

PARENT INFORMATION

2017-2018



Address: Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7FA
Telephone: 0115 9744488
Email: adminoffice@wbs.school
Website: www.wbs.school

THE WEST BRIDGFORD SCHOOL

A SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

EAST MIDLANDS EDUCATION TRUST, A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE.
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WHO TO CONTACT

Year Directors
Miss Martin (Years 7)
Ms Masterson (Year 8 & 10)
Mrs Price (Year 9 & 11)
Mr Bowie (Post-16)

Pastoral Assistants
Mrs Clarke (Year 7)
Miss Toms (Year 8)
Miss Powell (Year 9)
Mrs Kaur (Year 10)
Mr Patterson (Year 11)
Ms Donovan (Post-16)

WHO TO CONTACT

Student Services
Report absence (please call 9744488 option 1 where a member of the student services team will take your call from 8am. Before 8am there is the option to leave a message. Absence can also be reported using the West Bridgford School app or *emails can be sent to studentservices@wbs.school*

School Address
West Bridgford School
Loughborough Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7FA

Telephone Number (0115) 9744488
Email adminoffice@wbs.school
Website www.wbs.school

STUDENT INFORMATION

If any of the following details change, it is vital that parents inform school as soon as possible:

- home address
- telephone numbers (home, work, mobile)
- emergency contacts
- email address
- medical information

The school's database needs to be accurate so that we can make contact with parents in an emergency. A change of details form to complete can be found in the parents section on our website and will need to be returned for the attention of Sarah Miarkowski.

STUDENT SERVICES

We have a dedicated Student Services Team at the school:

Jimmy Dean - Examinations & Student Services Manager
Heather Stenson - Examinations Assistant & Attendance Officer
Ginette Sargent - Receptionist/Administrative & Attendance Assistant
Suzanne Kopacz - Student Services Assistant
Sarah Miarkowski - Data and Administrative Assistant

They are based in the Student Services Office and their function is to offer support to all students (and of course parents/carers) during their time at the school. Please contact them in the following ways:

Telephone: (0115) 9744488, (press option 1 for Student Services or option 4 for the Exams Office)

Email: studentservices@wbs.school

Alternatively please come to the main school reception should you wish to speak to a member of staff. Staff will be on hand to assist you between the hours of 8.00am – 4.00pm, Monday to Thursday and 8.00am – 3.30pm Friday (answer phone is available outside of these hours should you wish to leave a message).

For information, it is their responsibility to deal with all administration related to:

- Attendance, holiday forms, sickness and absence recording and reporting
- Collection and processing of data for internal/external examinations
- Consultation afternoons
- First Aid emergencies
- Head and uniform detentions
- Lost property
- Student information
- School uniform
- Teaching & exam timetables

Mark Thomson in the Finance Office is responsible for Agora, our online payment system and for School Fund collection for trips, books etc. The Finance Office is option 5 on the telephone menu.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (2017-18)

Start of Autumn Term 2017:	Monday 4 September (staff) * Tuesday 5 September (students) *
School closure day:	Wednesday 4 October
Half term:	Monday 23 October
Return to school:	Monday 30 October
Last day of term:	Friday 22 December

Start of Spring Term 2018:	Monday 8 January
Half term:	Monday 19 February
Return to school:	Monday 26 February
Last day of term:	Thursday 29 March
Easter holiday:	Friday 30 March

Start of Summer Term 2018:	Monday 16 April
May bank holiday:	Monday 7 May
Return to school:	Tuesday 8 May
Half term:	Monday 28 May
Return to school:	Monday 4 June
School closure day:	Friday 15 June
Last day of term:	Friday 20 July
School closure days:	Monday 23, Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25 July

***This is a day earlier than the local authority school holiday pattern**

LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

The Cafeteria and Snack Bar offer a daily choice of hot and cold dishes at reasonable prices, which students purchase as required. Alternatively, students may bring their own packed lunch. Students are not permitted to leave the school site for lunch.

Parents who may be entitled to claim free meals for their children are asked to enquire direct to Grants and Benefits Team, Parent & Pupil Services, Children & Young People's Services, Meadow House, Littleworth, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 2TA (01623 433009) or alternatively email parentpupil.north@nottscc.gov.uk

SCHOOL CURRICULUM TEACHING GROUPS, CLASS SIZES AND GROUPING ABILITY

In Year 7, students are placed in tutor groups of approximately 29 and work in these groups through to the end of Year 9 for all subjects other than Maths, English and PE where students are grouped by ability to allow for appropriate challenge and support. From January in Year 7, classes in Modern Foreign Languages are regrouped in order to allow most students to study a second

language (either Spanish or German) in addition to French. In Technology, students are grouped into smaller classes for the practical subject.

A small number of students are identified on transition from KS2 as having particular needs with literacy. These students follow a literacy programme rather than a Foreign Language. Depending on progress, they may return to languages in Year 8 or continue with literacy.

In Year 9, students are also set in Science.

Where students are in setted ability groups, class sizes will vary, but are usually smaller for the students requiring additional support.

At KS4, students are taught in ability groups for English, Maths, Science and PE, and in mixed ability groups defined by their option choices for other subjects.

