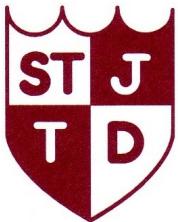
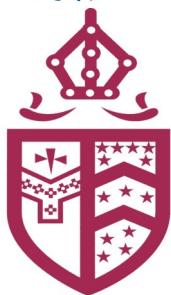
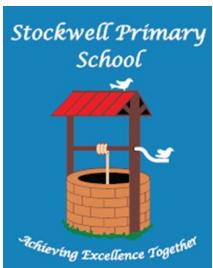


The Brixton Learning Collaborative





The Brixton Learning Collaborative, or BLC, is a cluster of 13 state schools, in the London Borough of Lambeth. The BLC comprises of 2 secondaries, 9 primaries, 2 Nurseries and 5 Children's Centres. Our cluster was formed in 2009 with 7 schools and has since grown and expanded. Our schools each have their own special identity and feel and our cluster is led by its dynamic Headteachers' strategic group.

PURPOSE AND AIMS OF THE BLC

We aim to work together, both within our cluster and with partner organisations, to share ideas, resources and expertise across the settings to fully support and facilitate the highest outcomes in attainment & aspirations for our pupils, parents, families, staff, and wider communities. The schools within the cluster take turns to lead the BLC (usually for 2 years).

The BLC is supported by a Community Partnership Manager,

In Brixton Learning Collaborative we help each other to be outstanding

We do this through:

- * Maintaining our creative approach
- * Promoting pupil voice
- * Demonstrating transformational impact
- * All schools becoming beacons of excellence
- * Demonstrating a sense of collective responsibility
- * Supporting schools to ensure Teaching and Learning remains consistently outstanding over time
- * Engaging families with support from schools within the Collaborative
- * Sharing resources in a reciprocal way

Who we are



Archbishop Sumner CE Primary School, Headteacher Ursula Ovenden

Reedworth Street, SE11 4PH 020 7735 2781 www.archbishop-summers-primary.lambeth.sch.uk

Archbishop Sumner is a small Church of England school with a determined focus on teaching and learning, a firm belief that children can and will achieve as well as, and better than children anywhere and a commitment to a living Christian faith that unites in this purpose, recognising and affirming the full diversity of the school community. The school promotes developing academic skills through creativity and cross-curricula planning, recognising the arts and sports as an equally important partner in the whole development of children growing into well-balanced adults.



Christ Church Primary SW9

A school for everyone

Christ Church Primary SW9 Headteacher Jakki Rogers

Cancell Road, London, SW9 6HN, 020 7735 1343 www.christchurchschool.cc

'Within a nurturing, Christian community we inspire lifelong learners and prepare them for a successful future.'

Christ Church is a small, creative school with a calm, harmonious and happy learning environment. The school has an innovative, dynamic and bespoke curriculum programme which rewards creativity and imagination. Christ Church is a single form entry voluntary-aided Church of England Primary School.



Effra Early Years Centre Headteacher Jan Bennett

Effra Parade, SW2 1PL 020 7733 8425 www.effra.lambeth.sch.uk

'We work together to provide better long term life opportunities for the children, their families, carers, childminders and other early years providers in the local community'

Effra Early Years Centre is an integrated and inclusive Nursery School and Children's Centre offering high quality childcare for children under the age of 5 years from 8am—6pm, 48 weeks of the year. The Centre is a bright and welcoming one-storey building with large open play spaces located just 5 minutes from Brixton and 10 minutes from Herne Hill stations.



Ethelred Nursery and Children's Centre Headteacher Glenda King Outstanding Ofsted 2015

Nursery: 20 Oakden Street, SE11 4UG; Children's Centre: 14 White Hart Street, SE11 4EP 020 7582 9711 www.ethelrednursery.org.uk

Ethelred Nursery and Children's Centre caters for children from 0—5 years old, aiming to be a focal point for the community where aspirations of children and their families can be nurtured and supported. Ethelred's permanent site is currently being redeveloped.



Evelyn Grace Academy Principal Devon Hanson

Shakespeare Road, SE24 0QN 020 7737 9520 www.evelyngraceacademy.org

Evelyn Grace 'We do whatever it takes to ensure that all our students are successful'
Academy

Evelyn Grace Academy is a mixed, non-selective secondary school, part of the Ark School group. Evelyn Grace Academy has high expectations for all students and strong ties to the local community.



