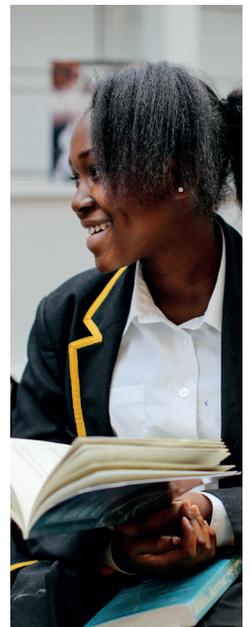


Ark

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About
us





Transforming lives through education

What we do



Ark is a charity that aims to transform lives through education. Our goal is to help give children the best start in life, regardless of their circumstances or background.

Our network of schools in the UK achieves great results for young people, focusing on areas of need or historic underachievement. Some of these schools are now among the best in the country.

The ventures that we work with in the UK and around the world are showing that new approaches can help tackle some of the most intractable problems facing young people.

Our schools

35 schools in the UK

Ark Ventures

- Ambition School Leadership
- assembly.
- EdCity
- Education Partnerships Group
- {e} English Mastery
- FRONTLINE
- INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING
- Mathematics Mastery
- NOWTEACH
- peepul
- STiR education



Our schools



There are 35 Ark schools educating around 24,000 students across Birmingham, Hastings, London and Portsmouth. These include primary, secondary and all-through schools. All are non-selective and in communities with high levels of economic disadvantage or educational need.



Ark Burlington Danes Academy
2006 All-through

King Solomon Academy
2007 All-through

Ark Walworth Academy
2007 Secondary

Ark Academy
2008 All-through

Ark Globe Academy
2008 All-through

Ark Evelyn Grace Academy
2008 Secondary

Ark Charter Academy
2009 Secondary

Ark St Alban's Academy
2009 Secondary

Ark Atwood Primary Academy
2011 Primary

Ark Conway Primary Academy
2011 Primary

Ark Oval Primary Academy
2011 Primary

Ark Bentworth Primary Academy
2012 Primary

Ark Kings Academy
2012 All-through

Ark Putney Academy
2012 Secondary

Ark Tindal Primary Academy
2012 Primary

Bolingbroke Academy
2012 Secondary

Isaac Newton Academy
2012 All-through

Ark All Saints Academy
2013 Secondary

Ark Ayrton Primary Academy
2013 Primary

Ark Brunel Primary Academy
2013 Primary

Ark Franklin Primary Academy
2013 Primary

Ark Helenswood Academy
2013 Secondary

Ark John Keats Academy
2013 All-through

Ark Priory Primary Academy
2013 Primary

Ark Swift Primary Academy
2013 Primary

Ark William Parker Academy
2013 Secondary

Ark Blacklands Primary Academy
2014 Primary

Ark Dickens Primary Academy
2014 Primary

Ark Elvin Academy
2014 Secondary

Ark Little Ridge Primary Academy
2014 Primary

Ark Boulton Academy
2015 Secondary

Ark Byron Primary Academy
2015 Primary

Ark Chamberlain Primary Academy
2015 Primary

Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy
2016 Primary

Ark Castledown Primary Academy
2017 Primary

Working where we can make the biggest difference



In the UK, the strongest predictor of how a child will do at school is still what their parents do for a living. A student from a low-income background is more likely to start school behind their peers academically, and is therefore at risk of leaving school with fewer chances in life.

- 52% of Ark secondary students are disadvantaged (i.e. they have been eligible for free school meals, a measure of economic deprivation). This is nearly double the national average of 27%
- Students going to Ark secondaries are less likely to have achieved the expected standard at primary school, so they enter school behind their peers
- 40% of Ark students speak English as an additional language, more than double the national average

Despite this, our schools are achieving strong results, especially for the progress that students make. For example, the proportion of our disadvantaged students passing English & maths GCSEs (59%) is over a third higher than the national average (43%).



"I want to be the best. Nobody in my family has come anywhere close to being a doctor - and that's my goal."

Ark King Solomon Academy student Nadia, who earned 11 A*s at GCSE and four A*s at A-levels.





Turning around challenging schools



Most Ark schools were existing schools that joined the network to improve – often from difficult circumstances.

Of Ark's 24 transition schools, 21 are now performing at a higher national ranking than before they became Ark schools (based on 2016 data).

