



THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

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

*The Westgate is a community of learners where
partnerships inspire success for all: learning
together - achieving excellence*

School Prospectus



Welcome ...

As a thriving and highly successful learning community, The Westgate is founded on a tradition of high academic achievement and exemplary pupil support. At the heart of our success is the strength of partnership that exists between pupils, adults in school and, their families. We believe that every young person should feel a sense of belonging in our school community and enjoy their learning. As a result of this, individuals will leave with the skills and resources to take the next step in their lives, confident in their strengths and prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

As Hampshire's first all-through school, The Westgate School is uniquely placed to understand the learning journey from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to GCSE. We have strong links between the phases in our school and in particular, in Physical Education, the Arts, Modern Foreign Languages and in Mathematics. Colleagues bring a wealth of experience and knowledge about how pupils learn and are always actively seeking ways to extend, challenge and support pupils in their learning.

We enjoy a close relationship with our linked primaries, sharing their values and allowing us to plan for a smooth transition as pupils move from the primary phase on to the secondary phase at The Westgate School. Our strong partnership with local schools, working together for the benefit of pupils in our community, is something of which we are proud. We warmly invite you to be part of our success.

Visitors are most welcome and if you would like to arrange a visit then please email contact@westgate.hants.sch.uk or contact the School Office.

Mrs Fae-Anna Dean

Headteacher

B.A. (Hons), PGCE, M.A. (Ed.), NPQH, MCCT

September, 2021



Learning Together - Achieving Excellence

A Community of Learning...

Being a high achieving, successful learning community only happens as a result of genuine collaboration. **Every young person** is unique and so we seek to provide a range of different learning opportunities in which every individual can excel. **The Early Years Foundation Stage** is framed around the characteristics of effective learning:

- playing
- exploring
- active learning
- creating
- thinking critically.

These provide a **foundation for learning** upon which our curriculum in the Lower and Upper Schools are built. Our central purpose is for children to develop into young people who are **happy and effective learners**. We achieve this by being a **community of learning** where adults and pupils alike are committed to this central aim and work in **strong partnership with parents** to inspire success for all.

Adults working with children and young people in our school use a process of **observation, assessment and planning** to identify the **learning and developmental needs** of each child and young person. Alongside knowledge of individual interests, we plan opportunities for learning that are **stimulating and engaging**, leading to **strong progress** right from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to Year 11. In addition to the **specified curriculum**, pupils in The Westgate School will have the opportunity to experience a wide range of activities that **enhance and enrich the curriculum**. The all-through setting provides a **unique opportunity** for young people to **learn from their peers and through the teaching of younger pupils**. This powerful model for learning is one that permeates our culture and further enriches the community of learning.

...Achieving Excellence.

Based on the principles of a **growth mindset**, the practice of teaching and learning at The Westgate School encourages children and young people to be **led by their curiosity** and to be prepared to **use mistakes as the best opportunities for learning**. This begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage where pupils are encouraged to make decisions about **how** to do things, to **explain their thinking** and to **be resilient in their efforts**. This theme continues through our practice in the Lower and Upper Schools where teaching colleagues will encourage pupils to **verbalise the decision making process**, explaining how they reached a particular conclusion or why they chose a specific method for doing something in order that they gain **even better control over their learning** and can apply skills to new situations.

A golden thread throughout learning in all subjects and stages at The Westgate school is the **development of Literacy and Mathematical skills** which are a foundation for learning in all disciplines and lead to **strong outcomes** at examination level and for post-16 learning. At The Westgate School, we believe that through our **exemplary partnerships with parents and young people**, we can inspire a love of learning - something that is intrinsically linked to the development of **individual self-esteem** and motivation. In our school, there is no separation between our commitment to **academic success** and the **wellbeing** of the children and young people in our community.

A Curriculum for Learning - Early Years and Lower School

Early Years Foundation Stage

Nursery Facilities

Westgate's Day Nursery is an all year round, registered day care setting for children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years. The nursery is situated in a **modern, purpose-built facility** that provides excellent indoor and outdoor learning environments in a secure and **self-contained setting**. The Nursery is led by experienced Nursery Managers and provides a warm and welcoming environment. **High quality care and learning** is organised in to age based rooms:

- Rainbows - 3 months to 2 years
- Caterpillars - 2 to 3 years
- Butterflies - 3 to 5 years



In addition to **excellent facilities** in the nursery, children also have access to other specialist **facilities and activities on the Westgate school's site** including cooking, library and Physical Education in the Primary Phase as well as access to the school's grounds and playing fields.

A unique aspect of our nursery is the strategic oversight from a **highly experienced and qualified Early Years, Foundation Stage teacher** and, our **Head of Primary Phase**. This means that colleagues in our nursery benefit **excellent professional learning** opportunities and there is **smooth transition** into Year R.



