

Southfields Academy





Welcome to Southfields Academy

Our focus is to provide the highest quality education to secure the best life chances for our students once they leave the Academy.

Our aims for each student are the same – to provide meaningful opportunities for them to learn, grow, develop and aspire, both academically and personally.

Unlike many schools we are non-selective as we believe that all students should have equal access to a good secondary education. This

makes our results all the more remarkable and a testament to the quality of the teaching at the Academy. This summer our GCSE students achieved almost half a grade higher than their peers across all subjects including English and maths. Sixth Form students at the Academy achieved a 100% pass rate. Our Progress 8 score, which measures the progress a student makes during their time at the Academy, puts us amongst the top secondary schools in Wandsworth..

All students, no matter how academic they are, will do well at Southfields Academy. Those who excel will be challenged and we provide excellent support for those students who are not currently achieving their potential.

By developing a love of learning in our students, we will inspire our students and prepare them for the next stage of their lives by embedding in them a knowledge that their aspirations and prospects should be no different to those of

other young people.

Year after year, prospective parents comment favourably on our extensive facilities, friendly atmosphere and our willingness to offer tours of the Academy outside of our Open Events. During this important time for you and your child, we invite you to visit us to see all that we have to offer and speak to our staff and students. You will be given a very warm welcome.

Jacqueline Valin, Principal



Our Teaching

At Southfields Academy we believe that no two children are the same. We ensure that we listen to your child, to you and what your child's academic progress tells us so that we can tailor their educational experience to their needs in terms of guidance, support and challenge.

Our teachers are all qualified to the highest standard and their lesson quality is assured by a programme of observations and work scrutiny. However, all teachers can improve and the best teachers have a constant desire

to do so. We support this professional growth by ensuring that our teachers are continually improving their practice and learning new strategies and techniques. We are an accredited Teaching School and have a number of staff who are leading teaching and learning development not just at Southfields, but across the profession as a whole.

Students are part of a small mixed ability tutor group and for the most part in Key Stage 3 they are taught in this group. High achieving children

will be identified and given additional challenge while those who may struggle will have access to appropriate support.

We provide excellent support to children with Special Educational Needs. Your child will be taught in small groups by a highly qualified and motivated teacher and this teacher, and your child, will be supported by at least one, but sometimes several, Teaching Assistants, Subject Specialist Assistants or Special Needs Teachers.



Beyond the Classroom

Our support and care of your child does not begin and end at the classroom door. Like you, we want your child to be happy, healthy and safe.

We have world class sporting facilities (so much so that the FA chose our 3G football pitch to launch the Barclays Premiership season in 2015) and all our students use them, not just in their physical education and sport lessons but during break times and before and after school. There are dozens of clubs and societies to cater

for the interests of all of our students. These are run by qualified coaches and teachers who have a desire to pass on their passion and expertise to your child.

We promote healthy eating. All of our catering is in-house and food is low in fat, nutritious and made with fresh ingredients. No unhealthy snacks or drinks are available and students in the lower school are not allowed to leave the Academy during break times so are unable to buy these elsewhere.

We also recognise that hydration is very important to ensure that your child can remain focussed during their school day. We encourage our students to carry water bottles for use during lessons and breaks.

Safeguarding your child is our top priority. The Academy is a secure site and visitors must report to reception to gain access, while CCTV covers the entire Academy at all times.



The Transition to Secondary School

We know that moving from primary to secondary school is a major event in the life of a child and parent. We strive to make this process as smooth as possible and so we offer a unique transition programme.

Our teaching staff visit incoming Year 7 students at their primary school before they start at the Academy. This gives us the chance to get to know your child, to learn more about their ability and also to give a new student a familiar face to look out for on their first day.

Incoming students and parents will meet a senior member of staff at an interview and will be placed in a small tutor group. Currently we have around 15-18 students in our Year 7 tutor groups which is unique in state education. New students will attend an induction day in July and then start a day ahead of the rest of the older students in September so that they can spend time with their tutor and find their way around the Academy.

Our experience shows that this programme makes a significant difference to how quickly a child

Achievements

settles in to secondary school life at the Academy. Our students make exceptional progress during their time at Southfields Academy.

Students know that we expect them to engage with our teaching and to work hard. Those taking public exams attend early morning and after-school booster classes to push their grades even higher. Given that we are a non-selective school, our success with GCSE and A Level exams is outstanding. Testament to this is the record numbers of our students who are

gaining places at Russell Group universities (the leading 24 universities in the UK).



We offer a wide range of vocational subjects for students for whom university is not an appropriate option. For these students we offer a pathway and support to secure employment such as an apprenticeship or further education once they leave the Academy.

We know that we have been successful if a student leaves us prepared for their next stage in education or employment by understanding the world that we live in, being curious and keen to develop further by learning from others around them.

More than 120 of our Year 13 students go to university each year. Here are some examples of their destinations and the courses they study,

STUDENT	DESTINATION
Fathima	Imperial College, Medicine
Haleen	Imperial College, Medicine
Filipa	Manchester University, Mechanical Engineering
Brandon	Leeds University, Mechatronics and Robotics
Karen	Southampton University, Aeronautics and Astronautics
Samuel	Warwick University, Philosophy
Nicholas	Greenwich University, Graphic & Digital Design
Shaheim	Kings College University London, Biomedical Engineering
Jeff	School of Oriental & African Studies, Law
Roza	Oxford University, History
Coral	Sussex University, Law



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