



Opportunities

Joyful

Independent

Innovation

Enriching

Respectful

Award winning



“ The only way to do great work  
is to love what you do. ”

Steve Jobs

At Park we will be at your child's side  
every step of the way,  
guiding them as their character develops  
and as they make their own discoveries  
about what they love.

Christopher Anders

more than



## Dear Parent

Our ambition for your child is that the school guides them to find the things they will grow to love in life. Our new facilities are enjoyed by all our students, supporting their learning and enriching their time.

We have a wonderful new theatre, lecture hall, restaurant and activities on our playing field. Our restaurant serves affordable and delicious school meals prepared by our qualified chefs and catering team. The classrooms include the latest large touch-screen technology. We have invested heavily in computers, laptops, iPads and software to allow them to link together. Our science labs and technology rooms have all been refurbished with new equipment.

Our school, which is set in a stunning park environment, inspires learning and encourages aspiration, helping our young people discover what they love. We have themed the areas of the school around parks of the world, with supersized photos brightening the corridors. As well as outdoor play equipment, we have animals, and opportunities that other schools can only envy.

Enjoy our prospectus which I hope will give you a good idea of our vision, values, facilities, and the curriculum that your child will benefit from at Park Community School.

Christopher Anders  
Headteacher

much  
**more** than  
just a school



# Curriculum

## Curriculum

Our curriculum ensures that children are well prepared for life after secondary school. We believe that students need a range of experiences outside the classroom as well as excellent teaching inside; through a truly broad curriculum, including: enterprise experience in our industrial unit and horticulture on our small holding, children will discover what they love to do. Most qualifications studied are GCSEs with alternative qualifications used where these best suit the young people. In order to prepare for the new more challenging GCSEs we use a variety of learning approaches to build knowledge, understanding and skills.



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# Curriculum

Our programme follows a traditional approach to Key Stage 3 with a wide range of subjects. In Key Stage 4, (Years 9, 10 and 11) students study GCSEs, and other courses when these best meet their needs.

We offer a huge array of options, and in recent years an increasing number of students have chosen French or Spanish as well as history, geography, psychology, various technologies and performance courses.



# English

English

# English

ENGLISH

In English we open doors to real and imagined worlds by equipping our students with the skills and knowledge to become critical readers and creative accurate writers. We explore cultures from around the globe and across time to enhance students' understanding of the world and their place within it.





# Curriculum

Curriculum

As well as learning on the school site we have an industrial unit, a smallholding and we are developing a construction skills centre in another part of Leigh Park. Our smallholding is a new venture set on a local farm. Some students are following RHS courses in horticulture and others learning to care for animals. Currently we have chickens, goats and ducks on our school site, as well as pigs on our smallholding.

These provide opportunities for children to learn outside the classroom and in school groups where they benefit from new experiences. The facilities are run by Park staff.

We also organise many trips to widen horizons and develop understanding of this country and abroad. In 2015 students went to Tanzania in Africa, and again in July 2017. In 2016 students enjoyed a skiing trip and in 2017 and 2018 students went to New York.



