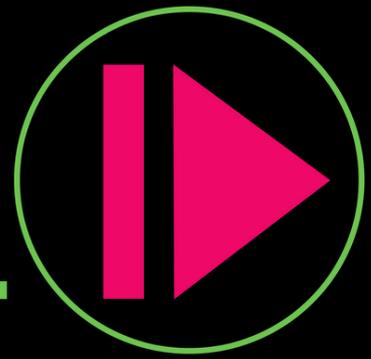


Inspired Directions SCHOOL



PROSPECTUS

Welcome from the Head of School



Kaz Birk
Head of Inspired
Directions School

Inspired Directions School has been on a journey of rapid growth over the past few years. Now settled into our new premises on Dalston Lane, we are all excited about the next stage of the school's evolution.

We have developed a unique model at Inspired Directions, which we are delighted to share with you. For almost a decade we have had a profound impact on the young people who have become part of our community, fostering personal growth and expression, as well as educational progress.

We provide a place of safety, enjoyment and belonging in which our students can explore their interests, develop their creativity and receive individual support to overcome the barriers to their progress and achievement. It is a privilege to be part of our talented and passionate team. We are fully committed to building the best school that we can, and look forward to more young people joining us.

"I get to do projects like cooking and music. The staff are different, they are like a big family. I made good friends here too!"

Student

"The curriculum, with a suitable emphasis on English, mathematics, music and sports, inspires pupils to learn. Enterprise projects provide interesting opportunities for pupils to gain an insight into the world of work"

Ofsted report, 2018

WHO WE ARE

The Inspired Directions School offers alternative provision for young people whose needs cannot be met within mainstream education. Established by registered charity Inspire!, we have provided alternative education in Hackney since 2008.

Our students are 13-16 year olds with a range of complex needs: this includes those who have been excluded from mainstream school, who have special educational needs, or school-refusers. We work closely with schools, parents, agencies and professionals to identify and meet the needs of each student.

We emphasise:

▶ INDIVIDUALITY

Focusing on the individual personality, interests and needs of each student

▶ COLLECTIVISM

Working together for the equal benefit of everyone

▶ PROGRESSION

Commitment to the progress of our learners beyond the school



100%

of students' parents/guardians would recommend Inspired Directions to other parents

"He has progressed in many ways, not only in education but socially as well. Thank you for your time and support given to my child"

Parent of student

★ Therapeutic ★

Together with outside agencies, we support students through counselling and mentoring, art and music therapy, and speech and language therapy.



PSHE is offered in areas such as drugs and sexual health, supported by partner organisations.

★ Project-based Learning ★

We work with a network of educational, community and business partners to facilitate offsite projects that are creative, cultural and vocational.

Projects have included: community gardening, film making, photography, construction, songwriting, producing a radio show and newspaper.

★ Core Foundation ★

All students receive individual or small group tuition in English, Maths and Science, and achieve Functional Skills qualifications at the appropriate level.

We offer opportunities to gain BTECs and other accreditations, such as Arts Awards and AQA units.

We encourage healthy lifestyles with a free breakfast and lunch and regular fitness sessions.

WHAT WE OFFER

We partner with businesses to offer a range of vocational and enterprise projects and work experience.

Students are able to undertake an extended or short placements in an industry of their choice.

★ Vocational ★



Outside of the school day, we offer additional projects, creative classes, and academic sessions.

This provides a chance for additional learning, and allows the wider community to be involved with the school.

★ The After School ★

★ Hip-hop Education ★

A proven approach to learning in alternative settings, hip-hop is used to engage students in a range of subjects, encourage creativity and explore identity.

Our teams have expertise in this area and a range of contacts in the music industry.

★ Knowledge ★

We place a strong emphasis on developing creative expression, offering weekly art, music and drama lessons.

We explore History, Geography, RE, Languages, Community and Current Affairs in different ways, such as debate or student forums.



PATHWAYS & PROGRESSION

Supporting students into further education or career pathways is a key part of our offering. We continue to support our graduates after leaving and offer ongoing interaction with the Inspire! community.



100%
of our students
gained a
qualification
in 2016

Our graduates have gone onto colleges including:

- BSix College
- Westminster Kingsway
- City of Westminster
- Big Creative Education
- Hackney Community College

