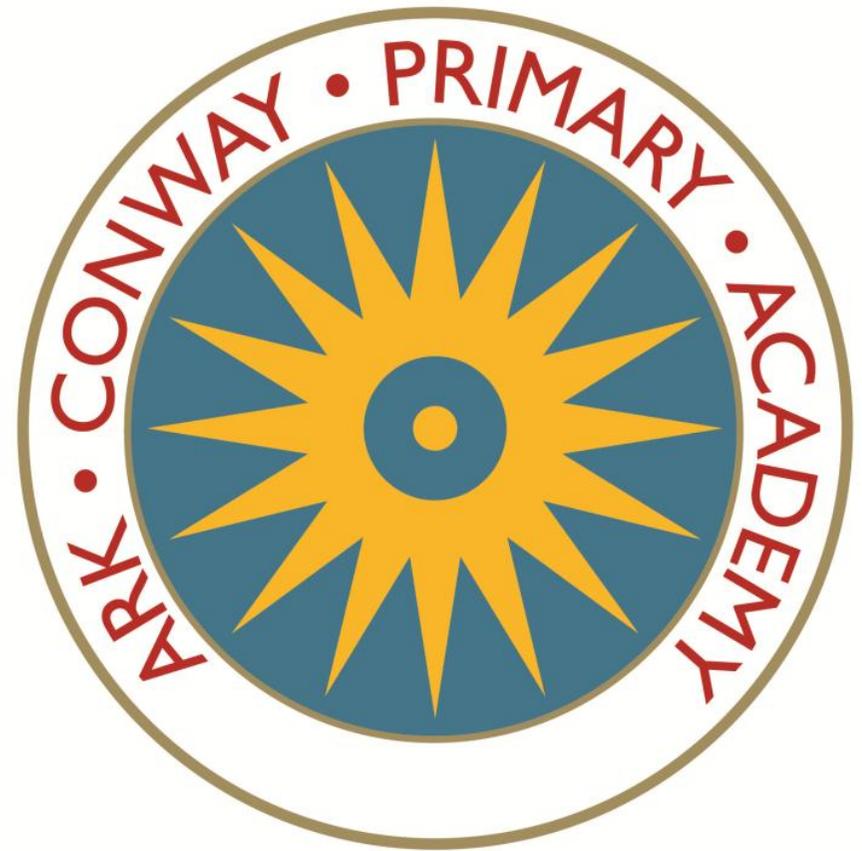


Inspire Excellence



AN **ark** SCHOOL



Welcome to ARK Conway Primary Academy

Dear parent/carer,

Thank you for reading our prospectus.

Welcome to ARK Conway Primary Academy - a new primary school for 4-11 year olds which opened on Hemlock Road, in north Hammersmith in September 2011.

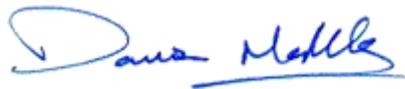
We have one form of entry and are non-denominational and non-selective, welcoming boys and girls of all abilities from the local area.

The academy is characterised by high expectations and high achievement for all pupils. We provide an inspiring yet nurturing learning environment where teachers really know pupils and their parents, and every child can flourish.

ARK Conway Primary Academy aims to enable all its pupils to realise their full potential and provides them with every opportunity to succeed. Our aim is that each child will achieve a good level 4 at key stage 2, which will give them a strong foundation for secondary learning. In addition to this it is crucial that every pupil leaves the academy with a love of learning and is well prepared for the transition to secondary school.

We support and stretch our students in finding their talents through rigorous and engaging learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Through outstanding leadership, teaching and pastoral support, we provide an inspirational environment which celebrates success and encourages pupils to strive for excellence in everything they do. I look forward to meeting you and discussing what ARK Conway Primary Academy can offer your child.



Damian McBeath

Headteacher

ARK Conway Primary Academy

Our Vision and Values

Our Vision

Our vision is to inspire excellence.

We inspire our pupils with a passion to learn, to achieve and to succeed.

Our strong parent community underpins our commitment to high standards.

