

# Whitley Bay High School PROSPECTUS



# WELCOME

# I am very pleased to introduce you to Whitley Bay High School through this prospectus.

Whitley Bay High School is a mixed 13 – 18 Foundation Comprehensive maintained by North Tyneside Local Authority. It is part of the North Tyneside Learning Trust.

We have a distinctive ethos at the school built on positive relationships and the desire to help students develop a love of learning and become curious and happy learners with high self-esteem. Helping students develop into confident, sensitive and reflective adults is a key priority at Whitley Bay High School. This is achieved through outstanding teaching and careful support for all students throughout their time in school. We regard students as individuals, all different but all equal with varying strengths, interests and opinions. We are proud of the academic and extra-curricular successes our students achieve and are determined to help students fulfil their potential while making the most of the wealth of opportunities on offer at the school.



We work closely in partnership with parents and believe this relationship is crucial to the success of our students. Friendliness and a willingness to listen are at the heart of all that we do and through this strong collaboration students thrive.

The school prides itself on the quality of our teaching and learning and has received national recognition for our innovative approach and expertise. We are often approached to support and improve teaching across the region.

Our GCSE results place Whitley Bay High School as one of the highest performing schools in the north of England. Our Sixth Form is nationally recognised for its outstanding teaching and our results, across a wide range of courses, place us as one of the highest performing Sixth Form in the country. We are obviously proud of these results, however, what is more important to us is the real sense of pride our students have in this school and the wonderful atmosphere that exists as you walk around the site during a typical school day.

This is an exciting time with the new school providing state-of-the-art facilities for our students. We have worked hard with the architects and construction company to ensure the new school will allow us to maintain the happy, community atmosphere that exists at Whitley Bay High School while allowing our students to thrive academically, socially and in terms of all the extra opportunities available.

We are a large school which brings many benefits, such as a very broad curriculum allowing students to choose from the widest selection of subjects and also we can offer a huge array of extra-curricular opportunities. However, very importantly, we manage to maintain a small school community atmosphere where students feel valued and supported from the moment they join us to the day they leave.

Choosing a school is an important decision and I hope this prospectus is useful in helping you make this choice. Further information can be found on our school website – www.whitleybayhighschool.org. If you have any questions, or would like to visit the school, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### **Steve Wilson**

Headteacher



# EXAM SUCCESS

# **GCSE**

Based on our strong tradition of high exam performance, we again achieved outstanding success in 2023 at GCSE. 86% of all Whitley Bay High School students achieved the new 9 – 4 grade in both English and Maths. Over 90% achieved a grade 4 or higher in English and 88% a grade 4 or higher in Maths. What is particularly pleasing is students of all abilities achieved excellent grades that far exceeded national predictions. Nearly 90% of all of all grades across all subjects were 9 - 4. These results would again place WBHS as one of the top performing schools in the country.

# A Level / Level 3

Our A Level / Level 3 success in recent years has placed Whitley Bay High School as one of the top performing Sixth Forms nationally for the outstanding grades students achieve. Our A Level results in 2023 were again excellent. Over 53% of all A Level grades were either A\*, A or B and 78% of all grades were A\* - C. The average A Level grade was a B and average Level 3 course grade was a Distinction. This places the Sixth Form as one of the highest performing Post 16 provider in the region. A large majority of Year 13 go on to university and 96% of students who applied were successful in gaining a university place.

Whilst we are justifiably pleased with our academic record it is important to mention that we are not an 'examination factory'. As a school we place a great deal of emphasis on students participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and enjoying both their studies and all the other opportunities on offer at Whitley Bay High School. We want students to enjoy, participate and achieve at school, and to develop into confident life long learners.

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'Whitley Bay High School provides an outstanding education for its students. It seeks to help students develop into confident, sensitive and reflective adults, and it is successful in this aim.'



of all students achieved 9-4 in both English and Maths



# CURRICULUM

Our curriculum enriches our school vision and ethos by supporting students to become committed, articulate, curious and happy learners who have the core knowledge and essential skills required for the evolving world they live in. Our leadership, staff and Governors are passionate about a broad and ambitious curriculum and we continue to offer a balance of core academic subjects alongside a vast range of creative options across all key stages.

At Key Stage 3, we have worked collaboratively with our transition schools to ensure there is progression and crucially no regression in students' performance. We have intentionally decided against starting GCSE content at the beginning of Year 9, to continue to offer students the breadth they require at this age. In Year 9 we do choose to focus on developing the subject specific skills students will need to be successful at GCSE, whilst also providing challenging content to help inform and educate pupils of their potential option choices. Students will study up to two foreign languages, whilst also embracing the Arts, PE and technology subjects. This is further supplemented by our LEV (Learning, Enquiry, Values) lessons which include Personal, Social, Relationships and Sexual Health Education, Computing and Religious Studies. Our departments have also worked together to develop cross curricular links which have shaped our decisions regarding when we deliver appropriate content; facilitating students' learning. Students will also be set homework through Microsoft Teams which will help to develop their independence. Homework helps to consolidate or prepare for learning and will be reasonable and not excessive. More information is available on the Home Learning page of our website.

