

about working at

PRENDERGAST VALE SCHOOL

Headteacher Welcome



Edmund Coogan Headteacher

Thank you for showing an interest in joining our vibrant and engaged school here at Prendergast Vale. We are a small school, working with a big community in a dynamic way.

We are a family at Prendergast Vale with academic and personal excellence at the heart of everything we do. We are a very special community; as our school motto says 'in perpetuum discimus' - we are forever learning, and we welcome staff who are curious and passionate about how to provide the very best for the pupils and their families.

I believe this is a special place to work, somewhere you can be creative and innovative in your practice, able to bring new ideas and shape the curriculum and opportunities we provide and where your career and professional development will be nurtured. As part of a local federation of schools there's a rich opportunity for formal collaboration opportunities across the Leathersellers' family of schools.

I hope as you read through this booklet your excitement about working here grows and that you'd like to be a part of our journey to becoming an outstanding provider.

If you'd like to know more about the school do get in touch with **admin.pv@lsfed.com** to arrange a visit or speak with a member of the Headship Team.

Many thanks,



An all-through school

Prendergast Vale is a 3-16 School in the heart of Lewisham. We are a one form entry primary school and a four-form entry secondary school serving nearly 850 pupils.

Working in an all-through school is a unique and special opportunity for staff in education. We provide a high-quality education for young people and support their families from the start of foundations of their learning in Nursery/Reception all the way through to GCSE and their next steps on to in our Federation Sixth Form or apprenticeships. There are opportunities for staff across the different phases to come together and share their pedagogy and expertise and for formal collaboration around curriculum design.

We have three golden threads that run through our school; firstly, the value of creativity in our curriculum design and implementation, secondly, our ambition for high achievement for pupils across their learning journey and finally a commitment to high quality personal development for young people.







Teaching and Learning

At Prendergast Vale, we want to recruit and retain teachers aligned with our core values that make a great teacher: curiosity, kindness, community, and excellence. However, this is only part of what it means to be a teacher at our school.

We also want teachers who are committed to:

- developing themselves and engaging with our developmental processes
- reflecting on their practice
- sharing their subject knowledge and passion for their subject with pupils
- building strong pupil relationships
- supporting pupils' growth, development, and wellbeing beyond the classroom

Developing staff

We are committed to staff development because if staff are developed to be great teachers, they will secure good outcomes for our pupils. Equally, we are invested in ensuring that all staff develop professionally and meet their personal career goals.

We ensure that all teaching staff have the following:

- access to be professional learning throughout the year
- at least one development/career conversation with a member of the Headship team
- opportunities to engage with cross Federation for collaborative working
- planned opportunities to learn from other departments/phases
- the chance to take part in peer learning observations where they learn from each other across our 3-16 school

Evidence-informed and reflective practice

Being a reflective practitioner is a career-long journey. Our staff are encouraged through the professional learning offered, appraisal process and line management to reflect on their teaching practice.

We want teachers who can diagnose what elements in their lessons sparked exciting moments of deep learning and curiosity in our pupils. We are also looking for reflective teachers who recognise that all lessons can be improved and are open to self-reflection and feedback, which are integral to success at our school and ensuring the best for our pupils.

Strong relationships with students

Our pupils' well-being and educational success are at the heart of all we do at Prendergast Vale. We are unapologetic about ensuring that our pupils are taught well, respected, valued, and allowed to be their authentic selves. We speak to our pupils with kindness and do not raise our voices.

Teaching at Prendergast Vale is about more than delivering excellent lessons but also building relationships with pupils that go well beyond the classroom. Our students are developed to become well-rounded individuals through our tutor, personal development and enrichment programmes.

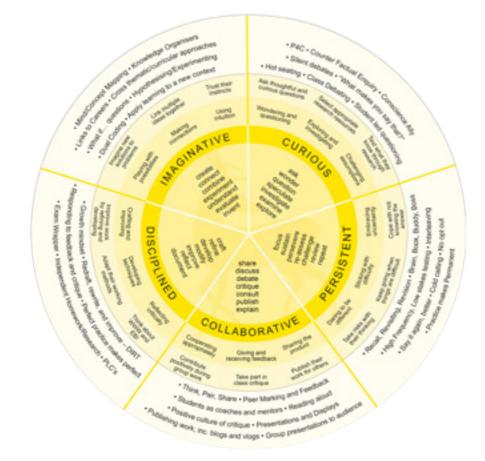
If you feel our values and core purpose are aligned, we invite you to be curious and explore our website to learn more about us.



