



Whitley Bay High School
PROSPECTUS

**2026
2027**

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/carers 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.

Our GCSE results place Whitley Bay High School as one of the highest performing schools in the country. Our Sixth Form is nationally recognised for its outstanding teaching and our results, across a wide range of courses, also places 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 worked hard with the architects and construction company to ensure the new school allows 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





STUDENT VIEW

"I was nervous to be the youngest again starting at Whitley Bay High School, but I soon realised I needn't be! Teachers are lovely and I quickly made connections with them. They go out of their way to help you and make you feel comfortable."

I have really enjoyed the different ways we are taught at WBHS, lessons are varied and interesting and we are encouraged to voice our opinions and work with others."

I ran for Young Mayor earlier in the year and I am really thankful for all the support I received from both teachers and students. Even though I wasn't successful this has encouraged me to run again for Young Mayor in Year 10. I am also on the School Council, and I have seen the impact some of our ideas have had, including healthier choices on offer at the school canteen."

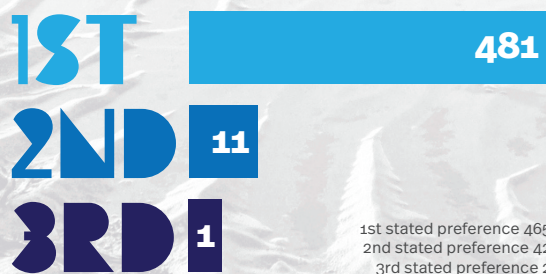
I have chosen to study Drama, Textiles, Food Technology and History as my options and hope to go on to study A Levels and then to University to study Law. My dream is to be a Barrister in the future."

Harlea Harrison 9LJF

ADMISSIONS

Parents/carers are entitled to express a preference about which school their child should attend, and for this reason, we are delighted to welcome parents/carers to look around this school. Admissions to Year 9 at Whitley Bay High School are organised by the Local Authority. For students in Year 8 attending middle schools in North Tyneside, parents/carers will be given the opportunity to express a preferred choice of High School in the autumn term. Parents/carers of Year 8 students attending schools outside North Tyneside should contact the North Tyneside LA Admission Officer for further information.

For September 2025, the number of parents/carers who expressed a preference for sending their child to Whitley Bay High School was:



The total number of admissions to Year 9 in September 2025 was 390 before appeals. For further information about admissions or to make an appointment to look round the school, please contact Steve Williams, Assistant Headteacher, at the school steve.williams@whitleybayhighschool.org. North Tyneside Local Authority's Admissions Officer can be contacted at: Third Floor, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant West, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY. Telephone 0191 643 8724.

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 believe in offering students a broad and ambitious curriculum during the final year of KS3. 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 students 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 Francisco, Berlin 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.





EXAMS

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/carers. More detailed formative assessments will be made available to parents/carers 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 2025 are given at the end of this prospectus.

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'Pupils achieve exceptionally well in national tests and examinations, including students in the very large Sixth Form.'

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 2024, the choice was from:

Drama, extra Physical Education (Competitive Sports or Fitness and Wellbeing), French (as a second Modern Foreign Language), Jewellery, Music, Philosophy & Ethics and Electronics.

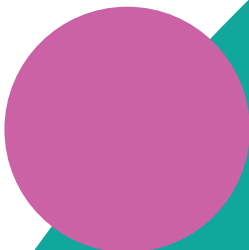
Guidance on this choice is given in co-operation with Middle Schools.

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 within the theme of community and giving back to the local area.



YEARS 10 & 11



'Behaviour in and around school is exemplary. Pupils are mature and respectful.'

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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 and Religious Studies 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
- 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 2025 we followed two Year 9 students, Aoife and Bhavik, to get a flavour of a typical day at Whitley Bay High School.



Aoife Weatherill 9LJF

Aoife joined Whitley Bay High School from Valley Gardens Middle School and can't pick a favourite subject. She says 'All the subjects are good in different ways. I am enjoying the content of History, the creativity and variety in English, all the different topics in Maths and being able to try out new media techniques in both Art and Textiles.'

Aoife has been involved in numerous extra-curricular clubs including Poetry By Heart, String Group and Medic Club to name but a few. She has also enjoyed taking part in various events such as Reading Ambassadors Quiz, Over the Horizon core subjects event and the Literature Festival where she saw author Ann Cleeves, poet Raymond Antrobus and also took part in a Book to Musicals full day event.

