



'Success for Everyone'

Newsletter

JUNE 2026
LEGACY

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of **Ervin Hall**.

For more than 27 years, Mr Hall dedicated his career to supporting children and young people across Lewisham. Most recently, he served as a High Intervention Specialist and Reintegration Lead within Lewisham Virtual School, working with some of the borough's most vulnerable learners and helping them overcome barriers to education.

During this time, he also established Education My Life Matters, an independent school and alternative provision driven by his unwavering belief that every young person deserves the opportunity to succeed. He was particularly passionate about supporting students who had experienced exclusion or faced significant challenges in mainstream education. Where others saw barriers, he saw potential. He believed wholeheartedly in the young people he worked with and was committed to helping them recognise their strengths, rebuild their confidence and achieve positive outcomes.

Throughout his career, Mr Hall worked closely with schools, local authorities and a wide range of external agencies, recognising that the best outcomes for young people are achieved through collaboration, understanding and shared commitment. His compassion, determination and advocacy earned him the respect of colleagues, families and the many young people whose lives he touched.

His legacy lives on through the school he founded, the partnerships he built and the countless learners he supported and inspired. He will be remembered for his vision, kindness, dedication and steadfast belief that every young person can thrive when given the right support and opportunity.

The loss of Mr Hall has been deeply felt across the Education My Life Matters community. Staff, learners, families, members of the Independent Executive Board and all those who had the privilege of working alongside him are profoundly saddened by his passing. His influence shaped not only the school he founded but also the values that continue to guide our work today.

The school has received numerous calls from members of the community following news of Ervin's passing, demonstrating the high regard in which he was held. One caller, who had known Mr Hall for more than 24 years, described him as a wonderful man who always had time for others and was remembered for his warm smile.

As a school community, we are committed to ensuring that Mr Hall's vision and values continue to live on through our work. In the coming weeks, we will be considering an appropriate way to commemorate and celebrate his life and contribution, and we will share further details once arrangements have been made. We hope this will provide an opportunity for staff, learners, families, members of the Independent Executive Board, partners and friends of the school to come together in recognition of the lasting impact he has had on so many lives.

Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family, friends, colleagues and all those who had the privilege of knowing and working alongside him.

If you have any
concerns or issues
please contact us on:

☎ 0208 698 9663



Info@emlm.org.uk

KEY DATES

Date for your Diary

Summer Term 1

INSET DAY
Monday 13 April 2026
(School closed to learners)

Tuesday 14 April 2026 -
Friday 22 May 2026

Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 04 May 2026
(School closed to learners)

Half Term

Monday 25 May 2026 -
Friday 29 May 2026

Summer Term 2

Monday 01 June 2026 -
Friday 17 July 2026
**17.07.26 - School closes at
2pm**
INSET DAY
Monday 21 July 2026
(School closed to learners)

Staff and Pupil thoughts and reflections:

Ervin was a great person to work with on a human level. You would never know the status he reached unless he told you. What I mean by that is, Ervin was very humble and set a good example for those around him. I will fondly remember the trips to Muay Thai alongside Ervin. I had to carefully choose every song I played, knowing he would be making some sort of executive judgement! I appreciated the advice he gave me on my music choices as well as my life choices.

A man is nothing but his legacy. Ervin's work will not be wasted or forgotten. Long live Mr. Hall! (Learning Mentor - YM)

The first time I met Ervin we were on the minibus going to Muay Thai, we were all listening to music and talking about football. After the Muay Thai session he told me I should keep training hard, that I am good - that made me feel good. In general, he was a nice person and he was always very calm! (Y11 Learner).

Although I didn't spend a lot of time with him. He always spoke to me and was kind (Y10 Learner).

At work watching you showed me who I can be. Learning from you helped shape me (Learning Mentor - SH).

Ervin was like a mentor to me, he gave great advice during challenging times and he always encouraged me to persevere. It was a pleasure to work under the supervision of Mr Hall as he lead with great morale, and he showed us how far respect can take you.

Ervin lead by example; he always took time out of his busy schedule to check if everything is going well or if I needed any support. Ervin encouraged team spirit and would always preach that Respect, Understanding and Manners will take you much further than skills alone. Ervin's influence has trickled through our Learning Mentors, all staff members and most importantly our learners. We can see and hear him every day... (Learning Mentor - TJ).

Ervin's passion, generosity and vision knew no bounds. He held high expectations for staff so that, in turn, they could reflect his hopes and dreams for our learners and support them to achieve their very best. He always had a heart for the learners, who were central to everything he did, regardless of who they were, what they had done or their circumstances. On joining EMLM, you encouraged me and gave me perspective, especially at times when I felt I was not meeting the learners' needs. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the vision and your legacy.

Ervin will also be remembered for one of his many quotes 'The higher the monkey climbs the more him expose,' this one always brought a smile to our faces (Head of School - WF).

My first encounter with him was at the reception area, where he greeted me with warmth and a friendly tone. We exchanged pleasantries, and only later did I discover that he was our Director. That spoke volumes about his character - despite his position, he remained remarkably down to earth. I will miss him greatly, particularly the joy of being called his 'favourite twins.' His kindness, leadership, and personal touch will never be forgotten (Teaching staff - OI).

Having met Ervin a few times on INSET days, I'd like to say from my experience he came across as a very courageous man who cared about particular details which made all the difference. He was someone you could only tip your hat off to (Learning Mentor - BM).

Ervin was ambitious and creative. He was very proud of EMLM & what it stands for. When I met him at an out of school event (UK Black Business Show) as a volunteer, it did not surprise that he was also there and he introduced me to his colleagues and shared proudly that I worked at EMLM. We discussed how good it was to see so many young black people interested in business and he highlighted I was one of them. I will remember the many conversations we've had about how to better EMLM and his joy concerning how far the school has come. I hope the school continues to honour Ervin (School Business Coordinator - FO)

I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Hall. He always had great vision and clarity for EMLM, the young people we served and the importance of giving them the right support and opportunities.

I am privileged to be part of this team. His commitment to the learners and to the school's purpose was clear, and his legacy will continue through the community he helped to build (Teaching staff - IR).