



Welland Park Academy

Learning For Life



Our Mission Statement

LEARNING

FOR LIFE

Our purpose is to work together to provide the highest quality education for each student, through our commitment to continuous improvement. Our priority is to challenge all students to achieve their potential, through a wide range of opportunities and in a positive learning environment. We aim to ensure they become confident, happy and successful individuals who can play a positive and significant part in the community.

'The pastoral care for pupils is a considerable strength. A well-honed team of staff ensure that no pupil is left feeling unsupported. Despite growing as a school, it is notable that most staff know all of the pupils by name. As one parent described, 'The staff go above and beyond.' Pupils feel like they belong, are cared for and are valued. As a result, most pupils attend regularly, behave well, achieve highly and develop respect for others.'

Ofsted 2019

'Pupils are confident, resilient learners, who are not afraid to make mistakes.'

Ofsted 2019

'Welland Park is a family in which learning for life takes place.'

Head Student 2023

'Excellent communication between school and home.

I always felt that I understood what my child needed to do, and what we needed to do to help him'

Parent of a Year 11 student 2023



Welcome from the Principal



Welcome to Welland Park Academy, a thriving and inclusive school integral to the wider community realising, through the execution of our Mission Statement, our core value - Learning for Life!

We believe that with the right circumstances every one of our youngsters can become a world class learner and make significant academic progress. I am privileged to work with a highly capable and dedicated group of governors and specialist staff, enabling us to offer a diverse study programme to ensure all students develop the requisite knowledge and skills for life in modern Britain and beyond.

We pride ourselves on the family feel of our school which operates a purposeful and safe learning environment with consistently high standards of conduct. We draw upon our own expertise and extensive range of networks to empower our students to become caring, competent and responsible in their contribution to the community. This caring approach, combined with the highly aspirational staff body, ensures our students aim for and achieve their very best.

We have always appreciated the excellent level of parental support at Welland Park; your involvement is integral to our aim of realising the maximum potential of our young people. This will enable us to secure excellent outcomes right through to the end of Key Stage 4 and personalise our transition programme for students to make informed decisions regarding Key Stage 5.

Each year, a number of our students attain grade 9s, the highest possible grade, across **all** curriculum areas. We work assiduously to ensure excellent progress for all of our students regardless of their starting point.

This prospectus and our website provide lots of information but please take the opportunity to contact our Academy to arrange a visit and speak to our staff and students.

Mr Pete Leatherland, Principal

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

All students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. We introduce students to a wide range of experiences to facilitate developing new knowledge and skills.

‘Leaders are committed to ensuring that pupils can follow a broad and balanced curriculum.’
Ofsted 2019

At Key Stage 3 the students study the following subjects:

- Art
- Citizenship
- Computing & ICT
- DT to include Food & Nutrition, Textiles, Electronics/STEM, Graphic Design & Product Design
- English
- Humanities
- Maths
- Modern Languages - French German & Spanish
- Music & Drama
- Science
- PE

Our extensive Citizenship programme includes Careers Education, Personal Development, Environmental Issues, E-Safety, Cultural Awareness and Health Education. The programme also explores mental health issues, healthy lifestyles and learning about relationships, and Post 16 preparation.

We supplement our curriculum on a regular basis with Enrichment activities, which have included:

- arts day
- financial awareness projects
- interview days
- the Future Ready Programme where students work with mentors from the business community

Students select their GCSE choices with guidance and support in Year 9.

We also commence GCSE studies for the core curriculum in Year 9.

Students and parents are supported through their choices for both Key Stages 4 & 5.

A rigorous programme commences in Year 10 to support students to realise their full potential at GCSE

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The majority of our courses are GCSE and all students are able to access the English Baccalaureate (EBacc).

The **CORE CURRICULUM** comprises of:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Triple Science or Combined Double Science
- PE
- Citizenship

OPTIONS

Options available include:

- Art
- Computing
- Food & Nutrition
- Creative iMedia
- Design & Technology
- Dance
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- German
- Health & Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Media Studies
- Music
- PE GCSE
- Religious Education
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Sports Studies

INDEPENDENT LEARNING

This is normally completed at home but we offer a variety of opportunities both after school and at lunchtime for students to access support. Parents can check all independent learning set through Edulink.



‘Teachers have strong subject knowledge and use it to good effect, for instance, to inspire Year 10 pupils to write a computer programme, or to encourage Year 7 pupils to interpret a poem using their skills of inference. In these lessons, teachers’ use of subject specific language is commonplace and it becomes part of most pupils’ lexicon. Such in-depth knowledge inspires pupils to be inquisitive and want to find out more.’

Ofsted 2019



Raising Individual Achievement

Our staff provide challenge and support to all students to ensure they make excellent progress. This is reviewed termly at Key Stage 3 and more regularly at GCSE and a variety of supportive interventions applied where appropriate.

More and Very Able

We have a specific member of staff whose role it is to identify and provide a range of opportunities to allow able, very able and talented students to develop their potential across all curriculum areas. These consist of various groups meeting regularly, one-off activities and specific extension work within each subject area.

