I am proud to welcome you to The John Roan School. We are an ambitious community that is committed to working hard and raising achievement for everyone. With the highest expectations for all of our students, our vision is for students to be the best that they can be, and we know that our role is to provide them with the platform to achieve this.

We pledge to provide a rich, broad and varied education such that all students are able to make excellent progress whatever their starting points. In the seven years that students grow and develop with the school, they will experience a diverse curriculum and enrichment programme that stretches them academically and socially and which has character development at its heart.

We are based on two sites, with a short distance between them, and have extensive playing fields a short drive away. Beyond this, we have priority access to ‘Braithwaite’, a residential centre in the Lake District. Built on 40 acres of land, students can access the beauty of spectacular countryside and experience the challenge and excitement of outdoor life.

Our founder, John Roan, bequeathed his estate to educate the children of Greenwich. The principles he instilled in the school remain today; every child is entitled to be educated in inclusive, stimulating and rewarding surroundings. The Trustees of The John Roan Foundation continue to ensure that his legacy delivers unique opportunities to our students.

Life at The John Roan School is structured to provide a richly diverse range of experiences such that all of our students are able to reach their potential both whilst at school and in their adult lives.

I look forward to welcoming you on a visit to The John Roan School.

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher

Founded in 1677, as one of the oldest state schools in the country, The John Roan School has a distinguished history of supporting educational excellence for the young people of Greenwich.

Our Year 7 and 8 students are based in the beautiful Maze Hill building overlooking Greenwich Park. Here they are provided with an introduction to secondary school life without needing to share the area with older students. Their curriculum is broad and balanced and provides them with an excellent foundation from which to move towards GCSEs.

Maze Hill has dedicated Senior Staff to oversee the progress and welfare of the students and the relatively small building ensures that everyone is known well. With their own library, canteen and play area, the younger students are able to settle quickly into the secondary school routines and make friends easily.

We develop strong links with our primary schools, ensuring a commitment to a smooth and well-informed transition from primary to secondary school.

I would like to invite you to visit and to meet our aspirational students to find out more about the wealth of experiences and opportunities your child will receive at The John Roan School.

Josephine Okokon
Associate Headteacher & Maze Hill Lead
We are part of United Learning, a group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country. As a Group, United Learning schools seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people it serves and makes it their mission to bring out the best in everyone – students, staff, parents and the wider community.

As a part of United Learning, we can offer our students and staff far more than we could as a stand-alone school. For students this means we can give them access to a range of exceptional and inspiring experiences whilst our teachers and support staff are able to share and develop best practice with others across the country.

Our staff and students have PRIDE in all that we do.

Our values refer to the behaviours and attitudes we expect all members of the school community to demonstrate and develop throughout their time at The John Roan School.

- Proud
- Respectful
- Involved
- Determined
- Excellent

These values are diffused across the school so that in every activity and lesson students partake in they are taught to apply them in their every day lives. We believe that by embracing these core qualities each and every person will be equipped with the attributes needed to be successful, both while at school and in the years beyond.
Our Transition lasts from the day that you receive your offer letter from The John Roan School, to the day your child feels it is their new home — and is crucial to making sure that everyone can maximise their time in school and set themselves on their distinct pathway to success.

We want everyone to fulfil their potential by exploring and growing their individual personalities. To do this, a close partnership between children, parents, staff, The John Roan Foundation and our governing body is essential from the very beginning.

Our work begins long before anyone starts their first day. Not only do we invite all families into the school before the start of term, but we also go out to meet new students’ primary teachers to find out all about them. We do this so that on their very first day you already feel reassured that this is the right school for your child, but also so that we understand them as an individual and can start to prepare the bespoke experiences that will help to nurture their untapped potential.

What you can expect:

**Stage 1**
As soon as you receive an offer to The John Roan School, we will write a welcome letter inviting you to our New Starters’ Day. This is a chance to meet the Executive Headteacher and senior staff and provide us with any information you believe we should know about your child.

**Stage 2**
You will be invited to some Friendship Afternoons where your child will get involved in some activities with our teachers and make some new friends. You will get to meet other parents and chat informally with school staff.

**Stage 3**
Senior staff will visit your child’s primary school to talk to their teachers and hopefully spend some time with them so that they start to build a relationship with us on a personal level.

**Stage 4**
Parents are invited to make individual appointments with the school if they have specific needs that are best met in an in-depth interview.

**Stage 5**
All students will be invited in to school for a full transition day in July where they will meet with other students and begin to make new friends by doing a range of activities.
History

Our patron, John Roan, was born in 1602 and before he died amassed several properties in Greenwich which he dedicated in his will to the founding of a school for the ‘town born children of Greenwich’. The school started with just 16 boys, but by 1814 this had reached 100, increasing to over 600 with the opening of a girls’ school by the middle of the nineteenth century. The school moved to the Maze Hill site in 1928 and today a memorial plaque can still be found commemorating the former pupils who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars.

We are proud of our history and the students who have passed through our doors. Notable alumni include Sir Jack Drummond, a leading biochemist; David Hillier, a former Arsenal footballer; Nicola Jeal, editor of The Times; and Iris Grace, former editor of Women’s Weekly.

The Old Roan Association is thriving, with former students and staff continuing to take an interest in the school by providing work experience, advice and sometimes employment for our young people. All students automatically become members and benefit from the extensive social and sporting facilities at the members clubhouse at the school playing field.

