



The Roche School

11 Frogmore, Wandsworth, London SW18 1HW
(off Putney Bridge Road)

Tel: 020 8877 0823 Fax: 020 8875 1156

Admission Enquiries: admissions@therocheschool.co.uk



Quotations from parents

These quotations are taken from a survey of parental views of the School reproduced by kind permission of Adrian Wimbush (surveymyschool.co.uk).

“Utterly child-centred. Can give every child what they need in the classroom.”

“I would absolutely recommend the school. It is a fantastic place and it’s all about producing happy, well-rounded children. The exits to secondary schools are impressive.”

“The school works hard to achieve the best for each individual child. It has a fair, non-discriminatory policy and its good-sense approach encourages the children to respect and appreciate each other and it actively teaches social skills. It succeeds in encouraging the children to enjoy learning and it affords the opportunity for a variety of extra-curricular activities and for the children to show the talents they develop in excellent (very impressive and enjoyable) productions of plays and concerts.”

“I am very glad they went to The Roche School. Thank you to the amazing staff for their dedicated, endless support.”

“The Roche School is like a family. It’s like having a great countryside school in London. The school has high standards but is not pretentious or stuffy – rather it is friendly and welcoming. The children are taught good manners but are still allowed to be themselves. They are well cared for and encouraged to enjoy school life.”

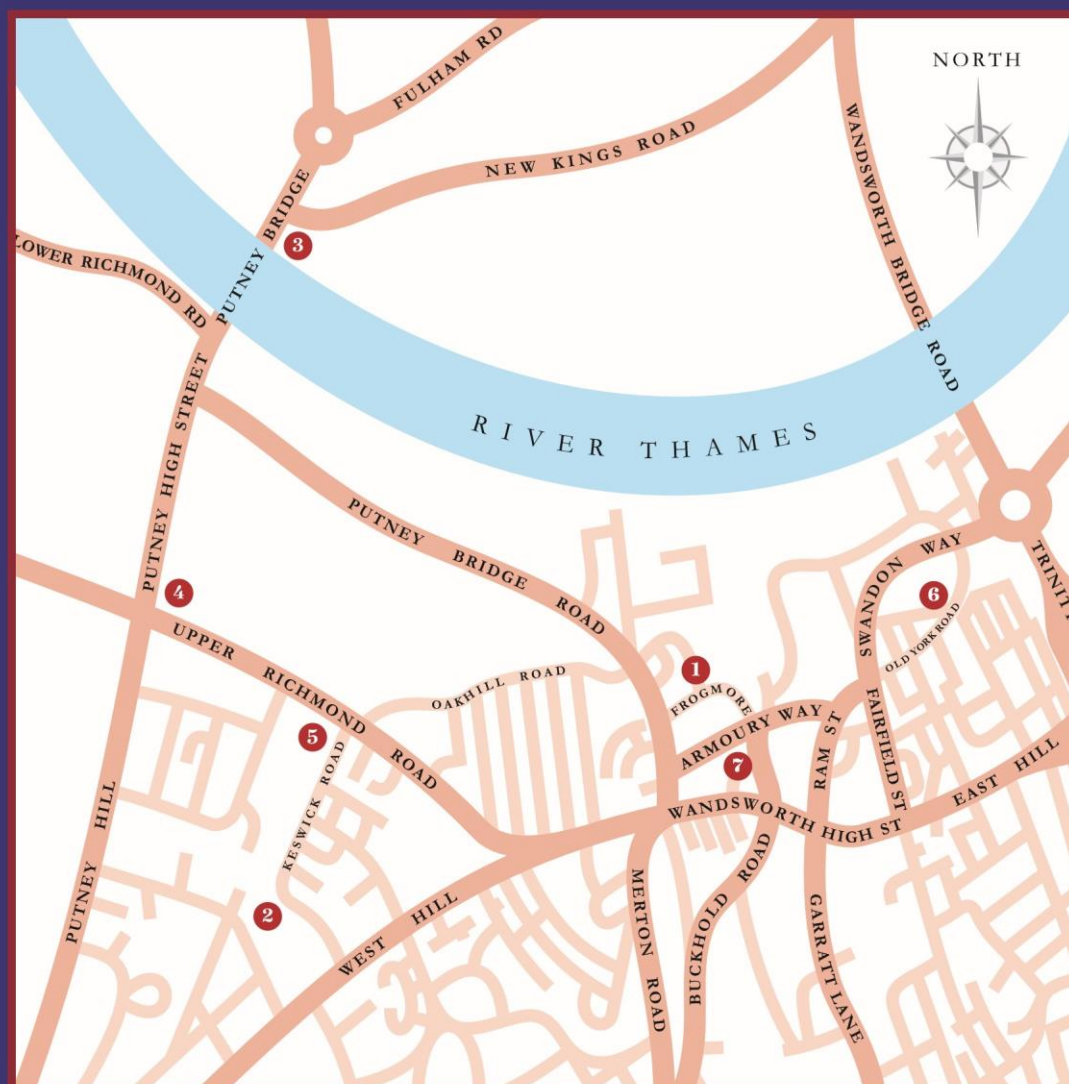
“This is one of the best schools I have ever come across. The staff take individual care of each child, pushing them to progress rather than allowing them to be average. It taught me how my children are capable of much more than average. They have become responsible for their own work – all I do is remind them and they do the rest.”

