



# Hammond School

## Prospectus



Respect

Responsibility

Co-operation

Trust

Tolerance

Honesty

Caring





### **Hammond Recognition**



Artsmark is a national award scheme managed by Arts Council England that recognizes schools with a high level of provision in the arts. The award scheme is open to all schools in England - primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units, both maintained and independent. By gaining an Artsmark, a school shows its commitment to the wider development of young people and teachers and to raising the profile of the arts in the school and local community.



The NHSS in Surrey is an opportunity for schools to actively promote the health of the whole-school community. It is a commitment to promoting personal, social and health development. The scheme is not aimed merely at pupils' health or school curriculum development but centres around the whole school environment and all aspects of school life. "Healthier Living and Learning".



The RRSA recognises achievement in putting the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's planning, policies, practice and ethos. By taking these steps a school community helps improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their potential. A rights-respecting school not only teaches about child rights but also models rights and respect in all its relationships: between teachers/adults and pupils, between adults, and between pupils.

### **Welcome**

Through this prospectus we invite you to find out about our school. We offer a caring, nurturing environment that ensures children are challenged appropriately in their learning. We aim to give all children every opportunity to gain self-confidence over their four years with us; to rise to a level of social and academic capability ready to move onto their next stage of education.

We maintain close contact with parents and the local community and foster close links with our infant and secondary schools ensuring that education is a continuous process.

*"Hammond is a good school where outcomes for pupils are outstanding"*

Ofsted November 2011



## Community and Partnership

Hammond School opened in 1979, is recognised as a high achieving and successful school for pupils of 7-11 years serving the community of Lightwater and surrounding villages. The school is a community based hive of learning and activity, which interacts as much as possible with the people and institutions of the village. We have achieved the enhanced Healthy Schools Award, UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award, Arts Mark, Eco School Award and Investors in People accreditation.

As a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we encourage the children at Hammond to develop responsibility within their school and in turn to play their part as young citizens and members of the wider community. Hammond is a member of the Surrey Heath Learning Partnership working with other local schools to share best practice in learning and teaching, the Lightwater Business Association and All Saints' Church.

Working in partnership with pupils' families is a strong feature of Hammond's practice. We work collaboratively with parents and carers to inspire our young people towards success through their junior years.

Hammond's School Association (H.S.A.) is a thriving, active and ambitious parent association, which raises funds for additional resources that enliven, stimulate and broaden the children's learning opportunities.

**We provide for the needs of the individual child where each child is encouraged and supported to attain the highest standard of academic achievement that he or she is capable of attaining.**

*"The school provides a wonderful environment for my child to not just learn academics but social skills to launch her into the adult world"*

Parental quote from Ofsted November 2011





*“Attainment in English has remained high and that in mathematics is above average... Progress has improved in all years in both English and Mathematics and is good, with no significant difference between the progress that girls and boys make.”*

Ofsted November 2011



## Learning Opportunities

Each year group has three mixed ability and mixed gender classes. The team of three class teachers work in close proximity to each other ensuring a sense of belonging and common practice. They plan and assess together to ensure that the pupils receive equal opportunity and the benefit of joint expertise.

Teaching and learning groups within the year are arranged to advantage all children. Pupils are set in ability groups for mathematics on a daily basis, allowing pupils to progress at the appropriate pace. There is a highly trained team of support staff who work alongside teachers or lead small learning groups as part of the teacher's plan.

Learning groups may be whole classes, small groups or sets of pupils in ability groupings. The adaptability of this approach, leads to accurate assessment of children's capabilities. The dedicated teachers plan differentiated learning activities to meet the children's needs and ensure progress. It is our aim to add real value onto children's achievement as they progress through four years at Hammond. The published data from the Department of Education supports the fact that Hammond teachers and children have 'achieved better than expected' in recent years. The 'value added' is in excess of the generally expected levels of achievement for the majority of pupils each year.

## Inclusion

We are able to cater for all children for whom it is deemed right to attend mainstream school. A broad spectrum of academic, physical and social needs are accommodated by a staff committed to setting individual targets for individual needs. Individual education plans are developed in liaison with parents and teachers to give each child appropriate provision.

*“Hammond school should be proud to have staff so dedicated, supportive, patient and caring of all children”*

Parental quote, March 2012, after accompanying the York residential visit



## Resources

The Governing Body places an emphasis on recruiting outstanding staff in both teaching and administration. They aim for the Teaching and Support Teams to have a wide range of expertise and experience enabling the school to offer the children the very best opportunities.

Exploiting technology to facilitate learning is a priority. Hammond continues to harness the technologies to let children learn across the curriculum. The school is fully resourced with a computer suite, laptop bank, interactive whiteboards, computers in classrooms and a wide range of other digital equipment to enhance and enliven pupils' learning. There are also two computer logged libraries containing a wealth of reading and reference material.



Recreational and physical activity space is an asset to the school with two football pitches, a ball-wall and a secure playground equipped with occupational play and sports equipment. Lightwater Country Park, less than a hundred metres from the school entrance, serves the school daily for additional sports, orienteering, science and geographical study. The school hall, provides the performance and physical education space that the children deserve.

*"I feel privileged to have accompanied the year six trip to York. The children were a real credit to Hammond and their families."*

Parent quote, March 2012, after accompanying the York residential visit





## Behaviour & Relationships

Hammond children are introduced to their school community with careful induction procedures. Our Hammond Helpers, Playground Pals and Class Buddies greatly assist with the smooth running of these procedures. The House system allows children to identify with their team, gaining merits through daily duties, Team Days and of course the exciting annual Sports Day event.