Year 7 and 8 Curriculum

The Y7&8 Curriculum focuses on embedding and developing basic skills and developing strengths. All students study the same subjects. The current allocation of periods per fortnight is:

English 7	Languages 6	Geography 3	Technology 2	Computing 2	PE 4
Maths 7		History 3	Art 3		PSHE 2
Science 7		RE 2	Music 2		

Year 9 Curriculum

The Y9 Curriculum is a transition from KS3 to KS4. Core subjects begin GCSE programmes of study. Students continue with other subjects and follow a transitional course while selecting 4 option subjects to study to GCSE.

From October through to Christmas there is a major focus on careers education and the options process. Students select 4 subjects from a range of approximately 30 GCSE and vocational courses, but must include **one** from History, Geography, French, Spanish, German and Computing. The final choice for each individual student is reached by April through a guided choice involving student, parents, pastoral and subject teachers and the Curriculum Manager.

Year 10 and 11 Curriculum

The Y10&11 Curriculum provides students with the core subjects they need for a broad and balanced curriculum coupled with the opportunity to specialise in areas of interest and aptitude. A number of students may follow more personalised courses to address particular needs.

All students study English Language and English Literature, and all three sciences – taking either two Combined Science GCSEs or three separate Science GCSEs.

English 7	PE 4	Option 5	Option 5	Option 5	Option 5
Maths 7	PSHE 2	History, Geography, French, Spanish,	Art, Business, COPE (ASDAN), Computing, Dance, Drama, Economics, Engineering, Food, French, Geography, German,		

Science 10		German, Computing	Graphics, History, iMedia (Cam Nat), Media Studies, Music, Photography, PE, Product Design, RS Philosophy & Ethics, Sociology, Spanish, Textiles
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CONSULTATION DATES AND TIMINGS

Our Parents Consultation events provide the opportunity for parents to receive professional information about every aspect of their child's education, by direct personal contact, in order to reinforce a partnership between home and school. This encourages a greater involvement of parents in their child's education and fosters a working relationship between parents and teaching staff, which will enable them to develop strategies to assist the child's education.

Year	Date of consultation	Early closure	Time
13	Wed 27 September	No early closure	3.30 – 6.00pm
11	Tues 31 October	Early school closure at 1.13pm all years	2.00 – 5.30pm
12	Tues 7 November	No early closure	3.30 – 6.00pm
10	Thurs 23 November	Early school closure at 1.13pm all years	2.00 – 5.30pm
9	Tues 5 December	Early school closure at 1.13pm all years	2.00 – 5.30pm
7	ABCD – Wed 14 February	Early school closure at 1.13pm for year 7, 8 and 9 only	2.00 – 5.30pm
	EFGHJ – Wed 7 February		2.00 – 5.30pm
8	ABCD – Thurs 1 March	Early school closure at 1.13pm for year 7, 8 and 9 only	2.00 – 5.30pm
	EFGHJ – Wed 7 March		2.00 – 5.30pm

PARENT COMMUNICATION

INTOUCH

The school has been using online communication successfully for some time and it delivers a range of benefits for parents. On joining the school you are automatically registered on the school mailing list for whole school communications such as 'The West Bridgford Post' and targeted group information and you will also receive text messages about emergency issues such as school closure during adverse weather conditions. Contact studentservices@wbs.school if you would like us to update your email or mobile phone number. Please include your name, your child's name, preferred primary email address and mobile number. It is essential that the school has your most up to date email and mobile phone number for this service to work.

THE WEST BRIDGFORD SCHOOL APP

As more and more parents have told us that they predominantly access the internet via their smartphones, the school has developed a school app that will allow access to the key information from the school website, in a convenient format, on a phone. Search 'West Bridgford School' on the iOS App or Google Play store and the app

can be downloaded for free. Key functions include push-notification, absence reporting and access to school web services, and new functions are being developed all the time.

CASHLESS CATERING

This is a system that incorporates the latest technology, eliminating the need for your child to carry cash throughout the school day. Instead, children carry a card which they swipe at the point of sale to identify themselves to the system. A photograph of the child appears on the till and is viewed by the catering assistant. This ensures that a child cannot make purchases on another child's account. This system offers the following advantages:

- Healthy eating is encouraged as the school's kitchens comply with the national nutritional standards for school food;
- Discourages the misuse of school dinner money through spending in shops outside of the school grounds;
- Alleviates many of the associated problems with the use of cash in schools i.e. loss, theft and bullying;
- Queuing times are reduced through increased speed of service;
- Automatic free meal allocation with the student remaining anonymous;
- Parents are able to limit spending and can see reports of their child's eating habits.

A card is issued by the school in year 7 and, even if your child does not require this for lunch, it must be retained as it will be required for use in year 11 for access through security gates for exams and transfer to post-16 where it is used to register on site. The cards will be recalled in year 11 for gate access to be added. A replacement card costs £2 should it be damaged, lost or stolen. The card remains the property of the school.

