



Welland Park Academy

Learning For Life

Extra-Curricular Activities



Extra-curricular and Enrichment Activities 2023-24

At Welland Park Academy, we believe that our motto of “Learning for Life” is just as much about the experiences and personal development opportunities outside the classroom, as it is about the excellent learning that takes place in regular lessons.

We are proud to offer our students an extensive range of clubs, day trips, residentials and in-school opportunities to enable them to develop their talents and passions, and gain wider life experiences. Our students are fantastic at engaging with the programme offered, and often quote their experiences on trips as being the best memories of their time with us. This booklet provides some details about the clubs on offer, with further information about our trips offering also available on the website.



Sports Clubs

Basketball Club (Winter & Spring terms)

Boys' and girls' sessions take place once a week for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 and gives all students the opportunity to develop their skills further and also the chance to represent the school in local league competitions if selected.

Rugby Club (Winter & Spring terms)

There is one training session a week for all five-year groups. All students are welcome to attend and selection for the school teams will be made from the students who attend training. Each week the players will work on skills through games based sessions and in the Spring term specific Sevens training will take place.

Girls' rugby will be developed in the Spring term. The school enters competitions at local, regional and national level. These include national competitions & the County Cup. We also take part in the national schools' 7's at Rosslyn Park each year.

Football Club (Autumn and Spring terms)

During the Autumn term, football training is once a week for boys in all five year groups. Girls' football is for Years' 7, 8/9.

We compete in the South Leicestershire Schools League, and Boys matches begin the 2nd/3rd week into the term, and then weekly for the majority of the term. The Girls league starts after Christmas.

Hockey Club

Year 7 girls' Hockey Club runs after school once a week, from October through to Easter. This builds on skills introduced in lessons and develops game awareness in a 7 a-side situation. Year 8/9 Hockey Club is also after school once a week. Year 10/11 Hockey Club is after school once a week. This runs from September through to Easter.

Teams are run in all three age groups. The teams play in the Team Leicestershire Competition and also enter County Tournaments. Most matches are after school between January and the end of March.

All years get to play 7 a-side but the Year 9's also get to experience full 11 a-side games and enter County Tournaments for this as well as their 7 a-side. We have links with outside clubs and this enables the girls to have the opportunity to play and develop further. They can also develop through the Leicestershire Development Squads, which may lead to them playing for county teams in the future.



Sports Clubs

Leicestershire and Rutland Cross Country Races

There are 3 to 4 league races over the course of the Autumn term in which WPA runners take part as individuals and as teams. With three age groups the Year 7's run in a separate race from the Year 8 and 9 runners who race as juniors, with the Year 10 and 11 students running in the final race. There is also a team relay opportunity which requires a team of four runners.

At the end of the season there is a team and individual championship, after which the top runners in each age group are selected to represent the county at the English Schools' Championships in March at various beautiful locations around the country.

Netball

In Netball there are training sessions each week for all year groups, both inside and outside depending on the weather. The sessions are open to all girls who would like to improve their Netball skills and understanding of the rules. Each year group has the opportunity to play in the league matches organised as part of the Team Leicestershire Fixtures Calendar during the Autumn term. There are also plenty of opportunities to play in friendly matches with local schools, and to represent the school in the South East Tournaments and County Championships.

Badminton Club (Winter & Spring terms)

We run Badminton Clubs for both boys and girls in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11.

All students can attend and gives them the opportunity to practise the skills they have learnt in lessons in a competitive and fun situation.

The school runs teams for boys and girls and has a series of fixtures against local schools in the Spring term.

Athletics Club (Summer term)

This club runs three times a week after school and is open to all.

It is a great opportunity for students to practise any events from the track or field.

Many students attempt to improve personal bests and the best performers will be selected to represent the school in both county and regional competitions.



Performing Arts

Extra - Curricular Performing Arts Provision

Extra – curricular provision aims to cater for a wealth of interests and abilities. At the start of each academic year we look at our current cohort and plan and run groups and activities according to instrumentalists, dramatists and dancers we have. Below is a sample of what the department run:

Vocal Ensemble – ‘One Voice’ – a medium/ large group for singers, welcome from KS3 and KS4. We aim to explore a variety of popular pieces and build our repertoire ready to perform at a local pub towards the end of the autumn term.

Chamber Vocal Group – a small vocal group aimed at more experienced singers, by invitation and led by KS4 students.

Acting Cast for School Musical – following an audition process in May/ June, the cast are involved in regular weekly rehearsals September to January. Our next school Musical is Disney’s ‘The Little Mermaid’

Band for School Musical – a small number of very experienced instrumentalists are invited to be part of an adult band.

