



The Camelot

Monthly Newsletter No. 141

January One 2022-2023



Page One printed for circulation—other pages sent by email to all parents/carers

January 2023 is five years from Ofsted January 2018

We welcome all parental feedback on the areas of our school life to reflect on; to improve; to discuss and to share with our next Ofsted team due to visit our school from January 2023 onwards.

Parent/Carer feedback is at the heart of a school's Ofsted outcome and we ask that you tell us or tell visiting inspectors directly regarding the efforts and achievements of our school in recent years.

Overleaf we have provided a reflection on our journey 2018-2023.

We have been striving to be exceptional everyday which we aim to be that...

- ♦ *The school meets all the criteria for a good quality of education securely and consistently.*
 - ♦ *The quality of education provided is exceptional.*
- ♦ *The school's curriculum intent and implementation are embedded securely and consistently across the school.*
- ♦ *It is evident from what teachers do that they have a firm and common understanding of the school's curriculum intent and what it means for their practice.*
- ♦ *Across all parts of the school, series of lessons contribute well to delivering the curriculum intent.*
- ♦ *The work given enables pupils, over time and across the school, to consistently achieve the aims of the curriculum, which is coherently planned and sequenced towards cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning and employment.*
 - ♦ *Pupils' work across the curriculum is consistently of a high quality.*
 - ♦ *Pupils consistently achieve highly, particularly the most disadvantaged.*
 - ♦ *Pupils with SEND achieve exceptionally well.*

We hope you agree and will highlight this when inspectors visit our school?

The important school dates for your attention

1. **Sunday 15th January**—deadline for Primary School Admissions to Camelot!
2. **Monday 16th January**—Yr 6 Parents/Carers meeting re Residential Trip.
Meetings at 8.45 a.m. and repeated at 6.30 p.m.
3. **Thursday 19th January**—Yr 4 Parents Meeting re Maths Multiplication Check
4. **Tuesday 31st January**—Parents Evening (& Morning) - details to follow
5. **Monday 13th—Friday 17th February**—Spring Half Term Holiday Week: One week



So what's this we hear about the only school in Southwark offering free holiday provision for its pupils + taking them on trips, cycling + extra swimming, fun and food?!



FYI—Camelot have bid to offer Spring CHAMPS April 2022 to include our Year 2s as well and possibly even our Year 1s?

These are our Camelot Knights* of the Autumn Term 2022

* Knights are those recognised for their exceptional qualities in the battlefields of everyday life... aka the classroom and all around school. Arise Sir/Dame Exceptional

Our Autumn Knights are:

Year 6 - Adesola, Jarred, Elizabeth and Omarr

Year 5 - Aaliyah, Scarlett, Yad and Qadir

Year 4 - Immaculate, Joseph, Julia and Jacob

Year 3 - Blessing, Tiwa, Eliora and Azara

Year 2 - Eleana, Hunter, Anthony and Trieu Man

Year 1—Eghosa, Xander, Iman and Amiyah

Reception—Kamaldeen, Adedoyin, Alexa, Zebby

Nursery—Mia Grace and Tobi L



The Camelot Knighting Process:

Children can only be knighted once a year and each teacher nominates two children every term. This means just six children can be knighted in a year. Children can be knighted every year so now it is possible to be knighted 8 times (Nursery to Year 6) over the course of a child's/Knight's/Dame's time at Camelot! Congratulations to our Autumn Term Knights for leading in the way into 2023 and it is noted that many of these children have been knighted before which is a true recognition of our exceptional qualities.

What we want to do with your lovely 'photogenic' children?!

- ♦ We hope all Parents/Carers support our use of the photos of your children on our website, in our newsletters and on our posters and displays around school... but not on any social media. If you do not give your permission please inform the office team.



BIOGRAPHY

Dr Benjamin Obadiah Iqbal Zephaniah was born and raised in Birmingham, England. He cannot remember a time when he was not creating poetry but this had nothing to do with school where poetry meant very little to him, in fact he had finished full time education at the age of 13. His poetry is strongly influenced by the music and poetry of Jamaica and what he calls 'street politics'. His first real public performance was in church when he was 10 years old, by the time he was 15 he had developed a strong following in his home town of Handsworth where he had gained a reputation as a young poet who was capable of speaking on local and international issues.



Camelot School is the Racial Literacy Hub for Southwark

Camelot advocates for curriculum provision that ensures a broad and balanced opportunity for our pupils to learn in the present, from the past and for their futures.

We recently shared this curriculum with notable celebrities who advocate for such a proactive approach in their work and through their stance.

We were thrilled to receive this personal affirmation from the Poet Benjamin Zephaniah who is known by many pupils and staff for his poetry and his gravitas in our 2023 UK community.



