



# THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

Hampshire's First 4-16 'All Through' School

## **The Westgate School Curriculum Intent 2021**

The curriculum at Westgate's Upper School is uniquely shaped by the breadth of expertise available in its all-through setting. We believe that the curriculum should enable all pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and competencies needed for a successful future therefore, it is designed to provide learners with a rich experience of different subjects and learning opportunities.

The Westgate School's curriculum reflects two principles: firstly, of acquisition – where pupils are taught to acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills in each subject domain in order to apply this learning to new situations; and secondly, participation – that pupils need to develop the skills to engage positively in different situations. In doing so, pupils further their learning and sense of belonging. In some subjects, such as Science, the emphasis lies more heavily on the acquisition of knowledge whereas in a subject such as Drama, the skills of participation pre-dominate. In every lesson we expect adults to consider how best to facilitate pupils' active participation in their learning – including “thinking hard” – and, to use the School's core approach to teaching and learning so that pupils experience a coherent learning journey.

In every subject, leaders are designing and evolving their curriculums based on the golden threads of learning from Year R to Year 11 in their particular domain. Planning is based on clear objectives, using misconceptions as opportunities for rich learning and, facilitating greater depth in pupils' knowledge rather than greater curriculum coverage. The specified curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and KS4 syllabi however, the School believes strongly in ensuring that the 'hidden curriculum' – how pupils learn about themselves and society in the way that we organise ourselves as a school – has a positive impact on the individual child. We strongly believe that access to cultural capital is an entitlement of every pupil, and we are regularly reviewing our curriculum to increase opportunities to access learning about different cultures and diversity. We also have a specified 'Wellbeing Curriculum', which sets out the universal provision for all pupils, and we are developing our practice to facilitate even greater inclusion in extra-curricular provision in school. Moreover, as part of our ongoing learning, we involve pupils proactively in curriculum development through our received curriculum reviews and, our pupil leadership groups.

At The Westgate School our curriculum is not intended to lead learners to fulfil their potential: our intention is to unlock the individual's potential and to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be able to learn in different situations throughout their lives.



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## SUBJECT CURRICULUM INTENTS

### **Computing Curriculum Intent:**

***"Thriving in a digital world"***

At The Westgate School our Computing curriculum intends to:

- develop pupils' understanding of Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy in order to prepare to thrive in an increasingly digital world;
- enable pupils to apply computational thinking to be better problem solvers;
- enable pupils to be confident users of IT, applying IT effectively to real world situations and to know how they and others can use IT safely.

### **Design and Technology Intent:**

***"Creative solutions for a sustainable future"***

At The Westgate School our Design and Technology curriculum intends to:

- inspire and equip pupils with the skills to solve real world problems;
- empower pupils to be creative, innovative, ready to make mistakes and to learn from practical experience;
- provide opportunities for pupils to model proposals through testing and evaluation, in order to improve our impact on the environment and the world around us.

### **Drama Intent**

***"Theatre is the art of looking at ourselves"***

At The Westgate School our Drama curriculum intends to:

- enable pupils to act and perform in different scenarios – presenting themselves with honesty and clarity;
- understand and appreciate the variety of dramatic styles and genre in different cultures and across history;
- enable pupils to be able express themselves confidently and creativity in a range of situations.

### **English Curriculum Intent**

***"Read like a writer; write like a reader; question like a critic; think like an individual."***

At The Westgate School, our English Curriculum intends to:

- instil a passion for literature and a life-long love of reading in pupils and for them to become critical, analytical and evaluative readers of fiction and non-fiction;
- enable pupils to craft language so that they become convincing writers able to communicate their own ideas in writing effectively and creatively;
- ensure that pupils are effective and assured communicators in spoken English.

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## **Food, Preparation and Nutrition Intent:**

### ***"Nutrition for a healthy future"***

At The Westgate School our Food and Nutrition curriculum intends to:

- Inspire pupils to gain knowledge and practical experience of preparing and making a wide range of creative, innovative and complex dishes that enable them to make informed and healthy choices about the foods they eat.
- Develop an understanding of the scientific processes that are involved in the processing and preparation of food.
- Empower pupils to become independent learners through practical participation.
- Develop pupils' wider understanding of how food choices are influenced by culture, religion, and impact on the environment.

## **Geography Curriculum Intent**

### ***"Inspiring awe and wonder in the world around us"***

At The Westgate School, our Geography Curriculum intends to:

- inspire pupils to develop curiosity and fascination about our world through challenging stereotypes, celebrating diversity, and exploring current global issues.
- equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, and resources in order to give a greater understanding of human and physical processes, alongside our need for a sustainable future.
- provide pupils with a range of geographical skills in order to facilitate a greater understanding of places both local and global.

## **History Curriculum Intent**

### ***"Reconstructing the lives and stories of the past to make sense of the present"***

At The Westgate School, our History Curriculum intends to:

- inspire pupils to become curious about the past and equip them to ask perceptive questions, think critically, evaluate arguments, and develop perspective and judgement;
- enable pupils to gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world;
- help pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change and the diversity of societies, as well as exploring their own identity and the challenges of their time.

## **Languages Curriculum Intent**

### ***"Becoming an active communicator in the world's global village."***

At The Westgate School, our Languages Curriculum intends to:

- broaden pupils' horizons by developing a passion for other languages and cultures and recognise the additional career opportunities open to people who speak an additional language;
- ensure that every pupil is encouraged and supported to study a language for GCSE;
- enable pupils to become active learners of language by developing the skills to communicate in speaking and writing in their target language.



