



Dallington School

'THE JOY AND REWARD OF
LIFELONG LEARNING TAKES
TIME. THAT TIME IS CALLED
CHILDHOOD, SPENT WITH
PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND AND
VALUE IT, IN A STIMULATING
ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES
IT.' MOGG HERCULES MBE



**THE ORIGINAL AND
ONLY ALTERNATIVE &
PROGRESSIVE FAMILY-
RUN SCHOOL IN THE
HEART OF LONDON,
WELCOMING CHILDREN
FROM 3 TO 11.**

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LOVE. GROW. SUCCEED.

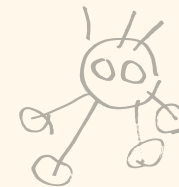


'VALUE YOUR OWN WORTH AND UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES IN OTHERS.'

I believe childhood is the most precious period in a person's life. It is our earliest experiences that help shape healthy and successful futures and this is why it is critical for schools to get education right. At Dallington we understand how fundamental this is.

Our school is a habitat for creativity and wonder, where children are deeply engaged through a play-based, explorative and personalised approach to learning. We provide a holistic, child-centered educational experience and prioritise building strong relationships with both children and parents. These key ingredients enable our children's potential to be unlocked, ensuring they flourish at school and beyond, both academically and emotionally, as happy, confident individuals. Dallington is a school with children at its heart in the very heart of London, and I feel privileged to be the Head of this vibrant school community.

JAMES GRIFFITHS - HEAD



"DALLINGTON HAS A SPECIAL SOMETHING. IT'S VERY HARD TO PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT, BUT IT'S ABSOLUTELY THERE. IT COMES FROM A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF CHILDREN, LETTING THEM ENJOY THEIR CHILDHOOD, AND LEARN WHO THEY REALLY ARE."

- PARENT

Dallington is not just another school: it is a happy and invigorating place in which children enjoy their own, unique journey of discovery. It's about igniting a passion and a thirst for learning; it's about encouraging curiosity. We see children move on to secondary schools, equipped with the knowledge and skills, as well as the self-confidence, to make the most of their talents and potential.



**"CHILDREN HERE ARE HAPPY, KIND,
COMMUNITY MINDED AND THEY GET
A SUPERB EDUCATION - BOTH
ACADEMICALLY AND HOW TO BE
GOOD PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. I
THINK THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL AND
UNIQUE PLACE. NOT UPTIGHT AND
BUREAUCRATIC, YET VERY WELL
RUN AND PROFESSIONAL."**
- PARENT





**WE AIM FOR ALL CHILDREN
TO LOVE LEARNING AND TO
GROW AND DEVELOP LIFE-
LONG SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE
AND ATTITUDES TO
SUCCEED IN WHATEVER
THEY SET THEIR MIND TO.**



LOVE. GROW. SUCCEED.

RELATIONSHIPS

We believe in an informal, nurturing environment where children feel safe, secure and joyful. Relationships are enriched through a strong sense of community and collaboration between children, teachers and parents.

EMPATHY

We believe in celebrating differences and valuing each other through compassion and mutual respect. Everyone at Dallington flourishes because everyone cares.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY

We believe education is not a race and should be developmentally appropriate.

This develops a love for learning where childhood can be enjoyed and celebrated without unnecessary pressures.

OUR VALUES

PLAY

We believe in embracing children's natural love for discovery. At Dallington, children are immersed in an explorative, play-based approach, in which they experience a sense of wonder and are given the freedom to take risks, make mistakes and learn from them.

CREATIVITY

We believe all children are born with a gift and innate creativity. Every child at Dallington has something brilliant to offer and it is our role to empower them to realise their true potential.

INDIVIDUALITY

We believe in free-thinking young people who are listened to, who are given the autonomy to express themselves with originality. This leads to authentic, grounded and empowered individuals whose self-awareness is strong.

**"DALLINGTON SCHOOL IS AN
EXCELLENT NURSERY WITH A
WARM, CREATIVE, NURTURING
ENVIRONMENT. IT HAS THE
RIGHT MIX OF DISCIPLINE,
FREE PLAY AND GROUP
ACTIVITIES"
- NURSERY PARENT.**



CREATIVITY & LEARNING IN THE CITY



A particular feature of our school is all the experiential learning that takes place outside the classroom. We take advantage of the rich variety of wonderful resources at our disposal and children take frequent trips to museums, libraries, monuments, concerts, urban parks and exhibitions.

