



Prospectus

www.harringtonhill.hackney.sch.uk

Welcome to Our School

Harrington Hill is more than just a school – it is a family. We are part of the vibrant and diverse community of Hackney, East London, and we have watched our children grow into well-rounded adults, able to take their place in the world. We are now employing and teaching the children of our former pupils, strengthening further the sense of community.

Harrington Hill is a small, one form entry, family-like school situated in Upper Clapton, Hackney. We are extremely lucky to have the River Lea, Springfield Park, Hackney Marshes and Walthamstow Wetlands on our doorstep, providing exceptional outdoor learning opportunities for our pupils.

At Harrington Hill, we understand that children learn better when they feel happy, safe and valued at school. We have an inclusive approach to ensure every child is supported and encouraged to engage in all aspects of school life and achieve their potential.

Our dedicated and hardworking staff team are committed to ensuring our children strive for excellence in all that they do. Our expectations are high and achievement and successes of all kinds are expected and celebrated.

We try to make learning creative, stimulating, inclusive and fun with plenty of challenge and collaboration. Our children leave Harrington Hill with the skills and tools they need to become lifelong learners who are responsible, respectful and exemplary members of their community.

Harrington Hill is a healthy, happy environment with strong family values and concern for the welfare of all. Every governor, teacher, parent and child is asked to make a 'promise' to do everything they can to uphold the principles of our core vision. We keep our promises, and that trust and shared commitment, is what makes Harrington Hill the school it is today.



"My child has grown in confidence at Harrington Hill and is very happy. She has built great relationships with her peers and teachers"

Harrington Hill parent



Early Years

We provide a safe, positive and enabling environment, where children are guided and supported by adults that they trust, allowing them to feel confident to explore the world around them, extend their interests and discover their passions.

We have one Nursery class and one Reception class. These classes work together to provide a solid foundation on which our children can continue their learning journey.

The power of play

Well-planned play, both indoors and outdoors, is an important way in which young children learn with enjoyment and challenge. In playing, they behave in different ways; sometimes their play will be boisterous, sometimes they will describe and discuss what they are doing, sometimes they will be quiet and reflective as they play.

Through play, in a secure environment with effective adult support, children can:

- Explore, develop and represent learning experiences that help them make sense of the world
- Practise and build up ideas, concepts and skills
- Learn how to control impulses and understand the need for rules
- Be alone, be alongside others or cooperate as they talk or rehearse their feelings
- Take risks and make mistakes
- Think creatively and imaginatively
- Communicate with others as they investigate or solve problems
- Express fears or relive anxious experiences in controlled and safe situations.

A learning environment

At Harrington Hill, children in Nursery and Reception benefit from a spacious, stimulating learning environment with high quality resources as well as access to their very own Forest School on site. Children attend Forest School each week to develop their physical motor skills, self-confidence and an emotional awareness in the natural world.

“Play is the soil from which a child grows”

Vince Gowman

A parent partnership

Parents are children’s first and most enduring educators. At Harrington Hill, we see parents as partners and believe that each unique family must be welcomed and listened to. We recognise parents’ commitment to their children’s early development and education and give priority to working with families to ensure every child can reach their potential.



Ambitious Curriculum

The Harrington Hill curriculum has been designed to be in-depth, wide ranging and ambitious. It aims to provide all pupils with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in life through memorable learning experiences. Our curriculum strives to be culturally diverse, reflecting the rich and wonderful cultural tapestry we celebrate as a school community.

1. Intent

The curriculum at Harrington Hill is underpinned by four key drivers:

Curiosity

We want Harrington Hill pupils to be curious about the world. Our curriculum encourages critical and creative thinking, often through enquiry based, experiential learning and question based, open-ended lessons.

Environment

We want Harrington Hill pupils to care about the environment and the world around them. Our curriculum therefore focuses on issues of sustainability whilst also aiming to provide opportunities for pupils to learn about their local area, engage with the community and learn about/support the work of chosen charities.

Identity/Diversity

We want Harrington Hill pupils to feel proud of their identity whilst also celebrating the rich and wonderful diversity around them. Throughout the year, our pupils study different world religions and learn more about their own culture whilst also exploring and learning about the cultures of others. Our school places great emphasis on inclusivity, whilst promoting equal opportunities and the importance of building children's self-worth.

Life Skills

We want Harrington Hill pupils to leave school with the life skills they need to succeed confidently in the wider world. During their time at primary school, and by way of the curriculum, we aim to build independent and resilient learners – active learners who are adept at problem solving and able to work cooperatively with others, resolving conflict when it arises.

