

Thamesmead School





Welcome to Thamesmead School

Dear Parents and Students,

When you visit Thamesmead you can see for yourself why our students are so successful. At Thamesmead School our vision is for a school that is;

- Committed to excellence
- Nurturing of individuals
- Respectful of the community
- Fulfilling potential

We aim to do this through developing within students our seven Thamesmead values. These are Resilience, Commitment, Independence, Aspiration, Confidence, Respectfulness, and being Community Focused. We believe that through these values we will help your child become a successful, considerate, and confident young person ready to progress to the next stage of their life.

Parents and students love the calm and friendly atmosphere in the school and our purposeful classrooms. Our staff work with dedication, building strong relationships that help each child achieve their very best. Students grasp with both hands the huge variety of extra-curricular opportunities available to them, particularly in sports, and the performing arts. The result is students who are cooperative and respectful ambassadors for their school. Students who tell us they are proud to be part of the community at Thamesmead. We hope that you will choose to entrust your child to Thamesmead School and we look forward to working together with you to ensure your child's education is exciting, fulfilling and happy. I look forward to working with you.

Phil Reeves
Headteacher

Student Welcome

There are so many reasons to choose Thamesmead School but we especially like the relationships that we build with each other and with our teachers. We love coming to school and the opportunities we get here, especially with Performing Arts.

What sets Thamesmead apart from other schools is the friendly atmosphere and the way we gain confidence, determination and skills as we work towards excellent exam results and prepare for the future.

We are fully involved in school life working in our House Groups, with the Student Council and enjoying the activities of Thamesmead Plus.

We hope that you will visit the school to see us at work and that you will choose to join the Thamesmead School community.

Thamesmead Student Council

“Strong leadership aims to ensure that the school provides the best possible standards of teaching and learning.” (Ofsted)



What will you study at Thamesmead School?

Learning for Life - Performing Arts & Sport

At Thamesmead School all students follow the National Curriculum. English and Maths are at the heart of all teaching as we recognise that these are so crucial to the future success of all students. In addition to English and Maths at Key Stage 3, everyone studies the Sciences, Humanities, a Modern Foreign Language, Design and Technology and Performing Arts subjects. At Key Stage 4 students study a compulsory core of Maths, English Language and Literature and Science plus three options of their own choice. All students study Physical Education and Religion, Philosophy and Ethics throughout their time at the school

We have very high standards of teaching and do a great deal to ensure good practice is shared among staff to promote student progress. Thamesmead is an accredited Teacher Training Provider which means that we have responsibility for training graduates in local secondary schools.

We are proud of our excellent facilities which, together with the high standards of teaching, make sure that students have the very best opportunities to achieve success. The Learning Centre enables students to access a range of resources to support and extend their learning. We benefit from superb Performing Arts facilities including an outdoor performance area. Specialist classrooms for all subject areas include Science and Technology and our Multi Use Games Area increases the sporting opportunities for all students.

Thamesmead has achieved Artsmark Gold and a number of awards for our exam successes, including a commendation from the Secretary of State for Schools for our excellent improvement in GCSE results over a number of years. This underpins our reputation for being a centre of excellence. We are proud of the achievements of all of our students who benefit from the confidence they gain being part of the Performing Arts classes. Regular events, competitions and performances showcase the fantastic and inspiring talent of our students who value the opportunities that they experience with us.

“Pupils appreciate the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities available after school to help them develop as well-rounded individuals.” (Ofsted)

“Staff are fully committed to the school motto ‘where learning comes first’, and provide a wide range of opportunities and support for pupils. The curriculum is shaped to match pupils’ aspirations and needs.” (Ofsted - 2017)



How do we support, nurture and challenge?

Transition process - Student Support - Citizenship

From the moment you join the friendly and inclusive community of Thamesmead School and throughout your time here we are committed to ensuring that you settle quickly into the next stage of your education. Our students tell us that they enjoy school and feel motivated about learning here. We take great care to support families and hold a number of introductory events for students joining us to ensure that the transition process feels welcoming, secure and a natural next step. Similarly, as students prepare to leave us at the end of KS4 our strong links with local 6th form and FE colleges ease the post-16 transition process. Dedicated Heads of Year and our Careers Co-ordinator advise students with all aspects of their progression. Independent Careers Advisors and Mentors also assist our students in their future decisions.

Whether students need academic, personal or physical support, our Pastoral and Home School Support Team work with families to help students flourish and achieve. Every student has a challenging individual target to aspire to. Thamesmead is proud of the success that we have had over the last few years in improving outcomes for disadvantaged students, especially when we were recognised for this with the Pupil Premium Excellence Award in 2016. We monitor their progress and reward and celebrate their success and effort. During the challenging examination period we offer a thorough revision programme in class and after school to help students achieve their potential.

Ofsted have said that 'the house system has been successful in developing relationships between different age groups further, and has reinforced a real feeling of belonging'. This gives students opportunities for teamwork and leadership. In Year 10 students can apply to be prefects and then House Captains. House events take place during the year encouraging participation across the curriculum and across the school.

"Students enjoy lessons and have easy access to further extension work when needed...a wide range of resources is being used to extend learning...."

