

Prospectus



**"Goose Green is a safe, happy place where pupils achieve well
and become confident, respectful citizens."**

Ofsted, February 2020



"...pupils achieve well in a wide range of subjects."
Ofsted, February 2020



“...inspirational.”

Ofsted, February 2020



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"Pupils enjoy music and their success in artwork can be seen across the school."

Ofsted, February 2020



1. Welcome from the Head Teacher

On behalf of Goose Green Primary School, I am delighted to welcome new parents and children to our school community. We encourage children and parents to be active members of our thriving school, and look forward to watching them grow educationally, emotionally and socially throughout their time with us.

This school prospectus contains much of the information that you will want to know about the school and I hope that you find it useful. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if there is anything else that you would like to know, or if you would like to make an appointment to speak with me or another member of the school team. There is usually a member of the leadership team at the school gate at drop-off and pick-up times, and you are welcome to talk to us then; alternatively you can always telephone the school office if you would like to speak to one of us.

Simon Wattam
Head Teacher



2. School Vision, Mission and Values

Goose Green is a values-led school. By this we mean that there are certain principles that explicitly underpin not only the things that we do, but also the ways in which we do them. Indeed, we recognise that it is often not what we do that counts, but how we do it that is most important. By adhering to these values, we aim to help the children to develop in a rounded way, satisfying their emotional and social needs as well as their academic needs.

We believe that these principles provide the best conditions for children to grow into global citizens. They sit alongside the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance. Bringing these together, our aim is to ensure that the environment in which we learn is conducive to the best academic learning that there can be and that children gain a deep understanding of their own identity in a complex and ever-changing world.

Vision

Children will leave Goose Green having achieved their full potential as independent, resilient and curious learners who are ready for the next stage in their learning journey.

Mission

Our mission is to:

- Provide a rich and engaging environment which encourages curiosity, creativity, fun, awe and wonder.
- Support children to learn and to challenge themselves every day, to be purposeful in what they do and to become independent learners.
- Help children to achieve their best.
- Build relationships within the school, locally, nationally and internationally.
- Be inclusive and expectant. Everyone is welcome at Goose Green, but everyone must try their very best.

Values

Our vision is realised through our values, which are:

- **Equity** - we believe that all children should have an equal opportunity to do their very best.
- **Kindness** - we understand that treating each other well brings out the best in all of us.
- **Pride** - in our identity as individuals and our collective identity as a school community.
- **Aspiration** - we always try our best because we want to do well.
- **Trust** - We know that we all have a part to play in the life of the school. We all do what is our responsibility, trusting and believing that others will do theirs. We know that this builds good relationships.
- **Positivity** - having a 'can do' attitude transforms the ways that we approach our work and our learning.



**“...pupils develop a
love of reading...”**

Ofsted, February 2020

3. School Organisation

Goose Green is an academy school in East Dulwich and is part of the Communitas Education Trust, a small trust based in South East London. The school is its own admitting body (see back page for contact details).

We are a two-form entry school, with 60 places in each year group from Reception to Year 6. Our Nursery has 39 places and is open 3 days a week, Monday – Wednesday. Overall, we have 3 classes in our Early Years (ages 3-5), 4 classes in Key stage 1 (ages 5-7) and 8 classes in Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11).

Our closest train station is East Dulwich, a 3 minute walk away. We are also served by many buses, including routes 37, 40, 176, 185 and 484.

4. Key Information

4.1 The School Day

The school gates open at 8.45am and the children meet their teachers in the playground. A whistle is blown at 8.50am when children are taken into school by their teachers. The gate to the nursery is opened at 8.50am. School finishes at 3.30pm. The gates open for parents at 3.15pm and we ask that parents are on time to collect their children. If a child is not collected by 3.45pm then they are taken to After School Club and parents are charged the daily rate for that service. Nursery finishes at 3.20pm.

4.2 Extended Services

Our Breakfast Club and After School Club are run by Topmark Sport Coaching, a company that runs extended services and extra-curricular clubs across a number of schools in South London. You can contact them to talk through your requirements and to book your child into their service. Please visit their website to find some further information about them www.topmarksportscoaching.co.uk; alternatively you can telephone them on 07748 696099 or you can email them at info@topmarksportscoaching.co.uk



4.2.1 Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am. It provides a calm and caring start to the day for children whose parents need childcare before the school day begins. Children who attend Breakfast Club receive a meal as part of their morning, if required. At the time of writing, the cost is £5.50 per day, or £25.00 per week for each child who attends.

4.2.2 After School Club

After School Club is provided for children of working parents who need childcare at the end of the school day. It runs from 3.30pm until 6.30pm every school day and all children receive an evening meal, if required. At the time of writing, the cost is £11.00 per day or £50.00 per week for each child who attends.

