



Stoke Newington School  
& Sixth Form

# PROSPECTUS

Compassion | Ambition | Resilience | Excellence



# OUR VISION

At Stoke Newington School and Sixth Form we want our students to develop a passion for learning resulting from a memorable school journey, encompassing first-rate teaching and experiences beyond the classroom.

Our culture is rooted in high expectations for all, regardless of background or starting point. Students are encouraged to be ambitious, as we believe everyone can achieve their potential with a commitment to learning and a determination to succeed.

Our students achieve brilliant outcomes making them highly marketable individuals with an unwavering sense of civic duty, as they understand everyone has a role in making the world a better place.

We have a strong focus on creativity. We know creativity is the skill of the future and believe everyone has creative capacities. We want our students to be critical thinkers, solution-focused, innovative, resilient, and responsive to our ever-changing world, as well as great team players who understand that diversity is our strength.

# HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



Zehra Jaffer HEADTEACHER

Here at Stoke Newington School, we pride ourselves on being a vibrant, diverse and inclusive school delivering excellence for all.

We believe that all our young people have the potential to achieve in school and succeed in life. We ensure that students flourish at our school regardless of their starting point or individual circumstance. We have a culture rooted in high expectations for all, which cultivates a love of learning and ambition for success, together with a strong sense of belonging and civic duty.

Our teachers and support staff are creative, skilled and committed professionals, who work tirelessly to improve the outcomes for all our students. Our students past and present are strong evidence of our success.

We are proud of their academic progress, sporting achievements, musical performances, drama productions and many have successfully achieved places at Russell

Group universities, leading Art schools and high quality apprenticeships.

Our year on year improvement at GCSE and A Level reflects our strong commitment to continually evolve and deliver on our pledge to provide a great education for all.

I look forward to welcoming you.

Zehra Jaffer  
Headteacher





# LEARNING

## Our number one priority

Stoke Newington School offers a broad and balanced curriculum, which has been designed to offer every student the chance to achieve. The mix of academic and vocational qualifications are delivered by teachers who are motivated and passionate about their subjects and who hold the highest expectations for all our students.

**A carefully planned curriculum helps pupils to achieve well. Enthusiastic and committed teachers make lessons interesting for pupils.”**

**Ofsted 2022**

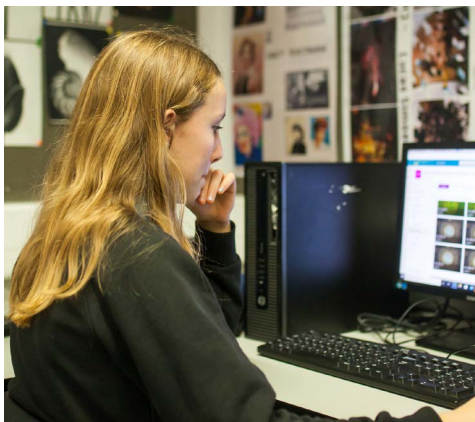
The School is well equipped to support the curriculum and enhance learning with excellent resources, including over 750 computers, a professional music studio, well equipped technology classrooms, science laboratories, outstanding sports facilities and media suites.

**“A dedicated governing body shares the ambition of leaders to promote equality, diversity, and creativity through the curriculum. Leaders have an accurate understanding of the strengths and areas for development in the school. They engage with parents and carers through a regular parents forum.” OFSTED 2022**

Students have easy access to these facilities, where they learn either individually or in small groups.

**“It’s incredibly rewarding to see the progress our pupils make and the enjoyment they have getting there.”**

Teacher



By making use of appropriate resources at each key stage we provide opportunities for progression, from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form.

We have a varied curriculum which ensures core subjects are very well developed, keeps an emphasis on creative subjects and offers choice wherever possible.

We provide a wide range of options at GCSE, including Business Studies, Media, triple Science and Computer Science through to Construction, Sports Science and Photography. All our subjects have very strong outcomes at GCSE and A level.

**“The lessons are really challenging but teachers are always there to support you to improve.”** Student

We offer extension opportunities in a number of subjects for our most able students and provide additional support for those who may struggle to access the curriculum. The Inclusion Team employs learning support assistants. Our pastoral support workers ensure that our students succeed; the school offers a wide range of support including literacy and numeracy classes and after school tutoring.

