

The Charter School East Dulwich

Vision and Ethos

Our vision

The Charter School Educational Trust believes that all young people have the potential to achieve in school and succeed in life. We are committed to the pursuit of the highest possible standards in education and united in our determination that all students will excel regardless of their starting points or personal circumstances.

We want all our students to become creative, confident and caring citizens who are happy in themselves, excited about their future, and ambitious for success. They will leave us ready to participate fully in our democratic society and prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

To make this happen we will:

- Provide an exceptional academic education, supported by wide-ranging and high quality sporting, cultural and artistic activities;
- Nurture in ourselves a love of learning and belief in a growth mind-set;
- Always go 'the extra mile' to enable all students to achieve above and beyond their perceived potential;
- Continue to build a happy community within each of our schools based on personal responsibility, civic pride and social justice.

In summary, our goal is to develop in all students the knowledge, skills and character necessary for success in higher education or the inspiring career pathway of their choice.

Our ethos

The Charter School East Dulwich will provide an excellent education for young people from the local community in a safe, supportive learning environment, where people are valued and make positive contributions to the school, and where pupils go on to become responsible, independent members of society. We believe that all our young people have the potential to achieve in school and succeed in life. Whatever a student's starting point no young person will be left behind. Excellent performance comes through effort, motivation and targeted interventions throughout the years of secondary education.

The Charter School East Dulwich will provide a supportive but challenging environment where each pupil is expected to aim for the highest standard in all aspects of school life and beyond. Our new school will welcome pupils of diverse talents, needs and interests. We will guide all our pupils in learning to be aware of other people's needs within both the school and our wider community, value those differences and to develop their own self-confidence and self-judgment.

Curriculum Offer

Curriculum

Our curriculum will be organised to ensure pupils feel safe and are supported, enjoy their learning and achieve success. In Key stage 3, we will offer a broad curriculum including Maths, English, Science, Art, Computing, Design and Technology, Drama, History, Geography, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, and Physical Education. In Key stage 4, all pupils will study English Language and Literature, Mathematics, and Science in addition to subjects of their choosing. The majority of our pupils will be able to study for the English Baccalaureate suite of qualifications, which offer the widest field of opportunities in later life. A range of A Levels and other Level 3 qualifications will be available when pupils progress to Key stage 5.

We will personalise the curriculum according to specific needs and skills of individual pupils. Special attention will be given to those pupils who learn most quickly. More able linguists will also be able to study Mandarin and talented musicians will be able to apply for a scholarship to support tuition in vocal/instrumental teaching.

Those pupils whose abilities develop at a later stage will also be given special attention. If for any reason a pupil arrives at our school without essential literacy or numeracy skills, we will support them with an entry-year nurture group, rapidly bringing those pupils to the standard expected to access the rest of the curriculum. Tailored support will also be available for students whose first language is not English.

Skills for life and work

We will also help our pupils to develop the character and thinking skills necessary for effective learning and broader success in life. Older pupils will undertake community work to help them develop as responsible citizens. We will develop and accredit students' personal attributes essential for employability and life.

We will place great store on every pupil leaving our school finding employment, education or training. We will ensure that our students have the skills to present themselves in the best possible way to new employers or, as many of our young people are doing, start up new enterprises, especially in the creative and media industries.

The Charter School Educational Trust already has over 100 employer partners and our city mentoring and apprenticeship programme will inspire pupils with exciting interactions with internationally renowned organizations in business, creative industry, healthcare and science. We are working in collaboration with King's Health Partners, who are the largest local employers, to develop a cutting-edge provision around health and wellbeing for our students and to capitalise on the Health shared usage of our proposed site for our new school.

Enrichment programme

The Charter School East Dulwich is committed to offering a wide extension and enrichment curriculum to ensure the best possible programme for our students whatever their needs or abilities. We will aim to provide an environment that encourages our students to participate fully in additional opportunities to extend and support their learning and interests.

Pupil voice

Pupils will be able to get involved in designing aspects of the new schools such as our permanent buildings and the school environment. Pupils will be fully involved in the appointment of all pupil-facing roles at our school. We will create formal and informal processes of taking pupil feedback and involving pupils in active research about the most effective teaching strategies.

We will ensure that our pupils also benefit from having a more mature sister school just down the road.

Parental engagement

The Charter School on Red Post Hill holds the Parental Engagement kitemark at Gold standard for the quality of our work in involving parents in the life of their child at school. We will emulate this in The Charter School East Dulwich. Parental feedback will be taken routinely, to ensure that parents know they matter and that their contributions are a feature of the school.