



Eden Girls

Eden Girls' School, Waltham Forest

Prospectus

2024 - 2025



*Nurturing today's young people,
inspiring tomorrow's leaders.*



And say – Oh Lord! Increase me in my knowledge!

(The Holy Qur'an, 20:114)

A Welcome from the Chief Executive

Assalaamu Alaikum (Peace Be Upon You),

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are proud to present to you the Open Evening booklet for Eden Girls' School, Waltham Forest. In this Open Evening booklet, you will find all that you need to know about our school: its history, its values and its vision for the future. This booklet will give you an insight into what it means to be a student at one of the most outstanding schools in the country: the richness of the classroom experience, the range of activities open to all students and the care that we take of each individual young woman.

It is in this school that, God willing, your daughter will fulfil her potential and emerge as a confident and articulate citizen, proud of her faith and values and ready to contribute to her community. We would like to thank you for considering Eden and wish you well in the future.

(Sir) Mufti Hamid Patel, CBE

Chief Executive

Star Academies

A Welcome from the Principal

Assalaamu Alaikum (Peace Be Upon You),

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am delighted to welcome you to our very special Open Evening. We hope this will give you an insight into the school, its values, mission and ethos. We are proud to host this event and give you a taste of what the school is like beyond the school doors. One of the greatest challenges faced by parents and carers is the choice of a secondary school for their children. Questions to consider will be whether the quality of education will be exceptional, whether my daughter will be happy, safe and well. We hope to answer these queries so that you are inspired to enrol your daughters at one of the best schools in the country.

I hope you will gain insight into our STAR Values of Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect as we nurture today's young women to become inspiring leaders of tomorrow.

We are privileged to support these young women to become powerful, young Londoners who are proud of their faith and identity ready to give back to the community as great ambassadors.

We are proud to present to you the Open Evening booklet for Eden Girls' School, Waltham Forest and hope it helps you to make an informed decision for your daughter's future.

Ms Aamena Mayet

Principal

Eden Girls' School, Waltham Forest



Our Values, Vision, Mission and Priorities

Our Vision Our ambition for the future	<i>Nurturing today's young people, inspiring tomorrow's leaders.</i>			
Our Mission What we do	<i>To promote a culture of educational excellence, from within a caring and secure Islamic environment enriched with the values of discipline, mutual care and respect which extends beyond the school into the wider community.</i>			
Our Priorities What we deliver	<i>Keeping our pupils safe, happy and well.</i>	<i>Achieving and sustaining excellence.</i>	<i>Looking after our staff and community.</i>	
Our Values What we stand for	Service <i>Being a responsible citizen in our community</i>	Teamwork <i>Working together for excellence</i>	Ambition <i>Aspiring to be our best</i>	Respect <i>Treating others as we wish to be treated</i>



Service | Teamwork | Ambition | Respect

What makes us special?

Making it Happen

We have identified three tangible outcomes for our vision:

- *Keeping our pupils safe, happy and well.*
- *Achieving and sustaining excellence*
- *Looking after our staff and community.*

Our mission statement is:

To promote a culture of educational excellence, from within a caring and secure Islamic environment enriched with the values of discipline, mutual care and respect, which extends beyond the school into the wider community.

All schools have a mission statement. The words of Eden's mission statement are to be found around the building, in all of our documents and in the hearts and minds of all those who work with the school. It is not simply a statement of values; it is a statement of intent. The spirit of Tauheed, or 'oneness', the cornerstone of the faith, values and ethos of the school, inspires the Eden community to excellence in all areas of academic and personal life. We pay rigorous attention to what our young women learn, how they learn and how we can prepare them for life beyond Eden. It is a demanding, yet wonderful responsibility. What follows is an exploration of our mission statement.

Our mission consists of three key elements:

Educational excellence

- A belief that everybody has the potential to succeed within a high quality and intellectually challenging educational environment.
- A commitment to instilling high aspirations, a desire to learn and ambition to achieve.
- A personalised approach to securing excellence, stemming from a passionate belief that each individual is unique and special and capable of rising above any perceived limitations.

