



IN GAUDIO SERVIAMUS

**OLIVER HOUSE**  
SCHOOL

*Prospectus*

LOVE TRUST RESPECT  
EXPLORE CHARACTER  
DEVELOPMENT  
TUTORIAL FORTITUDE  
PRUDENCE JUSTICE  
SELF-CONTROL  
ELOQUENCE EDUCATE  
DISCOVERY INDIVIDUAL  
WIDER CURRICULUM  
PERSONAL FULFILLED  
ACADEMIC PATIENCE  
KINDNESS INSPIRED  
TEACHING INTEGRITY  
ETHOS CATHOLIC  
GROWTH PARENTS  
HONESTY ADVENTURE  
IN GAUDIO SERVIAMUS



WE AIM TO EDUCATE THE WHOLE PERSON, INTELLECT, BODY AND SPIRIT; OUR CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME HELPS CHILDREN TO GROW IN SELF AWARENESS, VIRTUE AND RESPONSIBILITY

QUALIFICATIONS ARE IMPORTANT BUT EDUCATION IS SO MUCH MORE THAN THAT. THE MISSION OF OUR SCHOOLS IS TO NURTURE AND DEVELOP THE INDIVIDUAL CHILD, WITH THE ULTIMATE AIM THAT OUR PUPILS GROW UP TO LIVE TRULY FULFILLED AND HAPPY LIVES. WE OFFER A SERVICE TO PARENTS SO THAT THEIR CHILDREN BECOME YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN OF VIRTUE. EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT GOOD CHARACTER AND MORAL INTEGRITY HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND SO CHARACTER EDUCATION UNDERPINS OUR RIGOROUS ACADEMIC PROGRAMME.

## Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to Oliver House, a school which works closely with parents to provide a personalised and rigorous education for your child in a climate of trust, love and respect.

Oliver House, as a PACT school, works in partnership with you, with a shared aim of ensuring that your child advances in their love for God and grows to become the very best person they can be.

Our unique Character Development Programme assists you as a parent to have a decisive influence on your child's development. We invite children to consider what kind of person they really want to be and help them to grow in self awareness and in human virtue, fulfilling our aim of educating the whole person – intellect, body and spirit.

At Oliver House we appreciate that education goes far beyond academic excellence, and that the school years are

crucial for the development of the talents and virtues which are essential to enable our children to achieve their full potential and also have a personal, meaningful relationship with God. This empowers them to become excellent professionals and mature, responsible citizens who appreciate that work well done is a service and a principal means of personal and social improvement.

I look forward to welcoming you and your family to our school. We are determined to work with you to foster academic excellence, your child's gifts and talents and the virtues that will allow your child to achieve a deeper relationship with God and the world. Together we can enable your children to reach their full potential and to make a real, positive contribution to society throughout the whole of their lives.

**Ciro Candia** Headmaster





## Introduction

OLIVER HOUSE SCHOOL OPENED IN 2004 AND IS LOCATED IN TWO ADJACENT GRADE II LISTED BUILDINGS ON NIGHTINGALE LANE OVERLOOKING CLAPHAM COMMON



## In Gaudio Serviamus



**OLIVER HOUSE**  
SCHOOL

Our motto, *In Gaudio Serviamus* - translates as – may we serve joyfully. We are here at the service of others: the Church, our school, our families, friends and our wider society. We wish to serve everyone cheerfully.

Our school shield is a castle within a circle of twelve stars. The school is named after St Oliver Plunkett, who was the last Roman Catholic martyr to die in England and the castle is a motif from the Plunkett coat of arms.

The stars symbolise The Blessed Virgin Mary in the Book of Revelation (12:1). "And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars."





“HEAVEN AND EARTH SEEM TO MERGE ON THE HORIZON. BUT WHERE THEY REALLY MEET IS IN YOUR HEARTS, WHEN YOU SANCTIFY YOUR EVERYDAY LIVES.”  
ST JOSEMARÍA ESCRIVÁ

## A Service to Parents

WE WILL BE YOUR ALLIES IN THE SHARED ENDEAVOUR OF RAISING CHILDREN OF WHOM YOU WILL BE PROUD



Choosing the right early years education for your child will be one of the most important factors influencing both their future academic success and the development of an upright character. A first school is therefore something that must be properly considered and chosen with great care.