Supplementing our curriculum is our vast range of extracurricular opportunities. We have a large number of international trips which include visits to Iceland, Normandy, San Fransisco and New York. We also offer residential outdoor visits to Northumberland and the Lake District. Furthermore, there are opportunities for external accreditation in courses such as Duke of Edinburgh. Alongside this we have weekly sports, STEM, Art, Music, Drama and Technology clubs. Whatever the interest, we cater for it at Whitley Bay High School and we firmly believe that our most successful students are our busiest.

Exciting teaching and learning is at the heart of our ethos, therefore we deliver our curriculum through the most recent and up to date evidence-informed teaching strategies. As well as enhancing students' knowledge, we believe in developing confidence, collaboration and communication through emotionally intelligent teaching methods. As a result, students will experience innovative and expert teaching, whilst receiving regular feedback in a variety of different forms.







Throughout their first year in the school, students' work will be assessed in the National Curriculum core subjects, English, Mathematics and Science. The results of these summative assessments, together with reports on progress in all subjects, will be sent to parents. More detailed formative assessments will be made available to parents as students move through Year 9 in order to set targets for improvement. Virtually all students reaching the end of Key Stage 4 in Year 11 are entered for GCSE in nine subjects. Students in the Sixth Form, who complete their courses, are entered for examinations in their chosen subjects. It is the policy of this school that all students who have completed a course of study are entitled to have their work examined. Tables summarising the GCSE and A2 results for 2023 are given at the end of this prospectus.

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'Teaching is outstanding. There is an absolute determination amongst all staff to ensure that lessons are exciting and effective.'

'Teaching is exciting and innovative.'

# YEAR 9

# The last year of the KS3 curriculum in Year 9 consists of the following subjects:

- · English
- · Mathematics
- Science
- Art
- French, German or Spanish
- Geography
- History

- · Physical Education
- LEV (including RS and Computing and E-Safety)
- Technology (students choose two of IT, DT, Food and Textiles)
- Personal Development through Tutorial

In addition, students choose one optional subject and, for September 2023, the choice was from:

Drama, extra Physical Education, French (as a second Modern Foreign Language), Jewellery, Music, Philosophy & Ethics and Robotics.

Guidance on this choice is given in co-operation with Middle Schools.

# **CHALLENGE WEEK**

Year 9 students get an opportunity to extend their learning outside the classroom with our Challenge Week, which takes place in June. Every year, around 20 projects take students out of their comfort zone around a host of locations in the North East, working with different people and trying new skills. Together they develop creativity, team-work and resilience.

'One striking feature of the quality of teaching is the way in which teachers encourage students to explain their thinking.'

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# YEARS 10 & 11

All students in Years 10 and 11 study GCSE examination courses in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, and Science (separate sciences or Trilogy Science also known as Combined Science).

Physical Education is a compulsory non-examination course, and students also learn about their Personal Development through the Tutorial Programme.

In addition, students have a guided choice of subjects from a range of options.

The following subjects are offered:

- Art and Design: Fine Art
- Art and Design: Textiles
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Design Technology with three different materials options, including Papers and Boards, Timbers and Systems
- Digital Information Technology
- Drama
- Food Technology

- French
- Geography
- German
- · Health and Social Care
- History
- Music
- PE
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Spanish
- Sports Studies
- · Vocational Learning

This provides a large choice of GCSE courses unparalleled in other schools.

# DAY IN THE LIFE

Students starting in Year 9 can expect a varied and exciting curriculum with teaching that gives them the opportunity to work in groups, pairs and independently. In 2022 we followed two Year 9 students, Syma and Jack, to get a flavour of a typical day at **Whitley Bay High** School.



Once a week during tutorial there is reading time.

# Syma Begum 10ABR

Syma joined Whitley Bay High School from Marden Bridge Middle School and her favourite subjects are Biology and English. She particularly enjoys the wide variety of topics taught in these subjects. Syma's had a great first year at WBHS and settled in really quickly. Her advice to new students joining WBHS is "Don't be afraid to talk to people, both students and teachers. Everyone is really friendly here!"



# **Lesson One**

Syma's first lesson of the day is Jewellery Tech where she is melting pewter to make a pendant for a necklace.



# **Lesson Two**

Syma takes part in a practical during her Physics lesson.



## **Lesson Three**

Syma works on modelling map contours with Play-Doh during her Geography lesson.



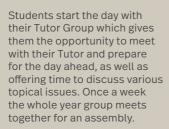
# **Lesson Four**

After lunch Syma is in an Art lesson and continues to work on her portrait project.



# **Lesson Five**

Syma ends the day getting to grips with using a compass in her Maths lesson.





# Jack Donachie 10CAH

Jack joined WBHS from a local middle school and his favourite subjects are History and Maths. Jack has been involved in many extra-curricular opportunities at school, including taking part in the Poetry By Heart competition. In his spare time Jack likes to play guitar. Jack really enjoyed his first year and is already looking to the future. "I am looking forward to joining Year 10 and studying my chosen options, I hope in the future to go into Computing or Politics."





