

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

~2021-22~





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 very 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 and interests. 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 when we were selected as one of the first 100 Teaching Schools in the country, with a special responsibility to lead training on outstanding teaching across the region.

Since our outstanding Ofsted report in 2013, our GCSE and A Level results have improved still further. Our 2020 GCSE results again 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 A Level results place us as one of the highest performing Sixth Forms in the country. We are obviously proud of the Ofsted report and 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.

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 a very 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

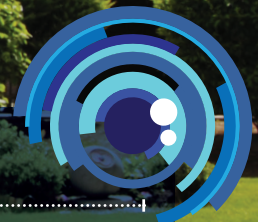
'When starting Whitley Bay High, I was nervous, but I soon found that there was nothing to be nervous or scared about because all the teachers and students made it as easy as possible to fit in. I think it is great to be able to choose an extra subject as it made me feel more responsible about my education. I love how the lessons build up from knowledge that you already have but, at the same time, teach you new things as well. All of the teachers I have worked with are great and always seem to know when to push you to go further yet still ensure that you understand the topics as they can get complex. I enjoy the freedom and the trust that teachers have in you, as it helped me build confidence in myself knowing that teachers believe in me. Also, I enjoy the wide range of opportunities given in regards to school clubs as I love getting involved with extra-curricular activities. The clubs have definitely been memorable for me as I gained skills in sports (such as Netball) that I did not know I could be good at and even got to compete in a Netball tournament which was great fun! The advice I have for future Year 9 students is to take every opportunity you get at this school because Whitley Bay High offers so many great things and you should take advantage of every chance. Also, make sure you enjoy yourself as well as working hard because it is such an incredible school and you should enjoy every moment you have here.'

Beth Hargreaves



Ofsted View

'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.'



Exam Success

GCSE

After being named by the government as one of the top 100 highest performing schools in the country we again achieved outstanding success in 2020 at GCSE. 85% of all Whitley Bay High School students achieved the new 9 - 4 grade in both English and Maths. Over 91% achieved a grade 4 or higher in English and over 87% a grade 4 or higher in Maths. What is particularly pleasing is students of all abilities achieved excellent grades that far exceeded national predictions. Over 88% of all grades across all subjects were 9 - 4 or A* - C. These results again place WBHS as one of the top performing schools in the country.

A Level

Our A Level 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 2020 were again excellent. We had 100% pass rate for all students in every subject. Over 65% of all A Level grades were either A*, A or B and over 90% of all grades were A* - C. The average A Level grade was a B. This places the Sixth Form as the highest performing Post 16 provider in the region. A large majority of Year 13 go on to university and 95% of students who applied were successful in gaining a university place.

Whilst we are justifiably pleased with our examination 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 high self-esteem.

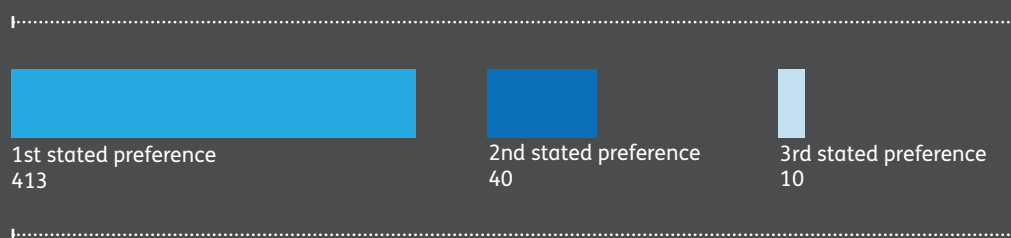
88% OVER

OF ALL GRADES
ACROSS ALL
SUBJECTS WERE
A* - C.

Admissions

Parents are entitled to express a preference about which school their daughter/son should attend, and for this reason, we are delighted to welcome parents 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 will be given the opportunity to express a preferred choice of High School in the autumn term. Parents of Year 8 students attending schools outside North Tyneside should contact the North Tyneside LA Admission Officer for further information.