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## Latin Curriculum Intent

***"Opening a door to understanding the language of academia and the influence of the Roman Empire on modern European society"***

At The Westgate School, our Latin Curriculum intends to:

- enable pupils to understand the significant influence Roman culture had on European society and languages and especially English;
- enable pupils to explore the etymology of the English language and its significant links to Latin, and broaden pupils' use of English academic vocabulary;
- enable pupils to gain knowledge and understanding of the Roman world through reading and responding to its literature.

## Mathematics Intent:

***"Developing skilful, systematic problem solvers for life"***

At The Westgate School our Maths curriculum intends to:

- cultivate a deep understanding and an enjoyment of the subject through a rich, problem solving-based curriculum which nurtures pupils' love of Mathematics;
- systematically acquire core mathematical facts, concepts, methods, and strategies to become proficient in mathematics
- provide opportunities for applying abstract concepts to real world situations in order to develop creative and effective thinkers.

## Media Curriculum Intent

***"Casting a critical eye over the ever-changing influence of modern media"***

At The Westgate School, our Media Studies Curriculum intends to:

- enable pupils to become critical and analytical readers of media texts;
- enable pupils to question the way the media represents individuals and groups, and its power to manipulate audiences;
- enable pupils to create purposeful, effective media products.

## Music Intent

***"Where words fail music speaks"***

At The Westgate School our Music curriculum intends to:

- unlock musical potential in every young person to be creative and curious about music;
- challenge pupils to think musically, enabling them to acquire and develop a deep understanding of how music works;
- develop an appreciation of music styles and cultures, over time.

## Personal Development Intent

***"Working in partnership with parents/carers and the wider community to enable pupils to feel safe, included, happy and prepared for life beyond school"***

At The Westgate School our Personal Development Curriculum intends to:

- allow pupils time to explore issues that are important to their lives now and in the future;
- enable pupils to develop the skills of negotiation, resilience, applied health, self-awareness, and self-regulation;
- to enable pupils to make effective choices, to be mindful of British values and to develop into positive citizens of modern-day Britain.

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## Physical Education Intent

***"To inspire pupils to discover a lifelong love of sport and exercise"***

At The Westgate School our PE curriculum intends to:

- experience as many sports as possible to find those which will develop a lifelong love of sport;
- have the opportunity to participate within our school community in a wide range of extracurricular activities;
- to develop the skills, knowledge and aptitudes needed to excel.

## Religious Enquiry Curriculum Intent

***"Inspiring pupils to engage with life's big questions"***

At The Westgate School, our Religious Enquiry Curriculum intends to:

- inspire pupils to engage with life's big questions;
- enable pupils to explore religions, world views and beliefs through varied experiences, approaches, and disciplines;
- enable pupils to reflect on the ideas of others and express their own ideas with increasing clarity and be able to consider how beliefs have an impact on individuals and communities.

## Science Curriculum Intent:

***"Through discovery and collaboration, we flourish"***

At The Westgate School our Science curriculum intends to:

- develop a deep understanding of the world around us, by building a robust knowledge base of scientific ideas, models and phenomena;
- make critical thinking and curiosity the foundation of learning and inspire a love of learning, and collaboration in all our pupils;
- enable pupils to make safe and healthy choices throughout their lives and understand our role in creating an environmentally sustainable future for our planet.

## Visual Arts Intent

***"Art is not what you see but what you make others see."***

At The Westgate School our Visual Art curriculum intends to:

- develop intuition, reasoning, imagination, and dexterity into unique forms of expression and communication;
- develop an appreciation of the aesthetic nature of the world around us;
- critically evaluate the way cultures are represented through their arts and celebrate diversity.

## Wellbeing Intent

***"Building resilience in a modern world"***

At The Westgate School our Wellbeing Curriculum intends to:

- promote emotional wellbeing and mental health;
- embed an understanding of how to remain resilient and self-aware of pressures;
- consider how physical activity can promote well-being for all;
- consider how we can support others in our community.

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## CURRICULUM INTENT FOR RSHE, CAREERS AND HOME LEARNING

### Careers Intent

*"The best way to predict the future is to create it."*

The taught Careers Curriculum is delivered through Personal Development sessions at Tutor periods in Year 7 to 11, and in discrete Personal Development lessons in Year 7 and 10.

At The Westgate School our Careers curriculum intends to:

- To excite and motivate pupils' curiosity about different careers and industries;
- To inspire pupils' aspirations to unlock their potential and develop their employability skills;
- To empower pupils to challenge stereotyping and discrimination and other barriers to diversity and equality in further education and careers.

### RSHE (Relationships, Sex, Health Education), SMSC, British Values

Relationships and Sex, Health Education (RSHE) within our school aims to provide opportunities for pupils to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and become active and informed citizens.

SMSC stands for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

The Government's definition of British Values is:

- Democracy;
- The rule of law;
- Individual liberty;
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

### Home Learning Intent

*"Learning beyond the classroom"*

Pupils are set home learning in accordance with the school's published policy.

At The Westgate School our Home Learning intent is to:

- develop pupils' independent learning skills and the mindset needed for academic success
- support memory retention of learning that has taken place within the classroom;
- prepare pupils for future learning through pre-learning activities;