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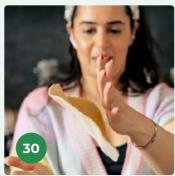


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### autumn 2025

### **Editorial**

The best part of my job is being part of a team that goes out to meet people who make a difference to the borough. It genuinely makes me happy when I get to witness it first-hand. The second-best part is that I get to share what's been happening with you, our readers.

You can learn about the work of amazing local groups providing befriending services (p26), sports for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (p22) and much more. And, it's time to start thinking about school places for a lot of families, so we have included some important information to help (p14).

There are 3 competitions inside too, including the chance to win a book written by a child prodigy from Acton (p18), a restaurant feast (p30), and a running bundle (p30). And, as usual, you get to find out the winner of the latest Seasons of Ealing photo competition (p31).

Finally, thank you to everyone who took part in the readers' survey in the last edition (see p30). It's a huge help knowing what you want to read about – and how you prefer to read it.

#### **Verity Adams**

Deputy Editor

Contributors: Chloe Aitchison, James Bird (photography), Emma Davies, Louisa McDonald, Richard Nadal, Chandima Ratnayake and Alex Sturrock (photography).

- aroundealing.com
- facebook.com/EalingLondon

#### **PUBLISHER**

Ealing Council, Communications, Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL, Tel: 020 8825 5000

### **CONTACT US**

aroundealing@ealing.gov.uk

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### **ROUND-UP**



### Lest we forget...

Remembrance Sunday is on 9 November. You can attend a local service in the morning; with 3 key, traditional events expected to be held as usual in Southall, Greenford and Ealing. The largest one is traditionally held in Ealing, where the mayor of Ealing, Councillor Anthony Kelly, will attend a parade and ceremony at Ealing War Memorial on Ealing Green, in front of Pitzhanger Manor. The King's representative Deputy Lieutenant Richard Kornicki will be attending the service, as will council leader Peter Mason. On Tuesday 11 November it will be Armistice Day. This anniversary marks the end of the First World War in 1918 and, at 11am, there is traditionally a 2-minute silence – at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month – to remember those who died. For the latest updates, go to aroundealing.com/news



### Hanwell's Chloe Kelly strikes again

England forward Chloe Kelly hit the winning penalty as the team defended the Euro 2025 title they so famously won in 2022. Chloe hit the winning goal back then, too. The victory against Spain this summer was England's second trophy and third consecutive major final in 3 years. Chloe grew up in the borough and went to Elthorne Park High School in Hanwell. She has been invited to accept the Freedom of the Borough. Read more at aroundealing.com/leaders-notes/chloe-freedom



### **Be part of Ealing Climate Week**

School uniform swaps, sewing classes, and advice sessions on cutting your energy bills are some of the activities planned for Ealing Climate Week, between 20-28 September. Charities, community groups and businesses have partnered with Ealing Council to organise events. You will be able to find out everyday ways you can save money and also improve your health and wellbeing. Highlights will also include low-cost food markets, children's storytelling sessions and film screenings. For more information visit www.ealingclimateweek.org



### **History and heritage**

Black History Month is celebrated in October, and there will be events happening across the borough. You can take part in talks and activities in your local libraries, and more. There is lots more happening across the borough the rest of the year, too, such as crafts, exhibitions and various classes to get involved with. Go to ealingculture.org/whats-on You can also visit aroundealing.com/history for local history articles.

# Leader's notes 'Together, we are stronger. And that is clear' Council leader Peter Mason

pride in where we live and in our identity are cornerstones of this council's efforts to make the borough a better place.

And a large part of that is, of course, about people.

Chloe Kelly, who was invited to accept Freedom of the Borough after her goal won England the Euros in 2022, has done it again. In late July, she scored the winning penalty against Spain to help England keep hold of their Euros trophy. She grew up in the borough and went to Elthorne Park High School and has become an incredible role model and inspiration for local children wanting to follow in her footballing footsteps or simply follow their dreams. We are all very proud of what she's achieved.

The Around Ealing team conducted a **reader survey** this summer (see page 30). One thing that stood out for me was that around a quarter of people said they had been prompted by an Around Ealing story to get involved with a community group or council service.

This reflects the results in the council's residents' survey we published earlier this year, when 28% of respondents said they had volunteered, or given unpaid help, in

the last 12 months.

Such community spirit is a huge cause for pride. And shows how, given an opportunity, the people of the borough will get involved in community life.

That is one of the reasons we published a **Community Charter** over the summer, to enshrine current good practice around making it as easy as possible for you to take part in local decisionmaking. See page 35 for more.

Together, we are stronger. And that is clear.

And, as many of you begin the new school year or think about your child's place for **primary or high school** (see pages 10-11), it makes me proud to think that our excellent schools will play an important role in shaping our citizens of the future.

However, pride is not just about people, it's also about 'place': the physical environment where we live.

Recent progress on our plans for a boroughwide **regional park**, and to protect and enhance **Warren Farm**, shows our commitment to making the most of our prized open spaces. They are vital for our own wellbeing, and our local cultural and sporting life (and, perhaps, for the next Chloe Kelly), as much as

they are for sustaining wildlife. You can read more on page 9.

The ongoing Seasons of Ealing **photo competitions** run by Around Ealing continues to provide further evidence of the borough's beauty. And this time was no different (see page 31).

It's a shame to end on a sour note. But it's important for you to know we are doing something about the blight of **fly-tipping**, which selfishly spits in the face of both our people and our 'place'. As our campaign says: 'this is our home, not a tip.'

The campaign began in the spring and was stepped up in the summer, with a new 'name and shame' webpage with CCTV footage of offenders. We need your help to identify these dumpers. Their antisocial behaviour does not just affect the area where they shamelessly chuck their waste but also hits our ability to pay for important council services because we are having to pay to clear up their mess. It is not acceptable. Please see page 7 for more details.

Follum

**Councillor Peter Mason**Leader of the council

# **Woodlands Primary School**

**OPEN EVENTS** • Tuesday 7th October - 9:30am • Thursday 16th October - 1:30pm

woodlands.ealing.sch.uk





### 100% OF OUR PARENTS RECOMMEND WOODLANDS

ON-SITE FOREST SCHOOL • EXTENSIVE GROUNDS • FOCUS ON WELLBEING FABULOUS LIBRARY • SUBJECT SPECIALIST TEACHERS • SMALL & NURTURING



# Featherstone High School

QUALITY OF EDUCATION: OUTSTANDING (OFSTED 2025)



# OPEN EVENING: THURS 25TH SEPTEMBER 5-8PM

Featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk





# Named and shamed

Following the announcement of Ealing Council's campaign against fly-tipping, which saw the introduction of steeper fines, even tougher action is now being taken.

The message remains clear: 'This is our home, not a tip' and, now, those who treat it like one could find themselves publicly named and shamed.

In the second phase of its campaign this summer, the council set up a name and shame webpage, allowing residents to help the council identify anyone caught illegally dumping rubbish.

Offenders captured on CCTV have been featured on the site, and residents are being asked a simple question: do you know this person?

