



**Windlesham
House School**

- Est. 1837 -

Learning for Life



laying
foundations
for the future

Diploma & Futures Programme

A bespoke two year course for pupils in Years 7 & 8

Windlesham House Diploma & Futures Programme

The Windlesham House Diploma is a bespoke two-year course followed by all pupils in Years 7 & 8. It is unique to Windlesham House and is designed to equip pupils with the skills and attributes required to flourish at senior school and beyond. As a prep school, this is our priority!

It has become clear over the past few years that there are now more forward thinking, alternative and exciting educational routes than the current Common Entrance (CE) syllabus and examinations at the end of Year 8. Additionally, the majority of senior schools no longer require it as a condition of entry.

The Windlesham House Diploma replaces and enhances the CE route with a rich and rigorous curriculum and the addition of essential social, leadership and team skills. In conjunction with the school's ACE Learning Habits, it will ensure our pupils become accomplished, confident and resilient young people.

Progress and achievement are recognised through a system of continuous assessment. At the end of the two-year course, each pupil will be awarded the Windlesham House Diploma with either a pass, merit or distinction. Pupils will leave our school knowing they will be going to their best choice of senior school armed with the tools for an exciting future.





Our vision

Academic cross-curricular learning opportunities

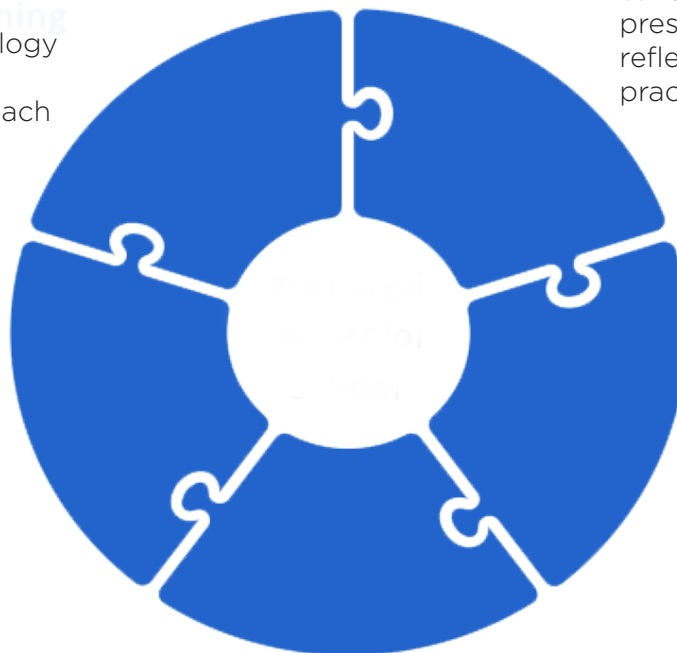
History, geography, theology and philosophy lend themselves to this approach

All-round assessments

Written examinations, presentations, coursework, reflective journals, practical assessments

Encourage greater independence in learning

Options for enquiry based learning drawing on pupil led insight and interests



Wider skill sets for life

Opportunities for exploration, innovation, conducting research, project based learning, developing risk taking and resilience.

Celebration of the individual learner

Maximise opportunities for success and accomplishment

Taught diploma components

English and maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Common Entrance syllabus is taught• Provides a strong foundation in these core subjects• Excellent preparation for GCSE
Science, humanities, modern foreign languages, Latin and computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will follow a revised and exciting course of study based on an enhanced national curriculum• Assessment will be through course work, practical presentations and extended projects
Creative and performing arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will follow the established Windlesham House curriculum and scholarship preparation• A continued focus on performance to build confidence and public speaking skills• Regular exposure to exhibitions and presentations
Learning for Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporated into the weekly taught curriculum• Four core areas unique to Windlesham House• Supports the transition to senior school through the development of key skills
Diploma extension programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivered through the Saturday morning sessions• Key elements linked to the Learning for Life skills• Optional extension activities to provide depth, skill enrichment and enjoyment



Learning for Life

In addition to the core curriculum of academic, creative and sports subjects taught at Windlesham, we are introducing 'Learning for Life'. This is an exciting addition to the curriculum incorporating four core elements

- > Leadership and team spirit
 - > Community responsibility
- > Personal development
 - > Outdoor education

Windlesham House will provide pupils with a unique opportunity to develop qualities and skills that extend beyond the traditional academic subjects. This holistic approach to education aims to prepare our pupils not only for the next stage of their academic journey but also for a fulfilling and successful life beyond school.