Our staff are always on the lookout for interesting places to take the children on curricular-related trips. These visits cement their knowledge and understanding of the enquiry-based learning topic they are studying and make for memorable experiences.

**"WE HAVE BEEN AT
DALLINGTON FOR ALMOST A YEAR
AND ITS FANTASTIC AND WARM
ENVIRONMENT IS DELIGHTFUL. OUR
CHILDREN ARE HAPPY TO GO TO
SCHOOL EVERY SINGLE DAY. THEY
ARE CHALLENGED AND INSPIRED TO
LEARN MORE WHILE FEELING
COMFORTABLE BEING
THEMSELVES."
- PARENT**




FREEDOM TO EXPLORE

FOREST SCHOOL

An outdoor learning programme is embedded in our curriculum and from the very youngest children to those in Year 6, the opportunity to get out and commune with nature, learn about the earth, the trees, the birds, is an important part of their education. Den-building, rope swinging, stick whittling and clay modelling all contribute to the sheer joy of freedom and having the time to think. We all learn better by doing and nowhere is this more evident than when the children are enjoying time outside.



A young girl with brown hair is hanging upside down from a thick rope in a forest. She is wearing a light-colored quilted jacket over a pink shirt. She is smiling broadly at the camera. The background is a dense forest with many trees and a ground covered in brown leaves.

**"AT DALLINGTON WE OBSERVED
THE CHILDREN, EACH AND EVERY
ONE OF THEM INDIVIDUAL, HAPPY,
CONFIDENT SOULS, OFTEN
SLIGHTLY SCRUFFY AND VERY
ARTICULATE, EVERY CHILD
RECOGNISED AND REWARDED FOR
THEIR INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS."
- PARENT**



PERFORMING ARTS

Music ripples through everything we do. The chance to sing and learn rhythm through drum playing, as well as learning the ukulele and other instruments, is a joyful experience for the children. Learning about music from around the world, with visiting musicians, enriches their understanding of the world around them.



PERIPATETIC MUSIC
TEACHERS OFFER
PRIVATE LESSONS IN
PIANO, VIOLIN, DRUMS
AND GUITAR.





**CHILDREN'S ARTISTIC
DEVELOPMENT IS ENCOURAGED
AND CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT
OUR SCHOOL. THEY ARE GIVEN
THE SPACE, TIME AND SUPPORT
TO HELP THEM DEVELOP THEIR
INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL.**

