



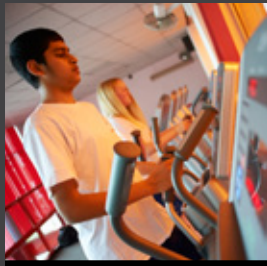
**Heston**  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL



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# Prospectus

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*“ GCSE results have improved year-on-year and are now well above the national average, most notably in English, Mathematics and Science. ”*

*Ofsted 2012*



# WELCOME TO HESTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

At Heston we are committed to providing our students with the education they need to become confident, articulate, independent learners and thinkers who are ready to take their place in the demanding world of the 21st century. Through the provision of high quality learning opportunities both in the classroom and outside, we demonstrate our determination to create active, healthy and well informed citizens of tomorrow.

Heston is a strongly inclusive school. As we believe that all our students can achieve well and that everyone has something to contribute to the School and the wider community, we are committed to meeting the needs of all students, whether this be by providing additional support for learning for some or adding additional challenge for those who are Gifted and Talented.

We are proud of the excellent relationships that exist between staff and students. Within our culturally diverse student body, tolerance, respect and understanding are cornerstones for the strong relationships which exist. Parents/Carers and Governors work in partnership with the School, as critical friends, in order to ensure that the young people of our community enjoy the highest standard of education.

The traditional values of courtesy, discipline and respect are important to us and we believe that upholding them will help us to achieve the best results for all at Heston.


I hope that this Prospectus, together with our website, will paint a picture of life at Heston and encourage you to find out more. Please do come to visit us, either at one of our Open Events or arrange an individual family visit.

I am sure you will be impressed with what you see!

*Phil Ward*

Headteacher





*“ Fun, adventurous, and inspiring –  
a crazy term – I loved it – awesome! ”*

*Khimran – Year 7 Student*

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## WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE AT HESTON?

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*“ Heston has an amazing teaching team,  
keep up the good work. ”*

*Year 7 Parent*

“What will it be like at Heston?” will be a question both students and parents/carers will be asking as they consider moving from junior and primary schools to senior school.

Starting at a new school is very exciting but can also be a little scary so we work very hard to make sure that this all important transition happens smoothly and that our new students have nothing to worry about. This work starts before students join us, when we work with primary schools to ensure that we know our new students and continues on Transition Day and during our Summer School each year when supportive links are established between Year 6 and current Year 7 students.

We do all we can to make sure our students are happy and have no problems so that they can make the most of the many opportunities that will come their way as they move through the School. At Heston we find the time to listen to our students as well as provide support, coaching, mentoring and guidance.

## OUTSTANDING PASTORAL CARE

We pride ourselves on our pastoral care and the family atmosphere that exists throughout the School. Every child matters to us and this is reflected in the work of everyone at the School. On top of this, Tutors have a particular interest in their Tutees and make it their top priority to ensure they are happy and getting the most out of their time at Heston. Students spend 25 minutes each morning with their Tutor in Registration and a full range of activities to enhance learning are planned by each Year Team.

Super Learning Days are also planned every term. These days epitomise the culture of the School. They are days where teams made up of students from different Year Groups are set a task and work together to complete it. Recent Super Learning Days have seen the Teams create a themed paper sculpture, gain an insight into career opportunities or take part in fundraising sponsored events.

These fundraising events are just one of many ways in which our students and staff are involved in helping others – a philosophy that is at the heart of Heston’s culture.

*“ I really enjoy school. I find it fun and educational.  
It makes me feel safe and happy. ”*

*Jai – Year 7 Student*

*“ We have been very happy with Heston –  
Thank you so much. ”*

*Year 7 Parent*





*“ The students, parents and carers are overwhelmingly positive about the quality of education and care. ”*

*Ofsted 2012*

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## A PASSION FOR LEARNING

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We are committed to changing lives through education and so teaching and learning is at the heart of everything we do. We continually look at ways in which we can motivate, inspire, challenge and support our students.

Our enthusiastic and dedicated Teaching Team, working in state of the art teaching facilities, create a passion for learning by making lessons fun and challenging. We believe you get the best out of children through praise, encouragement and reward.

Sixth Form students provide role models for other students across the School and there is fierce competition within the Sixth Form to be selected as a Mentor for younger students.

We aim to equip all our students with the essential knowledge, attitudes and skills for life and for work in the ever changing 21st century.