To view the rogue's gallery and see if you can identify someone on there, go to: www.ealing.gov.uk/nameandshame

More than 700 cameras are strategically placed across the borough to keep people safe and identify criminal behaviour. Many are in known fly-tipping hotspots across the borough, aiming to deter fly-tippers and hold repeat offenders accountable.

### **Increased enforcement**

The council has already issued hundreds of fines of up to £1,000 to offenders since the beginning of the campaign in May. It currently hands out more fly-tipping fines than any other London borough, despite not being among those with the highest number of reported incidents.

To track down fly-tippers, enforcement officers use evidence found in the dumped waste itself, CCTV footage and videos from witnesses, as well as the new information gathered from the name and shame webpage.

As well as all of this ongoing council enforcement, this year's 'This is our home, not a tip' campaign has been raising awareness of what fly-tipping is, the impacts it has on both the council and the community,

and how we can work together to stop it.

### Working together

Residents are urged to report flytipping and fly-tippers via the Love Clean Streets app, or the council's webpage: www.ealing.gov.uk/ flytip

The council continues to work closely with local groups like LAGER Can, whose volunteers regularly report fly-tips and organise litter picks. Their efforts, combined with the council's work and residents' support to report fly-tipping and fly-tippers, are helping to create a united front against waste dumping.

Councillor Paul Driscoll, the council's cabinet member for climate action, said: "Fly-tipping is not just unsightly — it's costly, anti-social, and deeply unfair to those who take pride in their town. By naming and shaming offenders, we're sending a strong message: this behaviour will not be tolerated."



Visit the council's website to report fly-tipping, view the latest enforcement statistics, or help identify offenders. Go to: www.ealing.gov.uk/flytip



## **School Open Evening**

Tuesday, 16 September 2025 17:30-20:30

Headteacher's Talks 17:45 and 18:45

Greenford Avenue, London, W7 1JJ 020 8575 9162

www.brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk



Tickets are available at www.tickettailor.com

"The school's purposeful ethos means that pupils learn successfully and grow and develop as individuals."

(Ofsted 2025)



### Outstanding Sixth Form (Ofsted 2025)

"Exceptional quality of provision, both for their academic and their wider development."



# **Great outdoors**

A rewilded nature reserve. Fresh, new sports fields. And a 'regional park' snaking across the borough, and beyond. All of these things, and more, have moved a step closer to reality.

Over the summer, a grant of almost £1million was awarded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to Ealing Council to help it develop its plans for the regional park.

The proposed park would span 5 of the borough's towns, from Warren Farm in the south up to Horsenden Hill in the north, connecting previously isolated green spaces in a 5-mile trail.

It might even spread into neighbouring boroughs in the future. And the Lottery money comes from its Nature Towns and Cities programme aimed at helping people to enjoy nature and green spaces, close to home. Residents and community groups will be consulted about what they want to see in the park.

The park could contain 4 key areas, each with a different character, and connected by open spaces and green trails:

- Horsenden Hill this could see bigger play areas, new walking trails, and developing the foodgrowing hub at Horsenden Farm
- Pear Tree Park the former golf course could see wetland features for wildlife, along with improved sports and play spaces
- Churchfields this could see a new outdoor venue for cultural events, green spaces, and improved connections to Hanwell and the wider park
- and, then there is Warren Farm...

### What's happening?

Plans for Warren Farm in Southall were first revealed by Ealing Council last year. Since then, things have been steadily taking shape in the background.

The 20-hectare site will be left to 'rewild' and preserved for wildlife and meadow habitats; and the council's cabinet has agreed to apply

to Natural England to designate the site as a local nature reserve, which would give it protected status. This will give biodiversity a welcome boost in the ongoing fight to tackle the climate crisis.

And the second part of the plan, for new sports facilities on land next to Warren Farm, is making progress, too. The council has received proposals from leisure providers to provide new pitches, courts and changing rooms.

### 'Amazing opportunities'

Council leader Peter Mason said: "As well as preserving the area for nature to thrive, our plans for Warren Farm would give people in Southall and Hanwell a new set of community sports pitches."

Councillor Blerina Hashani, the council's cabinet member for thriving communities, added: "Our vision for the regional park is very exciting. Not only will it create amazing opportunities for play, socialising and enjoying cultural activities; but it can also play a key part in tackling climate change, by supporting wildlife."



# **Primary places**

Is your child due to start primary school in September 2026? If so, you can apply for places now.

Under the London-wide primary school admissions scheme, parents living in the borough will submit a single application to Ealing Council, listing their preferences, even if they are applying for a place at a school outside the borough.

You can read the borough's admissions prospectus online at www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions

### What to do

All parents and carers living in the borough need to list up to 6 different schools that they want to apply for, including any that are located outside the borough (but not private schools).

Your choices have to be ranked in order of preference, from 1 to 6. Only one offer can be made to you, and this would be from the highest ranked school from your list that is available.

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2026. If you are unsure of what to do, or want to know more about a school, you can visit the council's website and you can also speak to the schools you are most interested in.

#### How to do it

Apply online at www.eadmissions. org.uk

#### What happens next

After the deadline on 15 January 2026, the applications will be processed. Then, on the Londonwide offer day on 16 April 2026, an offer will be made to all applicants, as far as practically possible. If a school is over-subscribed. its published admission criteria will be used to decide the order in which applicants are offered a place.

#### Useful to know

if you want to apply for a place at a faith school, you will also need to fill in the school's own 'supplementary information form'. These are available from the schools concerned or on the council's website at www.ealing. gov.uk/admissions and will be used to assess denominational commitment. The supplementary form must be returned to the school before the closing date. If you do not complete both the main application form and the school's supplementary information form, your application will not be regarded as valid. For more information, contact the school(s) concerned.

If you want to apply for a place at a school in another borough, it is important you read the primary prospectus for that borough to make sure you understand the admission criteria for the schools you are applying to.

# High time to apply

If your child is due to leave their primary school next summer and start year 7 at a high school in September 2026, then read on...

The recommended date for receipt of applications for high schools is 19 October 2025. The final, statutory deadline is 31 October 2025.

Choosing which school your child will attend is obviously a big decision and the applications process can sometimes feel daunting. The council's admissions team does all it can to make the application process as easy as possible.

And local high schools hold open mornings and evenings so you can get a feel for them before making a final decision.

But, if you still need some support, vou can visit the council's website. contact the schools you are interested in, or speak to your child's current school.

#### Schools information

To find out more about your preferred schools, you can visit the admissions pages on the council's website at



### www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions

or, alternatively, you can contact the schools themselves. Each school will also be holding an open morning or evening – see the box on this page for how to find out more.

### How to apply

You can apply online at www. eadmissions.org.uk between 1 September and 31 October 2025. If you are unable to apply online. vou can ask vour current school for an application form to fill in and ask it for instructions if anything is not clear.

If you choose to apply online, you must not complete a paper application as well. The Cardinal Wiseman (Catholic) and Twyford (Church of England) high schools require a supplementary information form to be completed to assess denominational commitment and these may be obtained either from the schools themselves, or from the council website at www.ealing.gov.uk/ admissions

#### New schools

Any new schools proposed to open in 2026 will be outside the co-ordinated application process. Parents wishing to apply to those schools will need to contact the school direct and apply on the school's application form. Parents are strongly advised to also apply for established secondary schools through the co-ordinated system because there is no guarantee at this point that the new schools will open in 2026.

