East London Science School
To stand on the shoulders of giants
Prospectus 2019
Dear parents and guardians

Welcome to the East London Science School, a dynamic new secondary school in Bromley-by-Bow. We have just received our first GCSE results. I am very proud of what our pupils achieved. Three of our pupils achieved 9s in all three sciences. This is an amazing achievement and bodes well for the future. I believe every child has the potential to achieve success.

We are an exciting, friendly and ambitious school for both our pupils and parents. We have offered 125 places to pupils starting in September 2019 with a waiting list for places. We work very closely on our admissions with Newham. However, we are not restricted to taking pupils from Newham. Our pupils come to us from across East London including Tower Hamlets.

What attracts pupils to the East London Science School is a commitment to deliver a high quality academic education to all pupils regardless of background or ability.

All pupils are given the same demanding curriculum from Year 7 onwards. The focus on science means all pupils receive physics, chemistry and biology lessons from specialist teachers.

What leads to mathematics, English, Languages, the arts or humanities, pupils receive the same rigorous subject specialist education.

We aim to give all our pupils a solid foundation of knowledge which they can draw up on for the rest of their lives. I want to create confident, ambitious and successful pupils who are able to pursue their dreams on the world stage.

We regularly put on Shakespeare productions, most recently Romeo and Juliet. We take part in a growing number of sports fixtures and inter-school debating competitions. There is no doubt our pupils are well on their way to success.

Our unique enrichment programme has taken pupils on well over 100 trips in the last academic year. With visits to venues as diverse as the Greenwich Observatory and Tate Modern. During Enrichment Fortnight pupils visit the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford. We have visited places as far afield as IWM Duxford and Box Hill in Surrey.

Year 7 pupils enjoyed residential trips to China, Belgium/New York and Devon with more planned.

We want to open the eyes of every pupil to a whole world of possibilities. We want our pupils’ ambitions to know no limits.

We take every opportunity to allow our pupils to hear from leading figures in science and engineering. Whether it’s attending the Royal Society Summer Exhibition or attending New Scientist Live, we want our pupils to find out what it’s like to be involved in science and engineering at first hand.

We hope you will consider entrusting your child’s education to us in the near future and find how far they can go in achieving their own ambitions.

David Perks, Principal
East London Science School

“Leaders and governors have a strong vision founded on high expectations, a science-focused curriculum and dynamic teaching. They all understand this vision and the school has made a strong start in fulfilling its aim.”

(DfE) Report 2015
Our vision

All our girls and boys will receive an excellent academic education which will rival the best on offer in public schools. We aim to give our pupils the confidence to strive for success in everything they do. We will give our pupils a unique space in which their imaginations are set free and given the chance to flourish.

Our vision is based on six principles:

1. All children deserve the best education possible. Education is about more than achieving good grades. Our aim is to show pupils that ideas have the power to shape the world we live in. We want to instill a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.

2. A “well educated” pupil must have a good science education. A science education grounded in the disciplines of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology is fundamental to knowing how we understand and shape the world we live in.

3. Good teaching is the best way to open a child’s mind. We expect all our teachers to engage our pupils by intellectually challenging them and bringing knowledge of everything from the sciences, arts and languages to life.

4. The best pupils are open to questioning their own thought. A true measure of a critical thinker is his or her ability to accept criticism. Through knowledge of the beliefs of others, our pupils will be encouraged to develop a stronger sense of their own beliefs.

5. Pupils should be encouraged to nurture their talents and develop new skills. We will foster our pupils’ talents in the arts, sports and debate to create a space for all our pupils to thrive. Our technical education will give pupils the knowledge and skills necessary for careers in high-tech industries.

6. We can judge our success by the impact our pupils have on the world. By understanding that ideas have the power to change the way we think and act, our pupils will be encouraged to take responsibility for shaping their own destiny and the future of others.

“...The school’s strategy of grouping the most-able students into separate classes allows teachers to plan for high levels of challenge and enquiry, and the subsequent high levels of achievement made by students reflects this.”

Ofsted Report 2015
Enrichment

London is our classroom.

