



Prince's Gardens
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Prepared. For
everything.



"We will encourage each child to be an enthusiastic learner, to develop their curiosity and to be ambitious."



I am extremely privileged to be the Headmistress of Prince's Gardens Preparatory School, and I am very much looking forward to opening the doors on the first day of term and welcoming you to our new school in September 2020.

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School will be an exciting place to be, where no two days are ever the same! In the heart of Kensington, our beautiful buildings will be bursting with activity and learning inside and out.

The Prince's Gardens curriculum is driven by academic excellence and a passion for learning. Equally important is the broad and engaging enrichment programme, delivering opportunities for every child to experience a wide range of clubs, activities, sports and trips; to make friends, to collaborate and work in a team, to share ideas and build self-confidence.

Prince's Gardens will be a family school, for people who have made this global city their home, building a strong sense of community between pupils, parents and staff.

From Nursery through to Year 6, Prince's Gardens children will love being able to enjoy playtime within our 2 acre garden. With Hyde Park, Imperial College and many awe-inspiring museums on our doorstep, our children will have ready access to the best learning environments in London as part of their daily life.

Most importantly, I want your children to enjoy coming to school, where our little learners flourish to become confident young people, ready to embrace every new challenge. At Prince's Gardens Preparatory School our pledge is to ensure that your child is prepared for everything. **I am so excited about the new school we are creating, and I cannot wait to share it with you.**

Alison Melrose

Mrs Alison Melrose, Headmistress



Prepared. For everything.

A Prince's Gardens education will equip young people with the confidence and resourcefulness that prepares your young sparks to flourish in our fast-changing world. The rich and exciting curriculum instils high standards and we will use the wealth of local resources to inspire a love of learning.

Learning will extend far beyond the classroom, including trips, excursions and activities which will be the foundation of our character education.

We will encourage the children to take responsibility for the world around them as we nurture a global perspective.

Our Prince's Gardens Pathway will be the foundation of how we all work together:

- Be kind
- Share
- Listen to each other
- Be resilient
- Be creative
- Be the best person you can be

Our **CORE** values are the standards we aim to achieve:

Character – to develop a sound moral compass

Opportunity – to embrace a broad curriculum to find where each child's talents lie

Respect – to show esteem for all people in our community

Environment – to nurture a global perspective and make a positive contribution to the world around us

At Prince's Gardens the emphasis will be on nurturing every child's natural love of learning and developing skills to reflect upon and deepen their own education. We firmly believe in building self-belief and empowering each child to succeed.

Nursery

Children will be able to join the Nursery classes at Prince's Gardens Preparatory School when they are 3.

From the very start of your child's education at Prince's Gardens, we will build strong partnerships between home and school to establish the foundations of good learning habits: from developing fine motor skills, to reading and sharing stories, encouraging excellent manners and collaborative skills to fostering independence and initiative.

The Nursery education will focus on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum including communication and language, personal, social and emotional development, physical development, mathematics, literacy, expressive arts and design and understanding the world, so the children will have a very busy time.

The Prince's Gardens modern foreign language curriculum will begin in the Nursery. The children will delight in weekly lessons in Spanish and Mandarin. The Nursery children will also be taught by specialist staff for sport and music each week.

The Nursery classrooms will be designed to have direct access to our hidden gem of a 2 acre garden. The children will pop on their wellingtons and waterproofs to enjoy their outdoor learning programme which will provide many opportunities for the children to explore, investigate and enquire together.

Prince's Gardens Nursery classrooms will combine modern technology with the best features of a spacious, traditional Pre-Prep school. Children will have independent access to a wide range of materials and media as they explore the exciting Nursery curriculum.

The Nursery children will have a full day at school with a healthy lunch on the menu each day and all dietary requirements will be well catered for. Lunch is a family affair with teachers joining the children to make it a home from home experience.

Alongside a happy home, the most important experience you can give your child is the best possible education and at Prince's Gardens that is exactly what they will enjoy.



Pre-Prep

Childhood is precious. At Prince's Gardens Pre-Prep, every moment is truly valued.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

For children who do not join the Prince's Gardens Nursery, the main entry to join Reception is at 4+. The Reception curriculum will continue to cover the seven key strands of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum started within the Nursery with a strong emphasis on communication and language, literacy and mathematics.

The curriculum also covers personal, social and emotional development, physical development, expressive arts and design and understanding the world.

