



Spring Term Two - 2025

SECONDARY

World book day assembly, Sandeep Christian, students and staff shared favorite contemporary texts, which classic books have been read. Next term's assembly schedule includes allergies awareness, Florence Nightingale's birthday, world cultural day and other cultural capital.



Year 10 student, Neveah, attended the Arsenal Emirates stadium on a bespoke tour as part of her photography course. Neveah will be developing her photos using traditional, non-digital methods and has shown an eye for scene composition and the importance of lighting. She has also shown a much deeper understanding that sport's photographers have to overcome in terms of moving subjects and the impact on image focus.



Year 10 student, Kaya took time out of her busy academic schedule to help prepare the year 9 students for their entry level certificate required practical on neutralization. Kaya carefully weighed out the dry components and used a pill press to produce a range of ant-acid tablets. The year 9 students determined that ant-acids made of calcium carbonate react faster than the ones made of magnesium carbonate, agreeing with their prediction made using the metal reactivity series.





Year 11 students continue to work through their mock exams during the March assessment window. NRC secondary students have shown remarkable resilience, dedication and maturity in attempting their examinations under national exam conditions. The additional revision sessions have been attended well and we have high hopes for outcomes. Well done to the cohort and keep up the great effort. Lots of personal development on show. Even more impressive was how respectful and supporting year 10 and the KS3 cohort have been in supporting Year 11.



NRC food students had created a two-course meal with Fruit salad and traditional English style cottage pie...was amazing. Staff gave written feedback almost everyone commented on how well seasoned the cottage pie was across all learners. Year 11 Student, Jayden even made sure the staff and students who volunteered to clean up afterwards were well organized,

deploying them efficiently and in an organized manner. He even took care of ensuring health and safety hygiene practice was maintained throughout. Possible career opportunities were considered and a number of the students have now worked with Dean, our careers advisor to consider future roles in catering and event management.

New River College



Dean

NEVER FORGET THE Absolute Legends you used to work with!



(that's us by the way)

Dates for your calendar

On April the 23rd, we look forward to seeing all the parents/carers for your structured conversations, where you can meet with your form tutor, discuss personal development targets, gain a stronger understanding of student reports and meet with subject teachers for targeted exam revision. This is a vital opportunity for you to share any updates with your family situation, request additional support or highlight any key information you might need to share.



The first day of full teaching is therefore Thursday April the 24th and we look forward to our students attending for the usual 9.10am lesson starts.

As part of our dynamic staffing, we say goodbye to the following members of our Learning support and engagement teams: Chloe and Claudia an amazing pair of Aussies who have shown real talent in working with our student body. Phil and Michael have been appointed as full-time Learning assistants, with Abdullah being promoted to Lead Learning Assistant. Mark, who has been supporting the Religious Education and Citizenship classes, will be moving on to pastures new. Thanks for all the support Mark, NRC secondary really appreciate it.

PRIMARY

Atlantic Class:

We have had a busy second half to the Spring term in Atlantic class.

In English we have been reading Traction Man is here by Mini Grey. We created our own character and placed them in different settings around the school. We took turns to be hot seated as our character and we created questions to ask each other.

We then created our own settings. We will plan out stories and we will be making our stories into books.



In maths we have been learning about different ways we measure. We used a ruler, a

metre stick and a trundle wheel to measure different items and areas around the school in metres and centimetres.

We used weighing scales to weigh items in grams and kilograms.

We can say if a cup is empty, half full or full. We measured liquids in millilitres and in litres.



In reading we have read *Toys in Space* by Mini Grey. We have been sequencing parts of the story, describing characters and making predictions for what might happen next.

We are reading every morning to an adult and continuing to develop our phonic knowledge

In our topic we have been learning about Toys. We have explored toys from the past and present and looked at differences and similarities. We sorted toys into old and new and discussed how some toys have been played with for many years.



We visited The Young V and A museum in Bethnal Green. We travelled by tube to Bank and then on the central line to Bethnal Green. We saw a huge variety of toys and looked at how Teddy Bears have changed over the years.