We have two methods by which money can be paid into a child's account. Our preferred method of payment is to place money on your child's account through our secure online payment system AGORA. If you have yet to register for AGORA please email studentservices@wbs.school and details of how to register will be sent to you. In order to keep administration costs down, you should make a minimum transaction payment of £20. A cash payment option has been maintained, however we would request that parents avoid its use except in special circumstances. There is a pay point (called a revaluation machine) placed in the canteen area of the main school for children (years 7-11) and one in the post-16 centre, whereby cash can be placed onto the account. These take paper notes and silver coins but no copper coins. This should be done before the start of the school day, at break or lunch time but not during lesson time. Payment by this method is not ideal, since we are attempting to create a cashless school and it fails to provide you with the full parental control this system offers.

Parents have the opportunity to set a child's spending limit for each day or for each part of the day at breakfast club, break and lunch time. By default we will set the spend limit to £4.00 per day, unless you inform us otherwise. You can also request a report of your child's purchases.

PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL TRIPS

The school offers a variety of trips for the students to attend throughout their time here which can either cover curriculum material or just be an enrichment visit. Each trip usually requires a payment for each student and depending on the total value of the trip can either be paid in instalments or all in one go.

Trips are paid for via our Agora online payment system. If you have yet to register for Agora please email studentservices@wbs.school. The system allows you to track how many payments you have made for multi-instalment trips, be aware of payment deadlines and plan your future payments.

In very specific circumstances we can issue 'Paypoint' barcodes allowing parents to pay for a trip with cash at several local shops, such as ASDA. Please contact Student Services to access a payment barcode.

ATTENDANCE PROCESS

Registration: Students should arrive at school in time to register at 8.30 am.

Lateness: Students who arrive after the completion of the register will be marked late. Students arriving after registration should sign in at Student Services.

Students who are late for a third time in a half-term will be given a Year Director detention.

Planned absence: Requests for absence from school for dental appointments, visits to hospital etc, should be addressed to the tutor or Student Services and give at least one clear day's notice. Less school time is lost if such appointments can be arranged at the beginning or end of the day.

Requests for leave of absence should be given to Student Services. Forms are available from Student Services and on the school website. Please be aware that all applications for leave of absence during term time **must be made in advance**.

For a request of Absence for the purpose of participation in a sporting activity or drama or music performance a formal request from the organizing body is also required. It is expected that school absence will be kept to a minimum and authorization is at the discretion of the school.

Time off school for family holidays is not a right and will not usually be approved. The Law states you do not have the right to take your child out of school for holidays during term time.

Permission for authorised leave of absence may be granted for holidays in exceptional circumstances only. "The applications must be made in advance and the head teacher must be satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which warrant the leave. Where the leave of absence is granted, the head teacher will determine the number of days a pupil can be away from school. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the head teacher's discretion."

(DfE School Attendance)

Holidays taken for the following reasons will **not** be authorised:

- ⊕ availability of cheap holidays
- ⊕ availability of desired accommodation
- ⊕ poor weather experienced in school holiday periods
- ⊕ overlap with the beginning or end of term

If the school refuses your application and you still take your child out of school, the absences will be treated as unauthorised. **Unauthorised absences may lead to a Penalty Notice being issued against you for irregular school attendance.**

"If a school does not authorise a leave of absence for the purpose of a holiday but the parents still take the child out of school, or the parents keep the child out of school longer than is agreed, the absence is unauthorised. The regulations do not allow schools to give retrospective approval. If the parents did not apply for leave of absence in advance, the absence must be recorded as unauthorised." *(DfE School Attendance)*

Acceptable absence:

- ⊕ illness or other unavoidable cause that prevents attendance
- ⊕ on a day exclusively set aside for religious observance by the religious body to which the student's parents belong
- ⊕ with the leave of the school
- ⊕ to attend a job or college interview
- ⊕ to take part in approved public performances
- ⊕ to take part in special tuition, public exams, sporting events, etc
- ⊕ for more details please see 'application for leave of absence during term time' guidelines

Unacceptable absence:

- ⊕ truancy
- ⊕ minding the house/staying in for repairs
- ⊕ shopping
- ⊕ attending sporting events, pop concerts or festivals

- ⊕ annual holidays
- ⊕ to do homework
- ⊕ to help with the family business
- ⊕ birthdays
- ⊕ school uniform in the wash
- ⊕ looking after brothers or sisters
- ⊕ oversleeping

Unexpected absence: If your child is absent from school please let Student Services know on **each day** of absence. Student Services staff will pass on any information they receive to the appropriate tutor.

Absence due to illness/emergencies should be reported to Student Services as early as possible on the morning of **each day** of absence. Please call (0115) 9744488 (option 1) where a member of the team will take your call. If you wish to call before 8.00am or after 4.00pm you will be able to leave a message on the answering machine. Messages will be picked up after 8.00am. Alternatively, out of hours, emails can be sent to studentservices@wbs.school. Absence can also be reported via the WBS App.

If the school does not receive an explanatory note or telephone message you will be contacted by Student Services.

Poor attendance: Ultimately, the Family Service has the right to pursue such cases through the courts.

We hope that you will appreciate the importance the school places on school attendance, and will work with us to ensure that your child attends school regularly and punctually.

