



CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY





HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Welcome to Claremont High School Academy
– an outstanding Academy for students aged 11 to 19.

The Claremont ethos is unashamedly achievement focused and we value excellence, respect, aspiration, enjoyment and perseverance as the attributes that all of our learners need to reach their full potential. We are committed to working with parents, students and all of our stakeholder partners to lay the foundations for lifelong success.

At Claremont High School Academy we pride ourselves on our status as a high achieving and outstanding educational organisation. Students at Claremont make outstanding progress and they achieve excellent results across all three of the key stages.

They are able to achieve excellent results because we set the highest expectations in learning and behaviour for all students and we provide them with a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum that meets their needs and aspirations.

This curriculum is planned and delivered by a body of outstanding teachers and supported by a range of specialisms encompassing Mathematics, Music, Technology and the Arts.

I am genuinely excited by what Claremont can offer your child. I am equally secure in my belief that Claremont can maintain its position as an outstanding Academy responsive to and serving the needs of its local community. In making the decision to send your child to Claremont you are choosing an Academy that is not only very highly regarded within Brent and West London but also has a national profile.

This prospectus will give you an insight into our vibrant, nurturing, high achieving and inclusive learning environment that is the Claremont experience. By visiting us you will be able to see firsthand that Claremont is truly an outstanding Academy.

I look forward to meeting you soon.



F.T. Molloy
HEADTEACHER

OUR ETHOS

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR LIFELONG ACHIEVEMENT

Claremont High School Academy is at the heart of its multicultural community, providing outstanding education for 11-19 year old students of all abilities.

Our aim is to prepare our students to realise their full potential. In partnership with parents/carers and the wider community, we also aim to promote the individual progress and well-being of all students and to help them work towards excellence in academic, social and cultural activities.

Claremont offers a structured learning environment, providing students with experiences that are relevant to adult life and essential in preparing them to take their place as responsible members of the community.

Above all, we encourage achievement and we expect the highest standards of behaviour and excellence in the academic and social development of all our students.

Claremont rules are outlined in a document entitled Behaviour For Learning Policy, which is issued to students on arrival at the school and is included in the Handbook for parents and students. Students also have a copy of the Code of Conduct in their student planner.

At Claremont we promote:

- **Enjoyment:** providing a safe and secure environment where individual learners thrive as confident, independent and informed citizens of the future.
- **Perseverance:** providing challenging and rigorous standards of academic achievement, enabling students to make choices for future learning based on a range of academic and applied skills.
- **Aspiration:** providing a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum through innovative and quality teaching, strengthened by our exciting and stimulating specialisms.
- **Respect:** fostering genuine community cohesion and a set of traditional values based on discipline and mutual respect, where we value the unique contributions of parents and carers.
- **Excellence:** appointing the best staff who are innovative, skilled and whose enthusiasm for facing the challenges of education in the 21st century is unparalleled.

"The best thing about Claremont is the opportunities it presents to me, as well as the fantastic sense of community which I am able to be part of on a daily basis." **Year 12 student**



AN OUTSTANDING ENRICHED CURRICULUM



Claremont is justifiably proud of an outstanding curriculum that is the cornerstone of our commitment to meeting the needs of all of our students. The curriculum is underpinned by creative and challenging teaching and outstanding enrichment through a responsive specialist provision and personalised activities, so that students are consistently challenged academically and socially.

We provide specialised programmes in Mathematics, the Sciences, Performing Arts with a very specialised focus on Music and musical ability, and a highly developed approach to vocational learning.

Our specialist approach for Mathematics and Computing has enabled us to:

- Maintain an excellent staff-to-student ratio ensuring that teaching groups at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 remain small and with personalised teaching;
- Establish accelerated and early entry for GCSE and AS students;
- Consistently offer Further Mathematics to our most able students;
- Develop computing courses alongside the ICT courses that we have traditionally offered at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4;
- Develop extra-curricular activities giving students experiences beyond the classroom;
- Use innovative software to engage a wide range of students.

As a result, students excel in GCSE and A Level Mathematics with a significant number achieving the coveted A* grade.

We have maintained a specialised approach for the delivery of Science and Claremont has consistently delivered excellent outcomes in Triple Science at GCSE and A Level. Many of our students aspire to careers in Medicine and related professions and their hard work has been rewarded with places at the very best universities and medical training colleges.

