The Norwood School

Open Days
Mon 12th - Fri 16th September
Mon 3rd October & Wed 5th October
(9.15am-10.30am)

Open Evening
Thurs 22nd September 2016
(5.00pm – 8.00pm)

Every Child Is Known, Supported & Challenged • A World of Opportunities
Strong Sense of Community • Innovative & Engaging Curriculum
Phenomenal Cultural Provision • Successful & Expanding Sixth Form

The Norwood School
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Headteacher: Denise Webster
See website for details
www.thenorwoodschool.org
Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff & Governors

Congratulations to all the students, parents and staff who have worked so hard to ensure that we have had such a great set of GCSE and A Level results this year. Amongst a national picture that has seen a drop in GCSE results across the board, at Norwood, we have seen a marked improvement - up 15% from last year whilst proudly continuing our tradition of 100% pass rate in our flourishing Sixth Form.

This year, 60% of Yr 11 graduated with the key 5 GCSE A*-C’s that include English and Maths.

Our highest GCSE achievers leave with a string of A’s under their belts - which will certainly give them the confidence needed to tackle the challenge of A Levels this term. We are really looking forward to welcoming many of them back in our Sixth Form.

Congratulations must also go to all the Upper Sixth who have successfully gained places at their first choice Universities or have chosen to move onto Higher Level Apprenticeships. We are proud that larger numbers of pupils than ever before are aspiring to the country’s top universities. Well done to all of them and we wish them every success on whichever pathway they have chosen.

If you are a prospective Yr 6 parent, please do come and join us during Open Season throughout September and October. Come and meet my committed, talented staff and speak to the pupils themselves about how much they enjoy being part of our ambitious, creative, academic environment.

Denise Webster
Head Teacher
Sixth Form Success

2016 Progression

Abigail Bailey
Coventry University
History and Politics BA Hons Degree

Jorge Da Silva
Sussex University
Business Management BA Hons Degree

Issac Oluyadi
Falmouth Art College
3D Animation for Games BA Hons Degree

Ilhan Ahmed
Queen Mary's University
English Literature BA Hons Degree

Orianne Hector
Leicester University
Criminology BA Hons Degree

Josephine Gisanrin
Leicester University
Politics and International Relations BA Hons Degree

Nueza Pereira Sa
Middlesex University
Drama BA Hons Degree

Shamanie Briscoe
BIMM Institute
Songwriting BA Hons Degree

Laura Scala
Sheffield University
Maths with Spanish BA Hons Degree

Nahom Haile Ghilazghi
Queen Mary's University London
Computer Science BA Hons Degree

Leah O'Connell
Higher Level Apprenticeship
National Theatre Costume and Make Up Department

Shamar Brown
Higher Level Apprenticeship
Production Runner
Channel 4 TV

Danny Nobrega Viera
Westminster University
English Literature BA Hons Degree

Visual Art and Design Students
Tia Hoyte and Reann Harrison (Camberwell Art College)
David Steven (St Martins Art College)

Mir Hashemi
Kings College University
Chemistry and Engineering BA Hons Degree

James Figueira
Higher Level Apprenticeship IT

Abel Everest
Off to work!
Well done and thank you to Ms Knight and the Yr 11 team for organising such a wonderful Yr 11 Prom this year. The occasion – spent gently sailing down the Thames on a warm evening with the city and a glorious sunset as backdrop, gave students and teachers the chance to reminisce about old times and to talk about their hopes and aspirations for the future.

Prom Night
Yr 11 Prom a night to remember

Y12 students and Y10 Business and Y10 Citizenship students were fortunate enough to have a talk from Sir Martin Donnelly, Permanent Secretary of the Department of Business, Skills and Innovation.

It was a great opportunity for our students to ask such an influential person questions about the world of business, civil service, universities, skills, science, careers and such. Sir Martin gave us some helpful advice about building skills to best equip us for future work and education. He also gave us some insight about how business would try and adapt to Brexit.

‘It was very interesting to find out what he thought would happen to businesses after Brexit’, said Olivia one of our Lower Sixth IT and Business studies students, ‘we have been discussing it’s potential effects in class but it was fascinating to hear someone’s opinion who is very much involved with this from the Government’s point of view’. 
The air of excitement was almost palpable on a cloudy morning in early July when children were arriving early for a prompt dismissal to deepest Wales - and we mean early - the first customer arrived bright and breezy at 6.30am! Packing lightly is clearly not a Norwood student trait, but soon they were all off - waved off by anxious parents and staff.