Building successful new schools

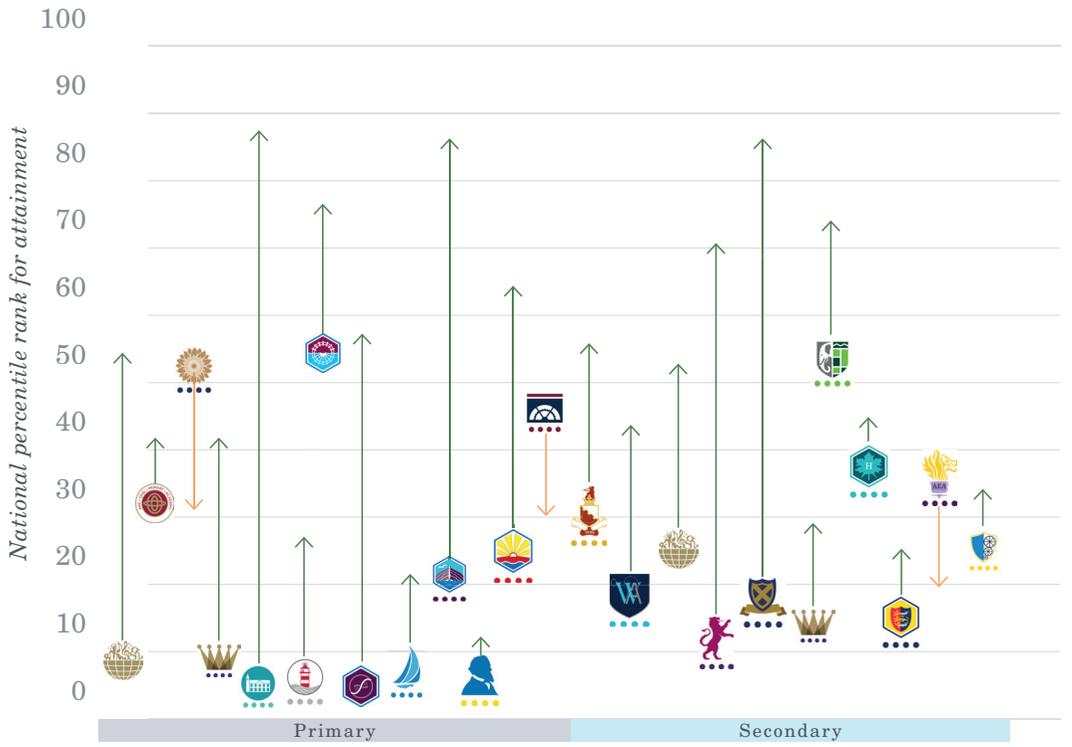


Nearly a third of Ark's schools are newly built – to provide pupil places for communities that need them.

- All Ark's new start schools that have been inspected by Ofsted are rated good or outstanding
- Two new schools, Ark King Solomon Academy and Isaac Newton Academy are in the top 1% nationally for pupil progress



Change in attainment since joining the Ark network



2016 results

Our students are more likely to go on to further education



How our students do when they are in school is only part of the story. It's just as important to us that they leave school with the skills, knowledge and insight to make ambitious choices about their future.

- In 2016-2017, **81%** of our sixth form students gained a place at university, compared with a national average of **48%**
- The proportion of economically disadvantaged students going from an Ark sixth form to university is double the national average
- Our Professional Pathways programme works with hundreds of year 12 - 13 students across the network. The programme helps them to make informed decisions about whether to pursue an apprenticeship or university after leaving school

20% of Ark's sixth form students go to a Russell Group university – double the national average





Last year,
more than **600**
students from
28 schools took
part in our
music gala

Learning beyond the classroom



Education isn't simply about passing exams. Arts, sport, and an exploration of university and careers are important to a child's time at school – they not only build character, but they open doors in life.

Whether debating social issues at the English Speaking Union, working on experiments led by world-leading scientists, exploring the wilderness or receiving coaching from sector specialists, our students are constantly encouraged to expand their horizons.

Music is a core part of life in many of our schools. Our music programme includes network choirs, ensembles, and instrumental and vocal programmes – often culminating with the chance to perform at our popular music gala.

We work closely with universities, charities and businesses to make sure that students have the financial, social and emotional support to transition successfully through school and into university or an apprenticeship.



Teachers at Ark
schools receive
twice as many
training days as
standard

Training outstanding teachers



Teachers are the key to Ark's success. We prioritise training and support to help everybody be the best they can be.

Our two-year teacher training programme, Ark Teacher Training, has been rated outstanding in all areas by Ofsted. They praised the programme's "exceptionally tailored coaching and training...of the very highest standard."

The school-based programme provides successful trainees with a university-accredited PGCE and QTS.



Ark Ventures

At Ark, we know the impact that a great education can have. Our students and staff are achieving great results across our schools.

Ark Ventures was created to take this further – to deliver change beyond our own schools.





Working with and launching new initiatives



Ark Ventures incubates, launches and scales initiatives that have the potential to transform lives.

The Ventures team works with great people and helps to develop ideas that share our goal to change children's lives. They contribute strategic and operational support while ventures grow into sustainable organisations.