She is looking forward to being part of the Performance Showcase next year where the String Group will be heavily involved.

During Monday's tutorial students have the 'Thought for the Week'.



Lesson One

Aoife starts the day in Textiles where she is looking for inspiration for a project they are about to start.



Lesson Two

Second lesson is Maths and Aoife is working on equations.



Lesson Five

Aoife ends the day doing a chromatography practical in Science.



Lesson Three

During Music Aoife is learning the cords on the keyboard to 'Stand By Me'.



Lesson Four

After lunch Aoife is in Geography where she is doing paired work looking at the pros and cons of humanitarian aid.

Students start the day with their Tutor Group which gives them the opportunity to meet with their Tutor and prepare for the day ahead, as well as offering time to discuss various topical issues. Once a week the whole year group meets together for an assembly.



Bhavik Chouhan 9GCM

Bhavik joined Whitley Bay High School from Marden Bridge Middle School, and his favourite subjects are Food Technology, PE and Science. He hopes to pursue a career in the medical field and picked options to reflect this path. He has chosen Food and Nutrition, Computer Science, Business and Geography. Bhavik has been involved in many extra-curricular opportunities at school, including taking part in the school show 'Into the Woods', and being on the winning Mock Trial Team who won the local and regional finals to become Champions of the North! Both required a lot of acting which is a hobby of Bhavik's. He also enjoyed a CSI trip to Newcastle University where they had to solve a crime using DNA samples.

Bhavik says of his first year at Whitley Bay High School 'I have thoroughly enjoyed all my lessons. Teachers are very engaging, and I love the fact we get to do lots of group work.'



Lesson One

Bhavik has English first lesson where he is annotating images with ideas of the tragedy behind them.



Lesson Two

Lesson two is PE where students are practising the shot put.



Lesson Three

Before lunch Bhavik is in Food Technology completing a practical.



Lesson Five

Bhavik ends the day in a German lesson looking at flags from around the world.



Lesson Four

After lunch Bhavik is on a team task looking at fighting tactics in the Vietnam War in History.

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 600 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. Our Sixth Form is 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 participate in a diverse enrichment programme both in school and within the local community, which includes the opportunity of studying accredited courses. 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.



Year 13 Environmental Science



'Pupils in Sixth Form are integral to the culture of the school.'

(Sixth Form) Students praise the positive relationships they have with their teachers. They say they are treated professionally. This is reflected in the 'campus environment' that the school has consciously created.'

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 0191 731 7070.



Year 12 Geography Trip to Iceland



History Trip to Berlin

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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"
- A huge range of alternative clubs, e.g Dance, Textiles, Comic and Manga, Cypher to name just a few
- Orchestra, Jazz Band, Choir are just some of the musical opportunities
- Soloist of the Year Competition
- Participation in Poetry by Heart competition, in which students have reached the national finals (including 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025)
- 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, to become North of England Champions 2025
- Industrial link projects including the Engineering Education Scheme
- Voluntary work with local special schools
- Maths Challenge Competitions 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
- 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
- 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.



School production of 'Into the Woods'



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



Year 10 Work Experience

'The curriculum for personal development is exceptional. The school ensures that all pupils take part in cultural, social and sporting opportunities.'

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Year 9 Mock Triam Team



STUDENT VIEW

"On the induction day at Whitley Bay High School there were a lot of icebreaker sessions which were great for relaxing us on our first big day. I think it is important to be willing to go out of your comfort zone and get involved in everything on offer. Don't be scared. You very quickly make new friends this way.

You feel really involved in lessons, they are very interactive, and teachers treat you as an individual. I have particularly enjoyed Art and Science this year. In Art you get to create your own pieces from your own ideas and don't have to follow any set structure. I hope to go into a creative career, maybe Architecture in the future.

There are lots of clubs on offer at WBHS. I have enjoyed Badminton Club and the drop-in Football Club."

Ben Westgarth 9IAB

At our school, we are committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment where every student can thrive.

We recognise that some students may face additional challenges related to learning, health, or emotional well-being, and we are dedicated to supporting them every step of the way. Our approach is guided by the principles set out in the SEND Code of Practice, ensuring that we meet our statutory responsibilities and provide the best possible support for each individual.