For September 2020, the number of parents who expressed a preference for sending their daughter/son to Whitley Bay High School was:



The total number of admissions to Year 9 in September 2020 was 370 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 (0191 7317070). 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



Exciting Teaching and Learning is at the heart of the school's ethos. Students will learn in a wide variety of ways and each lesson is designed to challenge students whilst providing a safe and nurturing environment. Each student is encouraged to actively participate in lessons through group work, pair work, discussions and independent study.

The aim of the curriculum is to enable each student to achieve her or his full potential. We do this by organising a weekly timetable of lessons using a variety of learning and teaching styles and providing the best resources we can. We deliver a curriculum that allows a balance of core academic subjects alongside a wide range of creative options. We are dedicated to skill development and encourage students to be curious and ask questions. Educational visits and residential courses are sometimes used to enhance the curriculum. Homework enables students to extend their studies and practise skills they have learned in lessons. It helps students to learn to work on their own, and also to involve their parents in their studies. All students should expect a reasonable, but not excessive, amount of homework

Our ambition is to improve the quality of students' independent study through high quality feedback that they receive about their work. We encourage students to approach their studies by being fully equipped and ready to learn. This helps to raise standards even further.

Examinations

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 A Level 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 2020 are given at the end of this prospectus.

Year 9

The Year 9 curriculum in 2020/21 consists of the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art
- French and/or German
- Geography
- History
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Technology
- Life – Equality – Values
- Information & Communications Technology (which is taught across the curriculum)

In addition, students choose one additional subject and, for September 2020, the choice was from:

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

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



Ofsted View

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

Challenge Week

All 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.



Challenge Week 2019

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 which is the old Double Science). Physical Education is a compulsory non-examination course, and students develop their IT skills across the curriculum in a range of subjects.

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

The following subjects are offered but not all of these courses run each year as they are dependent on numbers:

- Art and Design
- Applied Studies / Work Related Learning
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Design Technology with three different materials options, including Papers and Boards, Timbers and Systems
- Drama
- Food Technology
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Music
- Physical Education, with both GCSE and Vocational options
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Spanish
- Textiles Technology
- Vocational Applied GCSE Health & Social Care
- Vocational Digital Information Technology

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



Ofsted View

‘Teaching is exciting and innovative.’

Day in the Life

Year 9 students 2018/19



Kitty

Kitty Southern 9IMT

Kitty joined Whitley Bay High School from Marden Bridge Middle School and her favourite subjects are all the Sciences and Art. In her spare time Kitty plays bass in a band which started up in her middle school and has grown since being at Whitley Bay High School. Kitty's had a great first year in WBHS. "I have made loads of new friends since starting in Year 9. There have been so many amazing opportunities to get involved in. I have loved my first year!"



Lesson One

Kitty's first lesson of the day is Art where she continues to work on a 3D Bug Project.



Lesson Two

Kitty takes part in a practical during a Science lesson.



Lesson Five

Kitty ends the day outside playing cricket during her PE lesson.



Lesson Four

After lunch Kitty works in a pair looking at circuit boards in her Technology lesson.



Lesson Three

Kitty prepares to feedback her answers in a Maths lesson.

Ofsted View

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

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. Here we've followed two Year 9 students, Kitty and Finn, to get a flavour of a typical day at Whitley Bay High School.

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.



Finn

Finn Dickinson 9J10

Finn joined Whitley Bay High School from Valley Gardens Middle School and his favourite subjects are History and English. In his spare time Finn likes to go Kayaking in Cullercoats Bay with the Bike and Kayak Club. He also enjoys reading and caring for his aquarium and pet fish. Finn's had a great first year in WBHS. "Studying at WBHS is great. The lessons are very engaging and I am never bored. I feel supported and that people are there to help me if I need it."



Lesson Two
Finn completes a group practical in his Technology lesson.



Lesson One
Finn has his English lesson in the Library analysing his set texts.



Lesson Three
Before lunch Finn is working in a pair to complete a food practical in his Food Technology lesson.



Lesson Four
After lunch Finn is working on his German vocabulary in his MFL lesson.



Lesson Five
Finn is discussing historical events with his teacher in his History lesson.



