



WHITELANDS
ACADEMY

SHARED AMBITION, SHARED SUCCESS

Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Intent

The curriculum intent of Whitelands Academy is focused on the following:

- 1) Deliver an aspirational and engaging curriculum that challenges all students to develop the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for life beyond school
- 2) Create a curriculum that responds to the demands of the local area and significantly reduces the literacy and numeracy gap
- 3) Develop a broad curriculum that delivers the learning and experiences that will create young adults rich in cultural and social capital
- 4) Deepen students understanding of what it means to be a good citizen in modern Britain
- 5) A world-class extra-curricular programme which provides opportunities to broaden experiences, develop competition and bring the curriculum to life

RATIONALE:

Students will leave Whitelands Academy as well-rounded, well-educated and ambitious young adults. Our students will exhibit the traits that are required to be successful and happy in modern Britain and will approach life with a positive attitude.

The breadth and depth of the curriculum at Whitelands Academy will engage students and prepare them for their future. Character and Culture are key and our curriculum is founded on our core values of teamwork, community, respect, courage, opportunity and integrity. These key values will ensure any young adult is equipped to thrive in society. The values will be developed in lessons, assemblies and PSHE as well as being a theme for each half term. Each half term will involve a drop-down day where students experience a whole day activity aimed at delivering a personal quality or an understanding of the way the world works.

Our curriculum will coherently build on the skills, challenge and knowledge from at key stage 2. We recognise through our feeder primary schools a higher than average SEN requirement therefore, in order to facilitate transition and bring our curriculum to life, learning will be delivered through half termly themes. This will create a learning pathway that is coherent, engaging, sequential and focused on developing the whole child.

The academic core at Whitelands Academy is central. Students of all abilities will flourish through daily Maths and English lessons delivered and led by subject experts. Gaps in performance in literacy or numeracy will be closed by our subject experts in our Extend lessons. These lessons will also develop our higher ability students through STEM workshops.

Literacy at Whitelands Academy is another priority. We aim to build a love of reading and develop a strong understanding of challenging texts through a daily group reading session. Through this we will also develop our student's finer reading skills such inference as well as understanding and using tier 2 and 3 language. Form time will also include Free Writing Friday, a time for students to practise written skills in an engaging environment.

Becoming an exceptional citizen is a goal of our curriculum. The British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance will be delivered in RS, PSHE, form time as well as being lived out in our everyday actions. Our British Values are mapped into our curriculum plan.

Our world class facilities in Sport, Performing Arts, Music, STEM, Photography, Media and the Arts will be utilised in lessons as well as our enrichment programme. Enrichment opportunities will be

available each evening and the expectation is that students and staff are involved with a minimum of one activity. Through competition, performances and projects students will develop holistically.

Learning is built on a coherent plan for the acquisition of knowledge; where key concepts are learnt, revisited and built upon. This knowledge is then evidenced through the development of skills in applying knowledge to new contexts and problems. Assessment will occur in each lesson through low stakes quizzes and three formal assessment points in each year.

*Green text indicates British Value

Element	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Topic	Our identity	How the world works	The Media	Humans and Humanity	All around us	Millionaire or bust
English						
Maths	Add and Subtract	Multiply and Divide	Geometry	Fractions	Algebra	Ration, percentage and pie charts
Free Writing	Description	Diaries	Sensationalism	Biographies	Descriptive	Evaluative
Guided reading book	A little History of the World by E.H. Gombrich	War horse	The diary of a young girl named Anne Frank	Poetry X by Elizabeth Acevedo	Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo	The Pearl by John Steinbeck
Innovation day	Building London	Imperial War Museum	School Magazine	Contain the disease	Leadership	Enterprise Day
Value	Community	Respect	Courage	Integrity	Teamwork	Opportunity
Science	Working scientifically Biology: Cells Tissues and organs	Chemistry: Particles Physics: Forces	Biology: Structure and function of the body Chemistry: Acids and Alkalis	Physics: Sound Biology: Reproduction	Chemistry: Elements atoms and compounds Physics: Light	Chemistry: Reactions Physics: Space
Humanities	History: The Norman Conquest Geography: Geographic Skills and the British Isle	RE: What is religion? History: World War 1	Geography: Rivers and Flooding RE: An Introduction of Islam	History: Changing power – rulers and belief Geography: Settlements	Re: The Life of Buddha History: Rulers and religion	Geography: Kenya RE: Judaism and Christianity
MFL (French)	Me, Myself and I	Describing the world around me	School Life	Eating out	Travel	My Future
Art and Design	3D Drawing and Portraits	Art and War (Painting) Product analysis	Photography Blue foam modelling	Portraits Illustration extension	Gothic art Electronic circuit construction	Build your product Whole school exhibition
Performing Arts	Music in London	Notations	Singing event	Dance	School production	Voice, power and influence (Drama)
PE	Football	Dance	Netball/Basketball	Hockey	Athletics	Cricket/ Rounders
ICT	Digital skills toolkit	Software skills	How Computers work	Problem Solving	Key programming principles	Creating apps for a purpose
PSHE	Healthy relationships	Politics – school elections	Media and us	Healthy Bodies	Community and the Law	Healthy Minds

Exemplar of NI links to topic

Term 1	Our identify	Themes
History	The Norman Conquest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the History Brain • Using sources • What was England like before 1066? • What is the mystery of Edward the Confessor? • Who should be king in 1066?
Geography	Geographical skills and the British Isles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Geography? • Using maps • What makes the British Isles? • Important places in the British Isles • Where do we come from? • Employment in the UK • How is the UK linked to other countries
ICT	Digital skills tool kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software skills diagnostic tasks • Information vs data • Online security and safety • Using online tools to assess reliability of information