We live in one of the greatest cities in the world. We make sure our pupils have the opportunity to experience everything that London has to offer and more besides. Our enrichment curriculum gives lower school pupils an afternoon out in London every week. Whether they are learning portrait sketching in the Wallace Collection or visiting the Great Equatorial Telescope at Greenwich, it is this first-hand access to such prized venues that sets their imaginations alight.

From Year 9 on pupils have the chance to hear guest speakers along with a program of visits and activities designed to complement their GCSE courses. The speakers are invited to inspire and challenge pupils and to make them think more deeply about topics as varied as scientific research and journalism.

In Years 10 and 11 we emphasise independent learning with pupils able to choose projects and pursue their own research. This culminates in the submission of a short thesis addressing a question the pupil has researched.

Our Enrichment Fortnight is a very special part of the calendar. During this time we suspend the normal curriculum and offer visits out of beyond London.

We are proud to be able to offer Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award to all our Year 9 pupils as part of this programme. This year Year 9 raised £3200 for the London Air Ambulance charity and Great Ormond Street Hospital as part of our Young Apprentice competition. Pupils were tasked with the challenge to raise as much money as they could in a single day. They did a fantastic job.

This unique programme has helped to expand the horizons of every child in our school.
This school was founded in order to create the next generation of scientists and engineers. For that reason, a rigorous scientific education is at the heart of our curriculum.

Science, mathematics & computer science

Physics, Chemistry & Biology
We have a team of seven specialist teachers, two technicians and four science laboratories.

All pupils study physics, chemistry and biology as specialist subjects from Year 7. There is a strong emphasis on laboratory based teaching. We want pupils to do as much hands on science experimental work as possible throughout the course. In Year 7 pupils learn about cosmology, forces and motion, electricity and optics in physics. In chemistry pupils quickly pick up basic atomic theory, elements and compounds, acids and alkalis and chemical reactions. Biology starts with Darwin’s theory of evolution, cells, classification and genetics.

All pupils will be entered for GCSE physics, chemistry and biology. Pupils study AQA GCSE Physics, Chemistry and Biology from Year 9.

Mathematics
Our approach to mathematics assumes every child can succeed.

Mathematics is central to the success of the school. We want all our pupils to become confident mathematicians. We never accept the excuse “I can’t do mathematics.” We push for rigour, fluency and problem solving from the start of Year 7. We expect all our pupils to become fluent in mental arithmetic.

Year 7 pupils will build on the expectation of a thorough grasp of basic arithmetic and progress on towards a greater understanding of algebra, data handling and geometry.

Our pupils from Year 7 and 8 did very well in the Junior Maths Challenge again last year. Pupils study AQA GCSE Mathematics from Year 9.

Computer science
From coding to robotics, we give all pupils a solid foundation in understanding modern technology.

Every pupil learns to code from Year 7 onwards starting HTML and Javascript in Year 7. In Year 8 pupils move onto Java and App Inventor.

A knowledge of the fundamentals of algorithms and syntax is the basis for progressing to the applied use of coding. Pupils program robotics using Lego Mindstorms and games using Scratch on the Raspberry Pi. A knowledge of the fundamentals of algorithms and syntax is the basis for progressing to the applied use of coding. Pupils program robotics using Lego Mindstorms and games using Scratch on the Raspberry Pi.

Later they make 3D environments on the Unity game engine. Pupils also learn industry standard software graphics packages as well as 3D design and video and special effects editing.

Pupils can choose to study AQA GCSE Computer Science in Year 9 building on the work they have done in Years 7 and 8. Pupils study AQA GCSE Computer Science in Year 9 building on the work they have done in Years 7 and 8.
History, geography, religious education

The school prides itself on the strength of its humanities offer. All our pupils study History, Geography and RE in Year 7. In Year 8 we also offer Economics.

History
From the classical period to the modern day, our pupils get a powerful grounding in this subject. We also study the modern period including the Great War, World War II and the Cold War alongside the rise and fall of the British Empire.

Geography
Geography is taught with an emphasis on physical geography and field work. Geography is built around a core knowledge of both physical geography and human geography. Pupils study at everything from understanding the natural processes that shape the landscape we inhabit to the concept of urban design and the impact that human industry and invention has had on this city.

Religious education
Religious education is about studying the main religions by examining the key texts. Religious education is about studying the main religions by examining the key texts.