### Any questions?

Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/ admissions or you can get in touch with your preferred school.

### **OPEN DAYS**

To see dates for high school open days, go to:



ealing.pagetiger.com/ around-ealing-autumn-2025



## Acton Gardens Primary: A Diverse, Dynamic School Rooted in Aspiration

Set in the heart of Acton, Acton Gardens Primary School is a flourishing, two-form entry community school where ambition and inclusion go hand in hand. Guided by our values of *Aspiration, Growth, Perseverance*, and *Success*, we provide a nurturing environment where every child is known, valued, and encouraged to achieve their very best.

Our vision, Learning Together for the Future, is brought to life through rich experiences that promote independence, inspire curiosity, and develop critical thinking. From our vibrant classrooms to our Forest School and outdoor learning spaces, children are encouraged to explore, question, and grow building the confidence and resilience they need to thrive.

Our most recent OFSTED report ('good in all areas' May 2025) confirms what our families already know: Acton Gardens is a place where children flourish. Inspectors praised our ambitious and thoughtfully organised curriculum, strong early years provision, and emphasis on personal development, confidence, and resilience. Pupils were found to feel safe and happy, with positive attitudes to learning and clear routines for behaviour.

We take pride in our multicultural community and our enthusiastic, nurturing staff. Our newly installed EYFS playground offers our youngest learners a creative and enriching start, while across the school, children benefit from a curriculum that is not only rigorous but truly exciting. In just the past month, pupils have ventured to The Royal Albert Hall, The Houses of Parliament, a Buddhist Temple, Odds Farm, and many more destinations that bring learning to life. Physical education is also a point of pride. We recently ranked in the top 8 schools in borough tournaments proof of our dedication to health, teamwork, and excellence.

Located near Gunnersbury Park and surrounded by green spaces, we're perfectly placed for outdoor learning and exploration. Our families are key partners in school life, and we are grateful for a vibrant, supportive parent community that brings heart to all we do.

Come and visit Acton Gardens Primary School, where we live our values every day: *Aspiration*, *Growth*, *Perseverance*, and *Success*. We'd love to welcome you.

At Acton Gardens Primary School, children don't just learn they grow, lead, and shine.

Visit www.agprimary.org.uk to learn more or book a tour.





### **GREENFORD HIGH SCHOOL** LEARNING TO SUCCEED

### **OPEN EVENING**

Thursday 18th September 2025 5-8pm (Last entry 7pm)

Come and visit our high-achieving, hugely over-subscribed community school.

- Consistently in top 5% in UK for student progress over last 10 years with a full, flexible and balanced curriculum
- Over 200 Greenford students go on to university every year, many to Russell Group universities and some to Oxbridge and America
- Strong commitment to extra-curricular activities including sport, music and trips

Headteacher Mia Pye will talk to parents at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm in the Hall.

If you would like to visit the school during the working day, please see our website or phone 020 8578 9152 for a list of available tours. Please note that there is no parking on the school site except for disabled visitors.

Lady Margaret Road, Southall UB1 2GU

🗖 www.greenford.ealing.sch.uk 🍟 @ghsofficial



# Recipe for success

"People always tend to gather in the kitchen at parties, don't they? That's iust what it's like here now."

Groups of children have been honing their culinary skills since a charity group raised enough money for a new kitchen at a centre for young people.

Abigail Leitao, one of the APPLE team that runs the centre, added: "Even when the young people aren't cooking, you'll often find them in there."

Around Ealing visited APPLE, based in the ARTBLOCK building in Acton Park, when it was in the process of raising the money for improvements 2 years ago. It had a target to raise £19.492 and almost £10.000 had been secured from Ealing Council's Ealing Together Fund.

Now that it has managed to raise the rest of the funds, we paid a return visit.

The once compact kitchen, with just enough room for one person, is now much bigger and well-equipped to offer an interactive cooking experience for young people. And it is making a real difference.

### Cooking club

As well as the cooking sessions, APPLE runs other clubs and events for the young people and their families.

But the kitchen is a real hub of

activity, and there is a weekly after-school cooking club for Year 5 children from East Acton Primary School. As well as learning kitchen skills, the pupils are also told about good nutrition - and, of course, they get to eat the fresh meals they help to prepare and cook.

The young chefs' cooking skills have been put to the test while creating burritos, pasta dishes and much more.

Rylie attends the sessions and enjoys making suggestions about what to add to the menu.

"We can do a lot more now in the new kitchen." said Rvlie. "There's room for us to move about. I like being able to chat to other people while we're cooking. The food is really nice, and we're encouraged to try new things. My favourite has been the stir-fry because I like the noodles and vegetables."

Many of the ingredients are grown in APPLE's own garden, which. of course, has an apple tree, and provides a feast of fruits and vegetables.

The centre is open 6 days a week and, on 5 of those days, it provides regular freshly cooked meals to the young people who go there. The staff, most of who used to be visitors to the centre when they were younger, also offer a host of other activities including arts and sport.

Councillor Blerina Hashani, the council's cabinet member for thriving communities, added: "This is a great community resource that offers lots of free activities to young people and families. It has been running for more than 20 years and is a real asset to everyone who uses

For more information, go to: www.apple-play.com















The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls

### **Prospective Parents' Evening**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Head's talk at 6:15pm, 6:45pm & 7:30pm

Coffee mornings: 10:00am - 11:00am

Tuesday 9th September 2025 | Wednesday 17th September 2025 Thursday 18th September 2025 (information on SEN provision) Thursday 25th September 2025 | Thursday 2nd October 2025

Tours: Dates available on request

Places for the coffee mornings and tours are limited and must be booked in advance
For all enquiries please email
admissions@ellenwilkinson.ealing.sch.uk

Where girls create their future Year 7 to 13

" ... a culture where pupils thrive and develop as confident young women."

Ofsted 2019

Specialist Places are offered for Students with an identified natural aptitude in: Music: Drama: Visual Arts. Sports and Modern Foreign Languages. Parents/carers may choose to apply for a specialist place for their child in September, for more information see the relevant section on the school website.



# Learning together for the future

OFSTED Good in all areas 2025

Funded & Paid places available

Is your child due to start school?

**Nursery Places** 

3 & 4 year olds

Both Full time and part time places available

**IMMEDIATE START** 



Book Now: 020 8993 9053

Email: admin@agprimary.org.uk





### A world class inclusive school at the beating heart of the community

In everything we do, we aim to be world-class. We aspire to provide our students with an education they can be proud of around the world; they should feel confident that they can contribute meaningfully. We are inclusive as we are open to all, celebrate our differences, do not discriminate, and treat everyone equitably.

We are at the beating heart of the community of Southall; we serve the families of this community, and we encourage its children to imagine and create an even better future.

Our motto 'For life, not school, we learn' means that we expect pupils to go beyond just passing exams at a high level; this is a basic expectation. We prepare them to be active citizens who take charge of their futures and leave the world a better place than they found it.