Our staff understand what excellence looks like. They model it, celebrate it and do whatever it takes to ensure that our pupils achieve it.

Our Values

ARK Conway Primary Academy is characterised by its core values and high expectations for pupil achievement and personal development.

- **Aspiration:** Everyone can succeed
- **Respect:** We are mindful of the needs and feelings of others
- **Perseverance:** We never give up, even when things seem hard
- **Honesty:** We value truth
- **Happiness:** We enjoy learning and are happy at school.



Our Culture

High expectations

We set exceptionally high expectations for all our pupils which we reinforce constantly as they go through school.

We aim to have at least 90% of pupils reaching level 4a in both English and mathematics by the end of year 6, so that they are fully prepared to start secondary school.

Exemplary behaviour

Our school has a respectful and orderly atmosphere, where teachers can focus on teaching and pupils on learning.

We aim for uninterrupted teaching and learning to make exceptional achievement possible.

Excellent teaching

Nothing is more important than excellent teaching, underpinned by high quality professional development.

We work hard to ensure that our pupils have the very best teachers and that teachers have the support they need to deliver outstanding lessons.

Depth before breadth

A strong command of English and mathematics is essential for the whole curriculum. We prioritise depth before breadth, so that all pupils secure firm foundations in these core subjects as early as possible.

We ensure that each child's curriculum is appropriate to their needs.

More time for learning

Our longer school day provides more time to embed core subjects and to extend the curriculum through enrichment. Our school day runs from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

Small School environment

ARK Conway Primary Academy is organised so that every pupil knows and is known well by every teacher within the school. This enables us to provide a great deal of support and encouragement for all children and their families. We are a one form entry school, at full capacity we will have 210 children from the ages of 4 to 11 years old.



Our Curriculum

A focus on mathematics and the performing arts

ARK Conway Primary teaches a world-leading maths curriculum. Our aim is to ensure that every child achieves mastery of mathematics concepts, computational skills, problem solving and application of mathematics to daily life activities. Children learn drawing strategies to solve complex problems and build strong links between objects, pictures, and abstract numbers. We teach mathematics topics in depth, so children understand the “how” as well as the “why”.

Performing arts are at the core of the ARK Conway Primary Academy community. They are key to our learning and how we have fun. Collective participation in the performing arts builds a sense of community and develops skills in self-expression and performance. Our performing arts programme enables pupils to gain the knowledge and skills to enjoy and develop their interests.

The primary programme focuses on dance, drama, singing and on instruments which are taught and played in groups. Our young musicians will be encouraged to sit formal music examinations. Our aim is for every pupil to play an instrument and sing confidently.

Enriched curriculum

Our longer day provides time for a rich curriculum, stimulating new interests and enhancing children's learning experiences. We invite professional artists, actors, writers and musicians into school and offer a range of trips and events to encourage learning and broaden pupils' interests and experience. We have already developed strong links with a number of local community groups to help enrich our curriculum including Queens Park Rangers F.C. and the Lyric Theatre.





The Early Years Curriculum

Reception pupils follow the ARK Schools Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

The curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning; three of which are prime:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

These prime areas of learning are integrally connected and are respected as transcending cultural differences, reflect the beginnings of child development, are critical for influencing later success in learning and emerge as an outcome of early experience.

The specific areas of learning are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

We will provide a stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environment where children will be motivated to communicate, explore and learn independently. A carefully planned range of activities will provide a rich, age-appropriate learning experience across the curriculum.

Our Curriculum

English

This is divided into three areas:

Speaking and listening

Pupils are given opportunities to experience different kinds of speaking and listening so that they can learn how to express themselves and how to listen to others' opinions. We use drama techniques to provide opportunities for children to express themselves in different situations.

Reading

Our aim is that every child should enjoy reading; for pleasure and to find out information. Children read every day, individually, in small groups and as a class. Children learn to read through synthetic phonics and a wide range of reading strategies. We strongly encourage parents to read with their children on a daily basis. Children are encouraged to become independent readers as they move through the school.

