



# Parent Handbook

## 2025/26



It is hoped this booklet will assist parents/carers with lots of key information that may be useful so that we can continue to build on the excellent home/school partnerships that we have at Whitworth Community High School.

Please keep in mind that this booklet is just a snapshot of all that we do. Our website has a much more wide ranging and comprehensive set of information about our school, including all of our policies and protocols. Therefore, if you require further information, please visit our web site [www.wchs.co](http://www.wchs.co).



### Contacting School

- [office@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- 01706 343218

### Reporting a safeguarding concern

- Phone the main office to report your concern 01706 343218
- Go to [www.wchs.co](http://www.wchs.co) Click on the safeguarding tab and then use the link to the form.
- Alternatively, you can email any of our Designated Safeguarding Leads:
  - Mr Kewin [a.kewin@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.kewin@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
  - Mrs Ashworth [j.ashworth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.ashworth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
  - Mr Oliver [a.oliver@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.oliver@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
  - Mr Bland [p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### Reporting an absence

- Please use the EdulinkOne app via the Absence Reporting button
- Email [office@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Phone 01706 343218

### For general concerns about your child's progress, please contact their Head of Year

- Y7 - Mrs Cawley [j.cawley@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.cawley@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Y8&9 - Miss McVarish [o.mcvarish@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:o.mcvarish@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Y10&11 - Mrs Turner [a.turner@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.turner@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### For general concerns about your child's welfare e.g. bullying, friendship issues, medical concerns etc. please contact their form tutor through edulinkone or one of the Pastoral Managers

- Mr Lawrence [c.lawrence@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:c.lawrence@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Mr Whyborn [m.whyborn@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:m.whyborn@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Miss Shepherd [b.shepherd@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:b.shepherd@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### For any issues relating to Special Educational Needs or Looked After Children, please contact

Mrs Tingle [s.tingle@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.tingle@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk) or Mrs Manning [v.manning@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:v.manning@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### For subject specific curriculum issues, please contact one of our Directors of Learning

- English - Mr Williams [p.williams@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:p.williams@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Maths - Mrs Murray [m.murray@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:m.murray@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Science - Mrs McNiven [c.mcniven@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:c.mcniven@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Humanities (RS, History, Geography, Sociology) - Mrs Iqbal [s.iqbal@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.iqbal@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Innovation (PE, DT, H&S, PSHE) - Mr Cawley [w.cawley@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:w.cawley@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Creativity (Music, Drama, Art, Spanish) Mrs Goff [d.goff@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:d.goff@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### All of your child's teachers can be contacted directly through the Edulinkone App.

If you have any concerns that cannot be dealt with by any of the above members of staff, you can contact a member of the senior leadership team. Please note that they may pass on your concern if they feel it will be best dealt with by another colleague with the relevant area of expertise or responsibility

- Headteacher - Mr Oliver - please contact the Head's PA [y.ellis@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:y.ellis@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Deputy Headteacher (curriculum) - Mr Bland [p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Deputy Headteacher (pastoral/behaviour) - Mr Kewin [a.kewin@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.kewin@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Assistant Headteacher (literacy, careers, personal development) - Mrs Howarth [j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)
- Assistant Headteacher (teaching and learning) - Mrs Haworth [c.haworth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:c.haworth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

If you contact any of our staff via email or through the app, please be mindful that due to the nature of their jobs they will not be able to respond immediately. Please also note that staff are not expected to respond to any communication beyond their contractual working hours. Further information can be found in our Communications Policy on the website.

## **Term dates for the remainder of the 2025/26 academic year.**

### **Spring Term 2026**

- School re-opens Monday 5th January 2026
- Mid Term Closure Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026 (inclusive)
- School reopens Monday 23rd February 2026
- Closure after school on Friday 27th March 2026

### **Summer Term 2026**

- School re-opens Monday 13th April 2026
- May Day Closure Monday 4th May – one day only
- Mid Term Closure Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026 (inclusive)
- School reopens Monday 1st June 2026
- Closure after school on Friday 17th July 2026
- Inset day 5 Monday 20th July 2026 (school closed to staff and students)

The holiday pattern for 2026/27 is on the school website.