By combining the latest teaching methods with first class facilities and resources, each child will be encouraged to achieve their full potential in all areas of school life. Children will be nurtured as they develop core academic skills, personal qualities and attitudes for life.

As the children progress through the Pre-Prep, the curriculum will become more structured with formal English and mathematics lessons. Science will focus on investigation and questioning, and the children will also have lessons on history, geography, how to use technology and computers, Spanish, Mandarin and PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education). The Pre-Prep children will use digital technology integrated within their curriculum using programmes such as Reading Eggs and Mathletics.

Prince's Gardens Pre-Prep children will have regular sports and music lessons with specialist staff to build confidence, strength, character and resilience. Even our youngest pupils will have a curriculum which draws from the local resources and museums available to us and they will delight in developing their projects and ideas within the Maker Space. The residential trips will start in Year 2 with a one-night stay at our outdoor learning centre at Cuffley as part of our character education.

Our specialist Maker Space will be used by the Pre-Prep as they embark on their journey to learning about the STEAM world (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics) through dedicated lessons in the Maker Space. The children will become great problem-solvers and creative thinkers as they work together on challenges and group activities.

From Year 1 the children will have art lessons taught by a specialist teacher and this extends to drama from Year 2. The children will share what they are learning in school with assemblies, concerts, school productions and there will be regular opportunities for parents to see their school books throughout the year.

Ensuring the children have a voice within the school is so important and from Reception, children will represent their peers within the school council covering a wide range of school, community and global themes. We will continue to build strong relationships between home and school to ensure that children leave the Pre-Prep socially, emotionally and academically equipped for the exciting challenges ahead of them.



Prep

Years 3-6

At the heart of our Prep school will be a broad and exciting curriculum. At Prince's Gardens Preparatory School, we believe in helping children achieve their personal best through excellent and motivated teaching and the promotion of learning skills that encourage pupils to be active and reflective.

Years 3 to 6 will build on the strong foundations laid down in the Pre-Prep to develop children's skills and passions. All year groups will have lessons in English, mathematics, computing, PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) and the humanities taught as three subjects: history, geography and RE (Religious Education).

Prince's Gardens children will receive specialist teaching in art, music, drama, Spanish, Mandarin, science and PE. In Years 5 and 6, the children will have specialist teaching across the curriculum as they work towards the 11+ assessments.

Throughout their time in the Prep school, Prince's Gardens pupils will have weekly swimming lessons at Imperial College's Ethos Sports Centre with galas against local London prep schools. There will be the opportunity to play matches in a variety of sports and the PE department welcomes parental support from the sidelines.

Children will take part in our extensive character education programme which will include educational visits, camping and outward-bound activities.

The Prep children will continue to develop their understanding of the STEAM world (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics) through dedicated lessons in the Maker Space. The lessons will provide great opportunities to develop the four C's; creativity, creative thinking, communication and collaboration, as they work together on independent learning and problem-solving activities.

Children will learn how to use digital technology across the curriculum and our connected classrooms will build relationships with pupils in Cognita schools around the world to develop their appreciation of our global community.

Prepared. For the next chapter.

11+ preparation

At Prince's Gardens Preparatory School, everything is aimed at ensuring that your young sparks will thrive whilst they are with us. The support children receive when they first join continues as they move through the school and we will work together to ensure a smooth transfer to their destination senior school for the next stage of their education.

From Year 4, the curriculum will be enhanced by the addition of verbal and non-verbal reasoning and current affairs lessons. Children will be encouraged to research and debate the issues of the day. Along with learning about how to study, these subjects provide opportunities for the development of debating, reasoning, critical thinking and presentation skills.

As part of their rigorous preparation for the 11+ entrance exams, Year 6 children will have weekly interview and exam practice in the autumn, along with scholarship sessions, tailored to the requirements of the schools they are applying for.

The children will have the support of a personal tutor, in addition to their form teacher, which allows them to talk about their plans for the future and focus on specific areas of preparation.

When the children move up to their senior school, they will be fully prepared. We will support each family through the application and exam process, to ensure that parents, as well as children, are ready for the demands of the 11+ process.



Artist's impression of the Nursery



Nursery

Building key relationships between home and school starts right from Nursery

The Nursery classrooms are designed to be full of light and space to provide a learning environment which feels like a home from home.