Performing and Visual Arts are established at the heart of our commitment to enrich the lives and learning of all of our students. Many of our highest achieving and most creative students have benefited from nurturing their love of the Arts and Claremont has consistently achieved local and national recognition as a centre of excellence. We are one of ten schools/academies nationally to collaborate with the Royal Shakespeare Company and lead on the teaching of Shakespeare in West London.

The quality of vocational provision at Claremont is equally impressive with students accessing life-changing programmes across a range of subjects. Vocational education offers every student the opportunity to achieve, giving access to alternative pathways and clear progression routes to further education and employment. Because of our willingness to embrace this alternative and rigorous specialised provision we have been able to support students in acquiring the skills and understanding that they have needed to be successful young adults in the workplace.

"Teachers are kind and supportive. Everyone helps you to settle in quickly and overcome any difficulties you may have." **Year 7 student**

Our outstanding curriculum offers an exciting, rich, diverse and broad course of study, to help develop students' skills for all aspects of learning. Once a term, the timetable is modified to give students the opportunity to experience learning beyond the syllabus in a wide range of subjects. These are known as 'Deep Learning Days'. Additionally, the curriculum is adapted each year to meet the learning needs of students effectively and to ensure that the highest possible number of students achieve optimum success.

The curriculum is highly personalised to each student and matched closely to their needs, skills, ambitions and interests.

Key Stage 3

All students follow a common curriculum, including core and foundation subjects:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Computing
- Art
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- Drama
- Dance
- Technology
- Geography
- History
- German
- French
- Music

Key Stage 4

All students follow two-year GCSE courses in English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education. Students also choose further additional subjects from options that include History, German, French, Sociology, Geography, Physical Education, Drama, Textiles, and a range of vocational courses, such as BTECs in Sport, Business and Hospitality and Catering.

At Claremont over 85% of our Key Stage 4 students are guided to study the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). In addition to this we have over 100 students opting for Triple Science each year.

Religious Education

Religious Education (RE) is compulsory at Claremont. The approach used in the study of RE at Claremont is one which emphasises the spiritual and sacred nature of all faith traditions and considers in breadth the major world religions to try to give students a better understanding of religion. All students study RE to GCSE level and a large number go on to study it at A Level.



"The rich and vibrant curriculum provides students with a wide range of subjects and qualification pathways that is extremely well matched to their needs..." **Ofsted 2010**



OUTSTANDING EXAMINATION RESULTS

GCSE

Claremont High School Academy has consistently achieved outstanding GCSE results, with 84% of students achieving five or more GCSE passes at A*-C, significantly above both national and Brent figures. Over 75% of our year 11 students achieved A*-C grades in English Language, Mathematics or two Sciences.

Highlights:

- Categorised as outstanding by Ofsted in 2010
- Categorised as outstanding in a HMI subject inspection review in March 2012
- Categorised as an 'Outstanding Academy' By Brent, 2013
- 84% of students achieved five or more GCSE passes at A*-C
- 67 students achieved five or more A* or A grades
- 31% of grades were A* or A, with 23 students achieving at least 10 A* or A in passes in GCSE

A Level

- 13 students achieving at least two A* or A grades at A Level
- 99% of year 13 achieving at least two A Level passes (or equivalent)
- 46% of A Level grades achieved were A*-B
- 75% of A Level grades achieved were A*-C
- 98% of students secured a place at University
- 20 students achieved ABB or better
- Over three quarters of Level 3 Btec grades at Distinction* or Distinction



"Students reach significantly above-average levels of attainment overall and in English and Mathematics."

Ofsted 2010

OUTSTANDING LEARNING AT CLAREMONT

At Claremont we recognise that Teaching and Learning is the core purpose for staff and students. We ensure that the learning experiences of all our students are outstanding and that appropriate provision is made for all of their learning needs. We pride ourselves on an inclusive education where staff thoroughly plan engaging, challenging and inspirational lessons to ensure the best possible outcomes for all.

