



Headmistress's Talk Highlights

- Braeside is a family all-through school which promotes the academic and personal development of each and every one of our pupils.
- Our small classes mean that your child will be known as an individual and develop strong working relationships with staff.
- Our GCSE results are consistently strong and significantly above Government targets. 100% of pupils gained a good grade in Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Art, and History, English Lang and Lit, Spanish, French - Our pupils go on to some of the best sixth forms in the area.
- We aim to provide opportunities for your child to develop their individual strengths and talents whether that is through academic subjects or art, sport or music. Teachers know your child and will actively steer them towards their interests and goals.
- We give all pupils the chance to participate in: sport, art, drama, music, charity work, school council, assemblies and more. Smaller numbers means that every pupil has an opportunity to take part and lead on something that interests them.
- We focus on progress, helping pupils appreciate that their abilities grow and develop over time and we encourage them to aim high and set themselves aspirational targets.
- We believe in the value of hard work and persistence, and we help our pupils to value effort and commitment. Their books show how much effort goes into their school work and also highlights the constant dialogue between them and their teachers about their work.
- Pupils have quality time with their teachers for personalised and specific feedback, so your child is able to make progress and improve on their learning in depth.
- We support and extend our pupils, giving opportunities to think, reflect, consider and evaluate their learning be it through verbal and detailed written feedback.
- We offer scholarships at 11+ and stretch the most able. These can be for art, sports, performing arts and academic excellence.
- We offer a few places into Year 9 after the 13+ exam to provide an opportunity to study GCSEs with us.
- Collaboration between the Oak Tree Group of schools means that we share ideas, trips and resources so pupils have a wider variety of experiences and subjects at GCSE to choose from. These opportunities are provided from Early Years to Year 11.

Benefits of our Locality

- We have a lovely school site and garden. We have easy access to central London and arrange regular trips to theatres, museums and galleries.
- The school has a bus stop outside for the 20 bus from Wanstead and to Loughton – many travel together either by bus or tube from Loughton or Buckhurst Hill.



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Wider Opportunities

- We are regularly art competition winners in a number of regional and national events with ISA. We usually have winners for competitions both locally and nationally.
- Oak-Tree Schools collaborate on joint events like art exhibitions – Braeside pupils won the Loughton Young Artists Competition 2020 - and music festivals, camps, enrichment days and trips.
- We participate in a variety of sporting events with local schools and with the Independent Schools Association and fixtures against local schools. Last year we took part in tag rugby, athletics, cross country, football and netball fixtures.
- As well as curriculum trips, we offer regular residential trips: there are annual European trips – last year we had a cultural trip to Spain (Real Madrid) and a ski trip Austria. Also, camping and adventure trips for junior pupils.
- Each pupil has individual support and advice for the transition to sixth form and further education and all pupils last year went on to their first choice sixth form in the area.
- We have a wide range of extra-curricular experiences for pupils from instrumental tuition to drama, LAMDA, band, choir, sports, coding, Spanish, Art, cookery club and dance.
- We have a flourishing House system with competitions ranging from House Drama, to charity fund-raising and sports events. These events are largely organised by the pupils showing strong leadership and team work.

Recent Developments

Merging the School Sites -

- From September 2020 all Braeside Pupils have been brought together into one all-through school. All children at Braeside are now taught at the Main Site on the High Road, Buckhurst Hill. This has meant further enrichment to the lives and educational experience of all pupils.
- This has provided the use of excellent facilities for our younger pupils at the larger and better-equipped site. Teachers can now track and support pupils from their formative years all the way to GCSE.
- All pupils get to interact and learn alongside each other. They have thoroughly enjoyed this 'new' chapter in the life of Braeside.

Co-Educational—We have plans for boys to be part of the educational offer from Reception 2021. This will be another wonderful addition to the school.

- From September 2021 Braeside will be extending its provision to boys, starting in Kindergarten and Reception.
- This reflects today's fast-moving modern world and will benefit the children's learning and development.