



Mill Hill

Instilling values, inspiring minds
Grimsdell | Belmont | Mill Hill School | Mill Hill International

Belmont

Mill Hill Preparatory School | For pupils aged 7 to 13





Key facts about Belmont

Co-educational
Preparatory School

7-13

ages

Day

school

19 pupils

our average class size

Wrap-around care

Breakfast Club, clubs
and Late Room

35 acres

of grounds

Part

of the Mill Hill Education Group,
with smooth transition to our
senior school

6 bus routes

across neighbouring boroughs

10 miles

from central London

“The co-curricular programme engenders pupils’ interests as well as develops pupils’ knowledge, skills and understanding. This is a **significant strength** of the school.”

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WELCOME TO BELMONT, WHERE WE BELIEVE

THAT CHILDREN THRIVE WHEN THEY ARE HAPPY, ENGAGED AND CHALLENGED, SO WE HAVE CREATED A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT WHERE CHILDREN ARE KIND AND LOVE TO LEARN. THEY ARE ALWAYS PREPARED TO GIVE THINGS A GO AND THEIR ENTHUSIASM, ENERGY AND HARD WORK IS REMARKABLE.

Our academic curriculum is broad and ambitious and our co-curricular programme exciting. Whatever your child is learning our teachers will inspire and lead them to achieve their very best.

Our goal is for your child to find their own path to happiness and success. In these uncertain times, we don’t know what their future world will look like but with a Belmont education we will provide them with the skills and values to adapt and thrive.

How to be a Belmontian

We recently adapted our values to incorporate pupil voice. Our values are reinforced in all that we do, and we keep them very simple for our whole community:

- > Be Kind
- > Be Brave
- > Be You

Leon Roberts BA, MA
Head

GIRLS AND BOYS THRIVE TOGETHER

LEARNING AND PLAYING TOGETHER HELPS GIRLS AND BOYS TO BUILD STRONG SOCIAL SKILLS AND DEVELOP EMOTIONALLY, READY FOR TEENAGE AND ADULT LIFE.

Co-educational Environment

Being co-educational means that our pupils are used to different views and approaches, and never feel that they have to follow a particular path because of their gender. Developing social skills in an environment that reflects society, alongside embracing diversity of opinions, leads to a more rounded world view and fuller emotional development.

Smooth Transition to Mill Hill at 13+

We find that pupils do best in the nurturing environment of Belmont until the end of Year 8. With the best quality specialist teaching and facilities, we prepare them for their move to Mill Hill School at 13+. We help them to develop confidence and self-esteem, and to become more socially assured and academically mature. Because our pupils are not required to sit an entry exam for Mill Hill, moving on is a stress-free and positive experience for which they are completely ready.



“Pupils are keen to push themselves by choosing appropriate challenge levels and enjoy the process of learning.”

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Room to Breathe

We're only 10 miles from Central London and yet we have 35 acres of beautiful green space around us, with sports pitches, a nature reserve, woods to explore, and our own cross-country course. All of us feel better for such freedom to breathe.

Wrap-Around Care

Many families lead busy lives and we offer outstanding wrap-around care:

> Breakfast Club 7.30am

> After school activities run until 5.00pm

> Our Late Room is open until 6.00pm. Teachers look after the pupils, support them in their homework, and we provide a hot meal.



“Pupils readily use subject specific vocabulary to solve complex problems and to articulate sophisticated arguments.”

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THE GROWTH MINDSET

HOW DO YOU INSPIRE A LOVE OF LEARNING?

We've created a rigorous, rich and diverse curriculum that goes well beyond the national curriculum, and gives your child the chance to excel in many areas.

From the earliest age, we'll encourage your child to embrace challenge, and to understand how hard work leads to success. When they try hard and persist we reward them, so they learn that this is the way to achieve their goals and dreams.

We encourage them to take risks too, and to recognise that failure is inevitable when you're learning something new, as long as you learn from it and keep on trying.

Ready for the Future

When a child joins the Mill Hill Education Group at age three, they begin a journey that will carry them through to age 18 and beyond.

Our curriculum runs seamlessly through every school in the group, and is designed to prepare your child for life in the 21st century. It teaches children to think creatively and critically, and builds flexible skills for a fast-changing world of new technologies.

Just as crucial in our learning are interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence, teamwork and leadership, and the ability to think on their feet and work under pressure that will equip our pupils no matter what the future brings.

Digital Learning:

We recognise the importance of technology in exciting and inspiring pupils in their learning.