Character development

- A cohesive identity so that our pupils, their parents and communities feel a strong sense of belonging to the Eden "family".
- A passionate focus on a values-based education that instils honesty, integrity, compassion and mutual respect into all our pupils.
- A strong core of tenacity, self-respect and self-belief that inspires each pupil to become the best person they can be.

Service to communities

- A determination to develop outstanding British citizens who are proud of, and contribute to, the social and economic prosperity of our country.
- A sense of personal accountability and of responsibility to others.
- A commitment to charitable endeavours and to making a difference to our world.

Our Leadership Specialism

Our school has a focus on developing leadership. Through a focus on sports, arts and culture, entrepreneurship, technology, oracy, service learning and careers education, our high-quality leadership programme builds moral, performance and civic leadership capacities. Together, these strategies ensure that our students not only 'do their best' but 'do the right thing' too.

Faith & Character Education

Faith and Character Education is at the heart of everything that we do and defined by the following statements:

- Faith as a force for good.
- A cohesive identity – one family, one world.
- A faith and a spiritual identity that connect the whole world – we are all from the family of God.
- An approach that has relevance for people of all faiths and none.
- A belief that we are all part of, and are contributing to, something far greater than ourselves.
- A focus on character development – exemplary behaviour, respect, care, compassion, justice, tolerance, strength and self-discipline.
- An environmental responsibility – a green and sustainable agenda.
- A healthy mind, body and soul.

We are part of a community which believes that:

- Serving God, honouring the Prophets and loving each other is the central focus of our lives.
- We should demonstrate the values of Ikhlas (Sincerity), Ihsan (Going the Extra Mile) and Itqan (Striving for Excellence) in everything we do.
- Our faith can be a force for achieving good in our lives and in the world.
- We want to be the best people of faith and the best British citizens that we can be.
- The more we learn about our faith, the more we discover God and ourselves.
- Being faithful to our Lord is also about respecting and loving people of all faiths and none.

Faith and Character Education will inspire us to:

- Develop a healthy body and a healthy mind.
- Commit to regular prayer/self-reflection.
- Maintain good relationships and communicate lovingly with everyone we know.
- Serve others passionately.
- Take responsibility for looking after our planet.

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development:

To promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our learners, we:

- Have a code of conduct for all staff and students, deliver weekly assemblies and have a full programme of activities to complete during registration.
- Promote learning from, with and about other faiths – particularly during Religious Studies lessons.
- Organise faith trails annually, giving all learners the opportunity to visit major places of worship in London and beyond.
- Deliver Citizenship as part of PSHE (including teaching on Fundamental British Values) for all students, up to and including GCSE Level.
- Enable the study of Art, Music, Drama, World History and Literature to develop a strong awareness of culture.
- Promote fundraising opportunities so that our learners can develop a commitment to charitable giving. Each year, around £20,000 is raised by our students for local, national, and global causes.
- Encourage our learners to participate in volunteering – through the Duke of Edinburgh Award and our own Star Diploma. Last year, our students completed nearly 25,000 hours of volunteering between them.
- Organise international trips annually; to build students' cultural capital. We have previously taken learners to Andalucia, Paris, and Istanbul.