4.3 Attendance and Punctuality

It is vital that children attend school and that they are on time for the beginning of the school day. At Goose Green we are committed to encouraging children to be at school and on time, and we ensure that they understand that this is given the appropriate priority. We celebrate good attendance and good punctuality every Monday morning, with classes being awarded rosettes for punctuality and an attendance cup for the class with the best attendance. Individual children receive attendance certificates half-termly.

If children arrive after 8.50am they should enter through the school office. They should ensure that they are marked in by office staff and that this lateness is recorded. If children arrive after 9.10am it will be marked as a late absence and it will be counted as an unauthorised absence if no prior notice was given to the school. On arrival, the child's name will be recorded on the register to comply with fire regulations.

We understand that there are times when children cannot attend school because they are sick, or if there is an unforeseen circumstance that prevents them from attending. We would appreciate it if you would contact the school as early as possible to inform us of an absence, either by telephone or in person. The office opens at 8.00am for this purpose. Children who have been off school because of a bout of sickness or diarrhoea should stay off school for 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.



4.4 Uniform

We are delighted to be part of the Goose Green community and we wear our uniform with pride. Branded uniform and bags are available exclusively through an online shop which can be accessed through our website. Goose Green sweatshirts and cardigans should be worn with:

- black or grey trousers or skirt;
- a white polo shirt;
- a green gingham dress;
- black shoes or trainers.

4.5 Special Educational Needs

If you think that your child has special educational needs then you need to let us know before you enrol them. Our skilled inclusion team will assess your child's needs so that we can ensure that we cater for their needs effectively. We fully implement the SEN Code of Practice, which sets out how the needs of most children can be met in a mainstream setting. Our policy for supporting children with special needs is available from the school office.

If you would like to discuss your child's needs, please contact our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) on the main school number and choose option 2.

4.6 Curriculum

We are extremely proud of the curriculum that we offer at Goose Green. Our abiding principles are that children's learning should be relevant, engaging and fun. We teach through half-termly topics, which are based on high quality texts using principles recommended by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE). We make links across different areas of the curriculum and ensure that our learning sits in a context so that new learning can be applied in many different ways.



“Pupils enjoy topics which are planned around well-chosen children’s literature.”

Ofsted, February 2020

We believe that children learn best when they have real experiences on which to build. We provide exciting opportunities to design, make, visit and discuss real things in order to immerse children in their topic. With the knowledge and understanding gained from these real-life experiences, the children are far better placed to develop their skills in English and across the curriculum because they have experienced it for themselves.

At the end of each topic there is a celebration of the learning that has taken place, to which parents are invited. This celebration can take many forms, such as a showcase of learning, a presentation or another kind of event. The celebration offers an opportunity for parents and carers to see what their children have been learning and to see how they have applied that learning in different contexts.

We use all of these opportunities to ensure that we cover the breadth and depth required of the National Curriculum, offering a broad and balanced curriculum which is appropriate to the children’s age and abilities regardless of their gender, ethnic or social background and taking into account any particular talents or special educational needs. We aim to achieve the highest academic standards for all our pupils, helping them to be the best that they can be and to reach their full potential.

The curriculum provides opportunities for children to develop an understanding of their own identity, of moral and spiritual issues, of rights and responsibilities, and what it means to be a global citizen in the 21st Century. It equips children with the knowledge and skills to ready them for their next stage in life and prepares them for a lifetime of learning.

4.6.1 Specialist Teachers

In addition to our exciting and engaging curriculum, we are pleased to offer specialist teaching for all children at the school in Art, Music, PE and Spanish. These specialist teachers are experienced practitioners who provide expert teaching across the range of these subjects, contributing a depth and breadth to our curriculum offer. It also provides more opportunities for specialised events, including art exhibitions, music concerts and team competitions with local schools.



4.6.2 Religious Education

The religious beliefs of all members of our school community are valued and respected. We teach RE according to the Southwark agreed syllabus.

Assemblies, although broadly Christian in nature as required by law, also reflect the range of beliefs in our school and celebrate major festivals and important dates. We also celebrate the successes and achievements of our children. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE and/or assemblies. Please let the school know in writing if you wish to exercise this right.

4.6.3 Sex and Relationships Education

Elements of our Sex and Relationships Education are taught in Science and PSHE lessons. A specific programme for Sex and Relationships Education is delivered to children from Reception to Year 6. Parents and carers are invited to an information meeting to discuss the Sex Education policy and have the right to withdraw their child from PHSE element of these lessons if they wish to do so .

