



Westhoughton
HIGH SCHOOL



LEARN





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Headteacher's Welcome

Westhoughton High School is a caring and vibrant school that sits at the very heart of the local community. This is a school where high expectations and exceptional working relationships between students and staff create a learning environment where everyone is able to shine. It is our belief that a school is so much more than a series of lessons; we are an inclusive community where diversity, individuality and creativity are nurtured.

Our ethos is built around our core LEARN values. These values underpin all that we strive to do in school, which is what makes WHS a happy place to work and learn.

Look after each other

Enjoy School

Aim High

Respect each other, ourselves and our school community

Never Stop Learning

Our prospectus is just the start of your journey to find out about our school. It will give you a glimpse of school life, the curriculum and the extra-curricular activities that we currently offer. More information is available on the school website, and of course the best way to find out about the life of our school is to visit us in person.

I hope that, like I do, you will love our school, what we stand for and want to join the brilliant young people and staff that make our school what it is.

Mr N. S. Coe

Headteacher





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A Message from our Head Prefects

Our school highlights all the best qualities of what a great school should look and feel like. The school feels like one big family where the sense of community can be felt throughout. Not only are the teachers amazing at helping you reach your full potential but they are also great at supporting the students when they need it most. Lessons are engaging and the time passes quickly when we are learning. The possibilities in our school are endless and the specialised staff are like no others!

Ellis G

If you were to ask me, Westhoughton High School has a magical feeling that can sense as you walk down our drive. The school respects diverse backgrounds, nurtures hidden potential and celebrates personality. At our school you are pushed to be the very best version of yourself and aim high. The facilities at our school are exceptional with many opportunities to develop academic and social skills. The facilities support our school community as they learn. We know the importance of showing respect for each other. We hope you will consider joining our very special community.

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Student's Statements

The Student Support Leaders are the best because they are always there to help you.

I enjoy Westhoughton High School because we are constantly helping our local community.

I particularly love WHS because the work we do with the community and charities is amazing. Everyone works together to make sure no one is let out at Christmas and Easter.

I like the lessons at Westhoughton High School because you learn about interesting subjects and the teachers are very welcoming.

I like Westhoughton High because it feels like a community who help each other, and I feel safe. It's like being part of a big family.

The school is good because we help the community inside and outside of school with our Community Champions.

Moving to a new school with new people can be scary but when you settle in you will feel right at home. If you ever feel lost you can talk to your amazing heads of year, they are extremely kind and will be there for you for your entire journey here and so is your form tutor and all of your teachers.

Westhoughton High school has not only helped me to develop skills by learning new ways to achieve the goals I set myself but it has also helped me understand how to succeed in the world today. In our school we use our ethos of LEARN to look after everyone in our school community. We never stop learning.

WHS is more than a school it's a community that has not only helped me but my three brothers to succeed. It has helped me strive to achieve, through the support of teachers and other students. I have been supported both academically and emotionally.

On my first day I was so nervous and excited. The teachers are so nice and kind, if anything happened you can talk to them and they will help you. My favourite thing about high school is making new friends and learning new things every day. Even on bad days but there will always be someone there for you.

I love 'Let's Share Christmas/Easter' where we can give something to support the local community and less fortunate.

Westhoughton High School has allowed me to discover what direction I want to take my life. They have done this in the way we learn, developing my skills for life.

I like Westhoughton High School because you make caring friends.

“The relationships I have with my teachers are great because they are always there for me.”





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Look after each other

Care

Looking after everyone in our community is at the very heart of what we do. We believe that working in partnership with our parents, carers and families is the best way to get the best out of, and for, our students. Frequent communication between home and school happens online through School Synergy. We have achieved the Leading Parent Partnership Award and our IWO works closely with local families and support groups. We expect our parents to attend Parents' Evenings and events. Research tells us that children do best when they are supported at home and there is a positive relationship between home and school.

Community

We are a community comprehensive school and we believe that our students should develop a keen appreciation of their heritage, and pride in their town and country. We have strong links with our local primary schools, local businesses and the Rotary Club. Our students participate in community events such as: Bolton 2030, youth MPs and Mayor for the day; Bolton Lads and Girls Club visit the school frequently to encourage participation in National Citizenship activities. Our charity work supports local and national charities; twice a year, senior citizens are welcomed to a tea party followed by matinee performances of our musicals. Our students have led a brilliant campaign to ensure students are trained in First Aid including emergency resuscitation (The Heart Beats 2020 campaign) and our 'Adopt a Grandparent' scheme has had real impact in the community.

Community means recognising the value everyone contributes to society, giving a helping hand where it is needed and being positive role models through participation. You'll find plenty of community spirit at Westhoughton High!

Safeguarding

Westhoughton High School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its students. We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our students, making referral to outside agencies as necessary. The link below will take you to our safeguarding policy on the school's website: <http://bit.ly/westhoughtonhigh-safeguarding>

The additional services we provide for our students include:

- Student Support Leaders (SSLs) non-teaching leaders for each year group
- Integrated Working Officer who works closely with family liaison
- Student Progress Leaders (SPLs) teacher assigned to a year group to ensure academic progress
- Independent careers advice and guidance
- School nurse drop-ins
- Nurture groups, for students who need a little more support
- Peer mentoring (anti-bullying) led by students, for students
- The Every Child Hub
- Enrichment programmes

“We have very engaging teachers, there are also many opportunities for extra-curricular activities”





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Enjoy our school

Facilities

We have a wide range of facilities at Westhoughton High School to support learning and promote enjoyment of school life these include:

- Modern teaching spaces with large format touch display screens
- 8 IT suites with over 250 PCs
- 4 specialist technology rooms designed for the teaching of Food Technology, Resistant materials and textiles
- 10 Science laboratories
- Full size 4G pitch
- 2 swimming pools
- Fitness suite
- Squash, Basketball & Netball courts
- 2 dining rooms with conservatories
- 2 outside food outlets (food pod and food truck)
- Specialist Drama and Music studios
- School garden
- Modern open plan Library space with 32 laptops
- Photography suite with dark room

Our site is equipped to support students with mobility issues in accessing specialist teaching spaces and to support additional needs during the school day.