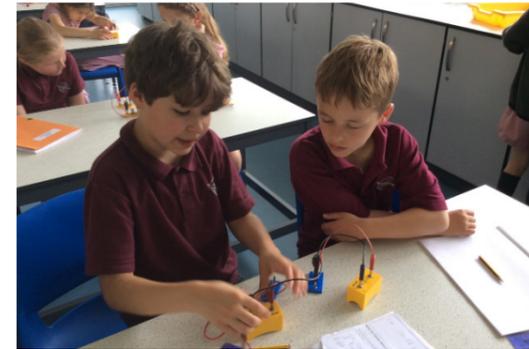
The Early Years Foundation Stage provision at The Westgate School

Children are nurtured within a **play based curriculum** which is broad, planned and balanced using indoors and outdoors spaces with both **adult led and child initiated learning**. The play is enjoyable, devised to **promote thinking and problem solving**, improve **language** competence and encourages the **exploration and investigation** of materials. In the **Early Years Foundation Stage** at the Westgate, we aim to develop and nurture the **Characteristics of Effective Learning** in all our children. These characteristics are: playing and exploring, active learning, creating and, thinking critically; together they enable children to become happy and effective learners. Our **specialist Early Years Foundation Stage Leader** oversees provision in both our Primary Phase and the Nursery ensuring continuity for all children who progress through this route as well as from other settings.

Lower School (Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2)

Our **Primary Phase curriculum** is uniquely shaped by the **breadth and depth of expertise** available in our all-through setting and, by our vision for learning in the primary years. There are **golden threads** that run through the curriculum and inform Westgate's teaching and learning. In particular, pupils are encouraged to adopt a **Growth Mindset**: to understand that their **talents and abilities** can be **developed through effort**, good teaching and learning, and persistence. Pupils are encouraged to have **high expectations of themselves** and to **develop resilience** in their learning.

At The Westgate School, we believe that a **strong foundation** in the Early Years Foundation Stage includes an early **mastery of the basic skills** in Year R, enabling all pupils to successfully access the wider curriculum as they progress through the primary years and beyond. **Initial reading and writing skills** are taught in Reception and KS1 classes through a **Systematic, Synthetic, Phonics programme**, providing pupils with a rigorous and thorough grounding. **Handwriting** skills are taught with the aim of enabling all pupils to **write** with a confident, joined and fluent script.



Through our **maths curriculum**, we aim to develop pupils' **early mastery of maths skills** together with a deep **understanding and real enjoyment of mathematics**. Pupils are provided with regular opportunities to **apply their maths skills in a range of contexts**. Pupils are taught using a **concrete, pictorial, abstract** approach in order to develop a deep understanding. Pupils are given opportunities to **reason and apply** their skills.

Planned around **half-termly topics**, the curriculum provides pupils with the opportunity to **learn subject-specific knowledge and understanding, explore links across subject areas** and to **practise their writing**. Each topic begins with an **enrichment activity** such as an educational visit or special event that captures the children's interest and imagination and builds towards a showcase event such as an exhibition or assembly where **children's learning can be shared and celebrated**. Every topic/theme has clear and specific **learning objectives** linked from each subject domain.

Our curriculum includes **discrete teaching in the foundation subjects**, specifically **Spanish, PE, Music and Computing** which are planned and co-taught by subject specialists from Year 3. As pupils progress through the Primary Phase they will receive a breadth of subject specialist teaching using **specialist facilities** in a range of subject areas including **Science, Design and Technology and, Computing**. Pupils' confident and assured use of new technology is developed through its application across the curriculum. Discrete skills in **coding and programming** are taught over the primary years which culminates in a programming project in Year 6 led by a specialist teacher of computing. The **RE curriculum** follows Hampshire's syllabus, 'Living Difference', reflecting mainly Christian traditions of Great Britain whilst taking account of the teaching, celebrating and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. **Relationships, Sex, and Health Education** is taught through our **Personal Development Curriculum** by each class teacher. Throughout pupils' learning journey in the primary phases, input from **subject specialists** will be part of **discrete teaching** in subjects such as **History, Geography and Art**.

A Curriculum for Learning - Upper School

Upper School - Year 7 and 8 (Key Stage 3)

The curriculum at **Westgate's Upper School** is uniquely shaped by the **breadth and depth 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**.

In **Years 7 and 8** (Key Stage 3) pupils follow a **balanced curriculum** including the core subjects of English, Maths and Science alongside a wide range of foundation subjects. In **English and Maths** the curriculum builds on the **core skills** that pupils will have learnt at Primary school, extending their **experience and application** of these skills to a deeper level in readiness for the challenges of Key Stage 4 (Years 9 to 11). In Science, the focus is on linking **scientific exploration with real world examples** and drawing together a number of strands in scientific thinking from **biology, chemistry and physics** that enables learners to see the relevance to every day life.