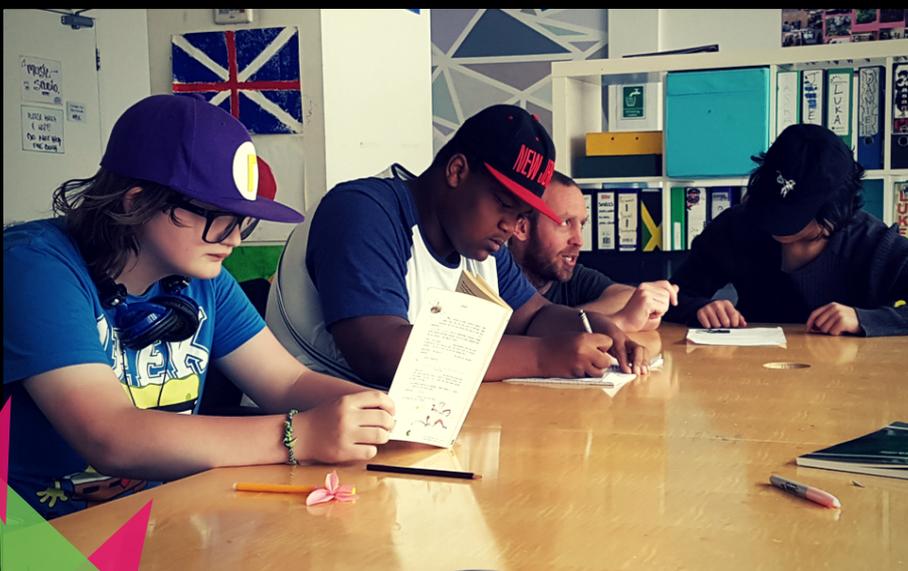
And have gone on to get jobs in:

- Hospitality
- Local council
- Creative industries

One has set up his own business, and some are working back at Inspired Directions school!



92%
of our leavers
progressed into
college in 2016



To study courses such as:

- Animal care
- Motor mechanics
- Health and social care
- Music technology
- Public services
- Business administration

RECENT PROJECTS

Leaf it out!

In partnership with community food project *OrganicLea*, Inspired Directions students developed their own business enterprise by growing produce at Hawkwood Nursery and selling it in the local area. In collaboration with students attending a catering project, the team designed their own brand, 'Leaf it out!', for the end products.



Lights, camera, action!

Students were given the chance to direct and star in their own documentary films through *The Mouth that Roars*, an organisation which gives young people opportunities to challenge misrepresentation while voicing their own opinions and feelings on camera. Their films explored issues including judgement and peer pressure.

NATHAN'S STORY

Nathan* had only had negative experiences in mainstream education. His speech and language and public speaking difficulties had resulted in truancy and a lack of engagement in class.

Coming to Inspired Directions enabled him to gain a great deal of confidence. Projects at the school gave him the chance to perform on a West End stage, present his own segments on radio and record his own rap. After gaining IGCSEs in Maths and English and functional skills qualifications, he gained a college placement to study construction. With his time at the school inspiring an increased interest in academic study, he plans to study science next year.

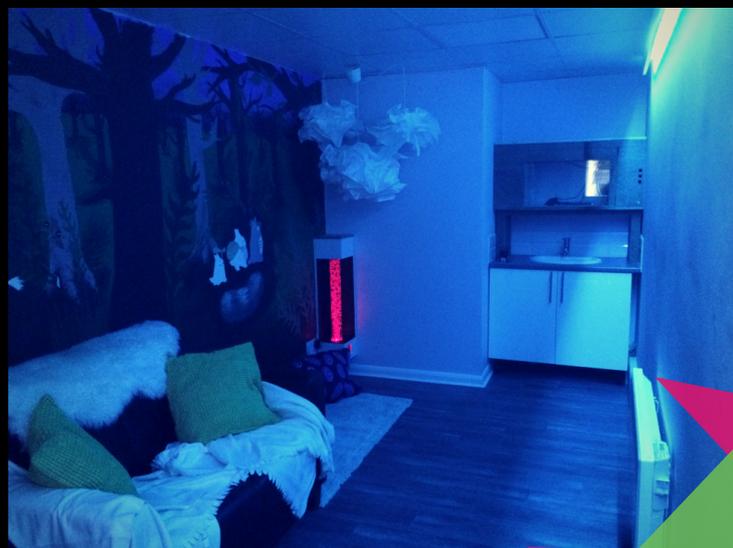
**name has been changed*

"I felt worried because it was a new experience for me, but going to Inspire! was fun and I completed a gardening course. Now I am going to study science."

VENUE & FACILITIES

The school relocated to a newly refurbished building in 2017, which has been designed to suit our unique learning programme. Located in Dalston in the London Borough of Hackney, our facilities include:

- ▶ **Music studio:** a high-spec studio where students can record and produce their own music
- ▶ **IT suite:** multiple computers are provided for student use
- ▶ **Art therapy room:** a space where students are able to express themselves through art
- ▶ **Sensory therapy room:** a calming therapeutic space that is used to reduce stress and encourage improved concentration and creativity
- ▶ **Classroom space:** a spacious, open-plan main room for effective group learning



REFER TO US

We accept direct referrals from secondary schools as well as through local authorities. Referrals are reviewed on a case-by-case basis to assess the suitability of our provision to meet the needs of the young person. For more information or to begin the referral process, please contact:



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With thanks to our partners & supporters:



Printing and publication of this prospectus generously supported by UBS