Children develop a strong sense of personal responsibility at Hammond through a consistently fair and robust Behaviour and Discipline Policy. This is enhanced by the school's Rights Respecting Council who promote our Rights Respecting culture in the daily life of the school. Pupils are fully aware of boundaries and are expected to respond to the strict standards of behaviour set out in the school's policy.

Our pupils feel that they belong at Hammond. As we show care and commitment to the pupils' welfare and education we receive loyalty and commitment in return. The School Council is a well established team of school representatives who act as a 'pupil voice' in the decision making and development of the school.

Children are actively encouraged to lead on initiatives that benefit others, one example being the Community Teams that look for ways of improving the local environment.

**Every child has an opportunity to be a team member and be fully involved in the life of the school and take opportunities to cooperate with others.**

*"We are proud that the school has been judged to have good teaching with some outstanding teaching evident in our most recent inspection. We are working to ensure that the school is outstanding overall"*

Headteacher's letter to parents following Ofsted in November 2011



## Extra-Curricular

Extra curricular activities are in abundance and full of variety. Traditional sports clubs for Football, Netball, Hockey, Rugby and Cross Country allow the children to fully participate in Surrey Heath sporting events. Similarly the summer brings clubs that lead to inter-school Field and Track Athletics events, Cricket and Rounders Tournaments.

Additional clubs include Hubble Puppets, Cookery, Chess, Sewing, Hammond Challenge, Sports Skills, and Computer Skills. Each year brings news ideas and variety.

Music plays a large part in the life of Hammond pupils and is taught as a specialist subject, giving all children the joy of sharing musical knowledge and developing individual skills. It is a priority to maintain our Main Choir, Orchestra, Chamber Choir and Recorder Groups. Participants take great pride and pleasure in public performance at the School Summer Concert, Lightwater Village Festival and other musical events.



The curriculum is designed to captivate the developing mind and inspire the children to learn.

The school day is punctuated with vibrant, appealing activities that ensure children become engaged in their learning. Every opportunity is taken to provide 'hands-on' and 'first-hand' motivational experiences. Historical drama workshops for all children, off-site visits to scientific, geographical and historical locations bring learning alive. Visitors and speakers bring verve and variety to daily learning as do regular Arts weeks, dramatic performances and concerts. A 5-day residential visit to York is the pinnacle of the children's first hand social and cultural learning experiences at Hammond ~ an eagerly anticipated event!

**We celebrate and value each individual's achievements, knowing that every child derives a sense of personal enjoyment from their success.**

*"It's fun – when I wake up and realise it's a school morning, it's something to get up for."*

Pupil quote from Ofsted November 2011







## Curriculum

Children are strongly encouraged to take an active part in their daily learning. They are given strategies to support this aim allowing them to gain confidence in their abilities. Teachers expect children to be able to recognise when and how they have been successful and from this increasing sense of positive self evaluation comes the enjoyment of success and the child's own resolve to set their sights higher and aim for the next step of progress. Over the four year span Hammond pupils increase in personal confidence and self awareness and know what has made them a successful learner so far. Hammond children have self worth which makes them ready to try something new, preparing them for the challenge of transferring to the secondary sector.

The school environment is a tribute to pupil success as throughout the corridors are examples of Art and Design and evidence of achievement from all aspects of the curriculum. Another celebration of achievement is the Golden Book, each week teachers nominate children, the reward being a lunchtime visit to Lightwater Country Park Adventure Playground. Headteacher's House Points are awarded for pupils 'caught' behaving in the Hammond Way! Each end of the year sees the grand Awards Ceremony where certificates, cups and shields are presented to children for

efforts and talents across the wide range of learning pursuits that take place during the year.

Uniform is worn by all pupils, reflecting the school ethos of belonging and taking a pride in self presentation. Pupils' appearance and conduct takes heed of safety and the need for us all to communicate with each other with ease, inappropriate behaviour is not tolerated.

**We work to ensure that every pupil is given the skills to ensure they can become the author of their own destiny**

*"(Parents)...were very positive about all aspects of the school's work, particularly the extent to which the school keeps their children safe and how much their children enjoy school."*

Ofsted November 2011



## Curriculum (cont'd)

Hammond's Learning and Teaching Policy holds great store by encouraging good relationships between all members of the Hammond organisation. Teachers, support staff, children and parents treat each other with respect and understanding as we all work towards the common goals of pupils' social and academic achievement.

The administration office is a welcoming and informative part of Hammond School. Our support and welfare mechanisms are highly developed to ensure that the levels of pastoral care meet the children's needs. The office staff attend to pupils' medical needs and queries. This support team offers care and understanding and liaises with all teachers and parents in communicating home/school and school/home administration matters.

Risk assessments form part of regular Health and Safety reviews. Many of the school procedures are adopted to reduce risks to pupil safety.

Teachers explain these practices and act as role models to support children in their development. Pupils are regularly involved in risk assessments to help them develop an understanding of managing risk. There is heavy accent on pupils learning to think ahead and recognise that they have responsibility for their decisions and that considering safety is paramount.

**Children are happy in a caring, safe and healthy environment.**

*"Safeguarding procedures are excellent, with very clear policies and secure risk-assessment systems, informed by the pupils themselves."*

Ofsted November 2011





Together we endeavour to achieve the highest standards and the best attitudes to learning for life

**The Hammond Values**

Respect | Responsibility | Co-operation | Trust | Tolerance | Honesty | Caring

*“ The school provides a wonderful environment for my child to not just learn academics but social skills to launch her into the adult world”*

Parental quote from Ofsted November 2011



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