

A small school with
big ambitions for
our students



Witchford
Village College



2022 Prospectus



Welcome from the Head of School

A small school with big ambitions for our students.

Hello and welcome!

I am delighted to share with you, our community, an insight into who we are and what we offer. We are very proud of our school, and we are not afraid to be great!

Witchford Village College is a delightful and spacious place for students to study. We are a small village school who places the students' overall experience at the heart of everything we do. When you leave each day, you will know more than when you arrived in the morning, and you will have had fun learning it!

We offer a broad and full curriculum.

We value your wellbeing, personal development and academic success. When you leave us, we want you to have a world of opportunity at your feet. For everyone, some areas of school are a breeze and others less so, but with shared ambition, we get there together.

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 afterschool clubs and activities. There really is something for everyone and I look forward to welcoming you in the future!

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Richard Auffret'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Richard Auffret
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. We also understand that you will not carry all subjects forward, so it is important to us that Key Stage 3 gives you a liking and life-long knowledge and skills in all areas. All students develop a range of skills from the linguistic and mathematical to social and artistic.

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 Politics.**

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, with exams, our outcomes were excellent and half of our students received five higher level GCSE passes including English and Maths. A third of grades were grade 7, 8 or 9.

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."

"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!"

"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 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 continue 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 endeavor to offer as many opportunities as possible to all year groups and work with a range of employers, training providers, universities and further education colleges.

As part of our CEIAG programme we offer a range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for particular year groups as below.

Through these interactions we ensure that students can experience a variety of employment sectors and aspirational experiences.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduction to Careers education units in PSHEInvolvement in National Careers Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Take Your Child to Work DayWalking Tour of Lancaster Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Eyes on the Prize event at Anglia Ruskin UniversityCambridge Regional College Vocational Taster Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">University visits and taster days at Further Education collegesFour-day work experience placementAttendance at East Cambs Skills Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1-2-1 guidance meetingsKS4 pathways and progress eveningApprenticeship 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 3:00 - 3:30pm. A chance for students to refuel and refresh before session 4 starts at 3.15pm.

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):

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



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 opportunity for all students to become sports leaders throughout their time at Witchford

Our Sports Leaders help run primary school festivals, extra-curricular clubs and PE lessons, with year 11 leaders running to become sports captains, helping to run events both in and out of school



Wellbeing

Our students, their experience, their achievements and their wellbeing 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 utmost 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 our senior SEN staff. 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

Currently, Year 7 are tutored in a year group and only have other Year 7s in their tutor group and they are led by your Head of Year 7. From Year 8 onwards, Witchford Village College is divided into three houses 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.

Our pastoral 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.

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