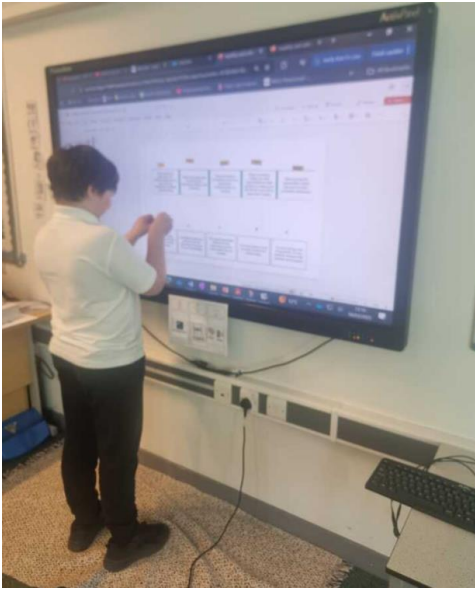
In Science we have been learning about materials. We sorted a variety of items according to what they are made from including, metal, glass, plastic and wood. We compared materials by seeing if they can be bent, twisted, torn or stretched.



Daily PSHE

This half term, in our daily PSHE sessions we have explored lots of different topics to help us to better understand how we can be more inclusive of everyone. Some of the topics we have covered include; racism, gender, misogyny, homophobia, religion, body image. We are all working hard to make sure that we treat everyone equally and that we are able to include everyone in all we do regardless of any differences that we may have.





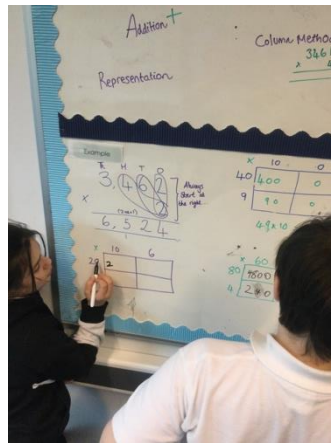
In addition to the daily PSHE talk time that each class has, every class at primary has a longer, 30 minutes PSHE session with Rhys. In these lessons this term, we have been focusing on healthy and unhealthy relationships. All classes have been using scenarios and discussions to help explore ideas further in all lessons. Pupils have used this newly found knowledge to start understanding how carrying these healthy traits online support them to be a positive digital citizen. We have been using a online game Interland to embed the learning.



Arctic Class:

It has been another successful term in Arctic class, welcoming two new students and getting ready for some students to transition onto their next chapters. We've had lots of fun learning experiences and games together.

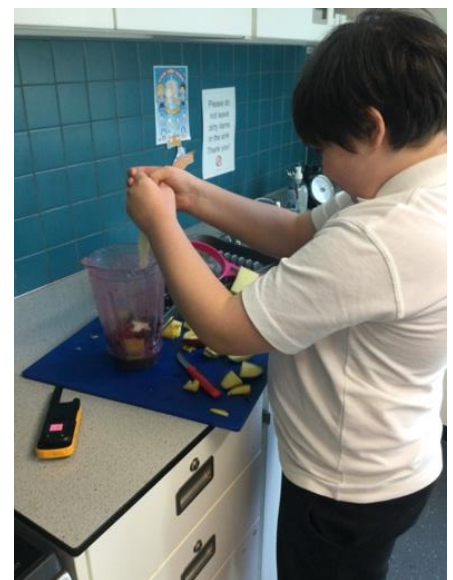
In maths, we've been focusing on multiplication and division. Arctic class have been multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, practising a variety of methods and using concrete resources to embed their understanding.



Science has been messy! We've had lots of practical lessons to think about the human heart, diet and exercise and we created a model of blood using paint and cereal! Everyone loved getting stuck in using a stethoscope



We've had a lot of fun cooking this term. Experimenting with new recipes and creating some classic dishes. Some of our favourites were: fruit smoothies, red velvet cakes and onion bhajjis



We visited the British Museum to explore the Kingdom of Benin's ancient bronze sculptures. We enjoyed sketching the animals and creating our own clay animals in class.