To support independent learning, the children will have access to a wide range of materials and activities designed to stimulate their imagination and foster independence and creativity. Children will enjoy a variety of practical activities such as planting seeds in the large 2 acre garden, art and educational trips. Our Nursery teachers will work with individual children and small groups helping to advance the children's learning to the next level.

Direct access to the garden provides not only a space for friendship and fun, but also a learning space to find out about the world around us. Even the unreliable British weather will not keep us away as we put on our waterproofs and wellingtons and head out to enjoy the garden and fresh air.

Prince's Gardens Nursery and Reception children will delight in their structured outdoor learning programme, spending two afternoons a week in Hyde Park, where they may be:

- Working together to build shelters
- Floating boats that they have made in class in the Princess Diana Memorial Fountain
- Measuring trees and listening to the Royal Park keepers talk about the birds inhabiting the park
- Following trails and hunting mini-beasts

Building key relationships between home and school starts right from the Nursery with an open-door policy and clear communication between home and school. Parents will share their child's experience with the ability to access photographs, videos and quotes about their child's day through Tapestry, an online journal which will record much of the learning and fun during your child's week.



Maker Space

Artist's impression of the Maker Space

With great imaginations and access to a wide range of resources and technology, there really is no limit to what our children can achieve.

The Maker Space is a learning environment that contains tools and components, allowing children to enter with an idea and leave with a complete project. The goal is to work together to learn, collaborate, and share. Most importantly, the Maker Space allows us to explore, create new things, or improve things that already exist. There will be an emphasis on hands-on discovery in our world that has become increasingly automated.

From Nursery to Year 6, this exciting space fosters creative, innovative and open-ended learning. Children naturally tinker; they build things and take things apart and a Maker Space encourages that natural creativity and critical thinking skills. It challenges the imagination and supports developing solutions for real-world problems.

At a time when test scores and getting the right answer often trump the process of learning, the Maker Space will

allow children to learn by trial and error, improving with each attempt. It will provide a safe place to learn about failure and resilience.

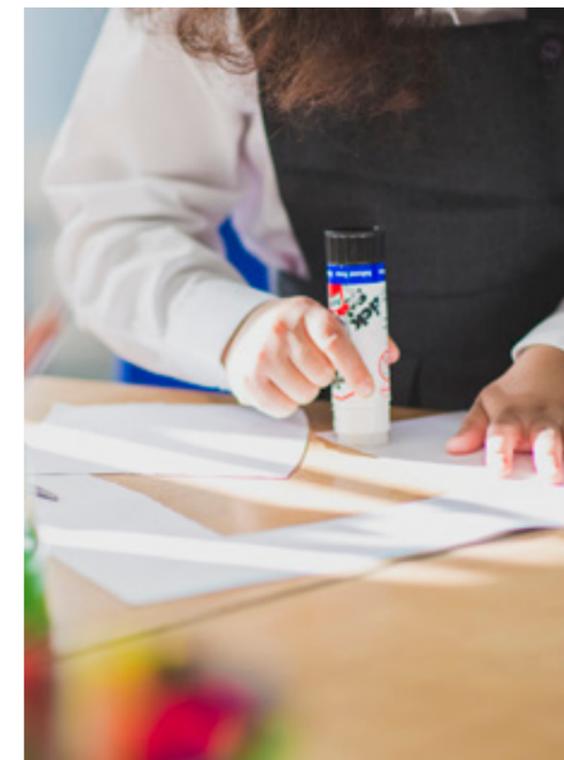
The Maker Space will be used throughout the curriculum, particularly within STEAM related subjects and activities (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics).

As well as an abundance of craft and construction materials, the Maker Space will feature a 3D printer. After visiting the Supermarine Seaplane S.6B at the Science Museum, and learning about up-thrust, gravity, and other forces, the children will create digital designs for their own hovercrafts to be produced by the 3D printer. Using a balloon to provide the down-force, the machines will be tested over different terrains to investigate which designs offer the best 'hover'.

Other examples of how the Maker Space will be used are as follows:

A visit to see Hope, the 25m long blue whale skeleton, and star animal at the Natural History Museum, inspires the children to take their audience on a voyage under the sea in their own videos. Green screen technology will see children swimming with blue whales, floating above coral reefs, or getting up close and personal with krill.