# **Lesson One**

Jack has Food Technology first lesson and is making Butter Chicken Curry.



# **Lesson Two**

Jack is analysing his set texts in his English lesson.





# **Lesson Five**

Jack ends the day taking part in a Science practical in his Biology lesson.



# **Lesson Four**

After lunch Jack is working on his Spanish vocabulary in his MFL lesson.



Before lunch Jack has a PE lesson and is playing rounders outside.

# YEARS 12 & 13

# The large and very successful Sixth Form is one of the central features of Whitley Bay High School.

Each year the majority of our students choose to continue on to Whitley Bay Sixth Form after Year 11 and are joined by a large number of students from other schools. Around 65% of Year 11 students apply to join the Sixth Form, which currently numbers 580 in total. Despite such large numbers, students receive regular support from their tutor; Director of Sixth Form; a Head of Year 13; a Head of Year 12; four Post-16 Guidance Tutors and 26 Sixth Form Tutors. Students can choose from 30 different subjects to study at Advanced Level. We have recently added Philosophy and Ethics and Textiles to our curriculum, as well as increasing the size of the ICT and Health and Social Care courses to include both Single and Double Awards. This has meant our Sixth Form has become even more inclusive and comprehensive, with a wider variety of options at the end of Year 11. For more details or to enquire about joining the Sixth Form, contact the Sixth Form Office by telephone on 0191 7317070.

The tutorial programme, led by tutors, is designed to provide guidance for students as they progress through Sixth Form and plan for the future. All students in Year 12 have the opportunity to participate in a diverse enrichment programme both in school and within the local community, which includes the opportunity of studying accredited courses such as Financial Studies. These experiences are designed to broaden their understanding of the world around them and develop transferable skills that will benefit their other subjects.

The Sixth Form has excellent facilities in the new building. These include an Advanced Learning Centre, a Sixth Form Cafe, and a Lecture Theatre, providing students with the very best Sixth Form facilities in which to study and relax. The academic success of our students in the Sixth Form is excellent (refer to page 3). Just as important however, is that our students also enjoy their time in the Sixth Form and take part in the many extra-curricular activities on offer at the school.







'They (sixth form students) reach high standards and are strikingly successful in gaining places at university, training or employment.'

'Sixth Form students benefit from firstrate advice, guidance and care.'

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# **NEXT STEPS...**

For further information about courses in Years 12 and 13, please contact Sarah Stoves or Jacqueline Carruthers, Sixth Form Administrators, at the school on 01917317070.



Computer Science trip to San Francisco



6th Form trip to Iceland

# We are proud of the quality of opportunities available to our students in such activities as music, sport, drama, debate and travel.

Recent school activities have included the following:

- · Visit of renowned linguist David Crystal
- Coca Cola Real Business Challenge Regional Finalists & winners of the best radio advert in the North East
- National Finalist in F1 In Schools World Challenge (Teams for Year 9 and 10 both competed)
- Musical Productions of "Into the Woods", "Beauty and the Beast", "Oliver!", "West Side Story", "The Sound of Music" and "Little Shop of Horrors"
- Participation in Poetry by Heart competition, in which students have reached the national finals (including 2022 and 2023)
- An annual service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas in a local church
- Educational trips to London, Paris, Amsterdam, Iceland, New York, Berlin and to CERN in Geneva
- Competed in Citizen Foundation Year 9 Magistrates Mock Trial
- Industrial link projects including the Engineering Education Scheme
- · Y12 High Flyers Young Enterprise Scheme
- Voluntary work with local special schools
- Maths Challenge Competition and a week-long Year 9 'Maths Fest'
- Talent Contests, Public Speaking Competitions and Debating Clubs
- Art Department visits to galleries in this country and abroad, including the National Gallery, the Saatchi and Tate Modern in London, the National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh, and the MOMA and Guggenheim in New York
- · An annual Art Exhibition
- Cafe Scientifique
- University Challenge competition
- Week long Literature Festival with visiting authors, poets and performers including a residency from specialist Shakespeare group, 1623 Theatre Company
- Sports teams and clubs in many games before and after school
- · Media Oscars Night
- Newcastle Dragons' Den event to raise money for our partner school in Kenya
- The Whitley Games
- · Year 9 Initiative
- Our Term in Pictures Student Journalism
- STEM Club
- Women in STEM Engineering Project
- Year 9 Challenge Week
- HPQ and EPQ qualifications which act as a mini research project

These are only some examples of the many opportunities available.









Drama Production



Girls Football Team





F1 in schools



Photography

"There has been so much I have enjoyed about WBHS, but a real highlight for me was the Literature Festival in May. I got to listen to Ann Cleeves talk about being an author and I met Simon Armitage who signed my book. I also got to watch a Macbeth performance which is a play I will be studying next year. I am looking forward to Challenge Week in June. My group will be kayaking and visiting an activity centre as well as completing a lot of outdoor activities. I have been part of a number of clubs and competitions including the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge where I received a distinction for my work on the Cayley Olympiad and a bronze medal. I believe new students need to see High School as an opportunity to mature, make new friends and to get involved in not just academic activities. It is an opportunity to develop and grow as an individual."

