

WEST LONDON ACADEMY



HIGH SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

Admissions 2012



Dear Parent

Thank you for considering West London Academy for the education of your child. As you would expect of an Academy our programme, which includes the National Curriculum, places a strong emphasis on preparing our young people for the world of work with the added benefit of our specialisms of Sport and Enterprise to help develop independent thinking and team work. Our well qualified and motivated staff has the best modern technology and resources available to them. This enables our students to achieve their full potential both in terms of their academic success and their development as individuals.

One of our aims is to create an environment in which hard work and discipline combine to provide our students with the determination and motivation to succeed. Students can expect to gain much from West London Academy and in return we expect a high level of commitment and endeavour from them as well as very high standards of behaviour and personal appearance.

Accepting a place at West London Academy means that your son/daughter will be expected to continue in full-time education up to the age of 18 following an extensive range of academic and vocational courses. You will also be committing your child to a slightly longer working day as well as complying with our codes of dress and conduct. It makes every sense for our young people to be able to take advantage for as long as possible each day of the outstanding teaching and learning facilities available at the Academy which are amongst some of the best nationally.

I am confident that, after reading this prospectus, you will agree that West London Academy is the best place to secure your child's education and future prospects. If you have any remaining questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Academy will be holding its 'Open Evening' on **Thursday 6th October 2011** from 6 – 8.00 p.m. for you to visit and meet staff and students and, should you wish to visit the Academy for a tour during the day after this date, please contact the High School Admissions Officer to make an appointment.

Yours faithfully

Dr Hilary Macaulay
PRINCIPAL



Practical details

Postal Address

West London Academy
Bengarth Road
Northolt
Middlesex
UB5 5LQ

High School student & visitor pedestrian entrance

Bengarth Road

Tel : 020 8841 4511
Fax : 020 8841 4480
E-mail : enquiries@westlondonacademy.co.uk
Website : www.westlondonacademy.co.uk

Dr Hilary Macaulay
Principal and Chief Executive

Mission Statement

West London Academy has a distinctive ethos which guides our work and the education of our children and young people. Preparation for adult life underpins our Academy aims to:

- provide high quality education and a thirst for life-long learning with an additional emphasis on the Academy's specialism of enterprise
- enable everyone to enjoy success and achievement
- promote confidence and a strong sense of personal worth
- have high expectations which will be reflected in the targets set for staff and students alike
- harness the energies of children, students, staff and parents to establish a genuine partnership with the Academy for the benefit of all
- establish a business-like ethos by beliefs in values and attitudes such as hard work, honesty, respect and concern for others
- provide quality opportunities for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children and young people
- ensure that the effectiveness of all Academy staff is maintained and developed through continuous professional development

Charging Policy

West London Academy provides a free education for boys and girls. However, the Governing Body and Academy Trust reserve the right to charge in the following circumstances:

- where a parent/carer wishes a child to learn a musical instrument;
- where damage or loss is caused to Academy property of facilities as a result of a breach of the Code of Conduct or other negligence;
- where a student fails to return an item to the Learning Resources Centre (LRC);
- where a student fails to return a text book or other curricular resource which has been loaned to them;
- when a request is made for accreditation in a subject that is not part of the student's Academy programme; when a request is made for a different type of accreditation to that advised by the Academy; when a student is entered for an examination but fails to sit it, unless the reason is acceptable to the Principal in line with examination board regulations; when a student wishes to re-sit a module or unit for the second time.

Where a trip or visit is proposed which is not a compulsory part of the curriculum, parents/careers will each be invited to make a contribution to cover the costs involved. This will be on the understanding that if there is insufficient support the proposed trip or visit will not take place.

No student will be excluded from any trip or visit because of inability to pay providing it is a necessary part of the work of the Academy.

The Academy Year follows that of most schools in the London Borough of Ealing. For example, the student dates At WLA for the current academic year 2011-12 are:

AUTUMN TERM 2011

Primary, Years 7 & 12 start: Mon 5 Sept
 Years 8 to 11 & 13 start: Tues 6 Sept
Half Term Break: Mon 24 Oct – Fri 28 Oct
 Primary & High School: Tues 1 Nov – Thurs 15 Dec
Christmas Break: Fri 16 Dec – Mon 2 Jan 2012

SPRING TERM 2012

Primary & High School: Thurs 5 Jan – Fri 17 Feb
Half Term Break: Mon 13 Feb – Fri 17 Feb
 Primary & High School: Mon 20 Feb – Fri 30 March
Easter Break: Mon 2 April – Fri 13 April