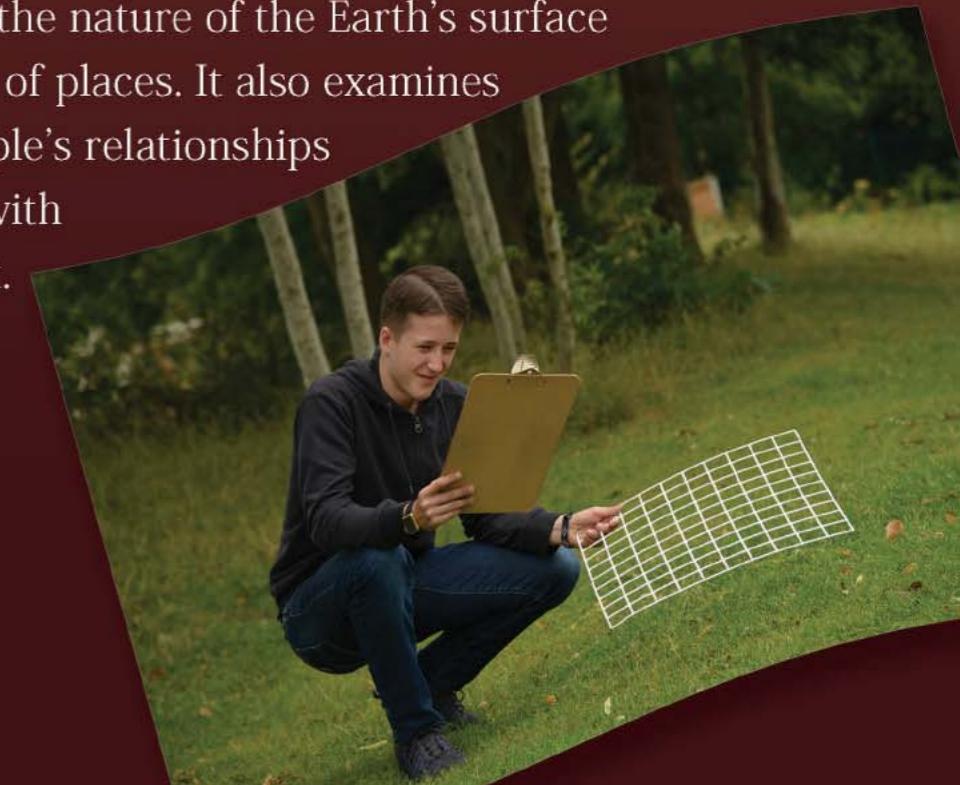
# Geography

## Geography

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future"

Michael Palin

Geography is diverse and is concerned with promoting an understanding of the nature of the Earth's surface and the character of places. It also examines the nature of people's relationships and interactions with their environment.



Creative Curriculum

Curriculum

CURRICULUM

more than





"What is the importance of history?  
The all knowing power in which  
we learn about our world.  
Our world has been shaped  
by the dominant characteristics  
of ancestors. The main importance of  
history is to gain an authority in  
the political world due to how  
our history has carved our past.  
You could say the importance of  
history is what shapes the  
future? The past."