Our digital learning strategy ensures our use of technology is constantly evolving. Pupils have access to Chromebooks across the curriculum, in addition to two fully equipped Computer suites, a Music Technology room and D&T studio. Google Classroom is our learning management system and this is used both in school and at home.

“Being a Belmontian means being a confident, kind and happy person.”

Yr 8 Pupil



A COMPLETE CURRICULUM

WE ADAPT OUR TEACHING APPROACH TO SUIT EACH CHILD.

Our teachers are highly skilled, motivated and compassionate, and they love their work. In Years 3 to 5 your child will enjoy the continuity of working daily with their form tutor, as well as with subject specialists. By Year 6 they will be ready to learn every subject with a specialist teacher. In small classes with an average of 19 pupils, we use both traditional teaching and learning methods and innovative approaches using IT, inquiry-based projects and peer-to-peer learning.

English Maths Science French
Spanish German Latin History
Geography Religious Studies
Computing Design and Technology
Music Art Drama PE Swimming
Games Future Skills

MODERN FACILITIES

PROVIDING OUR PUPILS WITH TOP-QUALITY FACILITIES.

Classrooms are spacious and modern and are all equipped with interactive whiteboards, with Chromebooks widely in use. We have a huge range of specialist rooms including an Art studio with its own garden, a Cookery classroom and a Music room that is also equipped to deliver Music Technology. Pupils are able to use software to compose their own music, so that we might ignite the spark to find the next Edward Elgar or even the next Calvin Harris!

Library

The Lynda Mason Library offers all Belmontians a place to discover new facts, find the perfect read, or simply relax and unwind with a book or magazine. Pupils benefit from a qualified librarian who will offer suggestions, help them find information, and deliver library skills sessions.

The Library has a suite of computers for pupils to use, for anything from practicing their touch typing to learning a foreign language with Linguascope.

Science and Technology Buildings

A huge amount of investment has gone into the school's buildings and facilities in recent times. The Michael Proctor and The Roger Chapman Buildings house state-of-the-art Science laboratories, a Computing suite and a Design and Technology studio. Top-quality facilities (including 3D printers) in these areas of the curriculum, combined with high-quality teaching of STEM subjects, demonstrate our commitment to prepare our children for the future. These spaces play their part in inspiring children to develop the skills needed to become the engineers, architects, software developers and innovators of tomorrow.



“Pupils actively take up opportunities across the schools to take on leadership roles which positively impacts the lives of pupils at the school.”

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“Pupils appreciate the many opportunities to interact with their peers and celebrate their diverse school community through their everyday interactions and through pupil-led societies.”

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“Everyone is given a chance to thrive.”

Yr 8 Pupil

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
PUPILS AT BELMONT ARE
EFFECTIVE, ASPIRATIONAL AND
SELF-MOTIVATED LEARNERS.

Through active learning we encourage pupils to ask questions and think critically. Our pupils quickly become independent and develop their own high expectations. They have the confidence to share their ideas and opinions and the humility to listen. They show initiative, and we're proud of their confidence, resilience and tenacity.

Education isn't abstract at Belmont; we root it in reality so your child will quickly develop an understanding of how the world works, and their place in it. We regularly leave the classroom to explore and extend our learning. In our own nature reserve we can pursue Science investigations, and each term we go on day trips. You might find us at the Roald Dahl Museum, Celtic Harmony, Tate Modern, Whipsnade Zoo, or applauding one of our own pupils in *School of Rock*, *Les Misérables* or *Matilda* in the West End!

PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING

WE BELIEVE THAT A CHILD WHO IS HAPPY AND SAFE IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT WILL FLOURISH. OUR EXCELLENT PASTORAL CARE UNDERPINS ALL ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIFE.

We actively deliver our school values of 'be kind, be brave and be you' in every subject, activity, sporting or musical performance the children take part in.

The Pastoral System

The backbone of our pastoral system is based on a team of outstanding tutors, who get to know every child and support them on each step of their journey through the school. The tutors are supported by our Head of Lower School, and in the Upper School our Heads of Year. Our pastoral care is tailored to individuals through our mentoring programme and additional support for pupils and families is available, if necessary, through our team of School Counsellors.

Chapel

Belmont is a Christian foundation based upon the principles of religious freedom. Our pupils represent a wide range of faiths and cultures. Chapel services in our beautiful Chapel and assemblies place a strong emphasis on moral and mutual respect. Weekly Chapel also provides an opportunity for the children to reflect, evaluate the past and make plans for the week ahead.