SUMMER TERM 2012

Primary & High School: Tues 17 April – Fri 1 June
May Day Bank Holiday: Mon 7 May
Half Term Break: Mon 4 June – Fri 8 June
 Primary & High School: Mon 11 June – Tues 17 July
Summer Break: Wed 18 July – Tues 4 Sept

The timings for the High School day for Sept. 2011 – July 2012, by way of example, are:

Registration/Assembly	8.40 – 9.00
Period 1	9.00 – 9.30
Period 2	9.30 – 10.00
Period 3	10.00 – 10.30
Period 4	10.30 – 11.00
Break	11.00 – 11.15
Period 5	11.15 – 11.45
Period 6	11.45 – 12.15
Period 7	12.15 – 12.45
Period 8	12.45 – 1.15
Lunch	1.15 – 2.00 *
Period 9	2.00 – 2.30
Period 10	2.30 – 3.00
Period 11	3.00 – 3.30 **
Period 12	3.30 – 4.00 ***

4.00 – 5.30 Extended activities time

* Clubs run during lunch

** End of day for most of Key Stage 3 (i.e. Yrs 7 & 8)

*** Key Stage 4 & 5 lessons finish at 4 p.m. (i.e. Yrs 9, 10, 11 and post-16)

ALL HIGH SCHOOL ENDS 3.30 p.m. FRIDAY



Information about Admissions 2012

General

West London Academy is a publicly funded independent school. The Academy has an agreed annual admission number of 90 pupils per year for the Primary School and 180 students for the High School. The Academy is not a selective school and admits children against the following process and criteria:

Consideration of applications

1. The Academy will consider all applications for places. Where fewer than 90 Primary applications and 180 Secondary applications are received, the Academy will offer places to all those who have applied.
2. The Academy may refuse admission to particular applicants in cases where fewer than the published admission number have applied. These are applicants who have been excluded from two or more other schools, and the ability to refuse admissions runs for a period of two years from the last exclusion.

Procedures where the Academy is oversubscribed

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. The criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- a. Looked after children.
- b. Confirmed special medical reason which necessitates attendance at West London Academy (a letter from a qualified medical practitioner is required as proof of such a reason);
- c. Special personal circumstances relating to the student which necessitate attendance at West London Academy (supporting written evidence will be required from a professional e.g. social worker).

The School Service Panel will consider all claimed exceptional medical or personal circumstances in line with admissions criteria and inform parents of their decision;

- d. Student already attends West London Academy Primary School;
- e. Brother or sister is still in attendance at West London Academy Primary or High School at the date of admission. This includes siblings living in the same household, step-siblings and adopted siblings, but does not apply to cousins;
- f. Distance from home to the Academy, as measured by straight line from a point in the property determined by Ordnance Survey to the nearest gated entrance which is used by students to enter the Academy grounds.

In cases where there is a shared responsibility arrangement and the student spends part of the week with one parent/guardian and part with another, the address where the student resides which is the closest of these residences as measured by straight line from a point in the property determined by Ordnance Survey to the nearest gated entrance which is used by students to enter the Academy grounds will be used. The measuring system is an integral part of the admissions software produced by Tribal Technology Ltd. It uses Ordnance Survey maps and is accurate to 1 meter.

- g. Where the comparison and calculation of distance in f. above is the same for more than one application, any remaining places will be randomly allocated.

Operation of waiting lists

Where in any year West London Academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate. This will be maintained by the Academy and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application and, if wanted, an appeal for the school. The child will remain on the waiting list for one term.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the over-subscription criteria set out above.

Arrangements for appeals panels

a. Parents will be given 14 days to lodge an appeal on receipt of notification that their application for a place was unsuccessful. The reasons for refusal will be indicated on this notice. Appeals will be heard by an appeal panel.

b. The Appeal Panel will be independent of the Academy and will be composed of three members who will include:

- At least one person who has no personal experience of the Academy defined as a 'lay member';
- At least one person with experience in education.

c. Parents will be given 14 days notice of their appeal panel hearing. Decisions by the appeal panel are final. The arrangements for appeals will be in line with the Code of Practice on School Admission Appeals published by the Department for Education as it applies to Foundation and Voluntary Aided Schools.

Arrangements for admitting students to other year groups, including to replace any students who have left the Academy.