Adhoc Groups - each year a number of students ask to set up their own group, in any of the three disciplines, with support from the Department. As staff we may also invite a selective group of students to form groups. (potentially based on characteristics such as ability, common musical taste, leadership/mentoring



Performing Arts

Performance Opportunities

Throughout the year there are a number of opportunities for our musicians to perform:

Winter Music Concert

A calendared event in late November featuring varied styles of music, some solo and small group items. All year groups potentially involved.

School Musical

A large scale event, calendared in late January over three evenings. Our School Musical involves students from Years 8 – Year 11. There is an informal audition process for students during the summer term prior to the show year. Students can be involved as part of the cast, set design and costume, sound and lighting, show band.

GCSE Performance Evenings

A chance for our KS4 students to show and celebrate some of their coursework in Music and Drama.

Performing Arts Evenings

A chance for our students to perform a piece, often of their own choice in one of the Performing Arts disciplines – Dance, Drama, Music. Students are invited to audition for this event, which is open to all year groups.

Primary Music Day

This annual event, hosted at Welland Park is an opportunity for our Year 10 GCSE musicians and some of our younger, more experienced instrumentalists to perform and coach our young visitors from our feeder primary schools.

Community

A number of our musicians are invited to perform to visitors coming into school eg VASL. At Christmas time we take a vocal ensemble to perform at a local pub.



Homework Club

The Homework Club aims to provide students with a dedicated time and space to complete their homework assignments. This can be particularly beneficial for students who may face challenges completing homework independently at home, whether due to distractions or lack of resources.

The club takes place in the learning support area within the school, there will always be a member of the learning support team on duty. There is also access to resources such as textbooks, computers, and reference materials.

There will be adult supervision provided during Homework Club hours to assist students as needed and ensure a productive learning environment. This involves support staff who are available to answer questions, provide guidance, and offer academic support.

In addition to adult supervision, students may have the opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers. Peer support can be valuable for students who benefit from discussing concepts, sharing ideas, and working through problems together.

Attendance at the Homework Club may be voluntary or encouraged by teachers or parents. Regular attendance can help students stay on track with their homework assignments and develop good study habits.



Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club aims to ensure that students have access to a healthy breakfast before their classes begin. This can be particularly important for students who may not have had breakfast at home. **Structure:** The club operates in a Learning support, where students can gather to eat. The opportunity to discuss the forth coming day with a member of staff is available along with the opportunity to socialize with peers.

The breakfast provided is likely to consist of nutritious options such as whole grain cereals, fruit, yogurt, and milk or juice. The exact menu may vary depending on budget constraints, dietary restrictions, and available resources.

There is adult supervision provided during the Breakfast Club hours to ensure the safety and well-being of the students. Staff from the SEND department are on duty.

The Breakfast Club is typically open to all students, regardless of their socioeconomic background or academic level. It's meant to be an inclusive environment where students can start their day off right and feel supported by their school community.

As breakfast club is held within learning support area , it's possible that in addition to providing breakfast, there may be opportunities for academic support during this time. This could involve assistance with homework, study skills, or other educational activities.



Creative Writing Club

We have a vibrant Creative Writing Club for students in all years. We currently meet on Friday lunchtimes in A7. Students are given writing prompts in these sessions, but they are free to write whatever they wish to. They enjoy interacting with each other and sharing ideas; laptops are available if required. We introduce students to a range of writing competitions, and over the years, several students have had work published. We liaise with Speak Out Magazine – a local magazine written by young people for young people - in which our youngsters regularly have their work published. Additionally, we run theatre trips for students who attend regularly. This year we have seen two musicals: *The Book Thief* at the Curve in Leicester and *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World* at The Belgrade Theatre in Coventry.



Computing Club

The computing club runs for one hour each week and offers students the chance to work on any computing tasks with support from a specialist teacher. They may choose to develop their coding skills, graphic design skills or get some hands on experience with electronics and micro-controllers. We also have Lego Mindstorms kits and small rovers that can be programmed by students. Recently, we have been experimenting with newer technologies such as Virtual Reality and try to offer students an experience of these emerging technologies.

Stem

Autumn term is fun science practicals/investigations

Spring term is entering Teentech competition where they work on projects

Summer term we do fun practicals , eg rockets etc





Principal: Pete Leatherland. Vice Principal: Matt Jerred BSc (Hons) MA

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

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Registered Office: Welland Park Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 9DR, Tel: 01858 464495 Website: www.wellandparkacademy.co.uk