

The Phoenix



University College School

Hampstead

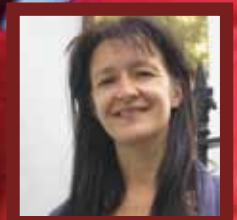




welcome

Here at The Phoenix, we aim to provide our pupils with a happy and enriched learning environment as they undertake their learning journey.

Our well-qualified team of staff support the children in developing their academic and personal qualities in a broad range of subjects. Our high staff/pupil ratio as well as specialist teachers for Art, Music, PE and French ensure that the children are given the focussed attention that they need. We aim to give each child the opportunity to develop at their own pace, whilst at the same time thoroughly preparing them for their next stage of learning. The recent Independent Schools' Inspectorate report found The Phoenix "successfully achieves its aim to provide a happy, supportive and stimulating environment where intellectual curiosity and independence of mind are developed and self-discovery and self-expression are fostered". We warmly welcome you to visit our school so that we can share with you our unique atmosphere.



Caroline Froud

Caroline Froud
Headmistress, The Phoenix School



organisation

The Phoenix School joined the UCS Foundation of schools in 2002. It aims to provide a happy, supportive and stimulating environment for up to 130 pupils aged 3-7.

The school is organised in accordance with the National Curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage Areas and Key Stage 1. It has a Nursery followed by the Primary phase which offers full-time education.

There are designated Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 areas, with light, well-equipped classrooms, a spacious gym, an art/design technology room and a library.





teaching and learning

The Phoenix School fully supports the aims and ethos of the whole Foundation; intellectual curiosity and independence of mind are developed, self-discovery and self-expression are fostered.

Learning takes place through a range of carefully planned activities including formal teaching, and structured indoor and outdoor play.

Pupils are encouraged to think creatively, explore their environment and problem-solve, enabling them to construct their own understanding of the world around them.

The curriculum covers the six Early Years Foundation Stage Areas of Learning and the Key Stage 1 Programme of Study thus providing a broad, balanced and suitably enhanced curriculum.

Our well-qualified and experienced staff is friendly, welcoming and supportive. Collaborative and cooperative teaching and learning is highly valued and pupils are grouped flexibly for teaching and learning purposes. The school is exceptionally proud of its low pupil-teacher ratio. Teaching Assistants support the teaching and learning throughout the school.



care

We believe that all children need to be happy and secure and that learning should be fun. We cater exceptionally well for able pupils who need an environment that instils confidence and develops self-esteem, thus enabling their full potential to be realised.

Communication between home and school is excellent. Parents are encouraged to speak with Form Teachers and the Headmistress whenever the need arises. Parent-Teacher meetings provide opportunities for discussion about a child's progress and attainments.

The school provides two written reports annually.

There are numerous activities, including regular lessons, which family members are invited to attend and a comprehensive events calendar is published every term.





opportunity

All pupils have a wide range of opportunities within the school day. Weekly swimming and ICT lessons, visits to the UCS Sports Fields and the Junior Branch Library form part of the programme.

We aim to offer as broad and unique a range of activities as possible. Our clubs programme includes Tae Kwon Do, Gymnastics, Art, Yoga and Mandarin. Parents may also arrange individual music lessons for piano or violin from Year 1 and above.

Learning takes place not only in school but through the many educational outings in which children participate. We further enhance our teaching by welcoming artists, authors and members of the local community to our classrooms.





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Registered charity number: 312748

Admission

The Nursery is the main point of entry to the Phoenix School with 32 places typically offered each year. We offer Nursery places to siblings and UCS/Phoenix connections in the first instance. Currently, there is no formal assessment for entry to the Nursery but because of the high level of interest for places this process is currently under review.

Families whose son/daughter is not successful in obtaining a Nursery place may choose to put their child on the wait list that will operate for places at 4+, 5+ and 6+. If a vacancy arises, prospective pupils will be invited to a half-day assessment before being considered for a place.

Places will be offered on the basis of an assessment for children who, in the Headmistress's opinion, can most benefit from the academic programme that is offered at the school.

Applicants should complete the Registration Form and register not more than one year before the proposed date of entry. Prospective parents will be invited to view the school in a small group tour with the Headmistress. For additional information or a Registration Form, please visit www.ucs.org.uk or contact The Phoenix School Office on 020 7722 4433.

Pupil Transfer

Pupils successfully transfer to a range of schools, including selective academic schools, although they are not rigorously prepared for examinations or assessments. Through effective teaching, the school seeks to develop each child's potential. This ensures all children are able to continue their education at a school which best meets their needs. Parents are invited to discuss the available options with the Headmistress and the suitability of different schools given both their child's needs and family circumstances. It is hoped that boys displaying academic potential, and who meet the qualifying academic standard, will enjoy a seamless transition to the UCS Junior Branch at 7+.

Location and Facilities

The school is well situated with excellent transport links. Pupils can walk to the UCS Junior Branch and Senior School, where additional facilities for sport, music and drama are available. The UCS Sports Fields are a short coach journey away and Primary pupils visit these each week.



Disclaimer This prospectus describes the broad principles along which UCS is presently run. It is not part of any agreement between parents and the School. Although all statements in the prospectus are believed correct at the time of printing, circumstances and policies may change from time to time. Parents wishing to place specific reliance upon a statement in the prospectus should seek written confirmation of that statement before accepting the offer of a place.