English, modern foreign languages, classics

English
English literature is taught with an emphasis on the canon.

Grammar
Grammar is taught across all languages. Pupils are taught literature with an emphasis on reading whole books. All pupils study Latin and a modern foreign language in Year 7.

Literature teaches us about human emotions in a way no other medium can. To read is to share the emotions of not just the author but of humanity. Whether it is Shakespeare’s tragic heroes or the steam of Beowulf’s sacrifice in slaying the monster, horsemanship and courage are at the heart of what we try to help our pupils understand from our own literature. Literature gives our imagination the chance to soar.

Modern foreign languages
We offer pupils a choice of studying French, German or Spanish at GCSE.

We hold out the ambition for every pupil to learn a modern foreign language up to GCSE. Our languages team delivers language strangers from Year 7 upwards to pupils being able to learn a language. We place a strong emphasis on pupils being able to use their language. We hold pupils the chance to study more than one language before choosing to focus on their chosen languages in Year 8 which they will continue to study towards GCSE.

Classics
Classics is taught with a strong emphasis on learning Latin.

All pupils study Classics in Years 7 and 8, which gives them the chance to understand the two great ancient traditions from which Western European culture continues to develop. Classics is taught with a strong emphasis on learning Latin. Pupils get the opportunity to study a range of Classical literature, including Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey, Sappho’s Metamorphoses and Virgil’s Aeneid.

In Year 9 pupils study the Greek philosopher Pythagoras, reading the ideas of the Greek mathematician and scientist Euclid. Classics is taught with a strong emphasis on learning Latin. Pupils get the opportunity to study a range of Classical literature, including Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey, Sappho’s Metamorphoses and Virgil’s Aeneid.

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Sports and arts

Sports

Pupils learn a wide range of sports and enjoy competing with other schools. Whether it be development of leaner sports or individual performances, sports participation is something every child finds rewarding. Sports teaching is based on a coaching model, with the emphasis on learning particular sports and pushing the pupils to excel. Whether it is swimming or athletics we expect entries to participate and improve. Basic skills are taught as the platform used to gain experience in sports as diverse as rugby and racing. We have already begun to make our mark in Newham with success in athletics.

Art and Photography

Art and Photography are very popular at GCSE. Art takes hard work and knowledge to achieve mastery over. We begin by developing pupils' abilities to draw using perspective and lighting. Our work on portraiture encourages a knowledge of human form, by developing an eye for detail pupils enhance their ability to draw and paint. Outside the classroom, pupils have the chance to visit galleries from the Courtauld to the Wallace Collection. They have the chance to learn from some of the world's greatest masterpieces at first hand.

Music

In all years pupils are taught music from Year 7. We want performance to be at the centre of pupils' experience of music. We are making the choir a major focus for our development of music this year. All pupils will be expected to be involved in music performance at some stage in their career with us. Even our office manager is a trained organist and our Head of Year 9 is an opera singer. We start our curriculum with a focus on pupils' ability to read music. All pupils are taught keyboards, an appreciation of music genres and an introduction to music technology. If pupils have a particular instrument they wish to pursue, we work with Newham Music to facilitate this.

Ethics, public speaking and debating

Ethics

Ethics allows pupils to explore the choices we all make about how to live a good life. We explore issues from terrorism to cyber bullying, all within the context of encouraging pupils to debate their ideas.

Ethics is taught with a grounding in normative philosophy and an emphasis on debate. From Socrates to John Stuart Mill we ask pupils to consider some of the greatest thinkers have approached the question of what it means to live a good life. By examining the philosophical arguments of the past we are better placed to understand our own ideas. We examine what makes a good public speaker starting with Aristotle's rhetoric and using famous speeches from the past to inform us. We also look at the logic of arguments and formal and informal fallacies. This teaches pupils to avoid traps in their arguments. We tackle some of the key moral dilemmas that face pupils from war and conflict to the clash between religious and scientific beliefs. This is very popular and gives pupils the opportunity to compete in external competitions like the Mock Trial Competition.

Public speaking and debating is something we place a great emphasis on for every child. Our aim is to create confident and articulate speakers. We hold annual school debating competitions for each year group. We want pupils to be able to present their ideas both to a group of their peers and to an audience of their peers. We also encourage pupils to compete in external competitions. We have already begun to make our mark in Newham with success in rugby and athletics.