# Testimonies

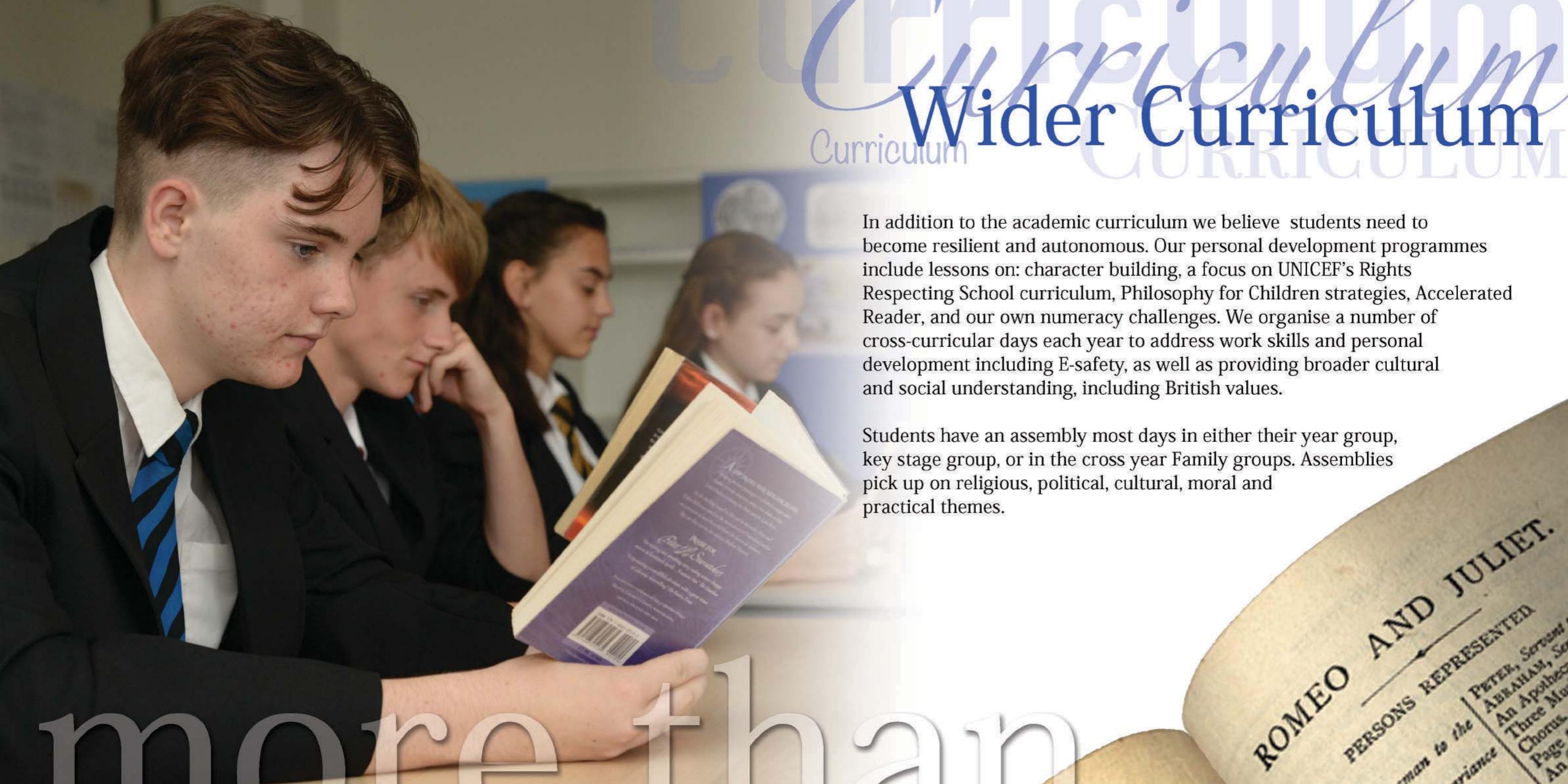
## Testimonies

### My favourite subject

"I'm really enjoying my English lessons. The atmosphere in my class is good and everyone makes progress. We all know our targets and how we need to improve in order to reach them. As a class we work out strengths and weaknesses and improve together."

"Recently, we finished the Woman in Black. It had some old English and fairly difficult vocabulary, but after analysing quotes and having many discussions we all began to understand the language and the skills of writing."





# Wider Curriculum

In addition to the academic curriculum we believe students need to become resilient and autonomous. Our personal development programmes include lessons on: character building, a focus on UNICEF's Rights Respecting School curriculum, Philosophy for Children strategies, Accelerated Reader, and our own numeracy challenges. We organise a number of cross-curricular days each year to address work skills and personal development including E-safety, as well as providing broader cultural and social understanding, including British values.

Students have an assembly most days in either their year group, key stage group, or in the cross year Family groups. Assemblies pick up on religious, political, cultural, moral and practical themes.



# more than





## School life

### PE and Sport

Keeping young people active and learning to play team games is an important part of a rounded education. We have excellent facilities including a full-sized synthetic turf pitch, outdoor multi-gym and indoor fitness suite. We also have other fun outside activities for young people such as a many-person swing and climbing stones.