### **Term Time Holidays - Attendance Policy Statement**

Taking students out of school for holidays and other events during term-time can have an adverse effect on a child's educational well-being and can lead to sanctions being taken against parents where a holiday or other event has not been authorised by the school prior to its commencement.

Legislation makes it clear that Headteachers' cannot authorise any holiday or other event during term-time unless under exceptional circumstances. Holidays and other events not authorised under these guidelines will be classed as unauthorised absences and will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) fine being issued to parents by the Court Officer when absences meet the thresholds stated in this policy.

Where a parent feels that they have extenuating and exceptional circumstances for taking their child on holiday for any period during term-time they should seek authority from the Headteacher in writing giving more than 10 school days (2 full weeks) notice where possible and also to arrange a meeting with a member of the schools Senior Leadership Team (SLT). For any request for Leave of absence during term time, a meeting between parents/carers and a member of the schools Senior Leadership Team needs to be made to discuss the request. There is no automatic right in law to take a child out of school for family holidays or other events.

### **Prescription medication**

If your child has a medical condition that requires medication while they are in school then the following procedures should be followed:

- A consent form to administer medication must be completed by a parent/carer (this is available from the school reception)
- Any prescription medication must be brought into school in the original box with a pharmacy label that has your child's name on. We are unable to store medication which is not in its original packaging.

If your child suffers from asthma then please ensure they have an inhaler with them whilst in school. If you would like us to keep an emergency inhaler in the medical cabinet then please make sure the inhaler is in its original packaging, has a pharmacy label on with their name, as well as a medical consent form. We are unable to accept medication for your child if it's in a different name.

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that your child's medication is with them in school. All medication will be locked away in the school's secure medical cabinet, as stated in the school's medical policy.

Non-prescribed medications - We are not authorised to store or administer any non-prescription medication unless it is an exceptional circumstance and is for no longer than 48 hours.

## Key Calendar Dates

- Wednesday 21st January 2026 - Year 10 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
- Wednesday 4th February 2026 - Year 8 Parents' Evening
- Friday 13th February 2026 - Ski Trip Leaves for Austria
- Wednesday 25th February 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
- Monday 2nd March 2026 - Y11 mock exams begin
- Wednesday 18th March 2026 - Year 9 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
- Monday 6th April 2026 to Friday 10th April 2026 - Spanish Trip to Aguilas
- Wednesday 15th April 2026 - 2nd Year 11 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
- Monday 11th May 2026 - GCSE Exams
- Monday 8th June 2026 - Y7-10 Exam fortnight
- Monday 22nd June 2026 - Y10 Work Experience Week
- Thursday 25th June 2026 - Y11 Prom
- Thursday 2nd July 2026- Y6 Welcome Day and Evening
- Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Awards Evening (Y7-10) By invitation only.

## The School Day

Punctuality at the beginning of each day is vital because key messages are given to students at the beginning of form time or assembly each morning. Therefore, same-day detentions are allocated to students who are late, to deter future punctuality issues. Parental support on this matter is essential, and it is greatly appreciated that with your support, the vast majority of our students arrive on time each day.

	Year 8 & 11	Year 7	Year 9 & 10
<b>8.15am</b>	School gates open	School gates open	School gates open
<b>8.30am to 8.45am</b>	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club
<b>8.45am to 9.15am</b>	Form time	Form time	Form time
<b>9.15am to 10.15am</b>	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
<b>10.15am to 11.15am</b>	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
<b>11.15am to 11.30am</b>	Break time	Break time	Break time
<b>11.30am to 12.30pm</b>	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
<b>12.30pm to 1.00pm</b>	Lunchtime Y8 & 11	Lesson 4a	Lesson 4a
<b>1.00pm to 1.30pm</b>	Lesson 4a	Lunchtime Y7	Lesson 4b
<b>1.30pm to 2.00pm</b>	Lesson 4b	Lesson 4b	Lunchtime Y9 & 10
<b>2.00pm to 3.00pm</b>	Lesson 5	Lesson 5	Lesson 5

## Extra curricular clubs and activities

It is not possible to list all of the available clubs and groups in this document due to the range of activities on offer. All students are welcome to be involved in an activity that they have an interest in. The activities are advertised during Form Time each morning and are displayed on the screens in the school canteen. Please could we ask that parents/carers encourage your children to participate.