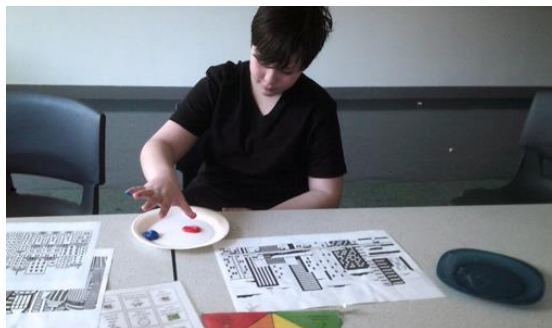
The class got involved with breaktime tennis matches, improving their hand-eye coordination and having some friendly competition against the staff. We've had so much fun playing together and look forward to the possibly of a tennis tournament...



World book day at Primary!

World Book Day was a success at New River this year! To celebrate, all the children came to school dressed in one colour, just like the characters from the story *Mixed* by Arree Chung. It was a fun and colourful start to a day packed with exciting activities.

We had a special drop-down day filled with art, reading, history, and English. In history, we learned about Ruby Bridges and the incredible challenges she faced during the Civil Rights Movement. The children were inspired by her bravery and how she helped create positive change. It sparked some thoughtful discussions about equality and the importance of standing up for what's right.



For our art activity, we all worked together to create a final piece using finger painting and stencils, blending colours just like in the story of *Mixed*. It was amazing to see them collaborate and express their creativity.



To emphasise the importance of reading we utilised World Book Day to remind ourselves how books can take us on incredible journeys and help us understand the world better. We all had so much fun celebrating the joy of reading and sharing our love for stories!

What a fantastic day of learning, creativity, and fun – we can't wait to do it all again next year!



Thank you to all of the families for your continuous support this term. It has been a busy but exciting term at Primary and we are so proud of our pupils and their achievements. There are no staffing changes at Primary as we move into summer term.

Structured conversations will take place on Wednesday 23rd April on site at primary – you will be contacted in the last week of the term to book an appointment. These are a vital way of hearing about your child's progress and next steps, and we look forward to seeing you on this day.



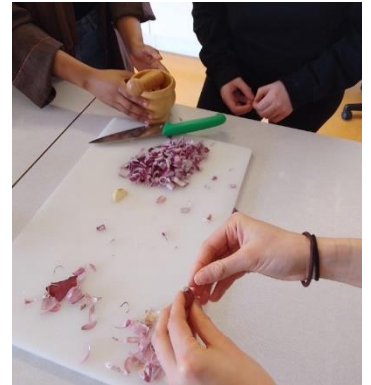
MEDICAL

Food Technology at Medical

The Food Tech staff have been very impressed with how well students in 11B have done this term. When they arrive at Food Skills they follow the Health and Safety rules without needing instruction to do so. They have become independent in the Food Skills room and can all follow a recipe without asking for clarification or where to find the ingredients. Most



year 11's have been preparing for their BTEC which they are all on track to achieving. This is a practical assessment where they have prepared and served a pasta dish followed by



dessert.

This term they have made a range of dishes including:

Brownies, Sweet and Sour Chicken, Macaroni Cheese, Apple Pie, Pizza, Lasagna. One of the students taught the class how to make her favourite Somali pasta dish, which she plans to serve for her BTEC practical.



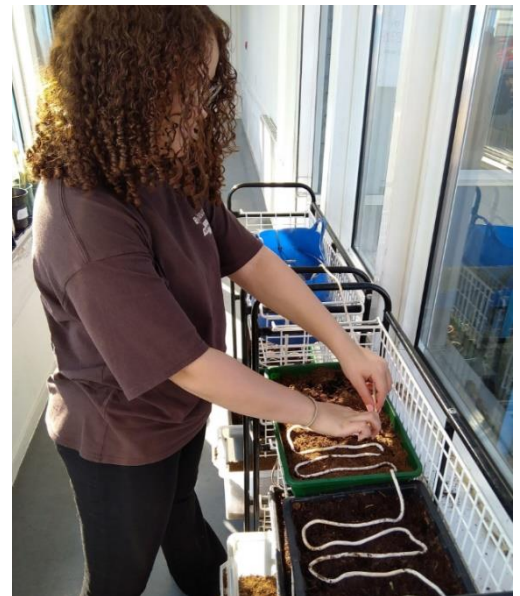
Therapeutic Gardening



Our raised beds are thriving! The garlic, beans, and peas are developing well, and with the warmer weather finally here, we've started planting lettuce, carrots, and flowers outdoors. Inside, our tomatoes, chillies, and basil are growing strong, thanks to the dedicated care of our students.



