



Ark Soane
Academy







Principal's Welcome

.....

Welcome to Ark Soane Academy, a new, non-selective secondary school opening in Ealing in September 2020.

Ark has opened four new schools in North London in the last ten years (King Solomon Academy, Ark Academy, Ark Isaac Newton Academy and Ark John Keats Academy) and all have been judged Outstanding by Ofsted.

Ark Soane aims to continue with this tradition, and like all Ark schools is formed around six core ideas:

- Excellent behaviour
- A curriculum that enables student mastery of learning so all students can achieve exceptional results
- High quality teaching
- Development of student character and forming strong habits
- Raising student aspirations so they seek to achieve to their fullest potential
- Developing our teachers to become leaders in education.

Ark Soane Academy will be a school where children are supported by dedicated, caring adults to fulfil their potential. A challenging curriculum, well taught, with teachers who are curriculum experts and know students' individual strengths and areas for development, will ensure children leave Soane qualified to enter the best universities, or pursue their careers of choice.

We believe in the limitless potential of children and their power to shape their futures. Our curriculum will provide a solid foundation to develop students' knowledge and provoke their curiosity and interest in further study. A programme of enrichment built into our longer school day will enable all pupils to broaden their horizons and discover their passions.

The learning environment at Ark Soane Academy will be calm and purposeful; a place where pupils develop habits for success and become kind, caring individuals who are self-motivated, self-disciplined, driven to excel, and keen to help others succeed. We will expect all pupils to work hard and behave impeccably to maximise their time for learning.

Our founding cohort of 180 year 7 students will benefit from being the only year group in our first year, and have the opportunity to build something unique and lasting in Ealing. If the idea of a school with high standards of behaviour and a challenging academic curriculum to enable all students to excel appeals to you, please come along to our open events to find out more.





Vision

.....

Three central ideas will underpin every decision we make at the school:

1. Impeccable student behaviour is possible and desirable.
2. A challenging curriculum full of powerful knowledge changes lives.
3. There are no limits to student achievement.

1. Impeccable behaviour

We will expect impeccable behaviour from Soane students. In the classroom, students will be expected to follow all instructions first time, every time, without comment. Silence is golden at Soane: not only in lessons, but also in corridors. Silent corridors will enable students to move rapidly between lessons, giving them more time for learning, as well as ensuring children feel safe in all parts of the school.

2. A curriculum full of challenge

All children have the right to access the best that has been thought and said. All children will have access to a canon of thought that has shaped the Western world, no matter their prior attainment levels. An appropriately timetabled school day is the way to ensure all children enjoy a curriculum we would want our own children to learn. Building academic options for enrichment into our curriculum means that

there are always opportunities for even the most advanced students to learn new knowledge and discover new ideas.

3. Limitless potential

We don't believe that past performance predicts future potential in academic exams. We don't even believe that current performance presents the limit of what children can do. Instead, we believe in hard work and the power of children to change their futures through their own effort. We know that hard work and an excellent record of school attendance are strongly correlated with academic success. At Ark Soane Academy, every single child will be challenged to work really, really hard. That's because we will never compare ourselves to children in the next row or the next classroom. Instead, we will strive to achieve the very top grades academically from day one.

Curriculum

.....

Like all Ark schools, the curriculum at Soane will be highly academic. We make no apologies for wanting every child to learn core academic subjects. We expect almost everyone to study the following to GCSE level: English, Maths, Science, History or Geography, and a foreign language.



That is not to say that we only care about academic subjects at Soane; far from it. After all, we take our name from the most famous architect in British history: Sir John Soane.



John Soane, the son of a bricklayer, made his legacy through his art: in his case, designing innovative buildings like the Bank of England and the Dulwich Picture Gallery. Soane students will experience a rich and varied education in the arts, technologies and sport. Furthermore, we so believe in enrichment that we will build this into the school timetable, to ensure every child who attends Soane gets to choose something extra-curricular to pursue.

Enrichment

.....

One of the core purposes of school is to broaden children's horizons. To that end, enrichment is not an added extra at Soane. We run a longer school day so we can put enrichment on the timetable. Our aim with enrichment is to provide students with a broader educational

experience, and to enable them to have an aspect of choice in their education.

Your child will have a choice of enrichment options to sign up to each term. These will encompass sport, dance, cooking, the school newspaper, music, art, drama, Economics, Psychology, creative writing, coding and language learning, and many more. They will have the option to choose differently every term.

School trips will also be an enriching experience. Soane students will be regularly taken to some of London's leading museums and art galleries, as well as top universities to broaden their horizons for the future.

School day

.....

The school day is longer, because we want to offer a broad and balanced curriculum which takes academic success seriously as well as the arts and sport. In order to have the opportunity to really succeed in subjects, we believe students need to have time from year 7 spent on that subject. That is why we will have a lesson of English, Maths and Science every day. Students will study History, Geography or RE every day. All students will have the chance to learn a modern foreign language. In addition, students will study Art, Music and PE, as well as having timetabled enrichment sessions.

Students will see their form tutor twice a day, in the morning for key notices and to give them a pep talk to set them up for the day, and for a longer session in the afternoon. This afternoon session will encompass PSHE learning, as well as guided class reading of a range of age-appropriate books.

Lunch is just over one hour long. 30 minutes of this will be dedicated to eating a family lunch together. Children will be placed on tables and serve one another food, unless they have opted to bring a packed lunch, in which case they eat their own food but still on an allocated table with their classmates. Teachers will guide students through a daily reflection and conversation at lunch time, and children will have a daily opportunity to share their appreciation for the kindness of their classmates following lunch.



Facilities

.....

Year 1 facilities

Our smaller building will be open and ready for use for September 2020. This will contain 11 fully functioning classrooms, an art room, music practice rooms, a theatre (which will double as our PE studio, dining and assembly hall), library and science laboratory. We will have a courtyard area to use during break and lunchtime, and additional limited outdoor space for PE.

Year 2 facilities

Our second, larger, building will be finished by the time our first cohort of students reaches year 8. Although this will not be fully used until we have seven year groups, it will contain the full complement of classrooms from September 2021. We will also have a sports hall, an outdoor mixed use games area, and plenty of outdoor space for our eventual student body of 1,200.

www.xxxxxxxxxxxxx.org

 @ArkXXXXX