## Three Clear Commitments

# 1


**PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS**  
We will be your allies in the shared endeavour of raising children of whom you will be proud.

# 2

**CATHOLIC ETHOS**  
We will share with you the great task of educating your children in the Catholic faith and ensure that a rich Catholic ethos imbues the entire life of the school.

# 3

**COMPLETE EDUCATION**  
We have an uncompromising commitment to personal academic, cultural and sporting excellence.



THE ESSENCE OF CHARACTER EDUCATION LIES IN EQUIPPING CHILDREN WITH THE FREEDOM TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES FOR THE RIGHT REASONS; THIS ULTIMATELY LEADS TO A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND DEEP PERSONAL FULFILMENT.

## Character Education

QUALIFICATIONS ARE IMPORTANT BUT EDUCATION IS SO MUCH MORE THAN THAT

Character education underpins the rigorous academic programme and quest of our school to nurture and develop the individual child. Our aim is that our pupils live truly fulfilled and happy lives. We offer a service to parents so that their children become young men and women of virtue and integrity.

Our Character Development Programme is based on the virtues of Faith, Hope and Love and on the four traditional pillars of Christian character:

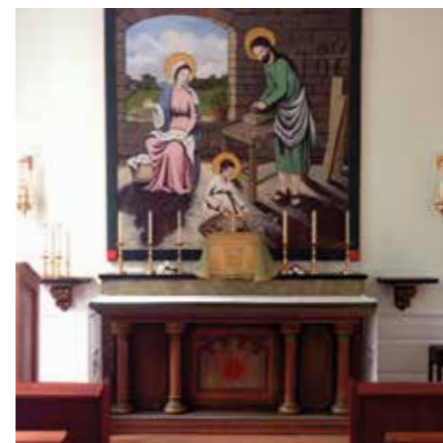
**Justice** Respecting the rights and needs of others

**Fortitude** Personal resilience and adaptability

**Prudence** Sound judgement

**Self-Control** Temperance

## Catholic Ethos



The school stresses and supports the primary role of parents in their children's overall education and spiritual development. A central part of our service to parents is to teach our pupils how to recognise the truth, goodness and beauty of the Catholic faith in everything they learn and to put their faith into practice in everything they do.

The school Oratory is at the centre of the sacramental life of the school. It is a quiet place where children and parents alike can reflect and pray. A Catholic priest from the Prelature of Opus Dei comes regularly to the school to provide children with the opportunity to attend Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He also provides talks and other means of spiritual formation for staff and parents.





## Individual Development

### THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM BRINGS A HEALTHY AND PRACTICAL FOCUS TO THE ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF EACH CHILD

Oliver House has a continuous Character Development Programme which starts in the Nursery and Pre-Prep fostering the development and study of virtues such as sincerity, industriousness, order, cheerfulness, generosity and service to others.

The Tutorial System is a natural fruit of the philosophy underlying our school, that parents are the first educators of their children. The tutor takes a direct and personal interest in each child's personal character development and regularly shares this with parents.

There is also a more formal termly programme of parent and teacher meetings which allow for a thorough discussion of the progress of each child.

## A Complete Education

### MUSIC & THE ARTS

Music has a central role in our curriculum and there is wide range of individual tuition available such as: Piano, Flute, Recorder, Violin, Ukulele, Guitar, Cello, Voice, Clarinet and Drums.

Dance and Drama are also integral to school life with pupils in all year groups taking part in performances throughout the year.

### TRIPS

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 enjoy termly trips to museums, galleries and other places of interest. There is also a residential outdoor activity trip in Year 5 and in Year 6 trips have included a cultural visit to Rome.

### SPORT & EXTRA CURRICULAR

We use our own sports area and local facilities such as Clapham Common to offer a comprehensive sports programme including: Football, Netball, Rugby, Hockey, Tennis, Gymnastics, Rounders, Cricket and Athletics. Fixtures with other local prep schools are an opportunity for all pupils to represent the school. There are also extra curricular activities such as Ballet, Drama, Fitness and LAMDA.





## Early Years



### NURSERY & RECEPTION

**THE PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS, WHICH CHARACTERISES THE OLIVER HOUSE ETHOS, IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN THE EARLY YEARS**

Good parent-teacher communication is crucial at this stage in a child's education and the effectiveness and joy of early learning is enhanced when it is encouraged and continued in the home.