As a Specialist Visual Arts Academy, Heston is also committed to using the Visual Arts to improve learning and creativity in all subjects across the School.

The curriculum is designed to provide both breadth and balance in a relevant and flexible way enabling everyone to become a successful, independent learner irrespective of ability or individual needs.

We have combined the traditional features of an established, high-achieving school with the need to respond to the needs of a rapidly changing society.



### **Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)\***

Our aim is to provide a good, rounded general education in accordance with the National Curriculum and attention is given in all subjects to the development of literacy, numeracy and information technology.

### **Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)\***

All students continue with a broad based educational programme including the core of English, Mathematics and Science. In addition to these core subjects, Physical Education, Religious Education, PSCH EE and a Visual Arts subject are also studied at Key Stage 4 and a wide range of additional subjects can also be chosen by students. Study Support is offered to some students for whom the full range of GCSE subjects would be inappropriate.

### **Key Stage 5 (Post -16 Years 12 and 13)\***

Sixth Form education at Heston is a strong feature of the School. Students thinking of entering the Sixth Form receive individual advice and guidance during Year 11 in order to help them choose an appropriate course of study. A broad range of subjects are offered at 'A' level as well as practical vocational programmes.

\* Full details of subjects offered can be viewed on our website

[www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk](http://www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk)

*“ The Sixth Form at Heston brings difficult yet motivating challenges – the School is passionate about its students’ success. ”*

*Roshni – Sixth Form Student*



*“ The depth of talent we have created in the arts here is truly remarkable. ”*

*Phil Ward – Headteacher*





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## CREATIVITY AT HESTON

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We are a Specialist Visual Arts Academy and we are very creative! You can see this in the stunning artwork our students produce as well as the superb music and drama performances that we stage but the creativity does not stop there.

Creativity exists in the way our students solve mathematical equations or produce a stunning move on the basketball court. It is also a key element in our teaching – an element that makes lessons memorable and inspiring.

Creativity is encouraged at Heston. To foster creativity teachers encourage learners to think laterally and make associations between things that are not usually connected. We encourage students to be able to reinterpret and apply their learning in new contexts, look at things from different points of view and experiment with alternative approaches to solving problems. We help learners to see possibilities and challenges and all of these skills can be taught.

Employers are always saying, 'We need people who can be innovative, who can think differently.' If you look at the failure rate among companies, it is massive. The United Kingdom is now facing the biggest challenge it has ever faced – to maintain its position in the world economies. All these things demand high levels of innovation, creativity, and ingenuity. That's why, as a School, we continue to promote creativity in our curriculum.

Albert Einstein said, '*Imagination is more important than knowledge*' – We agree but we also believe *knowledge in partnership with imagination* is an unbeatable combination and is key to how Heston operates and prepares students for the future.





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## DEVELOPING THE WHOLE CHILD

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Stretching students' capabilities and interests beyond the classroom is an important element to life at Heston. The wide range of activities, events and trips plays a key role in the development of students as well as being great fun too!

Sport, Music and Drama provide students with the opportunity to express themselves, learn new skills and enjoy a real sense of achievement. House Sport Competitions bring out the best in our students whether competing for their House Team or enthusiastically supporting their friends.

Drama Productions, Concerts and our Cultural Fusion Show all illustrate the depth of talent that exists within the School as well as the friendly nature of our students who positively encourage their friends to perform in front of the whole school.



We organise many trips ranging from day trips to art galleries or museums in London to overseas visits, often taking advantage of our involvement in Comenius Projects to benefit from links with schools throughout Europe.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is very popular at Heston even if our regular trips to Box Hill or Dorset are often wet and muddy!

Voluntary work is a key element of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and is an integral part of the School. Heston students are generous with their time and they raise an impressive amount for worthy causes from sponsored events and the ever popular cake sales! They will also carry out more practical help including visiting homeless centres with food and clothes and helping disadvantaged children.

The School's involvement with both Eton College and The University of the Arts London provides students with great opportunities to benefit from experts whether this be in Workshops at Eton or as part of a Design Team with the university.

The opportunities available outside the classroom at Heston are a real bonus and add up to a wealth of unforgettable experiences for our students.



*“ Young people are at the centre  
of everything we do. ”*

*Heston Community School  
Development Plan*





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