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

- Wherever possible, children should be allowed to carry their own medicines.
- Non-prescribed medicines will NOT be administered in school or stored by the school.
- Any pupil wishing to keep medicines in school for the school to administer **must** have a signed Administration of Drugs consent form from their parent or carer. Unless the school receives an Administration of Medicines form any prescribed medicines handed into school will be considered to be for safe keeping and not for administration.
- More detailed information can be found on the school website in the Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

PROGRESS REPORTING

The school operates a system of 'Progress Reports' that will track your child's progress against national targets from Year 7 to 13. Each group receives between 3 and 4 progress reports per year. When viewing your child's report be aware that the 'Base Target' is set using prior-attainment based on national data, while the 'Aspirational Target' is decided in school using the judgement of the teacher and data we hold on your child. The 'Aspirational Target' will always be above the 'Base Target'.

For each progress report staff produce 'Predicted Grades' after considering your child's marks, their work habits and their own professional judgement, to make a prediction of what grade you child will attain at the end of the key stage. The report will show all previous predictions for the year so as the year progresses you will be able to see if performance is improving or declining.

Predicted grades show 'traffic light' colours to give an 'at a glance' overview of the report.

WAYS IN WHICH YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD

- By providing a suitable bag and writing materials (pen, pencil and ruler).
- By providing a correct school uniform and P.E. kit (see pages 12 and 13 for details).
- By making sure your child's attendance is regular and punctual (see pages for details of what to do if your child is absent).
- By checking Moodle to ensure the required homework is being done and contacting the Year Director if there are problems. Students should be using the Planner to schedule their time and this can be checked and signed every week (see page 16 for full details of the school homework policy).
- By checking that all personal property, including clothing, is clearly marked.
- Please note that the school cannot accept responsibility for loss of personal property. Children must not bring any electrical items including mobile phones, i-pods, smart watches, cameras or any other similar items to school. When a change of clothing is made for P.E, money, watches etc **must be handed to members of staff in charge**. A plastic bag should be provided by parents for the articles to be kept in, **which should be named**.
- It is strongly recommended that articles of value, e.g. watches are not brought to school on days when a student has P.E. or Games. We would also ask that aerosols are not brought to school.
- By ensuring that bicycles are kept in good working order and that your child has a secure padlock and chain with which to lock his/her cycle to the stand provided. Students should also wear a safety helmet when cycling to school.

CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS

Every school is required to refer their concerns to the Children's Social Care Services Department. While we will seek, in general, to discuss these concerns with the family and where possible seek agreement to making the referral, this will only be done where such discussion and agreement seeking will not place a child at increased risk of significant harm. This procedure is intended to protect children from abuse. When we refer a concern about a student to the Children's Social Care Services Department we are not accusing the parents/carers of abuse, but requesting that further enquiries take place and that any necessary help and support is provided.

DAILY ROUTINE

Rules can seem annoying to us as individuals, but they are there to ensure that all of us can enjoy and benefit from our time at school. The rules and routines listed do not cover all eventualities. Students are expected to show common sense in dealing with other situations.

To and from school

- Whilst they are travelling to and from school students should always conduct themselves in a manner which is a credit to both themselves and the school. Members of the public will judge the school by the way in which they behave.
- Use the entrance to Loughborough Road. Students must stick to the driveway or pathway adjacent to the drive.
- If students cycle to school, they must dismount at all times when on the school site and walk their bicycles to the secure racks. We encourage students to wear helmets.
- Students should be punctual. They are late if they are not in their tutor room by the beginning of the registration or lesson session. **If students arrive after tutor time they must go to student services to sign in late and collect a slip which should be handed to their tutor or shown to their class teacher.**

Movement about school

- Always **walk** in the building and on outside footpaths.
- In the main building at busy changeover times, students are asked to keep to the left of the corridors.
- When waiting for lessons students queue in an orderly manner, or (where specific permission has been given) go into the classroom quietly and sit down.
- Students may only be in the Hall and the Theatre when supervised by a member of staff.

Personal property

- All personal property should be marked with the student's name.
- Aerosol sprays are banned from being brought into school under any circumstances due to health and safety regulations.
- Leave valuable items e.g. mobile phones, smart watches, ipods and jewellery at home.
- Alcohol, smoking materials and drugs referred to in the policy document must not be brought to school.
- Avoid leaving bags and coats unattended.

- If students bring a cycle to school, take appropriate security measures. To protect cycles, the cycle sheds must only be used by students depositing or collecting their cycles. We encourage safety helmets to be worn when cycling to school.

Lockers

School lockers are allocated to each new student in year 7 who has returned a reply slip and a non-refundable payment to their Pastoral Assistant at the beginning of the academic year. When students move to year 8 a new locker is allocated, if required, for their remaining time at the school up to year 11. It must be noted that no individual locker can be requested as they are distributed on a first come first served basis. If a locker key is lost the student is charged a replacement cost; once this has been met the student's Pastoral Assistant will provide them with a replacement key.

It is a condition of having a locker that the pupil consents to have this searched for a prohibited item, whether or not the pupil is present.