### Families

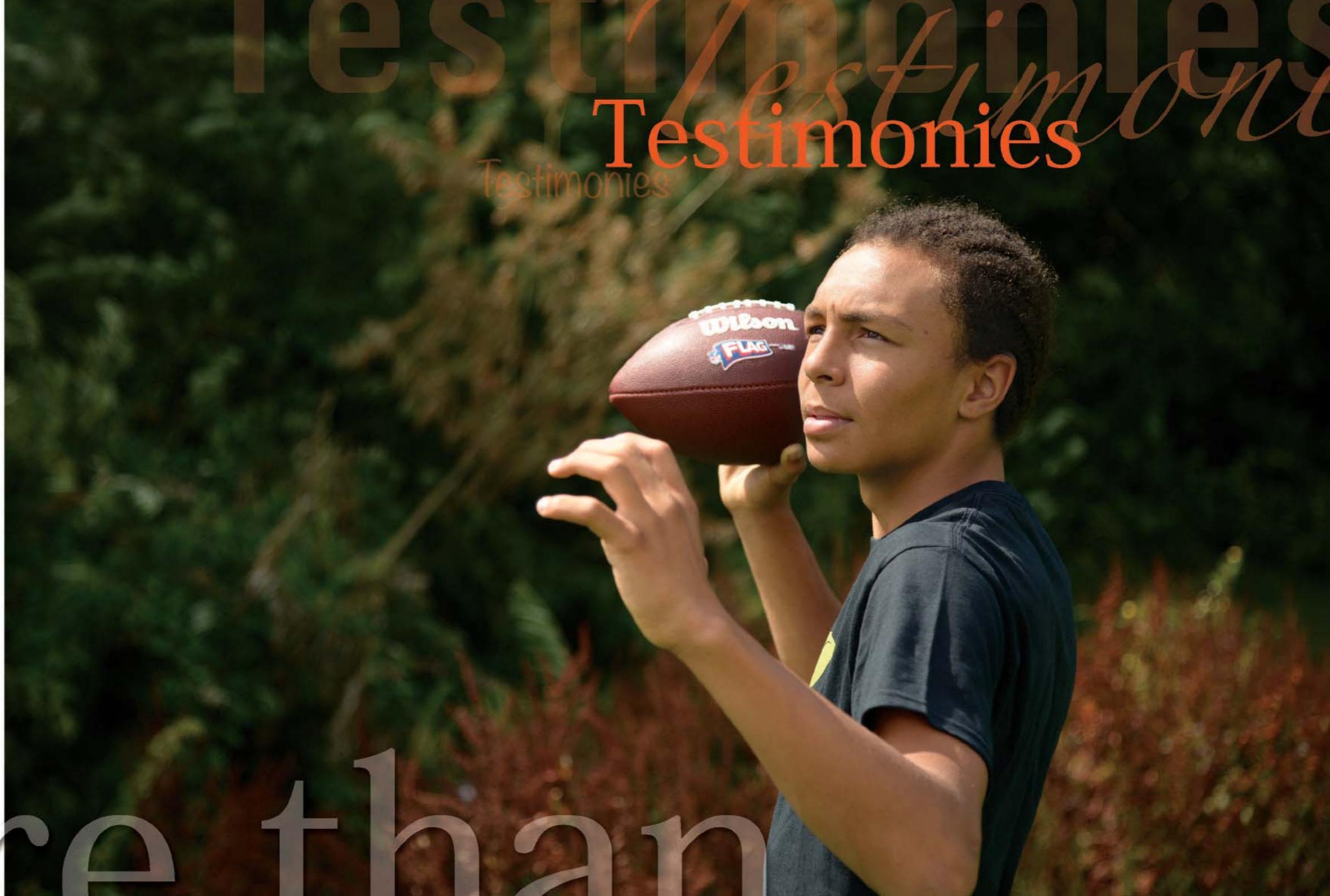
We have a house system based around four families: Austen, Dickens, Nelson and Brunel. The Families are led by students and staff who together create a calendar of events and activities and learn about UN rights of the child.

## Year 11 GCSE PE

"PE at Park allows me to develop my confidence and communication skills. It challenges me in many aspects to be a better student. It teaches me discipline, organisation and co-operation. I especially enjoy football. The knowledge that the team have, the drive and passion for a common goal, be that victory or self and team improvement. I chose GCSE PE as an option and have really enjoyed exploring sport in action. We look in depth at the adaptations to our body systems and how various energy systems support exercise. I was also able to become a Sports Ambassador which has allowed me to develop leadership qualities - I have loved coaching at a range of other schools and year groups."

# Testimonies

Testimonies





# School life

School life

## Race at Our Place...

Park Community School staff and students were once again inspired to take part in our annual Race at our Place and ran 2.5 miles in aid of Cancer Research.

"Most of us know someone who has been touched by cancer and we all have our special reasons for taking part and wanting to help more people survive. Days like this show how the staff and students of Park Community School can pull together to raise awareness and donations for a worthy cause."

