

Eliot Bank Primary School



"The quality of teaching is outstanding. My daughter is stimulated and challenged to do her best. Teachers are constantly looking for new ways to approach the lesson and make it fun."

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey

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Welcome to our School



On behalf of the children, staff and governors, welcome to Eliot Bank: a happy and vibrant primary school on the border of Forest Hill and Sydenham in south-east London. We are a dedicated team of professionals, committed to providing a safe, secure and supportive environment where our children thrive. Promoting qualities such as resilience, aspiration, imagination, confidence and collaboration is at the heart of our vision. Our rich and deep curriculum provides many exciting opportunities both in and beyond the classroom. Quality teaching, high standards of behaviour and strong partnerships with parents are key features of Eliot Bank as they help provide a platform for children to fulfil their potential. All of this is underpinned by our unwavering commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children. We will act quickly and follow our procedures to ensure children receive early help, effective support, protection and justice in a culture of transparency, openness and, if needed, challenge with regards to maintaining high standards in safeguarding. We are very proud of our long track record of achievements and of our children's readiness for continuing their education beyond primary school at the end of Year 6.

Katrina Walsh, Head of School



“I love how happy the kids are. They are curious and they find learning great fun – must have something to do with the school!”

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey

About Us



“ Every teacher and everyone who works at Eliot Bank seems to know every child and treats them with care and attention.”

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey



Eliot Bank Primary School is built on the side of a hill with stunning far-reaching views across London. We have many trees and shrubs as well as two playgrounds and our own pond and wildlife area. The building is very well maintained, providing a pleasant working environment for staff and pupils. The classrooms are above average size and there is a good level of resourcing across all curriculum areas.

The intake of our school is a wonderful mix of ethnicity, race, culture and socio-economic backgrounds. We teach children the values of equality and acceptance and 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.

We have a clear vision for the education of its children and our policies and practices are based on this. We want our children to enjoy learning whilst being challenged to meet the highest standards they can. Our schools are full of active and engaged learners who, as well as developing their academic skills, are also developing life skills of learning, friendship, effort and resilience

Expectations and outcomes are very high. This is because we have a belief that every child will succeed, whatever their background. We will do everything and anything to help each child to be a success. This takes determination, consistency from the staff and an uncompromising attitude from the leadership team.



The Governors and The Federation

"The school really feels like a home away from home for them. You can tell how happy and confident they are when they are here."

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey

Eliot Bank Primary School is in federation with Gordonbrock Primary School, with both schools working closely together led by Maria Gilmore, our Executive Headteacher. The Executive Headteacher works strategically across both schools whilst the Heads of School have full responsibility for leading and managing their schools.

This has proved to be very successful and standards continue to be significantly above national in both schools. We are regularly asked to work with other schools to share best practice and expertise. For more information regarding performance data please visit our Achievement page.

Each of the schools is unique with very differing communities, sites and buildings. Even though part of a federation, our schools have retained their individuality. We are determined that the schools keep this individuality, underpinned by common expectations and purpose.

Staff across the schools work together in a number of ways to ensure the standard of teaching and learning is high. We have a shared curriculum, assessment strategies and policies.

Our Senior Leadership Teams work closely together to ensure that systems are aligned and working well and staff regularly meet for Continuing Professional Development opportunities. More experienced staff across the federation support less experienced colleagues ensuring that all quickly become proficient in their areas of responsibility.

The Heads of School work together to support and challenge one another. The schools work from the same curriculum map and year group teams meet regularly to plan. Phase Leaders and Curriculum Leaders also work in partnership, with joint learning walks and shared strategic planning.

The Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Schools Federation Governing Body provides strategic leadership and accountability in both schools. For more information regarding the governing body, including governing body structure, please visit the Our Governors page.

Our Vision

Our vision is that every child will succeed. We are highly aspirational for all of our children and we do whatever it takes to enable them to overcome barriers to their learning. We are committed to fair and equal access to the curriculum for all children, regardless of their starting points and taking into account any additional needs they may have. We work together to give each individual child the best possible experience of school life.

We are committed to developing lifelong learners who value and exhibit qualities such as: Resilience, Aspiration, Imagination, Confidence and Collaboration.

We focus on providing a safe and nourishing environment where children feel accepted, included and able to take on new challenges. With this in place, we know that we can instil a love of learning in our children.