Community and Social Responsibility

Belmontians develop their social awareness throughout their time in the school. The children are involved in many community projects. We are proud of how our children respond to cooking with the homeless, bringing a smile to the elderly, supporting children with disabilities, or being enlightened on the journey of a refugee.

Our active Parents' Association helps strengthen our community by bringing families and the school together. Major events such as Winter Wonderland, Macmillan Coffee Morning and B-Fest, our summer fun day, bring us great pleasure as a whole school community and raise significant funds for charity.

Our school Sports Day shows the Belmont community spirit at its very best, with children, staff and families coming together to celebrate everything Belmont.



“Pupils are confident and reflect on their experiences in school thoughtfully and in a balanced manner.”

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WELLBEING

WELLBEING IS A KEY COMPONENT OF THE SCHOOL'S PASTORAL SYSTEM. WE BELIEVE ALL BELMONTIANS WILL ULTIMATELY BE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM WHEN THEIR WELLBEING IS BALANCED.



Our principles of wellbeing are based around the children being active, connecting, taking notice, actively learning and giving. Our varied and wider curriculum coupled with school values, provides the children with the tools to manage their wellbeing.

Our annual Wellbeing Week reinforces the importance of being happy, and allows the children to refocus on their own mental and physical health to help them to be best equipped to deal with the challenges life brings.



The School House System

At Belmont your child will belong to one of our six houses, which form another layer of our pastoral care.

Belonging to a House provides the children with an opportunity to make friendships across the school. Within this system, the children support and look out for each other through the 'School Buddy' system, which forges strong links between the Upper and Lower School children. The House scheme, also provides some much needed 'healthy competition' in a wide variety of academic and cross-curriculum activities.

Upon joining Belmont your child automatically becomes part of the House system. The Angles, Danes, Jutes, Saxons, Celts and Vikings provide the children with a sense of identity, and at the same time provide an additional layer of pastoral care for the children.

“Leaders establish an ethos where the wellbeing of pupils is well supported in a culture of mutual respect for all groups of people.”

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“Pupils take part in the future skills programme which emphasises critical thinking and skills development across a wide range of technical, aesthetic and creative areas. This supports pupils to focus on continuous improvement rather than relying entirely on grades to reflect performance and achievement.”

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COMMUNICATION

Expressing thoughts clearly, articulating opinions, motivating others through speech and giving coherent instructions are valued in daily life and in the workplace. We have included Drama, Oracy, Videography and KidsMBA in our curriculum so that pupils can learn oral, written and non-verbal forms of communication for different contexts and purposes. We are excited to have partnered with ABE to deliver a KidsMBA in Year 8 where pupils develop the skills and confidence to set up a real-world business.

COLLABORATION

Effective collaboration allows large groups of diverse people to collectively make intelligent and holistic decisions. The ability to work respectfully and flexibly is something we offer in Future Skills through activities such as Outdoor Learning, Drama, KidsMBA, First Aid and STEAM.

CREATIVITY

Creativity is now rightly recognised as a key driver in the global economy. The ability to innovate and demonstrate originality in work is a skill fostered through Innovation, Videography, STEAM, KidsMBA, Design & Make, Outdoor Learning and Cooking.

CRITICAL THINKING

Being able to think reflectively and independently allows pupils to become active learners. Through Robotics, STEAM, First Aid, Independent Studies, Innovation, Outdoor Learning and Oracy we encourage pupils to analyse, evaluate, interpret and synthesise information. In Year 8, pupils take part in Robotics where they build and programme their own VEX Robots.

CALMNESS

Wellbeing and mental health are at the forefront of our ethos at Belmont. Remaining calm facilitates concentration, emotional regulation and increases chances of success. We teach Yoga, Mindfulness, Healthy Minds, Design and Make and Outdoor Learning. This aspect of the curriculum utilises the natural beauty of our grounds and is highly beneficial to the pupils’ emotional wellbeing.

COMPASSION

We want our pupils to be helpful and kind members of society. We actively promote compassion across various activities such as Healthy Minds, Outdoor Learning, First Aid and through our KidsMBA. We have partnered with “Mini First Aid” who provide three of our year groups with weekly sessions. Pupils can practice leadership and collaboration, testing their abilities within a safe environment.

CHARACTER

Bringing out the best in each pupils is an area we feel passionately about at Belmont. Through our Future Skills curriculum pupils are able to find their niche in an enjoyable learning environment.

The challenges that they face in problem solving in Outdoor Learning or presenting an elevator pitch in the KidsMBA all contribute to developing character and resilience.



