



Prospectus

Darlinghurst
ACADEMY

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We know that each of our children come to Darlinghurst Academy with different experiences, skills and talents, we are determined to match our provision to help them to shine, letting their individuality light their way.

We enjoy each and every moment so that we share and achieve excellence together.

Our academy logo – ‘little boat’ - represents our sense of adventure. Together, we set sail on our learning journey. Our journey can take us through challenges but with determination and confidence we will sail through. With growth mindsets, we learn and know that we can always improve.



Achievement ★ **Belonging** ★ **Confidence** ★ **Determination** ★ **Excellence**

Darlinghurst ACADEMY

WELCOME

Set in the heart of Leigh-on-Sea, Darlinghurst Academy prides itself on providing exciting opportunities for children throughout their educational journey preparing them for a happy and successful future.

At Darlinghurst, we believe that every child, in addition to the excellent education they receive in the classroom, should experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of their learning, whatever their age, ability or circumstances. We provide a rich and varied environment where they can play, explore and learn, at the same time as safeguarding their welfare.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Here at Darlinghurst Academy we are invested in shaping the lives of our children. Everyone is committed to doing their best for each and every child. To do this we ensure that everyone knows they belong here - a place where children and adults feel confident, take risks, whilst achieving excellence together.

We celebrate achievements - big or small - and challenge everyone to improve even more.

We believe in developing the whole child, teaching them learning and life skills and promoting and modelling behaviours for life. Our children and staff help others along the way, ensuring we stay safe and happy, sharing our playful spirits.

We are proud of our academy, always welcoming visitors and new families.

To find out more about how we can achieve excellence together at Darlinghurst Academy, please contact the school to arrange a tour.



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

OUR EXTENSIVE GROUNDS



We are very fortunate with the facilities and extensive school grounds at Darlinghurst ACADEMY. We have 'Hagrid's hut' where the fire pit is kept, a working allotment, ducks, chickens, guinea pigs, 6 beach huts with our own little manmade beach, a big pond and lots of lovely green space where we can explore and let the children's interests lead their learning.



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OUR EXTENSIVE GROUNDS



Darlinghurst ACADEMY

OUR AIMS AND VALUES

Achieving Excellence Together

Achievement: Always do your very best. Together, we will succeed!

Belonging: Be happy and help to make our school a caring, welcoming place.

Confidence: Challenge yourself everyday. Ask, discover, explore and create.

Determination: Don't ever give up! Believe that you can and you will.

Excellence!

Our Aims and Values

At Darlinghurst Academy, we aim for excellence in everything we do.

Our vision is for all our children to:

- achieve to their full potential and develop a love of learning
- know they belong in our community and feel safe, supported and respected
- develop the resilience and confidence to face any challenges
- try their best, have high expectations and be determined to succeed



Aa
is for
Achievement

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leads to
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Bb
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Cc
is for
Confidence

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Dd
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Determination

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leads to
Excellence

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leads to
Excellence



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What our children say



“When you struggle at something, meeting with my teacher at mark meets and interventions help you to practice which leads to success.”

Jacob

“We line up quietly; we walk sensibly and follow expectations to create a positive environment.”

Issac

“We celebrate our achievements by congratulating others when we are in class, in clubs or outside school with our friends.”

Luke

“When we move on a reading colour this shows improvement.”

Grace

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JOINING THE SCHOOL



Starting school is a very exciting time for you and your child.

We, as a school, work with parents to ensure it is both a positive and rewarding experience.

"I always enjoy meeting new families and their children and I am privileged to be part of the team watching them develop in the early years."

- Mrs Dutton, Assistant Principal



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Our Results



Our results reflect our high expectations and aspirations

- *96% passed the year 1 phonics screening check*
- *Highest attainment in KS2 reading, writing, maths and combined, reflecting our rising standards (year on year) with results above national at the expected standard.*
- *Positive progress in reading, writing and maths in KS2*

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JOINING THE SCHOOL

Nursery children

At Darlinghurst Nursery, we provide a nurturing and caring environment for 3 and 4 year olds, which supports and encourages all children to develop holistically. We offer a term-time nursery. All children are eligible for 15 hours per week in nursery with some children being able to claim an additional 15 hours per week. Parents of children who attend 15 hours also have the option to pay for additional hours.

Reception children

Parents of Reception children are invited to an information evening and a comprehensive information pack is given to all parents. Reception children are invited to play sessions in July. Pupils are admitted to Darlinghurst Academy in the September of the academic year in which they turn 5. During the previous Summer term, visits take place to support children and parents to become familiar with the routines and rich learning environment of our school. In September, the children attend their Reception class full time in a staggered entry, with Early Years staff talking and playing with them, getting to know the children as individuals and settling them into classroom and lunchtime routines. From the third week of the autumn term, all children will be attending school full-time.