Our Race for Life



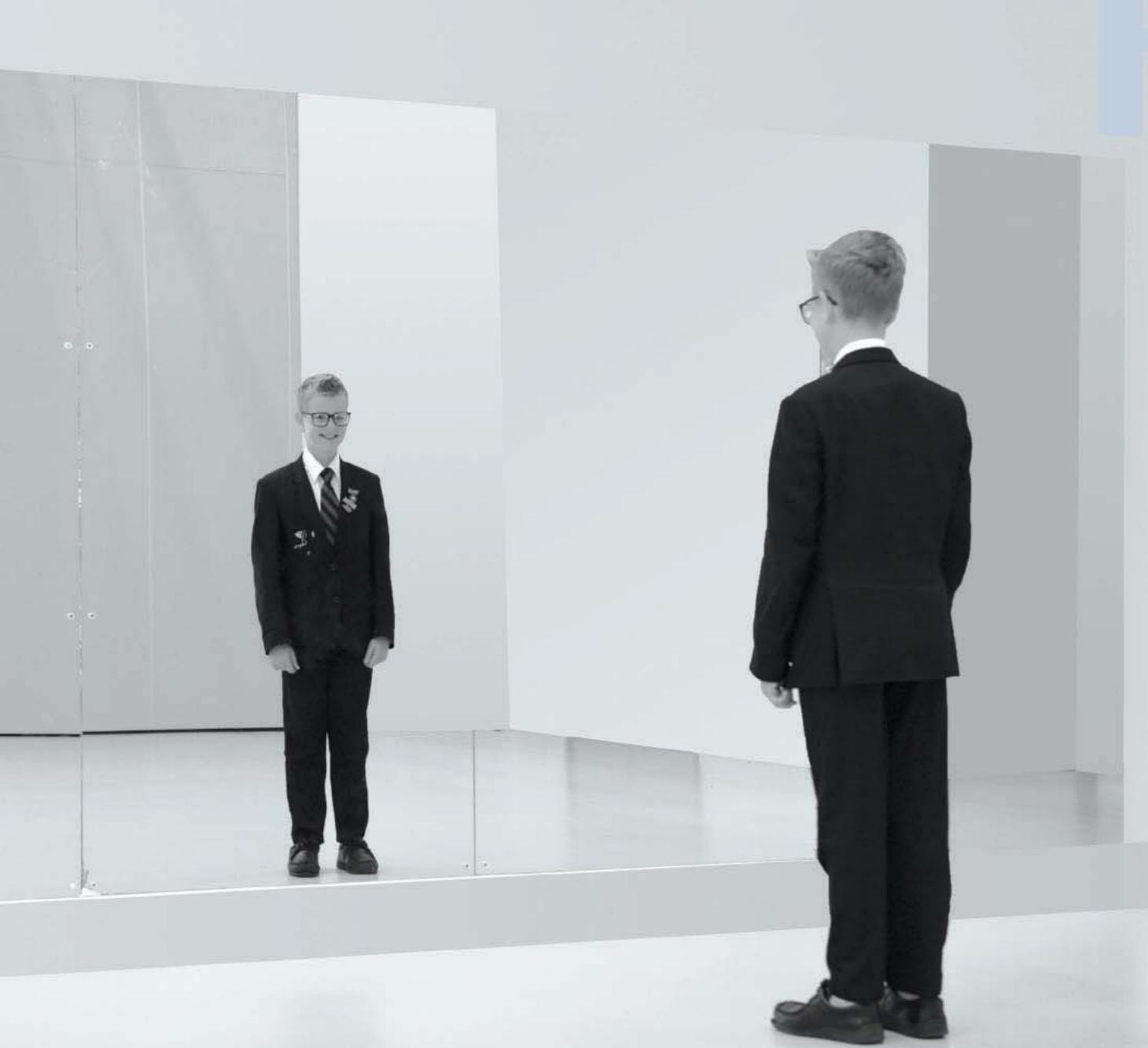
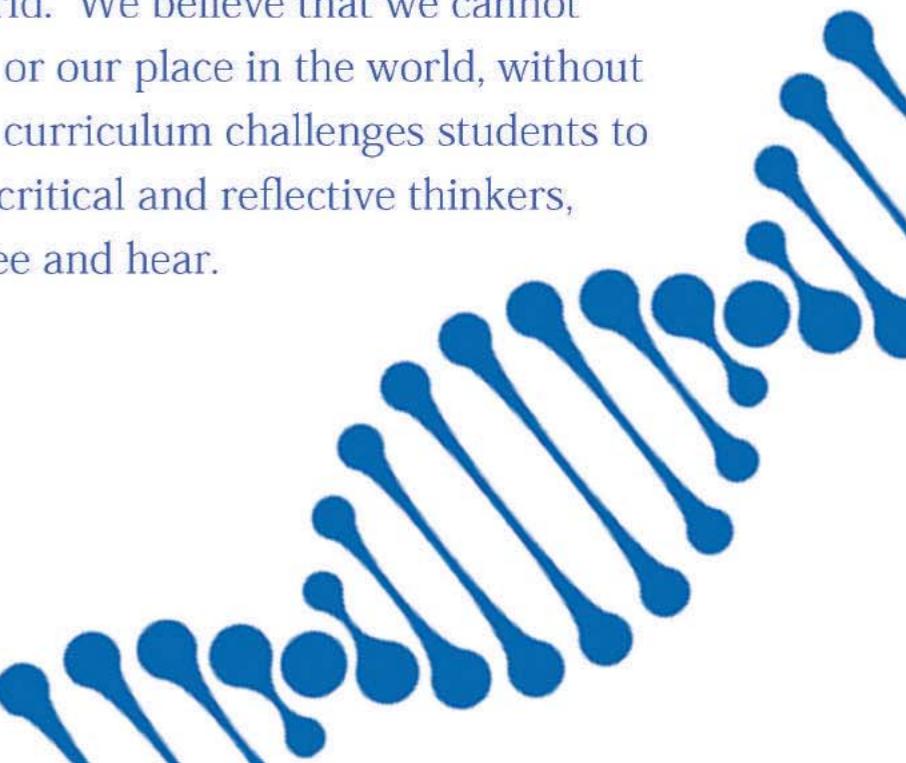
# Religious Education