Staff training days throughout the year focus on developing Teaching and Learning practices, with an emphasis on the learning needs of our students. Wednesday afternoons are used for training sessions; the key focus for this training is Teaching and Learning, including sessions such as Stretching The Most Able, Demonstrating Progress in Lessons and Effective Marking. This focus on Teaching and Learning remains consistent throughout the year with cross-curricular meetings every half term for staff from different subject areas to work collaboratively in sharing outstanding practice and observing each other's lessons. In addition to this, subject departments have been allocated extra time to meet, to review the Teaching and Learning practices and needs within the classroom. Staff encourage each other to plan lessons that build the capacity for higher order questioning skills, whilst promoting active and participative learning. A key focus is on outstanding feedback, enabling students to develop further. We combine our ambition for our students to achieve outstanding academic results with an emphasis on developing skills to help them become lifelong learners leading to lifelong achievement.

"Claremont is an excellent school because it gives equal opportunities to all students. All the students and staff are friendly. Come to Claremont and rise to the challenge to be the best you can be."

Year 7 student

At Claremont we pride ourselves on the relationships we build with our students. It is these relationships that have been the stepping stone to Claremont's success. Our outstanding staff take the time and space to learn about the students and their learning preferences. In return we expect our students to be inquisitive and committed learners, pursuing an active role in their learning. It is these relationships that enable our staff to create a positive rapport and a conducive learning environment for our students to flourish.

At Claremont we have the highest expectations for our students and all talents are encouraged and supported, enabling our students to achieve their full potential.



OUR ACADEMY

Staff at Claremont High School Academy are committed to creating a safe environment in which all students have an equal chance of success, by providing the widest and best possible educational opportunities to all, regardless of ability or background.

We are proud of our state-of-the-art facilities which include:

- Specialist teaching rooms with audio-visual teaching aids and equipment.
- A sports hall accommodating badminton, volleyball, basketball and netball courts, indoor cricket nets and facilities for five-a-side football.
- A 3G floodlit, synthetic, all weather pitch, six basketball posts and a grass pitch.
- Two Gymnasias, tennis courts and a school playing field.
- An outstanding new custom built Library and Learning Resource Centre.
- Seventeen state-of-the-art Science laboratories.
- A new dining room and cafeteria.
- The Tabard Theatre, with impressive light and sound systems.
- The Main Hall with state-of-the-art media resources and light/sound systems.
- A two-storey Art, Technology and Science wing containing five new classrooms.
- A state-of-the-art CAD (Computer Aided Design) and CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) Machine.
- A new two-storey state of the art building encompassing a brand new school hall, lecture theatre and 6 new classrooms.



College System

At Claremont we have a system of four Colleges, Emerald, Gold, Sapphire and Scarlet, to which students are allocated when they join Claremont. The Colleges meet for assemblies and take part in a variety of competitions throughout the year, encouraging students to learn and work together through healthy competition and unity.

Pastoral care

We have developed a successful pastoral care programme to support students' social and academic achievements and to offer inspiration and motivation.

PSHE Curriculum (Personal, Social and Health Education)

There is a planned programme throughout each Key Stage for the delivery of the PSHE curriculum for all students covering aspects of personal, social and health education.

Students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

The admission of students with a Statement of special educational needs and/or disability (SEND) is dealt with by a separate procedure, set out in the SEND Code of Practice. Claremont is committed to taking vulnerable children who are hard to place in accordance with locally agreed protocol.

Gifted and Talented

Our aim is to identify our most able students in either academic or practical subjects. The expectation is that staff, parents/carers and students themselves work in partnership to extend the learning potential of the student.

Extended Schools

Claremont aims to meet the Government's 'Extended Schools' and 'Every Child Matters' agenda by providing access to a range of activities within and beyond the normal school day to help meet the needs and improve the well-being of its students, their families and the wider community.

School Council

Claremont has an active School Council with formal elections. These elections follow the format of a local election with candidates speaking in assemblies to canvas their peers for votes. The School Council participates in restorative justice decisions, architectural design decisions, appointments of senior staff and a variety of other whole school activities.

Admissions

Claremont operates admissions under the Brent Local Education Authority's scheme for Coordinated Admission to Secondary School. To view this policy please visit our website www.claremont-high.org.uk or contact the school office.