Hill Mead Primary School. Headteacher Richard West

Moorland Road, SW9 8UE 020 7274 9304 www.hillmead.org Outstanding in all Areas Ofsted 2015

Hill Mead is a fully inclusive community school where children learn alongside all faiths and none, and if there is a vacancy, no child is turned away. We don't use intrinsic rewards or consequences such as stickers or behaviour charts. All our curriculum is freshly designed by our teachers each term, and we never use commercial schemes. We have an extra teacher in every year group of 2 classes from Nursery through to Year 6.



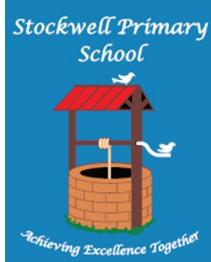
Jessop Primary School

Jessop Primary School and Children's Centre Executive Headteacher Lilian Umekwe, Acting Head of School Phil Mercer

Lowden Road, SE24 0BJ 020 7737 5164 www.jessopprimary.org.uk

'Excellence together with our community'

Judged 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in 2012, Jessop is a 2 form entry school on the Brixton/Herne Hill borders. Jessop works closely with London Music Masters who deliver individual and whole class violin tutelage. The learning of the violin is a specific feature of the school. The school band is also longstanding and highly accomplished.



Stockwell Primary School and Children's Centre Executive Headteacher Lilian Umekwe, Head of School Karl Bardouille

Stockwell Road, SW9 9TG 020 7274 7986 www.stockwell-pri.lambeth.sch.uk

'Achieving excellence together'

Stockwell is a dynamic and vibrant 3 form entry primary school taking pride in its wonderful pupils, inspiring and creative teaching methods and state-of-the-art learning environment. Stockwell reflects and embraces the diversity of the community and provides a high quality learning environment that is stimulating and supportive for both children and adults.

Jessop and Stockwell Primary Schools became a formal federation in September 2014 however, they have been working collaboratively for many years; both schools continue to maintain their distinctive identity. Both schools' Children's Centres provide free activities, sessions and support for families living in our local area with children up to the age of 5.



Loughborough Primary School Executive Headteacher Richard Thornhill, Head of School Elena Mauro

Minet Road, SW9 7UA. 020 7274 8374 www.loughboroughprimarylambeth.org.uk

'a friendly and caring school which reflects, and is proud of, our diverse community.'

Loughborough Primary is a successful two form entry primary school in Brixton which is gradually expanding to three form entry. Loughborough is part of the Loughborough Federation of Schools.



St Gabriel's College Principal Nick Butler

Langton Road, SW9 6UL, 020 7793 3901. www.saintgabrielscollege.org

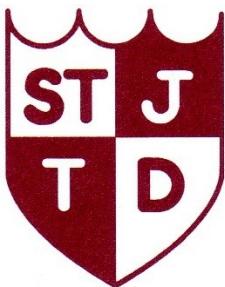
Saint Gabriel's College is a small inclusive Church of England secondary school where every member of the community is valued. All our students are encouraged to achieve excellence by working hard, continuously improving, growing spiritually and thinking of others.



St John's Angell Town Primary Headteacher Martin Clark

2 Somerleyton Road, London, SW9 8ND 020 7274 4847 www.st-johns.lambeth.sch.uk

St John's Angell Town Church of England school provides a happy, secure and stimulating learning environment where Christian values are embraced by all. St John's new building in the heart of Angell Town will accommodate the expansion of the school from 1 form to 3 form entry in the coming years.



St John the Divine Primary School, Headteacher Catherine Warland

Warham Street, SE5 0SX 020 7735 4898 <http://webfronter.com/lambeth/stjohnthedivine>

'Together Everyone Achieves More'

St John the Divine is a 1 form Church of England primary school which links with the surrounding communities in both Lambeth and Southwark. Here at St John the Divine we are a Christian learning community dedicated to providing the best educational experiences for our pupils. Our aim is to ensure that all of our children are able to achieve their full potential; that they become successful learners, confident individuals and that they leave us ready for the next stage in their learning journey.



St Saviour's Primary School Headteacher Elizabeth Maxted

Herne Hill Road, SE24 0AY, 020 7274 7986 www.stsaviourslambeth.co.uk

Our aim is that through an exciting curriculum and opportunities for enrichment, children have raised aspirations for all that they can achieve. St Saviour's has a history of providing a strong culture of engagement and learning through its passion for excellence.