Creativity at the Vale

At the heart of our curriculum and teaching practices is an emphasis on creativity. This has been adapted from the work of Professor Bill Lucas to fit our school context, values, and culture. Creativity is also the golden thread that runs across all three of the Federation schools.

- Curiosity
- Persistence
- Collaborative
- Disciplined
- Imaginative



Creativity will mean different things in different school, however, at Vale when we talk about valuing creativity, we are focused on five specific habits which are:

We believe that if our students can practice these and embed these habits in their academic and personal life that they will be able to thrive and become active contributors to society.

If you come and visit or work at our school you will see the habits woven through all we do in both the primary and secondary school.

"...an emphasis on creativity..."



What our students say...



Year 10

I like this school because of the opportunities they provide students, for example, Medico. Medico is a partnership between the NHS and schools, colleges and universities, allowing students to reserve a space in a medical school later in the university. This is great as it is helpful for when we leave school and may be unaware of the next steps to take in life.



Year 7

Prendergast Vale is a very good school. I really like how the members of staff talk to us and encourage us to reach our goals and become better students.



Year 6

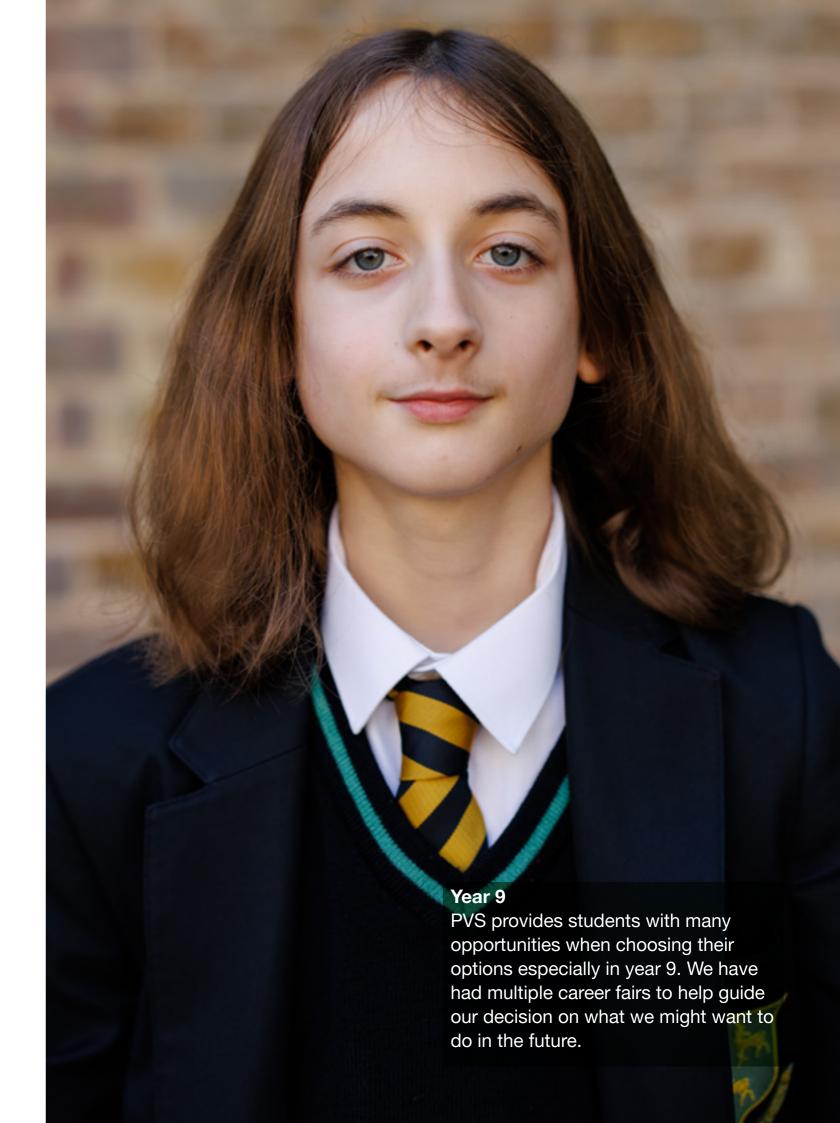
I enjoy going to Prendergast Vale Primary school because there is a very creative environment allowing children to expand their knowledge. Teachers at the school have high expectations of their students.



