



WHITELANDS
ACADEMY

SHARED AMBITION, SHARED SUCCESS

Curriculum Overview

At Whitelands Academy, the education we provide is guided by the 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 within the securest of environments.

Our teaching and curriculum focuses on providing all students with a solid academic footing that ensures every child reaches their full potential, within our broad curriculum. We 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 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 which 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. 82% of our students are white British. 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.

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum intent can be summarised as:

A	• Academic
B	• Broad
C	• Core literacy
D	• Diplomatic students
E	• Enriching lives
F	• Foundational knowledge

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

- A. Deliver an academic curriculum that utilises teaching to the top to ensure all students reach their potential regardless of their background, prior attainment or challenges.
- B. Develop a broad curriculum that gives students the opportunities to fully experience all subjects to their potential.
- C. Accelerate students' ability in core literacy, comprehension whilst embedding a love of reading. At Whitelands students enjoy guided reading daily, Lexia lessons, and our daily 5000 academic word challenge.
- D. Deepen students understanding of what it means to be a good citizen in modern Britain through values-based education.
- E. Provide a world-class extra-curricular programme which provides opportunities to broaden experiences, develop competition and bring the curriculum to life.
- F. Foundational knowledge is central to our curriculum utilising strategies to improve retention and retrieval reducing student's cognitive workload allowing development of skills through sequenced content.

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.

- A. The academic core at Whitelands Academy is central. Students of all abilities will flourish in consistently well delivered lessons led by subject experts. Our curriculum will be academic aiming to equip students with the best formal education possible.

High challenge fosters resilience and a mindset that embraces opportunities to extend themselves. Our diverse student base will be supported to reach these high academic levels through quality teacher interventions within our SEN6 toolkit.

- B. The breadth and depth of the curriculum at Whitelands Academy will engage students and prepare them for their future. Key Stage 3 is a wonderful opportunity for students to discover and develop a love for subjects that previously they have not focused on. This breadth will be further reflected in our GCSE offer where, building on the core academic GCSE options, courses such as Media, Photography and Textiles will reflect the high proportion of technological careers available locally.
- C. Literacy at Whitelands Academy is a priority. Literacy, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency and oracy are key indicators in future academic success and within their chosen careers. We aim to build a love of reading and develop a strong understanding of challenging texts through a daily guided reading session. Through this we will also develop our students' finer reading skills such comprehension and inference, as well as understanding and using tier 2 language. With 82% of our cohort being White British our guided reading texts challenge perception and develop cultural awareness. Our Lexia programme will accelerate comprehension skills of our year 7 students. Subject specific comprehension and Tier 3 vocabulary will be developed through our 5000 words a day challenge.
- D. 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 RSEH.

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, RSEH as well as being lived out in our everyday actions. Our British Values are mapped into our curriculum plan.

- E. 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.

- F. Learning is built on a sequenced plan for the acquisition of knowledge; where key concepts are learnt, revisited and built upon. Knowledge Organisers will support students learning foundational knowledge and our weekly home learning programme will develop this. Each lesson will start with mapped DNA tasks that allow knowledge to be committed to long term memory ensuring classes focus on the application of knowledge and the development of skills.

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

*Subject to change

*British values

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 7 – 2020 – Adaptations in response to online learning in Term 3.

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

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 7 – 2021

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Myths	Heroes and Villains	War & Conflict Poetry The Bone Sparrow	The Bone Sparrow Persuasive writing	The Merchant of Venice	The Merchant of Venice
Mathematics	Positive & Negative Real Numbers	Intro to Algebra & Simple Equations	Fractions, Decimals & Percentages	Angles, Parallel Lines & Triangles Transformations, Symmetry & Congruence.	Perimeter & Area of Triangles & Circles Volume & Surface Area of cuboids, including cubes.	Collecting, organising and displaying data
Science	Science skills Cells and Tissues Digestive system	Particles Reproduction	Energy Acids and Alkali	Interdependence Contact forces	Universe Chemical Reactions	Waves
History	Historical skills	The Romans	The Normans	Medieval Britain (Why did people risk their lives fighting those in power?)	Medieval period - The Crusades.	The War of the Roses.
Geography	Map Skills	Fantastic Places	Africa & Kenya	Urban Environments	River Environments	End of River Environments
Religious Studies	What is religion? What do Christians believe?	Where do Christian's beliefs come from?	What do Buddhists believe?	Where do Buddhist's beliefs come from?	What do Sikhs believe?	Where do Sikh's beliefs come from?
Spanish	Introductions Alphabet and pronunciation	Free time and hobbies Verbs in the present tense	School equipment	Family and pets	Describing your town	Holidays
Drama	Key skills	Naturalism for performance and design	Exaggeration and the body	Exaggeration and the body	The Tempest	The Tempest
Design and Technology	Health & Safety Marking Out Dimensioning Coping Saws Introduction to food safety	Manual Sanding Full & Needle Files Machine Sanding Dry Assembly The Eatwell guide	Adhesives Finishes Critical Analysis & Evaluation CAD/CAM The storage of ingredients	Perspective Drawing Isometric Drawing Accuracy & Dimensioning Shortbread investigation	Colour Theory Tonal Shading Block Rendering Idea Creation Functions of vitamins and minerals	Critical Analysis & Evaluation CAD/CAM Cakes investigation
Art	Colour theory and colour mixing	Tone and mark making	Walk in someone else's shoes	Pop Art	Natural Forms	Cultural Project - African Style Patterns
Computing	Basic computer	Introducing Microsoft	Introducing Spreadsheets	Programming - Scratch	Computing components	Programming in Python - Sequencing
PE	Football Badminton Warm ups and cool downs	Netball Basketball Badminton Components of fitness	Rugby Gymnastics Skeleton	Hockey Handball Gymnastics Muscular system	Athletics Volleyball Methods of Training	Rounders Volleyball Energy systems
Music	Notation and Rhythm	Performance	Notation and Piano part 1	Piano and Performance	Listening and analysing part 1	Listening and analysing part 2
RSEH	Transition and Safety	Developing skills and aspirations	Diversity	Health and puberty	Financial Decision	Building Relationships