We've cleared an overgrown bed at the front of the school and planted a variety of wildflowers—hopefully, a beautiful display awaits us this summer! To support our indoor plants, we set up a string-based watering system, which has been working effectively. Our next batch of compost is currently being developed and we keep adding more to the mix and rotating it each week.



Beyond hands-on gardening, some students have been researching careers in the land-based sector and preparing presentations to share their findings. It's been a fantastic way to connect practical learning with future opportunities!



Everybody Reads at Medical

All students at Medical will be gifted their second £10 book voucher at the end of term. This is a termly commitment as part of our everybody reads strategy. Students have been encouraged to purchase a book and share what they are reading. All students will then review the book they have read.

Here you can see some of the suggestion for books to read in the month of March celebrating Inspiring women in History.

MARCH BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Take The Lead Trip

This term the year 11 students attended an employability skills workshop at the Royal Bank of Canada as part of the Take the Lead Program. This was the final session in a series of workshops, where students have been participating in group activities with members of the Old Vic theatre, designed to improve their communication, team building, problem solving and adaptability skills.



Workshops have included collaborative activities such as students working together to create an idea for their own theatre production, which they named 'Camden Colin', following the plot of a punk who embraces his individuality and follows his dreams. Students came up with creative means to promote and market their production as well as considering budgeting costs and how they would pitch their idea to a theatre company. The final workshop at the Royal Bank of Canada allowed students to learn and practice useful interview skills and students took part in a mock interview in one of the building's board rooms.

Feedback from the Take the Lead staff:

Group feedback

- Really supportive of each other & respectful during the interview
- Everyone showed resilience and willingness to engage in the process
- They all demonstrated the skills they've learnt throughout the programme and we encourage them to take this forward on their next steps

Individual highlights

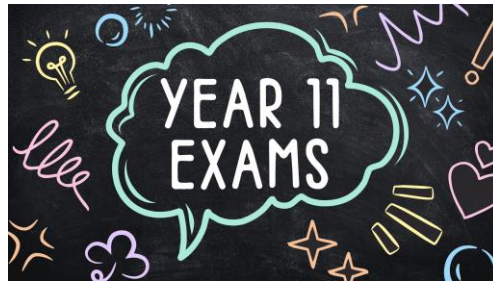
- Student L gave examples of how they were creative and spoke passionately about their interests. Well done for going first! Within the group dynamic, was really supportive and showed great team work.
- Student R gave a really specific example that directly related to the question. Their answer was well crafted, clear and relevant. Suzi noted how you used safeguarding in action as a really clear response.
- Student C - It was great that C used Take the Lead as an example. Brilliant eye contact and body language, C came across as very confident with a relaxed energy.
- Student L - Really detailed answer, great eye contact & confidence. It felt like a conversational answer and Suzi wanted to engage further with clear follow up questions.
- Student Z - The concept of developing your core skills allowing you to be adaptable in any business environment was a really intelligent way of answering the question. Really articulate and clear answer.

World Book Day



Students took part in an 'Banned Book hunt activity' where they were given wanted posters for 13 banned books which were hidden around the school. Titles included Winnie the Pooh - previously banned in several countries for being 'a talking animal' and 'not wearing pants' - and Harry Potter for being seen to 'promote witchcraft'. This was a really successful activity and students worked well in teams to find the hidden book covers. After the hunt, students presented the books they had found to the class and used the posters to explain why they were banned in different countries. Finally, students debated whether books should be banned in libraries and school curriculums and wrote either a persuasive letter or an article, giving their opinion on the matter.





Year 11 have now finished their Mock exams and are working hard revision and preparing for the Summer term examinations. All Year 11 student will have received their personalized time table now.

The Summer Examination take place between Friday 9th May to Friday 13th June.

Morning Exams will start at 9.30 and afternoon exams will start at 1.30. Please ensure you support your child by preparing them for the day of the exams to be in school on time and ready to start. This will reduce any anxiety they may have at this time.

Below are some tips when dealing with exam stress.