Our Faith & Character Education Offer

Activity	Description	Year Group				
		7	8	9	10	11
Charity Ambassadors	Student ambassadors supporting charity events and volunteering initiatives at the school and within their local community.	*	*	*	*	*
Debates	Developing listening, talking and presentation skills using contemporary issues to discuss.	*	*	*	*	*
Ambassador Programme	Faculty based Subject Leaders – peer mentoring and support around the school.	*	*	*	*	*
National Competitions	Students have regular opportunities to participate in national competitions such as UKMT, CyberFirst, Mosaic Enterprise Challenge, etc.	*	*	*	*	*
Citizenship Programme	Building character through active citizenship. Students learn about how to develop an inclusive sense of faith, values and ethos – and their role as exemplary citizens in the United Kingdom.	*	*	*	*	*
Eden Charity events – Giving back to the Community	Various activities, initiatives and events, student are encouraged to take part in regular acts of charity such as Harvest collection, Toy collection drives, non-uniform days and bake sales for Comic Relief etc.	*	*	*	*	*
Nurturing Group	This is a group of students with emotional and behavioural difficulties who are provided with a range of bespoke rewards, sanction and mentoring opportunities to support them to improve.	*	*	*	*	*
Tea n Talk Club	Peer mentors provide a safe space for students to give some moral support and a place to talk for positive mental wellbeing.	*	*	*	*	*
Islamic Dates and Events	Iftaar (opening of fast) Events for Ramadhan and Ashura, Ramadhan activities, Annual Evening of Reflection event.	*	*	*	*	*
Spirituality Days	Set dates, focussing on key tenants of our faith such as the Mercy of Allaah and the Character of the Prophet (peace be upon him).	*	*	*	*	*
Professional Workshops	Dramatisations, workshops, resources and activities by organisations such as PREVENT.	*	*	*	*	*
National Citizenship Week	e.g. Remembrance and Magna Carta activities and fundraising activities.	*	*	*	*	*
Registration Activities	e.g. Hadeeth (thought) of the Week, Review personal goals, News of the Day	*	*	*	*	*
Surah Fatiha (Opening Chapter of the Qur'aan)	Recited by a student before their peers at the start of each lesson.	*	*	*	*	*
Surah Kahf (Chapter on the Cave)	Every Friday, students listen to a recitation of Surah Kahf collectively. Y7 begin with an induction programme which covers the significance and virtues of this chapter.	*	*	*	*	*
Self-Progression Maps	Students set personal and spiritual goals on a weekly basis in their planners.	*	*	*	*	*
Eden's Got Talent	Annual event where KS3 and KS4 students are able to take part in a talent competition and perform Nasheeds, spoken word poetry etc.	*	*	*	*	*
Sunnah Fast (teachings of the Prophet PBUH)	Monday and Thursday Fasts during winter months.	*	*	*	*	*
Prefects and other leadership groups	Modelling behaviour and surveillance through different roles such as Head Girl & Deputy Head Girls, Prefects, Student Shura (Council) Representatives, Peer Mentors and Librarians.	*	*	*	*	*
Religious Studies lessons	Students learn about their faith and other faiths.	*	*	*	*	*
Salaah Opportunities	Use of prayer hall to perform Dhuhr (afternoon). Students are given the perform Salaah collectively during the winter months.	*	*	*	*	*
Weekly Assemblies	Delivered by students and dedicated to messages for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.	*	*	*	*	*
Keynote Assemblies	Regular assemblies with external guests, focusing on character and spiritual development.	*	*	*	*	*
STAR Diploma	Character Achievements rewards for Community Service (all year round).	*	*	*	*	*
Head of Year Award	Chosen based on character and contributions (monthly).	*	*	*	*	*
Ladies, Learners, Leaders Awards and Principal's Award	Annual bespoke awards that are given to select students who embody the key values and virtues of the school.	*	*	*	*	*
Interfaith Conference	Students from all faiths and none, meet to learn about and celebrate one another's faiths and/or cultures.	*	*	*	*	*
Faith Trail	Students go on a faith trail in London exploring different monumental places of worship like St Paul's Cathedral and The East London Mosque	*	*	*	*	*
International Trips	Students have the opportunity to go on international trips to build on their cultural capital. We have annual trips to Paris, Andalusia, Istanbul	*	*	*	*	*
Ramadhan Activities	This includes donating lunch money to charity to fund Eid gifts and daily Qur'aan recitation to complete a full Qur'aan each week	*	*	*	*	*
Tarbiyyah Mentoring	For learners who are going through bereavement, difficulties with family or crisis of faith issues, there are trained mentors available to support them in a confidential manner.	*	*	*	*	*
E-Safety Workshop	Students and parents are offered workshops e.g. on Induction days. Students also have e-safety poster prompts.	*	*	*	*	*
Half-Termly Parent Coffee Mornings	These are delivered by a variety of specialists in the school to support parents with their child's education, mental health, cyber-safety etc	*	*	*	*	*