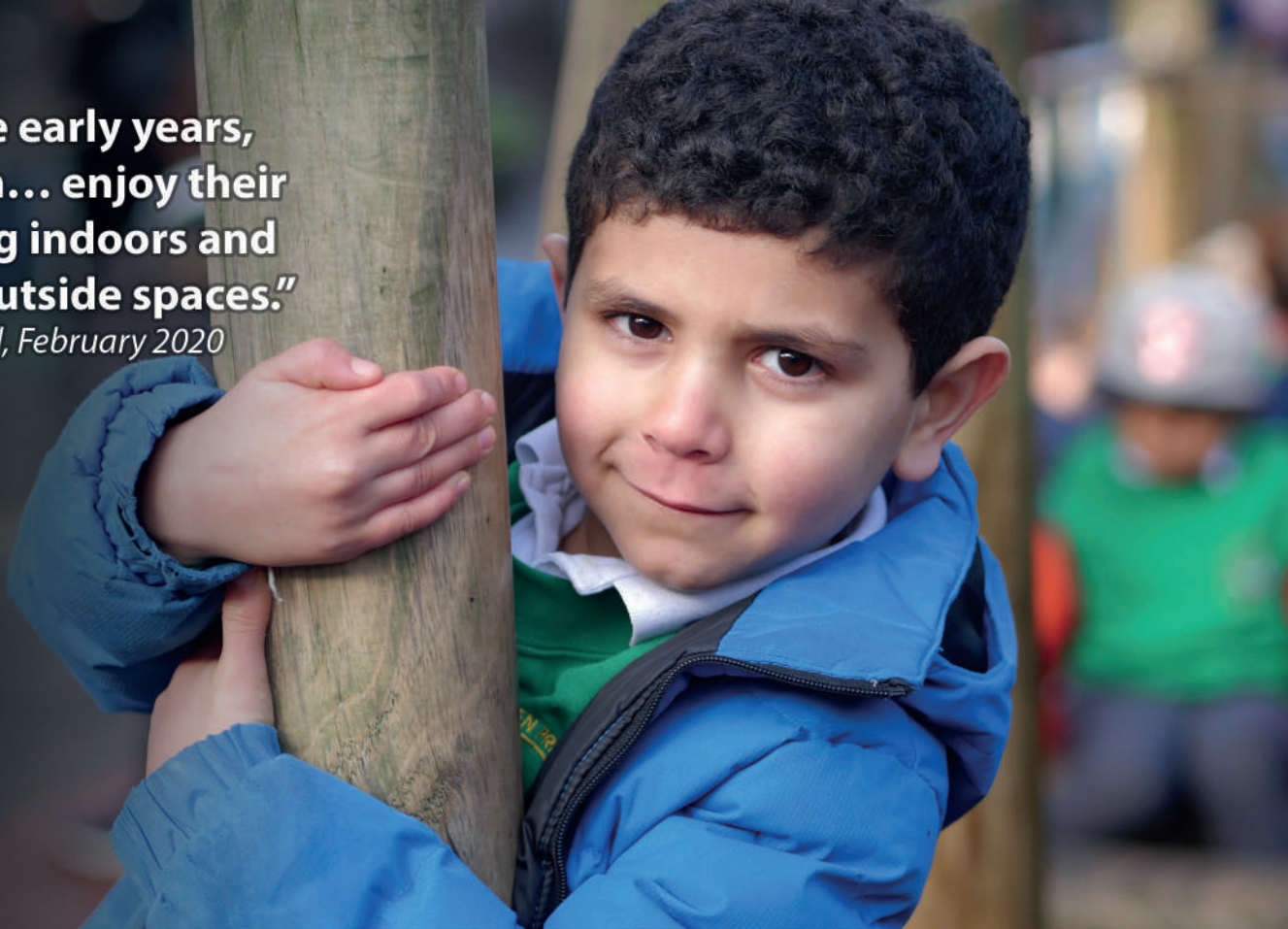
4.6.4 Homework

We know that homework is a fantastic opportunity for parents and carers to engage with the learning that is taking place in the classroom. We believe that home learning can enhance what is going on in the classroom and that one of the main purposes of it is to encourage purposeful and engaging interactions between children and adults at home.

We ask all children to meet some age appropriate expectations around reading, spellings and maths facts such as times tables. Children are expected to read every night. In each class there is likely to be a weekly spelling task, culminating in a spelling test. Similarly, teachers will regularly quiz children appropriately about the mathematical facts that they are learning in class.

**“In the early years,
children... enjoy their
learning indoors and
in the outside spaces.”**

Ofsted, February 2020



In addition to these weekly expectations, each half term we provide some independent learning opportunities that are linked to the topic about which your child is learning. For each topic, teachers will provide a variety of activities for children to complete at home with their parents and carers. These activities range in size, the amount of time required and the amount of adult support required. They are intended to pique children's interests and allow them to explore the areas of the curriculum that interest them the most. Children are encouraged to share their completed activities with their teacher and class throughout the half term topic and some of them may be used in the end of topic celebration that takes place.