The Acorn Adventure - Brecon Beacons, set in a glorious Welsh National Parks was an ideal destination for a pack of excited South London teenagers, some of whom hardly ever step out of SE19! Thanks to the hard work and organisation of the PE team, the children spent the week breathing in the fresh mountain air as they paddled on the lake, enjoyed the breathtaking views from the high ropes course, explored the National Park hills by foot, toasted marshmallows on the campfire on the shores of Llangorse lake and kata kanued over to the wild camp to learn bushcraft skills.

Enduring memories, making new friends and pushing themselves to their limits - made for an extra special residential this year.

David Mensah went on a girls night out and excelled in the fashion show dressed as a young lady!!

Everyone will remember the invasion of the hedgehog - creeping into the tent with Lasonta, Joana, Melodie and Lorren causing carnage at midnight on the final night!

Jemin the rabbit catcher! Jemin’s inability to be quiet late at night led to him sitting up with a torch hunting the rabbits that were disrupting the sleep of others. Thanks Jemin!

We won’t forget Matthew’s impression of Tom Daley. With the aid of Mr Tinsley, Matt took diving to a new level in the largest lake in the Brecon Beacons!

We are very proud of the fantastic achievements of this year’s winners. Successful businessman and philanthropist Sir Jack Petchey CBE, founder of The Jack Petchey Foundation, which was established in 1999, seeks to raise the aspirations of young people, recognise their achievements and enable them to play a full role in society. We are so proud of this year’s winners who have chosen to spend their prize money on a whole variety of invaluable sporting and art equipment. Here is just one of the citations:

Shey has an ‘exemplary attitude’ and ‘enthusiasm for everything he does’ in school. Shey’s peers have recognised how ‘reliable’ and ‘genuine’ he is, and he is ‘so polite’. He’s already positively represented the school in so many ways, and has been a trusted member of the school football team. As well as his passion for sports, he has also participated in the Performing Arts Bursary programme, and shown great initiative in looking after Year 6 students in their transition to Norwood. Shey ‘always works hard in lessons’, and isn’t afraid to ‘get things wrong’ - he ‘always gives it a go’. His ‘can-do’ attitude is inspiring to those around him, and he has emerged as a modest leader in his year group. Shey has decided to buy goalkkeepers gloves, balls, whistles and a new Footie kit for the team – thank you Shey and congratulations.

Other worthy winners this year include Finlay Robertson, Blanca Hamilton, Lois Sampaflor Read and Viktoria Fedakov. Well done everyone!
Miss Wise has always cared and was always keen to listen and help. She was the one that we as a year group could always count on. I will be taking on the Specialism Captaincy.

Venus I know Miss was proud of everything we have achieved. No other teacher cared as much as her. I will be working with the PE and Sports Faculty on all the up and coming fixtures and events.

Karina Ms Wise really helped build my confidence - in year 7 I was really shy! She really cares about all our futures, there is no other teacher like her. Good Luck Miss! I will be out on duty at break and lunchtimes – come and find any of us if you need help or advice or just someone to talk to.

Talulah Ms Wise would always say how she liked hearing me play the piano in the morning. She encouraged me to do well and make the right decisions when I could have lost my way and she kept me on track to succeed. Watch this space – I will be preparing for my Head Girl Campaign this term and will be meeting you all in assemblies over the next few weeks.

It is always hard to say goodbye to any of our staff at the end of a busy summer term, but it was especially sad to say cheerio to the wonderful Miss Wise who has been a truly dedicated member of our staff for almost 18 years!

As Shamanie and Shamar mentioned in their moving farewell at the PAPA awards just before they sang the song that they had especially written in tribute to her – they had only just been born when Ms Wise first started at the Norwood School! It is almost impossible to sum up the enormous contribution that she has made to the school over the years, she has been a fabulous head of year too and we know from the kind messages that the children have written in the book the Yr11 Prefects made for her, just how much she has meant to us all. Sad goodbyes go hand in hand with excitement when dear friends and colleagues move onwards and upwards and our fondest best wishes go with all the staff who have moved on this year – thank you to them all.

Miss Wise leaves her year group in the very capable hands of Mr Waro who will be overseeing the student elections later this term – watch this space.
We pride ourselves at The Norwood School on our carefully designed transition programme which successfully bridges the gap between Primary and Secondary school. Having taken the opportunity to look around the school during Open Season, we had more families than ever put us first choice last October, we had the longest waiting list for Yr 7 places that we have ever had. Those children who were lucky enough to have been awarded a place on National Offer Day were immediately invited to a Friendship Tea Party.