## Parent/Carer Conduct

Thank you to the vast majority of parents/carers who are always considerate and kind when dealing with staff regarding issues in school. Please keep in mind that school staff do a difficult and fast paced job, trying to balance the needs of 662 children on a daily basis. As such we sometimes get things wrong and we occasionally have to make decisions that don't please everyone. If there has been an issue and parents/carers don't get the outcome that is desired, parents/carers should use the appropriate channels of communication in a spirit of mutual respect. There is a comprehensive complaints policy on our website that sets out the steps to take should parents/carers be unhappy with anything in school. The first step is to get in touch by letter/email, over the phone or through a pre-arranged meeting. School staff will always try to work with parents/carers to resolve issues. Please note that we do not respond to Facebook posts and we do not make any decisions based upon what is written in Facebook comments. We will only communicate with parents/carers through the appropriate, professional channels as set out in our Communications Policy.

## Minimum Equipment Reminder

### Year 7-11 Equipment list:

2 Black Pens	Pencil	Purple pen
Ruler	Rubber	Planner and respect card
Locker Key	Calculator	Reading book (Y7, 8, 9 only)
Ready to learn pack (tuff bag, mini whiteboard, 2 working whiteboard pens and rubber)		

### What is a 'Ready to Learn' Pack?

Students have been provided with a 'Ready to Learn' Pack. This comprises a Tuff Bag, mini whiteboard, whiteboard pen, whiteboard rubber. The purpose of this pack is twofold. Firstly, to support pupils in being ready to learn and to help staff check regularly for understanding in lessons. The pack is the responsibility of the pupil. Should they lose an item or the pen runs out, this must be replaced by the pupil. The school shop sells all items at a minimal price.

### Home Learning:

Home learning is an expectation, not a choice - all pupils are expected to complete home learning for the deadline set. If a pupil fails to meet the initial deadline, a behaviour point will be applied and an extended deadline given. If pupils fail to meet the extended deadline, pupils will receive a 30 minute after school detention. It is expected that the pupil will catch up on the HL even after the detention. This applies to any home learning in any year group.

### Home learning in years 7 and 8:

Each week, pupils are set home learning in English, maths and science as well as two non core subjects (non core subjects are set on a rolling programme). English, maths and science is set through the online learning platforms of SPARX (maths), Century Tech (English) and Seneca (science)

Non core work is set in a home learning booklet which they have a week to complete. Pupils must read the knowledge organisers in the booklet, answer the questions based on the information in that and then spend time practising and testing themselves on this knowledge. At the start of the next lesson, pupils will be expected to return the question and answer sheet and then will be tested on their knowledge learned.

### Home learning in Years 9-11

Home learning in Year 9-11 is set weekly in each subject.

**In Y9**, non core subjects will set a maximum of 15-20 minutes of HL. English and Science will set 20 minutes and maths 30 minutes.

**In Y10**, non core subjects will set a maximum of 25 minutes of HL. English and Science will set 25 minutes and maths 30 minutes.

**In Year 11**, non core subjects will set a maximum of 25 minutes of HL. Maths will set a maximum of 40 minutes and English and science will set 30 minutes.

### In all years, core subjects deadline days are outlined here:

English is set on a Monday and should be complete for the following Monday.

Maths is set on a Friday and should be complete for the following Friday.

Science is set on a Monday and should be complete for the following Monday.