Strong partnerships with our linked primary schools mean that all pupils, regardless of where they attended primary education, will experience a curriculum in these core subjects that builds on their prior learning to ensure that **rapid and sustained progress** is made throughout Key Stage 3. **High quality teaching** means that at The Westgate School, we recognise that young people's talents and challenges vary across subjects and therefore, whether an individual **needs individual support or greater extension**, we are able to respond to this through our curriculum design and delivery.

In addition to the core subjects, our curriculum includes discrete teaching in History, Geography and RE. **Relationships, Sex and Health Education** is taught in discrete lessons in Year 7 and through the **Personal Development Curriculum** in tutor times, supported by a rich assembly programme and **termly small group/1:1 mentoring and discussion sessions**. The Personal Development Curriculum comprises of 4 key areas:

Relationships, Sex and Health Education;

Perspectives - Equalities and Diversity;

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Development;

The Westgate Challenge and, Personal, Social and Health Education - including careers.

Languages, the Arts, Technology, Computing and Physical Education are all part of the weekly timetable and delivered in **purposefully designed teaching areas** that maximise learning opportunities. We have **specialist teachers** in all subject areas whose **enthusiasm for their subject** resonates through the schemes of learning that pupils experience in Key Stage 3. More detail about our curriculum can be found on our website: <https://www.westgate.hants.sch.uk/secondary-phase-curriculum>



Upper School – Years 9, 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4)

In recognition of the **strong progress** made by pupils at The Westgate School throughout Key Stage 3, we begin our **Key Stage 4 curriculum** from Year 9. Careful planning of the timetable and options process allows us to **increase the range of subjects** from which pupils can choose before making a **gradual reduction** in the subjects taken at the end of Year 9 according to the individual's strengths, interests, and - in consultation with parents

The **Year 9 curriculum** is characterised by **broader opportunities and greater depth**: pupils can experience new subjects such as **Photography, Media Studies and Religious Education** as discrete option subjects whilst continuing with **core national curriculum**. Most pupils in Year 9 will also experience an introduction to **Latin** through the English Curriculum. Meanwhile, it is expected that the great majority of pupils will continue their learning in **Humanities, MFL and Arts subjects** beyond Year 9 to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum is experienced. The school takes a flexible approach to the organisation of **teaching groups** to ensure that the challenges of learning in different disciplines are effectively met.

Pupils in **Year 9** continue to receive a discrete lesson in **computing** as part of their core provision. More experienced learners in Maths who would like to pursue the subject beyond Key Stage 4 also have the opportunity to take a **Level 2 qualification in Further Maths** (subject to uptake/course availability).

By the **end of Year 9**, pupils will have a **second opportunity to focus their learning** as they choose their subjects for examination entry. Again, we strongly encourage **all pupils to continue with a second Language** and **at least one subject in Humanities** because alongside a range of other subject disciplines, qualifications in these disciplines are a sound foundation for post-16 learning.

Throughout Years 9 to 11, the **core subjects of English, Maths and Science** will focus on the GCSE syllabi and an informed choice of either **Double or Triple Sciences**. Nearly all pupils will take **GCSE English and Literature** in our school as part of their core provision. Where pupils have particular interests in music or sport, the School provides ample **opportunities for them to pursue their interests** even if not taken as an examination subject. We actively promote these opportunities and are keen to **celebrate the achievements** of our pupils in these additional learning opportunities. As a **flagship school for Hampshire Music Service**, our **thriving extra-curricular music** (and **sports programmes**) in which a great majority of pupils participate, are a key part of the all-through school provision, facilitating **rich learning opportunities** where younger and older pupils are working in partnership and learning together.