Whilst the children met their new peers and joined in with fun and games led by Sixth Form mentors, parents took part in taster sessions in a variety of subjects - getting a flavour of what and how their children will be learning in Year 7. Along with a one to one meeting with parents, meetings with the Yr 6 teachers and an Induction day – the Yr 6's feel very much at home by the time they start with us in September.

Parents have been very complimentary this year and have praised our ‘personal approach’, ‘open communication’ and ‘genuine interest in the children and their academic and pastoral welfare’.

Ask our children themselves when you come and look around in Open season - our newly appointed Yr 8 Ambassadors were in your Year 6 shoes only a very short time ago.

Yr 6 - Important dates to remember!

If you are interested in applying for our Visual or Performing Arts Bursaries then you must apply direct to the school. Bursary application forms can be downloaded from the website and must be returned to the school by 30th September 2016.

Bursary Auditions and Workshops on Saturday October 15th 2016.

Supplementary Information Form, available on the website or from the school, must be completed and sent directly to:

The Norwood School, Crown Dale, London SE19 3NY by Friday 14th October 2016

Admissions Test Date Saturday 12th November 2016

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Mr Galea
Yr 7 Form Tutor and English Teacher

I’m looking forward to my second year at Norwood. I love reading, music and travel. I enjoyed studying English throughout secondary school and knew that I would love to teach it one day. Whilst studying at university I developed a love for blogging, my area of expertise being music. I was blogging regularly and was the music editor for an urban blog before MTV offered me the opportunity to write for them. During my time as a freelance journalist for MTV I had aspirations of presenting for the global brand and I managed to interview a variety of mainstream artists, one of my personal favourites being Usher. However, even though I genuinely enjoyed interviewing some of my favourite musicians and writing for MTV, it wasn’t a career that I could grow in, whereas teaching had a greater appeal.

Mr Hodgson
Yr 7 Form Tutor & Art and Design Teacher

This will be my second year at Norwood, a school I joined because of its emphasis on the Arts which I feel passionately about. I’m a strong advocate for giving children a creative outlet and I have seen the benefits this can have. I have been involved with the primary liaison team this year which has enabled me to give younger students an introduction to the school and to materials and techniques used at a higher level. I am also involved with the Visual Arts bursary programme, providing enrichment opportunities for students with a flair for the arts. Moving to London has provided me with the opportunity to immerse myself in the culture of the capital and I spend my time outside of school going to gigs and galleries, experiencing creativity first hand.

Miss Johnson
Yr 7 Form Tutor and English Teacher

This is my second year at Norwood teaching English and Media. Before teaching, I ran my own business in Oxford, screen-printing and selling clothing. I also used to work at the Foundation for Art and Creative Technologies in Liverpool where I ran workshops for children ages 11-16, teaching them how to write and produce their own short films. I love art and literature and enjoy visiting galleries and museums. I also have a passion for travelling and discovering the history and culture of many different places.

Miss Maden
Yr 7 Form Tutor & Art and Design Teacher

I have been working at the Norwood school for 1 year teaching Art, Technology and specialising in Photography for years 9 -13. While studying on my Art and Design foundation course, I discovered my love for photography and have done as much as I can with it ever since. After graduating I worked with a Visual Artist, experimenting with traditional and digital photography. We worked together on projects for exhibitions and planned and taught workshops at Somerset House, London. I have also trained in an independent South London Gallery where I ran workshops for ages 11-16, teaching them how to travel to Ghana and work with charities who have allowed me to combine my skills in art and photography with teaching and lead workshops for children and young adults. My dream is to continue travelling and teaching; building skills, confidence and creating valuable memories.
A huge thank you to the wonderful visitors who inspired and thrilled us with their talent and energy and to all those staff who worked so hard to put on such a memorable week.

Brazilian Arts Week 2016

This year’s theme was inspired by the Yemanja - a spirit from the Yoruba religion. We were delighted to have Kinetika Blocco and Gandaia’s Emmanuel MacDonald, Ramon Fernandez and Mariana Pinho working with us throughout the week. Students were treated to countless cross curricular arts based workshops, many led by professional artists, dancers and musicians that explored the mythology of Yemanja and Candomblé, and its roots in the spiritual tradition in Bahia, Brazil, a vibrant African-derived culture which evolved from slavery’s brutal past.