Welland Park Academy Debating

A very successful debate club assemble weekly to debate various issues, using the 'British Parliamentary' format. It does not matter if you have any experience, as full training is given to new members. We have members from all year groups who participate, and we compete successfully in local, national and international competitions.

Homework

Homework is an important part of learning at Welland Park Academy. It gives students the opportunity to think about the work they have done in school; it helps to develop the skills of self-discipline, organisation and learning; it is part of the partnership between home and school.

Homework will be set regularly in most subjects using Edulink. Students and parents will be given log in details at the start of the year so that they can see details of all homework set and any resources needed to complete it. They can also download the app version to their phone or tablet to provide a clear list of all tasks to be completed.



Learning Support (SEND)

Special Education Needs & Disabled Children

Opening Education to All

Through Quality First Teaching and bespoke provision, we aim to provide a fully inclusive environment to enable all of our students to reach their potential academically, socially and emotionally. We have a nurturing and dedicated learning support team who deliver support through a variety of ways, such as small group interventions, additional support in lessons, bespoke learning interventions and personalised provision. All of the students on the SEND register have a key worker assigned to them. The SEND team work closely with the Pastoral team.

All students on the SEND register have a student passport and SEND plan. Both are closely monitored and updated termly, with appropriate targets set and reviewed by key workers and staff, the aim being to create a clear focus for the students in manageable chunks. Students will have the chance to meet with their key worker on a weekly basis. The role of a key worker is to provide both academic and emotional support, liaising with teaching staff and home to create a strong dynamic enabling students and parents alike to voice any concerns they may have. Our goal is to help each student to develop the independence and confidence needed to have a successful and enjoyable experience at Welland Park Academy.

'All pupils who spoke with inspectors felt well cared for. They said that they knew how to access support should they need to. Most notably, pupils welcomed the help they received from adults working in the 'access to the curriculum' unit.'

OFSTED 2019



At Welland Park Academy, there are many opportunities for students to get involved



Student Voice

We believe it is important for students to have a 'voice' in their school and feel their opinions are listened to and valued. Representatives from each tutor group sit on the School Council which meets regularly throughout the year. The Council has been involved in a number of projects, i.e. fund raising, recycling work, improvements in school facilities and environment. Many students have also been involved in extra responsibilities, such as guides at Open Evening, in discussions about behaviour/uniform policies, surveying opinions of other students and as part of staff interviews. These roles also help students to build leadership skills for the future.

Resilience

The importance of resilience and perseverance in young people cannot be underestimated. We work hard to develop a range of character traits connected to resilience in the students across the school, both in lessons and social time. Achievement points are rewarded specifically for each of 22 areas of focus and staff share with students in the classroom which skills they are looking for them to work on during a lesson. Throughout the year, students are rewarded for developing these important life skills and are encouraged to decide which they personally wish to develop further. Parents are encouraged to support this by talking about how to build these skills of determination, perseverance, team work, integrity, and many more.

Peer Support

In Year 9, as part of our Peer Support Programme, trained students offer a range of support to other students. This has been running for a number of years now and is seen as an important part of our support structure for all students. Peer Supporters are linked to new Year 7 tutor groups as 'Buddies' and are available to them throughout their first year at Welland Park Academy.

Trained Well-being Mentors are appointed to ensure that support is available for positive well-being and anti-bullying across all year groups.



Student Care & Guidance



Rewards

Students can accrue **achievement** points for good deeds and work, **individual** points for achievements both in and out of school and **team** points for commitment to group activities.

This scheme reinforces self-discipline and positive attitudes to learning and support of fellow students as well as rewarding the positive character traits that help students succeed in school and in later life.

‘Leaders ensure that pupils’ mental health and emotional needs are provided for sufficiently well. For instance, ‘drop-in’ sessions are available to support pupils experiencing increased anxiety during examination periods.’

OFSTED 2019

The Form Tutor

Your child’s Form Tutor is the member of staff they see daily, the key person as a first point of contact for welfare & behaviour support. The Tutor will monitor your child and take a keen interest in their academic and social development. Students develop a strong sense of identity with peers in their form, wider year group and students from other years.

Working in Partnership with Home

E-Safety & Internet Agreement

We make full use of a wide range of ICT resources at school using the network computers and a wide range of portable devices. All classrooms are covered by the school Wi-Fi network which provides safe filtered internet access to all school equipment. We ask all students and parents to sign our Acceptable Use Policy at the start of each year to explain safe use of ICT at school. Our aim is to educate students in both the benefits and dangers of using this source of information. We teach all students about the importance of E-Safety through lesson activities, assemblies and our team of Digital Leaders within the student population. We also advise students on the safe and appropriate use of ICT systems both at school and in their own time.

‘Pupils feel safe at school. They are taught effectively about how to reduce the risks they may encounter, including online.’

Ofsted 2019

Well-being & Anti-bullying

We are proud holders of the Well-being At School award, recognising the extensive range of support provided for our students and staff. Bullying is dealt with seriously and the Academy has an established disciplinary structure which, depending on the nature of the problem, will be used. Students are given clear advice on what constitutes bullying and what they should do if they witness bullying or are subject to it. They are also made aware that bullying behaviour will not be tolerated in the Academy. Parents are always encouraged to contact the Academy if they suspect bullying. We are committed to minimising the opportunities for bullying and we aim to deal with it quickly and firmly. We secured the Gold Beyond Bullying award for our determination to address bullying effectively.