## Behaviour

The following information is designed to be a useful summary for parents/carers. [The Behaviour For Learning Policy](#) contains much more detailed information. This is available on our school web site [www.wchs.co](http://www.wchs.co). Our policy is based mainly around the seven simple expectations that we have for all students:

1. Speak respectfully to staff

2. Behave respectfully to staff
3. Speak respectfully to other students
4. Behave respectfully to other students
5. Have respect for your own learning
6. Have respect for other people's learning
7. Have respect for the school environment, the local community, and for our reputation

### **Rewards**

A great emphasis is placed upon rewards at Whitworth Community High School. The following rewards initiatives are in place, but please note that this list is not exhaustive:

- Achievement points
- Reward postcards
- Half Term Heroes
- GEMS+ (Y11 only)
- Headteacher Hot Chocolate Fridays
- Commendation assemblies
- House system awards

### **Sanctions**

Unfortunately, when our expectations have not been met, it is sometimes necessary to put sanctions in place. The following sanctions are used but this list is not exhaustive:

- Detentions
- Referrals to Head of Year or Senior Staff for meetings
- Internal Exclusion
- Suspensions
- Directions to other provisions
- Permanent exclusions

As per the law, teachers have statutory authority to discipline pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable, who break school rules or fail to follow reasonable instruction. The authority also extends to all paid staff with a responsibility for pupils, unless the headteacher decides otherwise. Pupils can be disciplined at any time they are in school or elsewhere under the charge of a teacher, and in certain circumstances when their misbehaviour occurs outside of school. Teachers also have the power to issue detentions outside of school hours and confiscate pupils' property.

### **Parents/carers also have the responsibility to:**

- Support the school's expectations of students
- Respect the school's behaviour policy and procedures and the disciplinary authority of school staff
- Help ensure that their child follows reasonable instructions by school staff and adheres to school rules and policies
- Ensure school complaints are resolved through official channels and not over social media

### **Prohibited Items**

Our Behaviour for Learning Policy contains a list of banned items, which is not exhaustive. Most confiscated items, such as hoodies and jewellery will be returned directly to students at the end of the week. Further sanctions will be imposed and parents/carers will be involved if prohibited items of a more serious nature are brought into school. School staff have the right to search without consent.

As per our behaviour policy, mobile phones should not be seen, heard or used on the school site. Mobile phones will be confiscated if seen, heard or used and sanctions will be applied. The phone will be stored securely until the parent/carer or nominated adult arranges to collect it from the office. Students needing to contact parents/carers may use a school telephone with a member of staff's permission. If parents need to contact children urgently they should telephone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly. All other personal electronic devices are banned in school.

### **Safeguarding, Student/Staff Wellbeing and Mental Health**

Safeguarding and student and staff wellbeing and mental health are at the heart of what we value as a school. Safeguarding in its widest sense refers to all the policies and practices in place in our school to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes

We promote safeguarding in school through our caring ethos, by having a culture built on respect and by having clear expectations, through our work with you as families, and this is underpinned by a wide range of policies and practices such as attendance, anti-bullying, online safety and acceptable use of ICT.

Safeguarding and wellbeing are everyone's responsibility in school. All staff and governors undertake annual safeguarding training as well as having regular updates on key issues throughout the year. Already this year, students have attended a safeguarding assembly reinforcing our zero-tolerance stance on racism, homophobic language, sexual harassment and bullying. Additional safeguarding assemblies are planned for the remainder of the year on topics such as consent, online safety and the dangers and long-term impact of using social media.

Students in school know that they can approach any member of staff if they have a problem, a niggling concern, or if they feel overwhelmed or confused, and that they should also speak up to support their peers. Should students feel uncomfortable approaching a member of staff about certain matters, there is a 'speak up' link on all school computers, where students can write down their concerns, which are then picked up by members of the pastoral and safeguarding teams.

Our School Counsellor is an excellent source of expertise for mental health and wellbeing. Referrals are made through Mrs Ashworth and our Pastoral Managers.

We are pleased to share that Lancashire Mind offers a wide range of mental health support for children, young people and their families. Their services include wellbeing coaching for ages 10–18, workshops designed to help parents and carers understand how best to support their child, and opportunities for young people to build confidence, resilience and healthy coping strategies. Lancashire Mind also provides friendly, non-judgemental advice for anyone who may be worried about their own mental health or the wellbeing of someone close to them. We encourage students, parents and carers to reach out to Lancashire Mind if they feel additional support would be helpful.

Parent/Carers - <https://www.lancashiremind.org.uk/parents-carers/>



# School Uniform 2025/26

Whitworth Community High School insists on the highest standards of uniform. It is important that students take pride in their appearance and are aware of the impression their appearance makes within the community. Whitworth Community High School seeks to promote a sense of belonging and shared identity through the implementation of its uniform policy.