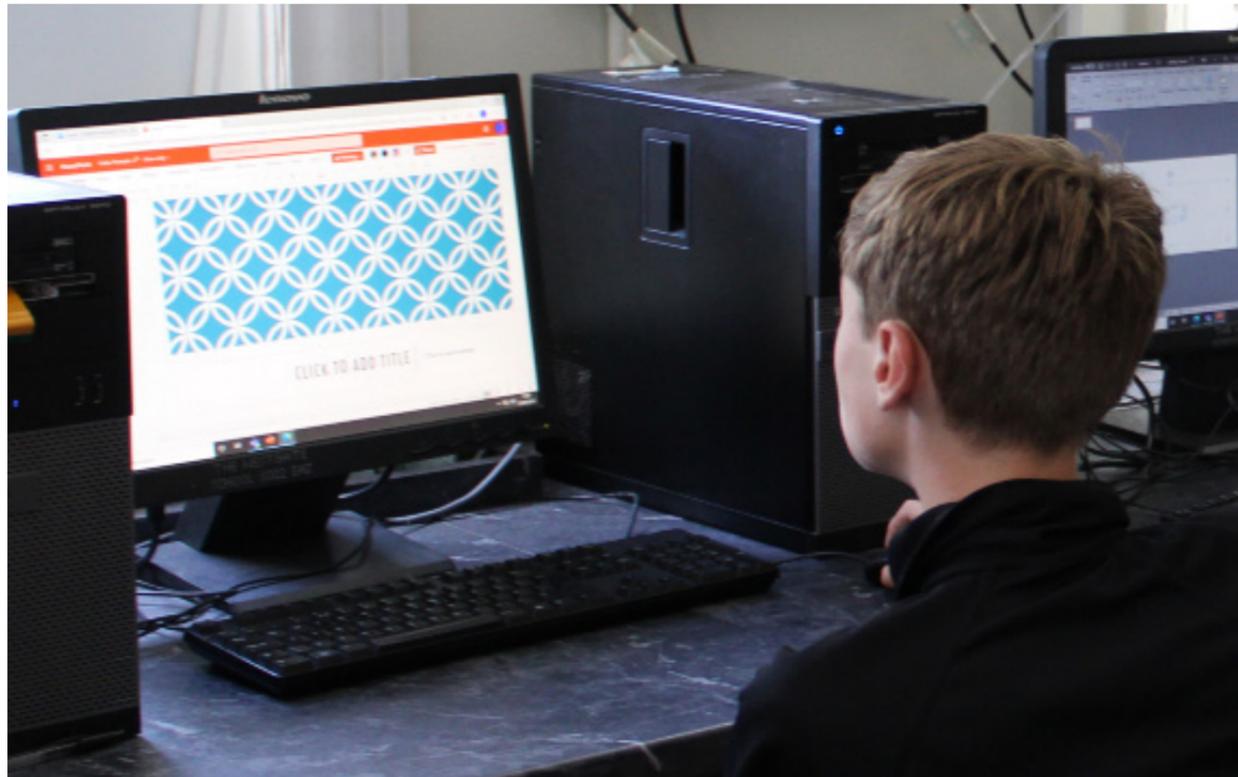
In addition to the core subjects, our **Key Stage 4 curriculum** includes **discrete teaching in RE** (from which parents may withdraw their child). **Relationships, Sex and Health Education** is taught in discrete lessons in Year 10 and through the **Personal Development Curriculum** in tutor times, supported by a rich assembly programme and **termly small group/1:1 mentoring** and discussion sessions for all pupils. The **Personal Development Curriculum** comprises of 4 key areas: Relationships, Sex and Health Education; Perspectives - Equalities and Diversity; Social, Moral, spiritual and Cultural Development; the Westgate Challenge and, Personal, Social and Health Education - including careers.

Enhancing the Curriculum

Partnerships...

Home Learning

Young people need opportunities to **practise their learning** in a variety of situations and ways therefore, **learning beyond the classroom** is varied and may reflect the **opportunities outside** of the formal classroom environment. This is not distinct to the Lower and Upper Schools, but begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage where the **continuity of learning** between Nursery and home enables children to make good progress. In the Lower and Upper Schools, we expect colleagues to set home learning that **reflects the wider environment** and encourages pupils to be inspired by the world around them – just as they are in the Early Years Foundation Stage. **Our bespoke Handbooks for Learning** are structured to support the **different types of learning** so that as pupils move through Key Stage 3 and in to Key Stage 4, they are able to make effective decisions about planning their home learning time. We use **MS Teams and EduLink** to supplement the recording of home learning.



We value the opportunity for young people to engage with **project work** and therefore, in Years 7 and 8, pupils may participate in **cross-curricular home learning projects**. These projects are set by Humanities, the Arts and Technology according to their curriculum plans – offering pupils the chance to demonstrate **commitment to a longer assignment** and show their skills in a variety of ways, unique to their own talents. In addition to the **formal home learning tasks**, time is also taken into account for **pupils' participation in enrichment activities** which are valued highly in our learning community. In Key Stage Four, pupils will receive **discrete home learning tasks** in all of their subjects on a weekly basis.

Inspiring...

Deep Learning Days & Days of Culture

At The Westgate School we believe that **deep learning** is the key to success: children and young pupils must have opportunities to spend **extended amounts of time practising their skills** and **gaining knowledge** on a conceptual level. To that end, our school year is punctuated by days when the timetable will be adjusted to allow pupils to spend a whole day in a specific area of learning that may be linked to their **GCSE option choices** or indeed, may follow a **whole school theme**. During Deep Learning Days, it is not unusual to see **older pupils working with younger pupils** or indeed, learning in different settings and benefitting from the rich learning environment that our setting has to offer. As part of our **Perspectives** programme, all pupils are involved in **learning about different cultures** as part of deep learning days.