FUTURE SKILLS

THIS IS AN EXCITING PART OF OUR CURRICULUM AND EQUIPS CHILDREN WITH THE SKILLS NEEDED FOR 21ST-CENTURY WORK AND LIFE.

“The curriculum is complemented by an innovative and well-resourced co-curricular programme, which benefits pupils of all ages and abilities.”

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ACTIVITIES

WE RUN OVER 100 CLUBS EACH TERM, AND ALWAYS MAKE SURE WE OFFER A BREADTH AND VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES IN EACH YEAR GROUP THAT GUARANTEE THAT EVERY CHILD CAN FIND THEIR NICHE. OUR PUPILS PERFORM WITH SKILL, ENERGY AND COMMITMENT.



Co-curricular clubs are under four pillars, examples include:

Physical Clubs

Netball
Football
Rugby
Hockey
Cricket
Invasion Games
Fencing
Fives
Table Tennis
Climbing
Spinning
Triathlon
Swimming
Rugby Sevens
Tennis
Athletics
Dance
Golf
Yoga
Winter Nets
Horse Riding
Karate
Running & Cross Country

Creative Clubs

LAMDA
Belmont Players Drama Club
Lemon Jelly Drama
Street Dance
Creative Dance
Set and Lighting Design
Yoga
Creative Club
Music Ensembles
Choirs
Ceramics
Creative Art and Design

Cognitive Clubs

3D Design and Print Club
STEM
Phonics and Pronunciation
Science Club
Stop Motion
Maths Challenge
Maths Clinics
Debating Club

D&T Club
EAL
Homework Club
French Surgery
Escape Rooms
History Club
Italian
Ancient Greek
Book Club
Authors and Illustrators
Chess
Open Mic

Community & Wellbeing Clubs

Baking Club
Forest Schools
Eco Club
Sewing & Craft Club
Lets Chat
Community: Actions Speaks Louder than Words

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

TRAVELLING OVERSEAS WITH THE SCHOOL GIVES YOUR CHILD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE PEOPLE, PLACES AND ACTIVITIES THAT WILL CHANGE THEIR PERSPECTIVE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD FOREVER.

“School trips are great at Belmont, we get the opportunity to visit amazing places.”

Yr 7 pupil

From Cornwall to Antigua

Our trips range from skiing in the French Alps, to playing Netball or cricket in Antigua, or visiting geothermal spas in Iceland and cultural trips to Spain. Our annual French Exchange Programme has been established for over 40 years and provides cultural and linguistic enrichment to pupils in Year 7 and 8.

We prepare your child thoroughly before we go, and watch their independence and global understanding expand with each day they are away. These trips truly are a wonderful experience, and a highlight of many pupils' time at Belmont.

Activities Week

In Activities Week, pupils take part in a totally different curriculum. In Years 3, 4 and 5 your child will make camp fires, cook, take part in leadership activities, play golf, try archery, climb, go on treasure hunts and much more.

Year 6 create their own play from scratch; we'll remember their performances of *In Flanders Fields* and *A Night at The Comedy* for many years. Year 7 go on a Geography field trip to the Lake District, and Year 8 spend a week in Cornwall on a leadership and sports activity week. Activities Week enables the children to take on new challenges, and to learn more about themselves.



THE ARTS AT BELMONT

THE ARTS ARE A REAL STRENGTH AT BELMONT AND AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF OUR CORE CURRICULUM BECAUSE THEY BOTH ENRICH YOUR CHILD'S LIFE, AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO SEE THEIR WORLD FROM MANY DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.



Whether your child has a future career in the arts, or will one day be a particle physicist or an entrepreneur, studying the arts gives them a breadth of vision, and skills of innovation and creativity that will always inform the way they live and work.

Art

Our Art teaching is lively, challenging and wide-ranging. We'll introduce your child to as many art forms as possible, including painting, printing and clay work; we even have our own kiln. Just as importantly, we think about historical and cultural context, explore ideas and develop your child's capacity for making and explaining judgements.



MUSIC AND DRAMA

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE PART IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR DRAMA AND MUSIC PROJECTS, INSPIRING CREATIVITY AND ENCOURAGING PUPILS TO BE THEIR VERY BEST BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM.



Music

There are so many opportunities to make music at Belmont and every child can take part, whether performing a violin solo, playing in the jazz band, or singing in Chapel.

Within the curriculum every child has a weekly music lesson with a dedicated, specialist teacher. We also have over 20 visiting teachers and the majority of children learn an instrument or take singing lessons.

