





"It is a school that stops at nothing to provide
world class education."

Lister student survey, 2019





Values & Ethos

I am very proud to be the Headteacher of Lister Community School. This is a warm and welcoming school environment where exam results continue to meet our high expectations. This has been achieved because we have a very dedicated and skilled staff who are committed to our strong ethos.

Our vision at Lister Community School is to provide a world-class education for young people in Newham.

We seek to provide the highest possible standard of learning for all of our students, and to be the first choice school for parents in our area; to offer a broad and rich curriculum which provides our students with a sound basis from which to understand and contribute to the world in which they live, the skills they need for their future education and employment, and the foundation for enjoyment and appreciation of the great intellectual and cultural capital of the city in which they are living. We aim to be a centre for excellence, in particular for the quality of teaching and learning, and to be a preferred employer, where all staff feel valued, challenged and developed.

This vision is underpinned by our three core values:

- Always Aim for Excellence
- Be Kind, Polite and Considerate
- Take Responsibility – No Excuses!

If you are interested or curious to learn more about our school, do come to see for yourself. We are always happy to receive visits from parents who live in our community.

Please also feel free to contact me directly anthony.wilson@lister.newham.sch.uk.



Academic Excellence

We recruit and develop outstanding teachers and we are continually seeking to improve the quality of our teaching.

Many of our staff have outstanding academic records and all our teachers are able to support the highest levels of achievement.

Having been recognised by the Department for Education in 2013 as one of the most improved schools in the country, we are extremely proud to say that we have seen GCSE results rise further over the past six years. Our focus on academic excellence has led to increasing numbers of students achieving Grade 8 and 9. We are continually finding new ways to support our most able students, including through partnerships with leading universities and sixth form centres.

“Lister is a school that encourages you to be your best.”

Lister student survey, 2019

“You are relentless in pursuing improvement and see the school at the heart of the community... An example of this is the impressive music provision.”

Ofsted, 2019



Our specialisms: Science & Music

We are designated as a specialist school in both Science and Music.

Our Science Department produces some of the best Science results anywhere in the country, whilst also offering an extensive enrichment programme that includes Oxbridge Visits and STEM Challenge activities. We are very proud that since 2013 we have been a partner school in the Music in Secondary Schools Trust, supported by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Lister has one of the most exciting secondary music programmes in the country. All new students are provided with an instrument

and receive specialist instrumental teaching; they benefit from the self-discipline and enjoyment that comes from making music together. Our strengths in music were recognised with a 'Outstanding Musical Initiative' award at the Music Teacher of the Year Awards for 'Full Circle', our Community Opera, with performances at the Southbank Centre and the Royal Albert Hall. Talented musicians have the opportunity to take part in residential music trips in the UK and beyond.

A Broad and Challenging Curriculum

Lister offers a broad and rich curriculum catering to individual needs.

Alongside our strengths in the more traditional academic subjects, we also ensure that there is a chance for all students to discover and excel in the subjects which they can be passionate about.

In Lower School students encounter a balanced curriculum, including the opportunity to specialise in subjects such as Photography, Business Studies and Theatre School as part of the Specialist Curriculum. This operates alongside the Lister Character Award, which challenges students to develop themselves personally throughout their time at the school.

We aim to provide unrivalled opportunities and enable top students to achieve top results. Scholars are given the chance to study Mandarin through the Mandarin Excellence Programme. Top Mathematicians compete in the UKMT Maths Challenge and every year win

bronze, silver and gold awards. Sporting fixtures, Poetry Recital Competition, The Lister Arts Festival and various Dance, Drama and Music performances throughout the year showcase student talents. The Scholars Programme ensures gifted students are challenged and supported inside and outside the classroom, through trips to top universities, essay competitions and debating workshops, alongside weekly specialist seminars.





Achievement for All

Lister Community School is committed to the inclusion of all students including those with special educational needs or disabilities.

All students receive a broad and balanced curriculum, which matches their individual needs. Lister is the Secondary School resourced provision for Deaf and Hearing Impaired students in Newham. The provision uses total communication principles to ensure that the students are able to access learning through mainstream lessons with specialist support. Students with SEN are fully integrated into the life of the school and the curriculum, recognising the strengths of every individual as well as any areas of development, and ensuring all contribute to the social and cultural activities of the school. With many of our students speaking an additional language, we work hard to develop excellence in language teaching. New arrivals have their needs assessed and are supported in lessons and given access to an immersion course to help them develop

functional English. The EAL Team works with teachers to ensure that needs are met in every subject. Meanwhile we use our strong pastoral links to engage all families, using translation support where needed.

“My child feels he belongs, which is one of the positive things that make children improve.”

Lister parent survey, 2019





An Exceptional Careers Education

At Lister, we believe that providing students with independent, appropriate and timely careers education, information, advice and guidance is essential to their future success.

We have a strong, in-house team on hand to answer queries from students, parents, carers and staff on a daily basis, as well as engagement with a number of external agencies (including the Careers & Enterprise Company, the East London Business Alliance and 15 Billion Education and Business Partnership) in order to ensure that the information, advice and guidance students receive is amongst the best in the country.

A comprehensive careers education programme ensures that students in all years are well informed about their future options and pathways. This includes college, workplace and university visits, apprenticeship information sessions, enterprise days, guest speakers, CV and application workshops, one-to-one careers interviews, and much, much more.

Outstanding Pastoral Systems

The House system is at the heart of Lister's ethos. Students join one of five Houses – Da Vinci, Hawking, Galileo, King and Shelley.

These Houses are small communities, each with a senior teacher as their Head of House, and a dedicated Pastoral Manager and House Support Officer. Brothers and sisters are assigned to the same House, which helps to build good relationships between the House team and the family. Tutors review students' progress regularly and feedback to parents every term. Student leadership positions are one of the many ways that students learn to take responsibility, and Student Leaders are role models for younger students. Our vertical tutoring system means that new students get to know students from older years, creating a supportive and friendly environment.

“I am respected and cared for.”

Lister student survey, 2019



Partnerships & Community

The geographical position of Lister Community School allows us to take advantage of everything that London has to offer.

Through our partnerships, both within the city and beyond, we are able to provide our students with a wealth of opportunity and ensure their educational success.

In this prospectus we have already outlined how our partnerships with NYO and Newham Music support our unique music provision, and how we work with the city's leading businesses and industries to provide unrivalled career development support.

As a TeachFirst partner school, we are able to ensure that we recruit new teachers of the highest quality. Through our work with The Access Project and IntoUniversity, we ensure that our students are supported to pursue their aspirations of getting to some of the country's top universities.

Finally, Lister Community School, along with Rokeby School and Sarah Bonnell School, is a member of the Newham Community Schools Trust. All members of the Trust share a commitment to a collaborative and outward-looking approach, and the belief that close collaboration with other like-minded schools will help us to provide the best educational opportunities possible for our students and staff, whilst consistently and continually driving up educational standards in our local community.

“A school with a great supportive ethos and high aspirations.”

Lister staff survey, 2019



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