DEVELOPING OUR STUDENTS



Careers Education and Guidance at Claremont High School Academy is mainly delivered through the pastoral programme. Year 9 students are introduced to the careers resource room in the Learning Resource Centre and are guided on how to access information about careers using a variety of methods, including software programmes and videos.

During Year 10, students undertake one week of work experience. We support, inform and guide all our students and their parents/carers from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5. We have open access to careers information and guidance through good use of staff, Connexions advisers, external agencies and a well-resourced careers library.

Students are free to use the library before, during and after school. Resources include:

- Over 12,000 fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Computers with internet access, careers software and intranet.
- Magazines and newspapers.
- CDs/DVDs.
- Careers library.

Widening participation in Higher Education

At Claremont we aim to encourage our students to achieve their full academic potential and aspire to move onto higher education, regardless of their personal and/or financial circumstances.

At Claremont High School Academy students are supported through the key stages to prepare them for higher education. Claremont has two University Success Coordinators (USCs) who work with all students to encourage them to consider higher education and to aspire to attend the very best universities across the country. They provide advice and support to students when selecting their GCSEs, A Levels and University courses or other career paths.

At Claremont we offer courses, presentations, master classes, summer schools, visits by undergraduates and trips to universities in order to prepare our students for higher education. In addition to this, the USCs offer specialist advice and support to all Sixth Formers and provide a comprehensive programme to help our students to make informed choices about their future.

"When I started in Year 7, the Headteacher promised me that I would realise my full potential. By gaining a place at Cambridge University, I feel Claremont has fulfilled that promise." **Year 13 student**

"Extremely well-targeted support enables students to go on to further or higher education. Advice on courses is focused very effectively to inform decisions at transition points and raise aspirations." **Ofsted 2010**



Extra-curricular activities

We have a number of clubs and enriching extra-curricular opportunities, in which all students are encouraged to participate, including:

- Music
- Football
- Drama
- Trampolining
- Netball
- Cricket
- Chess
- Rugby
- Skiing
- Reading
- Outdoor pursuits
- Arts
- Debating
- Scrabble
- Rounders
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Dance
- Homework club
- Film club
- Inter-college
- Inter-school
- Computing

Claremont has, for many years, organised a variety of outdoor pursuit activities, including trips to the Snowdonia region of North Wales, the Peak District, the Lake District, Scotland and the French Alps. Mountain walking, rock climbing, rock scrambling, orienteering, rafting, abseiling and mountain biking are just some of the activities offered. An annual ski trip takes place in February. We also run exciting educational visits and school trips for students. Examples include trips to Europe, visits to theatres, museums, centres of historical importance such as Vatican City, Auschwitz and Flanders Field in Belgium.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Starting from Year 9, students are given the opportunity to participate in this exciting and highly rewarding scheme, providing them with experiences they will treasure for the rest of their lives. Students who have completed their Gold Expedition Award have been given the opportunity of visiting places such as New Zealand, the Caribbean and the French Pyrenees.

To find out more about the award visit
www.dofe.org

"Staff devote much energy to delivering an extensive range of extra-curricular provision, including a variety involving physical activity, in which participation is high." **Ofsted 2010**

"Students like the breadth of courses and of extra-curricular activities, especially in sports and performing arts." **Ofsted 2010**



SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form – Years 12 and 13

Claremont High School Academy sets high standards in the Sixth Form, working closely with students to set achievable goals and discuss their progress. We believe it is important to develop the 'whole student', ensuring they leave us as responsible, committed and ambitious young people who are a credit to themselves, their families and their communities. As such, we encourage participation in a wide range of activities, clubs and societies. Additionally, students can become involved in sports leadership, volunteer work, Young Enterprise, specific careers work experience, work shadowing and community service; all of which are focused on cultivating initiative, responsibility, commitment and positive relations with staff, their peers, younger members of Claremont and the local community.

This is reflected in the amazing roles of our Alumni which include Medical, Legal, Performing Arts, professions and sporting representation at local, national and international level. We have students who have performed in the West End as well as operating theatres in this country and across the world.

Our Sixth Form offers a broad curriculum of traditional and applied learning, including a range of Level 3 courses in ICT, Business Studies and Performing Arts. We also offer a full range of A and AS Level courses, with a flexibility that allows students to select a combination of subjects that fulfil their interests and aspirations, while also ensuring that their selection does not preclude access to particular university degree courses.

