



CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL

A MULTI-SPECIALIST COLLEGE - AN IB WORLD SCHOOL





WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to Claremont High School – A multi-specialist college.

At Claremont we are committed to developing the skills and abilities of all students and to lay the foundations for their future successes in adult life. Our ethos is simple: to ensure that students follow a personalised curriculum in a safe and secure, yet educationally challenging environment.

We pride ourselves on our reputation as an outstanding, successful, high-achieving school. Using the Ofsted criteria our outcomes for pupils are outstanding. Indeed, our hard work and success has recently been recognised by Ofsted, and Claremont is now officially rated as 'Outstanding'. This is an incredible achievement and is testament to the hard working students and superb staff we have here at the school.

The school's three specialisms in the Arts, Maths & Computing, and Applied Learning ensure our students are offered breadth, variety and choice.

The curriculum we offer is focused on meeting the needs of students of all abilities, in order to maximise their opportunities to progress and achieve their full potential.

I am excited about what our school can offer your child; how we can help your child learn, develop, achieve and be the very best that he or she can.

I'm sure this prospectus has given you an idea of the vibrant, nurturing, high-achieving and inclusive school environment that we offer. Of course, by visiting us you will be able to see first hand that Claremont is a truly special school.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

F.T. Molloy
HEADTEACHER

"Claremont High School is outstanding. It delivers an excellent quality of education." **Ofsted 2010**

OUR VISION

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR LIFELONG ACHIEVEMENT.

Claremont is a school at the heart of its multi-cultural community, providing outstanding education for 11-19 year old girls and boys of all abilities.

Our aim is to prepare our students to realise their full potential. In partnership with parents/carers and the wider school 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.

The school 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.

The School 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 Pupils. Students also have a copy of the Code of Conduct in their Student Planner.

"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 an everyday basis."

Student Year 12

Our commitment is to:

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



OUR SPECIALISMS



We are very proud of our specialisms, especially as we are one of the very few schools in the country to have three. These specialisms broaden and strengthen the unique educational opportunities available to our students and enrich the curriculum, ensuring students are challenged both academically and socially.

Performing Arts

We have held specialist status in Performing Arts - Music, Drama and Dance, since September 2001. Enhanced funding means we are able to offer students improved facilities, including a new Arts Hall and additional teaching staff. Recently, Claremont had the honour of being one of 10 schools nationally selected to work as a partnership school with the Royal Shakespeare Company. As part of the three-year project, Claremont is currently one of the lead schools in London in the teaching of Shakespeare.

Mathematics & Computing

In April 2006, Claremont High School was officially designated as having a second specialism for Mathematics & Computing. Developments funded by this second specialism include:

- Developing extra-curricular maths and ICT activities, thereby giving students experiences beyond the classroom.
- Using interactive whiteboards and innovative software to engage students in lessons.
- Increased staffing, allowing for smaller groups.
- Developing computing courses to go alongside the range of ICT courses we already offer at Key Stage 3 & 4.

Applied Learning

In April 2007, we were officially granted a third specialism in Applied Learning in recognition of our high performing status and the quality of our vocational provision at Key Stage 4 and 5.

Vocational education offers every student the chance to achieve, giving the option of alternative pathways and clear progression routes to further education and employment. This specialism will allow all our students to acquire the skills and understanding they will need to be successful adults in the workplace.

OUR SCHOOL

Staff at Claremont High School are committed to creating an 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 new sports hall accomodating badminton, volleyball, basketball and netball courts, indoor cricket nets and facilities for 5-a-side football.
- 3G floodlit, synthetic, all weather pitch, 6 basketball posts and a grass pitch.
- Two gymnasias, netball/tennis courts and a school playing field.
- Outstanding new custom built library and learning resource centre.
- 15 state-of-the-art science laboratories.
- Brand new dining room and cafeteria as of September 2010.
- Seven brand new classrooms from Jan 2011 and a designated languages block.
- The Tabard Theatre, with impressive light and sound system.
- Main hall with state of the art media resources and light/sound systems

College System

At Claremont, we have a system of four Colleges to which students are allocated when they join the school. The Colleges meet for assemblies and take part in a variety of competitions throughout the year, encouraging children 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 for the delivery of the PSHE curriculum for all students which covers all aspects of personal and social education, including S.R.E. (Sex and Relationships Education).

Students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)

The admission of students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) is dealt with by a separate procedure, set out in the SEN Code of Practice.

The school is committed to taking vulnerable children who are hard to place in accordance to locally agreed protocol.

Gifted and Talented

The aim of this initiative is for schools to identify high achievers in either academic or practical subjects. The expectation is that the school, parents/carers and the 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 pupils, their families and the wider community.

Admissions

The school 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.

"Outstanding care, guidance and support help students, including those who are vulnerable, to reach high levels of attendance and attainment."

Ofsted 2010





OUR CURRICULUM

Our outstanding curriculum offers an exciting, rich, diverse and broad course of study, to help develop students' skills for all aspects of learning. On five occasions throughout the year, the timetable is suspended to give students the opportunity to experience 'deep learning' in a range of subjects. These are known as 'Flexible Learning Days'. Additionally, the curriculum is adapted each year to meet needs more 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
- ICT
- Art
- Information Technology
- Drama
- Dance
- Design Technology
- Modern Languages
- Music
- R.E.
- Geography
- Performing Arts
- History
- P.E.