Ofsted View



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'Sixth Form students benefit from first-rate advice, guidance and care.'
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Support, guidance and advice for next steps



Year 12 trip to CERN Switzerland

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 stay on 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 530 in total. Despite such large numbers, students receive regular support by meeting daily with their tutor.

To assist students, advice and guidance relating to study skills, time management, university applications, careers, etc. is provided by a large team comprising of: Director of Sixth Form; a Head of Year 13; a Head of Year 12; four Post-16 Guidance Tutors and 23 Sixth Form Tutors. Students can choose from 31 different subjects to study at Advanced Level. Full details of subjects, choices and courses are made available to Year 11 students in school during the Autumn and Spring Terms and students from other schools can request details by contacting the Sixth Form Office by telephone on 0191 731 7070. A considerable amount of time is invested in advising Year 11 students about the different post-16 options available to them and the school is assisted in this by the North Tyneside Connexions Service. Each student has an individual meeting with a senior member of school staff to help guide them and can receive a careers advice meeting with our North Tyneside Careers advisor. Students applying to the Sixth Form from other schools have a guidance meeting with a member of the Sixth Form Team to ensure that the course they are considering studying will allow them to progress on to their chosen university course or career. 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 the local community, which includes the opportunity of studying accredited courses such as EPQ or Core Maths. These experiences are designed to broaden their understanding of the world around them and develop transferable skills that will benefit their other subjects.



Next Steps...

For further information about courses in Years 12 and 13, please contact Helen Davison or Alison Wood, Sixth Form Administrators, at the school on 0191 731 7070.

The Sixth Form has benefited from greatly improved facilities in recent years. These include a recently refurbished Advanced Learning Centre, including a Sixth Form Café and an ICT Suite for Sixth Form use only, 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.

Ofsted View

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

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.

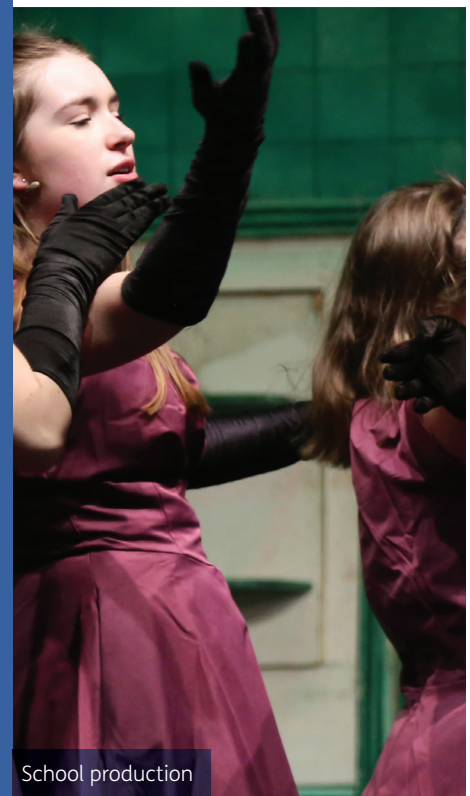
Recent school activities have included the following:

- Visit of actor and Stonewall campaigner Sir Ian McKellen
- 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 (our Year 9 team were one of the youngest teams competing)
- 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
- An annual service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas in a local church
- Educational Trips to London, Paris, Amsterdam, Iceland, Dubai, New York, Kenya, Moscow and St Petersburg, and to CERN in Geneva
- Competed in Citizen Foundation Year 9 Magistrates Mock Trial
- Industrial link projects including the Engineering Education Scheme
- National winners of the 2016 ‘Tycoon in Schools’ competition at Buckingham Palace
- 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 (Year 11 Football Team – league and cup winners)
- Under 16 Netball Team – North Tyneside champions and National Finalists
- Media Oscars Night at Tyneside Cinema
- 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
- Challenge Week
- HPQ and EPQ qualifications which

These are only some examples of the many opportunities available.



Athletics Team



School production



F1 in Schools Year 10 team



Food Club



Ofsted View

'The school is a place where everyone's talents are found, nurtured and shared.'