**James Dong 9CLB** 

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# During their time at school some students will have special needs which may relate to learning, health or emotional factors.

We value, respect and nurture these students to help them overcome any challenges they face. We do our best to respond to each student's needs, and use a variety of resources and strategies for this purpose. The school's policy on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is based on the guidelines contained in the Special Needs Code of Practice. If a student's first language is not English. he/she may have the assistance of a specialist teacher from within the Local Authority's resources. Students with official Education, Health and Care Plans are given extra support according to their particular circumstances: parents are kept fully informed of such arrangements. Some students identified as being in need of additional support will have educational targets highlighted in their Progress Reports in each subject. These are reviewed with students and parents. We operate a flexible system which supports both students and staff in a variety of ways. There is in-class support for specific needs. Year 9 students may receive numeracy or dyslexia/ literacy intervention which focuses on developing functional skills using a range of ICT and assistive software. There are also Social Skills Groups and an Independent Travel Programme. Year 10 and Year 11 students have access to revision sessions as well as several alternative curriculum pathways.

We also enlist the professional expertise of a full range of outside support agencies and hold regular meetings between these agencies, teachers and parents in relation to particular students' needs. In addition, we use a student-centred review format where students take a full and active role in identifying steps to develop and make progress, in order to become more self-confident and independent. All this allows students with such additional needs to make outstanding progress at the school. Further information can be found in the School Information Report for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities on the school website.



# NEXT STEPS...

Parents with any concerns should contact the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Mr James Mackenzie at the school (0191 731 7070).



"It is increasily adunting going to a new school. But I did find it very easy to find my way around, there is lots of signage pointing you in the right direction and everyone is very helpful if you do find yourself lost. Since being at WBHS I have been reacquainted with lots of old friends from first school, as well as making new friends. I have been involved in loads of different things during my first year, such as Poetry By Heart competition, Public Speaking where we reached the regional finals and I won the Best Chairperson Award, as well as the Carnegie Reading Group and Cipher Club! Science is definitely my favourite subject and I hope to pursue this further at WBHS 6th Form after my GCSE's."

Florence Lavender 9DVP/RAP



Duke of Edinburgh

# LEARNING MENTOR SCHEME

The Learning Mentor aims to support students who are experiencing any "barrier to learning" in school through offering them either individual mentoring or group work sessions.

The barriers to learning experienced by students may include friendship issues, negative behaviour in school, disorganisation, poor attendance and lack of confidence and self-esteem.

# WBHS endeavours to provide stimulating, challenging and inspirational educational opportunities tailored to meet the needs of our students, including those with a high level of ability and those with more specialised talents.

Using a variety of methods we aim to identify able students throughout their school career and provide for them by:

Incorporating activities designed to stretch and challenge able students in every lesson. Specialist resources have been developed and teachers collaboratively plan and evaluate teaching and learning strategies for able students.

Providing enrichment activities outside the normal curriculum. We also work closely with other local schools to provide opportunities for gifted and talented students to work outside their usual peer group and we have established links with higher education institutions to develop opportunities further.

Offering out-of-hours learning through clubs and activities designed to challenge students, extend learning and enhance skills and knowledge.

Developing independent learning skills to allow students to research and extend their own areas of interest.

Running additional qualifications such as the Higher Project Qualification in Year 10 and the EPQ in Sixth Form which replicate a university dissertation.



Crafts in the Library

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'Students who have special educational needs and disabilities make outstanding progress in school.'

# SCHOOL STATIONS

# In any large community certain high standards of behaviour are required.

Details are included in a "Parents' and Students' Handbook" issued at the start of the school year to all students new to the school. Parents / Carers and students are also expected to sign a home-school agreement, issued in September. Our expectations of students are as follows:

- This is a high school and there is an expectation that you will gain maturity in your relationships with others and learn from your mistakes;
- Treat everyone in your school community with respect;
- Value and support each other to be all different and all equal;
- Be kind and courteous to fellow students and staff;
- Stay safe and tell us if you ever have worries or concerns;
- Look after your health, including your emotional health and take care of others;
- Keep busy! Sign up for as many extracurricular clubs or additional subject sessions as you can;
- Talk to us if you have a problem, are worried about something or someone or need help;
- Follow the uniform policy ensuring you are in the correct uniform each day which includes having your ID card with you at all times. You will need to be in full uniform and have your ID card with you to leave school site at lunch time;
- Engage fully in lessons and work with your teachers to achieve your personal best results;

- Actively contribute to an inclusive and safe environment:
- Attend school unless you are unwell and be punctual to school and lessons. The school gate will be closed from 8.55am and you will need to sign in at the main office if you arrive after this time (marked as late);
- Try to book routine medical appointments outside of the school day where possible;
- Each week let your tutor know your intentions for lunch time.

Parents / Carers need to be reassured that the school takes a positive line on behaviour. Our expectations are clear, and at all times aim to balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider community.