The Roche School Limited, company number 3851443 registered in England and Wales.
Registered Office; 11 Frogmore, London SW18 1HW

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The Roche School and Nursery Schools in Wandsworth

How to find us



- 1** The Roche School and Nursery School, 11 Frogmore, SW18 1HW
- 2** The Roche Nursery School, 42 Keswick Road, SW15 2JE
- 3** Putney Bridge Underground Station, District Line for Wimbledon, Southfields, Fulham etc.
- 4** Putney Railway Station, lines to Waterloo, Clapham Junction, Barnes etc.
- 5** East Putney Underground Station, District Line (8 minutes' walk) for Wimbledon, Southfields, Earls Court etc.
- 6** Wandsworth Town Railway Station (6 minutes' walk) with direct trains to Waterloo, Clapham Junction, Putney, Barnes, Richmond etc.
- 7** Buses 37, 39, 87, 156, 170, 220, 270, 337, 485, 639, 670 each every 8 to 12 minutes for Putney, Fulham, Hammersmith, Wimbledon, Southfields, Earlsfield, Clapham, Battersea etc.

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Academic Achievement in a Lively and Stimulating Atmosphere

Ofsted Remarks May 2014

This is an outstanding school.

Teaching is highly effective; interesting, well-chosen activities ensure that pupils are motivated to achieve high standards in their learning.

Behaviour is outstanding in all lessons and around school; this contributes to a purposeful learning environment where pupils thrive.

*Pupils say that they “love school” and “staff are really friendly!”
This is confirmed by their high commitment to learning...*

The Roche School is a non-selective, independent primary and nursery school founded in 1983. It has some 320 pupils aged 2 to 11 years, with roughly equal numbers of boys and girls. It offers children a wide range of opportunities, academic, artistic and sporting, in a pleasant, homely atmosphere in which they feel valued and supported.

The teaching is stimulating and thorough. Our dedicated staff encourage warmth and politeness, and the strong pastoral system emphasises kindness and respect for others. Pupils are keen to discover and develop their own special interests and talents.

The School's adaptable teaching methods allow all its pupils to reach the best possible academic standards and to take a lively interest in their studies.

The School is proud of its strong academic record and consistently encourages its pupils to excel.



Foam Sculpting in The Nursery



Junior Choir



Year 5 Maths with Dr Roche



Year 2 Science Lesson



Lower School Morning Break



Reception Maths

The Nursery Schools

The Roche Nursery Schools (telephone 020 8704 4857 for prospectus) at 11 Frogmore, Wandsworth SW18 1HW and 42 Keswick Road, East Putney SW15 2JE offer a lively Montessori-based education to children aged 2 to 4 years.

Admissions

Children join the Reception classes in the September following their 4th birthday. Older candidates spend a day with us and are assessed informally in reading, writing and number work. Visitors are welcome to see the School on Open Mornings or by individual appointment; telephone: 020 8877 0823, or e-mail: admissions@therocheschool.co.uk

Our Community

In School Assemblies music and singing are important; we praise pupils' achievements, good progress and helpful behaviour, and we celebrate significant annual events such as Remembrance Day and our French Week. Our House system encourages charitable fund-raising, sporting competition and friendly co-operation between age-groups. The

children participate fully in the life of the School and Year 6 pupils assume a range of responsibilities including showing visitors around on Open Mornings. The management of children's behaviour is clear and firm and supports *Roche Approach* principles. Sanctions, when required, are age-appropriate with pupils being encouraged to consider the implications of their actions.

