

At Weatherhead High School the curriculum encapsulates our school's core values of **resilience, respect, reach and reward**. We encourage our students to be the best that they can be: academically, socially and as citizens. This is achieved through the delivery of an **enjoyable and stimulating curriculum** that enables students to progressively learn skills, develop their understanding and knowledge needed to question the world around them and become **confident, respectful and successful** young adults. There is a strong emphasis on the development of **resilience** amongst learners through ensuring high quality, thoughtful and responsive curriculum planning and teaching, and the setting of meaningful homework.

The Curriculum @ Weatherhead



Resilience

Responsive and adaptive teaching addresses students' misconceptions, teaching encourages thinking, promotes reflection, develops independence and enhances learning. Students are happy to take risks and learn from their mistakes.

Reach

High expectations regarding the quality of students' work, effort, behaviour for learning and homework help students to take pride in their learning and achieve the best possible outcomes.

Respect

Positive relationships create a supportive, rewarding learning environment. Students enjoy learning and are proactive in their own learning in and out of the classroom.

Reward

A culture of praise, celebration and reward motivates students. Students understand the importance of their learning and thoughtful well-sequenced lessons and task design leads to genuine student engagement and curiosity in lessons.

Summarised below are the key features of our curriculum and what makes it so distinct and engaging:

- In Years 7, 8 and 9 students follow a broad and balanced curriculum, based on the National Curriculum.
- There is a strong focus on the **creative arts** with students having regular timetabled lessons in **Music, Drama and Dance** in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Students also have discreet lessons in **Design Technology and Food & Nutrition** throughout Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Our most able linguists have the opportunity to study **French** in addition to **Spanish** in Years 8 and 9.
- A strong emphasis is placed on **personal development** with lessons in **PSHE and Citizenship** taking place once per fortnight, preparing students well for the life in Modern Britain and the challenges of being a teenager.
- At Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), students are guided onto the **pathway** most suited to their needs, interests and ability, catering for the most able and those who benefit from a more nurturing curriculum.
- Students are able to choose from a broad and exciting range of GCSE and vocational courses, including **Childcare, Photography and Sociology**.
- Students are prepared well for life beyond school and the world of work through well-planned and engaging **careers education and work-related learning** experiences.

Students learn the following subjects in Years 7, 8 and 9:

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|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------------|------------|
| ENGLISH | MATHEMATICS | SCIENCE | ART & TEXTILES | COMPUTING |
| DANCE | DESIGN TECHNOLOGY | DRAMA | FOOD & NUTRITION | GEOGRAPHY |
| HISTORY | SPANISH (+ FRENCH for some students) | MUSIC | PHYSICAL EDUCATION | PSHCE / RE |



A **love of reading** is promoted and students are encouraged to develop their reading confidence through a carefully planned programme of reading delivered through English lessons in partnership with our wonderful and vibrant **school library**.