We offer a wide range of targeted interventions tailored to individual needs. These may include one-to-one or small group sessions focusing on literacy, numeracy, social skills, or emotional regulation. For example, students in Year 9 may benefit from specialist support in areas such as dyslexia, literacy, or numeracy, using assistive technologies and interactive software to build functional skills.

Our approach is rooted in high-quality, inclusive teaching. All staff are trained to adapt their teaching to meet diverse learning needs, ensuring that students with SEND can access the full curriculum alongside their peers. In-class support is also available to help students engage confidently in lessons.

For students who may benefit from a different approach, we offer some alternative curriculum pathways. These include vocational courses, life skills programmes, and personalised timetables designed to support individual strengths and aspirations. Year 10 and 11 students also have access to structured revision sessions and additional academic support.

We work closely with parents, carers, and a wide range of external professionals to

ensure a joined-up approach to support. Regular review meetings are held to discuss progress and next steps, and we use a student-centred review process that empowers students to take an active role in setting goals and planning their development.

Students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) receive tailored support based on their specific needs, and parents are kept fully informed of all arrangements. For students identified as needing additional support, personalised targets are included in their subject Progress Reports and reviewed regularly with both students and families.

Our flexible and responsive system ensures that all students with SEND are supported to become confident, independent learners who make excellent progress.

For more detailed information, please refer to our SEND Policy and School Information Report, both available on our school website.

NEXT STEPS...

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

STUDENT VIEW



"I was nervous but also excited to start a new school. The moment I arrived the nerves quickly vanished as I started to meet new people and experience new things. I found everyone friendly and helpful. There are still things now that I am unsure about, but I feel confident that I know who I could ask if I ever need help with anything."

The way teachers teach makes it very accessible for everyone. They try to make things as simple as possible, but also then go in-depth. Teachers are always willing to answer any questions or give you extra help if you don't understand something."

When it comes to extra-curricular activities there is something for everyone. I am involved in a number of clubs from the Carnegie Reading Group to Duke of Edinburgh. Plus, I still take part in various clubs outside of school, such as playing the piano and guitar."

Currently my favourite subjects are Maths, Geography and PE. I would love to get into STEM, law or something medical in the future, I have not decided yet."

Ashleigh Williams 9LJF



Literature Festival featuring rapper Karl Nova

GIFTED & TALENTED STUDENTS

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.

We provide additional 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.

We also offer 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 is an important aspect of our teaching and learning.

We run additional qualifications such as the Higher Project Qualification in Year 10 and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Sixth Form which replicate a university dissertation.



Year 10 Cricket Team

'Pupils achieve extremely well across the full range of subjects and in all key stages. Pupils who are disadvantaged and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) share this high achievement.'

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

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

Details are included in a 'Parent/Carer and Students Handbook' which is 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 extra-curricular 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. Please refer to our uniform expectations for clarity;
- 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;
- Regularly let your tutor know your intentions for lunch time and inform them of any changes to your intentions;
- Allow us to report your future destination to the Local Authority at the end of Year 11 as part of the Youth Support Services Agreement,

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.



STUDENT VIEW

"The Induction Days were good. We got to have a taste of an English, Maths and Science lesson and then picked an option to also try out. My fourth lesson option was PE, they were all fun.

I like the fact there is a lot of group work during lessons. Classes are relaxed but also varied. You feel like you are at university because you are treated like an adult and an individual. There is a lot more freedom at WBHS.

For my options I have picked IT, Business,

DT (Timbers) and History. I picked these as I felt they were broad and would give me a lot of options in the future. IT is one of my favourite subjects and I hope to go into computing as a career as I think this is an ever-growing area of the future job market.

It is easy to navigate around the new school, there are lots of signs, but don't be afraid to ask for help if you do get lost, the teachers are really friendly."

Will Thompson 9IAB

'The well-planned approach to personal development also makes pupils feel safe, trusted and listened to.'

Girls Under 18 Football Team - English School's National Finalist 2025



SPORT & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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

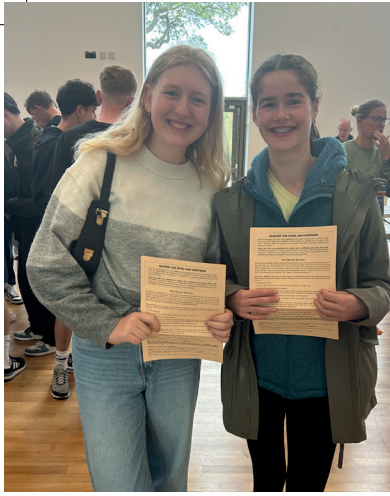
In Physical Education lessons students are encouraged to learn about the health benefits of physical activity through regular participation. A whole host of sports teams and clubs are available to all students, filling break and lunch time and carrying on after school and at weekends. Students regularly compete within school and in local and national competitions. New school facilities include a four court badminton Sports Hall, two activity gyms and a functional fitness room. We also have a 3G 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.