Applications to the Academy for places other than the normal admission round will be considered on an ongoing basis and places will be offered, subject to the admission criteria above, where vacancies are available.

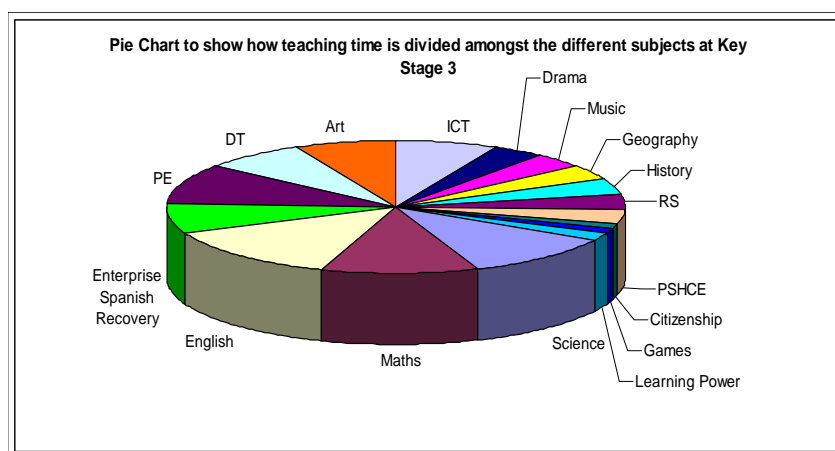
West London Academy will reserve the right to refuse entry to the Academy to any applicants who have been excluded from two or more other schools, and the ability to refuse admissions runs for a period of two years from the last exclusion.



Curriculum Information for Sept 2012

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 & 8)

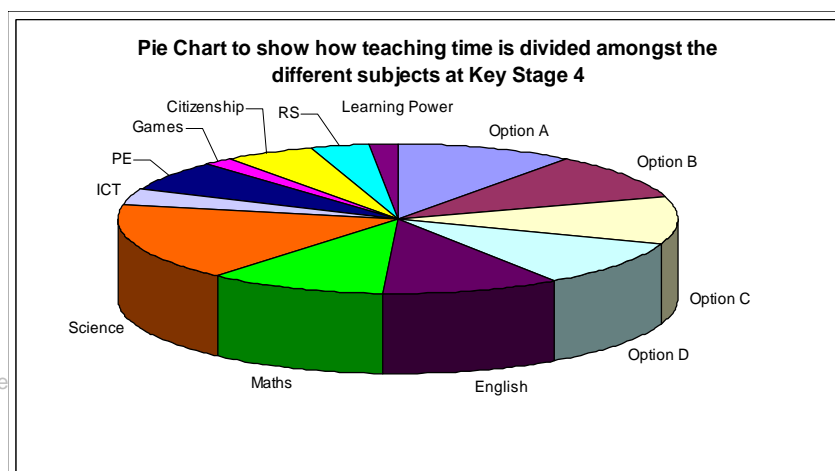
Year 7 students have the opportunity to study the following subjects: Science, English, Maths, Spanish, Design & Technology, Art, Geography, History, Information & Communication Technology, Religious Studies, PSHCE, Drama, PE/Games and Music. All students also attend timetabled Learning Power sessions designed to develop and extend their study skills and independent thinking and learning. The Year 8 programmes follow a similar pattern to Year 7. Some students sit GCSE examinations two years early in Year 9 and all students follow Key Stage 4 courses from Year 9 choosing their options in Year 8. Some students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are also given the opportunity to follow a support programme of lessons in small groups. Additionally, all subject areas focus on the specialisms of the Academy.



Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 & 11)

Students from Year 9 onwards follow courses which lead to GCSE, BTEC or equivalents. It is Academy policy that all students should take Maths, English and Science as well as PSHE & the GCSE courses in Citizenship and Religious Studies. Students are also guided into a range of Success Pathways which comprise a range of vocational and academic subjects. The majority of students are able to sit their GCSE examinations in Year 10 and continue to select additional examination courses in Year 11 to further expand their learning horizons. Some students who have excelled in their GCSE courses in Years 9 and 10 have the opportunity to study for AS levels in Year 11 and are fast tracked into post-16 study for top level university entrance.