Enjoying and achieving



Student View

'When I started WBHS I felt a little lost as there were so many people in my year, but I soon settled in and started to enjoy the creativity of lessons and how there are far more interesting topics with lessons that have practical elements to them. What I enjoy most is the new style of teaching as well as the freedom we have. Next year I'm taking history, geography, computer science and systems technology so I'm really looking forward to Year 10. My advice to a new student is that although it will feel weird to start with, you soon get used to where things are and how the school works.'

Jamie Nicholson

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

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

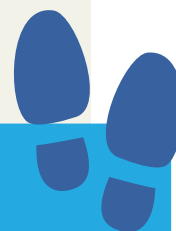
We value, respect and nurture these students to help them overcome any challenges they face. We do our best to respond to each student's needs, and use a variety of resources and strategies for this purpose. The school's policy on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is based on the guidelines 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.



Ofsted View

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'Students who are disabled and those who have special educational needs make outstanding progress in school.'
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Next Steps...

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

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Starting as a new student in WBHS was scary at first. I thought that I may lose touch with old friends and struggle to make new ones but when I got into my new classes I found myself making more friends and having a lot of fun! There are so many activities and clubs to get involved with and where you can meet new people with similar interests. All the teachers are really friendly and approachable. They treat you like an adult which is very different from primary school and a nice change. For my Year 10 options, I have chosen art, history, German and philosophy and ethics. I chose these because I love the way art is taught at school and I have learned a lot of new techniques. I also really like philosophy, questioning life and exploring different ideas.

Aaliyah Smart
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Gifted and 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.
- 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 and the EPQ in Sixth Form which replicate a university dissertation.



Y12 Science Lesson

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.

Ofsted View

‘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.’



School Expectations

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 and students are also expected to sign a home-school agreement, issued to students in September in Tutorial. Our expectations of students are as follows:

- treat staff, both teachers and support staff, with respect
- respect the rights of others
- be aware of, and strive to meet the needs of others, where appropriate
- obey reasonable instructions given, without argument
- use the homework folder, app or my own diary to keep up to date with homework and organise my learning
- be responsible for transmitting information between school and home
- attend regularly and punctually
- carry the School Identity Card at all times
- wear the correct school uniform
- follow the guidelines for moving safely around the school
- in lessons switch mobile to silent mode unless you have permission from the teacher to use it for learning
- not eat or chew gum during lessons
- not smoke or vape in, or around, school premises.

Parents 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 exclusion.



Student View

At first, WBHS seemed huge compared to my previous school. It was quite intimidating! But it was easy to find your way around; the rooms are labelled and there is always a teacher or someone around to help you! The lessons are always enjoyable, and I've really learnt a lot in my first year here. My favourite part of Year 9 was when I went on a trip to Northumbria University to do an animation workshop, I loved it! It was so interesting! There are a lot of opportunities in this school, and I would recommend getting involved in as many clubs and trips as you can! This will make your time in school very enjoyable and you will learn a lot!

Lewis Olley



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, many starting at 8:00am, filling every break and lunch time and carrying on after school and at weekends. Students regularly compete within school and in local and national competitions. We have excellent facilities including a 4G and 3G pitch, 3 large sports halls and a newly refurbished dance studio. 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 exam work.

Year 10 students have the opportunity to complete the Junior Sports Leaders Award. 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.

Pastoral Care

The Tutorial System

Each student joining the school is allocated to a tutor group usually consisting of no more than 25 students from the same year group. The tutorial group meets at the beginning of the morning session every day, and the tutor is thus in regular contact with each student. On Wednesday mornings there is a tutorial lesson, which allows tutors and students to consider and discuss learning and 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 wish to get in touch concerning their daughter/son, 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 deal with anatomical and other factual aspects of the subject as well as the emotional, moral, health and wellbeing elements. Our SRE policy is on our website.

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

Religious Education

Religious Education is introduced in Year 9 as part of the core curriculum and is delivered within the Life, Equality and Values module 'Beliefs'. 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.

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. Every few weeks the assembly is led by a representative of a religious organisation. The tutor will lead a time of reflection or a "thought for the week" in tutorial groups.

