



Duncombe

PRIMARY SCHOOL

imagine



Imagine a journey travelled by everyone. Picture it winding through a landscape of discovery, where each destination is a milestone of achievement. Imagine the travellers preparing for their journey, using their strengths and knowing their weaknesses, packing up their own experiences, ready to share and use as they find their way.

harmony



See how they take their own paths at different speeds, but travel in harmony. Watch how they take turns to lead and follow: acting as guides to some and being inspired by others. See when each tires at points through the journey but is encouraged and supported by the others – laughter is a common occurrence. See how the changing and diverse landscape opens up new horizons for the travellers. See their determination to stride confidently into the wider world.

success



Watch how others come and join the journey for a while – either to lead, follow, share or reflect. See how they are welcomed – hear the tales that are told by the travellers of adventures, successes and dreams. Notice how the visitors smile and laugh, ask questions and carry the tales of success with them into the world.



stories

See these stories spread – the group of travellers grows in number and momentum, its stories are heard far and wide throughout the land. People who hear of these adventures come to see, to learn, to participate, and to celebrate.

Picture a journey where every land is a new challenge, met with courage and a sense of adventure. Picture a journey where individuals have a special place in the heart of a team. Picture a journey of learning, fulfilled by a love of learning. Picture this journey, and you have found Duncombe Primary School – a home for the heart, soul and mind that can be carried on the journey of life.

contribute

Duncombe is not just a school; it is a special community. This is a home from home – a haven – full of humour, fun and wonder, where children work and play together in a culture of trust and respect. Our children have a sense of belonging, purpose and direction. They feel secure and safe; safe to learn, safe to strive and reach out, and safe to grow. We believe that each child has so much to give, to share, and that we can all learn from each other.

**All my friends are here.
We all learn together.**



Our children are the most incredible success stories. We give them choices and independence, ambition and self-belief and we want to see their imaginations take flight and soar.

learn



Every child is unique and every child learns in a different way. We use a variety of teaching methods to make sure that each is taught as an individual. Our Sound Field System is a wonderful contribution to teaching and learning. It encourages children to focus without the need for any raised voices; the teacher can whisper and everyone will hear. This technology captivates our children and gives them confidence in expressing themselves.

We encourage every child to share his or her thoughts and to listen to the views of others. Everyone is heard at this school, and everyone is listened to. Duncombe welcomes contributions from students past and present, as well as contributions from parents.





celebrate

**Our teachers always let us say things –
they want to listen.**

We celebrate diversity and we make sure that everyone is included in our success. We work together to solve problems: from Bully Busters and Playground Friends to the School Council. Our children take control of their environment.

A photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, smiling and looking at a document in a classroom setting. The boy is on the left, holding a pen, and the girl is on the right. They are both wearing dark blue jackets with red collars. The background is slightly blurred, showing colorful decorations.

aspire

**I want to find my own way,
but I need help to get there.**

Today's Duncombe children are set to become ambitious citizens and role models. We encourage them to persevere and to strive towards worthy goals. We help them to understand the complex world that we all share, and to show respect and tolerance for others. We want them to follow their dreams, to find their place in the world and to make the right choices.

commitment

Duncombe is one of London's outstanding primary schools. Children and parents have our absolute commitment, from the first day of school and far into the future. If there is a need for support, or a time for celebration, we welcome their return at any time during their journey of discovery through life.



promise



Our commitment to supporting children and parents in connection with health, education, social services, housing and even the police, has received national recognition and is the core of our promise.

community



Duncombe is a community and family school with magnificent diversity. Everyone is welcome, and everyone has important opportunities to share and to learn from the differences they experience. We maintain friendships with children and their carers as they travel throughout the world. The acquisition of knowledge and academic skills, and a celebration of our varied cultures are central to our teaching and learning.

parents



Parents are vital to our success, not least as a significant part of the huge number of volunteers at Duncombe. We are a listening school that welcomes parents' and children's views and suggestions at all times. We also promote an extensive range of learning and leisure activities for parents.

volunteers

In each week there can be up to 60 volunteers working to support or gain experience from working with Duncombe School. We are nationally recognised for our innovative volunteer programmes and preparation of trainees. Volunteers are celebrated as role models in our community, regardless of whether they are PhD students from the London School of Economics or University College London, accountants from our Education Business Partner, or troubled adolescents from the Secondary Sector being taken into Duncombe's care.





extended school

Duncombe's Extended Day provision offers an excellent breakfast club, and both care and education from 3.30pm to 6pm. The Sussex Way Extended School, our unique extended school, provides challenging as well as relaxing activities every day in partnership with local schools, sports and cultural centres.



achievement

Achievement at Duncombe is very good indeed. We are regularly in the top 20% and sometimes in the top 10% of schools nationally for the value we add. Our curriculum is adventurous and exciting – both children and staff find enquiry and challenge key to their learning. Our children's success is derived from a combination of the very best Co-operative Learning, Feedback for Learning, high quality Partnership Teaching, and excellent professionals in every department.