Emergencies

- If a student feels unwell they should ask the teacher, tutor or another member of staff for permission to go to the First Aider. If the First Aider is unavailable, then they should go to Student Services.
- If a child suddenly become seriously ill e.g. an attack of asthma, or has an accident, or if a student sees someone else in this situation, they should ensure that a teacher is told immediately.
- **It is very important that our school's information system is accurate and up-to-date with your child's details. Please report any changes to your home address, telephone contact numbers and medical information at the earliest opportunity. Please ensure you supply sufficient contacts in case of emergency.**
- If a student needs to make an emergency telephone call, a public pay phone is available for use at break and lunchtimes. If a student has no money, they should find a pastoral assistant and explain why they need to use the telephone.
- Fire regulations are posted in each classroom. Students should make sure that they are aware of them.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

There are a number of options available to parents for purchasing uniform. Primarily, this is through our suppliers, Stevensons, via their website at www.stevensons.co.uk by clicking on the school logo to register with them. Alternatively, you can ring their customer services department on 01727 815700 to place your order. All items purchased will be posted to you direct. Purchasing items from our suppliers is highly recommended as we have a strict uniform code and the only way that parents can be certain that uniform is correct is to purchase it from our suppliers.

The school reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any child whose uniform does not comply with these requirements. For persistent offenders this could result in the child forfeiting their place in the school. The judgement of the Director of Learning will be final in these matters. The following tables provide information on uniform for students at The West Bridgford School.

Uniform for Girls	
Blazer	School blazer with school badge. Blazers may be removed on the field at lunchtime, in classrooms when permission is given by the teacher and in Summer when a notice is put on the Student Bulletin Board.
Skirt	A fully pleated skirt, in plain mid-grey. The skirt should not be tightly tailored or of a stretchy "Lycra" type material. It must not be split above the knee. The hemline of the skirt should be "on the knee" with a tolerance of 5cm either above or below the knee.
Trousers	Classic suit style trousers in mid-grey, worn at the waist (with a plain buckled black belt – optional) and touching the foot with a crease down the front and zip fly front. Tight fitting or cropped trousers are not acceptable. No stretch fabrics, jeans style, turn ups or flares.
Blouse	School blouse buttoned to the top
Shoes	Plain sensible polishable flat black shoes with no visible markings or logos. No boots. Suede is not acceptable.
Jumper (optional)	A school sweater may optionally be worn in addition to the blazer. No other jumper is permissible.
Socks or tights	Grey, black or navy plain socks. Grey, black or skin coloured tights. No leggings, footless tights or patterned tights. There is no intention that socks and tights should be worn together. No trainer socks.
Coat	Outdoor coats should be dark and plain in colour, compatible with our school uniform and without logos. We do not consider sports tops, hoodies, fleeces, leather jackets and other fashion items to be school uniform. The use of high visibility/reflective armbands is recommended.
Hair bands/ ribbons etc	Plain black or navy
Hat, scarf, gloves (optional)	Plain black or navy
Hijab	Plain black or navy. This should be no longer than the shoulder, leaving the school blouse and badge on the blazer clearly visible. The wearing of a burqa or face veil such as the niqab is not permitted in school

Jewellery, make-up and nails	None except that students with pierced ears may wear only small plain metallic studs – one per ear. No other studs are permissible. No nail varnish or false nails. No excessive make-up.
Hair	There should be no extreme hairstyles or unnatural variations in the colour or length of hair which have the effect of drawing attention to the student concerned.
Undergarments	Undergarments should be plain white and must not contain lettering which may be visible through the blouse.
Bags	These should be fit for purpose in that they are big enough to hold books and equipment required for the day.
Uniform for Boys	
Blazer	School blazer with school badge. Blazers may be removed on the field at lunchtime, in classrooms when permission is given by the teacher and in Summer when a notice is put on the Student Bulletin Board.
Trousers	Classic suit style trousers in mid-grey, worn at the waist (with a plain buckled black belt – optional) and touching the foot with a crease down the front and zip fly front. Tight fitting or cropped trousers are not acceptable. No stretch fabrics, jeans style, turn ups or flares.
Tie	School clip-on tie.
Shirt	White shirt - must be tucked in at all times and the top button done up. Sleeves must not be rolled up but short sleeved shirts may be worn.
Shoes	Plain sensible polishable black shoes with no visible markings or logos. No boots. Suede is not acceptable.
Jumper (optional)	A school sweater may optionally be worn in addition to the blazer. No other jumper is permissible.
Socks	Grey, black or navy plain socks. No trainer socks.
Coat	Outdoor coats should be dark and plain in colour, compatible with our school uniform and without logos. We do not consider sports tops, hoodies, fleeces, leather jackets and other fashion items to be school uniform. The use of high visibility/reflective armbands is recommended.
Hat, scarf, gloves (optional)	Plain black or navy
Jewellery	None except that students with pierced ears may wear only small plain studs – one per ear. No other studs are permissible.
Hair	There should be no extreme hairstyles or unnatural variations in the colour or length of hair which have the effect of drawing attention to the student concerned.
Turban	Plain black or navy blue
Undergarments	Undergarments should be plain white and must not contain lettering which may be visible through the shirt.
Bags	These should be fit for purpose in that they are big enough to hold books and equipment required for the day.

Aerosols, laser pens, items of inappropriate uniform, all electrical items such as ipods, mobile phones, smart devices, cameras, smart watches and items which interfere with the smooth running of the school day are all banned items and must be left at home. You should be aware that these items may be searched for and if found will be confiscated. A confiscated item will be dealt with in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy.