Partnership Manager

The BLC Partnership Manager is Jenny Smith, who has been in post since December 2012.

Jenny's role within the cluster is to:

*Broker partnerships within the cluster and with external organisations.

*Fundraise for projects and programmes

*Provide Project Management

*Facilitate workshops, forums and meetings of staff within the cluster and support cluster schools.

*Develop and grow the work of the cluster with the Headteacher strategic group.

The BLC Headteachers' Group—Strategic Lead

The purpose of the BLC Headteachers' group is to provide governance, accountability and strategic direction for the development and continuation for the BLC. The members develop, monitor and review the cluster's action plan and agree funding and resources. The group is responsible for allocation of any additional external funds, which can be used for collaborative projects and programmes. The BLC Headteachers group meets 7 times a year: 6 termly meetings and a full day of strategic planning each year.

In June 2015, the Headteachers strategic group agreed 5 priorities for the cluster going forward:

Working together as Heads
Learning from each other
Staff supporting each other
Becoming Forward Thinking
Supporting our Community

Priorities for 2015-16

1. Working together as Heads:
Developing teaching and learning across the cluster
Developing Senior Leadership Teams
2. Learning from each other: targeted area/subject support

Heads working parties

In Autumn 2015, the headteachers formed 3 working party groups and have undertaken visits to each others schools to look at 'what makes the best learning cultures'. These visits have led to further visits and between staff in each other's settings,

The BLC Steering Group

The BLC Steering group is made up of members of Senior Leadership from each school, with a particular responsibility for teaching and learning. The steering group drives actions within the cluster, meeting 6 times a year. Every meeting includes a learning walk in the host school, and a member of the steering group attends every Headteacher's meeting. Recent topics that have been discussed and actioned by the steering group include 'developing a passion for reading', leading to a 6th form/primary reading mentoring project and a working party formed to look at 'how we quality assure our assessment tools'. Guest speakers at steering group meetings include Youthforce apprenticeship team and Beanstalk reading programme.



Profile of our Schools

- The large majority of pupils in our schools perform very well, with an average of 90.25% of pupils achieving level 4+ at KS2 compared to the National average of 88%, and 80% of pupils achieving a level 2b+ at KS1 compared to a national average of 79%, this in an area where 7 out of 8 of our primary schools are in the top 50% of schools with the highest levels of disadvantage (2015 results).
- Attendance in our schools is generally good with an average of 95.5% across all schools in the cluster.
- On average, 35.5 % of our pupils are eligible for Free School Meals compared to the national average of 17% with 53.8% of pupils eligible for Pupil Premium compared to the national average of 27.7%.
- 39% of our pupils speak English as an additional language in our schools, compared with the approximate national average of below 20%.
- 13% of pupils in our schools have a statement or EGC Plan or school action plus compared to the national picture of 1.4%.

Pupil progress

An 8% rise in attainment at level 4+ in English and Maths across our primary schools since 2012

A 5% rise in attainment at level 2B+ in KS1 English and Maths across our primary schools since 2012

An 8% Increase in children passing their phonics test in our schools, since the test was introduced in 2012.

A 26% rise in Good level of Development reported for pupils at the end of Reception since new EYFS 2012-13

Narrowing the gap

The BLC is working hard to close the gap in attainment of disadvantaged pupils with 80% of pupil premium pupils achieving level 4+ in KS2 English and Maths at end of 2014-15.

Our secondary schools have the lowest percentage difference in Lambeth between GCSE results for disadvantaged pupils compared to the rest of pupils: -5% difference at St Gabriel's College and -1% difference at Evelyn Grace Academy. This compares with a Lambeth gap of -13.9% and a national gap of -27.2%.



Jakki Rogers, Head at Christ Church Primary SW9 and Lead Headteacher of BLC 2014-16:

"We have benefitted greatly from being part of such a strong collaboration. Cluster working has helped us hold a magnifying glass up to our practice, learn from excellent provision within partner schools and work within teams to create and develop effective processes. Ultimately, we operate as a community of over 5000 pupils and staff, all centred on a vision of improving the life chances for every child within our cluster."

Jan Bennett, Head at Effra Early Years Centre "As a nursery school, being part of the Brixton Learning Collaborative allows us to share our early years expertise as well as gain access to primary and secondary expertise to upskill our staff team and ensure high expectations of our children and staff alike."

Staff working together

Staff from BLC schools work together in a number of ways: on defined timed projects called 'Task forces' that look at a particular a topic ; in ongoing forums that meet regularly to share and develop practice; in groups that arrange specific events together to support pupils and in groups doing joint moderation.