Professor Benjamin Zeph...  
@BZephaniah

Replying to @L_LossaGrant and @loria30

There is so much thoughtful, important, and well presented work here, covering so many aspects of our history. It is so great to know that this is happening in our schools. All of you must keep up the good work. The future depends on you.

Peace

A SEF stands for Self-Evaluation Form which tracks the reflections of school leaders, parents/carers and pupils with the main information source being feedback given.

The Camelot School 2018-2023 SEF... five years in the making

To many schools the last few years have been extraordinary, some may say tumultuous from the norm of their experiences prior to March 2020. To Camelot School, the last five years have been anything other than extraordinary and in terms of a self-evaluation exercise we might say it's been exceptional and what we may add...exceptional everyday.

In 2018, the school was judged good for its capacity and trajectory of improvement (both observations acknowledged by Anna Bosher, lead for the inspection and Bola Soneye-Thomas, additional inspector – both inspectors who have stayed in touch with the school for what they acknowledge in recognition for the remarkable achievement of the school since 2016 and the mountain that they recognised the school would need to climb in the years to come).

The exceptional years of 2018-2023 at Camelot School might overlook on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of achievements and influence even though the legacy has only added to the 'height of the mountain' we climb at this time at our school. The table below gives an insight into how the context of the last five years influences our self-evaluation of the school today.

Key factors upon which our 2023 self-evaluation is drawn as opposed to the school's 2018 context which was judged good by inspectors in January 2018

January 2018	January 2023
<u>Leadership and Management:</u> - new team in place since September 2016 in the main following the headteacher from a school in a very different context in SW London - leaders new to post and whilst enthusiastic and dedicated often significantly overwhelmed by the complexities in play at the school - Local Authority continued to grade school as requiring additional external support as it had since its 3 rd RI judgement in February 2016	<u>Leadership and Management:</u> - Headteacher and 1 Deputy Headteacher (DHT) in 7th year at school, with other DHT in 4 th year at school. 2 of 3 AHTs have over 10 years at school - leaders at all levels now support other schools or part of school's flagship school offer* taken up other S London Schools. *(Literacy Tree & Racial Literacy Curriculum) - since Summer 2022, the school's leaders have supported Cobourg School, judged Requiring Improvement (RI) for a second time in March 2022.
<u>Teaching staff team:</u> - For 2018, the school had had to recruit over 10 new class teachers, including 6 NQTs, many of whom were under skilled for the demands of teaching in a school such as Camelot School - staff recruitment offered few options and staff regularly left mid-year or failed to fulfil their teaching contracts	<u>Teaching staff team:</u> - For 2023, staff team is stable, harmonious and while reflective of the significant ongoing challenges their qualities are noted as exceptional - The school has needed to train its own staff, currently there are 4 ECTs in the team, but there is considerable depth of experience across the staff team - There are no staff vacancies in 2023 in teaching, support staff or leadership

January 2018	January 2023
<u>Teaching and Learning and impact of pupil outcomes:</u> From an Ofsted perspective it was noted... <i>"All teachers implement the school's approach to teaching, learning and assessment consistently. The feedback that they give to pupils is effective. As a result, pupils make good progress."</i> With the advice that what the school needed to do to improve further was <i>"To ensure that lessons are always pitched appropriately for pupils across the curriculum so that: - they deepen their learning - there are improved levels of engagement from pupils who are too easily distracted - most-able pupils are sufficiently challenged."</i>	<u>Teaching and Learning and impact of pupil outcomes:</u> - The school consolidated the improvements noted in 2018 and began to close the significant gaps in pupils' prior knowledge that were at the heart of the standards agenda. Year on year progress in KS2 outcomes noted. - Mock SATs outcomes in March 2020 recorded attainment outcomes in above 2019 national outcomes before 2020 national assessments ceased. - The school's KS2 2022 national outcomes exceeded national averages. - EYFS, Phonics Screening Check, KS1 outcomes + Maths multiplication checks and other determiners of pupil outcomes are in line with national expectations.
<u>Curriculum Provision:</u> From an Ofsted perspective it was noted... <i>"The curriculum is broad and enriching. Pupils engage well with topics that are meaningful. They value trips that broaden their horizons and have access to a range of sporting opportunities. This is encouraging pupils to attend school more regularly. However, there are times when some pupils lose concentration because the work is either too easy or too hard."</i>	<u>Curriculum Provision:</u> - The school continues to provide its pupils with their own 'Camelot context rich' curriculum and has gone on to share this with other schools. - Knowledge rich teaching methods further develop the curriculum offer and provision is complimented by an exceptional range of opportunities. - Middle and senior leadership of the curriculum is now a strength in the school.
<u>Pupil roll and impact on pupils' personal development:</u> - By 2018, the school's roll had begun to change due to a significant drop off in pupil numbers in the local area and due to community choice for other schools. - Ofsted noted the pupil roll was 508 - approximately 70 pupils per year group. - New opportunities introduced to the school, including the range of after school clubs, were noted by parents as starting but equally as recently as Autumn 2016, parent survey support for the school had been as low as 56%*. (** in 2022, over 96% of parents surveyed noted their satisfaction)	<u>Pupil roll and impact on pupils' personal development:</u> - In recent years, pupil numbers in the area have plummeted with year groups now averaging approximately 50 pupils. This has meant consecutive yearly budget cuts of £200,000+ per year. Even though in 2021 the school was noted as the fastest growing school in Southwark and in 2022 admitted 26 new 'in year' pupils. - The vast majority of the school's roll are first generation UK pupils, unfamiliar with a UK curriculum, context and living in situations where priorities are unpredictable. - The school has adapted its provision to meet the needs of its pupil roll, from being the number one school in London for delivering food parcels to its families to being the only Southwark provider of Free Holiday provision so that pupils can attend school for up to 44 weeks a year.
<u>Behaviour, attitudes and attendance to school</u> From an Ofsted perspective it was noted... <i>"Pupils are polite, welcoming and proud of their school and their work. Although behaviour is good overall, there are times when some pupils are not as calm and orderly as others when moving around the school."</i> - The school saw this judgement as demonstrating inspectors understanding of the challenges of the mobile and fragile context.	<u>Behaviour, attitudes and attendance to school</u> - The school has continued to accept every pupil interested in joining in recent years and self-evaluations note we are a victim of our own success. Our SEND team and provision is exceptional and the policy of zero exclusion even with challenging cohorts of pupils, the school has accepted it is at the centre of its community. - In 2021-2022, the school exceeded national attendance averages for the year as well as for previous pre-pandemic years. A sure sign of an exceptional school.