AREAS OF STUDY YEARS 7 & 8	How it will be studied	Skills / knowledge acquired
Leadership Team Spirit	Taught in weekly sessions of 50 minutes throughout the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working as team leaders and team members Effective communication skills How to think critically and creatively Values/attitudes of caring and inspirational leaders Self-reflection skills Conflict resolution
Personal Development	<p>A combination of the teaching of growth mindset, critical thinking, exam techniques, debating and public speaking</p> <p>Visiting speakers and trips</p> <p>A boarding experience with a difference</p> <p>Young Enterprise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrepreneurship Positive thinking Concentration Stress management Team spirit Effective communication Time management Growth mindset Critical thinking Exam techniques Debating Public speaking
Community Responsibility	<p>Involvement in charity programmes</p> <p>Pupils will also be required to pursue their own charitable activities and demonstrate independence, initiative and self-motivation. This can be achieved individually or as part of a group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence Initiative Self-motivation Global and local responsibility
Outdoor Education	<p>Activities to take place twice a term and will include</p> <p>Orienteering</p> <p>Climbing</p> <p>Expedition training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy lifestyle Outdoor activities Leadership skills Team building Bush craft Risk-taking Confidence Map work



Saturday enrichment

The Saturday morning programme offers enrichment opportunities which will complement the taught elements of the diploma curriculum. A non-compulsory element of the Windlesham House Diploma, pupils have the opportunity to work towards collaborative leadership and entrepreneurship projects, outdoor orienteering and charitable endeavours which culminate in the summer charities fair. An additional option of basic first aid with the Red Cross First Aid Champions course is included in the spring term for Year 7 and the summer term for Year 8.



Learning & Assessment

Learning habits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A focus on developing and establishing key habits for learning• Developing independence in learning• Early establishment of learning skills (ACE)
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Various methods of assessment over the two-year course• Presentations, coursework, formal examinations
Academic scholars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be required to sit the minimum core subjects and school specific examinations• Specific and tailored clinics offered by invitation• Provision for children in top sets working at the highest levels and targeting these school awards
The future	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future school choices• Planning advice for GCSE options• Money management• Careers guidance



ACE Learning Habits

The ACE Learning Habits underpin all our teaching and learning and are linked directly to the pupil outcomes.

We place a strong emphasis on developing and embedding habits for learning. Fostering independence, collaboration and the ability to consider different perspectives are crucial skills for pupils, not only during their time at school but also for their lifelong learning journey.



ACTIVE LEARNER
Involved
Questioning



CRITICAL THINKER
Creative
Reflective



EXPLORER
Risk Taker
Resilience

Teaching pupils to be learners for life is a transformative approach. It instils a growth mindset, a love for learning and an understanding that education is not limited to the confines of a classroom or a specific time. By nurturing curiosity, adaptability and a hunger for knowledge, we are equipping pupils with the tools to embrace continuous learning and thrive in an ever-evolving world.

Assessment

The inclusion of a research and presentation element is particularly exciting as it promotes independent thinking, inquiry and communication skills. Pupils will have the opportunity to explore topics of interest, conduct research, gather information and present their findings to their peers and teachers. This not only enhances their subject knowledge but also helps develop valuable skills such as critical analysis, presentation skills and effective communication.

Assessment criteria

The assessment criteria for the Windlesham House Diploma will use a 1-10 scale to mark the assessment areas, demonstrating a more nuanced evaluation of pupils' progress and attainment.

Pass

1 & 2 - Emerging

This level indicates that pupils are at the initial stages of acquiring the skills and knowledge required in the assessed areas. They are beginning to demonstrate some understanding or application but further development is needed.

3 & 4 - Evolving

At this level, pupils are making progress and showing some improvement in their skills and understanding. They are starting to develop competence in the assessed areas, but there is still room for further growth.

Merit

5 & 6 - Expected

This level indicates that pupils are meeting the expected standards for the assessed areas. They have a good grasp of the skills and knowledge required and are performing at a level that aligns with expectations for their age or grade.

7 & 8 - Exceeding

Pupils at this level are exceeding the expected standards in the assessed areas. They demonstrate a high level of competence and understanding, showcasing advanced skills and knowledge beyond what is typically expected for their age or grade.

Distinction

9 & 10 - Exceptional

This level represents outstanding performance and mastery of the assessed areas. Pupils at this level exhibit exceptional skills, knowledge and understanding.

Futures Programme

Futures Programme at Windlesham House is the name given to our careers provision. At prep school, careers guidance is so much more than simply highlighting various future jobs and areas of employment although this will be one element of our programme. It should also include future school choices, leadership and entrepreneurship skills, an understanding of money management and financial planning, the local and global impact of charitable endeavours and managing stress and anxiety. In addition, pupils will receive advice on planning for GCSE options, scholarship support and a look ahead to university entrance and courses.

Futures Programme is delivered through the Windlesham House Diploma curriculum, Saturday morning diploma sessions, personal development lessons, programme of visiting speakers (knowledge nights) and workshops delivered by senior schools.

*We are committed to providing
a well-rounded education that
combines academic excellence
with personal growth,
leadership development and
community engagement.*





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