The School Governors have Anti-bullying and Equality Policies, which aim to promote an environment where students feel happy and safe. Bullying behaviour is not tolerated and a range of actions are taken when such behaviour arises.

The Governors have an Exclusion Policy, which guides our response to serious breaches of behaviour. It emphasises that exclusion from school is a sanction used sparingly and normally as a last response following other strategies. A key factor is likely to be where behaviour constitutes a risk to the safety and happiness of other students or staff.

In this context, issues such as possession of illegal substances, weapons capable of threatening or causing physical damage, or actions which put others in danger, will be regarded as serious breaches of behaviour, which may lead to suspension or in rare cases a permanent exclusion.



TUDENT VIEW

"I am really looking forward to taking part in Duke of Edinburgh next year, I feel really lucky to have got a place on this. My Challenge Week group in June will be linked to DofE and we will be learning basic survival skills including how to cook outdoors over the three days. This is already an area of interest for me as I take part in Scouts outside of school. My favourite subjects in school are Maths and Art, I really enjoy both of these lessons. The teachers at WBHS are dedicated to nurturing a strong, happy environment for students and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year here."

**Ted Roberts 9ASJ** 

'There is a buzz amongst adults and students in the classroom. Teachers plan interesting lessons, and students match this commitment by taking their responsibility to learn very seriously.

Girls Under 14 Football Team



# The school aims to introduce students to a wide variety of sports as part of their normal curriculum.

In Physical Education lessons students are encouraged to learn about the health benefits of physical activity through regular participation. A whole host of sports teams and clubs are available to all students, many starting at 8:00am, filling break and lunch time and carrying on after school and at weekends. Students regularly compete within school and in local and national competitions. New school facilities include a four court badminton Sports Hall, two activity gyms and 4G pitch. As a result students are encouraged to participate in the clubs, team practices and inter-school tournaments on offer throughout the year. The extra-curricular activities currently offered include athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, dance, football, netball, rounders, rugby, table tennis, tennis, trampolining, and volleyball.

The annual Sports Day gives students the opportunity to see elite performers, find out about new and different sports and use the facilities at a number of local sports centres.

Contacts with many local sports organisations enable us to encourage students to continue with their sports activities once they have left school.

Year 9 students who opt for the additional PE lesson will focus on officiating and leading activities as well as their own personal performance, in preparation for future options at key stage 4.

As part of the Enrichment Programme in Year 12 and Year 13, students will be offered the chance to study the Community Sport Leaders Award where they will assist in the running of break and lunch clubs.

We also have a Volleyball Academy which offers students opportunities to be coached by a national coach alongside their studies.



Penathlon Xtreme championships

Students meeting Simon Armitage during the Literature Festival

# THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM

Each student joining the school is allocated to a tutor group usually consisting of no more than 26 students from the same year group. The tutorial group meets at the beginning of the morning session every day, and the tutor is therefore in regular contact with each student. On Wednesday mornings there is a Personal Development Tutorial, which allows tutors and students to consider and discuss topical matters as a group.

The group and tutor usually stay together throughout Years 9, 10 and 11, and the tutor is the key member of staff for overseeing each student's welfare and progress, and for maintaining the link between school and parents. When parents / carers wish to get in touch concerning their child, the tutor is normally the first point of contact.

The tutors form a year group team led by a Head of Year and two Assistant Heads of Year, who usually follow the year group from Years 9 to 11. Each year group has an assembly once a week.



# RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Relationships, Sex and Health Education forms a part of the curriculum for all students. Lessons focus on aspects of the emotional, moral, health and wellbeing of healthy relationships which includes sexual health. Our SRE policy and topic overview is on our website.

Parents / carers may, if they wish, withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex and Relationships Education programme. Parents wishing to do so should contact Mr Wilson the Headteacher.

# **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education is introduced in Year 9 as part of the core curriculum and is delivered within the LEV "Beliefs" module. The course is structured around a number of key questions and is designed to help students to develop philosophical, ethical and religious understanding. We aim to ensure that students develop the conceptual thinking skills required to understand and evaluate the moral and spiritual aspects of life. The course does not assume that any particular religious tradition is more important than any other and should be of equal benefit to students of any faith, or of none.

In Year 9, students may opt for a course called Philosophy and Ethics, which looks at the philosophy of religion, ultimate questions, major Greek philosophers and morality. This then may be offered as a full GCSE subject in Years 10 and 11.

Parents may, if they wish, withdraw their daughter/son from all or part of Religious Education and Collective Worship. Parents wishing to do so should write to the Headteacher.



Iris Rawsthorne winning the Maths Award in 2022

Food Technology Class

### **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

At the start of the school day, there is an opportunity for collective worship and/or quiet reflection. Each year group from Years 9 – 11 has one assembly each week. In Sixth Form, Year 12 and 13 have assemblies on alternate weeks. At regular intervals the assembly is led by a representative of a religious organisation with an opportunity to hear from a range of faiths from across our community.

# CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Good quality careers education raises the aspirations of all young people. It increases motivation by linking activities in school with preparation for life post 16 and post 18. CEIAG therefore contributes to raising pupil achievement, helping students focus on their longer-term career ambitions and ensuring an equality of opportunity for all.

