

# The Westlands School

## Student Leadership



# Problem Solving

## Award Booklet

Name:

# What are the student leadership awards?

Welcome to our Student Leadership Awards booklet!

This booklet celebrates the incredible contributions of our student leaders at Westlands School. From guiding our youngest pupils and assisting staff during busy breaks to helping make parent evenings a success, your efforts are vital to our school community.

We created these awards to honour your hard work and commitment. We'll be recognising students for their excellence in the following areas:

- **Communication**
- **Respect**
- **Teamwork**
- **Problem-solving**
- **Resilience**
- **Achievement**

# Why is problem solving important?

**Problem solving is the ability to identify challenges, analyse possible solutions, and successfully implement the best course of action. It's the skill that turns obstacles into opportunities.**

In School:

- **Academic achievement:** Problem solving is the foundation of subjects like Maths and Science, but it's vital everywhere.
- **Resilience and growth:** Facing a challenge in your studies and working through it teaches you resilience. Instead of giving up, you learn how to adapt to your strategy and become an independent learner.
- **Effective decision making:** Every day in school involves decisions, from managing your time between homework and activities to deciding how to approach a group conflict.

Beyond School:

- **Work Place:** In any career, employees are hired and promoted for their ability to solve problems. Whether you're fixing a computer issue, dealing with a difficult customer or streamlining a process.
- **Personal well-being:** Being a good problem solver reduces stress and anxiety. When you know you have the skills to tackle difficulties, you approach life with confidence and a greater sense of control.

# How will I be assessed?

**Ready to earn your award?** This is how it works!

On the next page, you'll see the criteria your teacher or assessor will use to evaluate your skills. They will give you points for each category based on your performance, from "Exemplary" (the highest score) down to "developing."

Your final score is the total number of points you earn, which will determine your award level for **problem solving**.

- **Pass:** 10–14 points
- **Good Pass:** 15–20 points
- **Excellent Pass:** 21–28 points

If you achieve 0-9 points you will need to continue working towards this award the next academic year.

**You can collect evidence throughout the academic year until the submission deadline in May 2026.**

## Problem Solving

<b>Problem Solving</b>			
<b>Category</b>	<b>Exemplary (4 Points)</b>	<b>Proficient (3 Points)</b>	<b>Developing (2 Points)</b>
Problem Identification & Definition	Clearly and accurately identifies and defines the problem, including all relevant factors and constraints.	Accurately identifies and defines the problem, including most relevant factors.	Identifies the problem but may overlook some important factors or constraints.
Information Gathering & Analysis	Thoroughly gathers and analyzes relevant information from multiple sources. Identifies patterns and trends.	Gathers and analyzes relevant information. Identifies some patterns and trends.	Gathers some information but may miss important details or sources. Analysis is limited.
Solution Generation & Evaluation	Generates multiple creative and viable solutions. Evaluates each solution thoroughly, considering potential consequences and feasibility.	Generates several viable solutions. Evaluates each solution, considering consequences and feasibility.	Generates a few solutions but may struggle to evaluate them effectively.
Implementation & Action Planning	Develops a detailed and realistic action plan for implementing the chosen solution. Anticipates potential obstacles and develops contingency plans.	Develops a realistic action plan for implementing the chosen solution. Identifies some potential obstacles.	Develops a basic action plan but may overlook important details or potential obstacles.
Evaluation & Reflection	Thoroughly evaluates the effectiveness of the implemented solution. Reflects on the problem-solving process and identifies areas for improvement.	Evaluates the effectiveness of the implemented solution. Reflects on the problem-solving process.	Evaluates the solution partially or superficially. Limited reflection on the problem-solving process.
Critical Thinking & Reasoning	Demonstrates strong critical thinking and reasoning skills throughout the problem-solving process. Uses logic and evidence to support decisions.	Demonstrates adequate critical thinking and reasoning skills. Uses logic and evidence in decision-making.	Demonstrates some critical thinking and reasoning skills but may rely on assumptions or biases.

# What can I do to work towards my problem solving award?

There are lots of different ways you can work towards this award. Below are some ideas:

- Leading a group activity
- Effectively working on a group task in lesson
- Overseeing student duties
- Pupil voice
- Student council
- Team games
- Resilience shown during problem solving in lessons
- Excellent work in maths and science
- Student duties

## How do I log my activities?

On the following pages you will see a table where you will need to log your activities, an example is provided below. You will need to select a staff member to sign this off. They will grade you from developing, proficient and exemplary.

Activity	Date	What did it involve you doing?	Staff Member to sign off	Staff member to RAG rate your contribution		
Student duties	13/2/26	I have been supporting the running of student duties and works to solve issues in the playground as they have arose	KTR	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary

Activity	Date	What did it involve you doing?	Staff Member to sign off	Staff member to rate your contribution		
				Exemplary	Proficient	Developing
				Exemplary	Proficient	Developing
				Exemplary	Proficient	Developing

Activity	Date	What did it involve you doing?	Staff Member to sign off	Staff member to rate your contribution
				Exemplary Proficient Developing
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Activity	Date	What did it involve you doing?	Staff Member to sign off	Staff member to rate your contribution			
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## Notes/Reflections

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**Expect More**