Literacy for Learning

Being able to **read and write with confidence** is a fundamental right and one about which we are passionate in our all-through school. Even before formal schooling begins in Year R, children will be experiencing the **language and communication** skills which are the building blocks for future learning. In Year R, a programme of **systematic, synthetic phonics** is taught alongside reading and handwriting which quickly enables children to become confident in these skills – the early stages of which will have already begun at home. As part of our **partnership with parents**, we offer events to share techniques for teaching reading and writing which enable **parents to support learning at home**.

This **focus on communication skills** continues throughout the Primary and Secondary Schools where **all colleagues**, regardless of their subject specialism, are **teachers of literacy and communication skills**. **Pupils' Handbooks for Learning** provide a helpful reference for pupils and parents when completing home learning. Because we believe so strongly in the importance of these skills, teaching colleagues identify individuals who may need **additional support** and refer them to our **Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator** who works with a team of highly skilled Learning Support colleagues to meet individual needs. All Teaching Assistants in our school **actively promote Literacy for Learning** in every lesson and in partnership with classroom teachers.

Maths Across the Curriculum

In our school, Maths is considered to be a **core basic skill**. Although increasingly taught as a discrete subject throughout the Primary and Secondary phases, the fundamentals of Maths **underpin many subjects across the curriculum** and for this reason, we ask **all teachers** to consider it as part of their daily practice. In **Music**, pupils will need to apply their maths skills when composing or indeed, talking about **rhythm and structure**; in Physical Education, **spatial awareness** is key if pupils are to judge the distance for throwing a ball or indeed, planning their next move on the football pitch. In **Photography**, pupils need to judge the **angle and distance** of their pictures for particular effect and similarly in history, understanding the **chronology** of events requires mathematical skills. These are just a few examples of where learning in this core subject is **applicable across the curriculum**, to **all ages** of pupil and something to which we are committed in our school.



Success...

Success at The Westgate School takes a **number of forms**. We pride ourselves on **excellent outcomes** at each Key Stage as well as **exceptional GCSE results** which manifest from the **expertise of teaching colleagues** as well as **productive partnerships** across our whole learning community. However, **success takes different forms for individuals** and whilst we **celebrate skills and talents** of your child as an individual during their journey through our school, we are equally committed to supporting them in their **progression** from The Westgate School to **post-16 pathways**. Our School works closely with local colleges and offers one-to-one advice to all pupils on **pathways to education, training and employment** once they leave us. It is testament to the success that young people feel having been part of our learning community, that many of them choose to **stay in touch** and **support our school** in later life.



Key to our success is the strength of **pupil leadership** in our school. In Key Stage 4 we have a team of **prefects**, ably led by **Senior Prefects** and our **Head Boy, Head Girl, and Head Pupil all-through** who take responsibility for a number of events throughout the school year; they also support adults in school by leading duties as well as working with younger pupils. We **welcome your attendance** at our **open mornings** which are led by prefects and supported by pupils from our wider school community who will look forward to showing you around our school. In addition to prefects, we also have pupils who **support the school community and partnerships with adults** through their charity work, operating as a team for a common cause beyond our own immediate needs. Pupil leaders are also invited to contribute to the **reviewing and writing of school policies** as appropriate. There are also numerous pupil leadership opportunities in the Primary Phase, including librainarians, ELO advisors, learning ambassadors.

The School has a **Pupil Support Team** working closely with teaching colleagues in school as well as having expert knowledge of sources of support beyond our learning community. Together, these colleagues ensure that where a young person faces challenges, they have **access to additional support and guidance** complementing our tutoring model and helping individuals continue on their pathway to success. Every pupil in the Secondary Phase has at least one **half - termly mentoring session with their Tutor** who is responsible for delivering the programme for **Personal Development**.



Enriching the Curriculum

Learning Together...

Field Work, Visits and The Arts

Teaching colleagues are passionate about making learning in their subject **applicable to life outside of school**. At the Westgate School, pupils will have opportunities to **participate in planned enrichment activities** that are integral to the way in which our curriculum is taught. Examples of this might include **field work** in Geography, **outdoor learning** in the primary phase and regular **theatre visits** to enrich pupils' learning in Drama. **Learning beyond the classroom** begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage where the concept of **free-flow**, children moving their learning to different settings, is encouraged and supported through the design of our fantastic buildings.

Similarly, we encourage pupils to **learn together through enrichment activities** such as participating in our regular **music concerts**. Our **musical groups** and choirs are varied and represent a range of experience. It is also not unusual to see adult members of our school community participating in musical events – another example of our **community of learning in practice**. In the Lower School, pupils will take part in music and drama, supported by older pupils and **specialist teachers**. A highlight of our school calendar is our **carol concert in Winchester Cathedral** which sees performances representative of all members of our learning community, including the participation of all pupils in Year 7. The Westgate School is a **flagship school for Hampshire Music Service** with whom we enjoy **close partnership** to the benefit of our young musicians.