Drama

There's no doubt that Drama is special at Belmont, with performances of an exceptionally high standard, ranging from Shakespeare and Jane Austen to original musicals. Our pupils perform with skill, energy and commitment. We're hugely proud of our Year 8's recent musical, *Oliver Jnr*, which was amazing.

Drama is a wonderful way for your child to develop self-esteem, empathy and communication skills. We see over and over again its power to open up new dimensions of emotional experiences.



SPORTS ON OFFER

EVERY CHILD IS EQUIPPED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE AND FIND A SPORT OR ACTIVITY THEY WANT TO WORK HARD AT AND PARTICIPATE IN.

Sports for all

Regardless of ability or experience, we want all Belmontians to enjoy physical activity. Our programmes allow pupils to reach their sporting potential, whether this is at House Competition level or international level. Pupils in Year 7 and 8 can participate in the major sports programme of Hockey, Netball, Football, Rugby and Cricket. Alternatively, they can join the 'Active:Xtra' carousel of various sports such as Climbing, Badminton, Fencing and Kabaddi.

Elite Performers

We nurture elite performers through our 'Performance Pathway Programme'. Pupils within this programme are selected and entered into the Sports Scholarship at 11+ and 13+. Boys and girls compete for club, county and national level. Pupils on the pathway access nutrition, psychology, strength and conditioning sessions as well as access to parent seminars on supporting the child on their journey.

Physical Literacy

Pupils who require additional physical literacy support are placed on fun and inclusive intervention programmes, 'Jungle Gym' and 'Magic Movement'. In these sessions, pupils develop fundamental movement skills which help them excel in PE and Games lessons.



“Sports Day is a great opportunity to show your ability and it’s fun for all our families too!”

Yr 8 Pupil

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME AT BELMONT IS INNOVATIVE AND FUN AND TEACHES YOUR CHILD HOW BEST TO USE THEIR BODY EFFECTIVELY IN SPORT.

“Pupils enjoy representing the school in core sports and working on personal fitness programmes.”

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Through our programme your child will acquire the fundamental movement patterns they'll need for all kinds of sports, from Swimming to Athletics, as well as focussing on particular movements and skills for individual sports.

Sports Day

In the Summer Term pupils focus on preparing for Sports Day, one of the biggest days in the school calendar. The children compete for their Houses, and it’s a great day out for the whole family; an opportunity for parents to meet each other, support their children, and relax in our beautiful grounds.

MOVING ON TO MILL HILL SCHOOL

OUR CHILDREN OFTEN VISIT
MILL HILL SCHOOL AND LOOK
FORWARD TO STUDYING
THERE ONE DAY.

Belmont pupils transfer directly to Mill Hill School in Year 9. Whilst there is no need to sit an examination, pupils are expected to meet our expectations on behaviour and make good academic progress. Achieving this will give you the reassurance that once your child has joined our group of schools, we will give them an exceptional education in our school community until they are 18.

Beyond Mill Hill School

Mill Hill pupils go on to study and work in a limitless range of fields, from medicine, engineering, literature and the arts to digital media, acting and everything in between. Our pupils grow into fine young adults and strong individuals, who are equipped to take their own path within school and beyond.

‘I attended Grimsdell and Belmont before joining Mill Hill School. Being surrounded by familiar faces really helped me settle in to life at Mill Hill and the close ties between the schools made the transition seamless and stress-free.’

Sixth Form Pupil,
Mill Hill School



“Older pupils support younger pupils in their transition between the schools which helps them to settle in quickly at their next school.”

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NEXT STEPS

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO BELMONT AND SHOWING YOU WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER.



Arranging a visit

It's the best way to find out if we are right for your child, and to answer all the questions you may have.

When you apply, we'll invite your child in for an interview and assessment. For more information, or to apply, please contact our Admissions Team:

020 8906 7290
admissions@belmontschool.com

Mill Hill Express

The School operates a home-to-school bus service.

Travelling to school is convenient and safe on one of our school bus routes, with early and late buses available.

For further information please email: millhillexpress@millhill.org.uk

Getting to Belmont

Mill Hill Preparatory School

Despite its rural setting, Belmont is within easy reach of central London, being served by bus, underground and overground train services. Close to the M1, M25 and A1(M).

Public transport

- 🚌 240 route
- 🚆 Mill Hill Broadway (direct trains to central London and St Pancras International)
- 🚇 Mill Hill East
- 🛣️ M1/M25/A1

Belmont, Mill Hill Prep. A part of the Mill Hill Education Group.



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