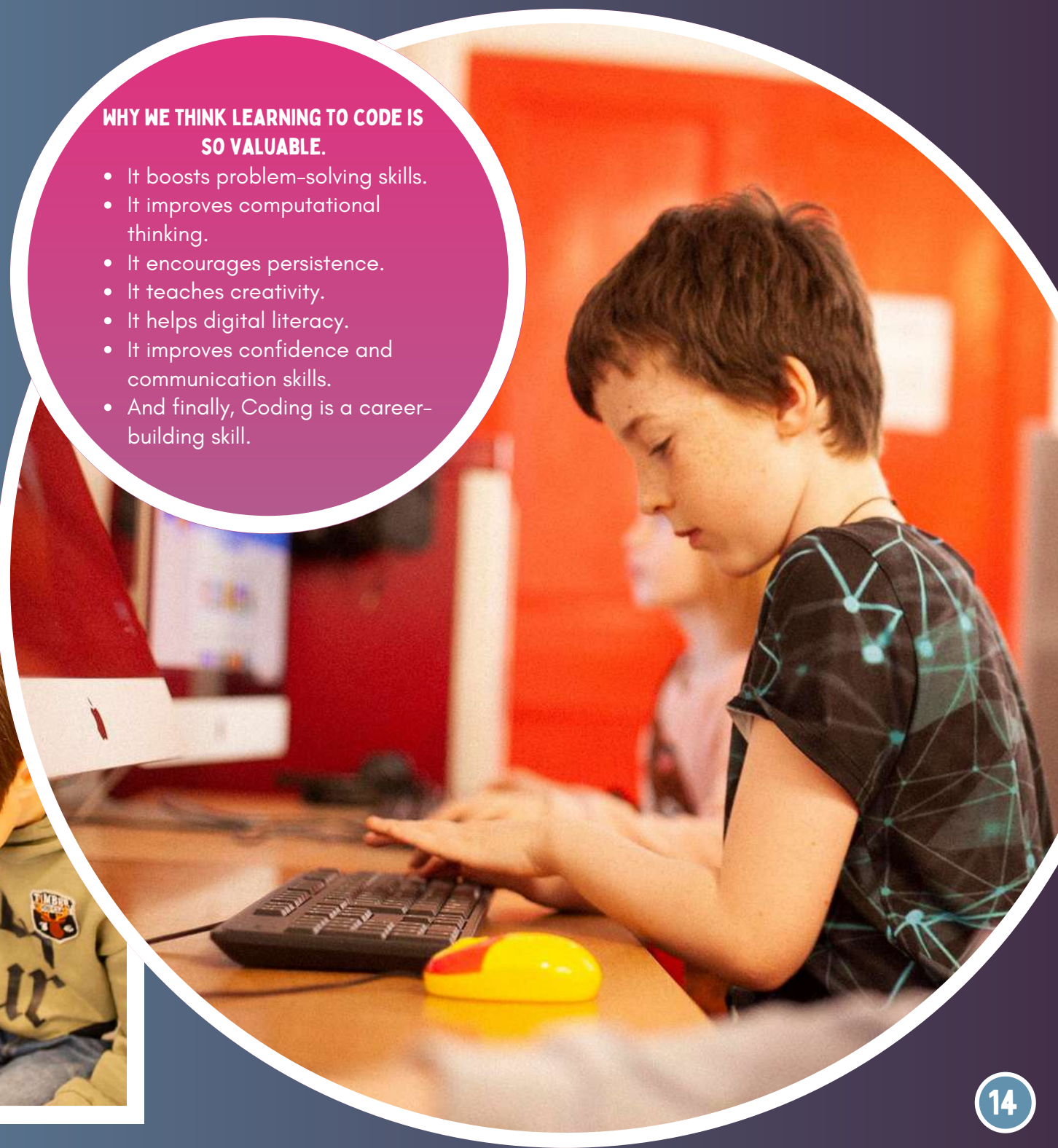


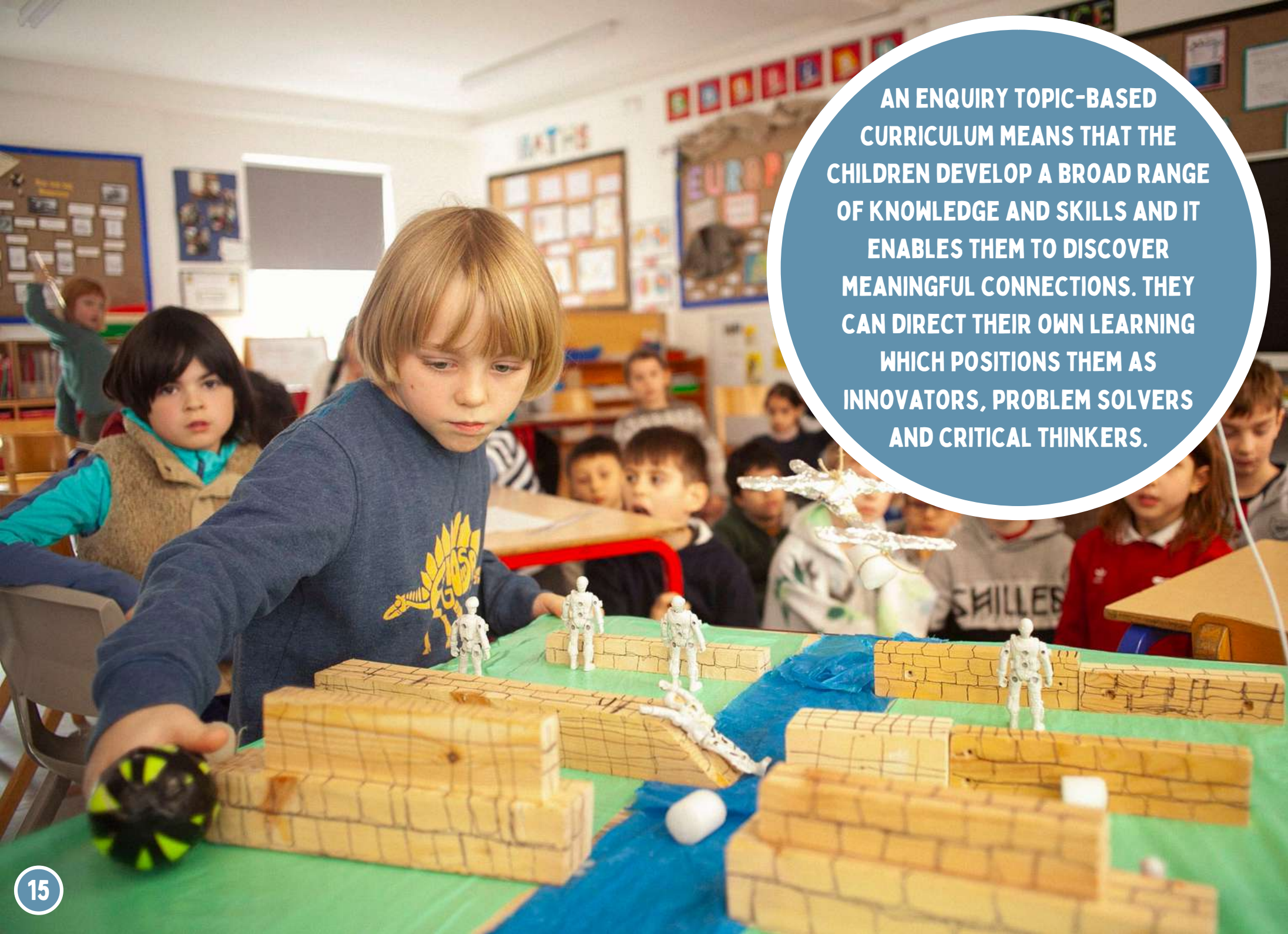
CODING

Coding is a vital tool for the children of today who will enter the workforce in the future, to jobs not yet created, where coding will be a skill expected of everyone. Over time children develop their skills and create increasingly sophisticated apps and games.

WHY WE THINK LEARNING TO CODE IS SO VALUABLE.

- It boosts problem-solving skills.
- It improves computational thinking.
- It encourages persistence.
- It teaches creativity.
- It helps digital literacy.
- It improves confidence and communication skills.
- And finally, Coding is a career-building skill.





AN ENQUIRY TOPIC-BASED CURRICULUM MEANS THAT THE CHILDREN DEVELOP A BROAD RANGE OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS AND IT ENABLES THEM TO DISCOVER MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS. THEY CAN DIRECT THEIR OWN LEARNING WHICH POSITIONS THEM AS INNOVATORS, PROBLEM SOLVERS AND CRITICAL THINKERS.

10 THINGS OUR PARENTS LOVE ABOUT DALLINGTON

- THE FRIENDLY AND CARING ENVIRONMENT: FEELS LIKE A FAMILY.
- THE OPEN-DOOR POLICY: STAFF ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE FOR A CHAT AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE DAY.
- GREAT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME.
- INDIVIDUALISED LEARNING: UNDERSTANDING THAT EVERY CHILD IS DIFFERENT AND EVERYONE HAS THE SUPPORT THEY NEED.