RE

Who are we?    What do we stand for?    How should we live?

In RE we offer the chance to explore what it means to be a human being in today's world. We believe that we cannot fully understand ourselves, or our place in the world, without understanding others. The curriculum challenges students to think for themselves; to be critical and reflective thinkers, not just accept what they see and hear.

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“I love this  
school ”



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- SEN, Fitness Suite, Music
- Sports Hall
- Nursery, Pre-School
- Dickinson Centre
- Theatres, Restaurant Discovery Centre
- Main Teaching
- Yellowstone
- Technology
- Science



more than

School life



The Performing Arts is an exciting hub of creativity, developing self-disciplined and high achieving performers who are ready to enter the next stages of professional training. Sitting alongside our wide range of formal qualifications we offer extensive opportunities for students to participate in cultural experiences, immersing them in the world of the arts.

# Performing Arts





# Support

## Support

### Student Support

Students with additional needs are supported through carefully planned lessons, extra support, and smaller groups where appropriate. Individual interventions are based on need.

On some occasions children need more support. We have support and guidance staff attached to each year group, as well as medical, counselling and youth specialists. It is very important to us that we do all we can to make sure each child is given every opportunity to enjoy their time at school.

### Gifted, Talented and More Able Students

More able students are challenged and supported to achieve high standards through higher targets, demanding homework, external visits and meeting visitors.

There are opportunities to visit and stay at local universities and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.





# Testimonies

Testimonies

Testimonies

## Year 11 GCSE Science

"I enjoy all science however I lean towards biology the most because it gives me a practical and visual way of learning. There is always a variety of new and interesting topics to investigate and discover."



# more than Support

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# Languages

Departure	Destination
Flight	
LH 7935	LONDON
JK 8267	ROME
AC 7392	NEW YORK
SR 3527	PARIS
FV 3853	BERLIN
XA 7588	MADRID
UA 4820	BARCELONA

In MFL we enable opportunities at home and abroad. We encourage positive attitudes to learning foreign languages and developing the ability to use language effectively for communication. Learning a language offers an insight into the culture and develop pupils' understanding of themselves, their own language and culture.



more than



Support  
Support  
Support  
SUPPORT

## School Uniform

We believe school uniform is very important, and we expect parents to support the school governors' policy on uniform. We also have high standards when it comes to aspects of appearance like hair style and colour, because we believe this helps them prepare for the world of work.