Extra-Curricular

It is also important that students develop a sense of wider community and they have opportunities to work with or compete against other schools in events such as Youth Speaks, World Class Maths tests, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, Children's University and joint visits to Oxford and Cambridge universities. Students also develop independence and a sense of their heritage through day and residential trips at home and abroad; just a few examples are a weekend in the Lakes for outdoor pursuits, theatre trip to London, History/Geography trip to Poland, France, Italy or Prague and a visit to the Christmas markets.

We offer a range of extra-curricular clubs that include:

- Sports clubs – Football, Netball, Rounders, Badminton, Archery and Swimming
- Creative Writing • Homework club
- Drama Club • School Productions
- School band • Choir
- Music Clubs – Ukulele, Keyboard and Drums
- MFL Clubs • STEM Club • Art Club • Geography Club • Maths Club

“There are many good opportunities to help you choose the right College.”





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Aim high

Expectations

Aiming High is fundamental in all that we do. We expect our students to commit to their learning, show resilience and give their best every day. We expect the same of the adults in school who support our students as they progress through the school.

Curriculum

We are ambitious for every student, supporting them through a curriculum that meets their needs and prepares them for successful adult life. Students have access to the full national curriculum including opportunities to learn a new language, to develop their sporting, musical, dramatic and artistic talents (or discover them for the first time) and to enhance their literacy and numeracy skills, including digital literacy.

Outcomes

Academic achievement is highly valued and we are ambitious for all our students to make good or better progress and achieve their full potential. Progress is carefully monitored, timely interventions ensure students remain on track and regular reports to parents ensure you are well-informed about their attainment and can work with us to remove any barriers to good learning.

Subject options we offer:

- Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)
- French and Spanish
- Geography and History
- Computer Science
- Creative Media (BTEC)
- Art & Design: Art, Craft & Design GCSE, Photography GCSE, 3D Design GCSE and Textiles GCSE
- Enterprise (BTEC)
- Health & Social Care (BTEC)
- Food and Nutrition GCSE
- Performing Arts/Drama (BTEC) and Music Practice (BTEC)
- Psychology GCSE
- Physical Education GCSE or Sports Studies (OCR Cambridge National)
- RE GCSE
- Travel and Tourism (BTEC)

“I love the school ethos because we do a lot for charity and help improve a lot of lives.”





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Respect each other, ourselves & our school community

Ourselves

Respect is the foundation of strong relationships within our school. This starts through development of self-respect through the school's diversity agenda. We learn so much about ourselves during our school days, and through the interactions we have with others who are different to ourselves. At Westhoughton High School we champion individuality and nurture our young people to build a strong individual and collective identity.

Each Other

Our students learn to respect each other as they develop a sense of wider community through opportunities to work with or compete against other schools in events such as Youth Speaks, World Class Maths tests, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, Children's University and joint visits to Oxford and Cambridge universities. Our Community Champions support a range of charities each year and have recently held bake sales, non-uniform days and food collections to raise funds and awareness for the likes of Children in Need, Jeans for Genes, Bolton Urban Outreach and Bolton Hospice. Our Kindness Army go out into the local community giving out cakes and flowers, and give positive messages to students and staff in school.

Our school community

We engage with our community as the school is at the heart of it. We collect donations through our 'Bring the Spring and Let's Share Christmas campaigns, these enable our students to gift to our local elderly neighbours, local NHS staff and for those less fortunate giving to Urban Outreach.

“I enjoy lessons because they are interesting, and I learn new things in all of them.”





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Never stop learning

Learn

Our aim is to build a passion for learning that lasts throughout adult life. Our staff are well supported in their own learning, working hard to be the best that they can be – as teachers, as leaders and as learners. Learning is infectious, our students learn from the passion and skill of their teachers. Students will develop a passion for reading and build resilience to be increasingly independent in their learning as they prepare for the next steps in education.

Destinations

We are committed to providing a variety of career-based learning from Year 7 onwards which includes subject links with employers, visits to workplaces, conventions and local colleges and developing the skills required in the workplace, alongside the qualifications needed for progression. We believe our students gain the knowledge and skills that will allow them access to any institution to further their learning. From our destination data we can see 97% of our students last year went onto further education, work based training or full time employment.

Literacy

At Westhoughton High School, we understand that strong literacy skills have a direct correlation with students' confidence, resilience, self-awareness and articulation of self-expression that leads to social and emotional competence, as well as academic success. Our school is committed to giving our young people the best academic chances and access to the best opportunities in life by developing excellent communication skills in reading, writing and oracy.

We believe every teacher is a teacher of literacy and ensure that quality literacy support is provided across all subject areas through consistency of effective, evidence-based whole school strategies and approaches. In addition to literacy support during lessons, students are constantly exposed to fiction and non-fiction reading material during our 'Register and Read' form time activity and in our library. The library is currently undergoing exciting developments to ensure it offers an even fuller and of-the-minute range of quality library resources to support all students, staff and families in the community.







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Cultural Diversity
Quality Standard