Writing

We ensure that every child can write appropriately for a variety of situations as they move through school. Initially children are encouraged to write in play situations and, as they become more confident, to write in a more structured way. We combine teaching spelling and handwriting with phonics. Knowledge of letter sounds helps a child to spell correctly and to tackle unknown words when reading. Handwriting is taught on a regular basis, with a clear progression each year.

Mathematics Mastery

Ark schools follow a unique maths curriculum based on the world leading Singapore approach; Mathematics Mastery.

Mathematics Mastery differs from the current national curriculum in a number of ways;

- An emphasis on pupils mastering the basic knowledge and skills in mathematics. By studying fewer areas of learning pupils develop a greater understanding of whole number, fractions, geometry and statistics.
- Visual modelling helps pupils make the links between a concrete understanding and abstract application of mathematical concepts.
- Fewer areas of learning mean that teachers can focus on quality delivery supported by a rigorous scheme of work.

Science

Children take part in investigative activities and experiments through which they acquire and develop scientific knowledge, skills and understanding. Science is taught separately as well as through cross-curricular links.

ICT

Pupils have access to the latest technology including interactive whiteboards and wireless laptops to enhance their learning and learn computer skills. Children learn programmes including word processing, data handling and graphics. We also incorporate the use of ICT into other subjects.

Religious Education

We focus on developing children's social, moral and community spirit, by exploring a range of cultural beliefs. Pupils are taught to be understanding and considerate to others both in the school and the wider community.

Foundation subjects

History, geography, design and technology, personal, social and health education, music, art and drama is taught through a creative and themed approach as well as in distinct lessons. We keep parents up to date on the topics being covered across each phase through our regular newsletters.

Physical Education and healthy living

Regular PE is part of the curriculum and we encourage active play every day. Pupils are taught gymnastics, dance and athletics as well as team sports and swimming. We aim for every child to be able to swim at least 25 metres by the time they reach 11. We teach pupils how to live healthily and provide pupils with a nutritious lunch each day.

Modern Foreign Languages

All pupils learn French from Reception.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

From Reception, the children engage in P4C each week to develop critical thinking and to use reasoned moves to build arguments. The pupils work collaboratively by sharing and challenging ideas, as well as creatively, by speculating and using their imagination.



Every child will succeed

ARK Conway Primary is an inclusive school and our team of dedicated teachers are committed to all our pupils' success. We believe that every child will succeed academically at ARK Conway Primary.

We ensure this by keeping track of pupils' progress and by regularly assessing where pupils are in terms of their learning. If pupils do not make expected progress we intervene quickly and provide appropriate support.

Special educational needs (SEN)

We are committed to enabling every pupil to achieve his or her potential. The academy follows the Government's "Revised Code of Practice" in identifying, assessing and supporting pupils with special educational needs. Through Individual Education Plans we provide support which is tailored to cater for each pupil's unique situation. Support may be given in class, in a small group or through one to one sessions, and is delivered by a skilled team of teachers and learning support assistants.

English as an additional language (EAL)

Pupils for whom English is an additional language will benefit from our emphasis on the core curriculum, gaining extra support until they reach the expected achievement for their age in English. Through careful assessment and a combination of small learning groups, our pupils have full access to the learning opportunities provided by the school.

Gifted and talented pupils (G&T)

We want all our pupils to maximise their potential and ensure that all our pupils are appropriately challenged and supported. Careful identification and assessment enables us to provide suitable challenge and differentiation to extend the learning of all our pupils.

Family dining service

At ARK Conway Primary Academy we value the importance of meal times.

We are committed to providing a healthy and nutritious meal for every child alongside the experience of eating meals in a small group alongside adults.

Pupils learn table manners, how to hold cutlery properly, how to lay a table and have the opportunity to experience discussion and chat over dinner with support from staff. We place great importance on all our pupils learning these important social skills and this is a part of the school day which is planned for and shared with teachers and other adults.

Each week we invite parents and carers to join us and share this experience with us. This gives you the opportunity to taste our fantastic food whilst sharing the experience of Conway family dining first hand.

