



VALENTINES HIGH SCHOOL
A National Teaching School with Leading Edge Status

VALENTINES HIGH SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr R D Laws B.A. (Hons)

Valentines High School is a highly successful and very oversubscribed co-educational 11-18 comprehensive school. Academic standards and pupil behaviour are both excellent. There are 1307 pupils on roll, including over 360 in the Sixth Form. Valentines is an 'Outstanding School' with excellent results at GCSE and Post 16.

The school received an exceptionally positive report from OFSTED in its most recent inspection. Valentines was awarded 'Outstanding' grades in all aspects of the report. Standards have risen even further since the report was written.

The school is academically high achieving with a mixed ability, multi-ethnic intake. We are very proud of the ethnic diversity and harmony in our school. The percentage of students gaining 5A* to C including English and Mathematics was 68% in 2014. The school has a large and diverse sixth form covering a full range of courses. Standards in the sixth form are very high with an average point score of 772 for A level in 2014.

Valentines offers a full range of GCSE and vocational courses. In the sixth form, over 20 'A' level subjects are offered alongside level 2 and 3 vocational qualifications. The majority of the Sixth Form progress on to University each year.

We are constantly reviewing our policies and practice to make further improvements. We have created state-of-the-art learning facilities using the latest technology across the curriculum. There are over 750PCs and every teacher has a laptop and an electronic whiteboard. All departments are well resourced.

Professional Development and promotion opportunities in the school are very good, with many staff working with colleagues from other schools as part of Teaching School and Leading Edge activities. Our Teaching School Status was awarded in 2011 in recognition of our high quality CPD, ITT and outreach programme. Valentines staff support other schools on a variety of projects. This gives the opportunities to progress their own professional development.

The school has a comprehensive programme of training toolkits which staff can tailor to their individual training needs. High quality training is also offered through out learning groups and inset days. New staff are all provided with a coach to help them learn the Valentines Way and to improve their own practice. In addition, new staff benefit from high quality induction and are offered the opportunity to take part in the Improving or Outstanding Teacher Programmes.

Our Ofsted report states that 'the racial harmony in the school is striking'. Harmonious relationships between a racially diverse student body are a real strength of the school. The school is enriched by a wide range of cross-curricular activities, societies, clubs, music and sporting activities. The House system provides an outlet for friendly rivalry in a whole range of activities.

The school is popular with both parent and the local community with over 1,400 applications for year 7 places and 1200 applications for year 12 places in 2015. This is because Valentines is very successful in raising the aspirations of its pupil population and helping achieve their goals. Valentines is a focussed and rewarding environment in which to work and in which to develop professionally.

Valentines is situated in the centre of Redbridge next to Gants Hill Station, which is on the Central Underground Line about 30 minutes journey from Oxford Circus. Ilford British Rail is within a 10 minute walk. Epping Forest and the Essex countryside are within easy reach. Redbridge borders on Barking and Dagenham and two other London Boroughs which together contain the lowest priced accommodation in London.

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'An Outstanding School' Ofsted