#exceptionaleveryday

School Self-Evaluation

January 2023 onwards

Name of School: Camelot Primary School
Headteacher: James Robinson*
Deputy Headteachers: Madeline Eastwood & Alanna Hume**
Address: Bird in Bush Road, London, SE15 1QP

Unique Reference Number: 210 - 2085

Local Authority: Southwark

* (also Executive Headteacher for the Camelot – Cobourg School Partnership)
* (also Heads of School for the Camelot – Cobourg School Partnership)

The Camelot School 2023 SEF

Why we think we are.... Exceptional:

- Recognition of what we have achieved in the context of the last five years...
 - managing a significant falling roll;
 - balancing significant year on year annual budget cuts;
 - welcoming significant in-year pupil enrolment;
 - all the while ensuring zero pupil exclusion and above average attendance all within a school that has gone from strength to strength and exceeded national outcomes at the end of KS2 in 2022
 - all the time having over 96% parental survey satisfaction
 - and even though the overwhelming challenge of the school is recognised by staff, parents, governors, local authority, Camelot have been able to support a neighbouring school with a second Ofsted RI judgement.
- Recognition of on-going capacity and trajectory of the dedicated staff, leaders and governor team
 - led for the seventh consecutive by a leadership team committed to 'fighting' the challenges faced by the school and often evidenced through the significant percentage of pupils with additional educational needs
 - increasingly serving a central role in the local context... Camelot School is a flagship school for School Food; is the Racial Literacy Curriculum Hub for Southwark as well as the only school offering over 200 places every holiday (six weeks a year) to its free holiday provision
 - currently awaiting an outcome of an application to Southwark for additional funds for being a school to have been able to increase its pupil roll year on year in a time of significant falling roll in the local area
- Recognition of pupil progress, outcomes, personal development and happiness to be part of Camelot School

Please note that due to our additional teacher training day taken on Tuesday 3rd January and the King's Coronation Bank Holiday in May, the new term dates for the year ahead will be as follows:

Camelot and Cobourg School

Term and Holiday dates

Academic year 2022/2023

Autumn term 2022

- Monday 5th September 2022* to Friday 21st October 2022 (35 school days)
Half Term Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022
- Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 16th December 2022 (34 school days)
Mid-term Inset Day Friday 25th November 2022

Spring term 2023

- Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Friday 10th February 2023 (28 school days)
Half Term Monday 13th February 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023
- Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 31st March 2023 (30 school days)

Summer term 2023

- Monday 17th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023 (28 school days)
Half Term Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023
- Tuesday 6th June 2023 to Thursday 20th July 2023 (33 school days)

Inset Days: 5 days for staff only

Thursday 1st September 2022
Friday 2nd September 2022
Friday 25th November 2022
Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Monday 5th June 2023

Public holidays

- Good Friday - Friday 7th April 2023
- Easter Sunday – Sunday 9th April 2023
- May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2023
- King Charles Coronation Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023

Please remember holidays are not expected to be taken during the 190 school days of a child's annual educational entitlement