### THE CAREERS PROGRAMME

At Whitley Bay High School, we provide a comprehensive CEIAG programme to students in every year group and this includes aspects of work related learning, enterprise education and guidance meetings to help students with their option choices in Year 9 and 11. Students in our Sixth Form are very well supported as they make their applications to University, apply for Higher Level Apprenticeships or other non-University post-18 pathways.

CEIAG is ongoing throughout the academic year and is delivered through guidance time in tutorials, collapsed timetable events and is enhanced by working with local businesses, colleges and Universities.

The Careers Programme is developed in consideration of the CDI (Career Development Institute) framework and the Gatsby Report benchmark.

All of our Year 10 and Year 12 students have the invaluable opportunity of work experience, providing the chance to develop employability skills and sample the world of work.

### IMPARTIAL ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

The guidance from the DfE places a duty on schools to provide access to unbiased and impartial careers guidance for their students. All students have access to a specialist career development practitioner who provides impartial information, advice and guidance, and will work with identified students throughout the academic year. This includes 1-1 sessions with students as well as group work and formal lessons within our personal development program. We also have close links with local colleges and providers who provide information about courses and opportunities that Whitley Bay High School does not offer.



'The way in which students work with other adults and each other to make progress is exceptional.'

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Tennis Team

## THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Library offers students the opportunity to engage with high quality modern resources within a well-supported environment, providing structured teaching and learning, open access independent study and extra-curricular activities. Students can browse over 16,500 items including an extensive book stock, DVDs, daily newspapers and magazines for every subject. Library staff are on hand throughout the day to assist students in their work and students are encouraged to use Library facilities, including a large ICT suite, before and after school and during break and lunchtimes. The Library also hosts a range of events for students to take part in, such as the annual Literature & Performing Arts Festival and the Christmas Lectures, as well as a host of groups and clubs.

# **UNIFORM**

All students in Years 9, 10 and 11 are required to wear correct school uniform and carry their ID card. The uniform regulations are clear and simple, and represent a practical and economical way of dressing for school. Full details about uniform will be issued to parents during the summer term. We expect the full support of parents in maintaining uniform adherence.

# **CHARGING POLICY**

A number of educational activities are organised to enhance the curriculum, and parents are asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost. Without such contributions, many worthwhile educational activities would not be possible. Parents will be fully informed in advance of any costs involved for activities in which their daughter/son participates.

## **MUSICAL INSTRUMENT TUITION**

Many studies have highlighted the value of learning to play a musical instrument and the positive effect that this has on the developing brain. Students need to be disciplined to improve their performing skills which can assist with the development of many other skills and once an instrument has been mastered, the sense of achievement and satisfaction is priceless.

Instrumental tuition is available in school for the following instruments: woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe and bassoon), brass (trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone, euphonium and tuba), strings (violin, viola, cello and double bass), percussion (drum kit), guitar (electric/acoustic and bass), piano and singing.

Instrumental teachers visit the school on a weekly basis to provide individual tuition for those students who wish to take advantage of this opportunity. Visiting teachers charge for this service, which nevertheless provides excellent value for money. Instrumental lessons are taught on a rotating timetable so that students do not miss the same subject lesson every week. Where possible, A-Level students are taught during one of their study periods and lessons on a second instrument are taught before school, at lunchtime or after school.

Further details can be obtained from Mr Kieran Baldwin (Head of Music).





Year 11 St James' Park Enterprise Day

# **SCHOOL MEALS**

Students who choose to stay at school for lunch may bring their own food or choose from a variety of hot and cold meals and snacks on sale in the school dining room. Choices include salads, vegetarian dishes and other healthy options, and drinks are also served. Snacks can also be bought in the dining room at the morning break and outside from the food stations. Students can choose to leave the school site at lunch time and purchase food from local shops and cafes. This gives students a sense of independence. We ask parents to discuss healthy choices with their children before they begin Year 9, so that it is clear to them how healthy eating leads to healthy weight and lifestyle. We also ask parents to discuss whether they eat in school or go off site. It is also worth reinforcing to your child the importance of treating the local environment and neighbours with respect.

## **COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

Should a parent wish to make a complaint they should contact the Headteacher. An official complaints procedure is available from the Headteacher's PA.

OFSTED VIEW

'The library plays a pivotal role in the life of the school. Events such as 'National Poetry Day', and the 'Literary Festival' promote a love of reading.'

Achievement of pupils Quality of teaching Behaviour and safety of pupils Leadership and management Outstanding Outstanding Outstanding Outstanding



"I was excited to join WBHS, I felt ready for the next step in my education. I think the seating plans really helped me settle in and make new friends. The seating meant you were never sat with the same person and moved around each lesson, meaning you got to know new people in your class very quickly.

I have been involved in some really cool things like Mock Trial, the School Production and a trip to Bletchley Park with Cipher Club. The school production was 'A Night at the Musicals' where I was involved in dancing for a few of the songs and also playing the saxophone in the orchestra.

