



**Darlinghurst**  
ACADEMY

# WELCOME

Here at Darlington Academy we are invested in shaping the lives of our children. We encourage learning through a breadth of valuable experiences and exciting opportunities, throughout their learning journey with us.

We support our children to gain a full range of knowledge and skills to succeed in a 'changing world', cultivating a sense of humanity and belonging. Everyone knows they belong here - a place where children and adults feel confident and cared for, whilst achieving excellence together.

We celebrate achievements, big or small and challenge everyone to be the best version of themselves. Together, we develop the whole child, teaching learning and life skills and modelling behaviours for life so that our children possess the emotional resilience and character to succeed.

Holistic success is central to our design, to increase effectiveness and improve educational excellence and life chances.

We empower our children to be:

Successful learners - Prepared for change - Active Citizens - Confident Individuals - Effective contributors



**Mrs Nicholls**  
**Principal**

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



# OUR RESULTS

- Children make positive progress from their starting points across reading, writing and mathematics, leading to a positive progress measure, above national average.
- Exceptional high pass rate for the phonics screening check with published results 96%
- Our results demonstrate high expectations and attainment with results above national in all subjects and combined

*Ofsted 2019*

“The school’s curriculum and ethos are strongly committed to promoting equality of opportunity and all pupils are valued and treated equally.”

“The curriculum provides extensive provision, including developing life skills.”

“High expectations and aspirations are clearly embedded throughout the school”

“Teaching builds well on what pupils know and can do. As a result, teaching over time is effective. Pupils engage well in their learning and make good progress.”

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



# OUR VISION AND ACADEMY VALUES

Our academy values are intrinsic in all that we do. They are given high regard.

## Achievement:

Always do your best. Together, we will succeed!

## Belonging:

Be happy and help to make our academy 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:

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

### Our vision is for *all* our children to:

- achieve 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.



Achievement



Belonging



Confidence



Determination



Excellence



# OUR CURRICULUM



Our provision and practice has been carefully crafted to deliver a bespoke curriculum to meet the needs of our children.

We recognise the importance of building strong foundations in learning so that our children have the skillset and knowledge to succeed.

We provide intentional and responsive experiences, inside and outside the classroom across a range of subjects. Our specialist provision further supports their physical, creative and artistic skills. We hold the gold award for PE, Outdoor learning and the prestigious green flag as an Eco school.

Our children are active citizens, playing their part in learning and academy life. We hold the Enhanced Healthy Schools Award, including the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Project.



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# ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

**PHONICS:** We follow a bespoke programme, developed by our school. We introduce phonics in our Nursery and as children progress through the school they are taught phonics, spelling, reading and handwriting as part of their daily phonics lesson. Our programme has a proven success rate and prepares children for the next step in their reading journey.

**WHOLE CLASS READING:** We develop a love of reading through exposure to a wide variety of texts and high quality discussions. Our children read each day, building their fluency, expression and comprehension.

**WRITING:** We encourage our children to write with purpose, linking to relevant, intentional and responsive experiences. They plan and build their ideas and further develop their craft and writers voice, using models and examples – leading to their own final piece.

**MATHS:** We support our children to gain a deep understanding of mathematics by developing their conceptual understanding and number skills, applying them to problems. They use a combination of concrete, pictorial and abstract methods. They rehearse and recall key number and multiplication facts.

**THE WIDER CURRICULUM:** We provide learning that is purposeful and relevant to the lives and heritage of our children, developing their knowledge and skills across a range of subjects, preparing them for the next stage of learning.



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# WHAT OUR CHILDREN AND PARENTS SAY

"I enjoy coming to school and learning about the world. Our Eco-Team makes a difference."

**"The teachers challenge and support us. They encourage us to try our best and to be determined."**

"Everyone belongs here – no one is left out."

**"Our children are provided with so many opportunities to excel in their learning."**

"Darlinghurst is a caring place, full of supportive staff and friendly children. It is like one big family."