Student View

"I was worried that I wouldn't be able to make friends but when I started I realised I knew a lot of people from my first school as well as middle school. The teachers are very nice and understanding, they make you feel welcome straight away and support you a lot in your learning. For my GCSE options, I chose history, art, german and computing science. I made sure I chose subjects which I thought would be interesting, challenging and fun. I had a very good year at WBHS!"

Olivia Wilcox



Ofsted View

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

Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

Good quality careers education will raise the aspirations of all young people. It will increase motivation by linking activities in school with preparation for life post 16 and post 18. CEIAG will therefore contribute to raising pupil achievement, help students focus on their longer-term career ambitions and ensure 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.

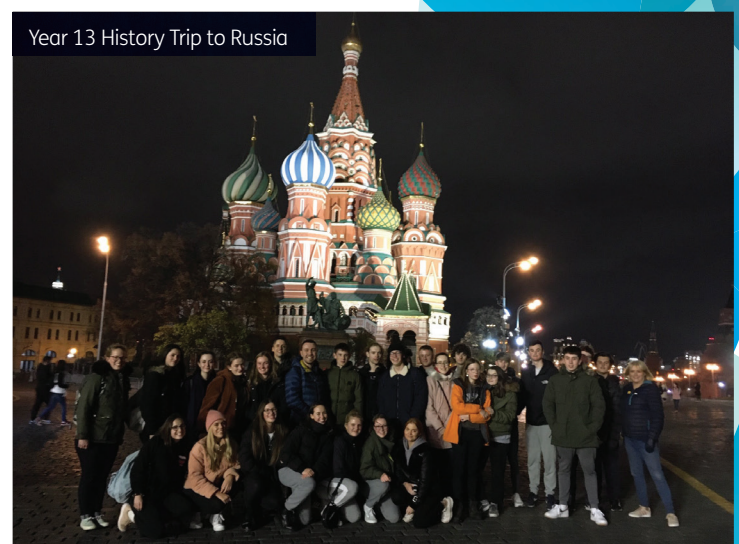
CEIAG is ongoing throughout the academic year and is delivered through guidance time in tutorials, collapsed timetable events and is enhanced by working with local businesses, colleges and Universities.

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

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 secure access to unbiased and impartial careers guidance for their students. In conjunction with our existing provision, Whitley Bay High School works closely with the Connexions service who supply specialist guidance practitioners to work with identified students during the academic year. This includes 1-1 sessions with students as well as work with form classes and CPD with tutors and teaching staff. We also have close links with local colleges, who provide information about courses that Whitley Bay High School does not offer.



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.'

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. 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.

Ofsted View

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



Student View

When I first started at WBHS I felt nervous and was very big on your first day! But the teachers at WBHS are very kind and they can help you if you need it. I signed up to be a Library Assistant which has helped me make new friends. I like that I can go out for lunch with my friends and we can pursue German, geography, digital information technology and other subjects that I will be well supported at WBHS. My advice is do your best!

James Drummond





U15 Netball Team

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).

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 'Qube'. 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.

*s worried I would get lost. The school can seem
S are always helpful and will help you in any way
h helps me get to know people and make new
ends at lunchtime. For GCSE, I have chosen to
hology and food and nutrition. I am confident
do not worry too much, you will fit in fine!*