“When I came to Darlinghurst, everyone helped and welcomed me. Changing schools has changed me.”

Faith



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ADMISSIONS

Nursery

- We take children into our Nursery from the term following their 3rd birthday.

Reception

- Children who are applying for a place in Reception at Darlinghurst for the next academic year should apply to Southend Borough Council.
- After the end of August each year, the waiting lists are handed to our school and the admission process becomes the responsibility of Darlinghurst Academy. As Darlinghurst is an Academy Trust, all other in-year admissions are handled by the Admissions Team here at school.

Mid-year admissions

- Parents of KS1 and KS2 children are encouraged to visit the school for a tour of our extensive grounds.
- Children are welcomed to spend time in the school environment before joining, allowing them time to know the routines of the school and meet their peers.

Should you need any help or guidance with this process, please contact our Admissions Team on 01702 509205 or by email pupilservices@darlinghurst.co.uk

For an application form and further information please contact our Admissions Team on 01702 509205 or by email pupilservices@darlinghurst.co.uk

External Internet Links www.southend.gov.uk/admissions



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ADMISSIONS

The school prioritises admission of children under certain criteria:

- Looked after children and previously looked after children.
 - Pupils who live in the catchment area served by the school and who have an older sibling attending the school.
 - Pupils who live outside the catchment area served by the school.
-
- If Darlinghurst Academy is named in a child's Statement of Special Needs or an early health assessment (EHA) plan, the school and the Local Authority have a duty to admit the child.
 - In the case of over subscription in any one category, "straight line" distance will be used to measure the distance from the child's home address to the nearest pupil entrance of the school.
 - Distances will be measured using a computerised system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.
 - All of this information needs to be considered before an application form is completed.



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

OUR SCHOOL DAY



- Our school day is 8.45am to 3.10pm
- Our breakfast club runs from 7.30am and caters for morning childcare
- Darlinghurst Academy offers a wealth of extra curricular-clubs
- Our Acorns after school club runs until 6.00pm and caters for after school childcare

Every day counts: The early bird catches the worm



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

OUR SCHOOL DAY



Reception

- Classes have breaks as required
- A healthy snack is provided for all children
- Lunch is between 12.00 - 1.00pm



Key Stage 1

- Break is between 10 -10.15am
- Lunch is between 12.00 - 1.00pm
- Values assembly, Singing assembly and Celebration assembly are held once a week



Key stage 2

- Break is between 10.30 -10.45am
- Lunch is between 12.30 - 1.30pm
- Values assembly, Singing assembly and Celebration assembly are held once a week



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

OUR SCHOOL DAY



Lunch Times

School Meals

- All meals are cooked from scratch in our kitchen with fresh ingredients
- The current cost of school lunches is £2.20 per child
- Free School Meals - All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to free school meals.
- For children in Key Stage 2 (Year 3 - Year 6) to qualify for free school meals, parents/carers must satisfy the eligibility criteria and provide a copy of currently-dated evidence.

Packed lunches

We encourage children to bring healthy packed lunches into school. Packed lunches should not contain glass bottles, cans of fizzy drinks or sweets.

We also ask that foods containing nuts are not brought to school in order to safeguard children with serious nut allergies. Packed lunches should be brought in a suitable lunchbox clearly marked with the child's name and class.



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Our Breakfast club and Acorns after school club is open to any child attending Darlinghurst ACADEMY.

Darlinghurst ACADEMY offers a great variety of extra-curricular clubs, run both internal and external providers.

“Breakfast club is nurturing for all of the children, I especially like the children’s colouring activities.” - Mrs Cannell, Acorns Lead

“I really like film club because we get a chance to watch a film in school. Mr Dunne explains the film to us and we get to ask questions.” Jamie

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EXTENDED CHILDCARE AND CLUBS

Breakfast club

- Our breakfast club is opens at 7.30am and costs £4.00 per child per morning.
- Parents must apply for a breakfast club place, and need to complete a booking form and contract, which must be returned to the office to be placed on the waiting list before children can attend.
- For safeguarding reasons, we must insist that you drop your child off at the door to the hall extension rather than dropping them outside the gates.
- A range of breakfast cereals are available along with toast and fruit juice. From time to time we may also have yoghurts, milk and other special items such as croissants.
- Children choose to use the netbooks for playing games, doing their homework and staying informed about the world.
- Four days a week there are additional activities available in the main hall which vary from singing and dancing to more organised games. At least one day a week is dedicated to exercise.