In addition to **structured enrichment activities**, the School has a **wide range of clubs** that support learning and foster enthusiasm for a subject. Pupils can choose to attend Art or Humanities clubs where they are **immersed in extended learning** and are **supported informally** by specialist teaching colleagues. Our **Home Learning Club** offers additional support where pupils can enjoy working in our **Learning Resource Centre** with other pupils providing support or, with the help of older pupils. We also have a vibrant Debating club - among many others!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a nationally recognised scheme designed to extend the life experiences of young people. We are the **biggest DofE school centre in Hampshire**. Participants choose to support our school community through volunteering to read with Lower School pupils or, by helping at after school clubs. We work with pupils in planning their routes, choosing and cooking their foods and how to pack and carry their loads over the two day journey. Throughout the **whole adventure** our large number of trained colleagues are on hand to guide and support. All pupils participate in **The Westgate Community Challenge** which is modelled on the D of E Award.



...Achieving Excellence.

The Westgate School has a **long history of academic excellence**; enrichment activities are not only part of this, but are central to our **school's ethos**. As a member of The Westgate community, excellence is both about achieving **good results** and, demonstrating **excellent learning skills**. We celebrate this not only through **academic results**, but through **participation**: our **annual Sports Presentation Evening** and the **School's Honours Evening** recognise individual journeys to excellence in a wide range of learning experiences. Each year we mark the achievements of our Year 11 pupils with a **Presentation Evening** - a very proud moment for our school.

Learning Together...

We are delighted to be able to offer a **broad range of extra-curricular activities** in which pupils can participate. Our trips provide pupils the opportunity to **learn together in new environments** and also, with **pupils of different age groups**. All trips are designed to **enrich pupils' understanding** of the subjects they are learning as well as supporting their **development in skills such as team work**. We include just a few examples in our prospectus but many others will take place during the school year. As an **inclusive school**, we ensure that pupils don't have barriers to participation and therefore, are happy to discuss with any parent how we might support their child in joining a trip.

The Ardeche & Other Residentials

Our annual water sports trip and other residentials take place throughout the year, starting with a **Year 7 residential** in the autumn term. The Ardeche (usually offered in **Year 8**) is a twin centre setting – the Mimosa Centre in the Mediterranean and the Domaine de Segries activity centre in the Ardeche. As well as a three day exhilarating canoe descent of the Ardeche gorge, **pupils will also experience windsurfing, kayaking and sailing** to name but a few. Fully **qualified instructors** lead all activities, supervised by colleagues from The Westgate. This trip is a fantastic opportunity for pupils in Key Stage 3 to **learn in a different setting** and in partnership with adults and each other.

Ski-Trip

The School regularly runs a ski-trip that is open to pupils in the Upper School. Pupils of **all abilities and experience with skiing** are welcome to participate on this trip which is led by **qualified ski instructors** in partnership with colleagues from our school. Whether a beginner or experienced skier, this trip supports pupils in learning **valuable skills of determination and learning together**.

Discovery Days & Days of Culture

These are **scheduled events for deeper learning** in our school calendar, taking place throughout the year and involving all pupils. A menu of activities is open to pupils across the age groups and working within a flexible timescale. The timetable is suspended for a day and pupils will be immersed in a range of activities appropriate to their age and stage; these include: learning about **money and finance**; spending additional time on a **KS4 project**; learning about **different cultures** or, being immersed in a **creative** activity.

The Westgate Community Challenge

All pupils are part of **The Westgate Community Challenge** which is linked to our **house system**, all-through. When joining our school, pupils are members of a class/tutor group as well as a vertical house structure. Throughout the year pupils participate in whole school activities – such as **sports day** – as well as contribute through **pupil leadership groups** and by participating in **extra-curricular music** or opportunities such as the **debating club**. Pupils earn **points for their house** through our daily stamps (secondary phase – reported to parents through **EduLink**) as well as receiving additional merits in recognition for **exceptional contribution, effort or achievement**.

...Beyond the Classroom

Facilities for Learning

Primary Phase/Lower School

Our contemporary Lower School building provides a state of the art environment for learning with **light and airy spaces** equipped with interactive whiteboards for teaching. **Flexible spaces** provide ample opportunities for **creative teaching and learning**, affording teaching colleagues the opportunity to **team-teach** as well as using **break-out spaces** for more focused small group work. Upper School pupils and children from our Nursery use the Lower School in a variety of ways, including for some timetabled lessons. A central area on our school site, known as **The Village Green**, links the Upper and Lower Schools and benefits from an **all-weather surface**. Pupils in our Lower School benefit from the use of **dedicated teaching spaces in the Upper School** and in particular, for the teaching of Upper **Key Stage 2 Science in a laboratory**. The timetable for pupils in years 5 and 6 is structured in alignment with the Upper School to enable **specialist subject teaching** or use any **specialist spaces**.