Key Stage 4 courses currently on offer include Double qualifications in Art, Media Studies, Graphics, Performing Arts, Health and Social Care, Sports Studies and Business Studies. Single GCSE subjects include Art, Business, Economics, Statistics, Spanish, Dance, Textiles, Resistant Materials, Art Graphics, Geography and History. Furthermore the IT course, DiDA, is also an option choice in this Key Stage. A selection of students are also able to follow a course designed by The Prince's Trust whilst others have the opportunity to follow a series of Vocational Diplomas for two days a week at the local Ealing Diploma and Enterprise Centre (eDEC).



Discipline and Behaviour

Good behaviour and discipline underpin effective learning and teaching in the Academy to ensure our children and young people succeed. Without positive behaviour and discipline in lessons and around the Academy site children will not make progress. The Academy has a range of rewards and sanctions and all adults are expected to be role models of good behaviour. In every classroom rules, rewards and consequences are published.

Communicating with home is usually the most effective way of monitoring behaviour and reinforcing Academy expectation and we ask all parents and carers to be supportive of the Academy behaviour and discipline code. Wherever possible we stress to children that time in the Academy is for learning. Extremely disruptive behaviours, however, or those which bully, threaten or intimidate other children or staff, incidents of abuse of any kind, or theft or vandalism, will result in high level sanctions.

Access & Inclusion

Children and young people with Special Needs, including those with Statements and particularly gifted or talented children, are able to obtain extra help and guidance with their studies from the Access and Inclusion team. There is a specially equipped Learning Support suite within the Academy, staffed by fully qualified Learning Support and EAL teachers and Curriculum & Learning Access Student Support (CLASS) Workers. To assist them in their work the Academy also has a full time Educational Welfare Officer. The Academy also employs its own Educational Psychologist as a consultant to assist in the process of diagnosis and support for students with special needs as well as a full-time Counsellor.

Learning Support takes the form of supporting individual and groups of students within the classroom as well as by withdrawal of small groups or individuals for extra work with basic skills. Wherever possible programmes are arranged to minimise the effect on the main curriculum. The Access and Inclusion team also offers advice and strategies to staff to assist them with their teaching of children within their classes who may require extra help and guidance and an Access & Inclusion Centre exists within the Academy grounds to serve those young people who are at risk of permanent exclusion.

Personalising Learning

A fundamental objective of West London Academy is that each child achieves the highest standards possible. We believe that target setting to aid the process of personalising learning plays a crucial role in ensuring that students set themselves short and medium term targets which will stretch them and encourage them to go further.

Consequently, each child's progress is closely monitored throughout his/her Academy career. In so doing, under-achievement can quickly be addressed and proven success can be celebrated. It is our policy to keep parents and children fully informed of curriculum and syllabus content and assessment requirements. Parents and students have access all year round to the Academy's online reporting system **LAP Records** where weekly performance in each subject together with copies of all full and interim reports can be access for your child.

We are confident that a close working relationship between home and Academy is an effective means of enabling everyone to achieve success.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care at West London Academy is based on the philosophy of developing care, understanding and mutual respect. We seek a joint approach from all those involved and connected with the Academy, the staff, students, parents/guardians – an approach which is based upon a recognition of the dignity and self-esteem of each individual.

The Pastoral System at West London Academy is organised by the Vice Principal, Student and Family Services who is supported by a Student & Family Education (SaFE) Worker. This system focuses on supporting all children and young people to ensure that they reach their full potential both in terms of their learning as well as their personal and social development.

Sex Education

Sex education forms part of the science and PSHCE curriculum. Topics and teaching materials are carefully chosen to ensure that they are appropriate to the needs and ages of the children. Parents retain the right to request that their child be withdrawn from Sex Education and Religious Studies. Such requests should be made in writing to the Principal.

Religious Studies

The Academy has no religious affiliation. As part of the Statutory Curriculum all students follow a programme of Religious Studies leading to a GCSE qualification in which, through the study of major world religions and philosophical beliefs, the Academy seeks to promote knowledge, understanding and tolerance. The development of values, attitudes and a variety of skills is encouraged together with an ability to reflect upon wider social, ethical and moral issues, which are relevant to today's society.

Careers Education and Guidance Careers education is a central part of our work. In preparing our young people for life, from the time they begin their education at West London Academy, they are offered a variety of opportunities and experiences from the 'world of work'. The Connexions Service has a permanent base in the Academy to provide information and advice to enhance the Careers and Work Related Learning programme under the leadership of the Academy's Work Experience and Careers Co-ordinator.

Financial Assistance Free school meal, uniform grants and travel passes may be available where a family is already receiving benefits. Information regarding such grants are available from the Academy Central Office or via a child's SAFE Worker.