Acorns afterschool club

- Our Acorns after school club is open everyday for children from Reception to Year 6, if places are available.
- The club runs from the end of the school day until 6.00pm during term time and aims to provide fun activities including drama, art, cooking, IT and numerous sporting activities. The club costs £7 per day.
- To apply for a place, parents need to complete a booking form and contract, which must be returned to the office, to be placed on the waiting list before children can attend.
- There is no after school club on the last day of each term.

Extra Curricular clubs

Internal clubs range from sporting clubs to Film club, through to an 11+ club. External clubs include Karate, Bricks 4 kidz, Spanish, French and music tuition.

“I do two music lessons at school. I learn Ukulele and keyboard. I enjoy them because you get to learn new songs and you are able to play them by yourself.”
Scarlet C



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

THE CURRICULUM



Within our curriculum we are committed to developing the essential learning skills our pupils need for learning and life:

- Connected Curriculum
- Core Skills Curriculum
- Core Subjects
- Specialist Teaching.



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THE CURRICULUM

Phonics

At Darlinghurst School we have developed our own phonics programme which follows the sound teaching sequence from letters and sounds. Children are first taught to read and write the 40+ sounds in English and subsequently apply this knowledge to matched decodable books. Children begin phonics lessons in Nursery and Reception and continue these lessons until they can read confidently and fluently. Some children complete our phonics programme in Year 1 and others in Year 2. In KS2, any children who need extra reading support also follow this programme using age appropriate decodable books.

Whole class reading

Children at Darlinghurst are encouraged to develop a love of literature through exposure to a wide range of texts. We provide a print rich environment including different genres and styles which are ability appropriate. As a community of readers, we expect all teachers and children to model and communicate their love of reading.



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THE CURRICULUM

Writing

At Darlinghurst we want our children to clearly understand the purpose for writing and enjoy becoming authors. From the first lesson in a series, children will begin to understand the reasoning behind each the purpose for each piece of writing.

Maths

At Darlinghurst, we want our children to think like mathematicians and develop a love of maths. We encourage children to develop a deep conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts, develop mathematical thinking and use rich language and communication around maths and to give children the opportunity to master maths through problem solving and reasoning.

Science

At Darlinghurst we are inquisitive and active learners who ask lots of challenging questions about how things work and the world around us. As such science plays a vital part in our curriculum and is woven into our Edison curriculum throughout the year and will be a part of almost every topic taught throughout both key stages.



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Darlinghurst ACADEMY

SPECIALIST TEACHING

Art

The children at Darlinghurst receive an art or design and technology lesson each week from our specialist teacher who leads the subject. The lessons are taught in a unique classroom environment dedicated solely to the subject area and the children's achievements.

Outdoor Learning

We are very fortunate with the facilities both on the school grounds and in the surrounding area: we have 'Hagrid's hut' where the fire pit is kept, a working allotment, ducks, chickens, guinea pigs, 6 beach huts with our own little manmade beach, a big pond and lots of lovely green space where we can explore and let the children's interests lead their learning.



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SPECIALIST TEACHING

Performing Arts

Performing Arts at Darlinghurst provides everyone with an opportunity to create, discover and explore. Our bespoke curriculum (with extensive links to the Edison Connected Curriculum) takes the children of Darlinghurst on a journey, storytelling, building confidence and belief.

PE

At Darlinghurst, we deliver high quality Physical Education programme which will inspire our pupils to succeed and excel in competitive sport and enjoy being active and healthy.

Our aim is to provide opportunities for the pupils to become physically confident and develop an understanding of the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. Competing in a range of sports in school and at tournaments and festivals will help to embed important British values such as fairness and respect, whilst at the same time allowing the children to build character and the chance to achieve their best.



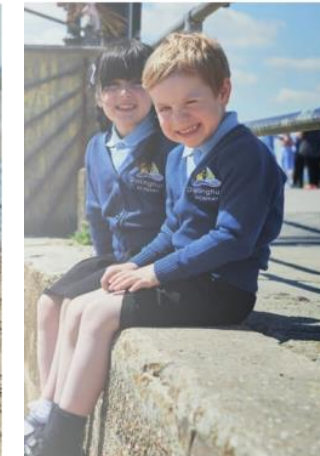
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SCHOOL UNIFORM

Darlinghurst School uniform is compulsory from Reception to Year 6.

Our uniform logo - a boat on the crest of a wave - which takes its inspiration from the Leigh fishing community.



Our uniform, which adopts blue as a standard colour, places Darlinghurst at the heart of the community it serves.

Visit <http://www.schooluniformdirect.org.uk> to order.



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What our parents and carers say



“The biggest thing that I have noticed at my time at the school is how happy and confident the children are.”

“Great community school, very caring and supportive staff to pupils and parents.”

“Kids who are excited to learn. Fabulous teachers – truly they are.”

“When I first came to look around the school I was so excited by the prospect of my children coming here and it hasn't failed to disappoint.”

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