**The Headteacher will be the arbiter in all matters relating to uniform, dress and appearance.** Parents/carers and students are advised to consult the Headteacher, or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, if they are considering uniform, dress or appearance changes that might conflict with the school policy.

Any student who arrives wearing the incorrect uniform, wearing inappropriate jewellery, with henna/mehndi without prior permission, or with an unsuitable hairstyle or hair colour may be removed from lessons and parent/carer contacted. A record will be made in the student's file. If a student ignores or persistently ignores the uniform code, the school will need to employ further sanctions including detentions or internal exclusion.

**Blazer** - blue blazer for Y7 to Y10. Grey blazer for Y11 only - blazers are only available from school. **School Tie** - blue with red stripe clip-on tie - this is only available from school. **White Shirt or Blouse** - must be tucked into skirt or trousers, top buttons fastened. **Skirt or Trousers** - The WCHS skirt is only available from school. It is to be worn with the hem of the skirt on the knee or longer (not shorter, and rolling up of waistbands is not permitted); Trousers must be conventional black tailored school trousers (not skinny fit, denim, canvas, stretch, leggings or jeggings). Please purchase trousers that are long enough to at least touch the shoe (no 'crop' or 'ankle grazers' please). Trousers can be purchased from any retailer as long as they conform to the above description. In response to parent/carer feedback, a service has been set up on <http://www.swidtp.co.uk/> for any parents/carers who are struggling to find suitable trousers that meet the policy requirements. A pre-purchase fitting service is available in school and there is a free click-and-collect option for convenience and to reduce costs to parents/carers



**Black Socks or plain black tights** – not both. If wearing the skirt with black socks, then the socks must be knee high with no frills. If wearing school trousers, socks must be black and at least ankle length (not trainer socks).



**Shoes** - School shoes should be low heeled, below the ankle, completely plain black leather or leather look with no coloured logos. Please note that trainers, boots (including 'Kicker' style boots), pumps, canvas, 'Dolly' shoes, Tovni Lacers, or similar trainer style shoes, sports branded footwear and footwear with Dr Martens soles (including yellow stitching) or similar are not acceptable. School shoes can be purchased from any retailer to reduce costs to parents/carers as long as they conform to school standards.



**Outdoor Coats** Students are encouraged to wear a suitable coat on their way to and from school. Coats should be neutral colours if possible. Hoodies are not allowed and will be confiscated.



**PE Kit** - is available from Anne's in Bacup, Moses or Ziggy's in Rochdale. Students missing any item in their PE kit will be given a 30-minute detention after school on a Friday. WCHS top, WCHS skirt or shorts, royal blue or white sports socks, WCHS half-zip mid-layer top (optional), trainers with non-marking soles. Students may choose to wear WCHS leggings instead of shorts/skorts if they wish.

**Hairstyles and colouring** - Added hair colours must be natural and subtle. Dip dying and bright colours such as shades of pink, red, blue etc are not permitted for students. Students who have shoulder length hair, or longer, may be required to tie it back for health and safety reasons and/or if it obscures the face. Patterns cut into hair or eyebrows are also not acceptable. Extreme hairstyles e.g. where some hair is very short and the rest is not with a clearly defined line are not acceptable. Close all-over shaved heads (skinhead styles) shorter than a number 2 (6mm) are not permitted. Students are allowed to have low fade haircuts (0.5). Students must not take low fade haircuts to the extreme e.g. low fades (starting at 0.5) are acceptable but high fades/mid fades and/or skin fades are not. Facial hair must be short, neat, clean and groomed

**Jewellery** must be limited to a watch and one pair of studs worn one in the lobe of each ear (no spacers or stretchers). No facial or body piercing is permitted for Health and Safety reasons. Further details can be found in the uniform policy, available on [www.wchs.co](http://www.wchs.co).

**Make-up** Make-up is not permitted in Y7-9. In Y10 & 11 minimal make-up is allowed. False nails, false eyelashes, nail varnish, fake tan are not acceptable. Coloured contact lenses are not permitted in school.

