







The West London Free School aims to be one of the best schools in the country, renowned for academic excellence, high standards of behaviour and a wide choice of Co-Curricular clubs in music and sport, providing all children with a Classical Liberal education, irrespective of their background.

OUR CORE VALUES

Kindness  
Hard Work  
High Standards

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## WELCOME

We are committed to providing a wealth of opportunities that will help every pupil achieve great things.

### Welcome to the West London Free School

From its foundation in 2011, the West London Free School has been at the forefront of education, both locally and nationally. Our Classical Liberal ethos is based on scholarship and academic excellence, delivered through a knowledge-rich curriculum. We believe that knowledge is a good thing in and of itself, empowering pupils to understand and take an interest in the world around them. As such, our teachers are all subject experts who pride themselves on their passion for their subjects and their ability to inspire the same passion in the pupils they teach.

We also value participation in activities outside of the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to try new challenges on the sports field, the stage or in many of the other Co-Curricular activities we offer, such as debating, ceramics and chess. Our thriving House system encourages a sense of friendly competition between pupils, but also a sense of community between different year groups. All pupils are encouraged to learn at least one musical instrument – our various orchestras, choirs and ensembles are routinely praised for the remarkable level at which they perform.

Our core values are Kindness, Hard Work and High Standards. We place great emphasis on politeness and good conduct from our pupils and expect them to demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour at all times. Central to helping our pupils develop as fulfilled, happy young adults is our exemplary pastoral care. Form Tutors, Heads of Year and senior staff are all available to provide pupils with extra care and assistance wherever required. We pride ourselves on being a hard working but happy community in which all our pupils can thrive.

Best wishes

**Ben McLaughlin and Robert Peal**  
Joint Headteachers



### Our ethos: a Classical Liberal education

By a Classical Liberal education, we mean a rigorous and extensive knowledge-rich education that draws its material and methods from the best and most important work in both the humanities and the sciences. The aim of such an education is to prepare children to fully participate in conversations and debates about contemporary issues, as well as the universal questions that have been troubling mankind throughout history. We want pupils to leave our school with the confidence that comes from possessing a treasure trove of essential knowledge, as well as a deep and lasting respect for reason, evidence, civility, honesty, kindness and the value of hard work and self-discipline.





Our key characteristics



**A knowledge-rich curriculum, including Latin for all**

**High aspirations, with a firm emphasis on academic achievement and hard work**

**A commitment to civility, honesty, kindness and toleration**



**A competitive atmosphere, particularly when it comes to sport**



**A strong, academic sixth form with bespoke student support**

**A specialism in music, with 10% of pupils selected for musical aptitude**



**A vibrant house system**



**High standards of behaviour**

**Teachers who are experts in their subjects, passionate about sharing that knowledge and committed to the school**



**Active parental and community involvement**



**Outstanding pastoral care, with every pupil well known to the staff**

**A broad and enriching Co-Curricular programme**



**A drive to excel in all that we do**





## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The West London Free School aims for academic excellence, committed to helping all pupils to fulfil their potential. We aim to instil in pupils a world-beating ambition, no matter what their background may be.

### OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

TO ENCOURAGE ALL PUPILS TO BE CONFIDENT, HARD-WORKING AND GOOD CITIZENS

TO TRANSMIT A CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE TO ALL PUPILS AND THE ABILITY TO USE IT WISELY

TO ENCOURAGE EVERY PUPIL TO CONTINUE INTO THE SIXTH FORM AND GO ON TO A GOOD UNIVERSITY, VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR WORKPLACE

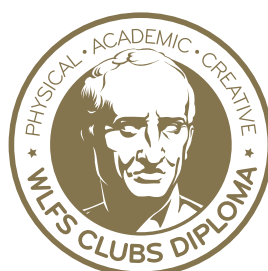
TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN OUTSTANDING TEACHERS AND LEADERS

TO INSTIL A LIFE-LONG LOVE OF LEARNING





Teaching and learning are underpinned by outstanding pastoral care and strong discipline. We also want our pupils to become well-rounded individuals and provide many opportunities to try different activities and develop new interests.



### Tutor groups and houses

Pupils in each year group are divided into five tutor groups of 26. During Key Stage 3 (11-14), most subjects are delivered through the tutor groups with setting in some subjects.