Year 6

Prendergast Vale Primary is an amazing school because the teachers are very encouraging.

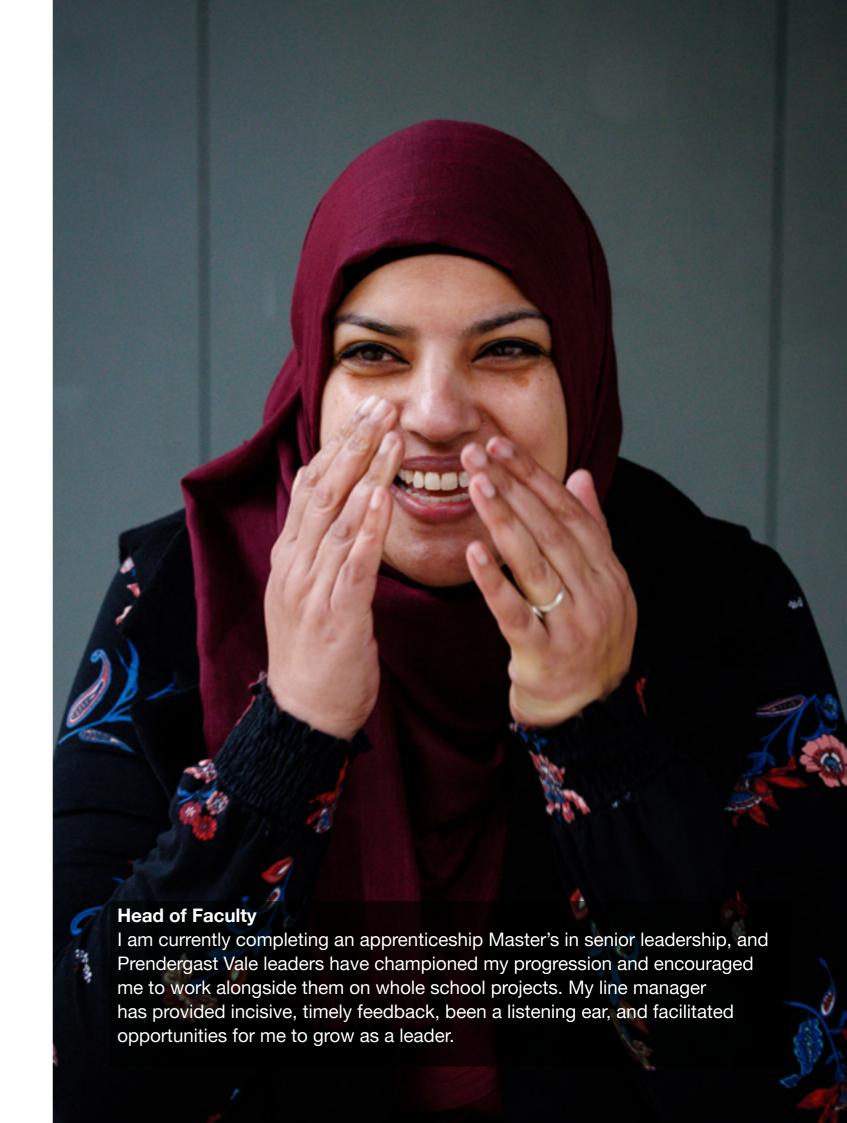
"...there are lots of activities."



Benefits of working at PVS

There are numerous benefits to working at Prendergast Vale School. Below we have taken listed just a few of them:

- Collaboration with experts across the Federation
- A supportive, hands on leadership team
- Opportunities for development, working as part of a team on whole school initiatives or taking on smaller responsibilities
- We are a small school which means you get to know all staff and students.
- Lots of opportunities to lead on areas of interest.
- Easy access to Canary Wharf and central London
- Conveniently located near Lewisham shopping centre, Sainsburys and Asda
- Small school site with a guaranteed classroom for ECTs
- All meetings take place on one day Thursdays allowing staff for work/life balance to support with well-being
- A close-knit team where we support one another
- A well-resourced school with extensive subject specific facilities





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