Extra-Curricular Activities & Enrichment

Sport

In addition to our taught PE, we compete regularly in inter-school competitions in football, rugby, netball, hockey, cross-country, tennis, table-tennis, basketball, volleyball, trampolining and athletics. To provide an opportunity for all students to experience representative competition, a wide variety of inter-house competitions are also available, together with a full range of extra-curricular clubs. Many students achieve local sporting honours and there is a very strong tradition of excellence with many students achieving County and higher honours. We have had at least one year group team in the Rugby County Cup Final for each of the last eight years, and were County Champions in 2022. Similar success has been achieved in Athletics with an age group team qualifying for the regional finals in the National Track and Field Cup every year.



Sporting Success 2022/23

- U13, U15, U17 - **South Leicestershire Athletics Champions**
- Year 11 Boys Basketball - **County Champions**
- U14 Swimming - **Winners of the Leicestershire Gala**
- Year 7 Girls Basketball - **South Leicestershire Champions**
- Year 8 Girls Basketball - **South Leicestershire Champions**
- Year 10 Boys Basketball - **County Runners up**
- Year 7 Girls Netball - **South Leicestershire Finalists**
- Year 9 Girls Basketball - **South Leicestershire Finalists**
- Year 10/11 Girls Basketball - **South Leicestershire Finalists**
- U16 Girls Hockey - **2nd in the Leicestershire County Tournament**
- U16 Girls Badminton - **County Finalists**
- U15 Boys Rugby - **County Plate Finalists**
- U16 Boys Rugby - **County Semi-Finalists**
- Year 10 Boys Tennis Team - **2nd in County League**
- U13, U14 & U16 Boys Rugby Sevens Team - **Rossllyn Park National Schools Sevens**



Residential Trips and Visits

At Welland Park Academy, we have a passionate belief that our students should access an enriching curriculum with a significant number of opportunities for learning outside the classroom. Trips and visits include Year 7 Team Building, MFL residential trips to Paris, Barcelona, Seville and Germany, a ski trip, a sports tour to Holland in addition to visits to museums, theatres, art galleries and Science Museums. Our students have visited Berlin, CERN and Borneo, with a trip to Costa Rica planned in 2024. We have a full trips calendar available on the website.



Music & Performing Arts



We aim to provide an extensive range of activities in Performing Arts, catering for the wealth of musical or dramatic interests and a wide range of abilities. Many of our students take up the opportunities for instrumental or singing lessons from one of thirteen visiting instrumental specialists. There are a number of ensembles that may rehearse on a weekly basis, enhancing the classroom curriculum experience. Examples may include our singing group 'Sing It Back', 'Woodwind Ensemble', 'Boys Vocal Group' and our show band who will be working towards the school production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* in January 2024.

Adding to the vibrancy of this busy department, we have a number of dance and drama rehearsals that take place for GCSE coursework, Key Stage 3 Drama club and ensembles and other groups that are student led (Key Stage 4 rock bands for example). There are multiple performance opportunities in addition to the musical, such as plays, summer and winter concerts that feature all three disciplines.



Summer School

We host an annual, week long Summer School for students. This is an opportunity for children to meet our staff and other children who may join their year group at Welland Park. There is an emphasis on activities with a literacy and numeracy focus. Specialist staff from Welland Park deliver the lessons and activities throughout the week. The students appreciate the chance to get to know our staff and the site, it supports a seamless transition into Year 7.

"I thought Summer School was very good and entertaining. You always kept us busy. Thank you." - Indy

"I loved the Summer School trip to Twin Lakes. I had an amazing time." - Sophie

"Summer School was a great experience to make new friends, test the curriculum and have fun." – Maddy

"Summer School is good because you can make new friends before you start." - Arthur

Please contact Mrs N. Burgess on tel: 01858 464795 or email: adminoffice@wellandparkacademy.com for further details.

Welland Park Pre-school and Family Learning Centre

The Pre-school is a highly successful facility which offers morning and afternoon sessions during term time.

The centre's well equipped facilities, which include a sensory garden, have recently undergone a full refurbishment to the indoor and outdoor areas. This, together with highly skilled, qualified and caring staff, provides an outstanding educational and safe environment for your children.

There are free government funded places for two, three and four year olds (criteria apply). For more information, please contact the centre on tel: 01858 465087 or email: wpapreschool@wellandparkacademy.com

Academy Facilities – Lettings and Hire

The Academy has a wide range of facilities that are available to hire; the areas can accommodate small or large classes or events. They include: Octagonal Hall with retractable raised seating for 300 people, Sports Halls, astro pitch, specialist and standard classrooms.

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**Welland Park
Academy 11-16**



Principal: Pete Leatherland

Vice Principal: Matt Jerred

Assistant Principals: Cheryl Gerald, Martin Towers,
Danielle Pendell, Caroline Bowden

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