Each tutor group is looked after by a Form Tutor who is responsible for monitoring and supporting the academic progress of the pupils in that form, as well as attending to their pastoral needs. More specifically, Form Tutors are responsible for:

- registering pupil attendance
- dealing with pupil administration matters
- setting pupil targets and monitoring progress and attainment
- engaging pupils in meaningful activities.

Form Tutors are the first point of contact for parents. They like to nip problems in the bud and are happy to meet with you to discuss anything that is worrying you about your child's progress or welfare.

The Heads of Year have day-to-day responsibility for communicating the school's ethos to their year group and setting their pastoral and academic tone. They offer support to Form Tutors and provide additional support to those pupils with the greatest needs.

Every pupil automatically becomes a member of one of four houses – Athenians, Corinthians, Olympians and Spartans. Houses are organised vertically and contain pupils from each year group.

The House System enables us to run a diverse range of activities, including sport, music, drama and art competitions, and engenders a spirit of healthy competition. We believe that pupils should have the opportunity to work together outside of their year groups with a view to creating a strong bond throughout the school.

### Extended school day

The school operates an extended day to enable pupils to take part in a range of Co-Curricular activities as well as supervised study sessions.

### Clubs Diploma

Pupils who attend clubs from across three categories throughout the academic year are awarded with our Clubs Diploma.







THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum has been designed to challenge pupils and help them develop enquiring minds, equipping them with skills to succeed academically and beyond.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT WLFS

Our most recent set of GCSE results, in August 2019, were the school’s best to date.

12.3% GRADE 9	30% GRADE 9-8	51% GRADE 9-7
88% GRADE 9-4	21 PUPILS 7-9 EXCLUSIVELY	1 PUPIL TEN GRADE 9s

Our A-Level students also reached a fantastic spread of destinations in 2021.

46% STUDENTS GOING TO A RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY	3 STUDENTS GOING TO OXBRIDGE	4 STUDENTS STUDYING MEDICINE
3 MOST POPULAR UNIs EXETER AND LEEDS (8 STUDENTS EACH), BRISTOL (7 STUDENTS)	1 STUDENT TUFTS UNIVERSITY (USA) FULLY FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP	1 STUDENT BBC LEVEL 6 MARKETING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP

We’re proud of each and every one of them!





The West London Free School aims to provide children with a Classical Liberal education – one that is centred around the best and most important work in the humanities and the sciences.

On leaving school, we hope to have given our pupils an understanding of the world they inhabit and the ability to participate in the great conversations that have been animating humankind for thousands of years. By giving all our pupils a firm foundation, we expect them to pass at least eight academically rigorous GCSEs and go on to study at leading universities. The West London Free School is also a music specialist school.

### Key Stage 3 (11-14)

For the first three years at the school, pupils will follow a broad and challenging academic programme that closely follows the National Curriculum in Key Stage 3.

Alongside English, Maths and the Sciences, every Year 7 pupil will study Latin and ancient history during Classics lessons. History lessons focus on the events that have shaped the British Isles and the wider world, delivered in chronological order from the Anglo-Saxons to the 20th century. In Geography lessons, pupils focus on the processes that shape the natural world, while Divinity teaches the origins and beliefs of the world's main faiths. All pupils will have the opportunity to study a modern language (either French or Spanish), develop their creative flair in Art, Music and Drama, learn to code in Computing, and enjoy a healthy competitiveness in Games and PE.

Throughout Key Stage 3 pupils are taught in ability-based sets for English, Maths and Modern Languages. Science is set from Year 8. Class sizes are an average of 26 pupils..

### Key Stage 4 (14-16)

Every pupil in Year 10 and 11 studies the core set of subjects that underpin a classical liberal education: English Language and Literature, Mathematics and Science (the last of which is worth either two or three GCSEs, depending on the depth of study). Most pupils will also study at least one ancient or modern foreign language plus History or Geography. Further GCSE options include Art, Classical Civilisation, Music, Divinity and PE.

Pupils will be taught in ability sets for English, Mathematics and Science. Other subjects will generally be taught in mixed ability groups. Class sizes can vary significantly from subject to subject but they again average 26 pupils per class.







