



SCHOOL PROFILE

LEARNING THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Through its community partnerships, Emanuel School inspires its students to look outwards

Just a ten-minute walk from Clapham Junction train station, Emanuel School, with its green spaces and attractive campus, is easy to get to from around London and its outskirts. As well as geographical accessibility, top of mind in Headmaster, Robert Milne's plan for the school is to make it more accessible, more open and more inclusive through Emanuel's charitable organisation, the Battersea Rise Trust, benefiting both the local community and Emanuel students alike.

Established in 1594 by Lady Anne Dacre to educate 20 girls and boys for free, Emanuel has always embraced social mobility and diversity with almost 40% of the school population being supported by the assisted places scheme, before its extinction in the 1990s. Now an independent school for 10-18 year olds with a much larger student population of 1,000, it will offer 43 free places by 2024.

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Headmaster Robert Milne emphasises, “It's not just about giving. Everything we do with local schools and charities is a partnership and one in which our students benefit immensely. For example, through our Primary Ambitions programme, 250 pupils from 23 local primary schools come to Emanuel every Friday afternoon. Our sixth form pupils teach, coach or mentor them in subjects that their schools might not have extensive resources in such as Greek myths and legends, physics,



sport, drama, music, art and theatre. It is amazing how our pupils have developed as learners and young people because of it. We plan to roll out a similar initiative with our Year 8 pupils acting as learning partners to primary children from 2021.”

The students also play an active part in shaping life at Emanuel and making it better. In response to the Black Lives Matters movement, the school put together an advisory board of teachers and students to review the curriculum amongst other areas, working closely with Westminster City School in Victoria.

Mr Milne explains, “By having a positive impact on their surroundings, as well as developing academically, Emanuel students can stand tall, be confident and be proud. A happy school breeds a calm, collegiate and respectful environment among our boys and girls regardless of gender, race, culture or socio-economic background.”

In fact, there is a clear correlation between Emanuel's community work and

its academic excellence, coupled with its superb pastoral care. Emanuel is in the top 50 co-ed schools in the country. Last year, 81% of its students secured their first choice UCAS offer and 76% of university places were at Russell Group universities. The A-level grades leapt by 15% at A*/A in one year and GCSE A*/A has increased by 20% since 2013.

There are also plans afoot for a new leading-edge building housing the sciences, robotics and coding to complement the recently opened Dacre building, which is a hub for the arts and humanities, and echoing the passions of their ex-pupil and founder of the world wide web, Sir Tim Berners-Lee.

By providing a holistic education, Emanuel introduces students to new opportunities and experiences that teach them kindness and leadership skills which will not only help them boost their university applications, but also create a better future for themselves and others. ✦