Beebot robots provide a starting point for coding, with children planning and directing how their robot will travel through an obstacle course. Inspiring imagination is key to developing happy children, and Lego (derived from the Danish phrase leg godt which means "play well") is the perfect building block for this. Our younger pupils will investigate building the tallest tower. Older children will use Lego EV3 coding sets to create animatronic glove puppets for story-telling with children from the Pre-Prep classes.





Artist's impression of the Science Laboratory

Science

Science is all about exploration and discovery. There is no better way to get young scientists excited about learning than with hands-on activities and science experiments. Children of all ages have a great time learning about the world around them, whether they are creating their own constellations, growing their own plants or crystals, exploring magnetism, measuring the moon, or extracting DNA from spinach leaves!

At Prince's Gardens Preparatory School, the science laboratories are designed to encourage all children to develop enquiring minds and to be curious about science and nature.

The two multi-purpose science labs will accommodate a wide range of practical lessons across all science disciplines. Quick and easy access to science resources and equipment will be central to improving and expanding children's understanding of scientific principles and nurture a love of

the subject. Science will be taught throughout the school, with a specialist teacher teaching all children from Year 3 onwards.

Our young scientists will combine work in the science labs with visits to the local museums giving them first-hand experience of science being brought to life.

Year 3 children will learn about the importance of a balanced diet by exploring the different food groups and investigating the energy content of different foods. At the end of their work on food, we will visit the Exploring Space Gallery at the Science Museum to learn about the demands of being an astronaut. The children will apply their knowledge of balanced diets to design a nutrition plan for an astronaut to ensure they return to Earth as healthy as they were when they left.

Year 4 will start their work on electricity with a visit to the Information Age Gallery at the Science Museum. Back in the lab, we will use specialised equipment to investigate how the appliances they explored in the museum work, leading to them constructing their own circuits, identifying different components and drawing each circuit using conventional symbols. The children will explore their own questions about how circuits function and apply their findings to answer real-world problems.

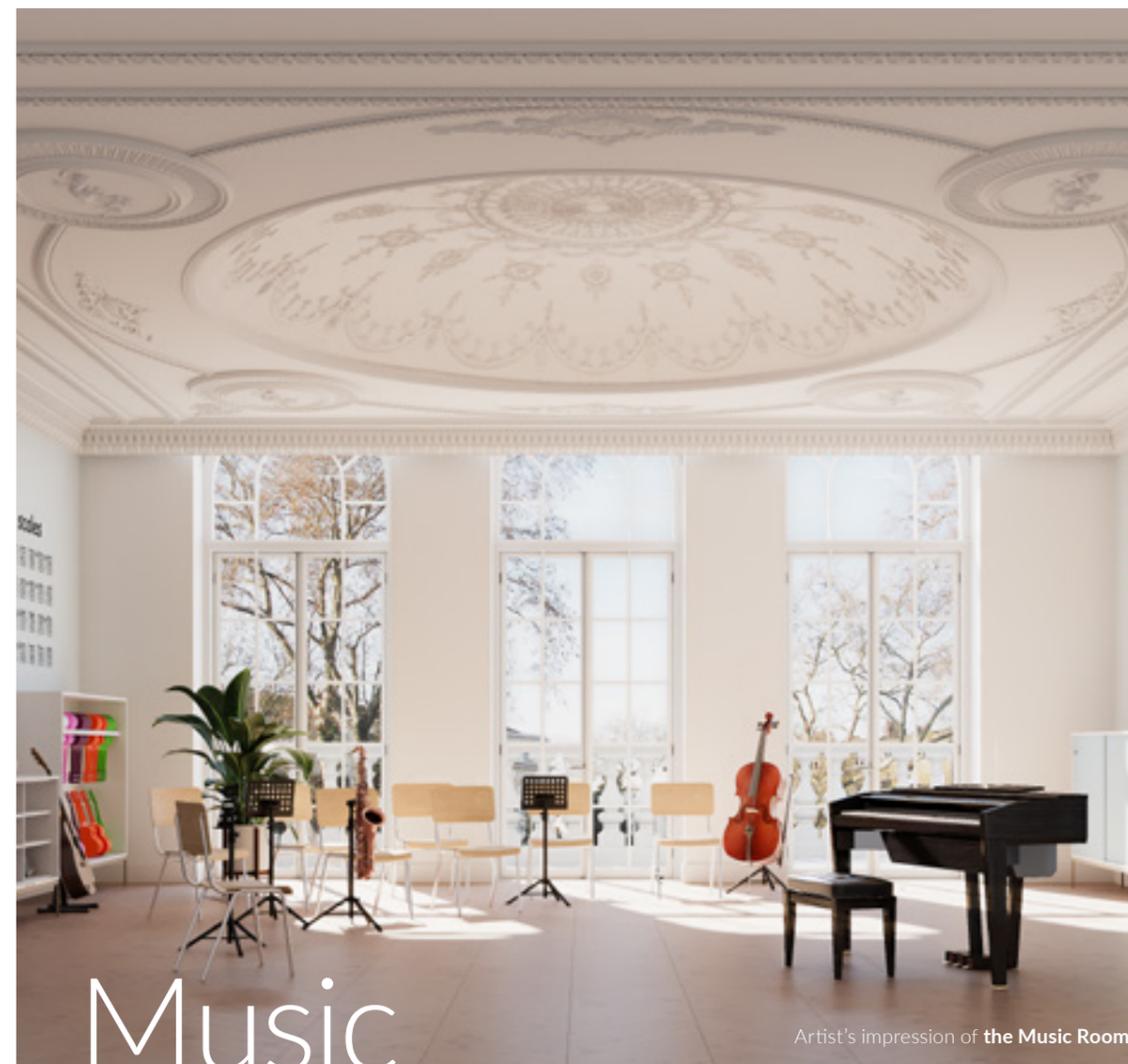
“Quick and easy access to science resources and equipment is central to improving and expanding children's understanding of scientific principles and nurturing a love of science.”