Year 11 St James Park Enterprise Day

Visiting the School

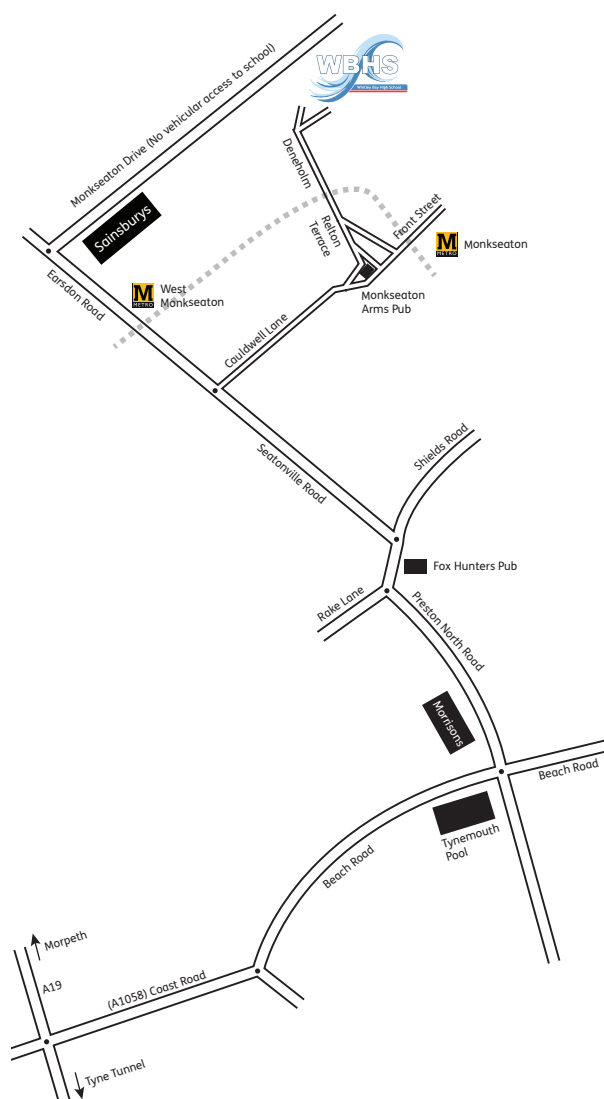
Given the current situation the advice is that Open Evening cannot safely go ahead. Therefore in order to give you an insight into the school's ethos, curriculum and student learning experience we have produced a short video for you to watch. This can be found on the school website and we strongly recommend you and your child watch this together.

All Year 8 students who expect to join us in September 2021 will be invited to spend two full days with us on Tuesday 29th June and Wednesday 30th June 2021. This will help students to find their way around, meet their new teachers and begin to get to know the school and its routines.

Parents will be invited to an evening meeting on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 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.

Appendix 1

Summary of GCSE Grades Achieved 2020

Subject (GCSE)	Ent	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	9 - 7	9 - 4	9 - 1
English language	365	10	18	53	81	91	67	32	11	2	0	81	320	365
English Literature	363	10	26	51	77	97	72	23	6	1	0	87	333	363
Maths	365	26	30	53	60	84	65	29	11	7	0	109	318	365
Art & Design (Fine Art)	89	5	8	16	27	18	13	2	0	0	0	29	87	89
Biology	46	10	18	12	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	40	46	46
Business Studies	214	4	17	19	42	49	50	30	3	0	0	40	181	214
Chemistry	46	15	16	10	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	41	46	46
Computer Science	41	4	5	5	12	7	7	1	0	0	0	14	40	41
D&T: Papers & Boards	19	2	3	3	3	2	4	2	0	0	0	8	17	19
Drama	25	3	3	4	7	5	2	1	0	0	0	10	24	25
D&T: Systems & Control	58	5	7	7	15	10	9	5	0	0	0	19	53	58
D&T: Timbers	40	1	1	4	10	6	8	8	2	0	0	6	30	40
French	83	5	5	8	13	27	11	13	0	0	1	18	69	82
D&T: Food and Nutrition	79	2	5	11	18	23	13	7	0	0	0	18	72	79
Geography	232	8	25	29	48	53	50	16	3	0	0	62	213	232
German	18	1	3	3	1	3	5	2	0	0	0	7	16	18
History	228	26	28	36	37	50	34	12	3	2	0	90	211	228
Music	16	3	2	2	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	7	16	16
PE	92	5	11	15	16	21	18	5	1	0	0	31	86	92
Art & Design Photography	15	0	0	1	3	7	4	0	0	0	0	1	15	15
Physics	46	18	11	13	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	46	46
Textiles	13	4	0	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	6	13	13
Total	2,493	167	242	357	489	562	435	188	40	12	1	766	2,252	2,492