The results of these priorities speak for themselves. Year 11s have made progress consistently 'well above' the national average for the last eight years and achieve





in the top few percent of schools in the country. We often can be found among the top two or three schools in England for our maths results. Our 6th formers do equally brilliantly and this year, we had a number 'upgrading' their course or university on results day given that they had done even better than expected. Several students apply successfully for universities abroad each year and we have great success with medicine, dentistry and law courses as well as Russell group and Oxbridge university entrance.

Our enrichment programme is vast with many international experiences each year including visits and work experience to India, Africa, the United States as well as closer to home in Europe.

Students can find and pursue their passions at school with nearly 50 clubs and activities being offered per week and free musical instrument lessons resulting in several students being chosen for local and regional ensembles.

We opened our refurbished theatre in Autumn 2023 which provides a home for our stunning performing arts department to showcase their talents: our music concerts, drama productions, and our culture and identity evening, are a joy to behold.

Our brand-new Eco Building is planned to start very soon which will give us state of the art, sustainable facilities as well as a stunning sustainable building to be proud of.

For further information, or a tour, please contact:

info@villiers.ealing.sch.uk www.villiers.ealing.sch.uk School office: 020 8813 8001 Headteacher: Mr C Richards

- Eco Schools Green Flag award
- School Games Gold award
- TFL School Champions Gold award
- Pearson National Teaching Awards Silver
- Rights Respecting Schools
   Bronze award
- Pride in EDI Bronze award
- Stonewall Champion School
- Bronze award



A talented young schoolgirl with a flair for writing and a passion to help and inspire others has received a prestigious Global Child Prodigy Award.

Lauryn Rose Teixeira recently visited the House of Commons in London to receive the accolade, in recognition for her writing. She was one of 100 of the world's most remarkable children - all under the age of 15 to be honoured for their exceptional achievements.

The 12-year-old author wrote and published her first book 'Lauryn That's Me' when she was just 9 and attending primary school in Acton. It tells a story of how she is proud of her African-Portuguese roots and has been published in 4 languages.

She said: "This award was such an honour. I am proud to be making an impact on my community, and

alobally now. too."

Laurvn takes readers into her world and shares her journey of being raised by a single mum after her dad left the family during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is the testimony of a young girl who dreams of living in a world where everyone is treated equally.

Lauryn is the youngest author of Afro-Portuguese descent to publish a book in the UK.

### 'I want to inspire'

She said: "I wrote my book because there are not enough books about children being raised by a single parent, and there are no books talking about my 2 countries - Cape Verde and São Tomé. The last reason is that I want to inspire and educate young children. I want them to feel that no matter who they are, or where they are, that they are unique and special."

Laurvn lives with her mum Cristina and her younger brother Joylen, 9, who is also an up-and-coming child star and entrepreneur. He already has his own fashion line.

Cristina said: "I am so incredibly proud of both of my children. Not so long ago we had to leave our family home, we had nothing. I had no money and had to use the food banks. Despite the obstacles my children never stopped following their dreams, they are blessed and resilient."

Lauryn's second book, 'Lauryn's Kitchen' was due for release as Around Ealing went to press.

When she's not writing, Lauryn enjoys being part of a Taekwondo club and being around the horses and ponies at Ealing Riding School.

And that's not all. Lauryn is also due to attend the BBC's Make a Difference Awards this month to collect yet another honour.



# Praise for school heroes

Nominations for our School Heroes gallery, recognising the wonderful staff who work in the borough's schools and deserve some recognition, have continued to pour in.

And so, we felt it was time to share some of these again – and to say a big 'thankyou' to everyone who plays a part in making our schools great. You can still nominate by emailing aroundealing@ealing.gov.uk – so keep an eye on future editions of this magazine to see more heroes.



Staff at Castlebar Primary School, in West Ealing, nominated headteacher Paul Adair for years of outstanding achievements. He served at the school for children with moderate to severe and complex learning difficulties including Autistic Spectrum Disorders for more than 20 years before retiring in the spring.

The nomination said: "He has taken it from being a school in danger of being classified as failing to being Outstanding through 4 Ofsted inspections. Paul's achievements as headteacher of a special school stand as a remarkable testament to his unwavering passion for education, commitment to high standards, and vision for innovation. His leadership has transformed the school into a thriving centre of excellence, making a profound and lasting impact on both students and staff."

Read more and watch a video: ealing.pagetiger.com/around-ealingautumn-2025



Hazel is the primary carer for her granddaughter. She nominated all the staff at Lady Margaret Primary School in Southall as heroes, for their compassion and kindness.

She said: "There have been times recently that my day-to-day care for my granddaughter had been really challenging, and I felt alone. Instantly the staff seemed to know, and words and small kind gestures helped me through. These people seem surprised when you say in meetings how good they are and how they make you feel as a carer, as if all schools offer the same compassion. This school really do need a gold award for everything they do. I am so thankful to them all."





Sohail Butt, a Year 3 teacher at Ravenor Primary School, in Greenford, was nominated by a parent for his dedication and passion for teaching.

Marian Rabi wrote: "The children absolutely love being in his class, and it's easy to see why: he brings learning to life with energy and enthusiasm, always finding creative ways to engage and motivate them. Parents, too, speak highly of Mr Butt, appreciating his open communication, warmth, and the strong relationships he builds with families.

"Mr Butt is more than a teacher; he's a role model, a mentor, and a positive force who leaves a lasting impression on everyone he meets."



Staff at Mayfield Primary School, in Hanwell, wanted to say a very big thanks to Mrs Chard, who worked at the school for 21 years but retired in the summer.

The nomination read: "In every school, there are individuals who go beyond their duty, offering care, support, and unwavering dedication to the well-being of children. Mrs Chard is one such hero, embodying kindness, compassion, and tireless care for the pupils at Mayfield.

"Through her work, Mrs Chard ensures that every child feels seen, heard, and valued. Whether it's providing emotional support during challenging times, providing care for a grazed knee, helping with maths problems, or simply being a dependable presence for those in need, Mrs Chard has made a lasting impact on countless young lives."

Parent Nicholas Chapman nominated music teacher at Fielding Primary School, in Ealing, Dani Lynch, for her energy and enthusiasm.

He said: "She creates opportunities to get involved in music unheard of in most state primary schools, connecting many pupils with Ealing Music Service for instrument lessons, running a vibrant school orchestra, leading a musical theatre club, and making weekly music lessons fun and rewarding for every child in the school. She nurtures individual talent and makes music accessible to everyone.

"Ms Lynch is a force of nature, fizzing with a love of music and children that mean they will remember her forever."



# Given a sporting chance

Taking part in any kind of sport can bring a sense of achievement, social connection and emotional wellbeing.

This is especially important for children and young people, and particularly for those with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

Did you know that only 17.2% of SEND children feel like that they have the opportunity to be active, compared to 39.2% of their nondisabled peers, according to the Youth Sport Trust charity?

But, thankfully, sessions for SEND children are growing across the borough.

#### All kinds of sport, and swimming

A new SEND multi-sports session for 8-16 year-olds started up earlier this year at Greenford Sports Centre, in Southall, to encourage more SEND children and young people to take part in sports and exercise.

**Brentford FC Community Sports** Trust runs the sessions, supported by Ealing Council.

Chris Tribe is the disability sports manager for the trust. He said: "It's important to be able to offer these sessions and we'd love to see more young people coming along. We offer a variety of different sports each week and

it is a really friendly, welcoming and inclusive environment and offers the opportunity to build new friendships too."