Medical - Save the Date

Term	Time Frame	Type of communication	Theme
Autumn Term 1	September	Structured Conversation	
Autumn Term 2	November	Pupil Progress Afternoon	
Autumn Term 2	November (week later)	Parent Coffee Afternoon	ELSA - Presentation
Autumn Term 2	December	Pupil Reports	
Spring Term 1	January	Structured Conversation	
Spring Term 2	February	Pupil Progress Afternoon	
Spring Term 2	February (week later)	Parent Coffee Afternoon	PDT – Presentation
Spring Term 2	March	Pupil Reports	
Summer Term 1	April	Structured Conversation	
Summer Term 1	May	Pupil Progress Afternoon	
Summer Term 1	May (week later)	Parent Coffee Afternoon	Exam Stress - Presentation
Summer Term 2	July	Pupil Reports	
Summer Term 2	July (end of year review)	Structured Conversation	

Parent/Carer Survey Feedback

Thank you to all the parents who have completed last terms Parent Survey. This helps us understand how to support your child and look to make improvements throughout the year. With 95% of parents expressing their child is happy and making progress at school, we look forward to reviewing the next cycle of data. The next survey will be in March.

Below are some responses from our parent/carers.

Our child is happy to have joined a school that allows her to self regulate, make friends, do sports, gardening. And she's attending more classes than she used to, although it's still a work in progress. she's feeling safe at school with staff members who she knows are always here to support her.

My daughter has struggled to be present at NRC but is making great steps to attending a very reduced timetable thanks to the constant support and kindness of staff. Thank you.

Staffing News and General Information

We are delighted to welcome back Felicity our SENDCO and Rosa our English teacher in to school having been on Maternity.

We say goodbye to Tom who has been covering some of their lessons. We would like to thank Tom and wish him good luck and

End of Term Dates

Easter Holidays

Last day of term – **Friday 4th April 1.00pm**

Pupil and Parent Structured Conversation- **Wednesday 23rd - April – 10 – 1pm**

First day of lessons **Thursday 24th April**

Summer Term

Wednesday 23rd April Structured Conversation 10pm – 2pm

First Day of Term Thursday 24th April

Half Term Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Last Day of Term Friday 18th July 1pm.

Requesting Time Off for your child

Should your child require time off school for any reason.

Please contact victoria.lizarazo@nrc.islington.sch.uk, and make a request in writing.

You will then be expected to attend a meeting with the Headteacher, Nigel Smith. He will discuss the request with you make a decision on how to authorise the request.

Please note

Any unapproved absence will be marked as unauthorised and is subject to a possible fine in line with the Islington absence policy.

Holiday information and activities from Islington
and the NRC Family Support Team





Enfield Borough Football Academy April 2025 Trials



We are excited to invite your students to our upcoming football trials at Enfield Borough Football Academy, offering both boys and girls the opportunity to showcase their talent and develop their skills in a professional environment.

Trial Details:

 **Dates:** Wednesday, 9th & 16th April 2025

 **Time:** 11:00 AM

 **Location:** Enfield Borough Football Academy, 73 Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5HA

These trials are ideal for students who are passionate about football and looking to take their game to the next level while continuing their education. Our academy provides a structured pathway for young athletes to receive high-quality coaching, develop key skills, and explore opportunities in football.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could share this opportunity with your students. If any students are interested, they can register their attendance by replying to this email or contacting us directly.

Please let us know if you would like further details.

We look forward to welcoming your students to our trials!

Kind regards,

Enfield Borough Football Academy

THE ASK PROGRAMME

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

For Islington students aged 13-18

✦ Join our exciting session with ASK Apprenticeships and explore how apprenticeships can open doors to amazing opportunities!

🔴 Engaging Activities - uncover key facts, and tackle a teamwork challenge!



Scan the QR code to book your
FREE ticket or sign up [here!](#)



THURSDAY 10TH APRIL
AT WEST LIBRARY YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT HUB, N1 1BD
2-4PM



**LIGHTS, CAMERA,
FASHION!** 🎬 👗

For Islington students aged 13-18

Film & Media

Get hands-on with professional cameras & lighting. Explore careers in directing, editing & more!

Fashion Careers

Discover how top brands bring designs to life!