2. Implementation

At Harrington Hill Primary, we mainly plan and deliver the national curriculum through subject specific topics, ensuring depth of learning, and the progression of a broad range of knowledge and skills from Nursery to Year 6.

The curriculum is rich in key vocabulary and a love of reading is promoted, encouraging children to read widely in order to deepen their understanding of a range of topics and themes.

3. Impact

Our pupils leave Harrington Hill with a secure understanding of the academic content; with the understanding of how to be socially, morally, spiritually and culturally responsible and aware; how to make positive contributions to the local community and how to endeavour to be the best that they can be. We aim for all our children to leave Harrington Hill respectful, skilful, ambitious and with a thirst for life and all it has to offer.





Encouraging Creativity

Harrington Hill fosters an exciting environment where children are encouraged to explore and develop their creativity in media such as photography, painting, collage, printing and music.

We believe that creative subjects, such as art and design technology (DT), allow children to express themselves and develop a greater understanding of the world. Teaching the arts has the power to engage, inspire and challenge pupils allowing them to learn new skills, fuelling their imagination and igniting their creativity.

At Harrington Hill, every class from Nursery through to Year 6, is taught music by our specialist music teacher. The children develop skills in listening, composing, performing, evaluating and learning to play a musical instrument.

In our weekly singing assemblies, classes join up to sing together, further strengthening their sense of belonging to a community and boosting pupil's emotional wellbeing.

There is also an opportunity for children to join their very own rock band at Harrington Hill! This is led by Rocksteady, who teach the pupils how to play a selection of different band instruments (including voice) and perform songs as part of their band.

"The teachers build up the children's excitement about new topics by introducing lots of art, drama and fun at the start. This fires their curiosity so they really own their learning"

Harrington Hill parent

Promoting Healthy Lives

At Harrington Hill Primary School, we actively promote the emotional, social and physical well-being of all our pupils. We strive to equip children with the core qualities of confidence, empathy, resilience, initiative and collaboration to enable them to lead healthy and fulfilled lives.

Pupils receive at least 1.5 hours of dedicated PE time per week, focusing on both development of skills and games experience. Over the year, the children are exposed to the full PE curriculum and develop their skills in dance, athletics, gymnastics and games.

Swimming lessons also take place so that all children have the opportunity to become confident swimmers by the time they finish primary school. Children are also given opportunities to take part in borough-wide competitions and some have even gone on to represent the borough in wider London events.

"I know our school cares for us because they want us to be healthy and live long, happy lives. We learn about staying safe, food, emotions and how to keep fit."

Harrington Hill pupil

Chefs in Schools

As a health promoting school, Harrington Hill is committed to encouraging and developing attitudes towards food and a healthy diet. Chefs in Schools (a team of chefs dedicated to transforming food education in schools) provide our pupils with nutritious, well-balanced meals in school each day.





Enrichment

The world of Harrington Hill extends way beyond the normal school day to include a wide range of different experiences and opportunities which embed learning, develop life skills and of course create wonderful memories for life!

At Harrington Hill, the children benefit from:

- Exciting day trips in and around London
- A range of after school clubs and activities
- Special visitors and awe-inspiring workshops
- An action-packed adventure trip to Marchants Hill activity centre in Surrey
- Visits to Leaside Trust for canoeing and kayaking
- Cycling proficiency lessons

Forest School

We have various outdoor learning spaces, including our wonderful Forest School, located at the back of the school grounds. The children enjoy exploring the natural environment through a holistic teaching approach centred on a fundamental respect for children and their capacity to investigate, test and maintain curiosity in the world around them.





Our School Community

The School Council

The Harrington Hill school council gives all pupils a voice and influence in what they learn and how they learn. Their role includes gathering data and opinions from pupils to present to staff, fundraising, advice on the use of the school budgets and leading special assemblies.

Pupil Leadership Team

The pupil leadership team consists of a small group of Year 6 pupils who act as role models for the other pupils in school. They work closely with the school council and senior members of staff, focusing on key aspects of school improvement.

Working with Parents

We are fortunate that our parents are actively engaged in the life and work of the school. Regular newsletters keep them up-to-date with their child's progress and they are often invited into school to see pupils' work and share in their achievements. Parents share their skills with the whole school, giving talks and taking part in school events.

Community Partners

At Harrington Hill, we recognise our larger role in the local community. Working with others beyond the school gate enables us to build social capital and connect young people and their families within the community so that everyone experiences a sense of belonging and hope for the future. We work in partnership with local businesses and service providers including Hackney Education, local food providers and local sports and leisure services.