The sessions cost £8. For more information, and to discuss your child's specific needs, email Chris: ctribe@brentfordfccst.com

A similar, free sports programme is run at Northolt Leisure Centre by Motion4Kids for 16-25 year-olds. Email: inclusion@AccessSport.org. uk or call 0207 993 9883.

And, that's not all. There are inclusive swimming sessions available at both Dormers Wells Leisure Centre in Southall, and the Acton Centre. These are generally quieter sessions and can be more suitable for children living with a disability, SEND, neurodivergence and other long term health conditions.

#### 'I felt listened to and supported'

Selina Eshun, along with other SEND parents, asked the council and the other organisers to reintroduce these sessions after they had stopped during the Covid-19 pandemic.

She said: "I'm very grateful for the support we received in getting these sessions back. I felt listened to and supported. These sessions are important to us as a family. General swim sessions can be very overwhelming for someone with SEND."

Selina won the Inclusive and Active accolade at Ealing Sports Awards last year. She is a mother to 2 children with SEND.

### 'It's amazing'

Selina added: "These sessions are so affordable and we can walk there too. And they are at a convenient time. SEND activities are too often really early, or late in the day, and it doesn't always work for families.

"My son loves being in water; that's when I really see him smile. It's lovely to see him be so free in these sessions - it's amazing."

Meanwhile, Selina's daughter has also enjoyed the SEND-friendly cricket sessions that run at the leisure centre.

She is also part of the council's Youth Social Network which is a forum for young people with additional needs aged 13 to 25. The group meets regularly to discuss events, concerns, build friendships, and to represent other young people in the borough and introduce positive change in the community.

> sessions are important to us as a family <sup>9</sup>









Leaders have developed a friendly and welcoming school community. Pupils are happy, resilient and eager to learn.

Ofsted, 2024

# The Edward Betham CofE Primary School Open Mornings



Friday 12th September Monday 15th September Wednesday 17th September

Tuesday 23rd September Wednesday 1st October Tuesday 7th October

Thursday 16th October Wednesday 5th November Monday 10th November 9:45-10:30am

If your child is due to start school in September 2026, or you are interested in an in-year place, we would love to welcome you to see our learning in action!

Please contact the school office to reserve a place: 020 8578 8928.











The school is ambitious for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Pupils achieve well in their learning.

Ofsted, 2024

The Edward Betham CofE Primary School

 ${\it Oldfield\ Lane\ South,\ Greenford,\ Middlesex\ UB6\ 9JU\quad www.edwardbetham.ealing.sch.uk}$ 

f Edward Betham CofE Primary School

@ edwardbetham

@EdwardBethamSch



### **HOBBAYNE PRIMARY & NURSERY**

is a good school with outstanding features. We offer wraparound childcare from 3 – 11 years of age

Our recent Ofsted Inspection stated that:

- Pupils' behaviour is exemplary
- The curriculum is broad and ambitious
- Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education

**RECEPTION OPEN DAYS:** We warmly invite you to come and visit our school and see us

in action on any of the following dates: • Tuesday 14th 0ct 2025 • Thursday 13th Nov 2025

- Thursday 27th Nov 2025 • Thursday 8th Jan 2026









Our Nursery Tours take place monthly – to book for this or for further information about our In-Year Admissions please contact the main school office.

T: 020 8567 6271 E: admin@hobbayne.ealing.sch.uk www.hobbayneprimary.co.uk Greenford Ave, London W7 1HA

# Learn skills. **Get paid**

"You learn more on site than you would in college," said Junior, who works as a construction apprentice.

Junior currently works on a building site in Southall, helping to build more affordable homes to let for Ealing Council.

Due to be completed in summer 2026, the development on the Golf Links estate. Southall, will house 143 families across 3 blocks of 1. 2. and 3-bedroom flats. More than a third of these will be let at London Affordable Rent, contributing to Ealing Council's goal to provide more genuinely affordable homes.

While the development will offer local families much-needed security and stability, the wider community also benefits from the jobs in construction that the development provides.

### Junior's journey

Junior, 33, has lived in the borough his whole life. After doing various jobs, he wanted to get into plumbing. He came across an apprenticeship opportunity with home-building company Hill, at the council's Great Ealing Apprenticeship Fair, organised



by the Youth Offer Partnership in February. Just 2 weeks later he started his job on the Hill site, working for Orchard Plumbing, and has been employed there ever since.

He said: "I decided to take this opportunity as I wanted to get into plumbing. I have the chance to learn skills and gain the experience to do the job. When I've finished a task. I feel like I've accomplished something.

"School doesn't prepare you for onsite work. With an apprenticeship you get a qualification and the experience, knowledge, and knowhow."

Junior told us he is planning to start a Level 3 apprenticeship in plumbing and heating with West London College later this year, which was recommended to him at the apprenticeships fair.

"I also want to get gas safety qualified. I'm really happy working here but I'd eventually like to work in that field with my brother," he added.

### An entry way into a career

Councillor Kamaljit Nagpal, the council's cabinet member for decent living incomes, said: "Junior's story goes to show how much support is on offer in the borough to help local people find the right job for them.

"All of our housing development contracts include clauses insisting that developers provide job opportunities for residents, ensuring that the council's new affordable homes to let benefit the whole community."



Loneliness can play havoc with your mental wellbeing, so a local charity of volunteers is offering life-changing friendship to those in need.

BEfriend provides companionship to scores of residents who feel isolated. Its Linked Minds project specifically supports people who suffer with mental health problems.

#### Narg's story

Narg, 39, moved to the borough last summer. She is a trained biomedical scientist and thought the move to London would be good for employment opportunities.

It was harder than she thought. She couldn't find a job and had moved to an unfamiliar area with no friends and family close by. It took its toll on her and she became depressed, anxious, started having panic attacks, and didn't want to leave the house.

Her doctor referred her for therapy, but she was also brave enough to seek additional help. That's how she found BEfriend.

The charity expertly matches its volunteers to clients. Narg and Anil's pairing resulted in immediate friendship.

They share a mutual interest in arts and culture and eniov weekly meetups. They often go for a coffee, explore the borough's parks and museums or venture into London to visit exhibitions.

Narg said: "I'm so grateful for Anil. She and the charity have had a huge impact on me. It's wonderful to have someone to listen to me and share my feelings with. I don't feel alone anvmore."

### Genuine care

All BEfriend volunteers receive training and Linked Minds volunteers' complete additional



mental health training.

Anil said: "This is a charity that genuinely cares about both its clients and its volunteers — which I think is so important when it comes to volunteering. To be able to support someone else, you also need to feel supported yourself and BEfriend provides that."

She added: "I genuinely enjoy my befriending experience. The matching process was really well done – Narg and I have a lot in common."

#### Become a volunteer

You can make a positive change to

someone's life, and your own, by offering your time to volunteer.

Councillor Polly Knewstub, Ealing Council's cabinet member for healthy equal lives, said: "Volunteering is a hugely rewarding experience. BEfriend does such a lot of good work in our community. I hope there are more people like Anil that can offer some time to help others too."