In Year 7, one half of the year group begins a five-year French course, while the other half studies a five-year German course, continued to GCSE level.

In Year 9, students will be able to start a second language, either French or German, which is then studied up to GCSE.

Key Stage 4

All students follow two-year GCSE courses in English, Mathematics and Science. Students also choose further additional subjects from options that include: Business Studies, Economics, Physical Education, Drama, Additional Science, Religious Education and a range of vocational courses, such as BTECs in PE, Business, Art, Design, Fashion and Textiles, Hospitality and Catering, Performing Arts, Dance and Travel and Tourism.

Religious Education

Religious Education (R.E.) is compulsory throughout the school. The approach used in the study of R.E. at Claremont High School 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 R.E. 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

SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form – Years 12 and 13

Claremont High School sets high standards in sixth form, but works closely with students to set achievable, personalised goals and meet regularly to 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 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 focussed on cultivating initiative, responsibility, commitment and positive relations with staff, their peers, younger members of Claremont and the local community.

We offer a broad curriculum in sixth form including Level Three Performing Arts, 20 AS/A2 courses to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB). The IB is a two-year course, aimed at students aged 16-19 and is designed as an academically challenging and balanced programme of education. It leads to a qualification that is widely recognised and respected by the world’s leading universities. The course is broad, balanced and diverse, allowing students to specialise, whilst keeping their options open for any chosen career. The IB is well recognised and valued by large international companies, as well as universities both in and outside the UK.

For more information about all our courses please see the sixth form prospectus.

“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

“Claremont gives a sense of community and the teachers are always there to lend a hand. Claremont not only helps with our education but gives more by helping us in other ways. Students learn to be friendly and become mature members of the community.”

Student Year 12



DEVELOPING OUR STUDENTS



Careers Education and Guidance at Claremont High School is mainly delivered through the pastoral programme. It starts in the Lower School and in Year 9 students are introduced to the careers resource room in the library and shown 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 endeavour to support, inform, and guide all our students and their parents/carers throughout, 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
- Television and video/DVD player
- CDs, DVDs and tapes
- Careers library

Aim Higher – Wider Participation

This is a national project across England, the aim of which is to encourage young people to achieve their full academic potential and move on to Higher Education, regardless of their background or financial situation.

At Claremont High School students are supported through the Key Stages from Year 9 to prepare them for the changes and expectations for entry into Higher Education. We offer courses, presentations, master classes, summer schools, visits by undergraduates and student participation in several activities. Our aim is to fully prepare students with skills for university life and employability.



Extra-curricular activities

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

- Music
- Drama
- Information Technology
- Netball
- Cricket
- Chess
- Science
- Rugby
- Skiing
- Reading
- Football
- Trampolining
- Outdoor Pursuits
- Debating Society
- Scrabble Club
- Rounders
- Art
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Rock climbing
- Dance

“Enrichment through flexible learning days provides excellent preparation for the future, as do life skills sessions. Staff devote much energy to delivery an extensive range of extra-curricular provision.” Ofsted 2010



Over the last 30 years, our Outdoor Pursuits Group has organised a variety of trips to the Snowdonia region of North Wales, the Derbyshire 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 on offer. A yearly ski trip takes place in February. We also run exciting educational visits and school trips for students. Examples include visits to theatres, museums, centres of historical importance and trips to Europe.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Students from Year 9 and up 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. In the past, students have completed their Gold Expedition Award in a wide variety of events around the world, including New Zealand, the Caribbean and the French Pyrenees. Once again, Claremont was the most successful school in the Borough.

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

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





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. There are many ways in which we do this – through regular updates in students' planners, to half yearly and yearly reports. We also hold a number of parent consultation evenings and parent forums.

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 at the school on request:

- The general curriculum policy of the school including aims and objectives
- All documentation published by the DCSF relating to the National Curriculum and relevant sections of the Education Reform Act
- The last OFSTED inspection
- Subject syllabuses and schemes of work in current use in the school

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

Healthy Schools

Claremont was awarded 'Healthy School' status in 2008. Our kitchen provides 'healthy meals' that conform to and exceed the new Government guidelines for Healthy Eating in Schools, which came into force in September 2006. These include no sale of fizzy drinks, a limit of two portions of fried food per week, replacement of burgers with healthier options such as panninis, and an increase in the number of 'plated meals' available each day to six, including two vegetarian options.

OUR COMMUNITY



We believe our school community encompasses not just our students, but their families, our staff, 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 the school community, but the wider national and global community. As a result our students 'spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding'.

Our students make many excellent contributions to the community, such as through governors' student committee, raising funds for local charities, and acting as mentors or sports leaders.

As a school we support our local community through adult education classes, community events and more.



*"Claremont High School
is outstanding.
It delivers an excellent
quality of education."*

Ofsted 2010

*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."*

Student Year 7





OUR MISSION

TO PREPARE OUR STUDENTS TO REALISE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

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