- CHILDREN HAVE CONSTANT OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS AND PASSIONS.
- LOTS OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM – MUSEUM TRIPS, CONCERTS, THEATRE, FOREST SCHOOL, SWIMMING, KAYAKING.
- SPECIALIST MUSIC, IT, PE, SWIMMING, CIRCUS SKILLS AND LANGUAGE TEACHERS.
- THERE'S A GREAT SELECTION OF AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS, AS WELL AS AFTER SCHOOL CARE.
- CHILDREN ARE FREE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES - SO THERE'S NO UNIFORM.
- FIRST NAMES FOR ALL.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

WE OFFER A RICH PROGRAMME OF AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES AND CAN LOOK AFTER CHILDREN UNTIL 5:30PM EVERY DAY.

ART CLUB
FOOTBALL
CRAFTS
LEGO ROBOTICS
SCIENCE CLUB
DRAMA
ANIMATION
COOKERY
FENCING
STUDY SKILLS
(11+)



ASSESSMENT

WE ARE A PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL, AND BELIEVE THAT CHILD CENTRED, NON-PRESSURED LEARNING HELPS OUR CHILDREN FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL. THIS APPROACH DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE SACRIFICE OUR STANDARDS. WE HAVE EXTREMELY HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR CHILDREN WHEN THEY ARE PREPARING FOR THEIR NEXT SCHOOL, WHETHER THEY ARE SITTING THE 11+ OR MOVING TO A NON-SELECTIVE SCHOOL. IN EITHER CASE THEY DO SO CONFIDENTLY AND WELL PREPARED.

IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN WELL, WE NEED TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE WITH THEIR LEARNING SO THAT WE CAN TAILOR OUR APPROACH TO THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS. BY LISTENING TO OUR CHILDREN AND THROUGH CAREFUL QUESTIONING AND OBSERVATION, OUR TEACHERS UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR CHILDREN KNOW AND WHAT THEY CAN DO SO THAT THEY CAN ADAPT THEIR LESSONS ACCORDINGLY.



REPORTING PROGRESS

TEACHERS MEET WITH PARENTS TWICE A YEAR FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CONVERSATIONS AROUND THEIR CHILD'S PROGRESS AND ATTAINMENT. PARENTS TAKE HOME A CELEBRATORY CHILD-LED LEARNING JOURNEY WHICH IS SHARED WITH YOU, YOUR CHILD AND THEIR TEACHERS. WE ALSO HAVE MORE FORMAL ASSESSMENTS TO KEEP TRACK OF OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRESS, WHICH ARE ADMINISTERED IN A STRESS-FREE ENVIRONMENT.

AT THE END OF THE YEAR YOU WILL RECEIVE A VERY DETAILED FORMATIVE REPORT ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS, COMPILED FROM CAREFUL OBSERVATION BY THE TEACHER, TO ASSESS HOW YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING JOURNEY IS PROGRESSING AND WHAT THEIR NEXT STEPS WILL BE.



LIFE AFTER DALLINGTON

Dallington enjoys continuing close relationships with many of the schools our children choose as their next step.

We spend a lot of time getting to know each individual child, finding out what they like, what they are good at, what sort of school they think would suit them. We then talk to you, the parents, to find out what your hopes and dreams are for your child. We don't put any unnecessary pressure on children by spending hours on exam papers, but we ensure that children feel ready and prepared for their secondary school transition.

A carefully designed model provides the children with transferable life-long skills which incorporate our core values of relationships, empathy, creativity, individuality, play and enjoying the journey.

PUBLIC SPEAKING & PERFORMING

With an extra drama lesson each week, children have the opportunity to build their confidence with public speaking and performing in front of others. How to effectively use their voice with the correct breathing and an awareness of gestures, helps them feel grounded and comfortable in their own skin.

CREATIVE WRITING

A regular extra lesson specifically focussing on developing children's creative writing skills, enables and encourages them to take risks and utilise their powerful imaginations to develop wonderful pieces of writing that will engage an audience.

MINDFUL PRACTICES

Learning about different parts of the brain and their function, children develop techniques to help calm the amygdala so that they can think clearly and be the best versions of themselves.

ADAPTIVE QUESTIONING

Children complete a variety of questions using an AI tool, which adapts the difficulty of the questions depending on how well they are able to answer them. This ensures that the questions are pitched correctly for each child so that they all feel appropriately challenged. Children answer questions in maths, comprehension, verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning.

"MY CHILD HAS GONE INTO SECONDARY SCHOOL VERY SURE OF WHO HE IS AND VERY READY TO STICK UP FOR OTHERS IF THEY NEED IT. HE HAS AN INTRINSIC UNDERSTANDING OF DIVERSITY AND OF EVERYBODY MATTERING AND SHOWS IT IN HIS EVERYDAY INTERACTIONS. THE SMALL CLASS SIZES AT DALLINGTON REALLY NURTURED HIM, DEVELOPING HIS SENSE OF SELF SO THAT BY THE TIME HE WAS READY TO SPREAD HIS WINGS AT SECONDARY SCHOOL HE COULD FLY!" - PARENT



ADMISSIONS

CHILDREN MAY START IN OUR NURSERY THE TERM FOLLOWING THEIR THIRD BIRTHDAY. WE RECOMMEND EARLY REGISTRATION, WHICH WILL PLACE YOUR CHILD ON OUR LIST.

OPEN EVENTS

THESE ARE HELD REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. [PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR UPCOMING DATES](#)

[BOOK
YOUR
TOUR](#)

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. Book a personal tour of the school with our Head of Admissions.
2. Complete the registration form and pay a non-refundable registration fee of £150.
3. Once your child has been registered, we will place their name on the entry list for that year and places will be offered 3 terms prior to entry. If your registration is made closer to the date of entry, an offer will be sent straight away.
4. Once you receive an offer of a place via email, the deadline for acceptance is 7 days after the offer date. Places are secured by completing the online forms which will then direct you to pay your deposit. Your child's place is secured on the successful completion of all stages of this process.