Rachel Hill, chief executive officer at BEfriend, added: "A lot of work and experience goes into matching clients and volunteers and it is a huge testament to our coordinators that it is usually a great success. The service makes such a difference

for our clients, but I have to tell vou that there is also a common bond only our volunteers share – befriending is an experience so fulfilling that is almost impossible to put into words. If you think you could volunteer with us. we'd love to hear from you."

For more information visit **befriend.london/** volunteer



### Ealing needs foster carers

Ealing needs foster carers to provide loving homes for the children we care for.

We're excited to announce some fantastic new benefits to support our foster carers. Foster carers with Ealing Council will receive:

- full council tax exemption for Ealing residents and reimbursement for out of borough carers
- highly competitive fees and allowances recent payment uplift of 18.5 %
- free parking in resident-controlled parking zones (CPZs) borough-wide
- free garden waste collection
- · dedicated therapeutic support from our clinical psychologists
- discounts at council leisure centres
- excellent support including dedicated out of hours support, peer support and Mockingbird scheme
- · bespoke training and other incentives



### **Contact us**

Phone: 020 8753 1075

Make an enquiry: ealingfostering.co.uk

(\*Fee uplift from Jan 2025, Council Tax exemption for band 2 carers and above whilst child is in placement, parking and garden waste incentives from April 2025, for band 1 carers and above)



# Fostering couple go national...



A portrait of the borough's foster carers of the year will be on display at the National Portrait Gallery, following a story about the pair in Around Ealing magazine.

An artist's interest was piqued after reading about foster carers Zeinab and Mukhtar. As a result, they were selected to be a part of a new series of displays at the prestigious London gallery.

Artists First: Contemporary
Perspectives on Portraiture, was
due to open on 6 September. It
celebrates the reclamation of untold
stories.

One of the artists commissioned for it was Panamanian visual artist Giana De Dier. Her project focuses on changemakers from the African and Caribbean diaspora in Britain who are making a difference in their communities.

To enable the artist to create her portrait, Zeinab and Mukhtar were first photographed in their home. The completed work will be on display until August 2026.

The displays at the gallery are part

of a new programme supported by the Chanel Culture Fund.

### 'Foster children said they were proud'

"This recognition isn't just for us," Mukhtar said. "It's for our community. It shows that fostering, care, and resilience come from all backgrounds."

Zeinab added: "Our foster children told me they were proud of us when they heard about the National Portrait Gallery recognition."

### 'I understood the loneliness'

The decision to foster came from a deeply personal place for Zeinab. "I lost my mum when I was very young," she said. "It's not easy—especially at the time when you need your mother the most."

Raised by her siblings and extended family, she experienced first-hand the importance of love and support. "I told my husband, I really want to do this job," she said.

Originally from Eritrea, husband Mukhtar arrived in the UK in 1981 at 17 years old, fleeing the violence of Ethiopia's Red Terror. His father was murdered by the regime and, alone and seeking safety, Mukhtar's

early experiences shaped his later decision to foster. "I understood the loneliness and vulnerability young people face when separated from family," he said.

Together, Zeinab and Mukhtar have been fostering for more than 11 years.

### 'They've changed so much'

Last year, their exceptional contribution was recognised when they were jointly awarded Ealing Council's Foster Carer of the Year Award. They were commended for their dedication to keeping a group of 4 siblings together for 7 years.

"They're like our own children," Zeinab said. "They've changed so much since they have been with us and are doing really well."

Zeinab is also a proud mother to 3 sons. Her foster children, she says, are inspired by her own children's achievements.

For more information about the exhibition, go to www.npg.org.uk

### Interested in becoming a foster carer?

Go to www.ealingfostering.co.uk



### What did you say about Around Ealing?

Our huge thanks to the hundreds of you who took part in our online survey of readers in June. It was fantastic to see more than 60% of you said you read every single edition of both the print and digital versions of the magazine. And it was great to see that almost a quarter of you said you had been prompted by one of our stories to volunteer in the community or signup for a council service. We are currently looking through the other helpful information, and ideas, you gave us. Read more: aroundealing.com/news/ around-ealing-survey



### Competition #1: race place and goodies

The Ealing Half Marathon is back this month. The award-winning, annual race takes place again on 28 September and will take in a 13.1-mile route through the borough, with thousands of people cheering the runners along. It's not an event to miss. And the team behind it is giving away a fantastic prize bundle of goodies for Around Ealing readers for next year's half marathon. By taking part in the competition, you could be in with a chance of winning a 2026 race place and an Ealing Half Marathon hoodie and T-shirt – worth, combined, about £100. Whether you are an experienced runner or just getting started, this pack of goodies is sure to keep you on track.



Enter by visiting the digital version of Around Ealing autumn magazine at aroundealing.com/aroundealing-autumn-2025



### Competition #2: win a fantasy feast

Would you like to refine your cooking skills and rustle up a fantastical feast, with professional guidance and expertise? Around Ealing has teamed up with Brilliant Gastro in Southall to offer one lucky reader the chance to win the 'Tikka Fantasy' cooking experience with celebrity chef and author Dipna Anand. She and her family have been cooking for celebrity visitors and residents for more than 5 decades at the original Brilliant restaurant, in Southall. Dipna opened her latest restaurant in Southall's Green Quarter, in the spring.



Enter the competition by visiting the digital version of Around Ealing autumn magazine at aroundealing. com/around-ealing-autumn-2025

# Summer's star snap

This is the winning Seasons of Ealing summer photo. And, yet again, many of you helped to decide who won by voting for your favourite.

As well as the winning photo appearing here and on Around Ealing website, the photographer will receive the top prize of 4 tickets to watch a film at Ealing Picturehouse cinema.

### Drumroll please...

Our panel first whittled down the summer entries to a shortlist of photos. These were then put to a public vote. But, this time, the voters decided the top 3 entries. before (oh, the tension) an eagleeyed panel of judges (including a representative from Picturehouse) chose the final winner from that top 3.

The judges' winner was Emma Bentley with her photo of Teddy the cockapoo in Hanwell's Brent Lodge Park.

Runners-up were Liz Scarff with her photo of the Brent River, in Perivale.

And Colm Gorev with his photo of a bee landing on a flower in his West Ealing garden.

The runners-up will both receive an Ealing Picturehouse cinema ticket.



Well done to everyone who was shortlisted and thank you so much to everyone who took part.

### Want to be a winner too?

Get ready for autumn's contest. You know the drill. Send us your favourite photos that depict autumn. It could be taken in your local park or back garden or even in your street. It could be an event, wildlife, a family day out; whatever captures your interest. The key is that it must have been taken in the borough in the last 12 months – and, it must have been taken by you.

Once again, the public will get to

influence the final choice, so, even if you don't enter, you can still get involved.

The autumn 2025 Seasons of Ealing competition will close at midday on Monday 20 October 2025.

### Mixing it up

When the deadline passes, a shortlist will be selected. As usual. these shortlisted entries will be put out to a public vote. The voters will once again decide the top 3 entries, before our panel of judges then chooses the final winner from that top 3. The result will be announced in Around Ealing's winter magazine.