Students who choose additional PE in Year 9 have the option of two routes. One is more team sport specific, looking to build on team tactics, rules and skills development. The second option focuses on aspects of the mental/ social and physical health participating in activities such as fitness, yoga and pilates.

We also have a Volleyball Academy which offers students opportunities to be coached by a national coach alongside their studies. This is part of the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme. Students selected will train throughout the day and play in the National League.



GCSE Results Day



Year 11 History Trip to Durham



PE Climbing Wall Lesson

PASTORAL CARE

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/carers. 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

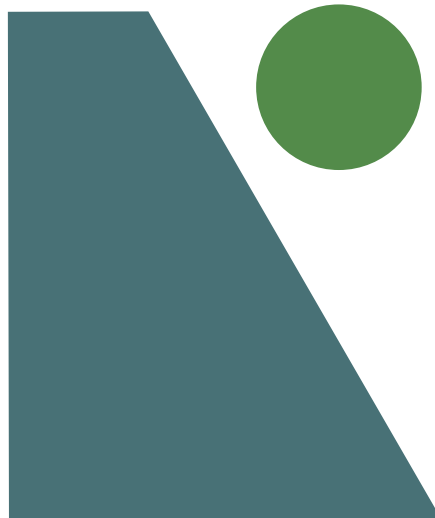
Relationships, Sex and Health Education forms a part of the curriculum for all students. Lessons focus on aspects of the emotional, moral, health and wellbeing of healthy relationships which includes sexual health. Our SRE policy and topic overview is on our website.

Parents/carers may, if they wish, withdraw their child from all or part of the Sex and Relationships Education programme. Parents/carers 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, with religious issues and ideas considered in a number of subjects. Our LEV course also includes a dedicated "beliefs" module which 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. Whilst considering the contributions of different religious and non-religious points of view, the course does not assume that any particular religious or philosophical 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 & Ethics which looks at philosophy of religion, ultimate questions, major philosophers, moral and ethical issues.





Whitley Bay High School Choir

In later years, religious and philosophical education continues to be incorporated into our pastoral program and subject curricula. Religious Education can be taken as a GCSE subject and we have just introduced Philosophy as an A Level option considering Ethics, Epistemology and Metaphysics, including the Metaphysics of God. There is also the opportunity to consider religious questions as part of the EPQ course.

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

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.



F1 in Schools Competition

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 the WBHS Careers Team consisting of specialist career development practitioners 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.



'There is a powerful sense of community at the school.'

OFSTED VI
OFSTED VI
OFSTED VI
OFSTED VI



Graffiti Art Workshop

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 13,500 items including an extensive book stock, 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 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/carers 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/carers will be fully informed in advance of any costs involved for activities in which their child 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

Our catering provider Mellors, has increased the variety of food on offer at the school. This has made a big difference in the range and quality of food available.

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 vary each day and include salads, vegetarian dishes, main meals and other healthy options. A range of drinks options 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/carer wish to make a complaint they should contact the Headteacher. An official complaints procedure is available from the Clerk to the Governing Body.



OFSTED VIEW
OFSTED VIEW
OFSTED VIEW
OFSTED VIEW

'This calm, safe and inclusive atmosphere is founded on extremely strong and supportive relationships at all levels.'

Overall effectiveness - Outstanding
The quality of education - Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes - Outstanding
Personal development - Outstanding
Leadership and management - Outstanding
Sixth-form provision - Outstanding



STUDENT VIEW

"Whitley Bay High School is quite big, but it only took a couple of days for me to find my way around and know where all my classrooms were. Students in older years groups were very willing to help if I got lost.

Lessons are very easy flowing, and I feel like teachers listen to you more. Teachers are very accommodating to students' needs and go out of their way to help you.

My favourite subjects are PE, History and Food Technology. I like to work with my hands. I would love to have a career in sport or where I am helping people, such as in the police or in medicine. I feel like I would like to give back to the community with the job I do.