Sports Facilities

We are fortunate to have a **high quality sports hall** that is used for a range of sports – including some less formal activities such as our staff versus pupil basketball matches! The recently refurbished **dance studio** is an excellent space for gymnastics and the **health and fitness suite** hosts a range of up-to-date equipment that is used by pupils as part of the formal teaching programme as well as at other times of the school day. Finally, we have an **Astro-turf in each of our primary and our secondary phases**, which affords the opportunity for a range of sports throughout the year giving pupils a menu of opportunities for physical education in our school.



The Arts

Our school has a vibrant **arts culture** that involves a great majority of pupils in our school. It spans the age ranges and is very much part of our ethos. **Dedicated practice rooms** for music are used by pupils during lessons, as well as hosting our **peripatetic music teachers** who work closely in partnership with colleagues in school to support regular musical events. We have a **dedicated Art facility**, housing Art, Sculpture and Photography. We are also fortunate to have good **IT facilities** that enable pupils to take Photography and Media Studies to GCSE level. Our newly refurbished **Arts Centre** is also home to the Pupil Support Team.

Information Technology

Throughout the school pupils have access to computers and there are areas where pupils and adults are able to work together using IT. **Ipads** are used in some lessons to support pupils with **reflection on their own learning**, particularly in PE and Music where recording an activity enables them to assess their practice and plan for improvement. In 2021 the school is launching a **rent-a-laptop scheme** to support all pupils in access to a device that can be used at home and in school.

Partnerships...

The Westgate has **House teams** that **span all year groups** in addition to Year teams. Pupils are members of either **Fire, Air, Water or Earth Houses**, which are central to our learning as an all-through school. Events throughout the year give pupils the opportunity to earn points for their Houses as well as **celebrate their talents and skills** in a range of activities. Regular **House assemblies** are held and House teams, led by House Leaders, are also linked closely to our annual Day of Sports. Pupils collect stamps towards for their House and a **healthy sense of competition** builds team spirit across the year groups.

... our House and Year Teams

AIR



EARTH



FIRE



WATER



...Partnerships Inspiring Success.

We are proud of the **strong relationship the School has with parents and carers** and never take this for granted. As a parent, you can expect to receive **timely information** about your child's progress whether they are learning in our Nursery, Lower or Upper Schools. Throughout the Early Years Foundation Stage parents will **receive regular updates on learning** – including photographs of key milestones which we look forward to celebrating with you. Similarly, in the Lower and Upper Schools, **regular reports** provide detailed information about your child's progress across the curriculum, with information about **how their learning can be moved forwards**. Lower School and Nursery colleagues are available for **informal discussions** on a daily basis whilst Upper School colleagues can easily be reached via email. In the Upper School, your child will have a **tutor, Year, and House Leader** responsible for the co-ordination of their care and learning; these colleagues are key points of contact for you. The school uses Edulink as a key **platform for communication** with parents, enabling you to stay **easily connected** with your child's attendance, progress, and, opportunities to join extra-curricular clubs.



We are grateful to our **Parent Staff Association** for their enthusiastic support of our school. Over recent years, their fundraising activities have made a **significant contribution** to our learning including through the purchase of a high quality grand piano for our Upper School hall on which many pupils have the pleasure of performing. The PSA also supports rewards for pupils in school as well as other **projects** agreed annually. Your support would be much appreciated and even if you aren't able to commit to joining the PSA, there are **regular and enjoyable events** at which you would be most welcome including: our Year 7 Family Evening, quiz nights, our staff versus parents cricket match and, the Christmas Fair. If you would like to know more, our contact details are included in the supplementary page at the back of this prospectus.



Admissions

Nursery Admissions

Information about our Nursery is on our website: www.westgate.hants.sch.uk. We invite you to complete an Expression of Interest form so that we may keep you up to date with any available places. We welcome you in taking a tour which can be booked via the School office; dates for these are available on the website.

Main Round Admissions (Year R and Year 7)

The school adheres to the Hampshire County Council Admissions Policy for Community Secondary Schools. This can be viewed on our website, under 'Policies' or, on the Hampshire County Council website : <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

General Key dates for admissions (these are a **guide only** and may vary on a yearly basis):

Starting school - Year R:

- Application round opens - 1 November
- Closing date for applications - 15 January
- Notification date for on-time applications - 19 April

Transfer to secondary school - Year 7:

- Application round opens - 13 September
- Closing date for applications - 31 October
- Notification date for on-time applications - 1 March

In Year Admissions (Year R - Year 11)

Applications can be made on line from Hampshire's website: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/education-andlearning/admissions>. Proof of address is required before your application can be officially accepted. Waiting lists are administered by criteria and not the length of time you have been on the list. To be added to our waiting-list, please complete a formal application. Please visit the Hampshire County Council website and click on 'Apply for a School place'. For further guidance, please see <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/guidance>

Special Educational Needs

The Westgate School is committed to providing an inclusive culture that supports every pupil to unlock their potential. Children in need of significantly additional or different support will be assessed through the **graduated approach** - the assess, plan, do, review cycle. **Specialist agencies** will be engaged where pupils require bespoke provision as part of a **EHCP** within a mainstream setting. The School is part of the **Hampshire Local Offer** which can be found on our website: <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/localoffer.page>. Further information about our **accessibility plan** and provision for **Special Educational Needs** can be found on our website or by contacting to the school using our online form: <https://www.westgate.hants.sch.uk/statutory-information>.