PE

- Polo shirt with school logo on
- Hooded top with school logo (girls only)
- Reversible jersey with school logo (boys only)
- School navy blue shorts/navy blue skirt
- Navy blue football socks with school logo
- White ankle socks
- Football boots
- Sports trainers
- Shin pads
- Dark coloured swimming trunks/shorts/costume

The PE department recommends that your child has a gum shield for rugby and hockey.

HOMWORK POLICY

- 1) Homework is strategically planned by school departments to maximise the impact of independent learning at home. Homework will always have a purpose and be linked to learning outcomes. The spread and distribution of homework across a week can be viewed in your child's on-line calendar in Brightspace. If you have any issues with Brightspace please contact brightspace@wbs.school for support.
- 2) All departments will set homework in the school 'Learning Management System', 'Brightspace'. The homework will have a deadline and clear instructions of how the work should be carried out. The homework will also be explained in class. Students who do not have access to the internet at home will have access to homework club every day after school. The school provides a 'Homework Planner' to empower students to take control of their time away from school. This should be used in conjunction with Brightspace to effectively plan and meet deadlines.
Brightspace can be accessed by both parents and students either via a browser or the D2L Brightspace app 'Pulse'. Search for 'Pulse' in the Google Play Store or the Apple iOS store.
- 3) Homework has a clear purpose:
 - a. To encourage students to become 'Independent Learners'. Independent learners are self-motivated, self-confident and resilient individuals who can manage their own time. Homework set will encourage this growth as students progress through the school.
 - b. To develop and strengthen learning activities undertaken at school.
 - c. To enhance and extend the range and variety of learning activities.
 - d. To further opportunities to work on coursework and projects, especially for examination subjects.

- 4) Since homework is normally undertaken at home, it provides a genuine opportunity for the parent/carer to be directly involved in the child's work. Parents are asked to show positive support and interest. Enable your child, wherever possible, to work on his/her own. By all means monitor the time taken on homework and note any difficulties your child has. When concerned about problems with homework, please inform either the subject teacher or the Tutor/Year Director by letter.
- 5) The work set is intended to be appropriate for your child's age and ability. Homework may come in a variety of forms including, written tasks, reading, investigations, watching video, listening, translation, discussion and extended projects.
- 6) Many students in year 7, at the start of their secondary school life may not be used to regular homework. Teachers will, therefore, introduce homework gradually over the first six weeks and ensure that all students are clear about what is expected from them.
- 7) Homework must be completed and handed in according to the instructions from the subject teacher. Many departments run weekly homework clubs for students who are struggling with homework, and students should plan to access these if they need help. School sanctions, such as detentions, will be used to motivate students to meet deadlines and produce work at an appropriate level.
- 8) If your child, for any reason, is unable to do or complete the work set, you are asked to write a letter to the subject teacher. However, every effort must be made to do the work set. When, therefore, homework is not completed on time it will normally have to be done as soon as possible thereafter.

BRIGHTSPACE AND TEACHER MARKBOOKS

The school Learning Management System, Brightspace, has an electronic version of the old 'teacher's mark book' where students and parents can securely access information on key test/assessment results and completed homework.

Across all year groups, students and parents have the ability to access individual academic profiles by logging into this online platform. Brightspace can be consulted online, using an Internet connected computer, smart phone or tablet.

This new tool complements our reporting system and provides more details about specific unit results and completed homework across our curriculum.

Year 7 students received their training and log in details at the start of the academic year while parents receive those details by email.

STATEMENT ON BULLYING

The West Bridgford School is committed to ensuring that all students are able to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without the fear of being bullied. Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at The West Bridgford School. We would expect pupils to feel safe in school, understand issues related to safety and feel confident to seek support from school should they feel unsafe.

What is Bullying?

“Behaviour by an individual or group usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally.”

Safe to Learn: embedding anti-bullying work in schools (2007)

How does bullying differ from teasing/falling out between friends or other types of aggressive behaviour?

- There is a deliberate intention to hurt or humiliate
- There is a power imbalance that makes it hard for the victim to defend themselves.
- It is usually persistent

Types of bullying are:

Physical e.g. hitting, kicking, taking belongings

Verbal e.g. name calling, insulting, making racist, homophobic or transphobic remarks

Written e.g. graffiti, threatening notes

Social e.g. spreading rumours, excluding from groups

Cyber e.g. the use of the internet, email, social media sites online games or any other kind of digital technology to threaten, tease, humiliate or upset someone else

Although bullying can occur between individuals it can often take place in the presence (virtually or physically) of others who become the “bystanders” or “accessories”. In cyber bullying, bystanders can easily become perpetrators – by passing on or showing to others images designed to humiliate or taking part in online polls or discussion groups. Pupils may not recognise themselves as participating in bullying, but their involvement compounds the misery for the person targeted. They will be made aware that their actions can have severe and distressing consequences and that participating in such activity will not be tolerated.

Specific types of bullying include:

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture
- Bullying related to special educational needs or disabilities
- Bullying related to appearance or health
- Bullying related to sexual orientation

- Bullying of young carers or looked after children or otherwise related to home circumstances
- Sexist or sexual bullying

Parents who believe their children are the victim of bullying should share their concerns with school at the earliest opportunity and be prepared to work with school to keep their children safe in future. All expressions of concern will be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. Where parents have concerns with regard to bullying they should contact the appropriate Director of Learning.

