

A small school with  
**big ambitions** for  
our students



**2022** Prospectus





# Welcome from the Head of School

## **A small school with big ambitions for our students.**

Witchford Village College is a delightful place for students to study. We are a small village school who places the students' overall experience at the heart of everything we do.

We value academic achievement as well as extra-curricular provision and we know that a great secondary school experience doesn't stop when the bell rings at the end of the day.

The last two years have certainly been an unusual time for everyone. The pastoral support alongside the high-quality provision that our teachers provided to students during remote learning was exceptional. I feel really privileged to have been part of such a warm and friendly community during this period.

I know that students who join the College will have an excellent experience from day one. From the warm welcome they receive at reception to the exciting and engaging lessons and delicious lunches - to the after school clubs and activities. There really is something for everyone and I look forward to welcoming the class of 2027!



**Bessie Owen**  
**Head of School**





# Curriculum

**Our learning approach offers a personal, quality first, broad and challenging curriculum where students realise their potential.**

But the curriculum is much more than the courses offered and, coupled with a strong pastoral and extra-curricular programme, it supports students in being versed in British Values, ready for their next stage of education, employment or training; ready for life in the modern world.

## Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

Key Stage 3 is designed to enable every student to arrive at Key Stage 4 having had the breadth and quality of curriculum to enable them to be Key Stage 4 ready, and have access to the greatest choice of courses available. All students develop a range of skills from the linguistic and mathematical to social and artistic.

The curriculum differs from student to student and is designed in collaboration with each individual and their parents. There is also, always, opportunity for refinement and no student is ever stuck in their curriculum choices.

In Key Stage 3, most students follow a curriculum of: **English, Maths, Science, Computer Science, Geography, History, Religious Education, Art, Music, Drama, Latin and Classics, French or Spanish, Physical Education, and Design Technology.**

We are an inclusive school and our approach to learning means recognising that all students come with different starting points and needs. Students study the same broad range of subjects through lessons and structures tailored to their needs, which encourage learners to help shape their own learning at every point.

## Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

In Key Stage 4 students study a core curriculum, but also have the opportunity to study a range of additional subjects at different levels.

At Witchford Village College, Key Stage 4 offers a range of subjects with study time designed to maximise student opportunities - students can choose from GCSEs, BTECs, WJEC Vocational and Cambridge Nationals.

Within the core Key Stage 4 curriculum, students will study: **English Language and Literature, Maths, Science – either as separate Biology, Physics or Chemistry courses; or a combined Trilogy Double Award Science, Physical Education and Religious Studies.**

Students will have the opportunity to study several of the additional subjects: **Computer Science, Geography, History, Music, Photography, Spanish, French, German, Latin, Art, BTEC Sport, GCSE PE, Drama, Dance, Hospitality & Catering, Health & Social Care, Film, and Classical Civilisations.**





# Results & Destinations

**We're extremely proud of the GCSE results achieved by students graduating from Witchford Village College. Last year 81% of all, and 89% of SEN, students achieved five GCSEs at grade 4 or higher.**

## Here are quotes from just a few of them...

*"During my time at WVC I enjoyed visiting other countries: Switzerland with the Science department and Germany with the History department. It was great to have these experiences. I am also grateful to the teachers for all the extra time they gave to help me get the best GCSE results I could."*

*"My passion is to study medicine and I am at Hills Road sixth form as part of the journey to become a doctor. During my time at Witchford I loved the friends and memories I made. I had passionate and engaging lessons which inspired me."*

*"My time and experiences at Witchford have definitely equipped me with the skills I need for life. I've met so many great and inspiring people, students and teachers alike, and left having had a satisfying education."*

*"WVC has given me lots of different opportunities and experiences that I will never forget; I have made the most amazing friends. I had some incredible teachers who genuinely really cared about every aspect, wanting the*

*best for me and helped me to achieve it. Even when times were tough there was always someone to talk to and who would help me get back on my feet and make the impossible happen."*

*"My favourite part about being at Witchford was all the friends and the amazing memories that I made including the ski trips. In the future I aspire to go to London Vet School and become an Equine Vet!"*

*"My favourite thing about WVC was the teacher - pupil relationships within the school, as it made me feel more open to learning and easier to ask them for help. My main aspiration is to study veterinary at university, specialising in Equine or farm animals. I hope to go to Nottingham or Bristol university."*

*"I was really pleased to achieve the GCSE grades I worked hard for this year, and I'm now starting my A-Levels at Hills Road in Cambridge. I really valued my time at Witchford Village College and achieving the grades I did has given me a great springboard for my future career."*





# iPads

**This is an exciting time to be a student, member of staff and parent at WVC as we embark upon our 1:1 iPad scheme as part of our drive towards raising attainment.**

Digital technology is an essential skill in the modern world and we have a responsibility to equip students with the skills they need to thrive.

We are confident the scheme will enhance existing practice and create additional learning opportunities in the classroom and at home, whilst improving digital literacy, developing student's ability to collaborate and problem solve.

## **Our 1:1 iPad scheme has the potential to:**

- ▼ **provide opportunities to enhance students overall learning experience**
- ▼ **give access to learning in the classroom and at home**
- ▼ **narrow the digital divide between students**
- ▼ **encourage independence**
- ▼ **personalise learning**
- ▼ **provide opportunities to create and share work**
- ▼ **positively increase students attitude to school**
- ▼ **increase engagement in lessons**
- ▼ **improve organisation and attitude to homework**





# Careers

Our comprehensive and progressive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme aims to raise student aspirations and widen their perspectives on the world of work, enabling them to make informed, decisions throughout their lives.

We are proud to be seeking accreditation in “**Quality in Careers Standard**”, the nationally recognised award for CEIAG in schools.

