WESTLANDS SCHOOL

2026 - 2027 Prospectus

EXPECT MORE

WELCOME TO WESTLANDS

OUR SCHOOL ETHOS

Welcome to Westlands School, where our well-established reputation for success is built on an inclusive, nurturing and aspirational learning environment.

At our school, traditional values concerning personal responsibility, excellent behaviour and hard work are combined with a strong sense of community that encourages kindness and care for one another.

High-quality teaching and learning and a rich curriculum provides our students with opportunities to develop as independent learners and allows them to progress no matter what their background, learning needs, gifts or talents. As a large school we are able to offer a wide range of facilities and courses to appeal to students who are academic, creative, and practical. At Westlands, there really is something for everybody.

Our five RADAR values are the basis for the way we organise our school, motivate our students and impart a shared moral code. The RADAR values were formed after consultation with parents/carers, staff and, most importantly, our students. In this booklet we aim to give you a flavour of what life is like at Westlands by exploring each of our core values in more depth.

We would be delighted to welcome you to our school, so that you can see first-hand what a great school we have and why we are so proud of our students.

Miss C Honess Headteacher

"The minute I arrived on my first day, everyone welcomed me and made me feel less nervous."

Year 7 Student

RESPECT

"High expectations and praise, balanced with clear consequences create a fantastic and supportive community for young people."

Year 10 Parent

At Westlands School we have a stringent behaviour policy. We use traditional sanctions to enforce our expectations and ensure that everyone is treated with the respect they deserve. We do not tolerate prejudice of any kind.

The safety of our students is our top priority. To support with safety issues, students use different playgrounds, canteens and toilets, depending on their age. We have developed Calm Zones for students who prefer a quieter social space and at break times, staff and students trained as peer mentors are on duty, wearing high visibility vests. They support students if they need advice.

We do not allow mobile phones in school. We are, however, mindful that some students have to travel a significant distance to and from school. With this in mind, students are permitted to have a mobile phone in their bag as long as it is turned off. If mobile phones are seen, heard or used, we will confiscate them and expect parents/carers to collect them.

Our uniform is smart and formal. We believe that when students put their uniform on in the morning, it gives them the right mindset for school. We tell students in assemblies that if you look smart, you feel smart and you learn smart!

ACHIEVEMENT

"The great range of facilities means there is something for everyone to succeed here."