For full details of how to enter (and the rules), visit aroundealing.com/autumn-ealing-seasons-2025

# Should you have more money in your pocket?

Hundreds of households across the borough are eligible for additional support from some of the lesser-known benefits. according to Ealing Council's latest data.

With almost £6million of benefits per year up for grabs, this is your cue to think... 'am I claiming everything I'm entitled to, or should I have more money in my pocket?'

This is the combined value of the following benefits available in the borough:

- Pension Credit
- Savings Credit
- 30 hours' free childcare
- free TV licences
- free School Meals
- Healthy Start

### 'Double check today. It's quick and easy'

Councillor Steve Donnelly, the council's cabinet member for an inclusive economy, said: "I can't emphasise enough how important it is to check that you are claiming everything you are entitled to. Many of us are aware of the mainstream benefits like Universal Credit. Housing Benefit and Personal Independence payments but

it's these smaller, lesser known. benefits that so often go unclaimed.

"Even if you think you don't qualify, if you are on a low income, I encourage you to double check today. It's quick and easy to do and can make a massive difference to your regular income."

### Working it out

Residents can use online calculators which will tell you instantly what you could be claiming for and how to apply. Go to: www.turn2us.org. uk

If it turns out you are not entitled or you're struggling with meeting your living costs, you can also apply directly to the council for support. The council can help you with money towards your council tax bills, housing costs and also provide one-off crisis payments if you've been hit with an unexpected bill. The council's dedicated cost of living webpages have all the details. Go to: www.ealing.gov.uk/ costofliving

If you cannot do an online benefit check, there is help available. You can visit one of the council's community hubs or there are lots of voluntary sector organisations across the borough ready to offer support too. Find one in your

community via the Community Support Directory. Go to www. dosomethinggood.org.uk/ directory

We would love to hear if this story triggered a change in your income so, please let us know by emailing aroundealing@ealing.gov.uk

### Visit a community hub



There are 7 community hubs across the borough that offer important information and advice to residents finding it difficult to access the support they need.

Find out where they are, and the days and times they are open.

Go to: www.ealing.gov.uk/ visitus



### Are you entitled to one of these?





**30 hours' free** childcare



Free TV licences

Free School Meals

Healthy Start Start

Childcare funding for children aged 9 months to 4 years

Now working parents can also get help

Find out how to apply www.childcarechoices.org.uk or 020 8825 5588 (Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm)









### Interested in becoming a carer?

Your lives, our lives...

### **Ealing Shared Lives**

Supporting adults with additional needs

ESL is recruiting carers for long-term, respite and day support opportunities

- Search 'shared lives' on the council's website ealing.gov.uk
- 020 8825 5166





### COMMUNITY

# A charter for all

A new Community Charter will aim to make sure residents and community groups are always able to get involved in council decision-making processes.

Over the last year, the council has developed the charter through a series of workshops with residents, feedback from a public survey and the help of an advisory group consisting of representatives from 6 local community groups.

And, at a meeting of the council's cabinet in July, it was agreed to adopt it as official council policy.

### What is the community charter?

Residents and community groups want to be involved in decisionmaking and the council wants to make this as easy as possible.

So, with the advisory group, this new charter has been developed to set out the standards everyone should expect of the council in the future – building on all the good work that has been taking place in recent consultations and programmes such as Your Voice Your Town.

It is a framework aimed at making sure all communities in the borough can always have a voice in decisionmaking processes in this way.

The 6 organisations on the advisory group each have years of experience of working directly within local

communities and, collectively, they support thousands of people each year, many of whom are among the borough's most disadvantaged.

### 'Shape the future together'

Council leader Peter Mason said: "This Community Charter sets out principles for how we intend to do our future work, and our expectations for the genuine and meaningful involvement of our communities in decision-making.

"It shows our commitment to being an inclusive, open and transparent council. And to forging deeper connections with communities to help shape our borough's future together.

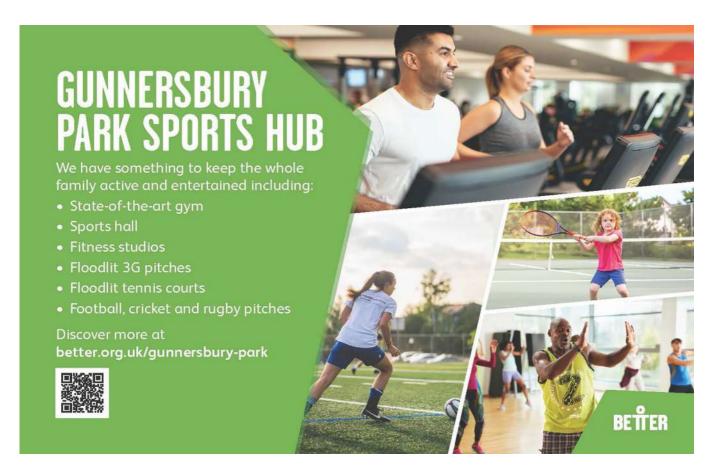
"It is also part of our ongoing response to the recommendations made by the independent Ealing Race Equality Commission's report published in 2021, to help us tackle inequalities in the borough.

"The expertise of our advisory group members has helped hugely in making sure the charter will reflect the needs and aspirations of local people, particularly those from under-represented and under-served communities and backgrounds. I want to thank them for all of their hard work."

View the Community Charter at www.ealing. gov.uk/community-charter







Do you care about local matters?

Do you have high standards?

You could be the person the council needs for a committee on ethics

Find out more at www.ealing.gov.uk/ind-person





# Serving the community

Councillor Anthony Kelly was inaugurated as the new mayor of Ealing at a special annual meeting of the full council in May.

As mayor, he represents the borough as it's 'first citizen' at civic and community events, acting as a key figurehead for the local community and promoting the values and interest of residents.

He will be supported in his role by his wife. Maria.

The husband-and-wife team have already been working hard together to support the mayor's chosen

charity for this year, Ealing Soup Kitchen.

Meanwhile. Councillor Faduma Mohamed has been appointed as deputy mayor.

### Giving something back

On a day when there are no mayoral engagements to attend. Councillor Kelly and Maria often volunteer at the soup kitchen cooking and serving food, cleaning up and helping out. Their son Luke, 19, has also joined them to lend a hand.

The soup kitchen is a charity which has been helping the homeless, lonely and vulnerable since 1973. It provides warm clothes for those

in need, free haircuts and showers. and offers further help and support.

Councillor Kellv said: "I wanted a charity to support that I could access as a volunteer and directly offer my help, as well as raise funding for them. Nearly everyone who works there is a volunteer, and they give so much to the community. I wanted to do my bit, too.

"My wife's favourite thing in the world is cooking for lots of people, so she really enjoys helping to cook the meals and I'll help to serve them."

### **Keeping busy**

Councillor Kelly is a lifelong resident of the borough and was first elected as a councillor to Greenford Green ward in 2014. Along with his councillor and mayoral duties, he continues to work 2 days a week as a driver for Ealing Community Transport. He drives one of the minibuses that takes young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities from their homes to schools and day centres.

When he finds the time to relax. Councillor Kelly enjoys sport and playing tennis at Greenford Tennis Club. He used to play for Ealing Rugby Club in his 20s and 30s and hasn't yet ruled out training for the Ealing Half Marathon.

