

Japanese Educators Visit Newham Schools

**Maryland Primary School
Sandringham Primary School
St Stephen's Primary School
Kingsford Secondary School**

On January 20th Maryland Primary School welcomed a group of 20 Japanese educators who visited Newham to find out about best practice in education. The group is carrying out research on teaching, learning and leadership in British schools and comprises of university professors, officers from Osaka board of education, primary and secondary teachers and an interpreter. Osaka University has had links with three schools in Newham over the last five years and have been regularly visiting Maryland, Sandringham and St. Stephen's to research high quality teaching and learning in Britain. The university usually sends professors to do the research but on this occasion, practising teachers have accompanied them to learn directly from their British counterparts in order to share their experiences on their return to Japan.

As well as visiting three primaries, they are researching secondary education on their visit to Kingsford Community



School, as well as University College London, to learn about the 'Budding Engineer' programme, (a programme that has worked closely with Maryland School and is designed to promote coding and STEM subjects to primary pupils).

They commented on the brilliant teaching and look forward to taking what they have learnt to raise standards in their schools. Jethro Tait, one of Maryland's head students

commented that having visitors coming from so far away made him realise how good our school is. Mrs Jackson, the headteacher, said, 'I am so proud of Maryland. I feel privileged that our school is helping schools on the other side of the world.'

The project will aim to develop closer links with Japanese colleagues and hopefully continue with a delegation of Newham teachers visiting Japan in the future.