

Press release



Thursday 17 December
For immediate use

Ark Bentworth is most improved primary school in Hammersmith & Fulham



Official Department for Education figures out last week show that Ark Bentworth Primary Academy is the most improved primary school in the borough for children achieving a combined 'level 4' in reading, writing and maths in their Year 6 exams.

Exam results have improved an impressive 24 percentage points from 68% last year to 92% this year.

This makes the school the most improved primary school in Hammersmith and Fulham, and in the top 2% of most improved schools across the whole of London, where there are nearly 1,000 schools

'Level 4' is the expected level that pupils at the end of primary school should meet, and Ark Bentworth exceeded last year's national average, which was 79%.

Damian McBeath, Executive Headteacher of Ark Bentworth, Ark Conway and Ark Swift said: "I'm delighted with this year's results; they really demonstrate that the hard work we've been putting in is paying off. Our pupils and teachers have really gone the extra mile to get these results, and to be improving year on year is a huge achievement. I'd like to

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thank the whole school community, including all the staff and parents for their support this year.”

Phonics results were also particularly strong at the school, with 93% of pupils passing the Year 1 phonics check at Ark Bentworth, compared to a national average of 74%. The schools use the Ruth Miskin phonics programme in order to ensure early literacy and the founding blocks of reading and writing.

Ark Bentworth has also shown great progress in its Early Years classes, with 87% of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development, compared to the most recent national average of just 60%.

Neighbouring Ark Swift Academy in Hammersmith also saw a steady improvement in their results, with an increase of five percentage points in pupils passing the tests in reading, writing and maths.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. Ark is one of the country’s top-performing academy networks. We run 34 schools in London, Birmingham, Portsmouth and Hastings, educating around 21,000 pupils. Our primaries are improving faster than the national average and our schools are more likely to be rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. Our aim is to create outstanding schools that give every pupil, regardless of their background, the opportunity to go to university or pursue the career of their choice. www.arkschools.org
2. DfE Local Authority performance tables: <http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/schools/performance/group.pl?qtype=LA&no=205&superview=pri>