Students are expected to tell an adult if they have been bullied or if they have witnessed, or are aware of, the bullying of another student.

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Use of Social Media at home often impacts on school life. The school expects that students will continue to show respect to other members of the School community even when off site. Students are also expected to show due respect to the reputation and good name of the School and its staff.

When using Social Media, students are expected to ensure that they:

- Respect the rights and confidentiality of other members of the school community;
- Do not impersonate or falsely represent other members of the school community;
- Do not bully, intimidate, abuse, harass or threaten other members of the school community;
- Do not make defamatory comments against the school or other members of the school community;
- Do not post content that is hateful, threatening, pornographic or incites violence against others;
- Do not harm the reputation and good standing of The West Bridgford School or those within its community;
- Do not film, photograph or record members of the School community without express permission of the School or use film, photographs or recordings without express permission of the above.

Electronic devices can be seized, searched and deleted if the school reasonably believes it could be used to do harm.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE **Dealing with good and bad behaviour**

How does the school encourage positive behaviour?

This is done by rewarding children, challenging unacceptable behaviour, providing appropriate support and by operating a system of clear and fair sanctions.

What sort of opportunities are taken to reward children?

This is done through praise, both written and verbal. It may range from a simple comment from a member of staff about how well a child has done to a postcard home. Displays of pupils' work are another way in which children see that their work is valued.

The reward system includes the awarding of merits. Merits are given to pupils for achievement, improvement and for the contributions they may make to school life. The accumulation of merits leads to the award of bronze, silver, gold and platinum certificates. Further recognition of pupil achievement and progress takes place within award or presentation ceremonies.

In order to function effectively, the school will respond promptly in dealing with any form of unacceptable behaviour.

What sort of behaviour is regarded as unacceptable?

In a school there are some forms of behaviour that are regarded as unacceptable which in other contexts might seem to be quite reasonable. This will arise whenever the behaviour disrupts lessons or interferes in any other way with the smooth running of the school. The following are examples of unacceptable behaviour:

- impolite behaviour
- bullying
- excessive noise
- bringing forbidden items into school
- insolence or inappropriately challenging language towards a member of staff
- untidy appearance or wearing incorrect uniform
- the wearing of jewellery (other than ear studs as stipulated in the uniform policy)
- forgotten or incorrect equipment
- chewing gum and eating and/or drinking in the classroom
- late arrival to school or to a lesson

How do we respond to unacceptable behaviour?

The response to these behaviours will be the imposition of an appropriate sanction. The following are examples of the sanctions which may be used by staff at the school:

- verbal reprimand from a member of staff
- detentions (break time, lunchtime, after-school, closure days or at the weekend)
- extra work or repeating unsatisfactory work
- contact with parents by letter or telephone
- reprimand by a senior member of staff and ultimately the Principal
- placement on report

- exclusion from lessons
- isolation
- exclusion from school activities
- School-based community service including restorative justice

What is the West Bridgford School's policy on exclusion from school?

West Bridgford School has a Code of Conduct that stresses the importance the school places on self-discipline and good behaviour. Sometime students breach the Code and the school has an escalating scale of sanctions it employs in response to breaches of the Code.

The most serious sanction is exclusion from school. In the first instance this will be a Fixed-Term Exclusion i.e. removal from school for 1 to 45 days. The length of the exclusion is based on a professional judgement reflecting the severity of the incident.

The ultimate sanction of any school is a Permanent Exclusion when a student has to leave and move to another school.

West Bridgford School uses the exclusion sanction (usually fixed-term) for the following serious breaches of the Code of Conduct:

- failure to comply with the school's drugs policy
- theft
- physical assault
- defiance of the instructions from a member of staff
- disruptive behaviour in lessons
- bullying (hate incidents)
- deliberate damage to property
- refusal to comply with the sanctions of the school
- obscene language to a member of staff
- verbal abuse to any individual, including obscenity and the use of offensive language
- extortion and/or intimidation
- bringing any item into school which may be regarded as an offensive weapon or any item with the intent to use it as an offensive weapon
- malicious accusations against school staff

A permanent exclusion will be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy; and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

7 stage intervention strategy

Where there is persistent and continuing disruptive and uncooperative behaviour then the exclusion of a child may be the only option. It is therefore necessary in some cases to set in train actions that will either lead to the improvement in the behaviour of the individual child or ultimately the permanent exclusion of the child from the school.

1. Communicate to parents that continuing behaviour concerns are preventing their child's effective progress in learning
2. Inform parents that unsatisfactory progress and behaviour continue to affect several different lessons and the learning of others resulting in a 2 weeks' target report
3. Breakdown of Report – Parents are invited to meet the director of Learning and pastoral assistant to discuss the situation, possible causes and ways forward with a range of support mechanisms
4. Further breakdown – parents are informed about more serious sanctions being issued e.g. Isolation together with a consideration of further support mechanisms
5. Further breakdown – issue a Fixed Term Exclusion of 1-5 days and seek outside agency support
6. Further breakdown – continue with further Fixed Term exclusions and issue a formal warning of permanent Exclusion
7. Further breakdown – issue a Permanent exclusion.

In the event of exclusion, parents will be informed either by telephone or via the delivery of a letter to the home on the day of exclusion.