The week culminated in a wonderfully energetic sharing in the sunshine with a drama performance by Yr 10 followed by dancing accompanied by steel pans, the brass ensemble and the blocco. Trips and visits were mostly inspired by the more unusual Olympic sporting events that we watched this summer in Rio and we sent Norwood students off to all four quarters of London - free jumping, boxing, skating, BMX biking, swimming, rock climbing, archery, rowing, sailing, beach volleyball and football. Those less inclined to physical excursion chose from slightly more sophisticated trips to West End shows, The London Aquarium and London Zoo as well as the new Tate Modern.
Politics

Get involved

In Westminster all things are not equal: Fewer than 3 out of 10 MPs & Peers are women
Helen Hayes MP for Dulwich and West Norwood visits the Norwood School

Visiting local MP inspires young female students in particular, giving them an insight into what being a member of parliament entails and how her experiences have made her into the person she is today.

‘The visit was really interesting,’ said Ruby and Venus. ‘We have been talking to our Citizenship and Humanities teachers about the campaign to get more women into parliament and following our meeting with Helen we decided to sign the petition for 50:50.

50:50 are a Cross-Party Campaign and Petition Their vision is a parliament where men and women legislate the laws of our land, together, in roughly equal numbers. Of the 650 seats in the House of Commons men hold 459 (71%) and women only 191 (29%). There have only ever been 450 women MPs. So there are still more men in the Commons right now than there have ever been women MPs. It’s our time to make the change,’ said Johanna.

Get involved: 5050parliament.co.uk/get-involved

Record Breakers!
The weather was kind to us this year and expectations were running high as the whole school piled into Tooting Bec Athletics Stadium at the end of term. Cheering tutor groups, encouraging their friends onto success, could probably be heard all the way back to Streatham!

The pictures speak for themselves but some truly memorable performances really added that extra special spark and excitement.

A great day out had by all! Roy Castle would be proud of each and every one of you, record breaker or not!
Visual Art & Design Showcase and Ethical Fashion Show

Sixth Form Fashion and Clothing students were incredibly proud showcasing their ethically produced garments at the Summer Visual Art and Design Show.

Over the course of the whole year they have been researching and developing ideas for an ethically produced collection that they had to make entirely out of ‘upcycled’ garments.

The challenge began way back in September with visual research visits to the magnificent Painted Hall and Chapel at the Royal Hospital Greenwich, recognised as the greatest piece of decorative painting in England, designed by Sir Christopher Wren and Nicholas Hawksmoor. They also drew and photographed interiors at Apsley House, The National Gallery and the LASCO architectural salvage yard. Having gathered all their research they worked closely with Ethical Fashion Designer Claire Farrell and illustrator Alex Meen to develop their own unique collections. With trips to TRAID to source their fabrics and garments and invaluable regular support and encouragement from textile designer Sarah Campbell, and after a great deal of hard work and stress, the collections came to life on the runway in June. Miss Nicholas and Miss Thurston could not have been more proud of their creative and technical achievements.

‘Having learnt so much about the issues surrounding sustainable fashion I am now really committed to ethical trading’, said Leah in the Upper Sixth, ‘it has made me think about where I buy my clothes from and who gets paid what down the production line.’

‘It was interesting to find out which High Street Brands abide by the code of conduct which sets out minimum requirements on working conditions, pay and employment rights,’ said Reann, who will be starting her Foundation Course in Art and Design at Camberwell Art College in September.

‘We didn’t want to use any leather or fur but wanted our designs to look luxurious and glamorous,’ said Laura in the Lower Sixth. ‘I have started to realise the importance of addressing the ethical and ecological aspects of fashion, my mindset has definitely changed.’

The show was complimented by an evening of photography, art and graphics displays.
What is new in Norwood's Creative Curriculum?

From September, Year 7 students will have ‘oracy’ lessons as part of their regular timetable.

Our aim is to develop a cohort of students that are able to present themselves confidently and speak fluently in a variety of contexts. In addition to their joint Year 7 and 8 assemblies, Year 7 students will also have a discussion-based assembly each week where all students will be expected to make verbal contributions. In oracy lessons, all Year 7 students will work towards a five-minute ‘I-gnite’ speech – no reading from notes – which they will deliver to peers, staff and parents at the end of the year.

Effective communication is one of the most important attributes that colleges, universities and employers look for so the hope is that the addition of oracy to the curriculum will significantly improve the life chances of the students at Norwood.

This oracy initiative is part of a pilot, being delivered by just 12 schools across the country, in conjunction with School 21 – a specialist ‘Talk’ school in Stratford.

