



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 focus 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, 32%. 19% of our students are disadvantaged according to the DfE definition. 72% 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 and Ambitious for All
B	• Broad
C	• Core literacy
D	• Developing character
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 in year 7 and the introduction of a clear set of vocabulary.
- 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 ambitiously 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. At Whitelands Academy we have designed our curriculum provision so that a wide variety of subjects have the allotted time to do this. This breadth will be further reflected in our GCSE offer where, students are encouraged to take a wide range of subjects by following the EBacc pathway. Students will have the opportunity to further widen their experience through studying subjects such as iMedia.
- 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 72% 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.
- 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 60-minute lessons a fortnight in Year 7	Number of 60-minute lessons a fortnight in Year 8	Number of 60-minute lessons a fortnight in Year 9
English	8	8	8
Mathematics	8	8	8
Science	7	7	7
History	3	3	3
Geography	3	3	3
Religious Studies	2	3	3
Computer studies	2	2	2
Design and Technology	3	3	3
Art	2	2	2
Modern Foreign Languages French and Spanish	3	3	3
Music	2	2	2
Drama	2	2	2
RSEH	1	1	1
Physical Education	3	3	3
LEXIA	1	0	0

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 7 – 2022

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Myths	Heroes and Villains	The Bone Sparrow	War & Conflict Poetry Persuasive writing	The Merchant of Venice	
Mathematics	Positive & Negative Real Numbers	Collecting, organising and displaying data Transformations, Symmetry & Congruence.	Intro to algebra and simple equations	Fractions, Decimals & Percentages	Angles, Parallel Lines & Triangles Perimeter & Area of Triangles & Circles	Volume & Surface Area of cuboids, including cubes.
Science	Science safety Cells and Tissues Digestive system	Particles Energy	Acids and Alkali Reproduction	Interdependence Contact forces	Universe Chemical Reactions	Sound 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	River Environments	
Religious Studies	What are religions and worldviews (RW)?	How do we study RW?	Ways of knowing in RW	How did religions develop?	RW in Britain	Religion and the Arts
Spanish	Introductions Alphabet and pronunciation	Free time and hobbies Verbs in the present tense	School equipment Regular verbs	Family, friends and self Irregular verbs	Describing your town	Holidays Simple future tense
Drama	Key skills	Naturalism for performance and design	Exaggeration and the body		The Tempest	
Design and Technology	Wooden boxes (Resistant Materials) Skill building (Food Technology) Lego project – Blister packaging (Graphics)					
Art	The formal elements; line, tone and colour.			Pop Art.		
Computing	E- Safety	Scratch Programming	Computer systems	Spreadsheets	Data representation	Computational thinking
PE	HRE Multi-skills Components of fitness	Rugby Netball Warm ups and cool downs	Dance Badminton Skeletal system	Handball Football Muscular system	Athletics Cricket Methods of training	Rounders Ultimate frisbee Effects of exercise
Music	Elements of music and notation	Ukuleles	Ladders (scales)	Space	Form and Structure	Voiceworks
RSEH	Transition and Safety	Careers	Diversity	Health and puberty	Financial Decision	Building Relationships

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 8 – 2022

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Gothic Short Stories	A Christmas Carol	Poetry (epics to modern)	Powerful voices (speeches, rhetoric, poetry) Descriptive & transactional writing	Short stories	Novel
Mathematics	Factors & Multiples Approximation & Estimation	Statistical Graphs 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
Science	Electricity Magnetism Elements, compounds and mixtures	Respiration Fit and healthy	Chemical reactions	Light Waves Variation and Inheritance	Earth Science Heating and Cooling	Forces Part 1 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		Dur living world	Climate Change		Tourism
Religious Studies	An Introduction to Religion and Worldviews	Semitic Religion and Judaism	Religion of Indian origin: Hinduism	Semitic and Abrahamic Religion: Christianity	Religion of Indian origin: Hinduism and Buddhism	Religion and the Arts
Spanish	Todo sobre mi vida (All about my life) Preterite tense	A comer (To eat) Using negatives confidently. Using exclamations and agreeing and disagreeing to extend a conversation. Using imperatives to give and follow instructions.	Going out Reflexive verbs	Daily routine and telling the time Soler + infinitive (I usually...) Contrasting present and preterite	Healthy lifestyles Giving advice	Summer holidays Problems on holiday Asking for help
French	Introductions and numbers Alphabet and pronunciation	Describing family and friends Adjective agreement Key irregular verbs	School and School Equipment Colours Expressing likes and dislikes	Hobbies and free time Present tense Developing opinions	Family and pets Building confidence using the 3 rd person	Holidays Simple future tense
Drama	Staging and set design	Staging and set designs – alternative styles	Greek Theatre	Greek Theatre (Antigone)	Much Ado About Nothing	