"Nurturing Today's Young People, Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders"

Achieving & Sustaining Excellence

At Key Stage 3, students study:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies
- Art
- Technology (Food, Textiles & DT)
- Nasheed (Music)
- Drama
- French / Spanish (Arabic / Urdu offered to those with prior knowledge)
- Computer Science
- Physical Education
- PSHE

At KS4, students study:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Double Science (or separate Sciences in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- GCSE History or GCSE Geography
- GCSE French, Spanish, Arabic or Urdu (plus Community Languages)
- GCSE Religious Studies (Y10 Early Entry)
- GCSE Computer Science or BTEC DIT (Y10 Early Entry)
- OPTIONS: GCSE Art, GCSE Citizenship, GCSE Drama, GCSE Statistics, NCFE Health & Fitness and VQ Textiles
- Physical Education
- GCSE Literacy & Numeracy Support
- PSHE
- Careers Guidance

Students also receive additional intervention if needed, enrichment experiences and get the opportunity to undertake projects relating to community service and charity.

All of our students are able to study courses to achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) – a national certificate given to those students who complete GCSEs at grades 9-5 in English Language, Maths, Double Award Science, History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language.

In addition to Double Award Science, our brightest students will be able to complete further science courses the equivalent of triple sciences. This will help them to prepare for the demands of A Level Sciences.

Our exam results are outstanding, but do not just take our word for it. In October 2023, the Government announced that:

- Eden Girls Waltham Forest is the 25th best school in the country for progress, meaning our students do better by getting an extra 1.2 GCSE grades than other students nationally who had similar levels at the end of primary (KS2).
- Eden Girls Waltham Forest is overall the best school in Waltham Forest for progress, attainment, EBacc, and achieving a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths & English – our students on average perform half a grade better than our closest competitor.
- Star Academies is one of the best performing MATs (Multi-Academy Trust) in the country.

Since 2018, the school has been ranked by the Government as one of the top 30 schools in the country for the progress that students make at our school, compared to similar students in other schools across the country.

These results bear witness to the real determination of our staff and our governors to create a school where no stone is left unturned in the pursuit of excellence.