For more information about the duties and responsibilities of the mayor, go to ealing.gov.uk





Rima Baaklini Labour 0781 621 1810 BaakliniR@ealing.gov.uk



Ilayda Nijhar Labour 0744 448 9453 Nijharl@ealing.gov.uk



Ben Wesson Labour 0750 242 8483 WessonB@ealing.gov.uk

HANGER



Fabio Conti Conservative 0781 717 4279 ContiFa@ealing.gov.uk



Athena Zissimos Liberal Democrat 0208 825 6690 ZissimosA@ealing.gov.uk



Jonathan Oxlev Liberal Democrat 0208 825 8198 JOxley001@ealing.gov.uk

EALING BROADWAY



Julian Gallant Conservative 0780 222 1393 GallantJu@ealing.gov.uk Leader of second opposition



Seema Kumar Conservative 0796 131 7110 KumarSee@ealing.gov.uk



Anthony Young Conservative 0791 700 7969 YoungAn@ealing.gov.uk

WALPOLE



Grace Quansah Labour 0736 181 2763 QuansahG@ealing.gov.uk



Binda Rai Labour 0752 238 8741 RaiB@ealing.gov.uk



**Gareth Shaw** Labour 0778 991 4379 ShawG@ealing.gov.uk

EALING



Praveen Anand Labour 0203 612 3587 AnandP@ealing.gov.uk



Ion Ball Liberal Democrat 0208 810 1078 Ball@ealing.gov.uk



Connie Hersch Liberal Democrat 020 8825 7188 HerschC@ealing.gov.uk

NORTHFIELD



Paul Driscoll Labour 0784 932 8223 DriscollP@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Climate action



Ian Kingston Labour 0797 038 5225 Kingstonl@ealing.gov.uk



Kim Nagpal Labour NagpalK@ealing.gov.uk



Karam Mohan Labour 0794 752 2084 MohanKa@ealing.gov.uk



Swaran Padda Labour 0795 080 6210 PaddaS@ealing.gov.uk



Kamaldeep Sahota Labour 0741 280 8803 SahotaK@ealing.gov.uk



Kanwal Kaur Bains Labour 0793 015 8585 BainsKa@ealing.gov.uk



Ranjit Dheer Labour 0789 422 8032 DheerR@ealing.gov.uk



Mohinder Kaur Midha Labour 0795 084 2599 MidhaM@ealing.gov



Sarfraz Khan 0740 466 5858 KhanSar@ealing.gov.u



Kamaljit Kaur Nagpal NagpalKK@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Decent living incomes



Surinder Kaur Jassal Labour 0208 825 6378 JassalS@ealing.gov.uk



Faduma Mohamed Labour 0750 611 0026 MohamedF@ealing.gov.uk Deputy Mayor of Ealing



John Martin Labour 0793 095 6902 MartinJ@ealing.gov.uk



Ghulam Murtaza Labour 0790 350 2566 MurtazaG@ealing.gov.uk



Tarept Sidhu Labour 0744 800 2067 SidhuT@ealing.gov.uk



Jasbir Anand Labour 0794 920 2851 AnandJ@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Tackling crime



Kamaljit Dhindsa Labour 0796 150 5808 DhindsaK@ealing.gov.uk



Peter Mason Labour 020 8825 6833 MasonPe@ealing.gov.uk Leader of Ealing Council



Munir Ahmed Labour 0758 242 8643 AhmedMun@ealing.gov.uk



Tariq Mahmood Labour 0795 731 3079 MahmoodTa@ealing.gov.uk



Charan Sharma Labour 0775 764 5967 SharmaC@ealing.gov.uk

Yoel Gordon Labour 0796 078 3825 GordonY@ealing.gov.uk



Monica Hamidi Labour 0737 797 2559 HamidiM@ealing.gov.uk



Polly Knewstub Labour 0781 487 0375 KnewstubP@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Healthy, equal lives





Claire Tighe Labour 0785 169 6138 TigheC@ealing.gov.uk



Ray Wall Labour 0738 344 1885 WallRa@ealing.gov.uk

NORTH ACTON



**Daniel Crawford** Labour 0208 992 9353 CrawfordD@ealing.gov.uk



Hodan Haili Labour 0757 734 1614 HailiHo@ealing.gov.uk



Blerina Hashani Labour 0208 825 6833 HashaniB@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Thriving communities



Kate Crawford Labour 0208 992 9353 (evenings) CrawforK@ealing.gov.uk



Stephen Donnelly Labour 0771 409 3099 DonnellyS@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Inclusive economy



Hitesh Tailor Labour 0799 063 7183 TailorHi@ealing.gov.uk



Josh Blacker Labour 0793 477 3372 BlackerJ@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: A fairer start



Yvonne Johnson Labour 0208 9953 4166 JohnsoY1@ealing.gov.uk



Katie Douglas Labour 02088258213 KDouglas001@ealing.gov.uk

SOUTHFIELD



Gary Busuttil Liberal Democrat 0798 544 3860 BusuttilG@ealing.gov.uk



Gary Malcolm Liberal Democrat 0781 320 5218 MalcolmG@ealing.gov.uk Leader of the opposition



**Andrew Steed** Liberal Democrat 0773 664 9664 SteedA@ealing.gov.uk

MANDEVILLE



Miriam Rice Labour 0741 559 2153 Ricem@ealing.gov.uk



**Chris Summers** Labour 0751 987 2341 SummersC@ealing.gov.uk



**Dominic Moffitt** Labour 020 8825 8209 DMoffitt001@ealing.gov.uk

**WEST END** 



Bassam Mahfouz 0794 910 4656 MahfouzB@ealing.gov.uk



Dee Martin 0778 887 2191 MartinD@ealing.gov.uk



Lauren Wall 0752 545 2812 WallL@ealing.gov.uk

GREENFORD



Muhammad Iqbal Labour 0759 594 5843 IqbalMu@ealing.gov.uk



Amarjit Jammu Labour 0796 075 4646 JammuA@ealing.gov.uk



Shital Manro Labour 0795 837 6745 ManroS@ealing.gov.uk Cabinet: Good growth & new homes



Shahbaz Ahmed AhmedShah@ealing.gov.uk



Aysha Raza Labour 0772 031 2035 RazaA@ealing.gov.uk



Sanjai Kohli 0790 409 5990 KohliS@ealing.gov.uk



Varlene Alexander Labour 0748 433 5273 AlexanderV@ealing.gov.uk



Harbhajan Kaur-Dheer Labour 0782 515 7044 DheerHK@ealing.gov.uk



Anthony Kelly Labour 0777 174 0912 KellyA@ealing.gov.uk Mayor of Ealing



### Co-educational school for girls & boys aged 3 - 18



Senior School Open Morning Thursday 11 September 2025 Thursday 16 October 2025

Nursery & Junior School Open Morning Thursday 18 September 2025

> Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 25 September 2025

Stay & Play (Nursery Taster Session)
Friday 26 September 2025
Friday 10 October 2025
A 1 hour morning session of fun activities for children aged 2-4 years

Whole School Open Morning Saturday 4 October 2025



Scholarships and Bursaries are available









