



WHITELANDS  
ACADEMY

SHARED AMBITION, SHARED SUCCESS

# Curriculum Overview

The intent our curriculum can be summarised:

**A**

• **Academic**

**B**

• **Broad**

**C**

• **Core literacy**

**D**

• **Diplomatic**

**E**

• **Enriching**

At Whitelands Academy, the education we provide is guided by values of integrity, resilience, respect, ambition, teamwork and tolerance.

### **Our School Mission**

At Whitelands Academy, our aim is to provide children with the best possible education and the securest of environments.

Our teaching and curriculum will focus on providing all students with a solid academic footing that ensures every child reaches their full potential, especially in the key areas of literacy, numeracy, science, and ICT. We will also aim to help children develop as people, secure in knowing who they are and what they want from life. Our values will be specifically developed on a half termly basis through assemblies, rewards and RSEH. Above all, we will act out these values in our day to day. Our guided reading will challenge perceptions and expose students to life beyond the classroom.

Our teaching philosophy is simple: we aim to combine the best of tried-and-tested methodology with new and innovative ways of teaching.

### **Background**

Whitelands is situated in Bicester that forms part of the North Oxfordshire community. It serves a brand-new housing estate called Kingsmere. As the smallest school in Bicester we have a higher than average SEND proportion of students, 34% (NA16%). 16% of our students are disadvantaged according to the Dfe definition. Our curriculum is designed to be challenging and every single one of our students is supported to meet our expectations through quality first teaching, our SEN6 teaching strategies and small group support when required.

The Bicester area has a high uptake of further education and jobs that focus around the Engineering, Business and Computing Sector. Our challenging curriculum will therefore ensure we develop high aspirations through visits, speakers and content.

### **British Values**

At Whitelands Academy, we actively promote British values through our school vision, ethos, agreed rules, curriculum, and teaching. As such, we promote tolerance of, and respect for, people of all faiths (or those with no faith), cultures, and lifestyles.

We prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain by supporting them through our words, actions, and influence, not just within school, but also within the wider community.

## Promoting Our Values

The government defines British values as:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths

At Whitelands Academy, we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all students and families, and aim to highlight a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. In our experience, this approach is enriching for all parties, as it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. British values will be mapped throughout our curriculum plan. We will actively challenge children, staff, and parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.

Age appropriate learning experiences are planned and meet the needs of all the students. Learning experiences draw on student's own experiences or existing knowledge and provide a range of opportunities for students to learn, practice and demonstrate skills, attitudes and knowledge and understanding.

Time is given for students to reflect, consolidate and apply their learning following each summative assessment, three times in each academic year.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and to have discussions with their form tutor about how they can get the most from their time in school.

British values will be celebrated and rewarded by our House Point system and democracy practiced through School Council and student voice.

## **Curriculum Intent**

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

- 1) Deliver a modern and academic curriculum that challenges all students to develop the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for life beyond school.
- 2) Create a accelerates students ability in core literacy, comprehension whilst embedding a love of reading .
- 3) Develop a broad curriculum that gives students opportunities to experience all subjects over a three year key stage 3.
- 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 integrity, resilience, respect, ambition, teamwork and tolerance. These key values will ensure any young adult is equipped to thrive in society. The values will be developed in lessons, assemblies and PSHE

The academic core at Whitelands Academy is central. Students of all abilities will flourish through regular 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 out of lesson programmes.

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 comprehension and inference as well as understanding and using tier 2 and 3 language.

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 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 and the Arts will be utilised in lessons as well as our enrichment programme. Enrichment opportunities will be available 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.

### Curriculum Model KS3:

Subject	Number of 50-minute lessons a fortnight in Year 7	Number of 50-minute lessons a fortnight in Year 8
English	9	9
Mathematics	9	9
Science	9	9
History	4	4
Geography	4	4
Religious Studies	2	2
Computer studies	2	3
Design and Technology	4	4
Art	2	2
French	4	4
Music	2	2
Drama	2	2
RSE	1	1
Physical Education	5	5
LEXIA	1	0

## The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 7 – 2020

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
<b>Value</b>	Respect	Ambition	Integrity	Resilience	Tolerance	Team work
<b>English</b>	Telling Stories – narrative and myths	Heroes and villains – extracts from a range of literature texts	Novel study – ‘The Bone Sparrow’ by Zana Fraillon  Fiction and non-fiction writing	Novel study – ‘The Bone Sparrow’ by Zana Fraillon  Fiction and non-fiction writing	Shakespeare	Shakespeare
<b>Mathematics</b>	Number and Algebra	Place Value and proportion	Applications of Number	Applications of Algebra and Fractions	Lines and Angles	Reasoning with Number
<b>Science</b>	Cells  Particles	Energy Transfers  Interdependence	Changing substances  Forces	Reproduction	Electrical circuits  Waves	Gravity  The Universe
<b>History</b>	What is History?	Romans	Normans	Medieval Life	Tudors	Elizabethan England  American Settlement
<b>Geography</b>	Passport to Geography	Discovering Europe	Environmental Concern	Water	Settlement	China
<b>Religious Studies</b>	What is religion?	Christianity: Person of Jesus	Christianity: Person of Jesus	Christianity: Faith into action	Islam: Beliefs and actions	Islam: Beliefs and actions
<b>MfL</b>	<b>C'est parti!</b> Greetings, key questions and classroom essentials	<b>Famille et copains</b> Friends and family	<b>Chez moi</b> My home	<b>On va en ville</b> Towns and directions	<b>Ma journée</b> My day	<b>On s’amuse</b> Extra-curricular and holidays
<b>Drama</b>	Kickstart Drama	Fairy Tales – Performance Analysis	Storytelling	Storytelling (Continued)	Greek Theatre	Greek Theatre (Continued)
<b>Design and Technology</b>	Graphics – graphical drawing skills	Graphics – Blister Packaging	Product Design - Wood	Product Design - Plastics	Food Preparation and Nutrition	Food Preparation and Nutrition
<b>Art</b>	Colour theory and tone	Pop Art	Natural Forms	Natural Forms (Continued)	Portraits	Portraits (Continued)
<b>ICT</b>	E-Safety	Graphics	Programming	Scratch	Microbit	Office
<b>PE</b>	Yoga/ HRE	Badminton/Handball	Gymnastics/Football	Basketball/Rugby	Netball/Dance	Rounders/Athletics
<b>Music</b>	Introduction / Rhythm	Melody	Harmony	Music technology	Singing	Composition and performance
<b>PSHE</b>	Individuality	Individuality (Continued)	Stay safe	Stay safe (Continued)	Sex Education	Sex Education (Continued)

\*Subject to change

\*British values