## **The School Curriculum**

It is important that parents and carers are aware of our curriculum intent and know what and how your child is being taught in school. This is a vital part of the partnership between home and school and will enable you to support and challenge your child with their learning. The following information is a brief summary of what can be found in the Curriculum and Assessment tab on our school website.

### **Able Gifted and Talented / The Most Able**

It is important that we stretch and challenge all children, including our most able, in line with their potential so that they can achieve the best possible outcomes from school, thus enabling them to apply for the top universities and professional careers. Information on the strategies that we use can be found in this section of our website. Should you require any further information, please contact Mr Hanif in school. [b.hanif@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:b.hanif@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Assessment**

It is important that all students are challenged to do their absolute best. Students at Key Stage 3 aim to be at least 'Secure' in their learning, whereas KS4 students are assessed against GCSE and equivalent criteria. The assessment policy for KS3 and KS4 children places great emphasis on recall and retention. This ensures that students are assessed on their cumulative learning rather than just on what they have learnt recently. Mr Bland will be able to provide more information if required. [p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:p.bland@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Curriculum Statement**

The curriculum intent statement sets out our general aims and intentions regarding the education that we provide at WCHS, which is based on the requirements set out in the National Curriculum and is challenging as per our aim to always be Climbing Higher. There is a lot of detailed information on this page, including the curriculum offer, transition, personal development, enrichment and cultural capital. Please contact Mr Bland directly if you have any enquiries about our curriculum statement. [p.bland@whithworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:p.bland@whithworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Faculty Curriculum Information**

To complement the whole school curriculum statement, each subject area has its own area on the web site, where detailed information can be found relating to the curriculum intent and the way the subject is taught. This includes some more detailed information about what is being taught and when. It is hoped that this information might help parents and carers to engage in discussion with their students about their learning. Should you require any further information about individual subject areas, please contact your child's teacher or the relevant Faculty Leader.

### **Reading**

Reading is a fundamental part of life at WCHS and we have in place a range of initiatives to support students to make progress with their reading. These are detailed here: <https://www.wchs.co/reading/> Reading is a life skill which will be essential for whichever career paths students choose and as a staff we believe that we are all teachers of reading. Reading is also a source of enjoyment for millions around the world and we hope that our focus on reading well and often will open this opportunity to all our students. Should you require any further information, please contact Mrs Howarth in school. [j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### **SEND**

WCHS is a fully inclusive school. We teach to the top and have high ambitions for students of all abilities regardless of any specific needs or difficulties that they may have. Students' needs are recorded and managed through our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Register. The SEND Register provides a comprehensive and efficient approach to identifying, monitoring, and supporting students with additional needs. It ensures that all staff have access to clear, upto-date information about each student, allowing them to provide support that is tailored to individual requirements. Students with a high level of needs have a pupil passport that provides guidance on how staff can meet individual needs in the school setting. Should you require any further information about our SEND provision, Miss Davies will endeavour to respond to your questions. [s.tingle@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.tingle@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Careers**

We are committed to providing a planned programme of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for all students in year 7 through to 11, in partnership with local education providers, employers and other key stakeholders. The impact of our CEIAG provision is measured and assessed using the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks for world class careers guidance and our excellent Destinations Data. Students begin working towards developing a career perspective from year 7 through PSHE lessons, form time activities and assemblies plus a wide range of other resources, services and opportunities. All pupils have access to independent careers advice via the school's Independent Careers Advisor, Ms L Grenaghan. [l.grenaghan@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.grenaghan@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk) Working to support the school's Independent Careers Advisor is Whitworth's Career Leader, Mrs Howarth, who can be contacted on the school number or via email at [j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.howarth@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk)

I hope that the curriculum information provided on our website is useful and easily accessible. Please do not hesitate to email me at [a.oliver@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.oliver@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk) if you have any further questions, feedback or suggestions regarding the school curriculum.