Scan the QR code to book your
FREE ticket or sign up [here!](#)

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL
AT CORKER WALK YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT HUB, N7 7RY
2-4PM



NSPCC Helpline.

An estimated 1 in 20 children have experienced sexual abuse. And child sexual abuse is under-reported by adults. It's time for that to change.

It's never too soon to talk to us. And what you share could make a life-changing difference to a child.

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0800 800 5000, emailing help@NSPCC.org.uk or completing our report abuse online form.

Our voice Helpline is currently available **10am–4pm Monday to Friday**. You can still [email help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or [complete our report abuse online form](#) at any time for free. You don't have to say who you are.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on 999 straight away.

Children's Services Contact Team (CSCT), Children's Social Care

The Children's Services Contact Team (CSCT) is the single point of contact for all services for children, young people, and families in Islington who may need extra help and support.

If you are worried about a child, please phone CSCT first:

- **020 7527 7400**

The services we offer include:

- Family support in the community through
- Support for children and young people who are at risk of getting involved in gangs, anti-social behaviour or crime
- Health and mental health services
- Children's Social Care - services to protect and safeguard vulnerable children.

Children and young people missing from home

If you're thinking of running away from home or you know someone who is, call the Children's Services Contact Team on 020 7527 7400 to speak to someone who will listen and can help.

If you are the parent or carer of a young person who has gone missing, call the Metropolitan Police Missing Persons line on 0759 500 4082.



MUMS THE WORD



a project for mums aged 30 yrs & under

All Change invites you to join us for
MUMS THE WORD - a weekly social & creative project

meet other mums | learn new skills |
share parenting challenges & tips
| have your say about what matters to you

+ free school holiday activities for families

Friday mornings 10.30am-1pm (including lunch)

at **All Change, 27 Dingley Place, EC1V 8BR**

[Nearest tube Old Street. Buses: 43, 205, 214, 56, 4, 55, 243, 394]

Free to attend

Refreshments when you arrive, plus **creche & lunch** provided!

For further information

call **07949 861284** or email: projects@allchangearts.org

www.allchangearts.org Instagram @allchangeldn

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inspire



a creative programme for
young parents & parents-to-be
[age 13-25 years]

EVERY FRIDAY 10.30am-3pm
27 Dingley Place, London EC1V 8BR
Lunch & Crèche provided

meet other young parents | learn new skills |
take part in creative projects | get advice &
guidance on personal development, education,
employment, health & wellbeing | develop your
skills & confidence as a parent | get qualifications |
go on trips & outings ... and more!

FREE ADMISSION | BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Call or Text: **07904 328864**

DM: @inspire_family

Email: projects@allchangearts.org



Inspire welcomes all young parents aged 13-25 including
d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young parents,
LGBTQ+ young parents, and young parents from global majority
and ethnically diverse backgrounds and their children

www.allchangearts.org

All Change Arts Ltd No. 1845291 Registered Charity No. 1051927 established 1995



Enhanced Healthy Living Referral Form:

Families, Food & Feelings Parenting Group

Service		Camden ☐	Islington ☐
Date of Referral	DD/MM/YYYY	Date Received	DD/MM/YYYY
Email to: brandoncentre.healthyliving@nhs.net		Telephone: 020 7267 4792	
Address: 26 Prince of Wales Road, Kentish Town; London NW5 3LG			

Please note: Parent must agree to this referral

Child's / Young Person's Details			
First Name		Surname	
Date of Birth	DD/MM/YYYY	Age	
NHS number		Religion	
Which gender do they identify with?		Ethnicity	
Weight at Referral		Height at Referral	
Address			
How many siblings does the child/young person have?			
School/College			
GP			
Consent to contact GP/discuss with the multidisciplinary team?			
Other services?			
Consent to contact other services?			

A cartoon illustration of a boy with brown hair, wearing a green shirt and blue pants, swinging happily on a rope with red rings.