We continue to recognise our heritage through the end of year Founder’s Day Service and we remember our founder on a daily basis by wearing the John Roan crest on our blazers. Our commitment to the provision of education for the ‘town born children of Greenwich’ in the name of John Roan is one we are determined to continue … perhaps for another 300 years.
Enriching young people’s lives and preparing them for their futures, whatever these may be, is central to our mission.

“A CV may get you the interview, but character will get you the job.” - Tim Peake, British Astronaut

Braithwaite
Not many state schools, even less so those from Inner London, can claim to have unlimited access to an area of outstanding natural beauty in the Lake District, such as the Braithwaite Centre. The Hope Memorial Trust, which runs the centre, was established by Arthur Hope, a former Headteacher of The John Roan School from the 1920s. He wanted to give our capital’s young people the opportunity to experience the beauty beyond their urban environment.

Set within 40 acres of land, the centre acts as the perfect base for our students to access a wide variety of pursuits they may otherwise never experience, embrace the beauty of our spectacular countryside and be challenged and inspired by the bountiful nature of outdoor life.

Activities that students can enjoy include:

- Rock climbing
- Hill walking
- Orienteering
- Nature rambles
- Canoeing
- Swimming
- Ghyll scrambling

Students who have visited always talk about the lasting impression that their trip will have on them: “I can’t believe how lucky we are to come here. It’s shown me what life outside London can look like, and I’ve learnt so many valuable skills that I’m going to use when I get back to school.”

Duke of Edinburgh Award
The school runs the highly regarded Duke of Edinburgh qualifications. This is an excellent award that has inspired and transformed the lives of millions of young people from all walks of life. From volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions, achieving a DofE Award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities.

School Council
We have an active School Council and value the role of students in shaping the future of the school. The Council meets 6 times a year, with Year Councils meeting in between. Students elect their representatives each year, allowing all students to be involved in making sure that their voices are heard and their views are taken into account in decisions which impact upon them.

PRIDE Days
We deliver our PHSE curriculum in form times throughout the year, but also on 4 specific days of the year where the usual curriculum is collapsed to allow for a concentrated period of time to be dedicated to a range of topics within the PHSE framework. These include careers education, relationships education and vital information around personal safety. On some PRIDE Days, students will visit key cultural sites and locations in London, on others they might attend workshops led by external partners or school staff.

Student Leadership
There are many opportunities for students to develop leadership skills whilst at The John Roan School. From formal programmes such as the Sports Leaders Awards, to positions of responsibility working in the library, as a School Ambassador, or a prefect, there are plenty of different routes for young people to choose.
Sixth Form

We have a relatively small Sixth Form, and yet still provide the full suite of A Level subjects complemented by specialised Level 3 BTEC courses. Our size enables us to offer high quality academic provision alongside the personalised support that students miss in a larger college.

Our excellent and experienced teachers work closely with our Sixth Form tutors, learning mentors and the Sixth Form team.

All of our Sixth Formers are offered a tailored programme of extra-curricular support, supporting their study skills, getting them workplace ready and supporting their applications to university and other destinations.

We have forged a strong partnership with Greenwich Titans Basketball Academy and all of our Sixth Formers are able to participate in their training programme running after school and at weekends.

“Leaders ensure that students experience a wide range of work-related activities. Students receive effective careers advice and are well prepared for university.”
- Ofsted
What makes us special?

The John Roan Foundation
We are incredibly fortunate to be supported by the Foundation. It owns several properties in Greenwich and uses the income to support our school. To name but a few examples: it maintains our four minibuses, has provided IT equipment to rooms on both sites and funds The Roan Exhibition — awarding the boy and girl with the top A Level results each year a bursary of £500 for three years to help them through their choice of further education.

The John Roan School Association (JRSA)
This is our friendly PTA and it plays a pivotal role in strengthening the bond between parents and the school. Meetings are relaxed, social and informative, and take place every term. The Headteacher attends to provide a report on the school and fundraising ideas and upcoming social events are discussed. Their success in fundraising is welcomed by departments who are able to bid for funding to support their curriculum areas.

Music Tuition
Music plays a crucial role at the school and through the generous funding of The John Roan Foundation, we can offer every student the opportunity to learn an instrument of their choice. Well over 250 students at the school already learn an instrument and this leads to wonderful concerts throughout the year to showcase the talents of so many students.

Sport
Once again, thanks to The John Roan Foundation, we are privileged to have access to extensive playing fields in Kidbrooke. We compete locally and nationally in a wide range of sports and are very proud of our many talented students who have represented the district, London and even the country on occasion.

Inclusion

We are fully comprehensive school and totally committed to ensuring that every student is able to do their very best. We are proud to have a cohesive community that is ethnically and socially diverse and where our provision is tailored to provide both challenge and support. We work closely with students and their families to support them through their choices of GCSE pathways and have strong systems to make early identification of additional needs.

Our teams work closely to provide academic and emotional support as necessary and are committed to strong partnerships with families to ensure that every student receives the best support we can provide.

We are proud to be an autism-friendly school. We were one of the first schools in the borough to be awarded The Autistic Education Trust’s Standards. We host a Designated Specialist Provision (DSP) for students with autism which is a nurturing, outward-facing environment run by staff with specialisms in autism.