**“Leaders have made sure that reading is a priority in the school. This includes help for those pupils who are at the early stages of reading. These pupils are quickly identified and benefit from a planned programme delivered by experienced and well trained staff.”**

Ofsted 2022

We are dedicated to ensuring every child makes progress. Our whole school approach to target setting, together with the weekly homework plan, means that all of our students have realistic targets to meet and they know what they need to do to reach their target grade. This information is shared with parents and carers via progress checks and we aim to work with parents and carers to ensure their children reach their potential.



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

ARTSMARK  
AWARD  
PLATINUM



OUTSTANDING  
RESULTS



Wellbeing Award  
for Schools

2019-2022

OPTIMUS EDUCATION  
NATIONAL WELLBEING  
AWARD



SUBJECT CHOICES  
NOTED FOR  
BREADTH OF OFFER



Time spent in school prepares students for life in the wider world and in becoming rounded individuals. We want them to do their very best in all areas of their lives, becoming active citizens playing a positive role in a shared future. We encourage students to be ambitious for their future learning, to think for themselves and to articulate their opinions in a positive manner.

Appreciation of diversity is a key characteristic of our school. We are committed to ensuring that all our students understand and appreciate each other – whatever their background or interests.

## **GLOBAL CITIZENS**

# **Preparing for a world of opportunity**



**“Leaders have established a carefully considered curriculum from Year 7 to Year 13. In many subjects the curriculum promotes equality and celebrates diversity, reflecting the ethos of the school.” OFSTED 2022**

We are renowned for our approach to inclusion on all levels. From the classroom to the extra-curricular activities that take place, students are encouraged to participate in all areas of school life. They may represent the school in one of the many successful school sports teams, become a Student Representative or a member of the Student Leadership Body, whilst themed activities such as Creative Days and Health Week bring the whole school together. There is a high emphasis placed on praise and there are many opportunities to reward and celebrate success, from individual and tutor group merits, to performances and prize-giving in achievement assemblies.

**“The diverse and creative student and staff body ensure each day is fun and exciting.” Teacher**

Meanwhile, in every classroom the staff make sure that topics are relevant to life today. Our Lifeskills (PPP) programme together with Careers and Work Related Learning help our students find the right path upon leaving the school.

Student voice is a strength of the school and we aim that all students take a lead both inside and outside the classroom.

Our creative and sporting projects enable students to take leadership in a variety of roles; whether representing the school at borough or pan London competitions, coaching primary students or taking part in one of our drama productions, musical performances or artistic showcases. There are also numerous charitable enterprises and fundraising activities, including the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award scheme and activities that raise money for the Pete Brennan Memorial Trust, which helps students in need, and Safaplace, which promotes wellbeing among staff and students within the school. We also work with A Space, which is a charity that delivers therapeutic support services designed to meet the emotional, psychological, educational and social needs of children and young people.



**INCLUSION  
RENOWNED FOR  
OUR EXPERTISE**



**CREATIVE DAYS**



**ANTI BULLYING  
SUPPORT**



**STUDENT LEADERSHIP  
BODY**

# WELLBEING

## At the heart of what we do

“Pupils are proud of the diverse nature and inclusive ethos of their school. Pupils are polite, welcoming and articulate. They work hard and generally behave very well.”

OFSTED 2022





**“Governors and leaders prioritise supporting pupils’ wider development. This includes sessions on how to stay safe online, healthy eating, and healthy relationships, which are all taught to all year groups. Leaders listen to what pupils have to say and adapt this.” OFSTED 2022**

Stoke Newington School has long focused on the wellbeing of our young people and taken steps to educate them. We understand the move from primary to secondary school can be an anxious time for students and their families. We work in close partnership with our feeder primary schools to ensure a smooth transition. Where needed, for students with specific needs we will implement a personalised induction plan.

We have achieved the Optimus Education’s National Wellbeing Award for Schools in July 2019 developed in partnership with the National Children’s Bureau (NCB). The award recognised our effective practice and provision which promotes the emotional wellbeing and mental health of the whole school community.

Our strong pastoral system is enhanced by a team of pastoral counsellors and tutors that have been trained in identifying and referring mental health and wellbeing issues.

Our pastoral curriculum includes sessions to improve confidence, promote resilience and signpost support.

Our school linked charity, Safaplace, funds projects that help raise awareness of mental health issues. We have a reflective garden that is maintained in conjunction with Safaplace for use by all staff and students alike.