Islington

Adventure

Playgrounds



Your quick guide to Islington's
adventure playgrounds





Crumbles Castle Adventure Playground

Address: Pembroke Street, N1 0DP

Tel: 07984791473

Where it is: In the west of the borough between Caledonian Road and Liverpool Road

Nearest tube: Angel or Caledonian Road & Barnsbury (Overground)

Nearest bus route: 390



KIDS Hayward Adventure Playground

Address: Market Road, N7 9PL

Tel: 020 7607 0033

Where it is: In the west of the borough between Caledonian Road and York Way

Nearest tube: Caledonian Road & Barnsbury (Overground) or Caledonian Road

Nearest bus route: 274



King Henry's Walk Adventure Playground

Address: 11 King Henry's Walk, N1 4NX

Tel: 020 7254 4783

Where it is: In the east of the borough off Balls Pond Road

Nearest tube: Canonbury (Overground)

Nearest bus route: 21



Lumpy Hill Adventure Playground

Address: 15 Market Road, N7 9PL

Tel: 020 7607 3586

Where it is: In the west of the borough between Caledonian Road and York Way

Nearest tube: Caledonian Road & Barnsbury (Overground) or Caledonian Road

Nearest bus route: 274



Martin Luther King Adventure Playground

Address: 3 Sheringham Road, N7 8PF

Where it is: In the centre of the borough off Liverpool Road

Nearest tube: between Highbury & Islington, Caledonian Road and Holloway Road

Nearest bus route: 153



9 Three Corners Adventure Playground

Address: Northampton Road, EC1R 0HU **Tel:** 020 7833 0020

Where it is: In the south of the borough off Rosebery Avenue

Nearest tube: Angel and Farringdon

Nearest bus route: 19

10 Timbuktu Adventure Playground

Address: Grenville Road, N19 4EJ **Tel:** 020 7272 2183

Where it is: In the north of the borough off Hornsey Road

Nearest tube: Crouch Hill (Overground)

Nearest bus route: 19

11 Toffee Park Adventure Playground

Address: 30 Ironmonger Row, EC1V 3QS **Tel:** 020 7251 0190

Where it is: In the south of the borough off Old Street

Nearest tube: Old Street

Nearest bus route: 55

12 Waterside Adventure Playground

Address: 50 Dame Street, N1 7FR **Tel:** 020 7359 6200

Where it is: In the south east of the borough off Essex Road

Nearest tube: Angel

Nearest bus route: 30

Contact Islington

222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR

E contact@islington.gov.uk

T 020 7527 2000

F 020 7527 5001

Minicom 020 7527 1900

W www.islington.gov.uk/playgrounds



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using vegetable based inks.

Updated March 2017

In partnership with



Department for
Education
Aiming High for
Disabled Children

Adventure playgrounds in Islington: safe, fun, welcoming and free!

Adventure playgrounds are **safe**. Children sign in when they arrive so that staff members know who is on the playground at all times. Senior workers at each playground hold a Level 3 qualification or higher. All staff members are police checked, receive regular safeguarding training and follow Health and Safety guideline requirements. There are fully trained first aiders on site whenever the adventure playground is open and any staff or volunteers working with food have a valid Food Hygiene Certificate. Staff members at the adventure playground understand that each child is an individual. Some children may not be ready to come along to the adventure playground or walk home without an adult. Each child's circumstances are discussed between parents and the staff members at the time of registration so there is an agreement and understanding about your child's stage of development and independence.

Adventure playgrounds are **fun** – children attend adventure playgrounds in high numbers because they enjoy spending time there - nearly 4,000 children attend the 12 adventure playgrounds each year. At Adventure Playgrounds playworkers support children to follow their own interests and through doing so ensure children can determine their own playful adventures. There are always exciting and interesting things for children to get involved with, regardless of the weather or the time of year, with everything from sports, cooking, crafts and nature play on offer year round. Children can also spend quiet time with their friends and on their own – playgrounds have books to read, gardens to tend and space for activities away from noise and activity.

Adventure playgrounds are **welcoming** – Islington is a diverse borough and the adventure playgrounds reflect this! Children across a range of ages from 6 and up attend, there is an even balance of boys and girls, you will hear children speaking a range of languages and the adventure playgrounds support many disabled children and children with special educational needs. Bullying on adventure playgrounds is *never* tolerated and staff members work together with children, families and other professionals to make sure that any incidents are dealt with appropriately.

Adventure playgrounds are **free** – once your child is registered at the playground, they can attend whenever the playground is open. There will be some occasions where charges apply, for example when there is a trip off site or if there is a special event taking place at the adventure playground.