EYFS Forum

The Early Years Foundation Stage Forum is a large and lively group of practitioners from across our cluster, meeting 6 times a year to share and develop good practice. Forum meetings usually have a topic focus which have recently included the Teaching of Reading, Developing children's musical abilities and Forest School learning for Early Years. We are lucky to have some highly skilled senior EYFS teachers within our group of schools that share their expertise with others new to teaching this age group of children. For the past 2 years, our Reception teachers have worked together to jointly moderate the Early Years Profile for Reception aged children.



SEND Forum

SEND co-ordinators in our schools meet 2 or 3 times a year to discuss support for children with Special Needs and Disabilities within our schools and latest developments within this area. In turn the group is supported by the Educational Psychology Team from London Borough of Lambeth who do question and answer sessions for staff at these meetings.

BLC Task Forces

The BLC organises 'task forces', groups of teachers from different schools that work together to research a particular aspect of practice or teaching and learning. The group has a defined aim and works within a set timescale to deliver their findings to the cluster.

Task Forces have included: 'Challenge in literacy, language and communications' , 'Marking and Feedback' and 'Quality assuring Assessment Tools'.

Cluster Moderations

The BLC organises regular moderation sessions for teachers to support assessment. These have included writing moderation which have produced a set of exemplars of work judged 'at' Age Related Expectations in years 3 and 5, set against the National Curriculum goals and joint work on the Early Years Profile exemplification documentation.

Joint INSET

The BLC organises joint INSET sessions, sometimes for particular projects or with visiting experts to support teaching and learning. Recently these have included Problem Solving and Fluency in Maths for KS2, led by AK Mathematical Solutions.

Gifted and Talented Co-ordinators' Group

We have a very active group of Gifted and Talented Co-ordinators within BLC who take it in turns to organise events for pupils across the cluster. These have included visits and workshops to the Houses of Parliament, Art Days with specialist teachers where pupils have worked in new media and produced public exhibitions and art works, maths and science challenge days, writing workshops, sports and dance events. Events are sometimes supported by young leaders from our secondary schools.



Projects

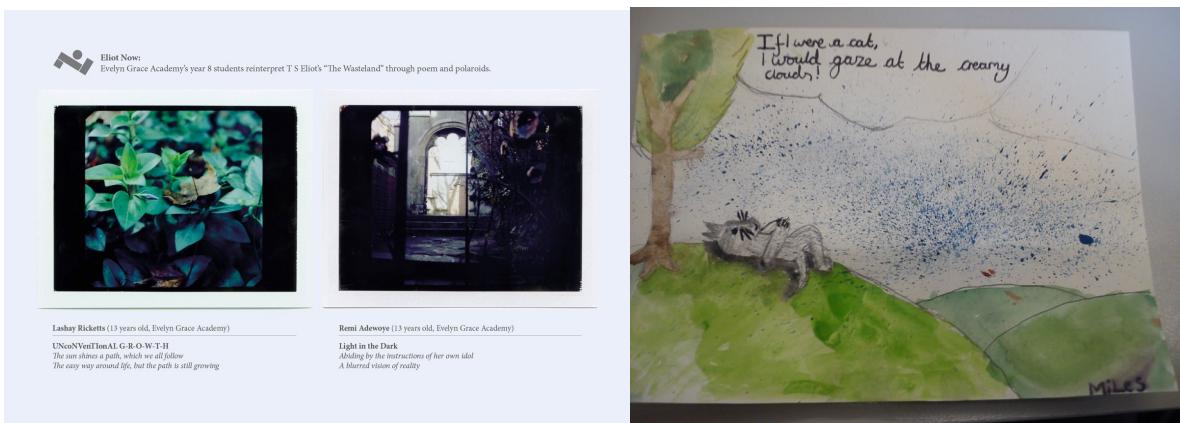
The BLC Partnership Manager works with a range of local and national partners and organisations to fundraise for specific projects within the cluster, to support pupils' attainment and provide enrichment opportunities. In addition, schools within our cluster organise events in which other schools participate to support children's learning and celebrate our children's talents.

The Big Read

Year 12 students from Evelyn Grace Academy support KS2 readers in our primary schools. The students visit the primary children on Wednesday afternoons, listen to reading on a 1 to 1 basis and work with the children on reading comprehension through quizzes and other literacy based activities. 'A great programme—I think more schools and children should have this opportunity!' Senior Leader, Jessop Primary School.