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Sports
Pupils are placed into five tutor groups. Each tutor group is named after a renowned scientist, medic or engineer. In Year 7, pupils have all their lessons in their tutor group. The tutor groups are selected on the basis of academic ability. Children are tested regularly and move groups based on their rank in English, mathematics and science.

Celebrating success

Our prize giving celebration was held at the Genesis Cinema in Mile End. We recognised the academic achievements of pupils from across the school. Each subject gives a prize for the pupil who stands out for their achievements over the year. The prizes reflect both success in the End of Year examinations and the effort and progress pupils made throughout the year.

The prize winners deserve praise for all their efforts this year. However, all our pupils can take great satisfaction from the success of their peers as this reflects on the success of the whole school. We strive to push our pupils to achieve more than they think they can possibly do. In doing so we give every pupil the chance to achieve their goals.

Special prizes were awarded to pupils who made contributions to the school as a whole through their outstanding efforts and commitment. This was also a chance to reflect on what we have all achieved throughout the year. We asked Lily and Gabriel from Year 8 to give us their take on the highs and lows of an extraordinary year.

Scholarly Behaviour

Hard work and a positive attitude is the secret to success. We have the highest expectations of every pupil regardless of their background or ability.children are judged by the quality and quantity of work they produce. Failure to live up to these expectations will mean that pupils will need to put more time and effort in after school so they don’t fall behind.

We demand high standards of behaviour in and out of lessons including journeys to and from school. We are very strict on punctuality and appearance. Pupils are checked on arrival at school and will not be admitted unless the uniform is worn correctly. Senior children are expected to behave appropriately when moving around school.

Pupils must be on time and in their uniform for breakfast and lessons. Pupils who are late have to make up the time they have missed and may be barred from lessons.

We have high expectations of all pupils and work hard to develop their academic and personal skills. Our aim is to ensure that all pupils achieve their full potential in all areas of the curriculum.

We also believe that pupils should be encouraged to work together and to support each other. This is why we have a strong sense of community at East London Science School. We encourage pupils to take an active role in managing pupils’ progress. The year teams work closely with staff and parents to ensure all barriers to learning are addressed.
As part of enrichment fortnight, all Year 9 and 10 pupils were given the opportunity to visit Geneva, Switzerland.

Our pupils visited the city for two days and managed to fit in a full tour, visiting the 140m tall fountain, taking a boat across the lake, walking around the historic city streets and along the lakefront to the Geneva History of Science Museum, ending at the Palais de Nations where we toured around the United Nation's chambers.

The visit to CERN gave pupils an insight into the most advanced research in theoretical and nuclear physics as it is truly humbling to walk where some of the greatest physicists in the world have spent large parts of their working lives collaborating with other scientists, and to be shown around the site by an up coming scientist. Our tour included a visit to the Large Hadron Collider's ATLAS detector control room, the very first particle accelerator that CERN built and used for research. It was eye-opening to see the difference in technology used in the 1950s compared to now, with all of our current reliance on computers replaced by dials, buttons, needle meters and oscilloscope screens.
Our Governors

Dear Parents and Guardians

It was exciting to become Chair of the Governing Body at a crucial time in the development of the school and, along with the other governors, to be able to support the Principal, the staff and pupils through their first set of GCSE results. I am pleased to be able to say that East London Science School now has a good set of results behind us. There is still work to do but we are excited to build a strong educational culture for all pupils has become a reality. I am also proud to be able to welcome pupils to our newly opened sixth form this year. All of my fellow governors are highly professional individuals with the knowledge, skills and experience to ensure all the pupils in the school have the best educational opportunity, not just in London but nationally.

The role of the governors is to uphold the unique, knowledge-based vision of the school. We do this by supporting and challenging the principal and the staff to ensure that all pupils can achieve their highest potential.

The governing body promise that we will provide the guidance and support to the school that is required to ensure that pupils develop, ambitious and happy. Above all else, we want our pupils to become adults who will use their knowledge and understanding to make a real difference in the world. That is the reason why your child should join us at the East London Science School.