In order to achieve our vision we base our practice on the following strategies:

- An inspiring and engaging curriculum which reflects our pupils' world;
- Giving children ownership of their own learning and a role in planning a curriculum which reflects their interests and questions;
- Assessment for learning;
- A 'brain-friendly' approach based on what children need for optimal cognitive functioning; and
- A strong behaviour policy based on mutual respect.



“(pupils...) are very well prepared for their future as learners, not only in terms of their basic skills in numeracy, literacy and the use of information and communication technology (ICT), but as citizens with outstanding spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.”

- Ofsted February 2010



Curriculum

Our staff plan and organise the learning for each year group to ensure that there is continuity and progression. Our curriculum planning framework aims to provide a broad, balanced and exciting education set within the context of the National Curriculum.

At Eliot Bank, as we develop the curriculum, we make meaningful links between the different subjects. Although English and Maths are taught discretely at certain times of the day, they are also taught within a cross curricular context.

Visits and visitors are seen as a vital stimulation for children's interest and are closely linked with the contexts for learning. Each year group goes on one local trip every term and one that is further afield – into central London or out into the countryside. We also have termly visits from theatre companies and we celebrate events such as World Book Day and National Science week by bringing in authors and experts to enhance our learning.

We have worked closely with our Federation partner Gordonbrock – and a number of other schools – to develop an approach, which we feel is most effective in assessing against the new curriculum.

Throughout the year, your child's attainment will be judged against the criteria set out in the year group-equivalent Standard and Expectations. This on-going judgement will identify what children have achieved and what they need to do next.



Growth Mindset

At Eliot Bank, we know that pupils who have a positive attitude towards their learning will make good progress and be successful.

We want all our pupils to relish challenges, embrace their mistakes as part of the learning process, value the importance of effort, respond carefully to feedback and take inspiration from others. This will help them to achieve, not only with us, but also in their future lives as adults.

Central to this attitude and approach to learning, are the theories and proven evidence of Growth Mindset. This is a term coined by psychologist Carol Dweck and her research has identified the characteristics of learners with a fixed and a growth mindset.

Encouraging Children To Become Confident And Resilient Learners: learn, explore and grow together. This is what we embed in all of our pupils at Gordonbrock.

We know that in order to fulfil the potential of our pupils and encourage them to become confident and resilient learners we, as a team of parents and staff, need to be modelling the mindset of a learner who is not afraid of making mistakes but who thrives upon them, knowing that this is all part of the learning process. The way in which we encourage children to learn and explore is vital to their success, not only at school but at home as well.

At Eliot Bank, we consistently endeavour to challenge and develop the attitudes of all pupils and staff towards learning by considering what makes a successful learner. We regularly discuss, in class, what kind of learners we want to be and how we can positively approach challenges inside and outside the classroom.

Remote Learning



At Eliot Bank we recognise the partnership between home and school is vital in helping children reach their full potential.

Home learning consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and other curriculum areas, and provides opportunities for parents/carers and children to work together.

Home learning provides the children with the opportunity to practice skills taught in the class, develop independent learning skills and recognise that learning takes place beyond the classroom

At Eliot Bank, we use the Google Classroom platform to support our blended learning provision. Each class has access to a virtual classroom.

Every week, for children in KS1 and KS2, class teachers upload home-learning for children to complete. We also utilise subscription services such as Mathletics, Times Table Rockstars and Numbots to support maths and Big Cat e-library to support reading. In our EYFS, half-termly tasks are available online.

In the event of a school closure, or if your child needs to self-isolate, we will use google classroom to enable them to continue learning at home. Online learning, aligned closely with that being taught in school, is provided for children who are unable to attend school for a short period of time.

Robust plans are in place if the learning for all children moves from the classroom to online.



“The quality of teaching is outstanding because teachers plan stimulating learning experiences and deliver them at a pace which suits the pupils very well”

– Ofsted, February 2010



The School Day

Attendance

Eliot Bank Primary School is committed to providing a full and efficient educational experience for all pupils. We believe that if pupils are to benefit from education, good attendance and punctuality is crucial.

Throughout our school we celebrate achievement and recognise that attendance is a critical factor for a productive and successful school career.

Drop Off and Collection

The school gates open at 8:45am. The school bell is rung at 8:55am* so that children can enter their classes ready to start learning at 9.00am*.

The school day ends at 3:15pm*. Children in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 should be collected from their classrooms. Children in Years 3 & 4 will be brought to the KS 1 playground by their teacher. Children in Year 5 & 6 will be released to a known adult from their class area or with permission, can walk home alone.

