



BECKFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to Beckford Primary School, I am delighted that you are interested in joining our school. Beckford is a school where children and families feel welcomed and that they belong.

At Beckford our motto is **Together, we achieve**. The children at our school are a true representation of our local community. They originate from many different countries, speak a large variety of languages and all learn in their own way. In addition, our school has a Resource Base for physically disabled children. This diversity is a major strength of our school. The children at Beckford exemplify our school motto; they show time and again that they care for and support each other.

At Beckford we aim to ensure that we work with parents to give every child at the school the very best start in their education as well as supporting them to become responsible citizens in a rapidly changing and challenging world.

I hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of Beckford and how we strive to put our school values and aims into action. I would encourage you to find out more either by looking at our website on www.beckford.camden.sch.uk or by joining one of our half termly guided tours of the school.

Samantha Smith MA
Headteacher





“Pupils are very proud of their school, feel safe and enjoy learning. One pupil said, ‘It’s like being at home, I feel so safe.’

OFSTED

“The excellent teaching at Beckford has given my daughter the confidence she shows today.”

Parent

We celebrate every child's social and academic achievements

At Beckford we believe that every child deserves the best possible education. Learning is alive and buzzing around the school throughout the school day.

Our talented staff generate a wealth of learning opportunities through our topic based curriculum. Our children develop knowledge and learning skills both at school and through a wide range of trips, visits and experiences beyond the classroom.

“Beckford expects me to do my best and supports me to achieve this”

Year 6 Pupil

Our children have access to excellent provision in music and sports through specialist teachers. Music and creativity are the heart and soul of the school. The school is often filled with the sound of singing or music with two school choirs, access to individual instrumentation lessons, a school band and orchestra and weekly singing lessons for all children. There are also many opportunities throughout the school year for the children to perform for their families and friends.

We ensure that our curriculum includes a robust and reliable programme for basic skills in English, Maths, Science and ICT. We have very rigorous assessment systems so that we are aware of each child's progress throughout the year. A range of support and intervention programmes are available so that our children are always progressing at their optimum level.





“The school places great value on the wide range of musical opportunities it provides for its pupils.”

Music inspection

We prepare children to make successful life choices



At Beckford we are not just educating the children of today, but the citizens of tomorrow. We encourage children to become thoughtful, caring individuals, with a balanced awareness of social, environmental and global issues. We seek to develop children's independence and awareness of others from the time they start school at the age of three or four.

Our links with schools in the UK and abroad helps to bring the curriculum to life and increase the children's understanding of different cultures and lifestyles. French is taught from the age of seven and is used to communicate with our link schools in French speaking countries.

The week long residential trip in Year 6 provides opportunities for the children to challenge their physical skills, make new friends and become more independent.

Children at Beckford have a high level of impact and influence on the atmosphere of the school and are involved in decision making. They participate in the School Council, the Learning Council, act as Recycle Rangers, become Playground Friends and Peer Mediators, initiate and run events at the school and consult annually with the Head Teacher on school improvement.





“Curriculum provision is outstanding. There is a strong commitment to pupils’ personal development and to celebrating their diversity and developing their cultural awareness.”
OFSTED



“We thought wet play was not much fun. The School Council bought lots more games and toys. We feel proud that we helped make things better for everyone.”
School Councillors

We ensure that our teaching and learning are of the highest quality

At Beckford we understand that the biggest influence on a child's education is the adults working with them. We feel that in order to provide the world class education that our children deserve we must have world class teachers and support staff.

All of our staff are encouraged to develop their skills and seek training in order to help all children achieve to their full potential. We are fortunate in that we have a stable staff, with a significant number who are themselves members of the local community.

We have an outstanding team of Governors who are our greatest supporters and ensure that the school maintains a strong strategic direction.

At Beckford we always strive to provide the best education we can for the children at the school through a clear vision which is implemented through a school development plan focused on improving learning and teaching.