Visiting the Making the Modern World Gallery at the Science Museum will allow Year 5 to explore how an understanding of friction and air resistance shaped the evolution of aircraft design. Using digital technology to enhance their work and the resources within the Maker Space, the children will use the knowledge gained from their visit to design and test their own model planes.

By Year 6, our young scientists start exploring Adaptions and Evolution at the Natural History Museum in the Human Evolution Gallery. They will find the incredible fossils collected by Mary Anning and return to the school to further research her life and debate the importance of her work within our understanding of evolution. The children will select how to present their research in creative ways such as short educational videos, podcasts or interactive e-books.



Music is a huge part of school life at Prince's Gardens and we have a busy programme of concerts, assemblies and musicals.



Music

Artist's impression of the Music Room

Music lessons should be about making music! Prince's Gardens pupils will be introduced to an exciting range of instruments and music styles in their class music lessons. Violins, recorders, brass and wind instruments will all feature, alongside learning about contemporary rock and pop music styles.

Children love being able to raise the roof and sing their hearts out, which is why singing will be at the heart of school life. We will have weekly year group and whole school singing sessions where they will be taught how to use their voices confidently and expressively and explore the challenge of harmony and part singing. We will introduce the children to a wide range of music, from traditional songs, to hits from stage and screen.

Opportunities to perform will feature regularly in the school calendar, from informal performances in school assemblies and tea time music recitals in our beautiful music room, through to large scale performances in exciting external venues. Our pupils will have many opportunities to share the joy of music-making with audiences both large and small, developing self-confidence as they take centre stage.

For children who wish to take their music-learning further, a range of ensembles and private peripatetic instrument lessons will be available, supported by our team of inspirational visiting tutors (subject to an additional cost). Our proximity to the prestigious Royal College of Music will offer our children the opportunity to be inspired by some of the country's leading young musicians.



Sport

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School will benefit from fantastic indoor and outdoor space. Regular access to outdoor space not only benefits social and motor skills, health and wellbeing, but also provides a huge benefit for learning and character development.

The 2 acre garden will provide direct access for daily play space and outdoor learning. Anyone who takes children outside regularly can see for themselves the enjoyment, sense of wonder and excitement that they get when they actively engage with their environment.

The Prince's Gardens Hall and Dining Room will be multi-purpose spaces, which along with Hyde Park and Imperial College's Ethos Sports Centre provide the PE department with a wide variety of spaces where children will enjoy a range of sports and activities.

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School offers what we believe are the best indoor and outdoor prep school facilities in central London.

