



St James Prep School

### ST JAMES PREP SCHOOL ●●

*Earsby Street W14 8SH*

*Website stjamesprep.org.uk*

*Head Hilary Wyatt Pupils 220*

*day: 100 boys, 120 girls Ages 2–11*

*Term Fees £6,440*

This prep places ‘great value on nurturing kindness’ and is animated by a thoughtful ethos. Pupils learn yoga and mindfulness, and practise The Pause – a brief period of quiet reflection – at the end of every lesson. They are also taught Sanskrit as a pathway into different tongues. Vegetarian cooking classes are taken by Allegra McEvedy, a co-founder of Leon Restaurants, and a standout feature of lunch is the Tasting Tables scheme, which offers a choice of cuisines from around the world. Children have formed an eco-committee that has banned single-use plastics, and is now pushing for solar panels. And plans are afoot to grow the St James Academy of Performing Arts, so that its dance, drama and theatre programmes can be shared by other schools. Parents love all this creative energy, and the positive vibes being put out into the world.

### ST PAUL'S JUNIORS ●

*Lonsdale Road SW13 9JT*

*Website stpaulsschool.org.uk*

*Head Oliver Snowball*

*Pupils 517 day boys Ages 7–13*

*Term Fees £7,910*

Its reputation for academic brilliance is enough to attract most parents to St Paul's Juniors; but there's a lot more to this place, not least the welcoming and relaxed

atmosphere which means that pupils don't feel overawed by expectations. The new head Oliver Snowball is friendly, supportive and inspiring – ‘I often pick up wisdom when I talk to him,’ says one pupil – and celebrating success isn't just about scholastic achievement. Extracurricular pursuits (chess, coding and drama, as well as the sports for which the school is

well-known) are just as important, and every pupil gets a chance at the limelight. The spacious grounds by the river mean there's plenty of scope for the boys to run around and play, and soon they will be getting a brand-new building to learn in. Pastoral care ‘continues to be the highest priority’, says one mother. ‘Issues are addressed with timely action from the school.’



St Paul's Juniors