Previous examination results indicate that pupils make strong progress across many subjects by the end of Key Stage 4."
(Ofsted)

"What sets Thamesmead apart is not only the excellent results but very much the nurturing ethos that runs throughout the school." (Parent)



"I'm looking forward to World Challenge enormously. I want to go to places where few would and demonstrate that I as an individual can apply what I learn in or outside the classroom." (Oliver - Year 9)



What additional experiences will your child have in and beyond the classroom?

Thamesmead Plus - Community - Enrichment

We know that to prepare our students for their adult lives we need to help them develop individual skills and interests. We encourage participation in a daily range of Thamesmead Plus activities, to extend learning and develop these skills. Activities vary each term and include options from STEM Science to Sport, Debating, Drama & Dance to Drumming. KS3, KS4 and SEND study rooms with ICT facilities are available daily, supported by Thamesmead staff.

Thamesmead School is proud to be part of the Shepperton Community, supporting local events and organisations. Our choir and music groups perform at our local Day Centre and Care Home, Spelthorne Music Festival and at Shepperton Big Tree Night. Our active Friends of Thamesmead group supports events and functions in and out of school, including the Shepperton Fair. We take part in varied activities in support of a range of home and international charities.

We run many UK and overseas field trips along with visits to exhibitions, workshops and theatres; experiences that further enrich our students' learning. Many take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and the Thamesmead Adventure programme offers global opportunities.

Visiting groups run workshops, drama presentations and business challenges. In addition, Enterprise Days and Skills Fairs develop employability skills such as independent thinking and problem solving. We welcome the involvement of these groups adding to the experience of our students.

"We get the opportunity to do lots of activities outside school and I was particularly pleased to go on a ski trip to Italy." (Isabella - Year 9)





What else can you expect from Thamesmead School?

"I am always impressed with the accessibility and responsiveness of the teaching staff in the school and the communication that the school has with parents." (Parent)

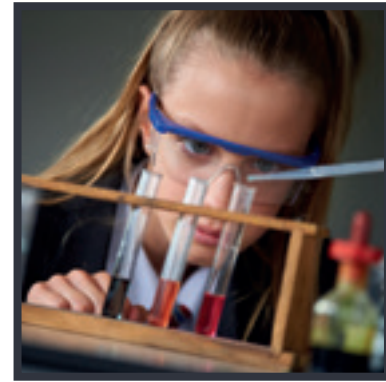
Standards - Communication

Being a member of the Thamesmead School Community is something to be proud of. Our students demonstrate this by their high standards of uniform and the respect and courteous behaviour that they show both towards each other and towards staff. Our goal is to develop an environment in which everyone can work, learn and achieve their potential. To achieve this we make sure that our rules are clear and consistently applied. We do not tolerate racism, bullying or homophobia. As our students consistently tell us; Thamesmead is a place where they feel safe and secure.

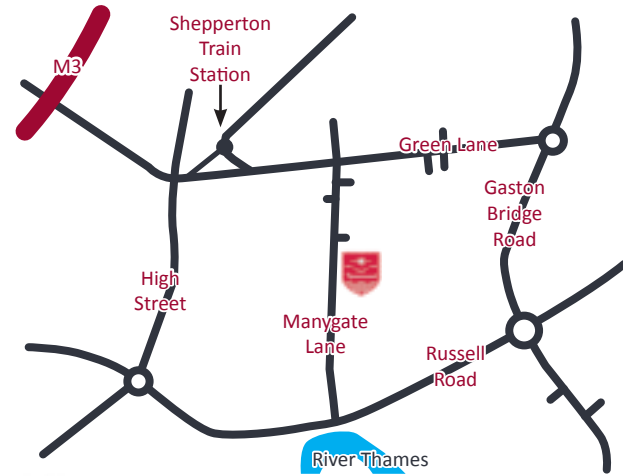
We know that working closely with parents is key to ensuring that students make good progress. We encourage regular communication with us via the Parent Portal. Individual progress information is available online via the Parent Portal. Students can access our Learning Platform from home enabling parents to take an active role in learning. Improvements in our IT infrastructure will enhance learning and access to learning beyond the confines of the classroom.

Parents are helped to support their children in a range of ways including Raising Achievement Evenings at the start of each year and are invited to attend Progress Review Meetings. The Headteacher holds regular 'working day tours' of the school to enable current parents to visit on a typical school day. Essential information is regularly updated on our website and in our weekly newsletter 'Thamesmead Talk'.





Thamesmead School



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Headteacher: Mr Philip Reeves

We welcome visitors to the school and tours can be arranged by contacting us.

Our Admission arrangements, most recent exam results and Ofsted Report can be found on our website.



Academy Statement

In August 2011 Thamesmead became a level 2 (converter) Academy, a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Academy status gives Headteachers and governing bodies greater freedom to run the school and control the entire school budget, whilst still requiring them to comply with the national guidance on admissions, exclusions and SEN. Like all maintained schools they also have to teach a broad and balanced curriculum and are subject to Ofsted inspections on the same basis as other state funded schools.

As an academy we will continue to serve the needs of families and children in the area, as we have always done. The Academy Trust cannot profit from the Academy and the Trustees have a legal duty to act in the interest of the Academy.

Charitable Company statement

Thamesmead School, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, company number 07686145.

Safeguarding

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We have a Child Protection Policy and designated members of staff who take responsibility for these procedures.