I find the lessons really varied, you are not just sitting and listening to a teacher, lessons are very interactive with lots of different tasks.

**Abbie Lever 9ACD** 

All Year 8 students who expect to join us in September 2024 will be invited to spend two full days with us on Tuesday 2nd July and Wednesday 3rd July 2024. This will help students to find their way around, meet their new teachers and begin to get to know the school, its values and its routines.

Parents will be invited to an evening meeting on Tuesday 25th June 2024 when they will be introduced to staff, learn more about the school and be given a handbook of important information.

Parents and students who wish to visit the school at other times will be very welcome to do so by appointment.

Please contact the school to make arrangements.

# **HOW TO FIND US**



### By Rail:

Monkseaton Metro Station - on foot following the directions below from Cauldwell Lane.



# By Car:

The main school entrance is accessed from Relton Terrace. (SatNav NE25 8DZ).

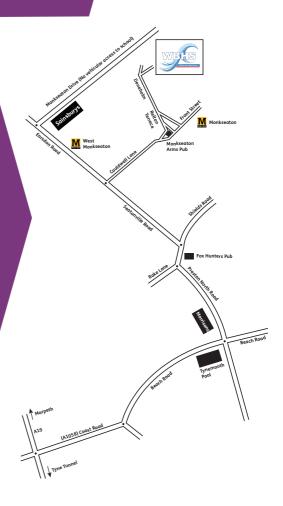
From Cauldwell Lane turn into Relton Terrace at the Monkseaton Arms.

Travel along Relton Terrace passing over the metro rail bridge onto Deneholm.

Travel to the end of Deneholm turning right into the school premises then straight ahead to the visitors car park.

Please report to Reception on your arrival.

Please contact Whitley Bay High School Reception if you require further assistance on 0191 731 7070. OUR OPEN
EVENING IS
SCHEDULED FOR
TUESDAY 26TH
SEPTEMBER



# APPENDIX 1

# **SUMMARY OF GCSE GRADES ACHIEVED 2022**

Subject (GCSE)	Ent	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
English Language	366	14	34	49	79	83	62	31	12	1
English Literature	359	15	31	43	85	78	64	31	9	3
Maths	366	23	45	37	68	76	72	23	14	6
Art & Design (Fine Art)	61	11	11	12	20	6	1	0	0	0
Biology	55	13	14	15	10	1	0	1	1	0
Business Studies	202	4	11	10	58	41	25	40	13	0
Chemistry	52	14	11	15	10	2	0	0	0	0
Computer Science	43	1	9	10	9	6	7	1	0	0
D&T: Papers & Boards	35	4	3	0	6	9	9	2	2	0
Drama	18	0	1	1	6	4	1	5	0	0
D&T: Systems & Control	43	4	2	1	8	8	10	3	6	1
D&T: Timbers	35	0	2	3	5	8	7	8	2	0
French	63	9	7	7	4	14	6	15	1	0
D&T: Food and Nutrition	92	5	13	12	17	19	13	12	1	0
Geography	186	11	26	39	29	33	25	15	6	2
German	34	5	2	5	4	13	4	1	0	0
History	214	16	19	29	45	38	18	22	16	9
Music	13	2	2	2	4	1	1	1	0	0
PE	77	4	10	10	16	16	12	8	1	0
Art & Design Photography	/ 21	0	0	0	5	8	8	0	0	0
Physics	53	19	14	14	5	1	0	0	0	0
Religious Studies	47	4	6	11	13	6	2	4	1	0
Spanish	17	1	4	4	0	4	3	1	0	0
Textiles	26	3	3	4	4	7	2	1	2	0
Total	2,478	182	280	333	510	482	352	225	87	22

U	9-7	9-4	9-1
1	97	321	365
0	89	316	359
2	105	321	364
0	34	61	61
0	42	53	55
0	25	149	202
0	40	52	52
0	20	42	43
0	7	31	35
0	2	13	18
0	7	33	43
0	5	25	35
0	23	47	63
0	30	79	92
0	76	163	186
0	12	33	34
2	64	165	212
0	6	12	13
0	24	68	77
0	0	21	21
0	47	53	53
0	21	42	47
0	9	16	17
0	10	23	26
5	795	2,139	2,473

Subject (CAMNAT)	ENT	L2D*	L2D	L2M	L2P	L1D	L1M	L1P
Child Development	27	5	7	6	6	3	0	0
Health & Social Care	56	4	21	21	10	0	0	0
IT (Digital)	65	1	18	24	20	2	0	0
PE (Sport Studies)	48	3	19	12	12	2	0	0
Total	196	13	65	63	48	7	0	0

U	L2D* - L2D	L2D*- L2P	L2D*- L1P
0	12	24	27
0	25	56	56
0	19	63	65
0	22	46	48
0	78	189	196

Subject (GCSE)	Ent	99	98	88	87	77	76	66	65	55	54	44	43	33	32	22	21	11	U	9-7 9-4 9-1
Science: Trilogy (Double Award)	622	7	5	4	17	18	10	37	29	58	26	29	32	15	14	6	3	1	0	102 480 622