Teachers will only release children to a known adult. Therefore if normal collection arrangements change, for example if another person is collecting your child, please let the class teacher or the school office know, this will avoid any confusion or upset at home time.

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we are currently operating staggered start of day and end of day times year to minimise the number of children entering the site at any one time, and to minimise the number of parents outside the gate.



Playtime

Reception to Year 6

10:20am – 10:35am

Lunchtime

Nursery Full Time

11:30am - 12:30pm

Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

12:15pm - 1:25pm

Year 3 - Year 6

12:30pm - 1:25pm

School Uniform

Children at Eliot Bank should wear:

- ▶ grey school trousers / skirts / shorts / pinafores or blue gingham dresses;
- ▶ a blue Eliot Bank sweatshirt or cardigan with Eliot Bank logo;
- ▶ white polo shirt (Eliot Bank logo optional);
- ▶ shoes should be sensible for school i.e. with straps/ velcro / lace up fastening (no crocs please). *If sandals are worn they must be worn with socks or tights;*
- ▶ own choice of coats, jackets etc. suited to the season;
- ▶ hat and scarf in winter and sun cap for summer; and
- ▶ Eliot Bank book bag or rucksack with the Eliot Bank logo



PE Kit

| | Autumn /Spring | Summer |
|---------|---|--|
| Indoor | navy blue shorts & white round neck short sleeved t-shirt | navy blue shorts & white round neck short sleeved t-shirt |
| Outdoor | navy blue tracksuit, white round neck short sleeved t-shirt & velcro fastening trainers / plimsolls | navy blue shorts, white round neck short sleeved t-shirt & velcro fastening trainers / plimsolls |

Our School uniform supplier:
Wearabouts Schoolwear,
99 Sydenham Road,
London, SE26 5UA.

Eliot Bank sweatshirts, polo shirts, cardigans & book bags are can be purchased from Wearabouts Schoolwear.

School Dinners

Our school meals are provided by Chartwells.

All of the food is prepared daily in the school kitchens.

The following options are available daily:

- a meat and a vegetarian option;
- a vegetable, usually two, not including potatoes;
- a 5 choice salad bar;
- bread;
- water to drink;
- fresh fruit; and
- yoghurt and other desert.

Children may bring a packed lunch to school. As a school we are committed to encouraging healthy eating and therefore do not allow, sweets, fizzy drinks or chocolate within packed lunches.

We endeavor to be a NUT and SESAME SEED FREE school and no food or drink items containing any nuts or sesame seeds should be brought on to school premises.

School meals are FREE to children in Key Stage 1 (Reception to Year 2 inclusive). The cost of school meals for children in Nursery and Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to Year 6) is currently £2.30 per day which is £11.50 per week. Dinner money should be paid in advance using Parent Pay.



“While there is an appropriate focus on the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology (ICT) and the curriculum is broad and balanced, pupils are very well stimulated by a variety of further learning opportunities, chosen by teachers with due regard to the pupils’ strengths and interests.”

– Ofsted, February 2010



Wraparound Care & School Clubs



Breakfast Club

Topmark Sports Coaching run the Breakfast Club and After-school Club at Eliot Bank School.

Topmark is quality childcare for the Children of Eliot Bank School, incorporating;

- Games & Activities
- Free Play
- Multi-Sports
- Gymnastics
- Arts & Crafts
- Cooking

Breakfast Club runs from 7:45am to start of the school day.

After School club runs from the end of the school day to 6:00pm.

For more information on the club please visit www.topmarksportcoaching.co.uk.



School Clubs

At Eliot Bank our children enjoy a range of clubs that take after school.

Clubs include: Art, Basketball, Choir, Dance, Drama, Flute, Football, French, Guitar, Mandarin, Multi Skills and Spanish.

“We are really happy with the school on every level. The overall priorities, focus on child wellbeing, educational standards and communication are excellent. The teachers have been brilliant, they go over and above to help with any concerns and have really helped my daughters confidence and happiness at school. ”

- Parent, Autumn 2020 Parent/Carer survey



Inclusion

"The school highlights each individual as unique and special."

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey

At Eliot Bank School, alongside quality first teaching and a broad and rich curriculum offer, we may provide additional and different provision in order to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Our Inclusion team will oversee the assessment and support of all school based interventions. The Deputy Head of Inclusion manages the Inclusion team and coordinates with the SENDCo to liaise with external professionals, ensuring appropriate support and interventions are implemented and reviewed.