TS Eliot Poetry Project—Eliot Now.

Following successful applications to Clore Poetry and Literature Awards, the whole of year 8 from Evelyn Grace Academy and all our year 5 primary classes took part in a project delving into the poetry of TS Eliot. The year 8 students tackled *The Waste Land*, a text usually looked at at undergraduate level; they reinterpreted Eliot's style into their own poems inspired by polaroid photographs they took of their own 'waste land', supported by Brixton-based photography gallery Photofusion. The work was part of an integrated scheme of work designed by the year 8 staff at the school and culminated in an exhibition in school and a billboard display of work in the centre of Brixton. Meanwhile year 5 children across the cluster followed a series of workshops exploring Eliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats with poet Jared Louche, writing their own character-based cat poetry, illustrating it and exhibiting the work publicly in Lambeth's Carnegie Library.



BLC Poetry Slam

Children from years 4—7 worked with performance poet Adisa over a period of weeks to write, rehearse and perform their own group poetry in a Slam competition at The Ritzy screen 1 in the centre of Brixton. The children taking part were pupils working with learning mentors in their schools and children less confident in English and literacy. This project was supported by the Walcot Foundation.

Black Cultural Archives Poetry and Cartoon Drawing: Black Georgians.

The BLC, in partnership with Black Cultural Archives and the Windmill cluster of schools, successfully applied to Ernest Cook Trust and Clore Poetry and Literature Awards to support a term long project of historical research, poetry writing and cartoon drawing based around characters from Black history in the Georgian period, including well known figures such as Ignatius Sancho as well as ordinary people of the time living in London. Children in year 5 across our cluster produced writing and images that were exhibited at Black Cultural Archives in the centre of Brixton.



The Evelyn Grace Academy/BLC Spelling Bee.

Every year Evelyn Grace Academy hosts a Spelling Bee for primary and secondary school pupils as part of their literacy festival. Children in the primary schools hold their own spelling competitions in order to choose their crack team of spellers to compete on the evening. A cup is awarded to the winning team.

SHINE at BLC

BLC schools take part in a year round programme, SHINE on Saturday, providing curriculum support and enrichment to primary pupils and mentoring opportunities to secondary students. Children can access trip and visits in and outside London and workshops from visiting professionals.

Partnerships and Funding

Since 2013, the BLC has raised around £200,000 of funding to support projects and programmes for pupils and families as well as staff training within the cluster. Funders have included Walcot Foundation, SHINE, Clore Poetry and Literature Awards, Ernest Cook Trust, Awards for All and The Peter Minet Trust. The BLC works closely with external partners to enrich the curriculum of our pupils including : National Theatre, Pegasus Opera, Photofusion Gallery, Picturehouses Education, Fotosynthesis, Black Cultural Archives, Ebony Horse Club ,RMO (the Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation), London Wildlife Trust, Young Lambeth Co-op and London CLC.

Adult and Family Learning

The schools in the BLC recognise the importance of life-long learning and are keen to offer courses for adults and opportunities for family learning. Courses on offer include Digital Stories, Animation, Family Maths and Cooking with parents and children learning together. The cluster has a close association with Morley College with adult learning courses at many of our schools including regular evening courses at Evelyn Grace Academy and ESOL classes on Saturdays at Stockwell Children's Centre. The BLC was successful in raising Awards for All funding to support sewing classes in its Children's Centres.



Support for our Community

Screenings at The Ritzy for BLC Children's Centre Families

6 times a year the BLC puts on a special film screening at The Ritzy cinema in Brixton for our children's centre families, with tickets sold at cost by our Children's Centres. Films have included Frozen, The Good Dragon, Minions and The Jungle Book.

Welfare and Careers Advice

The BLC Partnership Manager works closely with organisations such as Tomorrow's People and Women like Us who offer support, training and advice to parents who wish to do courses , find employment or get better paid work. BLC works with IRMO to support Spanish and Portuguese speaking families with translation services.

Advice Events

The BLC has worked with Citizens UK to put on a local event supporting parents with immigration advice from trustworthy lawyers. The BLC is also working with Citizens to raise awareness of housing issues in the local area that effect our school communities.



Brixton Learning Collaborative

Partnership Manager: Jenny Smith 07956 093082

blc@christchurchschool.cc

www.brixtonlearningcollaborative.wordpress.com