How does the school support children?

Pupils who misbehave will be punished, but we will also provide them with support in order to help them avoid such problems in the future. The support structures include the following:

- counselling by staff
- circles of friends/peer mentoring
- guidance from tutor and director of learning
- support from the education welfare officer
- access to the Learning Centre, Intervention Centre and support staff
- advice and guidance from the school nurse and outside agencies
- behaviour record/targets
- contact between parents and teachers
- curriculum support through teachers and heads of department

At certain times throughout the academic year it may be necessary to impose additional short term measures to ensure the maintenance of good school discipline. In such situations the head teacher and staff reserve the right to exercise discretion in the adoption of additional measures.

Pupils may become vulnerable through events such as bereavement, divorce or separation and the school will use a range of strategies to support pupils at such times. Special care will be taken to ensure that the more vulnerable pupils such as

those with additional needs, those with physical or mental health needs and looked after children are supported and included.

Mobile Phones and other electronic devices

The school policy is clear on these devices. They are not permitted into school and will be confiscated if seen.

Confiscation

In the case of a mobile phone or other electronic device, the confiscated item will, in the first instance, under normal circumstances, be made available for the parent to collect at the end of the school day and during school opening hours. If an electronic item is confiscated from the same child on a second occasion, the confiscated item will be retained by the school for a period of five whole school days before being made available for a parent to collect. This would normally mean the confiscated item is retained by the school over a weekend. If a confiscation occurs for a third occasion from the same child, the electronic item will be retained for a further five school days alongside the use of a more serious school sanction for the persistent defiance of school rules. In all instances the school reserves the right, depending upon the nature of the incident, to issue school sanctions against the child in addition to confiscation.

This incremental confiscation tariff will not carry over into a new academic year and will be 'reset' at the start of each new academic year. In addition, confiscated items would not normally be held over a school holiday and would normally be made available to parents for collection.

School off-site events outside of the normal school day – after 4pm.

Should a child be involved in a school event which takes them off the school site outside of the normal school day (defined as 4pm when the school closes), then mobile phones are permitted but under strict terms and conditions. Such events might include trips or away sporting fixtures.

For these occasions the child will be informed in advance that a mobile phone is permitted. The child is then able, if they wish, to bring their mobile phone into school but must hand the phone in to student services immediately upon their arrival. The phone will be held securely on behalf of the child for the school day and will be made available for collection 5 minutes prior to the departure of the trip. The child is expected to comply with all teacher instructions about the use of the phone for the duration of the trip but it will then be available for the child to use on their return to school.

The school will take all reasonable steps to look after the phone whilst it is in our care but we accept no liability for its loss whilst either with us or whilst with the student is on the trip.

The **Code of Conduct** must be followed by each student. The **student** will:

Around the school

- Arrive on time
- Wear your uniform correctly
- Bring the right equipment
- Walk sensibly around school
- Eat and drink only in approved areas
- Do as you are told by staff – first time, every time
- Be polite and show respect for others

In the classroom

- Arrive on time
- Queue properly outside your classroom
- Take your coat off
- Listen to the teacher and follow their instructions throughout the lesson
- Show respect to everyone, both adults and pupils
- Pack away when told and leave the room quietly

Aerosols, laser pens, items of inappropriate uniform, all electrical items such as ipods, mobile phones, smart devices, cameras, smart watches and items which interfere with the smooth running of the school day are all banned items and must be left at home. You should be aware that these items may be searched for and if found will be confiscated. A confiscated item will be dealt with in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy.

PROHIBITED ITEMS AND ITEMS BANNED BY SCHOOL RULES

School staff have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item.

Prohibited items are:

- Knives or weapons
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Any item that a member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person

Staff can also search for any item banned by school rules which has been identified as an item which may be searched for. These are: aerosols, laser pens, items of inappropriate uniform, all electrical items such as ipods, mobile phones, smart devices, cameras, smart watches and items which interfere with the smooth running of the school day

Where an item is confiscated the school will secure it so far as is reasonably possible, but ultimately as with all student possessions brought on the school premises, the school cannot be held responsible for items that go missing.

HOME/SCHOOL AGREEMENT

As a **parent/carer** of a child or children at the school I will ensure that:

- my child attends school regularly, is punctual, wears school uniform and is properly equipped;
- the school is notified of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour;
- any homework set is completed and that I/We will support my child in any opportunities for home learning;
- consultation afternoons are attended and that I/We will follow up any opportunities to discuss my child's progress;
- the school's policies, Code of Conduct and guidelines for behaviour are fully supported.

The **school** will:

- support the child in his/her learning;
- contact parent/carers if there is a recurring problem with attendance, punctuality, uniform or equipment;
- arrange consultation afternoons at which your child's progress can be discussed;

- set, mark and monitor your child's school and homework; homework will be available online;
- provide parent/carers with a termly Progress Report;
- keep parent/carers informed of school activities and any important school information through electronic letters home, a school App, Brightspace VLE and the West Bridgford Post;
- inform parent/carers of any serious concerns or problems associated with their child's work or behaviour.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Chair of Governors: Mr O Pritchard

A full list of Governors can be found on the school website.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Many of our school policies can be found on the school's website. Please contact the school secretary if you cannot find a policy you are particularly looking for.