Comparing Achievement

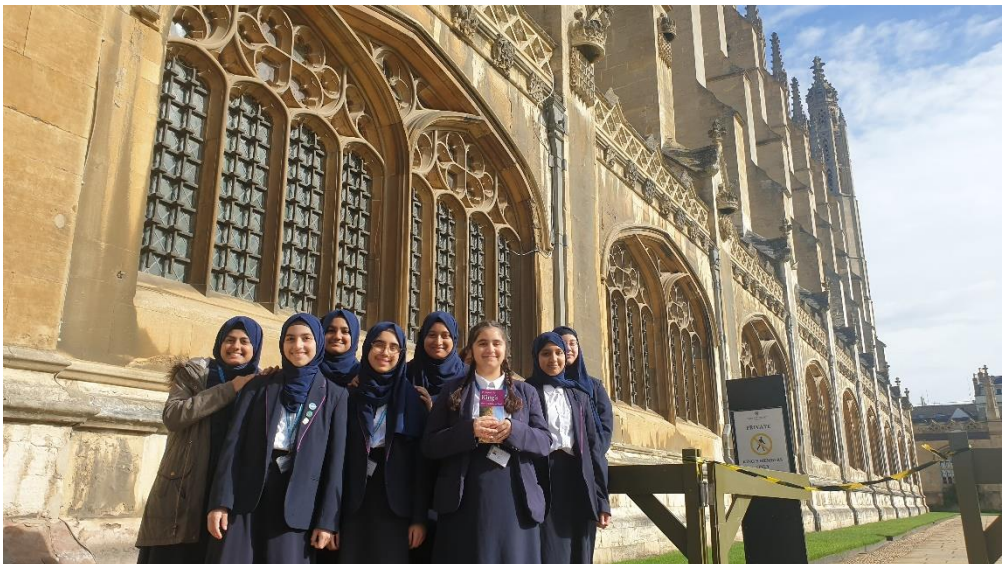
Our Exam Results

Achievement	2018	2019	2020*	2021*	2022**	2023
% of students achieving 9–5 in English and Maths at Eden Girls	76%	66%	78%	83%	75%	72%
% of students achieving 9–5 in English and Maths in Waltham Forest	43%	43%	(no data)	(no data)	50%	47%
% of students achieving 9–5 in English and Maths Nationally	40%	43%	(no data)	(no data)	52%	45%
% of students achieving 9–4 in English and Maths at Eden Girls	88%	87%	89%	88%	87%	85%
% of students achieving 9–4 in English and Maths in Waltham Forest	63%	64%	(no data)	(no data)	69%	65%
% of students achieving 9–4 in English and Maths Nationally	64%	65%	(no data)	(no data)	68%	65%
% of students achieving 9-5 in the English Baccalaureate at Eden Girls	42%	32%	48%	51%	47%	42%
% of students achieving 9-5 in the English Baccalaureate in Waltham Forest	16%	17%	(no data)	(no data)	20%	16%
% of students achieving 9-5 in the English Baccalaureate Nationally	17%	17%	(no data)	(no data)	23%	17%

* Formal Exams were cancelled in 2019/20 and 2020/21 due to COVID-19. As a result, students were awarded grades based on teacher predictions/Centre assessments.

** 2021/22 grades were also inflated as grade boundaries continued to remain lower and students were given topics lists by examining boards for exam content.

- the best comparison of the results is with 2019 (when exams were last completed externally without any lenient grading).



"Nurturing Today's Young People, Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders"

Keeping Our Learners Safe, Happy & Well

Keeping our learners safe, happy and well is paramount to everything we do

To achieve this, we ensure that the safeguarding of our learners is our top priority. We ensure that learners are kept safe from harm within school and we have robust systems in place to ensure that they are protected at all times.

We ensure that learners are protected from bullying and equipped with the skills needed to use the internet in a manner that keeps them safe – including being aware of the risks of cyberbullying, sexual exploitation, and radicalisation. As a school, we fulfil our Prevent Duty in a robust and comprehensive manner – and ensure that our faith ethos is consistent with fundamental British values and focused on developing excellent character. The school has bespoke initiatives to support learners with special educational needs and emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Our pastoral care is a priority, and we work with parents and external agencies to ensure excellent attendance, punctuality, and standards of behaviour. The health and wellbeing of learners is also supported through a clear focus on healthy eating, sports activity, the Arts and emotional wellbeing.

Safeguarding

To ensure that we have the most responsive systems for keeping our learners safe, we:

- Have a robust Safeguarding Policy and a DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) in the school.
- Deliver annual training for our staff on how to protect our learners from harm.
- Complete strong recruitment checks on all prospective staff and vet all speakers who visit the school.
- Have installed systems to filter what our learners can access on the internet, monitor the use of our computers to prevent cyber-bullying and teach our learners about the safe use of technology.
- Deliver regular lessons on key issues such as radicalisation, child sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.
- Complete regular health and safety checks of our building, grounds, and equipment.

Health & Wellbeing

To develop the health and wellbeing of our learners, we:

- Have a programme of support for all medical needs (including a clear policy on dispensing medication, delivery of all vaccinations with parental consent and trained emergency first aiders in school).
- Deliver learning on sexual health, consistent with our faith ethos. Have regular visits by a nurse, so that our learners can get confidential advice on their health.
- Serve food that meets the highest nutritional standards.
- Deliver up to two hours of Physical Education each week for learners, with annual Sports Days and afterschool clubs and sports fixtures delivered in partnership with the Waltham Forest.
- Deliver Art and Drama to GCSE Level, Nasheed (Music) and Drama to promote the cultural development of our learners.

Learners with Special Educational Needs

We work hard to meet the needs of all students with special educational needs (SEN). We give priority to children with SEN in our admission arrangements and employ qualified staff to provide specialist support to girls with particular needs.

