



Dalmain Primary School





# Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to Dalmain Primary School, a vibrant and thriving school within the Forest Hill community that aims to nurture and celebrate all children while providing the highest quality of education through rich and varied learning experiences. We hope that, as you read about all that we do, it is clearly evident what a special school this is.

Inspiring pupils is of prime importance and this is at the heart of our provision. We are passionate about instilling a life-long love of learning and it is through

the wide range of opportunities on offer at Dalmain that pupils can gather an understanding of the world around us and develop their ability to ask questions and to think critically. Through the inclusive and enriched curriculum, children develop their social, spiritual, physical and emotional skills, and are supported to think in a way that builds resilience and confidence through self-reflection and ownership of learning.

**Erika Eisele, Headteacher**



*“Teachers are especially adept in asking questions to deepen pupils’ understanding.”*

Ofsted 2014

*“The quality of teaching has remained consistently good with some outstanding practice.”*

Ofsted 2014

# Achievement and Aspiration

We work tirelessly to ensure all children reach their potential: every minute of the school day matters. It's important to us that every child makes good progress from their own starting points and aspires to do their very best.

While we believe that learning is about more than exams, our pupils make excellent progress and achieve good SATS results. We are proud of their commitment to learning and support them to make even greater

progress through small group teaching, booster classes and extension work for more able children. Our teaching is full of rigour and pace and is of a consistently high standard.

We ensure our Pupil Premium children are helped to make similar progress to their peers by using the Pupil Premium grant to raise standards and close the gap in attainment.



*“With a child in both Year 2 and Year 6 last year, I was apprehensive about the effect that the tests would have on their lives. Dalmain handled it brilliantly. There was no stress and both children actively enjoyed the challenge. We are so lucky that they are at a school that values our children, rather than just testing them.”*

Dalmain Parent

# Early Years

Our younger children are at the heart of Dalmain's success. We know the love of learning begins at the start of our children's educational journeys.

Children in Early Years classes thrive in a stimulating learning environment. We use resources such as StorySacks, speaking and communications skills workshops, and high quality phonics and numeracy teaching to ensure our younger students make excellent progress.

We work hard to develop children's curiosity and critical thinking skills through independent play and adult-led experiences, so that they become lifelong learners who are excited about what the future holds for them.

***“ We went into the Wildlife Garden and released the butterflies that we'd had in the classroom. They used to be caterpillars.”***

Dalmain Nursery Pupil





*“Children make an excellent start in the Early Years Foundation Stage in developing the skills that enable them to become successful learners.”*

Ofsted 2014

# Clubs and Sport

We believe that extra-curricular clubs and sport enrich our children's lives, as well as improving their learning. We offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs **free of charge**.

Sport sessions take place in our dedicated outdoor facility, the Dalmain Pen, both during and after school. Our teams have an excellent track record and take home an impressive selection of trophies.

*“ Sport is highly valued at the school. Pupils participate in a range of activities including hockey, basketball, cricket and gymnastics, and they benefit from additional swimming sessions. Sporting professionals develop the capacity of staff to enhance the provision of physical education.”*

Ofsted 2014

*“ I love my school because the teachers make learning fun and always encourage us to do our best.”*

Dalmain Pupil





**ARTS & CRAFTS** • Choir • *Social skills* • **Chess** • Board Games • **COMPUTING** • Lego • **Mathletics**  
Audio Stories & Role Play • Spanish • **BRASS BAND** • **CRICKET** • History • *Storytelling*  
**Colouring for mindfulness** • gymnastics • **Cycling** • JAPANESE • *Performing Arts* • **Philosophy**  
Football • **Programming** • *French* • String Ensemble • Gardening • Drama • *Netball* • *Dance* •









# Music, Dance and Drama

Exposure to music, dance and drama benefits all areas of children's learning, so it is embedded deeply into our curriculum.

All children can learn a musical instrument from Key Stage 2 (lessons are free for Pupil Premium students), and we have a well-regarded choir, string ensemble and brass band.

Children in Years 5 and 6 are offered dance classes with teachers from Trinity Laban, and there are regular

opportunities for performance and involvement in drama workshops. Every class is named after a composer or musician, and pupils often get the chance to see and hear their class musician perform, or communicate with them digitally.

