



The Marmalade Duck

Principal

**Rozzy Hyslop BA (Ed) P.G. Dip. Sp.L.D.(dyslexia)
EYPS**

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Welcome to the Marmalade Duck!

As your child embarks on his or her first steps in education, your decisions on where and how they are taught will have a significant impact on their learning process. The Principal of the Marmalade Duck, Mrs Rozzy Hyslop has a teaching degree from Exeter and a subsequent Special Needs Diploma. She has 24 years teaching experience in both the primary and nursery sector and Miss Rozzy has been awarded her EYPS – the highest Early Years qualification. The Marmalade Duck is the newest of the Marmalade Schools all of which are rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

The staff at the Marmalade Duck all have excellent Early Years qualifications. The Marmalade Duck is managed daily by Miss Clare Robinson who has been Head of the Marmalade Bear and a Head teacher at a number of other schools for 14 years. The Marmalade Duck aims to provide your child with an excellent start on the learning ladder. We very much look forward to seeing you and your child at the Marmalade Duck.

Why the Marmalade Duck?

We aim to provide a fun, happy and secure environment in which your child can develop at his/her own pace. The Marmalade Duck wants to give your child the very best nursery education. A child should be happy, confident, challenged and able to reach their potential with us academically, socially and emotionally.

The location and premises

The Marmalade Duck is located at the St Barnabas Church Hall in Addison Road in Kensington near Holland Park. It is a fabulous church hall with a number of spacious areas providing a wonderful setting for this new nursery. There is also an attractive garden that can be used for play and growing activities.

OFSTED

The Marmalade Duck has not received a formal inspection from Ofsted. All the other Marmalade schools have been rated Outstanding by OFSTED with the latest inspections being in 2019 for two of the schools. These inspections are available online (www.ofsted.gov.uk).

The Groups

The children are split into two groups, the Ducks and Ducklings. The children each have a Group Teacher who monitors their development. The Ducklings are rising three and the Ducks rising four.

Times

The school times are Monday to Friday 8.45am-Noon. For the older children there are also extended day sessions until 3.15pm. We also plan to run a separate afternoon school, which starts at 12.45pm and runs to 4.00pm. The term dates are all available on the website at www.marmaladeschools.co.uk

The Curriculum

The Marmalade Duck offers a balanced and broadly-based curriculum, based around the Early Years Foundation Stage as compiled by the DFES. At the core of our educational policy are the six early learning goals: Communication, Language and Literacy; Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy; Creative Development; Physical Development; Knowledge and Understanding of the World; and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. We aim to use the best of both traditional and Montessori methods. Within this curriculum the children will have many chances to experience structured play and free play which are both a very important part of their early learning experiences. In addition through our specialist subjects of Ballet (Chelsea School of Ballet), French, Music and Structured Sport Sessions (all with external teachers); and also through drama, role-play and art, we seek to develop the children further. All our staff have had 'Wild Learning' training and we provide regular outdoor sessions on the local commons..

Events

The Marmalade Duck holds exciting events throughout the year which parents are encouraged to attend. These include: The Nativity Play, Grandparents Day, A Mini Spring Concert, The Easter Bonnet Parade, Festival Feast Days, World Book Day, Open Ballet Lesson, Open Art Day and Sports Day. The children will also go on half-day outings throughout the year to support their topic work.

Parents as Partners

As parents are the first and most enduring educators we seek to develop an effective partnership with parents. Parents are asked to attend a small tea party with their child in the summer term prior to their child's arrival; this hopefully will help the child familiarise him/herself with The Marmalade Duck. At this tea party each parent will have time to talk to the teachers and be given a New Parents pack; the documents will need to be filled in to give us some background information on their child. All children have reached different stages of development when they arrive at school and it is very helpful to know what stage they are at before they start school. Over the first two days of term we offer each family a home visit from their child's new teacher this offers a chance for the parents to ask any questions and to familiarise themselves with the school routines. The children seem to settle in very quickly as a result of these visits.

In the Autumn term we will invite you to an evening for us to inform you of the learning opportunities provided by the Marmalade Duck. The evening will give you more time to ask your child's teacher any further questions, meet other parents and to become aware of what your child will be learning throughout the year. At this evening we will also go through the more practical side of day to day nursery school life.

The primary way of communicating with your child's teacher is through the daily diary, which ensures close contact with the parent and teacher is maintained at all times. Newsletters will be sent out during the term and emails are sent weekly with planning and details of weekly activities. Parents are encouraged to have close contact with the school either in person, by telephone or by email.

At the end of the Summer term we send out detailed reports outlining your child's progress and in the Autumn and Spring term we will hold individual meetings to discuss your child's progress. We have a well-established Parent Teacher Association to help parents meet each other and to provide a non-academic support network for the good of the school.

The choice of your child's next school is important and we aim to support you in finding the right school for your child for both independent and state sectors. This is often difficult in the school's immediate area. Miss Rozzy has substantial experience and knowledge of the process and options available. Miss Clare and Miss Rozzy regularly visit local schools to foster good relationships and therefore have up to date knowledge of the local provision.

Admissions procedure

If you would like a registration form, more information or to arrange a show round then please call the Registrar, on 020 8265 5224 or email marmaladeschools@gmail.com. All the registration forms are available on the website at www.marmaladeschools.co.uk

If you would like your child to attend the Marmalade Duck then we would ask you to fill in a registration form and send it with the registration fee to the Head. Children are accepted on a 'first come first served' basis, with priority being given to residents of Kensington over children from other boroughs. The Marmalade Duck does not require children to take any test on entry and nor does it discriminate on the grounds of disability, special needs, or ethnic background. We operate a sibling policy where a space is available and we keep an eye on any gender imbalance. The parents will be notified if their child has a place or is put on the waiting list.