*British values

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 8 – 2021

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Gothic Short Stories	A Christmas Carol	Poetry (epics to modern)	Short stories	Noughts and Crosses	Powerful voices (speeches, rhetoric, poetry) Descriptive & transactional writing Spoken Language
Mathematics	Factors & Multiples Approximation & Estimation	Ratio, Rate & Speed Working with Percentages	Algebraic expressions, formulae & Proof Equations & Inequalities in one variable	Coordinates & Linear Functions Number Patterns	Angles in quadrilaterals & Polygons Perimeter & area of Parallelograms & Trapezia	Volume & Surface Area of Prisms & Cylinders Statistical Graphs
Science	Electricity Magnetism Chemistry (metal reactions, structure of materials)	Respiration Fit and healthy	Fuels and combustion	Variation and Inheritance Waves	Earth Science Heating and Cooling	Forces Photosynthesis
History	The Tudors	Elizabethan England	American Settlement	The Stuarts and the English Civil War Oxford during the Civil War.	The British Empire	Should Britain apologise for its role in the Transatlantic slave trade?
Geography	Natural Hazards	Resource Management & Security	Climate Change	Extreme Environments	Tourism	Finish Tourism
Religious Studies	Belonging to the Christian faith	Raising questions, exploring answers in Christianity	Belonging to the Buddhist faith	Raising questions, exploring answers in Buddhism	Belonging to the Sikh faith	Raising questions, exploring answers in Sikhism
French	Chez moi – where I live Classroom instructions and regular present tense verbs	En ville – shops, ordering food, asking for directions Ways of forming questions; avoir and être	Ma vie quotidienne - Daily routine and school subjects Reflexive verbs	Es-tu en forme? Healthy lifestyle (food, exercise etc), body parts and illness Imperfect tense	Les passe - temps Hobbies and free time, including sports Perfect tense	Les vacances - Holidays and weather Future tense
Drama	Staging and set design	Naturalism for performance and key skills	Greek Theatre	Greek Theatre (Antigone)	Physical Theatre	Much Ado About Nothing
Design and Technology	Typography Idea Creation Drafting Use of IT in Design The danger zone	Colour Theory Block Rendering Accuracy & Dimensioning Rising agents	Critical Analysis & Evaluation CAD/CAM Gelatinisation	Health & Safety ITW Marking Out Dimensioning Coping Saws Binding shortbread	Manual Sanding Full & Needle Files Machine Sanding Dry Assembly Coagulation	Adhesives Finishes Critical Analysis & Evaluation CAD/CAM Use of raw chicken
Art	Art inspired by music	Art inspired by music	Portraits – copies of original pieces and self-image portraits	Portraits – copies of original pieces and self-image portraits	Sweets and food in Art	Sweets and food in Art
Computing	Internet safety Photoshop	Advanced spreadsheets	Media animation	Algorithms	Programming in Python - Iteration	Binary and computer logic
PE	Football Badminton Netball Yoga Warm up and cool downs	Basketball Badminton Hockey Yoga Components of fitness	Rugby Gymnastics Badminton Dance Skeletal system	Handball Gymnastics Basketball Dance Muscular system	Cricket Athletics Rounders Methods of training	Softball Athletics Cricket Energy systems

Music	Performance and dynamics	Keys and scales	Music History	Chords	Music Software	Composition
RSEH	Digital Literacy	Community and Careers	Discrimination	Emotional Wellbeing	Drugs and Alcohol	Identity and Relationships

*British values