Countless visitors over the years have commented on how friendly and welcoming our school is. Just walk into our school office and you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our staff and we care for them as well as our children. Common to every member of staff here, is the love and care we give to the children of Duncombe. As a measure of the quality of our teachers, we always ask the question 'Would we want our own children to be in this class?' The answer is always a resounding 'yes'.

leadership

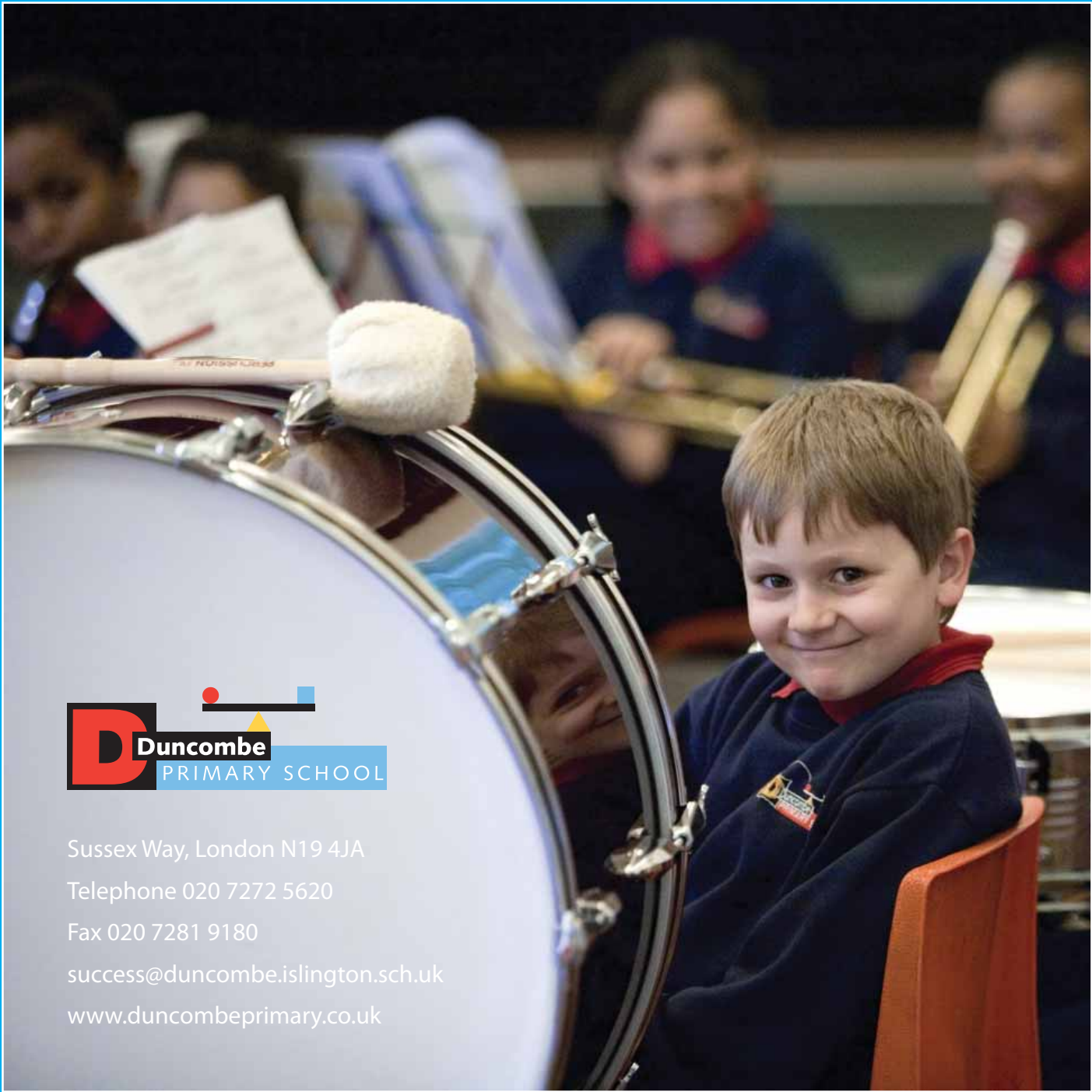
Our governing body is fully committed to the development of the school. Their challenge and support help us to reach the highest standards. Staff are the key investment in the success and happiness of our children therefore we only employ outstanding teachers because our children deserve the very best. The supportive atmosphere in our staff community and the opportunities for professional development mean that Duncombe School attracts the leaders of the future.





the future

Our children are being prepared for an unknown future. It will be both exciting and challenging. They will need skills which will allow them to adapt to a rapidly changing world and succeed in it. The family at Duncombe will do its best to give them the tools they will need to be successful.



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