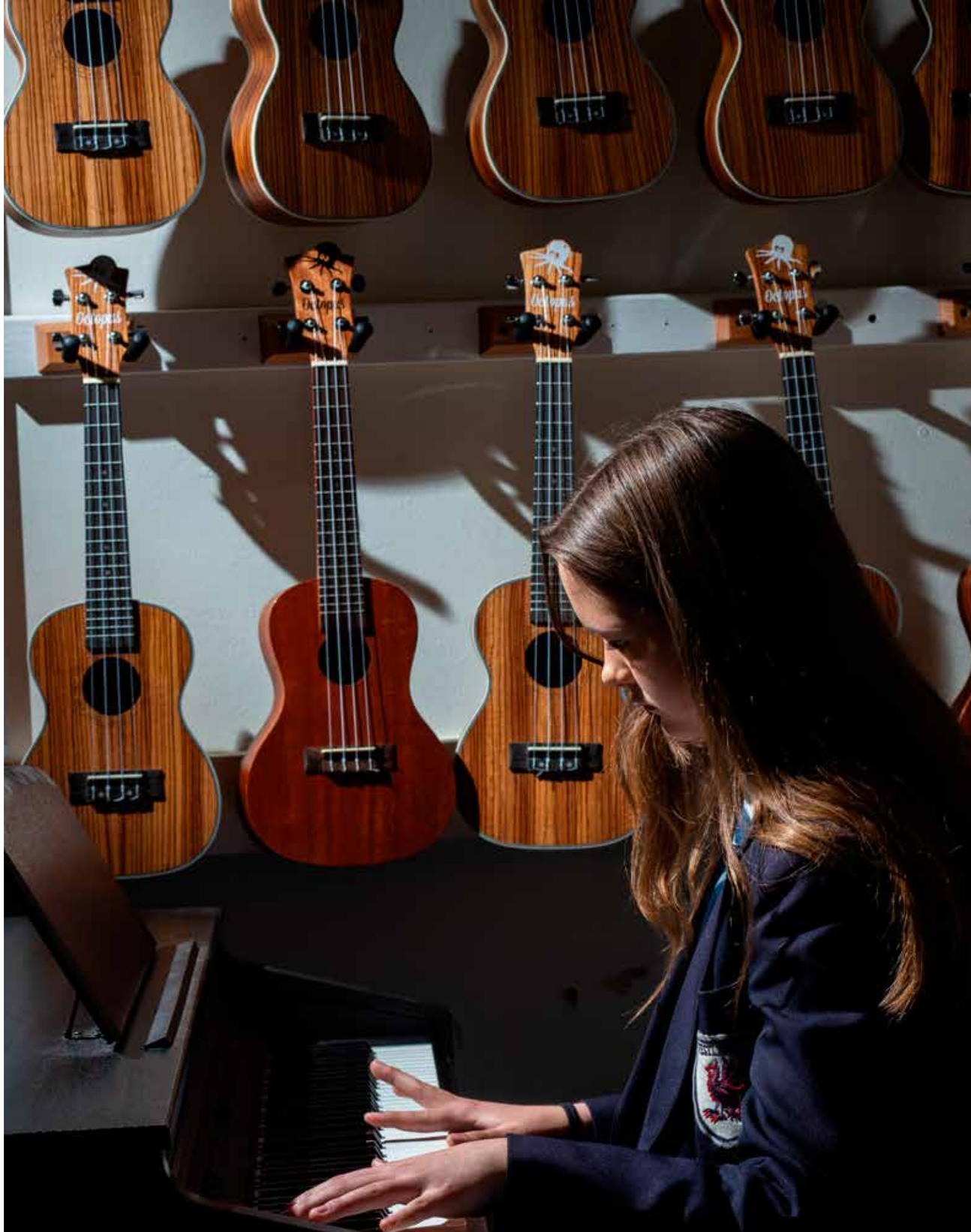
Year 7 Student

Academic progress, especially in literacy and numeracy, is a high priority. We particularly value reading. Students at Westlands are consistently academically successful and make impressive progress. This has been noted through OFSTED reports and in the Performance Tables year after year.

We constantly review our curriculum to ensure that all students experience the best quality teaching and learning. We offer a range of academic, practical, creative and vocational subjects. Homework is set according to a timetable and we offer a huge number of Out of School Learning sessions, particularly as students approach their exams.

Students are set by ability for academic subjects but individual progress is reviewed regularly and set changes may occur throughout the year. Classes are taught by experts, and teaching assistants support individual students.

Although incredibly important, achievement at Westlands is not just about academic success. We support students in achieving all kinds of personal successes, celebrating these with them.



"The school has an ambitious and broad curriculum. The school supports pupils to believe in themselves and raise their aspirations."

Ofsted 2024

DIVERSITY

Westlands School is more diverse than it has ever been in terms of the ethnic and cultural backgrounds of our students. This adds so much to our school because we believe that students can learn from others who might be different from themselves. We regularly give students the opportunity to give feedback on their views, and ensure this includes students from minority groups within the school community.

We are skilled in ensuring that students who need high levels of support make excellent progress and play a full part in the life of the school. Inclusion is important to us and we do our best to accommodate some students with high levels of special needs into the mainstream school environment. Our physically disabled students are a credit to our school and are valued by the other students. They really do inspire others.

We are not afraid to deal with some quite sensitive issues through lessons or in assemblies. In our modern world, where students have almost instant access to social media and the internet, we need to teach students how to treat people appropriately and how to look after themselves. We also encourage charity events so that students have a sense of empathy towards others who are less fortunate. This also gives students the chance to see themselves as people who contribute to a wider community.

"There's plenty of support at Westlands to help any pupils, no matter what."
Year 8 Student

"Pupils value the school's highly inclusive and ambitious ethos. The school emphasises the importance of pupils being considerate and kind to others."

Ofsted 2024

ASPIRATION

"We get a lot of support in making decisions about our future."
Year 13 Student

We believe we have an important part to play in raising aspirations. We have very high expectations of our students in a number of different ways. Students are set targets in terms of their attainment. We have a Grammar Stream for our most academic students who have passed the 11+, who have achieved excellent results at primary school, or who show potential. However, we understand that others can excel in different areas, so we have facilities such as our school farm, our construction and engineering skills centre, and our dance studio, to name a few.

Our Head Boys, Head Girls and Prefects lead on occasions such as our Awards Evening. We have Student Mentors who support younger children and we take student representatives to conferences and competitions.

Our Post-16 provision offers students a range of academic and vocational courses. Teaching groups are small and additional intervention is provided to ensure that students meet or exceed their expected grades.

We understand students need to have experiences outside the classroom. Our extra- curricular provision is exceptional and includes opportunities such as Young Farmers, performing arts and sports teams. In addition, there are regular trips abroad such as expeditions and ski trips.

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RESILIENCE

Children make mistakes. When they make these mistakes, we place real importance on students reflecting on what has happened and considering how they can move forwards. This helps our students to succeed, develops their character and ensures they take responsibility for their actions.

We are always ready to reward students who are successful, as this motivates them and encourages an ethos of hard work. We are equally ready to give students opportunities to put things right when they have not gone so well. We understand that resilience can be encouraged in all aspects of the students' lives: in all areas of their school day, at home and in the local community. We communicate frequently with parents/carers to make sure we work closely together for the benefit of our students.

It is fair to say that 'resilience' will be a key quality for being successful in the workplace, so we do our best to prepare our students for their future, even though many will take on jobs and careers which have yet to be created. We consider school as a place to develop lifelong learning skills, a positive outlook, common sense and a sense of humour.

"We have lots of opportunities to get involved and help each other to keep trying."

Year 11 Student

"Teachers confidently introduce new learning. Across subjects, they use demonstrations to support explanations of new knowledge effectively."

Ofsted 2024

German
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Czech New
Wave

WESTLANDS
SCHOOL

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Respect **A**chievement **D**iversity **A**spiration **R**esilience