PE will be timetabled regularly throughout the week including gymnastics and traditional school team sports such as football, rugby, netball, hockey, and cricket. Parents will be welcome to support our teams when they play local schools in friendly fixtures and tournaments. Fitness and physical development will also be promoted through the Cognita Global Be-Well Day and a range of additional sports such as dodgeball, basketball and badminton.

Swimming is a key life skill and all children from Years 3-6 will benefit from weekly lessons at Imperial College's Ethos Sports Centre next door. Playing team games helps children experience and practise different ways of communicating with each other, including the importance of listening. At the end of the academic year, we will celebrate with a family sports day. Families will be encouraged to bring a picnic to make the day really special.



Prepared. For adventure.

An exciting programme of enrichment with extra-curricular clubs, activities, trips and the 11+ leavers programme



When we reflect on our own experience of schooling, it is often the extra-curricular and enrichment activities that we remember most clearly: trips, school plays, music concerts and sports days. All these experiences will help children to develop a sense of adventure, build self-esteem, confidence and resilience.

The enrichment programme will offer a huge variety of clubs for the children, providing opportunities to try new things, to experiment and find areas of interest that they may not have previously thought about. From writing a school newspaper to learning the trumpet, debating to cookery, dancing to sports, gardening to robotics: we hope to ignite a spark in each child.

External speakers will inspire young imaginations with their tales of derring-do, inventions, business and charity, and we welcome parents to share their life experiences and culture with us.

We will instil a sense of responsibility for the wider community and encourage children to think about others and the world around them. From Reception, children join one of four Houses and will be actively involved in selecting charities to support each year.

We will join together with schools within the Cognita family to support Solar Buddy and Light Up Learning.

The children's voice will be heard through the school council representatives, and there will be a wide range of leadership opportunities across the school, from Head Boy and Head Girl to eco-councillors and digital champions.

Prince's Gardens will have a comprehensive educational visits programme which is the mainstay of our character curriculum. Day and residential trips promote increasing independence, flexibility, collaboration and emotional intelligence, with exciting adventures ahead with our Active Learning Group partners, including Bushcraft camping, outward bound activities, cultural travels abroad and an optional ski trip.

The Leavers' Programme will be embraced by the Year 6 children after their senior school exams have finished. Designed to prepare our leavers to be able to step out confidently into the next chapter of their education, the programme will include Sports Leadership awards, first aid courses, touch typing, the Westminster Citizenship programme and a residential trip within Europe.

Our global family

What kind of education genuinely prepares young people for the future? How can schools ensure their pupils are well-equipped to navigate the unknown paths ahead?

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School is part of Cognita, an extraordinary network of diverse yet connected schools, spanning eight different countries. We share one common purpose: to create an inspiring world of education that builds self-belief and empowers individuals to succeed.

Together, we provide a uniquely global education that goes beyond grades to develop the skills young people need in order to embrace the opportunities – and challenges – they will face beyond school. Qualities like resilience and a global mindset, cultural awareness and collaboration – these, alongside strong academics, are at the heart of a Cognita education.



As a global family, we connect with each other to share expertise, insights and best practice across the world to help us develop rich learning environments in every school.

When your classroom is the world, thinking big comes naturally. Our 70+ schools in Europe, Latin America and Asia equip young people with the confidence and resourcefulness that prepares them to grow, thrive and find their success in a fast-changing world.

Cognita's global family provides pupils at Prince's Gardens with an excellent platform to exchange ideas, experiences and culture. The Prince's Gardens Modern Foreign Language curriculum will begin in the Nursery. The children will delight in weekly lessons in Spanish and Mandarin. With an active approach to language learning, children will develop confidence to speak through songs, games and stories.

Connecting and collaborating with peers across the Cognita world enhances children's learning and builds their global perspective. Our children will have opportunities to write and speak to their Spanish speaking peers through letters and face-to-face conversations online.

Our school location provides endless opportunities to expose our pupils to everything that London has to offer. Children can watch a gripping Spanish play at The Cervantes Theatre, discuss famous works of art by Francisco Goya at the Victoria & Albert Museum or learn how to make a Chinese Lantern in our Maker Space.



“A uniquely global education that goes beyond grades to develop all-round academic excellence”





Prince's Gardens PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School
10-13 Prince's Gardens, London SW7 1ND

0207 591 4620

admissions@princesgardensprep.co.uk

princesgardensprep.co.uk

COGNITA

Prince's Gardens Preparatory School is part of the Cognita Schools Group