The Reception Year

The Reception classes' programme covers the national Early Years' Foundation Stage Curriculum enriched by stimulating special topics. The children develop their skills and understanding in a wide range of subjects and we encourage them to express their ideas boldly so that they rise above - or well above - the prescribed educational level.

Reading, writing and mathematics are taught through enjoyable tasks and activities which engage the children's interests and abilities. Study assignments set by the teachers are balanced with those selected by the children. Both in the classroom and out of doors the adults work with pupils to develop their physical and social skills



Model-Making in an Art Lesson



The Orchestra on the Stage



Year 1 Computing

and their natural curiosity about the world. The study programme in each half term is built around a particular topic amplified by educational trips and by invited speakers who discuss their work and interests. Specialists teach Music, Dance, French, and Physical Education. All the children have parts in the Christmas plays and summer pageants which family members are warmly invited to attend.

Years 1- 6

Classes are small so that pupils benefit greatly from individual care and attention. Each year group is divided into sets for English and for Mathematics; pupils are placed in the sets which best suit their understanding, and teachers adapt the style and pace of the lessons so all pupils can take pride in their progress and tackle difficulties confidently. The children work with a will without feeling under pressure and the adaptable teaching contributes greatly to their lively, buoyant demeanour. They all make the best possible progress, both those who have a natural taste for academic work and those who need fuller explanation and practice. Many transfer - some with scholarships - to leading academic

secondary schools.

The children cover the full National Curriculum which is enhanced in ways which reflect and extend their interests, such as educational trips, social and pastoral activities and workshops run by specialists in particular subjects. Homework is set regularly so as to be helpful and interesting but not burdensome. Pupils enjoy researching particular topics and presenting their findings in class. Teachers assess and monitor pupils' work and progress. The children discuss and evaluate each other's work using a range of criteria. French is taught throughout the school. To keep parents informed about their child's progress, they regularly receive written reports and are invited to meet their child's teachers. Teachers are freely available to see parents whenever it is desirable. Sport, Music and French are taught by specialists.

English

Pupils encounter a diverse and stimulating range of prose and poetry which is discussed in several ways including through drama. The younger children all regularly read to adults who help them choose their books. The library is at the heart of the School



Year 2 Library Time



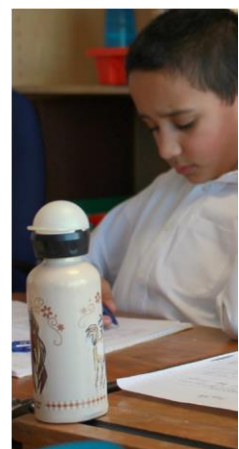
Year 3 English



Year 2 Investigating Electric Currents



Reception Maths



Year 6 Exam Practice

and the friendly librarians help pupils to widen and develop their own particular interests. Every term each class reads a novel chosen to develop pupils' comprehension skills and the coherence and vitality of their writing. The children improve their syntax, punctuation and spelling and steadily deepen their understanding of a wide range of texts. There is a poetry week and a Shakespeare week with drama workshops, readings and discussions.

Mathematics

Pupils gain a secure grasp of the ideas and methods of the syllabus and a firm foundation in number work and its applications. They tackle an increasing range of problems and puzzles both practical and abstract, and steadily develop their skills in topics such as shape, co-ordinates, symmetry and data-handling. They are encouraged to consider the scope and the practical value of the topics studied. Those showing natural aptitude enjoy tackling more sophisticated problems and preparing for the UK Maths Challenge.

Science

In studying the wide-ranging National Curriculum syllabus, classes discuss significant concepts and topics, considering their social implications and how they may be tested experimentally. Pupils investigate topics that especially interest them, presenting their findings to the class. Their natural curiosity is stimulated by museum visits and field work. The after-school science club has an enthusiastic following.