Each child has a remarkable capacity for acquiring knowledge and skills in these years that have rightly been called the golden age of learning. At Oliver House the atmosphere and the structure of the day are carefully tailored so that a great deal of learning is achieved in a nurturing and happy environment.

### EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMME

- Development of reading and writing skills using the leading edge Spalding Literacy Programme.
- Learning a foreign language.
- Physical education including a specific psychomotor development programme.
- Music, dance and creative play.
- Practical guidance for character formation and growth in human virtues.





# The Pre-Prep School



## YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

**WE ENCOURAGE AN INVESTIGATIVE APPROACH AND A KEEN AWARENESS OF THE NATURAL WORLD**

In the Pre-Prep School, the class teacher takes all core curriculum subjects with specialist teachers taking Music, Spanish, Gymnastics and Dance.

English and Maths have a central place in the timetable but children also study History, Geography, Religious Studies, Science, Art, Character Development and Drama. Information Technology is used extensively.

We encourage an investigative approach and a keen awareness of the natural world. The children go on many excursions and benefit from outside speakers and visitors.

The programme of studies gradually becomes more formal and allows teachers to stream pupils for English and Maths. All children are stretched and supported in order to reach their own personal potential.

By the end of their time in the Pre-Prep School the children will have received a thorough educational grounding and be well prepared to meet the challenges of the Prep School.





# The Preparatory School



## YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6

**OUR COMMITMENT IS TO PREPARE ALL OF OUR CHILDREN FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO THE SCHOOL THAT IS RIGHT FOR THEM**

Informal assessments take place throughout the year and formal assessments take place at the start and end of the year. The academic work inevitably becomes more demanding as the children progress towards the final preparations for scholarship and entrance examinations to their secondary schools. This is a gradual process for which the children are well prepared

in the studious atmosphere of our Broadoak building.

Our commitment, following discussion with each parent and child, is to prepare all of our children for a successful transition to the school that is right for them.

As children move through the prep school the curriculum is taught increasingly by subject specialist teachers.

## THE CURRICULUM

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religious Education
- Art
- Character Development
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Geography
- History
- ICT
- Latin – Year 5 and Year 6
- Music
- Spanish



# PACT Educational Trust



## OLIVER HOUSE SCHOOL

**OLIVER HOUSE SCHOOL IS ONE OF FOUR SCHOOLS FOUNDED BY PACT EDUCATIONAL TRUST. ALL FOUR SCHOOLS ARE UNDERPINNED BY A CATHOLIC ETHOS AND A UNIQUE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME THAT PERMEATES ALL ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIFE**

PACT Educational Trust was founded in 1993 by a group of Catholic parents and educators to establish schools and other means of supporting families whose deepest desire is that their children grow into men and women of integrity committed to living their whole lives by Christian principles; men and women who, among the exhilarating, and challenging opportunities that the future presents, are resolved to be the exemplary citizens and inspirational leaders that our society needs.

The Trustees and founders believe that parents should be at the heart of the education of their children and that it is the role of schools to be of service to the family in trying to achieve this goal.

PACT has, to date, founded four independent schools. In 1996 it set up Oakwood School in Purley, Surrey and in 2004 Oliver House School in Clapham, South London. In September 2013 PACT launched two secondary schools, The Cedars for boys and The Laurels for girls, in Croydon and Clapham respectively.

PACT is governed by a Board of Trustees, all of whom give their services without any financial reward.

The PACT Board is the governing body of Oakwood, Oliver House, The Cedars and The Laurels. They meet regularly to discuss all aspects of school life, and the meetings are also attended by the CEO of the charity and the Headteachers of each school.



# Charter of Educational Principles

**1** PACT recognises that since parents are the first and the most important educators of their children, they have the right to choose the type of education they want for their own children, in accordance with their philosophical, cultural, moral and religious convictions (ref. Article 26 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights).

**2** PACT exists to encourage, integrate and coordinate the involvement of parents, teachers and pupils in the setting up and development of schools which aim to provide each pupil with a full and balanced education in intellectual, cultural and spiritual matters.

**3** The main objective of each PACT school is the all-round education of its pupils. A personalised Tutorial System will ensure that each pupil develops his or her talents to the full and acquires a sense of individual and social responsibility.

