Belmont

Mill Hill Preparatory School | For pupils aged 7 to 13
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. We don’t know what their world will be like, but with a Belmont education we know they’ll be ready to thrive.

At Belmont 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.

How to be a Belmontian
The three most important qualities we expect from all Belmontians are to:

> be kind
> try their best
> embrace challenge

and we’re proud to say that the children more than live up to this.
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 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 to Mill Hill, moving on is a stress-free and positive experience for which they are completely ready.

Room to breathe
We’re only 10 miles from Central London 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.

GIRLS AND BOYS THRIVE TOGETHER
Ready for the future
When a child joins the Mill Hill School Foundation at age 3, they begin a journey that will carry them through to age 18 and beyond.

Our curriculum runs seamlessly through every school in the Foundation, 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 the interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence, the teamwork and leadership, the ability to think on their feet and work under pressure that will equip our pupils no matter what the future brings.

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.

THE GROWTH MINDSET
We adapt our teaching approach to suit each child.

A complete curriculum

English  Maths  Science
French  Latin  History  Geography
Religious Studies  Computing
Design and Technology  Music
Art  Drama  PE  Swimming  Games
The Belmont House Carousel

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’ll be ready to learn every subject with a specialist teacher.

In small classes with an average of 19 pupils, and often smaller classes for our Lower School, we use both traditional teaching and learning methods, and innovative approaches using IT, inquiry-based projects and peer-to-peer learning.

“Everyone is given a chance to thrive.”
Yr 8 Pupil
Providing our pupils with top quality facilities.

Modern Facilities
Classrooms are spacious and modern and are all equipped with interactive whiteboards, with iPads widely in use. We have a huge range of specialist rooms including an Art room, a Gym, a Cookery classroom and two music rooms. Our largest music room 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 labs, a Computing Suite and a Design and Technology Studio. Top quality facilities 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.
Beyond the classroom

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 in the West End!

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.

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

Yr 8 Pupil

Pupils at Belmont are effective, aspirational and self-motivated learners.
We actively teach and model our core values of caring, compassion and resilience every day and in every activity we do. The backbone of our pastoral care is our system of individual tutors who will support your child on each step of their journey.

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 and assemblies place a strong emphasis on moral and mutual respect.

Community and social responsibility
Our active parents’ association helps bring families and the school together. They run major events such as Winter Wonderland, Macmillan Coffee Morning and B-Fest, our summer fun day. These bring us great pleasure as a whole school community and raise significant funds for charity.

Social responsibility isn’t all about money though; we teach our pupils that being charitable is about awareness and genuine concern for the welfare of other people.

We believe that a child who is happy and safe in their environment will flourish. We take our pastoral care very seriously.
At Belmont your child will belong to one of our four Houses, which form another layer of our pastoral care.

School Houses
Belonging to a House makes it easy for your child to make friendships across the age groups, and to take part in all kinds of academic and cross-curricular activities and competitions.
Helping our pupils to find ways to stay happy and positive

- Keeping calm
- Mindfulness
- Understanding why healthy eating and exercise matter
- Yoga
- Dance

House Carousel
It is important that every child is adaptable, resilient, practical and creative. We therefore actively teach our pupils these skills.

Once a week your child will be taught in their House, rather than in their form group. In these classes your child will learn subjects that aren’t traditionally taught at school.

We call this part of our curriculum the House Carousel and it falls into four main areas: wellbeing, life skills, intellectual and cultural enrichment, and forest schools.

Learning skills for the real world
- Cooking and basic food hygiene
- Working in the Eco Garden
- Touch typing
- Internet safety
- Road safety
- First aid
- Managing a budget
- Interview skills for our older pupils

Stimulating outdoor learning in our own grounds. We see pupils develop greater:
- Self-belief
- Confidence
- Learning capacity
- Communication and problem-solving skills
- Emotional wellbeing
- Resilience
- Appreciation of the natural world

Sparking creativity and original thinking
- History of art
- History of music
- Performance poetry
- Welsh and Japanese – languages few pupils will have met before
- Chess – a great way to improve problem-solving and creative thinking
We run over 50 clubs each term, and always make sure we offer a breadth and variety of activities that guarantee that every child can find their niche.

Our pupils perform with skill, energy and commitment.
Travelling overseas with the school gives your child the opportunity to experience people, places and activities that will change their perspective and understanding forever.

“School trips are great at Belmont and we get the opportunity to visit amazing places.”
Yr 7 pupil

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

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. Our annual French exchange programme 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 every day they are away. They 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 and 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 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.
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, David, written by our Head of Drama and Assistant Head of Music, 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.
Our mission is to help your child play sport to the best of their ability, supported by our specialist teachers and coaches. They’ll learn excellent technical skills as well as the key sporting skills of resilience, teamwork and leadership.

We nurture elite performers who compete for club, county and national level, but just as importantly, every child can represent Belmont in sport, every term.

We offer a ‘sport for all’ approach; we want all our children to be involved regardless of ability.

Sports on offer

Our main sports are rugby, football, netball, hockey and cricket.

Glorious grounds

Our sports grounds are second to none, and they’re set in a stunning landscape. With 35 acres to ourselves, we have professionally maintained netball courts, rugby and football pitches, AstroTurf for hockey, cricket squares (including artificial surfaces), cricket nets, tennis courts, a woodland cross-country course, and a gymnasium.
The Physical Education programme at Belmont is innovative and fun and teaches your child how best to use their body effectively in sport.

Physical education
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 hard for their Houses, and it’s a great day out for the whole family and an opportunity for parents to meet each other, support their children, and relax in our beautiful grounds.

“Sports Day is a great opportunity to show your ability and it’s fun for all our families too!”
Yr 8 Pupil
Belmont’s pupils transfer directly to Mill Hill School in Year 9 without the need to sit an examination. Once your child has joined our Foundation of schools, you can relax, knowing that 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 and engineering to literature and the arts; from digital media to acting and everything in between. Our pupils grow into fine young adults, strong individuals who are equipped to take their own path within school and beyond.

Our children often visit Mill Hill School and look forward to studying there one day.
We look forward to welcoming you at Belmont and showing you what we have to offer.

NEXT STEPS

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.

Most children enter Belmont in Year 3 or in Year 7. When you apply, we’ll invite your child in for an interview and assessment.

For more information, or to apply, please contact our Head of Admissions:

Irenie Manfredi
020 8906 7290
imanfredi@belmontschool.com

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

For further information please contact BCT:
020 3114 7022
millhillbus@brentct.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). The School operates a home-to-school bus service.

Public transport
- 240 route
- Mill Hill Broadway (direct trains to central London and St Pancras International)
- Mill Hill East
- M1/M25/A1

Belmont
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The Ridgeway
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millhill.org.uk/belmont