THE PRACTICAL STUFF



HEAD: JAMES GRIFFITHS
PROPRIETOR: ABI HERCULES

PERSONAL TOURS

COME AND SEE US IN ACTION. TALK TO THE CHILDREN AND THE STAFF AND EXPERIENCE THE UNIQUE SPIRIT OF DALLINGTON. PERSONAL TOURS ARE AVAILABLE EVERY DAY AT EITHER 9:30 OR 10:30. VISITS CAN BE BOOKED [HERE](#)

ENTRY POLICY

DALLINGTON HAS A NON-SELECTIVE ENTRY POLICY: WE WORK ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS AND TAKE CHILDREN FROM 3-11 YEARS OLD. THERE IS NO ENTRY TEST AND MOST CHILDREN JOIN US AT THREE AND FOUR YEARS OF AGE.



SNACKS, LUNCH AND PLAYTIME

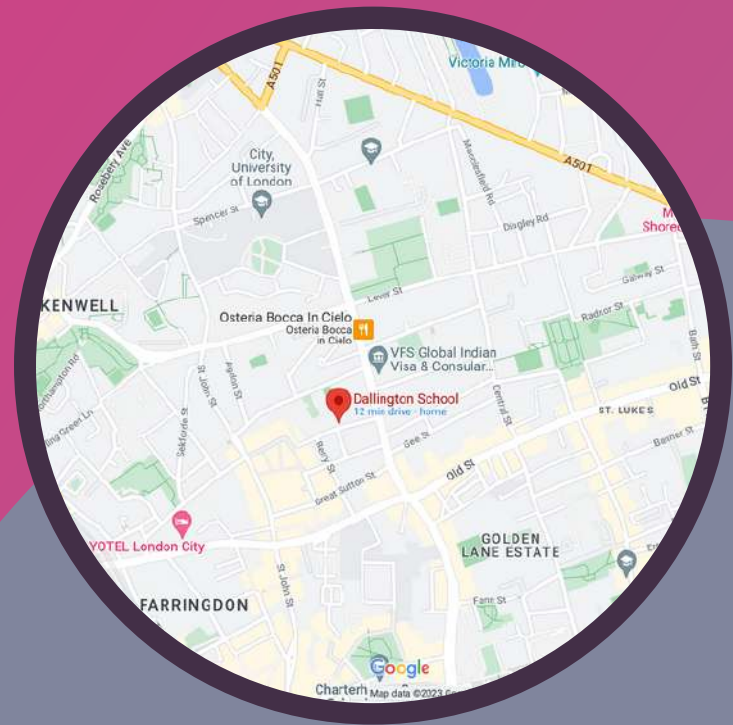
BOWLS OF FRESH FRUIT ARE PROVIDED IN EVERY CLASSROOM FOR CHILDREN TO HELP THEMSELVES DURING THE DAY. NURSERY CHILDREN ARE GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL SNACK IN THE MORNINGS BEFORE GOING OUT TO PLAY. CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO BRING THEIR OWN HEALTHY PACKED LUNCH.

LUNCHTIMES ARE SUPERVISED BY A DEDICATED TEAM OF LUNCHTIME ASSISTANTS, AS WELL AS OUR FULL-TIME STAFF. AFTER LUNCH THE CHILDREN WALK ROUND TO THE PLAYGROUND IN SEWARD STREET – A SHORT WALK FROM SCHOOL – AND HAVE ABOUT 45 MINUTES OF OUTDOOR PLAYTIME. SPORTS LESSONS ALSO TAKE PLACE HERE, AS WELL AS AT IRONMONGER ROW BATHS, WHERE CHILDREN HAVE WEEKLY SWIM LESSONS.



LOCATION AND TRANSPORT

DALLINGTON SCHOOL IS HOUSED IN A FORMER VICTORIAN CHURCH SCHOOL WITH LARGE AIRY CLASSROOMS SPREAD OVER FIVE BRIGHT, HIGH-CEILINGED, OPEN PLAN FLOORS. MANY CHILDREN ARRIVE ON FOOT, OR BY SCOOTER OR BICYCLE, BUT WE ARE WELL-SERVED BY UNDERGROUND STATIONS AT BARBICAN, FARRINGTON, OLD STREET, AND ANGEL, AS WELL AS BEING ON BUS ROUTES 4, 55, 56, 153, 243.



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