### **Curriculum offer for 2025/26**

The School operates a three year Key Stage 3 and two year Key Stage 4. In both key stages students follow a weekly timetable of 25 lessons. Each lesson is 60 minutes long.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>English</b>	4	4	4	5	5
<b>Maths</b>	4	4	4	4	4
<b>Science</b>	3	3	3	6	6
<b>Art and design</b>	1	1	1	Option open to all abilities	
<b>PSHE</b>	1	1	1		
<b>Enrichment KS4</b> includes: PSHE, Citizenship, Sex and Relationships, Computing, Religious Studies				1	1
<b>Computing</b>	1	1	1	Option for all abilities plus compulsory in enrichment	
<b>Design and Technology</b>	1	2	1	Option open to all abilities	
<b>Drama</b>	1	1		Option open to all abilities	
<b>Languages (Spanish)</b>	2	2	2	Option open to all abilities	
<b>Geography</b>	1	2	2	At least one must be chosen from the options blocks	
<b>History</b>	2	1	2		
<b>Music</b>	1	1	1	Option open to all abilities	
<b>Bedrock Learning</b>	1		1		
<b>Physical Education</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Religious Studies</b>	1	1	1	Option for all abilities plus compulsory in enrichment	
<b>Option W (current year 11)</b>				2	2
<b>Option X (current year 11)</b>				2	2
<b>Option Y (current year 11)</b>				2	2
<b>Option Z (current year 11)</b>				2	2
<b>Humanities (year 10)</b>				3	3
<b>Option X (year 10)</b>				2	3
<b>Option Y (year 10)</b>				3	2

Option subjects will be placed in different blocks each year depending on the cohort, in order to give as many first choices as possible. Option subjects include: PE GCSE and VCERT, Business Studies GCSE, Health and Social Care VCERT, Art GCSE, RS GCSE, Separate Science GCSEs, Hospitality and Catering VCERT, Computing GCSE, Sociology GCSE, Design and Technology GCSE, Spanish GCSE, Drama GCSE, Music GCSE

Note - the option process and the options available **will** change in future. The government is currently consulting on changes.



## Downloading and Using the App

The Edulink One app is available for iOS and Android devices. You can download from these links or search in the App or Play stores.

The School ID is: WCHS

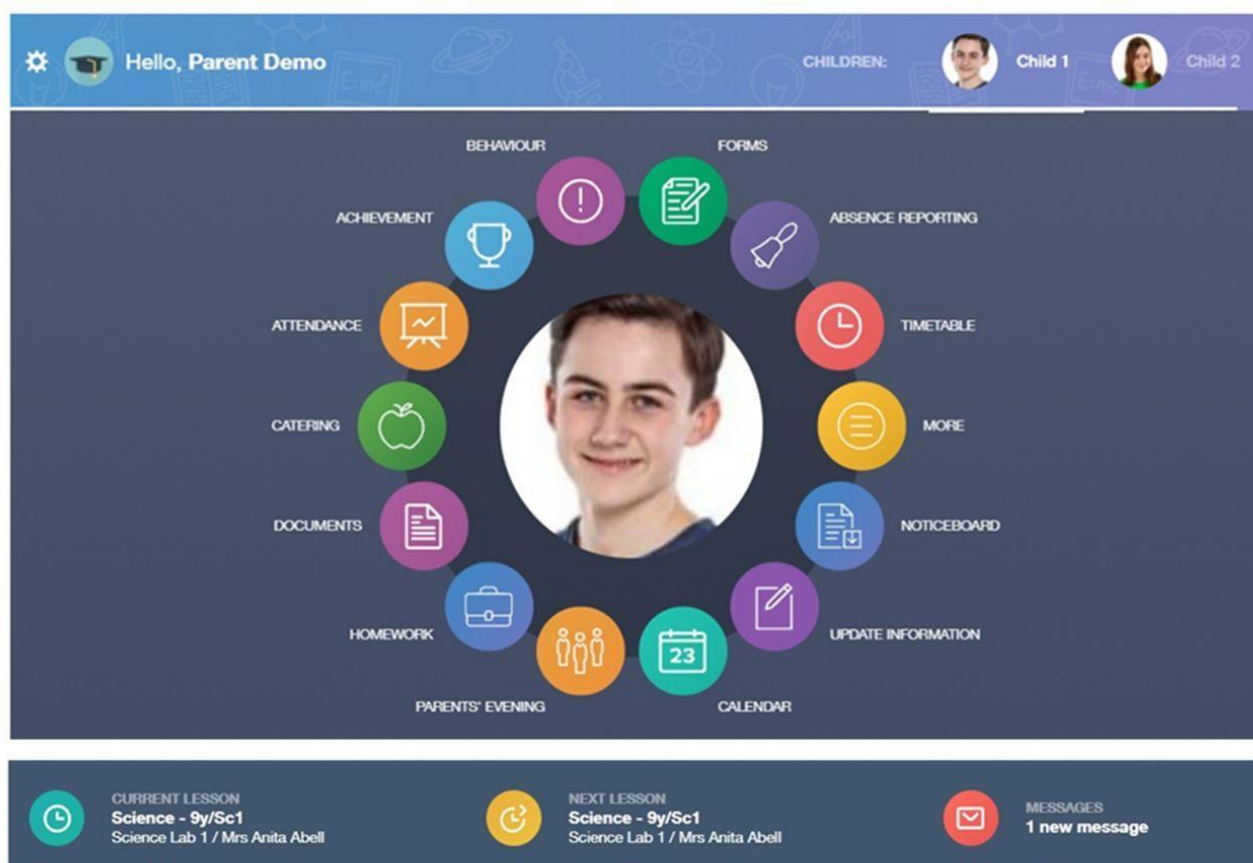
Please contact Mrs Rawstron if you don't know your username or password.