Computing

The children learn to use computers and the internet confidently, effectively and safely. They learn keyboard and mouse skills and progress to word-processing, vector drawing and programming languages. They become proficient in core Microsoft Office programs before learning to write their own code and programs using Scratch and other software. They use computer techniques in many subjects for research, graphical presentation of data and presentation-building. There is a computer club and a Lego-Robotics club where pupils build and program their own robots.



Awards Ceremony; Head Teacher Year 3 Sport



Year 1 Story Time



Year 5 Geography

History

Our study of history helps the children to see how society has developed and it encourages a clear, effective use of English. Using books, films and the internet, pupils widen their understanding of themes discussed in class and learn to distinguish between primary and secondary sources of information. The classes visit museums and historically significant sites and we invite experts to run sessions in which the children study and handle a variety of interesting material. The older children consider and discuss the effects of historical events on literature and religion.

Geography

Both in the classroom and on educational visits, the children study salient aspects of the physical and human world. Through reading, films, map-work and discussion, pupils gain an understanding of the needs of people living in different parts of the world and of the ways in which they interact with their environment, both locally and nationally.

Religious Education

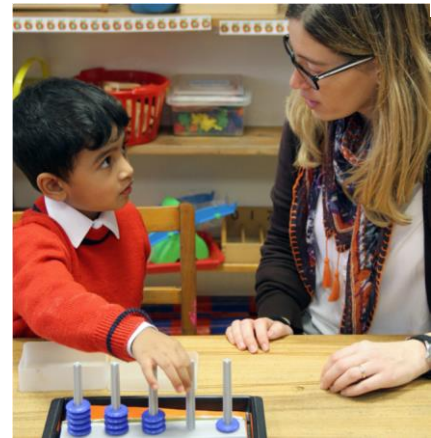
We study the beliefs and forms of worship of the main world faiths using books, the internet and the personal experience of children, parents and teachers and also through visiting places of worship. Older pupils consider the relevance of religious beliefs to personal and political issues both past and present. We fully respect pupils' beliefs and encourage them to consider the nature and significance of religious teachings.

French

Throughout the school, French is taught by specialists so that pupils gain a useful knowledge of the language and come to appreciate distinctive aspects of French culture and achievements. In French Week, the children sample French food, sing French songs and enjoy workshops and role-play in French. Year 6 pupils take an overnight trip to France. In our French and Spanish clubs, pupils can enjoy learning more about these cultures.



Year 4 English Comprehension



Nursery Maths



Nursery Pottery and Design

Music

In class the children sing in one and more parts; they learn to read music and to play the recorder and the ukulele and they hear classical, jazz and contemporary music. Singing and recorded music are important in school assemblies and in the class plays. Pupils are encouraged to join the orchestra and our junior or senior choir. Individual lessons are available in a wide range of musical instruments. Each term there is a concert involving the choirs, the orchestra and solos. In summer there is also an Eisteddfod. Enjoyable short lecture recitals are regularly given by our music staff and by visiting musicians.

Personal, Social and Health Education

The School belongs to the *PSHE Association*; it promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of pupils and seeks to prepare them for the responsibilities of citizenship. We emphasise mutual understanding, respect, courtesy and public spirit which are the basis of *The Roche Approach*.

Philosophy

Drawing on the *Philosophy for Children* programme, the older children consider significant aspects of the thought of some ancient and modern philosophers. The programme involves critical enquiry and discussion and introduces some basic philosophical terms and their implications. Pupils consider the nature of Good and Evil and arguments for the existence of God.

Art

Our well-equipped art department is led by a teacher who works locally as an artist. Pupils develop their experience and enthusiasm in skills such as drawing, painting, modelling in clay and printmaking as well as in photography, film, textiles, conceptual art and relevant aspects of art history. With imagination and persistence, the children design and make artworks for display in the School and elsewhere. A number of our pupils have won art scholarships to secondary schools. We visit art galleries and many children are keen members of our art clubs.



Year 4 Rugby



Using the Library



Year 1 Maths



Year 6 Leavers' Play



End of Term Prize-Giving

Drama

Drama is important in our English studies and every year each child takes part in their class play to which family members are warmly invited. The plays develop pupils' confidence and teamwork and their delight in costume, role-play, dancing and singing. The children play their parts with admirable vigour and commitment and we are proud of our fine acting tradition.

Sport

Sport is taught by specialists and includes Physical Education, Games and Dance.

