in their 11+ transfers. Perhaps a better measure is how often their new schools tell us how well prepared Lyceum children are for the challenges and opportunities of their secondary education?

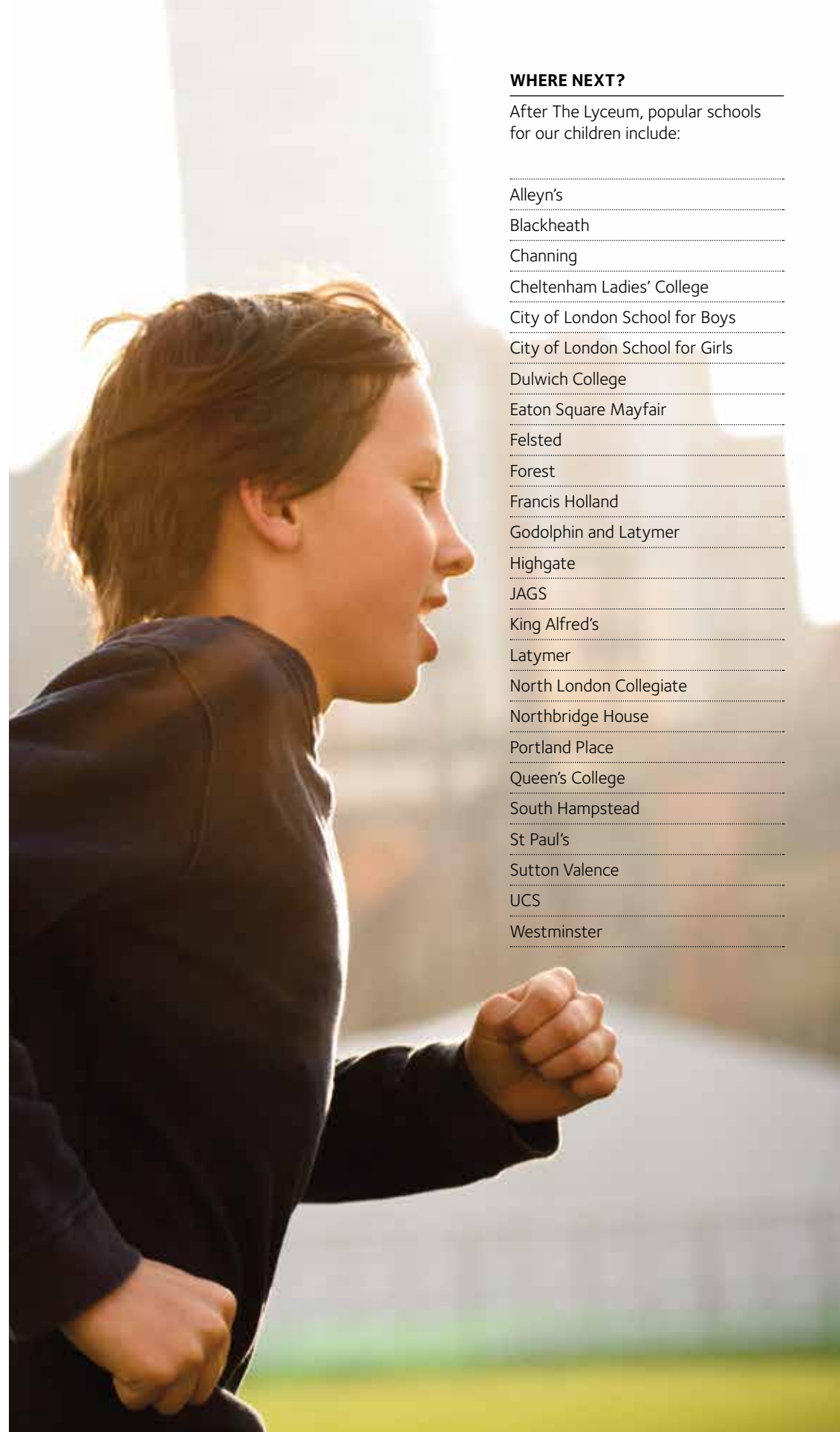
But most important of all is that every day at The Lyceum our children are happy learning together, and becoming young people we are all proud of.

We look forward to meeting you soon, and to showing you our wonderful school.

### WHERE NEXT?

After The Lyceum, popular schools for our children include:

Alley's
Blackheath
Channing
Cheltenham Ladies' College
City of London School for Boys
City of London School for Girls
Dulwich College
Eaton Square Mayfair
Felsted
Forest
Francis Holland
Godolphin and Latymer
Highgate
JAGS
King Alfred's
Latymer
North London Collegiate
Northbridge House
Portland Place
Queen's College
South Hampstead
St Paul's
Sutton Valence
UCS
Westminster









If you would like to know more about The Lyceum, please come and visit. We regularly hold open days in term time, or can arrange a visit by appointment.

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