## Community School

Park Community is proud of its track record of community involvement. Our buildings are used by many groups in the evenings, holidays and at weekends throughout the year. Students love getting involved and raising money for local and national causes through Family fundraising activities.





"I love performing and being on stage. Dancing at Park Community School has lots of practical work such as "Rock Challenge" which gives me the opportunity to perform, and so allows me to express who I am and what I love to do."

# Testimonies

## Testimonies



"Binary to me is the most fascinating thing in computer science. Binary to me is order, is simple however at the same time complex."



Pre-School & Nursery  
A Member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance



# more than Pre-School

We now have a purpose-built pre-school and nursery called Springwood Pre-School and Nursery on site. Please contact the nursery direct if you are interested in a place.

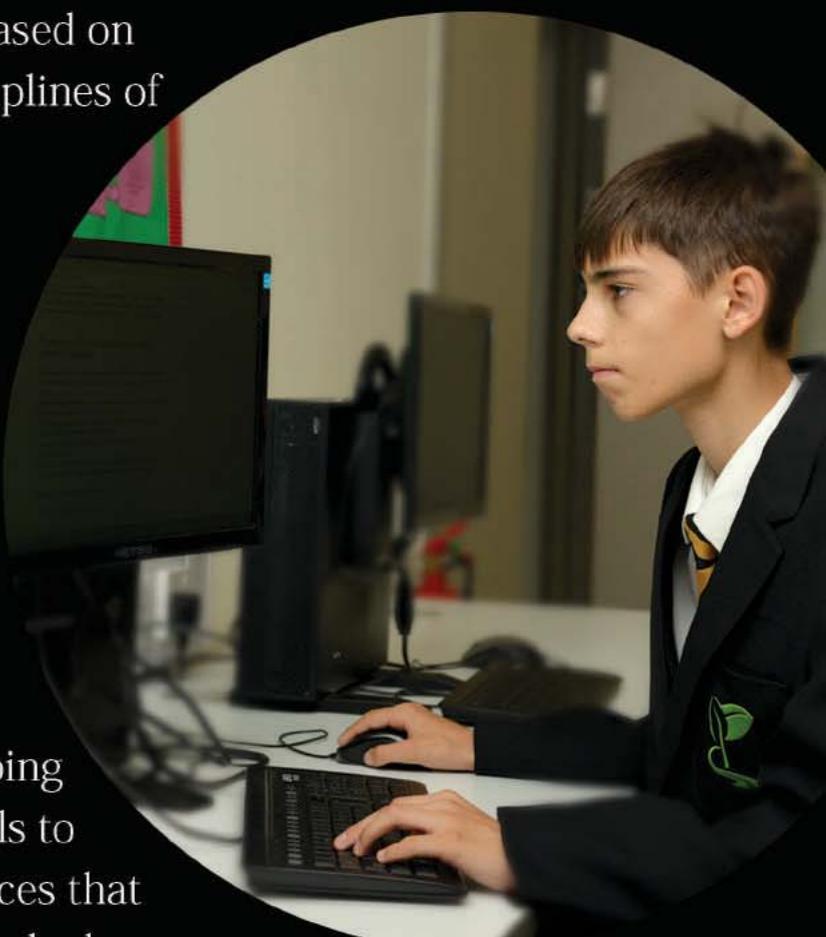
We are continuing to identify ways that the younger children can benefit from being on a secondary school site, as well as opportunities for secondary school children to assist within the nursery. We think having young children around the secondary school is important and better reflects home life.



# iSTEM

iSTEM

iSTEM



At Park iSTEM is a curriculum based on the idea of education in the disciplines of science, computer science, technology, food technology, mathematics and physical education through an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Learning in iSTEM is about being challenged to think creatively, to explore alternatives. It is about learning to think outside the box and to innovate. It is also about developing the highest level of practical skills to produce product and performances that are of the highest quality. This is the best way to prepare for the world of work using these subject areas

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# Maths

# Maths

# MATHS

We understand that mathematics is about thinking creatively exploring possibilities and coming to coherent, carefully reasoned solutions to intriguing and practical problems. Mathematics is essential to everyday life and, of course, employment.