Celebration assembly

Each week we hold a celebration assembly, in which parents join us to celebrate significant achievements and events. This is a chance to get together as a community and focus upon success, helping the children appreciate and develop a sense of pride in themselves and their peers.

Parents, carers and members of the local community are invited to join us after the assembly for coffee. On occasion the coffee mornings may be accompanied by an educational workshop or guest lecture regarding an aspect of the school curriculum or new initiatives.



A local school for local children

We are very proud to be a member of the Wormholt and White City community and are working with a number of local groups and organisations in the area:

- Wormholt Tenants and Residents Association (WTRA)
- Seniors club
- Friends of Wormholt Park
- St Katherine's Church
- The Lyric Theatre
- Queens Park Rangers Football Club

Admissions

ARK Conway Primary Academy is a non-selective school for local children. If the academy is oversubscribed, priority will be given to students with statements of special educational needs, where the academy is named on the statement. The remaining places will then be offered in the following order of priority:

- children who are in public care
- children who have a sibling who already attends the school and who will continue to do so on the date of admission (for this purpose "sibling" means a whole, half or step-brother or -sister resident at the same address)
- children who live closest to the school, using a straight line distance from the main entrance of the academy to the main entrance of the child's home.

The local authority will keep a waiting list which is used to fill casual vacancies occurring if students leave during the year, or withdraw from a place that has been offered.

Contact information

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the academy please contact us:

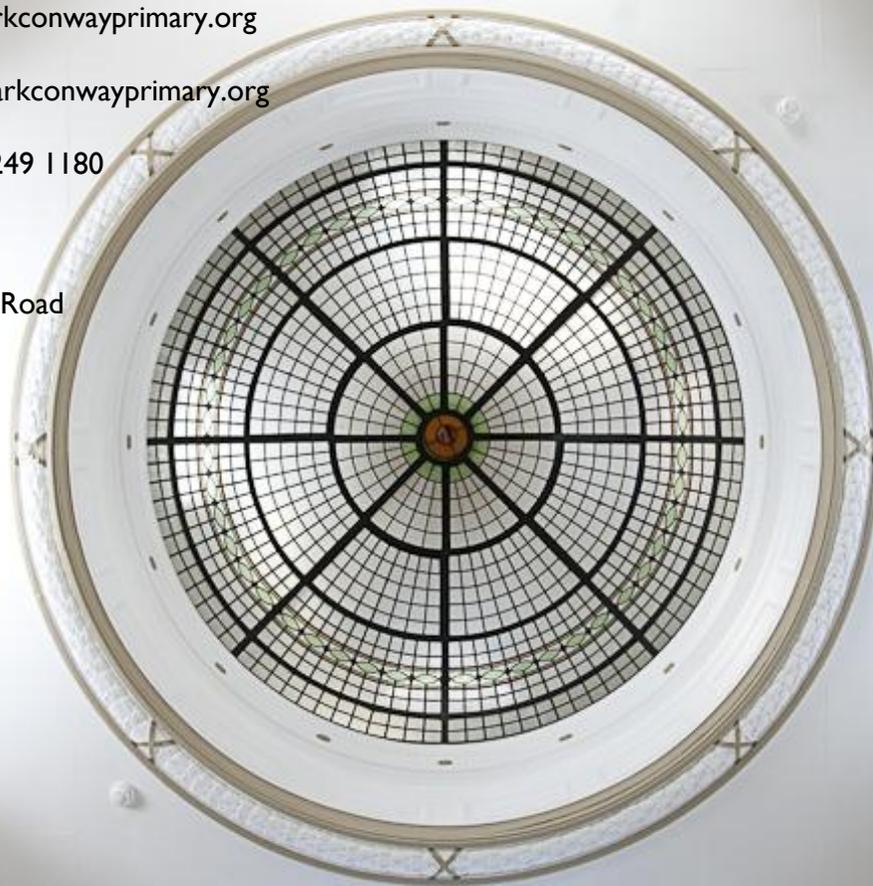
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