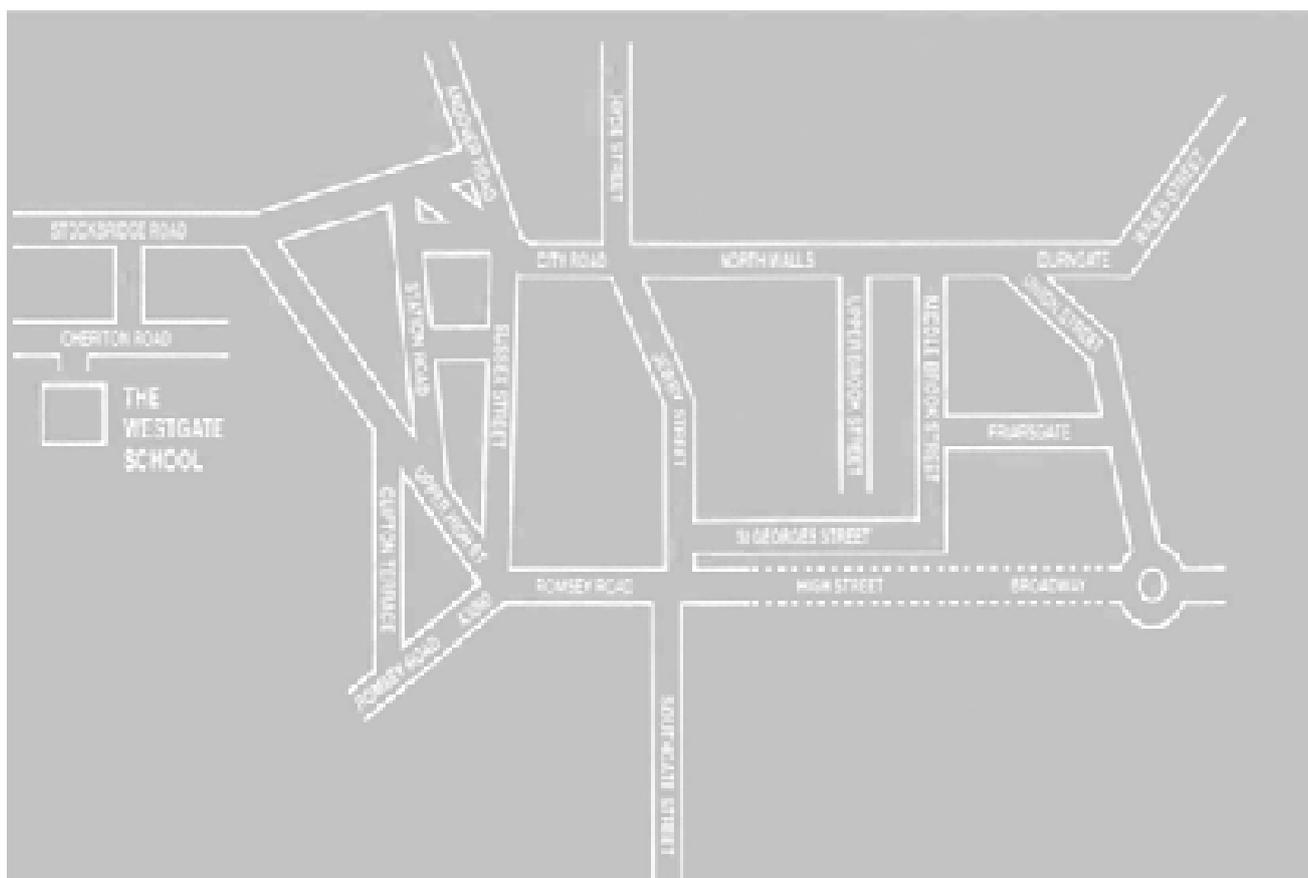
Supplementary Information

Further information is available on our website or alternatively, please contact the School office: contact@westgate.hants.sch.uk

- Assessment and Reporting
- Curriculum
- Examination Results
- Open Events
- Policies
- PSA
- Pupil Premium
- Safeguarding
- Term Dates
- Uniform
- Wraparound Admissions Policy



How to find us:



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tel: 01962 854757

Email: contact@westgate.hants.sch.uk

Website: www.westgate.hants.sch.uk

Learning Together - Achieving Excellence