**“The teachers push
you to do well, and
help you to do even
better”**

Year 3 pupil

**“ Your inspi
and encour
methods of
have turned
caterpillars
beautiful bu
Nursery par**



rational
aging
teaching
my little
s into
butterflies”
rent



“A big thank you to all for the love, care and support you have shown my son for the past 8 years. I have seen him grow from a baby to a young man and a great deal of it has to do with your valuable work”

Year 6 parent

“My school respects all of our differences”

Year 6 pupil



We provide a stimulating and secure environment where everyone is valued

At Beckford we have an enduring belief that our school is for children. It is a place where they can feel safe and secure and know that anything is possible for them.

We have specialist teachers and highly trained teaching assistants who work alongside class teachers to support children who have additional educational or language needs. As a consequence children with special educational needs or English as an additional language make very good progress and thrive emotionally.

“There is a very strong commitment towards making every child feel valued and fully included in every aspect of school life.”

OFSTED

We are housed in a beautiful three storey Victorian building. Our site team ensure that the school is well maintained, attractive and secure. We continually seek to make the environment more stimulating and engaging for the children.

We are lucky to have substantial playground space. Every day, playtime is full of children having fun and staying fit. The children can choose from a wide choice of activities at lunchtime including sports and games with our professional sports coaches. We are proud to hold both the Active mark and Healthy School status. The children are actively involved in improving the playtime experience, as Playground Friends, within the Gardening Club and in planning improvements to the playground.



We create strong and lasting relationships with children, families and the local communities



At Beckford we are proud to be the hub of our diverse community. We are a true community school and throughout the year there are a number of opportunities to celebrate our diversity and achievements. These events help to bring parents from all cultures together and strengthen our school community.

Our Breakfast Club and after school activities offer a wide range of sporting, creative and learning opportunities.

We recognise parents as the first educators of all children. We know that if parents and teachers communicate well and share their expertise and knowledge, children will always benefit. As such we ensure that we work in partnership with parents by conducting home visits before a child starts at Beckford, offering parent workshops and events throughout the year and communicating regularly about the children's achievement and progress. We have an active Parent Staff Association which organises many enjoyable social and fund-raising events.

We are delighted that the children at Beckford tell us how much they enjoy school. Many of our former pupils come back to visit once they have left. They know that even after they have left us and moved on Beckford will always be their school.

“I was very taken by the work of the students and teachers at Beckford. It’s a school that would be wonderful for my son as there are many different approaches to working with the students that allow them to explore the world using their various learning styles.”

Former pupil visiting from the USA



“I am very pleased with the school. They seem to genuinely care.”
Parent

We treat each other as we want to be treated

At Beckford “Every Child Matters” perfectly describes our highly diverse and fully inclusive culture. The culture of respect for the individual is apparent in the interactions between children, staff and parents.

“At Beckford I am listened to”

Year 4 pupil

We have very clear expectations for behaviour at Beckford. Our pupils behave in a calm and reasonable manner, are polite and respectful to all in the school community, sort out any disagreements by talking things through and develop a firm commitment and a positive attitude to their work.





Starting at Beckford

Admission

Beckford is a popular school and there are waiting lists in many year groups. London Borough of Camden manages admission to Reception and all “in-year” admissions. Application to Nursery can be made directly to the school.

We have adopted Camden’s admissions policy and admit, in order of priority:

- Children with Statements of Special Educational Need
- Children who have brothers and sisters already attending the school
- Children who live nearest to Beckford

More information about admissions is available from the school office or you can contact Camden Admissions on 0207 974 1525

Starting School

When your child starts school at Beckford you will be asked to provide us with information about your child’s health as well as providing emergency contact information. You will also be asked to sign the home-school agreement which explains school and parent roles and responsibilities in supporting the children. Families of Nursery and Reception children will be visited at home prior to children starting school.

Uniform

All children are expected to wear the Beckford School uniform which is available from the school office. We also expect children to buy a book bag for school.

Attendance & punctuality

The Beckford School day begins at 9:00am and finishes at 3:30pm. For children to progress it is essential that they attend school on time, every day.

Please do visit our website for lots more information about our school
www.beckford.camden.sch.uk

To arrange a visit to Beckford contact us on 0207 435 8646

“This is the best school I have visited. It has a great atmosphere. You can feel it as soon as you arrive.”
prospective parent

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