As part of our CEIAG programme we offer a range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for our students, including:

<b>Year 7</b>	Attendance at The Big Bang STEM event at University of Hertfordshire
Careers education units in PSHE	
<b>Year 8</b>	Challenge Day with the Engineering Development Trust
Guided Pathways Day	
<b>Year 9</b>	Eyes on the Prize event at Anglia Ruskin University
PSHE sessions delivered by Future First	

<b>Year 10</b>	Mock interview skills day	University visits and taster days at Further Education colleges
	Five-day work experience placement	
<b>Year 11</b>	121 guidance meetings	Attendance at East Cambridgeshire Careers Fair
	KS4 pathways and progress evening	Pre-apprenticeship workshops





# Enrichment

At Witchford Village College we offer exciting and varied extra-curricular opportunities both at lunchtime and after school.

Students could learn to dance, train for a netball team, try a new language, or pursue a creative activity.

To make the sessions run even better every Tuesday and Thursday the school Canteen serves Cafe style refreshments and snacks for students to purchase from 2:45 - 3:30. A chance for students to refuel and refresh before session 4 starts at 3pm.

In addition to Session 4 programme, there are many opportunities to take part in concerts, productions, workshops and many more. Including working with visiting professionals both in and beyond the school day.

Our students have the opportunity to collaborate both with organisations in the local area such as The Junction, Babylon Arts, Twenty20 theatre company and with national organisations such as the Schools Shakespeare Festival. In the summer term, all Year 7 participate in a Eurovision song contest as part of the languages curriculum.

Session 4 activities on offer at Witchford Village College include (but are not limited to):

<b>Wicked Wednesdays</b>	<b>Dance Club</b>
<b>Glow up</b>	<b>Witchcrafty</b>
<b>Film Club</b>	<b>Reading Café</b>
<b>Latin and German Twilights</b>	<b>Art Club</b>
<b>Ancient Greek Club</b>	<b>Conversational French</b>
<b>Football, Rugby, Netball, Badminton, Fitness suite</b>	<b>History Club</b>
<b>Junior &amp; Senior Choir</b>	<b>Science Club</b>
<b>Ukulele Club</b>	<b>Maths MC7</b>
<b>Big Band</b>	<b>Debate Club</b>
<b>Drama Club</b>	<b>Maths Drop in</b>
<b>Environment club</b>	





# Trips and visits

By providing students with the opportunity to participate in trips and visits, we not only reinforce work within the curriculum, but also encourage students to take a wider view of the world, often challenging them by placing them into unfamiliar environments and situations.

The list of day visits and trips is extensive, and is offered in all areas of study. We aim to provide at least one significant residential trip opportunity in every year group. Previous residential trips have included:

Year 7	Bushcraft residential
Year 8	Languages residential in France or Spain
Year 9	PGL, France
Year 10	Geography field skills residential
Year 10 & 11	Eyes on the Prize event at Anglia Ruskin University
Year 11	Outlook expedition, Greece





# Student Leadership

**Our Student Council, which has representatives elected via the student body, is an active and well-received opportunity that is open to students from Years 7 to 10.**

Students attend regular meetings with the Assistant Headteacher, ensure that the opinions of our young people are valued and heard. Year 11 students have the opportunity to apply to be part of our Senior student group. These are aspirational roles for students to become role models for our younger student.

Year 9 students have the opportunity to become Language Ambassadors and to share their language skills and knowledge, for example by going into primary schools to deliver taster French or Spanish sessions.

The PE department offers an excellent Sports Leaders pathway to give every student the opportunity to develop into confident and enthusiastic sports leaders.

**All year 7 students undertake a Young Sports Leaders Award in their core PE lessons**

**Year 8 and 9 students have the opportunity to complete the Sports Leaders UK Level 1 Award**

**Year 10 and 11 students have the opportunity to complete the Sports Leaders UK Level 2 Award**

Our Sports Leaders help run primary school festivals, extra-curricular clubs and PE lessons, whilst forming part of the Sports Committee that helps to improve PE and sport within the College.





# Wellbeing

**Our students, their experience, their achievements and their is at the centre of everything we do at Witchford Village College. The attention we give to ensuring our students are safe and well cared for is a key priority for the College.**

Our experienced and dedicated team supports and encourages all of our students. No matter what the background or needs are of our students, we will ensure that they all have the opportunity to achieve and succeed both academically and personally. We monitor and support student wellbeing and progress within the house system and do our upmost to enable our students to reach their potential.

## Special education needs and disability

We are an inclusive school and work hard to ensure all students can achieve their potential across the curriculum. This is especially true for students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). We have a team of highly experienced teaching assistants, who offer support, both within and outside of lessons lead by two Deputy SENDCos and our Executive SENDCo. A wide range of support is available to students, this is tailored depending on their needs and/or disabilities in partnership with parents/carers and the student. Students can access our SEND area, commonly referred to as 'The Zone', before, during and after the school day, making use of the range of facilities it has to offer.

## The House System

Witchford Village College is divided into four houses - Lancaster, Meteor, Stirling, Wellington - led by a Head of House who provides guidance, support and challenge to the students under their care, right from day one. Through detailed monitoring in conjunction with subject teachers, they liaise closely with parents and outside agencies to ensure that any barriers, or potential barriers, to learning and progress are addressed. Therefore, every student has the opportunity to succeed beyond their potential.

We aim to respond quickly and sensitively to any students in difficulty, accessing the need for help and guidance from a range of sources both internal and external.

The house system is designed to fully support our students on their learning journey and enable them to realise their potential.







# Get in touch

Tours of the College are encouraged,  
visit our website or get in touch to arrange your visit.



**Witchford Village College**

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