Security West London Academy employs state of the art security technology, in closed-circuit television, which is sited both internally and externally as well as intruder detection systems and access control on its external entrances and classroom, office and store room doors. The Academy also has a modern and comprehensive fire detection system. Both the fire and intruder systems are linked to a central monitoring station to ensure 24 hour recorded coverage, seven days a week. Access to the main Academy buildings for pupils, students and visitors is carefully monitored by the Security Services Team and everyone on site is required to be identifiable at all times so that items such as face coverings (e.g. motorcycle visors, full face goggles or veils) which obscure clarity of identification of an individual must be removed for the duration of a person's time on site. Identification badges are issued to visitors and are also worn by the staff and all High School students.

Complaints West London Academy aspires to provide the highest quality of education service for its children and young people. It has a Customer Service Charter and Complaints Procedure which can be obtained directly from the Academy.



Information about Academy Performance

Key Stage 4 Results for Summer 2011

(Validated data, v. 4 January 2012)

Number of students in the Academy at the end of KS4: **161**
 Number of students at the end of KS4 not entered for GCSEs: **0**

% students achieving 5+ A*-C: **90%**
 % students achieving 5+ A*-C incl. English & Maths: **40%**
 Average Point Score (APS): **639.9**
 Percentile rank for Value Added nationally: **top1% of all schools**

Full GCSE Course

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U/X
English	161	1	13	19	43	36	26	10	6	6
English Literature	157	2	10	14	38	40	25	17	5	6
Mathematics	161	5	18	18	29	22	35	20	8	6
Science (Single Award)	47	1	7	15	21	3	0	0	0	0
Additional Science (Single Award)	47	2	11	17	13	4	0	0	0	0
Art & Design										
Art and Design (Single Award)	21	4	1	4	4	3	0	1	0	2
Textiles (endorsed)	21	0	1	6	10	3	1	0	0	0
Business Studies	12	1	0	2	4	4	0	1	0	0
Citizenship	21	1	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Design & Technology										
Graphical Products	18	2	1	5	3	4	0	0	2	1
Resistant Materials	34	0	4	9	6	8	3	2	2	0
Drama	15	0	0	0	2	6	3	2	1	1
Economics	21	0	4	4	3	4	1	3	2	0
Geography	12	0	0	3	4	2	2	1	0	0
History	17	0	3	1	3	4	2	2	1	1
Media Studies	20	1	4	4	4	3	0	2	2	0
Media Studies 2 nd GCSE	15	0	4	3	3	5	0	0	0	0
PE	63	0	0	10	34	17	2	0	0	0
Spanish	19	4	5	3	1	2	2	0	1	1
Statistics	60	4	12	17	16	6	3	1	0	1
Home Languages (various)	24	6	4	9	1	2	2	0	0	0

DiDA

Subject	Entries	Distinction	Merit	Credit	Pass	U/X
AiDA (One GCSE equivalent)	10	0	0	0	10	8
 CiDA (Two GCSE equivalent)	8	0	0	0	8	0
 CiDA + (Three GCSE equivalent)	0	0	0	0	0	0
 DiDA (Four GCSE equivalent)	34	3	11	8	12	0

BTEC

Subject	Entries	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	U/X
Business Studies (Diploma)	41	6	4	9	22	0
Business Studies (Certificate)	7	0	0	0	2	5
Business Studies (Award)	24	1	0	2	20	1
Health and Social Care (Diploma)	30	12	3	9	6	0
Performing Arts Music (Diploma)	6	0	0	4	2	0
Performing Arts Music (Certificate)	1	0	0	0	1	0
Performing Arts Acting (Certificate)	15	4	1	8	2	0
Science (Diploma)	84	34	1	11	28	0
Science (Certificate)	46	2	0	0	44	0
Sport Studies (Diploma)	19	9	2	6	2	0

GCSE Short Courses (1/2 GCSE)

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U/X
PE	161	0	3	25	63	38	8	4	0	20
RS	161	11	18	29	17	16	19	17	10	24
Citizenship	140	1	9	29	38	23	18	7	3	12

Rates of High School Attendance and Authorised and Unauthorised Absence

Total percentage attendance of students in the High School 2010 -11	94.7%
Percentage of High School student sessions (Half days) missed through authorised absence 2010 -11	3.7%
Percentage of High School student sessions (Half days) missed through unauthorised absence 2010 -11	1.6%