The tutor and the Head of Year play an extremely important part in ensuring that our students are able to achieve, stay healthy, keep safe and make a positive contribution to the community. Building long-term relationships with their students as they progress through the school, they are able to support and guide, encourage and help; directing them to the wide range of services available, whether it be the pastoral support workers, learning mentors or specialist support for learning difficulties.



A photograph of two students in an art studio. The student on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a black hoodie, leaning over a desk and drawing. The student on the right has dark hair and is also wearing a black hoodie, focused on drawing. The desk is cluttered with art supplies, including a pair of red safety glasses and various papers. The background is filled with colorful artwork and sketches pinned to a wall.

**CREATIVITY**  
**Because the**  
**world needs**  
**artists**



**“Many of the different clubs and activities which pupils attend, including poetry club, pottery club, and a very popular community evening, reflect the school’s commitment to creativity and diversity.” OFSTED 2022**



We are proud of our reputation as a creative and vibrant school and the unique opportunities that this brings to our students, staff and community. There are opportunities to learn in every situation, in any location, and we encourage our students to find and make use of them.

The implementation of creativity across the curriculum is key to our school identity. Whether in the arts or sciences, our staff have great power to innovate, take risks and find new, creative ways of approaching teaching and learning to engage, motivate and inspire our students with a love for learning. They are able to draw on the outstanding teaching and development opportunities within the school as well as on a range of external partners, agencies and professionals.

**“Creative days are so awesome. I love that we work together to make or do something really different and exciting.” Student**

Our students benefit greatly from our links with organisations such as the Barbican, the BBC and universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College, Queen Mary and the University of the Arts.

We include a wide range of educational visits for every child in our school; they take part in workshops, attend lectures, visit theatres, galleries, museums and places of work as well as being offered opportunities abroad. Our international trips have seen students visiting New York with Photography, Belgium with PE and Geneva with Physics, as well as an outreach programme to volunteer in schools in Zanzibar. All of these opportunities provide our students with new experiences to bring their learning alive.

**“Lessons are really fun and creative but also challenging. We do lots of academic subjects but also get to do practical subjects.” Student**

The quality and ambition of our creative projects are recognised nationally and, in 2016, we received the Arts Mark Platinum award. We continue to innovate through a programme of creative days and projects that run across the school and involve a range of subjects.





**PARENT  
PARTNERSHIPS**  
**Creating a  
community**

**“Teachers have strong subject knowledge and are passionate about their subjects. They use a variety of methods to help pupils remember what they have learnt. Teachers regularly challenge pupils to develop their thinking and to extend their answers.” OFSTED 2022**

When students join the school their parents and carers become automatic members of our community. They are invited to take a full and active role in the school and their children’s school life. We encourage positive dialogue with the school and take an open approach to communication, publishing all staff contact details and using a full range of communication channels.

In addition to attending parents’ evenings, we encourage all parents and carers to join the Friends of SNS - our Parent Teacher Association, which runs information evenings as well as social events to raise money for the school. We know that having a positive partnership and communication with parents helps each child achieve excellence in all areas of their school life.

**“Without the amazing staff and environment at SNS, my son would not be in a position to make choices about his further and higher education. This is something we will both be eternally grateful for.” Parent**



At Stoke Newington School, we expect all behaviour to be exemplary. The behaviour systems we have in place ensure that all students are able to access learning and thrive within the classroom. We have clear values about behaviour and policies and practices which underpin excellent behaviour from all students. We aim to ensure that all students behave in a positive

way which actively engages them in school life, while having routines which ensure learning is a focus at all times. These include a strong focus on listening and contributing appropriately. Every student is expected to maintain a smart appearance and have excellent attendance and punctuality.



**AFTERSCHOOL  
ENRICHMENT  
OVER 50 CLUBS**



**EQUALITIES AWARD  
BASED ON THE WORK WE  
DO TO INCLUDE ALL  
STUDENTS AND  
CELEBRATE DIVERSITY**



**SAFE AND CARING  
“PUPILS FEEL SAFE IN  
THE SCHOOL AND KNOW  
WHO TO TALK TO IF  
THEY HAVE CONCERNS.”  
OFSTED 2022**





**“In lessons and around the school pupils behave well. They are polite and respectful to each other and to their teachers.”**  
**OFSTED 2022**





**As a school, we are committed to improving our sustainability. Please recycle this prospectus once you are finished with it, or return it to us so we can reuse it.**



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Headteacher: Zehra Jaffer