In school I plays girls' football and out of school I am on the team for Whitley Bay Football Club. I also play rugby for Rockcliffe, and I hope to take up tennis in the summer.

My advice to students starting in September is to try not to worry, take a leap of faith and you will quickly make new friends."

Neve Leach gVAJ

VISITING THE SCHOOL

All Year 8 students who expect to join us in September 2026 will be invited to spend two full days with us on Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July 2025. 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/carers will be invited to an evening meeting on Tuesday 23rd June 2026 when they will be introduced to staff, learn more about the school and be given a handbook of important information.

Parents/carers 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.

**OUR OPEN
EVENING IS
SCHEDULED FOR
TUESDAY 23RD
SEPTEMBER**

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).

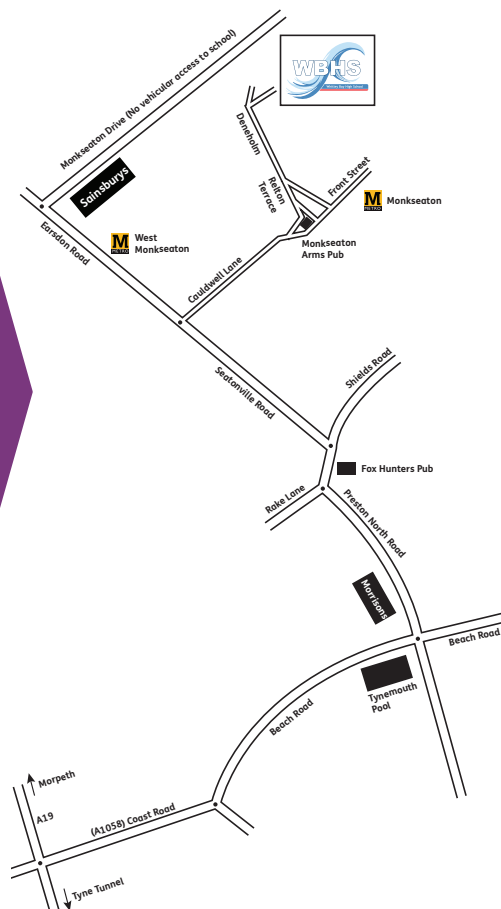
From Cauldwell Lane turn into Relton Terrace at the Monkseaton Arms.

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.



APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF GCSE GRADES ACHIEVED 2024

Subject (GCSE)	Ent	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
English Language	354	17	25	44	71	76	67	38	12	3
English Literature	348	21	22	33	94	81	47	34	14	2
Maths	356	23	43	40	68	75	58	30	13	6
Art & Design (Fine Art)	73	5	11	24	19	10	3	1	0	0
Biology	46	13	7	12	13	1	0	0	0	0
Business Studies	176	11	22	16	40	40	20	20	7	0
Chemistry	46	14	10	11	6	5	0	0	0	0
Computer Science	32	4	8	3	12	3	1	1	0	0
D&T: Papers & Boards	16	0	0	0	2	4	3	3	2	2
Drama	19	2	4	6	3	4	0	0	0	0
D&T: Systems & Control	17	0	0	1	7	4	2	2	1	0
D&T: Timbers	34	0	2	4	6	9	5	2	6	0
French	32	5	4	3	4	8	2	3	2	0
D&T: Food and Nutrition	128	6	14	30	36	20	16	6	0	0
Geography	179	12	22	31	38	34	17	18	5	2
German	59	6	7	9	6	23	5	3	0	0
History	172	18	18	28	37	30	7	18	11	5
Music	13	5	0	2	1	2	2	1	0	0
PE	81	4	3	11	18	23	14	6	2	0
Art & Design Photography	22	0	0	0	1	6	12	3	0	0
Physics	46	12	10	9	9	6	0	0	0	0
Religious Studies	18	1	0	5	4	7	1	0	0	0
Spanish	51	2	5	7	2	17	13	5	0	0
Textiles	27	2	3	4	8	5	5	0	0	0
Italian	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2346	184	240	333	505	493	300	194	75	20

U	9-7	9-4	9-1
1	86	300	353
0	76	298	348
0	106	307	356
0	40	72	73
0	32	46	46
0	49	149	176
0	35	46	46
0	15	31	32
0	0	9	16
0	12	19	19
0	1	14	17
0	6	26	34
1	12	26	31
0	50	122	128
0	65	154	179
0	22	56	59
0	64	138	172
0	7	12	13
0	18	73	81
0	0	19	22
0	31	46	46
0	6	18	18
0	14	46	51
0	9	27	27
0	1	1	1
2	757	2055	2344