## MUSIC

Music is a core component of a Classical Liberal education and our school specialism. Our music teaching and curriculum are nationally recognised, and our recent GCSE results are amongst the highest in the country.





Twelve pupils per year are admitted according to musical aptitude and they receive free tuition on one instrument. These music scholars take part in a wide-ranging programme to develop their practical skills, ensemble playing and music theory. The scholarship test is open to all who would love to spend a lot of time doing music. It is a test of pitch and rhythm so formal tuition is not a necessary prerequisite.

All pupils are offered instrumental tuition during the school day from a choice of piano, guitar, drum kit and singing, as well as the orchestral instruments. Nearly half of the pupils in the school currently have instrumental tuition. Progress is ensured through the use of ABRSM, ABRSM Jazz, Trinity and Rock School grades, although some pupils make excellent progress outside the formal assessment system.

Our Co-Curricular programme gives pupils the opportunity to sing and play in a variety of musical styles: rock bands, chamber ensembles, folk groups, jazz ensembles, a range of choirs and the school Orchestra.

Choral singing is a particular strength of the school. At the start of the year, each Year 7 tutor group spends a day with a specialist singing teacher creating a class performance. Many of these pupils go on to be in our choir, which sings a mixture of pop, spiritual and classical music and performs at all the major school concerts. Those pupils who show a particular love of singing join the school chamber choir and represent the school at performances around London. The school has already performed nationally and internationally, including on BBC Radio London, at the Festival Hall and most recently in Barcelona Cathedral and Monserrat Abbey during our tour to Spain.

The Music Department at the West London Free School has high aspirations for all of our pupils and these are realised with some of the best results at GCSE in the country. Pupils involved in music at our school have the chance to benefit from a wonderful musical education – but we also make sure they have fun along the way.





## SPORT

Sport and Physical Education play an integral part of school life at West London Free School. We offer a wide range of activity areas in and outside of the curriculum, in which all pupils are challenged practically and academically.







We offer a range of sports, both within the school day and as part of our Co-Curricular provision.

These include football, hockey, netball, athletics, basketball, cricket, fitness, handball, rounders, rowing, rugby, swimming, table tennis and tennis. Pupils then also have the opportunity to develop their skills and understanding in Physical Education at GCSE.

The school has an impressive tradition in numerous sports. Within the Co-Curricular provision there are weekly training sessions for a number of these sports, coached by the sports staff and, in some cases, by high level external coaches. This expert coaching has enabled pupils to make significant progress and go on to represent the school at local, regional and national level.

Inter-house competitions are also run and encourage every pupil to represent their house in at least three competitive sports a year. These competitions are run every term, culminating in a sports day during the Trinity Term to which all parents are invited. Many of the pupils will also be given the opportunity to attend the Sports Awards evening and receive the recognition they deserve with specific sports awards.

The Sports Department believes in offering a challenging, rewarding and inspirational experience for all pupils irrespective of ability. This is undertaken by offering a broad, balanced, innovative, fun curriculum and Co-Curricular provision that caters for the needs of all pupils at the West London Free School.





CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe teaching and learning should be underpinned by outstanding pastoral care, strong discipline and respect.

At the West London Free School, we take good conduct very seriously because we know its long-term benefits. We set high standards for all our pupils and staff and expect them to be observed. These standards apply not only within the school, but to pupils' behaviour in the wider community. The details are included in the school's Code of Conduct and comply with our Core Values of Kindness, Hard Work and High Standards. These are embedded in the school's day-to-day routines and we expect everyone to comply with them.

Among other things, the staff greet the pupils at the school gate and expect that greeting to be acknowledged and returned; we expect them to stand up when an adult enters a classroom; hold doors open for adults and children alike; and say 'please' and 'thank you' whenever appropriate. A school is a community, and we expect pupils to behave in a way that benefits everyone in that community. Though it is sometimes a difficult message to receive, our collective responsibility towards each other is more important than our own individual wants.

We believe that asking pupils to adhere to our Core Values is an essential part of their education and is the foundation of their long-term success in life. They help to make the West London Free School the calm, warm, safe and happy community that it is.

This prospectus is a guide only and is believed to be correct at the time of publication. Nothing contained herein shall form the basis of a contract. Those wishing to place specific reliance on any matter should seek further clarification from the school.  
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