Beth Davies, Chair of Governors
East London Science School
Whole school science lectures

Every year we invite a number of high-profile working scientists to talk to the entire school about their specific areas of research. These are signature events for the school where pupils of all ages can hear first-hand from leading experts in their field. There is no better way to understand what science is than to hear about it from someone at the cutting edge of the subject. Recent whole school lectures have been given by the following prominent scientists:

- Professor Lord Robert Winston, Professor of Science and Society and Emeritus Professor of Fertility Studies, Imperial College London.
- Professor Chris Stringer, Natural History Museum physical anthropologist noted for his work on human evolution.
- Dr James Cheshire, Associate Professor, Geographical Information Systems, University College London.
- Dame Mary Archer, Chairman of the Science Museum Group.
- Sophie Robinson, Rotary wing flight test engineer, Royal Air Force.
- Professor Nick Lane, Professor in evolutionary biochemistry at University College London.
- Dr Cerri Brenner, Award winning Laser-plasma physics researcher, STFC Central Laser Facility.
- Professor Steve Hartridge, Professor of Human & Applied Physiology, Kings College London.

Prospectus 2019

GCSE Results

The school received its first set of the new and more rigorous GCSE results in summer 2018. These were the first set of results for the school in its history. On this historic day for the school, our hard-working pupils showed they had bought into the vision of hard work and subject excellence.

The results demonstrated that our pupils were competitors against the best local and national standards and were out scoring them. These were also a real sign of how we can raise the educational bar for young East Londoners.

Three of our pupils achieved straight 9’s in Physics, Chemistry and Biology, and 36% of all pupils achieved at least one of the top 8 or 9 grades. Almost all English Language/Literature subjects saw 50% or more of pupils achieving grades 7 and above, contributing to an EBacc score of 28%. We are also one of the top performing schools in the local area, such as Latin, History and Geography. With our English and Maths pass rates at 98%, this is already making us one of the top performing schools in the local area.

Our staff have already started working on our next set of exams coming up in summer 2019, with the added incentive of our new Sixth Form.
New York Great Books Study Trip July 2018

As part of our world class Great Books curriculum, ELSS pupils were lucky enough to have a residential study trip to Columbia University and CUNY in New York in July 2018. It was wonderful to study where others such as ex-president Barack Obama had been students. Each year, Great Books pupils from all our groups selected some of the greatest books ever written, and gain insight into the minds that partook in them. They read and discuss these books in a seminar format and become familiar with the style of studying all of the world’s finest universities. Each year pupils studied core American texts. These included Jefferson’s Declaration of Independence, Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, Federalist Paper and King’s famous ‘I have a dream’ speech. Pupils also passionately debated topics such as New York being the greatest city in the world; and ‘Is it really self-evident that all men are created equal?’

The trip also offered a wide range of visitor opportunities including Greenwich Village, the American Museum of Natural History, the Empire State Building, the Federalist papers, and the Statue of Liberty. And our pupils still had time to play baseball in Central Park!

With the continuing support of these two great universities, we hope to return again to New York, a truly inspirational setting for our pupils desire to know.

Shanghai exchange

Our pupils are privileged to be involved in an established exchange programme with partner Chinese schools. ELSS hosts numerous Chinese exchange groups, whilst large numbers of Years 9 and 10 pupils get the opportunity to explore and experience China on a reciprocal visit every year. In April 2018, 30 of our pupils were hosted by four different, top performing private schools in Shanghai. It was a real eye-opener for our pupils to stay in local homes, being immersed in Chinese culture, food, people and education. Our partner schools were exemplary hosts, providing activities including kung fu, tai chi, drone flying, dragon boat racing, pottery, calligraphy, basketball, aquarium-keeping and Chinese cookery.

Our pupils were extremely well looked after by their host families, who took them sightseeing to memorable locations, experiencing the delicious local cuisine. Pupils got to explore the ultra-modern city of Shanghai, with numerous shopping opportunities and memorable tourist attractions.