4.6.5 Charging Policy

Generally, the only charge for parents or carers is for additional activities such as music tuition or residential trips. These charges will be discussed with you as and when the activity is offered.

Whilst we try to book educational trips that are free of charge, some of them do incur a cost to the school. We ask for voluntary contributions towards the cost of these educational trips and visits, again you will be informed as and when these arise. We try to cap the cost of a trip at £5, but if the cost of the trip is more than that then you are able to contribute more if you are able to do so.

4.7 Extra-Curricular Clubs

We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities here at Goose Green. We believe that children deserve the opportunity to undertake a variety of different activities because this helps to encourage their own particular interests and helps them to develop as fully-rounded individuals.

The activities that we offer include sports clubs, activity clubs and music tuition. We try to run clubs for free as far as possible, but some of them cost money to run, or are run by outside agencies, and we do charge to meet these costs. Charges vary, depending on the activity and money is paid through our online system. Children can sign up for clubs on a termly basis through our website.



4.8 School Lunches


At Goose Green we have a catering team from Harrisons that cooks fresh, healthy meals for the whole school on a daily basis. All our food is suitable for most dietary requirements, including vegetarian options, but please note that we are unable to provide Halal meat. Fresh fruit and a salad bar is available each day. Please ensure that you make us aware of any allergies that your child might have in order for us to cater for their needs.

We like to encourage all children to have our school dinners, but if you prefer to provide a packed lunch for your child we ask that it is balanced and healthy. We can provide advice and support to help you with this if you wish, just contact the school and we can arrange an appointment to talk it through. Please note that we are a nut-free school and that packed lunches must not include any food that contains nuts.

Nursery and Year 3 to Year 6 children get a Local Authority funded Healthy Free School Meal so there is no cost to parents or carers.

Reception to Year 2 children get a government funded Universal Infant Free School Meal, so there is no cost to parents.

Despite the fact that all children receive a free lunch, the government still uses a measure called Free School Meals to determine the eligibility for additional funding for the school through the Pupil Premium. This measure is determined through an assessment of household income and if your income is lower than the threshold, the school receives some extra funds to support your child. We ask, therefore, all parents to complete a form on their child's entry to the school which helps us to make sure that we claim the extra money if we can.



"...leaders have made significant improvements to the teaching of reading, writing and mathematics."
Ofsted, February 2020

5 The Communitas Education Trust

Goose Green Primary School is part of Communitas Education Trust. The Trust was set up to enable the development of a group of schools in Southwark and surrounding areas. The shared vision of any school in the trust focuses on acting as a positive catalyst for improvement and opportunity within our community of schools.

Values

- Highly pastoral
- Working in partnership with each other as equals
- Working as servants to the community
- Highly ethical in practice
- Demonstrating integrity in relationships and roles
- Developing a global view for all members
- Showing care for each individual member



Communitas
Education
Trust

Mission

- To provide schools of the very highest quality
- To provide an impeccable level of service from and to the Trust and to our school community
- To provide an engaging and stimulating curriculum which enables pupils to learn and achieve the highest standards with enjoyment
- To demonstrate distinctive characteristics of care and support in our schools
- To promote and encourage personal and professional leadership and management at all levels
- To centralise systems to provide a consistent and effective service to the community
- To establish a culture of fun and enjoyment across the Trust and in our schools

"Pupils enjoy writing tasks which are linked to the class reading books that they have enjoyed."

Ofsted, February 2020



Educational approach

1. Our Community

Serving our local community is a core feature of our vision. We plan to work collaboratively and build strong working relationships locally, nationally and internationally with other schools, Southwark Local Authority, Southwark Teaching Schools' Alliance, local nursery provision and Goldsmiths College.

2. Children's Experiences

We envisage that Communitas Education Trust will significantly improve our pupils' life chances. Children will receive outstanding teaching across a range of subjects in a broad and balanced curriculum. Children will leave our schools having achieved well and been prepared for the next stage of their education.

3. Exciting and Creative Pedagogy

Our experience and the growing body of educational research evidence enable us to understand clearly that our pupils learn most effectively when they are:

- Actively engaged with their learning.
- Given sufficient time to address their emotional and social needs.
- Receive clear structures which set out ways to learn effectively.
- Exposed to a curriculum which is relevant to the pupils' everyday lives, is thematic in its approaches and demonstrates clear connections between literacy, numeracy and other curriculum areas.

For more information, please visit the Trust website www.communitaseducation.co.uk



**"In the early years, children... are very well
prepared for their move to Year 1."**

Ofsted, February 2020.

Equity
Kindness
Aspiration
Positivity
Trust
Pride



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