Design and Technology	Bug house (Resistant Materials)					
	Utilising meat (Food Technology)					
	Typography (Graphics)					
Art	Culture			Illustration		
Computing	Digital Marketing Skills	Web Development	Introduction to Python	Searching and Sorting	Micro bit	Cyberbullying Video
PE	Football	Rugby	Parkour	Gymnastics	Ultimate Frisbee	Athletics
	HRE Components of fitness	Basketball Warm ups and cool downs	Netball Skeletal system	Volleyball Muscular system	Rounders Methods of training	Softball Effects of exercise
Music	Ukuleles	Singing and Reggae	Blues	Composing for Video Games	All about the bass	African music
RSEH	Digital Literacy	Careers	Discrimination	Emotional Wellbeing	Drugs and Alcohol	Identity and Relationships

*British values

The Whitelands Curriculum – Year 9 – 2022

Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Noughts and Crosses	The environment, non-fiction writing	Macbeth	Macbeth	Creative Writing	Literature through the ages
Mathematics	Data Analysis Probability (inc Sets & Venn Diagrams) Indices & Standard Form	Quadratic Expressions Non-linear Graphs	Proportion Volume & Surface area of pyramids and cones Pythagoras' Theorem	Pythagoras' Theorem Trigonometry & Bearings	Congruence, Similarity & Enlargement	Linear Equations in two variables Geometric Construction & Loci
Science	Cells and organisation	Chemical change	Energy	Physical Change	Waves Forces Part 2	Ecology
History	Causes and consequences of the First World War.	Changing Russian Empires.	The Second World War.	The Holocaust and Human Behaviour	Civil Rights movement UK/USA.	Unit 1: Britain power and the people 1170-Present Day
Geography	Our living world	Our Unequal world		Asia & China		Natural hazards
Religious Studies	Religion and Equality	Semitic and Abrahamic Religion: Islam	Controversies in Religion 1	Semitic and Abrahamic Religion: Islam	New Religious movements and Secular worldviews	Controversies in Religion 2
French	Chez moi – my home Imperfect	Ma ville Town – describing what there is and isn't. Imperfect – comparing past and present Talking about what you like to do in town Directions	Ma vie quotidienne Daily routine Food and drink Ordering food and drink in a restaurant Reflexive verbs	Es-tu en forme? Healthy lifestyles Illnesses and injuries	Hobbies and free time Perfect tense Interrupted actions in the past Developing answers using past and future tenses	Festivals and life in France Planning a trip to France

Spanish	Describing past trips and events Positives and negatives	Digital technology	Cinema and TV Food and eating out Sport	Shopping Ordering food and drink Problems at a restaurant	Chores and helping around the house Moving house Festivals and life in Spain	Planning a trip to Spain Life in Latin America
Drama	The Power of Speech	Kindertransport	Kindertransport	Key skills – Devising	Frantic Assembly/ The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time	Frantic Assembly/ The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time
Design and Technology	Acrylic Clocks (Resistant Materials) The Science of Food (Food Technology) Shop front – architectural modelling (Graphics)					
Art	Landscape			Fantastic and Strange		
Computing	Graphics and Animation	Visual Programming	Python Programming	Spreadsheets – E Cal	Web Aware	Cybersecurity
PE	HRE Netball Components of fitness	Handball American football Warm ups and cool downs	Badminton Yoga Skeletal system	Tchoukball Volleyball Muscular system	Lacrosse Trampolining Methods of training	Athletics Cricket Effects of exercise
Music	Ukuleles	Variations	Soundtracks James Bond	Samba	Musical Theatre	Song writing
RSEH	Peer influence, substance use and gangs.	Careers	Respectful relationships	Healthy lifestyles	Employability skills	Intimate relationships