Pupils are encouraged to keep in contact with their buddies and many of the Chinese pupils have already made return visits to ELSS as part of the programme. Members of staff from ELSS are also regularly invited to China to speak at conferences and train Chinese teachers.
Careers

Careers is the link between school and the world of work, between pupils’ future and an academic subject and their potential future careers. The average parent expects their child to have a safe life at work and yet many still end up doing something they never envisaged. Through personalised one-on-one career advice, employer surgeries, understanding labour market information, apprenticeship talks and fairs, pupils are prepped for their future.

The taught careers curriculum

The taught careers curriculum is designed to promote with competencies they can put straight on their CV, for instance by writing for, designing, marketing or developing a sales strategy for the school newspaper, The ELSS Herald. Courses in market research and business planning, university options and apprenticeships, develop pupils’ professionalism and the drive they will need to succeed in life.

Employer partnerships

There is a growing list of partnered organisations working with the school on work experience placements:

• Careers Fairs (both in school and attending national career events)
• Entrepreneurship - training for self-employment
• Work experience placements - either one or two weeks full time or one afternoon per week for the whole of year 10 (more than one placement is possible)
• University mentoring sessions and visits
• Employer workshops and workplace visits
• Careers Fairs (both in school and attending national career events)
• Entrepreneurship - training for self-employment
• Work experience placements - either one or two weeks full time or one afternoon per week for the whole of year 10 (more than one placement is possible)
• University mentoring sessions and visits

As well as, entitling pupils to Free School Meals this allows pupils access to help with transport for uniform and residential and any other costs incurred through school activities.

Our aim is to ensure no child is deterred opportunities because of financial difficulties. If a parent needs any advice please arrange to come to school and discuss your situation.

Holidays

Our term dates are published on the school website. Please check the published term dates before booking family holidays. We rarely authorise absences in term time. Booking family holidays in term time to reduce the cost is not an acceptable reason.

Attendance

Your child’s attendance at school is your responsibility. We expect parents to inform us of the reasons for absence on the day of absence. Unauthorised attendance will result in a request for a meeting with the attendance officer to justify your child’s absence. In extreme circumstances this could lead to the imposition of a fine.

Detentions

We hold pupils to a high standard of scholarly behaviour. When a pupil fails to meet these expectations they may receive a detention after school. The school informs parents of any detentions set on the day they are issued.

How to apply

All applications should be made through the pupil’s home borough as part of the Pan-London admissions process. We are formally in-lawham but applications from out of borough are welcome and can be made on the Pan-London admissions website or through your local borough application form. We recommend using the Pan-London admissions website so you can be sure your application is submitted promptly. The Pan-London admissions website will open on 1st September 2018 for the next round of admissions and close at midnight on Wednesday 31st October. If successful you will receive an offer of a place from the school on national offer day which is Friday 1st March 2019. The Pan-London admissions website is www.eadmissions.org.uk.
Our school campus

**The Clock Mill**  Lower school - Years 7, 8 and 9
The Clock Mill, Three Mill Lane, Bromley-by-Bow, London E3 3DL.
We are situated 5 minutes walk from Bromley-by-Bow tube station behind Tesco car parks on Three Mills Island next to 3 Mills Studios.
The site is well served by buses and DLR. Buses 488 from Dalston and DLR from Stratford Station both stop outside the Tesco store. Devon’s Road DLR station is a 12 minute walk from the school. There is no direct access by car and no parking on site.

**Lock Keepers** Upper school - Years 10 and 11
We are very pleased with the effort the DfE have put into opening our new site for Upper School pupils. This has given us extra dedicated facilities for the sciences, art and computer sciences.
Lock Keepers is a 10 minute walk from The Clock Mill along the canal path. The 488, D8 and 323 bus stops are close by. Bromley-by-Bow tube is less than 10 minutes walk from Lock Keepers.

**Stephenson Street** New school opens in 2020
We are very excited about the design for our permanent site which was produced by the architects firm Sheppard Robson. The school will be purpose built for 1000 pupils with excellent facilities totally in keeping with the vision of the school.
Work has now begun on our new site. We will ensure parents and pupils are kept informed of progress with the work on the final site as it progresses.
OPEN DAY - VISIT US!
Saturday September 29th 10am until 12pm at The Clock Mill
Open Evening Thursday October 4th 5pm until 8pm at The Clock Mill

Book a visit any Thursday morning in term time to meet the Principal and visit the school
Contact us on 020 8981 2680