In the Physical Education classes, younger pupils improve their strength, accuracy and co-ordination, and older pupils improve their fitness and their gymnastics skills. Children younger than Year 3 also have one weekly Dance session.

For Games, the Reception and Year 1 classes have one session per week; Year 2 has two while Years 3 - 6 each have three weekly sessions. In winter the children develop their team skills in football, netball and rugby and in summer they do rounders, cricket and athletics, with older pupils also learning tennis. Our teams regularly compete against other schools and in

tournaments involving several schools. Also there are inter-House matches, cross-country runs and clubs in fitness, netball, football, rugby, hockey, cricket, dance, judo and swimming.

Transition to Secondary Schools

Years 5 & 6 gain experience in considering the many stimulating sorts of questions that occur in the entrance examinations for secondary schools so that they become thoroughly prepared for these exams and for the accompanying interviews. Our Head Teacher and staff offer parents guidance and advice as to which secondary schools might best suit their child. The School prides itself on its strong links with the relevant schools and on the quality of the advice we are thus able to offer. Secondary schools often comment on how impressive our pupils are at interview.

Examinations

Success in examinations calls for clear, thorough teaching which helps the children to take an interest in the subject *for its own sake*, to be patient in the face of difficulties and to profit from their mistakes without fretting. The children learn to consider questions



Year 5 English



Pottery



In the Playground



Year 1 Remembrance Day Assembly



Sports Briefing

carefully and to answer them fully and accurately. They encounter a wide range of disciplines in school so that examination success takes its place among other worthy aims.

Gifted and Talented Pupils

We encourage and help pupils who have particular ability in a given area through our extra-curricular clubs, through special study programmes relating especially to literature and mathematics and by offering enhanced opportunities in artistic and other areas. There are colloquies and competitions with other schools and our able pupils much enjoy entering the UK Maths Challenge.

Learning Support

Parents or teachers who are concerned about a child's progress can consult our Special Needs Co-ordinator. Individual help can be arranged if needed and the child usually has two half-hour lessons per week with a specialist who maintains close contact with parents and teachers. Pupils whose first language is not English are taught in small groups by our specialists so that they are soon able to express themselves confidently.

Educational Outings

The children enjoy a wide range of educational visits which develop topics they have been studying and allow them valuable sporting and cultural opportunities. For example Year 6 go to France in the spring for two days, and in summer Years 5 and 6 spend four days enjoying outdoor pursuits together in the countryside. We organise an optional annual skiing week for Years 4-6.

Extra-curricular Clubs

Fitness, Netball, Football, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket, Judo, Swimming, French, Spanish, Art, Science, Computing, Lego-Robotics, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Orchestra, Ballet, Dance, Drama and Chess.

School Uniform and Lunch

School Uniform can be ordered through Perry Uniform at www.perryuniform.co.uk There are regular second-hand uniform sales throughout the year. The school provides lunches freshly cooked on the premises which are included in the cost of the fees.

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Proprietor

Carmen Roche BA was educated at the French Lycée in London and at Farnborough Hill and More House schools before studying French and Italian at King's College London. After two years teaching in Madrid, she returned to London to teach languages in tutorial schools. In 1983 she opened a Common Entrance tutorial school which became The Roche School when it moved to Wandsworth in 1988.

Proprietor

James Roche BSc, PhD was educated at St Paul's School and studied Physics at Bristol and Manchester Universities. He taught in a state school and then in London tutorial schools. He was Principal of Collingham College from 1976 to 1989 when he joined The Roche School.

Head Teacher

Vania Adams BA, MA, PGCE gained her BA in English and Drama at The Roehampton Institute, a PGCE from Middlesex University and an MA from King's College, London in collaboration with Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. She has been Head Teacher at The Roche School since 2010.

Deputy Head Teacher

Jonathan Gilbert MA, PGCE was educated at Hampton School and studied History at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. He has extensive experience in primary education and in addition to his school teaching responsibilities, he was Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator and Consultant for the Borough of Richmond for nine years. He joined The Roche School as Deputy Head in 2013.

Head of Nursery Schools

Gabriella Emery BA, Mont Dip was educated at Croydon High School and studied German at Reading University. She joined The Roche School in 1991 as a class teacher before becoming Head of Nursery Schools.