Subject (CAMNAT)	ENT	L2D*	L2D	L2M	L2P	L1D	L1M	L1P	U	L2D* - L2D	L2D* - L2P	L2D* - L1P
Child Development	25	2	4	8	7	3	1	0	0	6	21	25
Health & Social Care	38	3	21	11	0	2	1	0	0	24	35	38
PE (Sport Studies)	32	4	9	10	6	2	0	1	0	13	29	32
IT (Digital) - Tech Award	69	23	5	17	24	0	0	0	0	28	69	69
Total	164	32	39	46	37	7	2	1	0	71	154	164

Subject (GCSE)	Ent	99	98	88	87	77	76	66	65	55	U	9-7	9-4	9-1
Science: Trilogy (Double Award)	316	3	4	9	14	14	24	41	22	56	0	88	512	632
		54	44	43	33	32	22	21	11			88	512	632
		38	31	22	21	11	5	1	0					

Total Entries	3,289	A* - A/9 - 7	A* - C/9 - 4	A* - G/9 - 1
		925	2,918	3,288

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	Achieving 5+ GCSE 9 - 1	Entered for 1+ GCSE	Achieving 1+ GCSE 9 - 1	Achieving no passes
WBHS	98.1%	84.8%	81.6%	84.6%	99.2%	100%	100%	0%
North Tyneside	N/A	N/A	N/A	63.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Appendix 2

Summary of A-Level Grades Achieved 2020

Subject (A-Level)	Ent	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A* - B	A* - E
Art & Design (Fine Art)	16	6	3	6	1	0	0	0	15	16
Biology	63	7	11	13	16	13	3	0	31	63
Business Studies	36	0	4	12	18	2	0	0	16	36
Chemistry	40	6	9	12	8	4	1	0	27	40
Computer Science	20	0	6	3	8	1	2	0	9	20
Economics	38	3	7	10	12	6	0	0	20	38
English Language	22	3	7	6	4	2	0	0	16	22
English Literature	38	3	8	16	9	2	0	0	27	38
French	12	2	2	3	4	1	0	0	7	21
Further Mathematics	13	5	5	3	0	0	0	0	13	13
Geography	50	2	19	9	12	8	0	0	30	50
German	5	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	5	5
History	53	3	11	23	15	1	0	0	37	53
English Language & Literature	10	0	1	6	3	0	0	0	7	10
Mathematics	80	14	21	30	12	3	0	0	65	80
Media Studies	42	1	11	17	9	3	1	0	29	42
Music	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Physical Education	19	1	3	3	5	5	2	0	7	19
Physics	39	6	8	10	9	6	0	0	24	39
Psychology	63	4	16	18	18	7	0	0	38	63
D&T Design Engineering	7	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	5	7
Theatre Studies	10	1	2	5	2	0	0	0	8	10
Total	678	69	157	212	167	64	9	0	438	678
Subject (Applied General)	Ent	Dist*	Dist	Merit	Pass	U	D* - M	D* - P		
Applied Business	8	0	3	5	0	0	8	8		
Applied Science	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	2		
Applied ICT	13	10	1	2	0	0	13	13		
Health & Social Care	16	5	8	2	1	0	15	6		
Total	39	15	12	10	2	0	37	39		

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	370	285	253
% staying in school or further education	89%	98%	78%
% entering employment	0%	0%	3%
% entering youth training / apprenticeships	4%	1%	11%
% others	7%	1%	8%

Appendix 4

Group Analysis by Attendance

Scope: Years 9, 10 & 11

Percentage of Sessions

Group	Presents	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
Year 9	95.0	3.7	0.5	100	95.8
Year 10	93.4	4.6	1.1	100	94.3
Year 11	91.8	4.2	1.5	100	94.3
Totals	93.4	4.2	1.0	100	94.8

Figures to Friday 20th March (when school closed due to COVID-19)

Appendix 5

The School Day

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

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



WBHS

Whitley Bay High School

Whitley Bay High School
Deneholm
Whitley Bay
Tyne and Wear
NE25 9AS

T. 0191 731 7070
E. whitleybay.high@northtyneside.gov.uk
W. www.whitleybayhighschool.org