**"When I first came to look around the school I was so excited by the prospect of my children coming here and I am so pleased. It has exceeded my expectations."**

"I would like to share my gratitude and appreciation to all the staff for their hard work and dedication through these unprecedented times. The care and attention to families is wonderful."

**"The virtual lessons were exceptional and made a difference.  
The teachers went above and beyond."**

Achievement ★ Belonging ★ Confidence ★ Determination ★ Excellence



# STARTING SCHOOL IN THE EARLY YEARS

*The Early Years environment is an exciting place to learn and play.  
Our children free-flow between all the Early Years zones, inside and outside the classroom.*



## NURSERY

- Darlington Nursery is part of our school, providing a nurturing and caring environment for our 3 and 4 year olds. It is the start of their learning journey.
- We offer a flexible approach to Nursery hours, on a termly basis - 15 hours, 30 hours and additional sessions, including lunch.
- Our Nursery Team are specialised in Early Years education and dedicated to child development.



## RECEPTION

- We value the importance of a positive start to school by supporting families and children by building and strengthening relationships.
- Settling sessions are included within our induction process to support the physical, social and emotional needs of our children.
- Our Reception Team build strong foundations for learning – developing the whole child.



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



# OUR ACADEMY DAY

## ACADEMY DAY

- Our normal academy day starts at 8:45 and ends at 3:10pm. *(Timings may vary due to staggered start and end times to allow for social distancing)*
- Children have breaks during the day and have healthy snacks and water. *(They follow good hand hygiene routines)*
- Weekly assemblies allow for reflection and celebration. *(Assemblies may be virtual)*
- Children engage in weekly specialist lessons for PE, Art and Outdoor learning.



## ACADEMY MEALS

- All meals are cooked in our kitchen with fresh ingredients.
- The cost of school lunches is £2.20 per child
- All children in Reception and Year 1 and 2 are entitled to universal free school meals.
- To qualify for free school meals (KS1 and KS2), parent/carers must satisfy the eligibility criteria and provide a copy of currently-dated evidence.
- We encourage healthy lunchboxes.

## ACADEMY UNIFORM

- Darlington Academy uniform is compulsory from Reception to Year 6
- For more info see our website.
- All uniform must be ordered through school uniform visit. <https://www.schooluniformdirect.org.uk>



Achievement



Belonging



Confidence



Determination



Excellence

# EXTENDED CHILDCARE

## LITTLE MARINERS

We provide extended care for families, through our breakfast and after school provision.

- Our breakfast club opens at 7:30am and costs £3.50 per child, per session.
- Our after school club runs from the end of the school day until 6.00pm (term time). The club costs £3.00 for sessions up to 4.15pm. After 4.15pm the cost is £8.00



### LITTLE MARINERS – BREAKFAST CLUB

Offers a range of breakfast cereals along with toast, yoghurts, milk, fruit juice and croissants.

### LITTLE MARINERS – AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Offers a range of fun activities including drama, art, cooking, computing and numerous sporting activities.

**To apply for a place, parents need to complete a booking form and contract.**

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“When I chose Darlington Academy for my daughter, I chose it based on my visit. I liked the people straight away. I could feel the community emphasis and I knew it was the right school for us! The staff at the gate who greet us every morning, the lovely office staff who are always helpful and personable all add to making Darlington special.”

**We hope this is the start of a journey together and bright futures for us all,  
Today, tomorrow and for generations to come.**

### **CONTACT US**

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Leigh On Sea, Essex, SS9 3JS

T: 01702 478379

E: [generalenquiries@darlington.co.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@darlington.co.uk)

W: [Darlington.co.uk](http://Darlington.co.uk)

### **ADMISSIONS**

Should you need any help or guidance with the Admissions process, please contact our Admissions Team

T: 01702509201

E: [admissions@darlington.co.uk](mailto:admissions@darlington.co.uk)

### **EXTERNAL INTERNET LINKS**

[www.southend.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.southend.gov.uk/admissions)