This year’s Performing Arts Awards were certainly not to be missed. The annual red carpet invited impeccably turned out guests to join the Performing Arts Team to celebrate yet another wonderful year – with a fantastic 22 shows and performances to choose from, competition for those much sought after snow globes was fierce!

The evening was interspersed by performances from dancers, pianists, singer songwriters and not one, but two bands! Many moving and poignant speeches touched upon the rich and special relationships that the team manage to cultivate with the students here at Norwood. With ‘The Arts’, well and truly at the heart of our school, children and staff spoke about how excited and proud they were to have been part of such a wonderful year. We were left in no doubt as to which had been the most popular show to watch, be in and produce – when almost the whole cast of Bugsy came on stage to receive the Best Production of the Year Award.

Thankfully no splurging guns this time though Mr Crisp! It was also a pleasure to see so many alumni return to present awards, one after the other testifying to what they are now up to – what University or conservatoire or Drama School they have gone on to and how, without the support and encouragement of their teachers they would not be where they are today. A fine celebration that will be very difficult to beat!

Renelle Davis Yr 11.

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Renelle, joined by our very own Louise Jackson who was selling her own intricate hand embroideries, sold his abstract lino prints inspired by the mast at Crystal Palace. Renelle, who we are looking forward to welcoming back as an art student in the Sixth Form next year, has been busy printing in the studio since finishing his GCSE’s a few weeks ago.

He recently went to meet local printmaker and artist Martin Grover in his studio in West Norwood. Following their meeting and having seen some of Renelle’s work, Martin was keen to support our budding artist and offered Renelle a summer project during August to help him develop a greater understanding of printmaking and to get a flavour of what it takes to become a freelance, self-employed artist.

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High Expectations for University Careers

University visits are part and parcel of enrichment at Norwood School, whatever age your child is – starting in Year 7, students take regular advantage of our numerous partnerships with universities and colleges. We also invite parents along to see just what university life entails. Mr Harvey and Miss Fleming enjoyed a visit to the University of Sussex with specially selected students from Year 7 earlier this year. The students had master classes in Maths, History, Science and Drama. The students found the day such an inspiration and saw it as a stepping stone towards gaining a place at a top Russell Group university once they finish in our Sixth Form.

The whole of Yr 12 and 13 will be off on a university Taster Day in September and record numbers of Yr10, 11 and Sixth Formers have successfully gained university Summer School places this year.

Bethany, Abigail, Sami, Keiran, Abdi and Reece in Yr 10 secured places on this year’s University of Sussex Summer School.

Bethany Ridgewell tells us a little bit more about it:

“I was a little apprehensive to be honest – when we arrived and were put in the halls of residence - we went along to proper lectures in the lecture theatres and really got a sense of what it would be like being university students. I opted for History and Philosophy, some of the others were interested in Chemistry, Physics or Biology. We learnt about the amount of contact time you have at uni and how you choose what you study. You have got to be so independent and motivated to do well. We also learnt about bursaries and student loans. There was a really great atmosphere and it has definitely made me think about not just going to uni but what I will do when I get there and what I could do after graduating.”

It’s not just university Summer Schools or work experience placements that we encourage students to take part in - with the Visual and Performing Arts at our very heart, we are delighted that so many children have taken up the many creative opportunities on offer across the capital this summer including the English National Opera and the Kinetika Summer Schools.

We are very excited to be launching the ENO’s flagship programme with Norwood this October. The Opera Squad programme will engage our whole school community in a range of creative activities over the next two years. We are already working closely to deliver a bespoke programme throughout the next academic year, that will nurture skills across a range of disciplines, encourage creative thinking, and open up the music, staging and ideas behind productions in preparation for groups to see work at the London Coliseum.

The Year 9 students were very busy in Citizenship during the summer term, taking part in the First Give project. The students had to work as a group and decide what social issue, such as homelessness, addiction, poverty or mental health problems, they felt passionate about. They then researched local charities which help these causes and contacted the one that they wanted to help. A visit to the charity was set up and the students got to ask questions to find out how they help local people.

The students then worked as a group to produce a presentation which raised awareness of the charity and the social issue that they had been working on. We had the class finals and then a grand final in the theatre where the winners were selected by our panel of judges, Mr Oxford H0Y9, Ola Badru, Head Boy and Steve Graham, Humanities Governor.

The winners won £1000 for their charity with two runner up prizes of £250. Well done Year 9.