Total Results	9-7	9-4	9-1
3296	975	2808	3291

# **SUMMARY OF GCSE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY STUDENTS IN YEAR 11**

	Entered for 5+ GCSEs	Achieving 5+ GCSE 9-4	Achieving 5+ GCSE 9-4 inc 9-4 in English and Maths	Achieving 9-4 in English and Maths GCSE	Entered for 1+ GCSE	Achieving 5+ GCSE 9-1	Achieving 1+ GCSE 9-1	Achieving no passes
WBHS	100%	85.5%	82.8%	85.5%	100%	100%	100%	0%
North Tyneside	N/A	N/A	N/A	67.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

# APPENDIX 2

# **SUMMARY OF A-LEVEL GRADES ACHIEVED 2022**

Subject (A-Level)	Ent	Α*	А	В	С	D	E	U	A* -A	A* -B	A* - E
Art & Design (Fine Art)	18	7	6	1	4	0	0	0	13	14	18
Biology	51	1	8	17	10	10	4	1	9	26	50
Business Studies	48	0	6	11	14	13	3	1	6	17	47
Chemistry	28	4	9	5	7	3	0	0	13	18	28
Computer Science	17	1	3	2	8	3	0	0	4	6	17
Economics	26	3	2	10	9	1	1	0	5	15	26
English Language	33	4	8	11	7	3	0	0	12	23	33
English Literature	36	3	5	13	13	2	0	0	8	21	36
Environmental Science	26	2	2	6	4	7	5	0	4	10	26
French	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	4
Further Mathematics	8	5	0	2	0	1	0	0	5	7	8
Geography	44	6	8	5	12	9	3	1	14	19	43
German	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	4
History	60	2	14	23	17	4	0	0	16	39	60
English Lang & Lit	15	0	0	1	5	4	5	0	0	1	15
Mathematics	72	13	22	13	10	8	5	1	35	48	71
Media Studies	52	1	7	16	18	10	0	0	8	24	52
Music	3	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	3
Physical Education	16	1	1	2	6	6	0	0	2	4	16
Physics	32	5	10	4	4	5	2	2	15	19	30
Psychology	71	10	8	22	14	13	2	2	18	40	69
D&T Design Engineering	15	0	1	3	4	4	2	1	1	4	14
Theatre Studies	20	0	1	5	9	4	1	0	1	6	20

Subject (Single Award Applied General)	Ent	Dist*	Dist	Merit	Pass
Applied Business	21	3	6	11	1
Applied ICT	20	11	5	2	2
Food Science & Nutrition	13	1	2	7	2
Health & Social Care	16	7	7	2	0
Sport Studies	13	0	5	6	2

U	D*- D	D*-M	D*-P
0	9	20	21
0	16	18	20
1	3	10	12
0	14	16	16
_			40

Subject (Double Award Applied General)	Res	D*D*	D*D	DD	DM	MM	MP	PP
Applied ICT	9	3	2	1	2	1	0	0
Health & Social Care	9	3	1	4	1	0	0	0
Sport Studies	7	3	4	0	0	0	0	0

U	D*- D	D*D*-MM	D*D*-PP
0	6	9	9
0	8	9	9
0	7	7	7

THESE GCSE AND A LEVEL
RESULTS PLACE WHITLEY BAY
HIGH SCHOOL AS ONE OF THE
HIGHEST PERFORMING SCHOOLS
IN THE COUNTRY.

# **DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS**

	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Total Number of entrants	374	305	292
% staying in school or further education	93%	93%	73%
%entering employment	0%	1%	3%
% entering youth training / apprenticeships	6%	4%	10%
% others	1%	2%	14%

# **GROUP ANALYSIS BY ATTENDANCE**

Scope: Years 9, 10 & 11

Percentage of Sessions

Group	Presents	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
Year 9	91.6	6.0	1.5	100	92.5
Year 10	90.8	5.1	0.7	100	94.2
Year 11	94.7	3.5	0.6	100	95.9
Totals	92.4	4.9	0.9	100	94.2

# APPENDIX 5

# THE SCHOOL DAY

Timetable	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday & Friday
Assembly or Tutorial	8:55 - 9:10	8:55 - 9:10	8:55 - 9:25	8:55 - 9:10
Lesson 1	9:10 - 10:10	9:10 - 10:10	9:25 - 10:20	9:10 - 10:10
Lesson 2	10:10 - 11:10	10:10 - 11:10	10:20 - 11:15	10:10 - 11:10
Morning Break	11:10 - 11:25	11:10 - 11:25	11:15 - 11:30	11:10 - 11:25
Lesson 3	11:25 - 12:25	11:25 - 12:25	11:30 - 12:25	11:25 - 12:25
Lunch Break	12:25 - 1:15	12:25 - 1:15	12:25 - 1:15	12:25 - 1:15
Lesson 4	1:15 - 2:15	1:15 - 2:15*	1:15 - 2:15	1:15 - 2:15
Lesson 5	2:15 - 3:15		2:15 - 3:15	2:15 - 3:15

<sup>\*</sup>Students leave school at the end of Lesson 4 on Tuesday



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