As a part of our outstanding Sixth Form provision, and to ensure our students have every advantage when applying to university, the school has two 'University Success Coordinators'. Their role is to offer coordinated support with UCAS, particularly Oxford and Cambridge applications, and the selection process as a whole. They encourage our students to aim high and help them to realise their aspirations. Students have the opportunity to attend drop-in sessions to help them meet UCAS requirements in addition to accessing support with writing personal statements, developing interview skills and practising aptitude tests.

"Students very much enjoy being part of the Sixth Form and participating in the many activities it offers. They mature into responsible young people who make excellent contributions to the community." **Ofsted 2010**



"The teachers of Claremont High School Academy have inspired me and given me the confidence, throughout my 7 years, to go out into the 'real' world, not nervous but excited about what my future holds." **Year 13 student**

SPORT AT CLAREMONT

In addition to timetabled Physical Education (PE) lessons various extra-curricular activities take place. Claremont has a tradition of triumphant success in team and individual sporting competitions at Brent, Middlesex and National level. In recent years our cricket teams have been victorious in the Middlesex and Brent Cup competitions. Additionally our rounders teams have won various Brent tournaments. Claremont's Football teams have won Middlesex and Brent competitions, whilst nurturing home grown talent leading to contracts at professional academies such as; Arsenal, Chelsea, West Ham, Brentford and QPR, including England under-16s.



Athletics and cross-country running are always popular and Claremont has been very successful at Brent and Middlesex Championships, with students also competing for Harrow Athletic Club and Queens Park Harriers.

Badminton is a relatively new competitive sport at Claremont but in recent years the school has won numerous local tournaments, with one doubles team reaching the national finals at Wembley Arena.

Other popular sports at Claremont include Netball, Basketball, Table Tennis and Rugby. Most students participate in extra-curricular activities throughout the year, regardless of their ability, demonstrating their commitment and enjoyment in sports.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

We recognise the importance of making early, positive and frequent contact with parents/carers and of the need to provide an opportunity to discuss students' progress. Communication includes regular updates in the student planner, letters/emails and phone calls home as well as interim and end of year reports. We hold a number of parent consultation evenings and parent forums throughout the year.

In addition, we also keep in regular contact with parents/carers via newsletters, Praise postcards, our website and, for urgent messages, via a text messaging system.

Access to Information

The following information and documentation will be available on request:

- The general Curriculum Policy of the school including aims and objectives.
- All documentation published by the DfE relating to the National Curriculum and relevant sections of the Education Reform Act.
- Subject syllabuses and topic overviews in current use at Claremont.

Any complaints or concerns relating to the curriculum, not satisfied via the normal consultative process, should be presented in writing to the relevant Deputy Headteacher. The Governing Body has a procedure (agreed with the DfE) for investigating complaints.

Healthy Schools

At Claremont we believe that we play an important role in supporting the health and well-being of all of our students. All food is prepared and cooked by our trained catering staff in state-of-the-art kitchens. We have introduced 'Meat Free Mondays' as part of the national campaign to reduce meat consumption and help increase food security in the UK and in less economically developed countries.

All religious groups are catered for to meet their dietary requirements.

OUR COMMUNITY

We believe our school community encompasses not just our students, but their families, our governors and the local community. This is evidenced by our students' understanding and valuing of their own diversity and the diversity that exists not just within Claremont, but the wider national and global community. As a result our students' "spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding." (Ofsted 2010)

Our students make many excellent contributions to the community, such as the governors' student committee and raising funds for local, national and international charities.

At Claremont we support our local community through adult education classes and various community events.



"The school promotes community cohesion exceptionally well. Students celebrate their diverse range of cultures through various events, working closely together in productions and teams, and show a deep sensitivity to others. Students also work with the local hospice and have strong links with nearby schools." **Ofsted 2010**



"Claremont High School Academy supports students extremely well to develop excellent personal qualities."

Ofsted 2010

"Strong curricular and pastoral links with primary schools and introductory activities for Year 7 students provide a smooth transition."

Ofsted 2010





OUR MISSION

TO PREPARE OUR STUDENTS TO REALISE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

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