Many of these ideas started in Ark schools. Others have come from innovators and partners outside of Ark. But they all share the ambition to address some of the most intractable issues in education and society – and they all have the potential to deliver widespread system change.

Homegrown ventures

Our homegrown ventures come from innovations created within Ark.



Ambition School Leadership transforms the lives of disadvantaged children by building and training a network of outstanding school leaders.



EdCity will be an innovative education hub in west London where organisations with a shared mission will collaborate to improve education standards in the local community, London and beyond.



EPG brings together different organisations around the world in order to give every child an excellent education. EPG advises governments, works alongside school operators, and generates research on public private partnerships.



English Mastery is an Ark curriculum programme designed to improve standards in cultural and academic literacy.



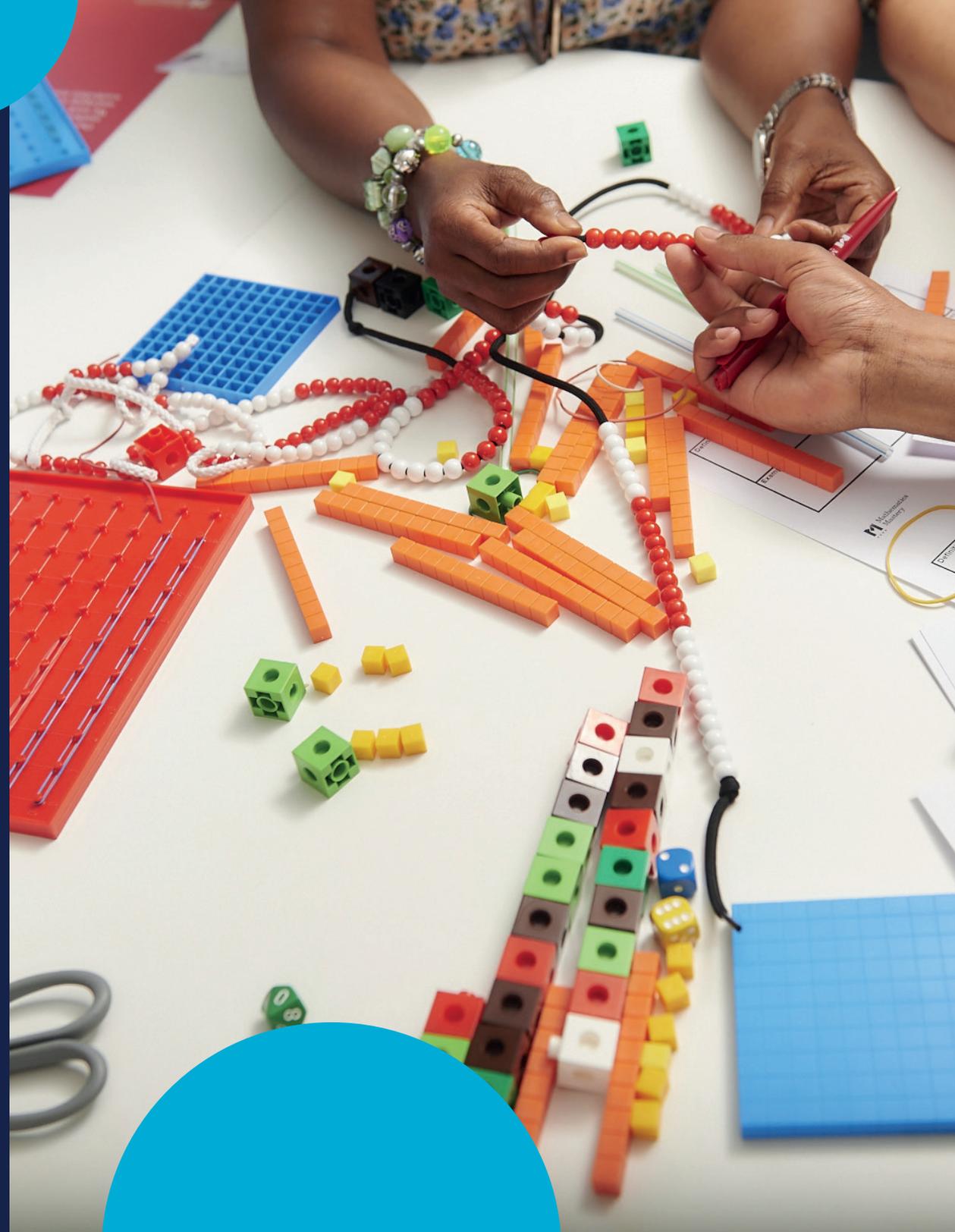
The Institute for Teaching is a specialist graduate school for teachers. Its courses have a single purpose – to help teachers to keep getting better.