l.rawstron@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk

## Main Screen

Once logged in, you will see the main screen in Edulink One. The information held in your account relates to your child.

You will be able to navigate through the different sections of Edulink One by clicking on the icons, e.g. to view your child's attendance, click the **Attendance** icon.



This bar shows you what **lesson** your child is currently in, along with the next lesson in their timetable.

The **messages** button will let you know if you have any unread messages from the school.



The **BEHAVIOUR** button will give you access to **view behaviour records, detentions and lesson behaviour**, which have been assigned to your child. Information on detentions and graphs on lesson behaviour are also shown

The **ACHIEVEMENT** section is where you can view information on positive achievements that have been awarded to your child. Very similar to the behaviour section, you are able to see who awarded the points and the reason for the award.





Using the **CATERING** button you can check the remaining balance of your child's school cashless catering account. Details of purchased items from the canteen are also broken down into a list including dates and times so you can see what your child has purchased each day.

In the **DOCUMENTS** section you will find all the progress reports related to your child. Historical reports from previous years will be stored here and will be available for you to download in PDF format whenever you choose.



The **MEDICAL INFO** contains medical information that you have supplied to the school regarding your child. Details on medical conditions, medical notes, medical practices, and medical events such as appointments can all be viewed here.

Parents and students both have access to the **TIMETABLE** section, which allows you to view your child's school timetable. This shows you information on what lessons your child has each day and who the teachers are for those lessons.



The **UPDATE INFORMATION** section shows you the contact information that the school has on record for yourself and your children. Here we ask you to review the contact information the school holds for you, you may update this with any changes that may occur to this information.

When updated information is submitted through Edulink One, this will be picked up by the designated personnel in school in charge of updating records. It will be checked by them and approved.

The **MESSAGES** button can be found in the bottom right of the screen. Here you can read messages that have been sent through to you from staff at the school. You can reply to messages here. You can also write and send messages to one or more teachers and your child's form tutor.



The **HOMEWORK** tab allows teachers to communicate home learning through Edulink One. Students and parents/carers can see what homework has been set and when it is due, students can also mark it as completed. However, as a word of caution to parents, this does not necessarily mean the teacher agrees. The student and parent will see the homework in a list format; this can be organised by clicking on the headings to sort it by Subject or Due Date etc.

The **ATTENDANCE** section lets you see which lessons your child/children has that day and whether they have been marked as present or absent. In the Attendance Today tab, you can see this for both statutory registration and lesson registration.



If installing the Edulink One app on a mobile device, please ensure you allow '**Push Notifications**'. This will ensure you are alerted to messages sent to you via the app.

Please note you can log into Edulink One on the web using a computer - just visit [edulinkone.com](http://edulinkone.com) This is especially useful for viewing and downloading progress reports.