A detailed policy is available on request and our School Offer is available to view on our website.

In particular, to support learners who are gifted and talented or have specific learning difficulties, we:

- Offer bespoke qualifications to recognise progress in literacy, numeracy and other curriculum subjects.
- Have excellent relationships with the Local Authority and external agencies to maximise the support we can provide.
- Have developed resources to support learners with visual impairment and hearing impairment.
- Challenge our Gifted and Talented learners with competitions such as those offered by The Brilliant Club, Sutton Trust, CyberFirst, Jack Petchey Foundation, Prince's Trust, United Kingdom Maths Trust, Bebras and many more.

Behaviour for Learning

We expect the highest standards of behaviour from our learners. To achieve this, we:

- Have a robust Behaviour Policy, available on our website – this outlines clear expectations, regular rewards and consistent sanctions.
- Have a code of conduct for all students – which outlines how we expect them to behave in lessons, around school and when on the internet.
- Record all incidents of excellent and poor behaviour and report these to parents each half-term.
- Have introduced a new STAR Diploma Award to promote excellent attendance, behaviour, and volunteering.
- Deliver training to all staff on behaviour management.

Attendance

We expect a very high standard of attendance and punctuality from all of our students, and we regularly monitor each student's record. We expect attendance at 98% or above (which means that a student should not miss more than four days of school during the year).

As a school, we have amongst the highest levels of attendance across the country.

In accordance with Government guidelines, and our Attendance Policy, learners will not be given permission to have a holiday during term time. However, in an emergency or under extraordinary circumstances, permission for leave of absence must be sought from the Principal by completing an 'Absence Request Form'. This should be completed and returned at least two weeks prior to booking any flights.

Pastoral Care

As well as supporting their academic development, we aim to deliver the best pastoral care possible. To achieve this:

- Every year group has its own Head of Year who is responsible for ensuring the welfare of the students in that year group and who works closely with parents and guardians to provide a coherent support structure for the young person.
- There is a full programme of activities during morning registration time, aimed at personal and pastoral development.
- We have an assembly programme - with visiting speakers and advice on healthy living.
- We have a large number of activities to develop our students as leaders. These include:
 - *Students participating in key roles such as Student Shura (Council) Representative, librarian, journalist for the termly School magazine – The Edonian, Prefects and ambassadors for the school.*

- *In Y11 to join the Student Leadership Team, by applying for the positions of Head Girl or Vice Head Girl and Assistant Head Girls.*
- *Participating in regular school debates and leading school assemblies.*
- *Representing the school in competitions and tournaments.*
- *Participating in five Leadership Days a year where students have an opportunity to meet people from a variety of professions and fields.*
- *Participating in national competitions such as CyberFirst, Bebras and UKMT.*
- *Participating in programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award.*
- We work closely with primary schools to ensure that our learners have a successful transition to secondary school.
- We have trained mentors to provide bespoke mentoring and counselling for learners going through a difficult time or who are at risk of harm.
- Our senior leaders meet regularly to discuss strategies to support our most vulnerable learners.
- To achieve this, our school based Mental Health Team support the mental health and wellbeing of all of our students.

Preparing for the Future

In order to prepare students for the world of work, careers guidance is provided by independent experts and by our teachers. We also allow our students to showcase their creative and entrepreneurial talents to the full for good causes where they have an opportunity to set up stalls for charity. Through the STAR Diploma, students in all year groups are also able to complete community service projects and take part in/attend events to learn workplace skills, as well as develop an appreciation of those who are less fortunate.

In Year 10, students have careers interviews and mock interviews to prepare them for the future. In Year 11 we invite the leading 6th forms in the area like NCS and LAE to support our students in the transition to further education. Once our students leave us, the overwhelming majority of them go on to Further Education.

In addition to this, our Leadership Programme allows students to visit and engage with prestigious universities like Oxford University, UCL, Imperial and give students an opportunity to consider high profile courses like Medicine and Engineering.



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