Peepul is an education non-profit in India. Peepul partners with the government and other organisations to run a network of schools and deliver education and training programmes.



Mathematics Mastery empowers and equips schools to deliver world-class mathematics teaching through an engaging classroom style, inspired by Singapore and Shanghai.





Partnership ventures

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We work in partnership with people and organisations outside of Ark to launch and support innovative new ventures.

▲assembly.

Assembly is a data platform for school information management. It connects school improvement systems and offers accessible data dashboards, helping schools make more informed decisions.

NOWTEACH

Now Teach encourages experienced professionals to retrain as teachers and reapply their skills to teach children who need it most. It is the only teacher training programme designed solely for career changers.

FRONTLINE

Frontline trains outstanding individuals to be leaders in social work and broader society. Its two-year training programme places graduates and career changers in social work roles around the UK.

STiR education

STiR Education operates in India and Uganda, working to reignite the spark in teachers and empowering them to become committed, skilful and influential changemakers.



Spotlight on:

Education Partnerships Group



The Education Partnerships Group (EPG) works internationally to bring together governments, education organisations and schools.

EPG advises on the design and implementation of public-private partnerships and smarter accountability tools that drive innovation and excellence in the developing world's education systems.

South Africa

- EPG has supported the Western Cape government in piloting a new model for running public schools. The *Collaboration Schools* programme seeks to ensure poorer communities have access to quality teaching. EPG also works with and supports school operators within the programme
- EPG is supporting the development of a new school accountability system in the Western Cape
- EPG helped to create the Instructional Leadership Institute – a school development programme designed to train school principals who can create change in the most disadvantaged schools

Uganda

- EPG supported Uganda's examination board to implement a value-add performance measure which allows the government and parents to more fairly judge and compare schools
- EPG has worked with PEAS, a school operator, to help it evaluate the performance of its schools in comparison with other schools in Uganda

India

- EPG worked with the South Delhi government to open a new public primary school. Following its success, the school has grown into a network and has become its own Ark venture, called Peepul
- In Madhya Pradesh, EPG supported the design and implementation of a quality assurance programme – similar to the UK's Ofsted – across the state's 120,000 schools
- EPG conducted a programme called ENABLE, a voucher lottery programme in Delhi, to compare the quality of private and public schools

Liberia

- EPG helped the government create a 93 school pilot programme of a public private partnership – featuring eight different school operators

Global

- EPG is incubating the Global Schools Forum, a not-for-profit membership organisation for school operators around the world
- EPG is collaborating with the RISE programme, helping with research on how to effectively improve education systems in developing countries



Spotlight on:

EdCity



EdCity will be an innovative education hub in White City, London. The development will allow Ark and education organisations with a shared mission to work in the same space and collaborate – helping to improve education standards across the country.

The development will include:

- Expanded early years and primary education provision
- Office and training spaces for Ark and other mission-aligned charities
- Adult education facilities to support those taking their first steps back into education and training
- Improved transport and access routes for the local community
- New leisure facilities for local young people
- Affordable housing for key workers

Combined, the elements of EdCity respond to the needs of the local community and, through the creation of a new landmark education hub, those of the wider education sector.

How you can support us



Ark is driven by our mission to give every young person, regardless of their background, a great education and real choices in life. We are an ambitious and collaborative organisation and we are always looking for supporters who can help us achieve our goal of transforming lives through education.

There are many ways you can help support us:

Donate

Ark designs and runs a variety of programmes that enable young people to develop the skills, mindset and habits to succeed in life. These include music programmes, internships, mentoring opportunities, curricula and more.

With the support of our generous donors, we can reach even more students, giving them the tools to equip and prepare them for life beyond school. If you would like to discuss ways to support us, please contact fundraising@arkonline.org

Volunteer

You don't have to be a teacher to inspire students. We have a number of volunteering opportunities available for organisations and individuals. These range from giving a talk in school, to providing work experience or mentoring.

To find out how to get involved, contact pathwaysandenrichment@arkonline.org

Partner with us

Whether it is a short-term project to train students in one of our schools, or a long-term educational innovation programme, there are a variety of ways we collaborate with organisations. This support is integral to achieving our mission.

We are always looking for further collaboration opportunities – if you are interested in working with us and supporting our schools, please contact pathwaysandenrichment@arkonline.org

Become a school governor

We are looking for governors to provide leadership and support for our schools.

You don't have to be an educator, lawyer or an accountant to be a school governor. If you have an interest in improving education and you would like to make a difference within your community, please contact governance.team@arkonline.org



Ark



T +44 (0) 20 3116 0800

E info@arkonline.org

arkonline.org

65 Kingsway London

WC2B 6TD

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