Subject (CAMNAT)	ENT	L2D*	L2D	L2M	L2P	L1D	L1M	L1P
Child Development	39	6	16	8	8	1	0	0
Health & Social Care	60	8	21	15	10	5	1	0
IT (Digital)	62	2	12	23	20	5	0	0
PE (Sport Studies)	50	0	13	21	12	4	0	0
Total	211	16	62	67	50	15	1	0

U	L2D*- L2D	L2D*- L2P	L2D*- L1P
0	22	38	39
0	29	54	60
0	14	57	62
0	13	46	50
0	78	195	211

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)	600	11	6	6	12	22	24	20	24	56	30	27	29	17	9	4	1	2	0	114	476	600

Total Results
3157

9-7	9-4	9-1
949	2726	3155

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	96.6%	83.5%	79.3%	81.6%	99.4%	96.6%	99.4%	99.4%
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 2025

Subject (A-Level)	Ent	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A* -A	A* -B	A* - E
Art & Design (Fine Art)	28	9	7	8	3	1	0	0	16	24	28
Biology	61	4	20	12	10	14	1	0	24	36	61
Business Studies	70	2	8	15	27	14	3	1	10	25	69
Chemistry	46	10	8	11	8	6	3	0	18	29	46
Computer Science	15	1	2	6	1	5	0	0	3	9	15
Economics	41	0	5	17	15	2	1	1	5	22	40
English Language	36	2	7	18	7	2	0	0	9	27	36
English Literature	32	3	2	17	7	3	0	0	5	22	32
Environmental Science	24	1	3	2	9	7	1	1	4	6	23
French	8	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	3	6	8
Further Mathematics	10	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	9	10	10
Geography	38	2	5	10	15	6	0	0	7	17	38
German	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	3
History	46	2	12	18	9	4	1	0	14	32	46
English Lang & Lit	16	2	2	3	6	3	0	0	4	7	16
Mathematics	89	19	29	15	12	7	6	1	48	63	88
Media Studies	53	3	8	26	15	0	0	1	11	37	52
Music	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Physical Education	30	3	2	8	8	6	3	0	5	13	30
Physics	37	5	6	11	5	6	3	1	11	22	36
Psychology	75	5	15	21	19	12	3	0	20	41	75
Philosophy	14	1	1	4	4	2	2	0	2	6	14
Spanish	6	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	2	6
D&T Design Engineering	24	1	2	2	8	4	5	2	3	5	22
Theatre Studies	5	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	5	5
Textiles	9	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	6	9	9

Subject (Single Award Applied General)	Ent	Dist*	Dist	Merit	Pass	U	D*- D	D*-M	D*-P
Applied Business	22	0	7	14	1	0	7	21	22
Applied ICT	36	9	13	13	1	0	22	35	36
Food Science & Nutrition	13	0	2	10	1	0	2	12	13
Health & Social Care	17	3	9	5	0	0	12	17	17
Sport Studies	11	2	6	3	0	0	8	11	11

Subject (Double Award Applied General)	Res	D*D*	D*D	DD	DM	MM	MP	PP	U	D*- D	D*D*-MM	D*D*-PP
Applied ICT	15	2	3	5	2	2	1	0	0	10	14	15
Health & Social Care	15	7	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	14	15	15
Sport Studies	10	3	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	9	10	10

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

APPENDIX 3

DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Total Number of entrants	379	301	343
% staying in school or further / higher education	95%	96%	78%
% entering employment	0%	1%	2%
% entering youth training / apprenticeships	5%	3%	12%
% others	0%	0%	8%

APPENDIX 4

GROUP ANALYSIS BY ATTENDANCE

Scope: Years 9, 10 & 11

Percentage of Sessions

Group	Presents	AEA	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
Year 9	93.4	0.8	4.9	0.9	100	94.2
Year 10	90.1	3.4	5.5	1.0	100	93.5
Year 11	91.9	1.3	5.0	1.7	100	93.2
Totals	91.8	1.9	5.2	1.2	100	93.6

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

*Students leave school at the end of Lesson 4 on Tuesday



Follow us on instagram

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