All interventions and provisions are personalised in order to ensure highly differentiated curriculum support. Alongside this, we also use rigorous systems to monitor pupil progress, aid academic and personal achievement and remove any barriers to learning. Our staff follow tailored and continuous professional development programmes, in order to aid a structured whole school approach to learning.

We also run a wellbeing programme for staff. This programme helps us to develop and sustain a healthy and supportive working environment for both staff and children to work and learn in. In order to foster a culture of lifelong learning, curiosity and independent living skills in all of our learners, this runs alongside our universal curriculum.

"The school has developed very effective partnerships with agencies supporting pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities and deploys resources extremely well to support pupils in class or as a target group. As a result, pupils who have specific learning needs or emotional difficulties are able to make very good progress."

– Ofsted, February 2010

Working with Parents / Carers

"I like that the school is always keen to invite parents to be involved in classroom activities and open morning so we can see what our children are learning."

– Parent, Summer 2019 Parent/Carer Survey

We encourage parents and carers to take an active part in their children's education at our schools. We recognise and value the huge contribution parents make to the positive development of the children. Parent/Carer evenings are held in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. In addition parents will receive a learning ladder in the Autumn and Spring Term and a school report at the end of the Summer term.

Your interest in your child's work is greatly valued and we aim to ensure that we keep you well informed about the work we are doing in school. Whole school weekly newsletters are sent out to parents to keep you fully informed about what is going on in school.

Home Learning

At Eliot Bank we recognise the partnership between home and school is vital in helping children reach their full potential.

Home learning consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy and other curriculum areas, and provides opportunities for parents/carers and children to work together.

Home learning provides the children with the opportunity to practice skills taught in the class, develop independent learning skills and recognise that learning takes place beyond the classroom. Most of the home learning is uploaded onto the Google Classroom platform for the children to access at home.

EBSA

EBSA are a voluntary fund-raising organisation run by parents and friends of the school with the support of staff and children. As a parent or carer of a child at the school, you automatically become a member of the association.



EBSA organises all sorts of events, including discos, film nights, fairs and raffles and has funded items such as a climbing frame, computer, cooking equipment and much more. Our volunteers also provide refreshments at big school events, run a regular second hand uniform stall, sell after-school ice lollies in the summer term and staff the school's weekly cake sale.

Everything we do is down to the talents and enthusiasm of the parents and carers who get involved. Some people help out now and again, while others are able to make more of a regular commitment – either way, your support is invaluable.

There are so many ways you can make a difference. Don't worry if you can't make it to meetings, we often need help baking cakes, asking for raffle donations or helping to set up a school event. Perhaps you have a skill which you could put to fund raising use? Even more importantly, we really welcome new ideas and pride ourselves in being a friendly and welcoming group.

“The strong focus on skills for learning has helped pupils develop excellent resilience and extremely positive attitudes towards school. Pupils were observed in lessons using familiar strategies to tackle tasks without staff assistance.”

- Ofsted, February 2010



Safeguarding

Eliot Bank School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Safeguarding is about ensuring that everyone is safe from harm / exploitation and feels safe in our school. Harm can take many forms; bullying, abuse (physical / mental), neglect, discrimination and harassment.

All our staff understand safeguarding to be of the highest importance and they know that their vigilance of the children and of the adults is critical. All staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and their responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated safeguarding lead (or in their absence the deputy safeguarding lead).

We are committed to the provision of child protection training for all our staff.

For further information please see our safeguarding page on our website: <https://eliotbank.lewisham.sch.uk/safeguarding/>



“I have two children at the school. I’m always impressed by the personal attention the teachers give to each child. Both my children love school

– Parent, Autumn 2020 Parent/Carer Feedback Survey

Further Information

Our Website

Our website offers a wealth of information about all areas of the school.

We would encourage all prospective parents to explore our website to find out more about our school.

We hope that you will enjoy exploring the website and finding out about our wonderful school.

Our website can be found at: <https://eliotbank.lewisham.sch.uk/>



Ofsted

Ofsted last inspected Eliot Bank on 2-3 February 2010. Inspectors judged our school to be Outstanding in all areas with an Overall Effectiveness grade of Outstanding too.

It continues to be a school which provides high quality teaching and learning experiences for the children within an engaging and exciting curriculum. We are a highly successful school which has above national average end of Key Stage assessment results. Working closely with our federation partner school Gordonbrock, we are not complacent. We are continually evaluating and further improving our provision so that we can provide our pupils with the best possible education.

The full report can be accessed here:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/100711>