**4** Academic education should aim at excellence across the whole range of intellectual disciplines. The acquisition of knowledge and the ability to reason should be fostered in formal class teaching as well as in small groups and through individual attention. Science and arts subjects should not be seen as independent from each other, but should be presented as parts of a whole, structured according to real life. Each educational discipline should stimulate pupils to discover not just individual truths, but also the greater truth which exists in all things.

**5** Character formation should be based on the exercise of freedom with the consequent responsibilities and should have the following main objectives:

- to encourage the fullest development of virtues such as sincerity, hard work, perseverance, self-discipline, fortitude, temperance and cheerfulness
- to develop emotional responsibility in order to establish mature relationships
- to demonstrate, through the example of those in authority, that the exercise of power carries with it obligations of service and, therefore, deserves cooperation and respect
- to teach that work well done is a principal means of personal and social improvement.

**6** Spiritual training should not seek to impose doctrine, but should always respect sincerely held beliefs; it should therefore be able to be shared by all those who, irrespective of creed, recognise the spiritual dimension of man. For Christians, spiritual training should have the following main objectives:

- to develop a profound sense of one's condition as a child of God
- to be conscious that all Christians have received a personal call to sanctity and to enable them to realise the fullness of their faith in their own lives and every-day work
- to teach that charity is the most important Christian virtue and that it is in our dealings with others that opportunities arise to provide human, professional and apostolic service. Religious training should correspond faithfully to that of the Catholic Church.

**7** PACT schools should seek to share their resources with the greatest number of people. Each PACT school should become a social and educational centre for the community which it serves, through Family Enrichment Programmes and other social and civic initiatives.

**8** The participation of parents, teachers and pupils in PACT schools should lead them:

- to share the educational objectives of the school and to take on associated responsibilities
- to accept, respect and defend other people's freedom
- to uphold family values and the integrity of marriage

**9** In PACT schools, there should be no discrimination on social, cultural or financial grounds. On the contrary, any differences should be seen as a means of mutual enrichment.

DESIGN | LOUISE PHILLIPS | 2016  
PHOTOGRAPHY | SIMON JARRATT  
PRINT | IMPRESS PRINT SERVICES LTD

## Patrons



**LORD AND LADY NICHOLAS WINDSOR ARE THE PATRONS OF PACT EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

Our patrons have supported the work of the trust for several years and are delighted by the success of the schools. Lord and Lady Nicholas hosted The Circus Ball at Kensington Palace in 2015 to launch the BroadOak Bursary Fund. Its purpose is to offer our system of personalised, character-based education to as many families as possible.

## Four Schools. One Mission.



**OAKWOOD SCHOOL**  
59 GODSTONE ROAD  
PURLEY | SURREY | CR8 2AN  
GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 3 - 11  
T 020 8668 8080  
E ENQUIRIES@OAKWOODSCHOOL.ORG.UK  
W OAKWOODSCHOOL.ORG.UK



**THE CEDARS SCHOOL**  
COOMBE ROAD  
LLOYD PARK | CROYDON | CR0 5RD  
BOYS AGED 11 - 18 YEARS  
T 020 8185 7770  
E ENQUIRIES@THECEDARSSCHOOL.ORG.UK  
W THECEDARSSCHOOL.ORG.UK



**OLIVER HOUSE SCHOOL**  
7-11 NIGHTINGALE LANE  
LONDON | SW4 9AH  
GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 3 - 11  
T 020 8772 1911  
E ENQUIRIES@OLIVERHOUSE.ORG.UK  
W OLIVERHOUSE.ORG.UK



**THE LAURELS SCHOOL**  
126 ATKINS ROAD  
LONDON | SW12 0AN  
GIRLS AGED 11 - 18 YEARS  
T 020 8674 7229  
E ENQUIRIES@THELAURELSSCHOOL.ORG.UK  
W THELAURELSSCHOOL.ORG.UK





**OLIVER HOUSE**  
SCHOOL

7-11 NIGHTINGALE LANE | LONDON | SW4 9AH  
GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 3 - 11

**T** 020 8772 1911

**E** ENQUIRIES@OLIVERHOUSE.ORG.UK

**W** OLIVERHOUSE.ORG.UK