***“ I chose Dalmain for my child because it offers a wide and varied range of non-academic activities beyond the curriculum. At this age, this is the most important thing for us.”***

Dalmain Parent



*“Music features strongly across the school. There are innovative theatre projects in collaboration with Punchdrunk and educational visits to the English National Ballet and National Theatre.”*

Ofsted 2014



# Our Community

Dalmain serves a vibrant community and we are committed to celebrating and valuing its diversity.

As a Stonewall School Champion, and through visits to different places of worship and communities, we teach children the values of equality and acceptance.

We prepare our children for life in modern Britain, participating in local events and meeting community members, as well as helping our children to

understand the values of democracy, liberty and tolerance. The Head, Governing Body and staff work hard to uphold the vision and values of the school.

***“ The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is strong. Pupils are reflective and have a developed understanding of fairness and are inclusive in all they do.”***

Ofsted 2014





# Nurturing and Growing

At Dalmain we want our children to feel safe and secure when they are at school, and to enjoy coming here, so every school adult takes responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of all children.

As well as a special needs coordinator, Dalmain employs a learning mentor to break down barriers to learning, ensuring all children are appropriately nurtured to reach their potential.

We ensure all children are fully aware of the dangers of the internet, and work with parents and carers to keep all of our children safe online.

The children's behaviour was judged Outstanding in the most recent Ofsted report, and we have a zero-tolerance policy on bullying.

***“ I feel safe at school because I know the teachers will listen to me if I need help.”***

Dalmain Pupil





*“Our children love coming to Dalmain. The small issues we have had have always been dealt with quickly and sensitively, so that they always want to go to school in the mornings.”*

Dalmain Parent

# Outdoor Learning

Learning outdoors helps our children progress, and we have a trained Forest School practitioner on our staff. In Forest School sessions children build dens and create environmental art, encouraging self-esteem, independence and teamwork.

Our outside areas include an allotment, a wildlife garden, a number of playgrounds and our award-winning multi-use games area. Children

develop the skills of enquiry, experiment and reflection while using these areas.

Residential trips in Years 4 and 6 allow the children to learn outdoors and build bonds between classmates.

***“Through Forest School I have learned to listen better and share ideas.”***

Dalmain Pupil





# Parent and Carer Involvement

We encourage parents and carers to take an active part in their children's education at Dalmain, and many parents also choose to volunteer either at the school or through our active parent and carer association Friends of Dalmain (FoD).

The school is renowned for its excellent fairs and other fundraising events, which frequently feature creative experiences such as interactive drama installations, storytelling and circus skills.

The funds raised by FoD help to support the school's work, enhancing children's learning experiences, financing school trips and providing new resources to improve the learning environment.

***“Parents and governors share in the highly regarded Friends of Dalmain group, which reflects the strong community links the school has developed.”***

Ofsted 2014







DALMALN PRIMARY SCHOOL'S

**WILD WEST SUMMER FAIR**

LIVE MUSIC ★ LINE DANCING ★ PANNING FOR GOLD ★ RAFFLE ★

BEST WILD WEST FANCY DRESS COMPETITION ★

BUCKING BRONCO ★ SALOON BAR ★ AND LOTS MORE ★

ADULTS £2.00 CHILDREN FREE

Icons: star, horse silhouette, and circular emblems.



# Summer Fair

18 June 2016 | 12 - 3pm | Adults £2, Children Free  
Hosted by Friends Of Dalmain, Dalmain Primary School, Grove Close, London, SE23 1AS

## Dalmain Primary School's Magical Christmas

Magical encounter with Christmas characters  
Santa's Magical Grotto | Home-made produce | Food and Bar

Icons: star, circular emblem, and confetti.



# Admissions

Our admissions are processed centrally by Lewisham Borough admissions team. If the school is oversubscribed places will be allocated to:

1. Children in care
2. Children with a medical or social need
3. Siblings of children already in school
4. Children who live closest to the school

If you are a Lewisham resident, to apply for a place in reception at Dalmain you need to apply online on the eAdmissions website <http://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>. If you need help with your application please speak to someone in the school office.

There is more information on all aspects of Dalmain on our website [www.dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk).



*"I love Dalmain because I have the best teacher in the world. She is just like Miss Honey in Matilda. Learning is really fun, especially when we go on trips."*

Dalmain pupil

*"Pupils' attitudes to learning are exemplary so that their behaviour is outstanding."*

Ofsted 2014





## Dalmain Primary School

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