# Science

Science

SCIENCE

In science, we believe in using investigations to promote the learning of key concepts. We are always questioning and always wondering why and what next. Expect to be asked many questions. We are excited to receive a range of answers and listening to different ways to solve a problem.

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# Apex Centre

Apex Centre

The Apex Centre is situated to the north east of the central shopping district of Leigh Park and fifteen minutes walk from Park Community School.

Students can undertake construction qualifications which cover bricklaying, plastering, wall papering and carpentry. It is also home to other groups who work in partnership with us in providing unique opportunities and experiences for our students.



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more than

Technology  
Technology  
Technology

We believe that design, technology, food, catering and horticulture provide problem solvers of the future. A Park Design and Technologist innovates solutions through theoretical and practical application to develop creatively products from conception to conclusion. A learner's problem solving ability is vital in employment and further education as well as working collaboratively in a team.





# Farm Farm Farm

Farm

Farm

FARM

At our smallholding on a local farm we grow vegetables and rear animals for meat. The vegetables and meat from the farm are used in the school kitchen, not only promoting healthy eating but also allowing students to make the connection between what they eat and where and how it is grown. Younger students are taught horticulture and at Key Stage 4 can take an accredited course.

On the school site we now have Benji and Enrique, two pigmy goats, a brood of chickens, ducks and a bevy of quail. They give the children the opportunity to learn about animal care. For some students a quiet place and a cuddle is welcome.





The art and photography department encourages students to express themselves using a variety a media to create works of art of which they are proud. Teachers are passionate, creative experts, students study a range of existing artists and techniques before being inspired to create personal responses which explore their artistic strengths. The department fosters independence and motivates pupils to expand their knowledge by investigating and creating beyond the classroom. See the world a different way by becoming an artist.

# Park Design & Print

Park Design & Print



In order to give young people real life work experience and education in a real life working environment, we have created three bases away from the main school site.

Park, Design and Print (PDP) is based in an industrial unit and uses digital printing equipment for school resources as well as a wide range of external and commercial customers.

In addition to printing, PDP also produces a range of promotional items, some designed through the enterprise programme that students undertake, helping to raise funds for their school identified charities.



# Physical Education

PE

As a department we aim to create an inspirational working environment for both staff and students, where, together, we strive to actively engage students in learning. Participation and achievement is measured, monitored and celebrated.

By the end of their physical education at Park, students should have developed a personal commitment to, and genuine passion for, maintaining their health and well-being into adult life.

more than



# Quotes from staff, students and visitors in 2018

"Park Community is a special place. Every student is valued, and nurtured and encouraged to be the best they can be. A truly happy caring school where success for all is our goal."

"I like everything about PE because the teachers are lovely, challenge us and work us hard. I especially enjoy the athletics and running activities and the opportunities to represent the school at different events."

Over the past 4 years I have enjoyed the variety of sports we do in lessons. I like the alternative activities we get to experience like lacrosse because it is different and we have the equipment and great facilities to do it. I chose GCSE PE which has challenging theory to learn but you are given time and the support you need from the PE staff.

"Around school, at the events and in conversation, students are very proud of what they are doing and recognise it is very important."

"In PE students will experience an exciting curriculum offering them opportunities to excel in a range of sports and activities. Students gain the skills and knowledge required to pursue further education and careers in physical education, as well as an understanding of the importance of health and wellbeing."

"Park is a special place,. It gives students and their families fantastic facilities and opportunities 365 days a year.  
What other schools can do that?"

"Taster days, open evenings, performances and visiting primary schools. The students love it."

It has been amazing for me to bring my children here, feed them and play! Thank you so much, my children and I loved it!

PE is the subject I have thoroughly enjoyed. The ability to be able to be physically healthy is very beneficial and the experience is mostly always new and interesting.

[www.pcs.hants.sch.uk](http://www.pcs.hants.sch.uk)



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