

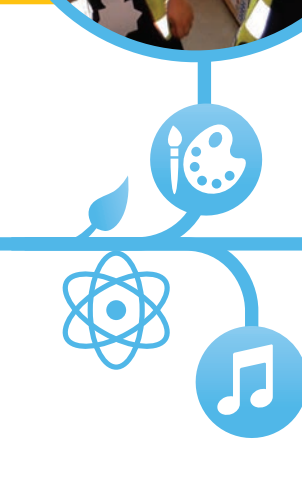
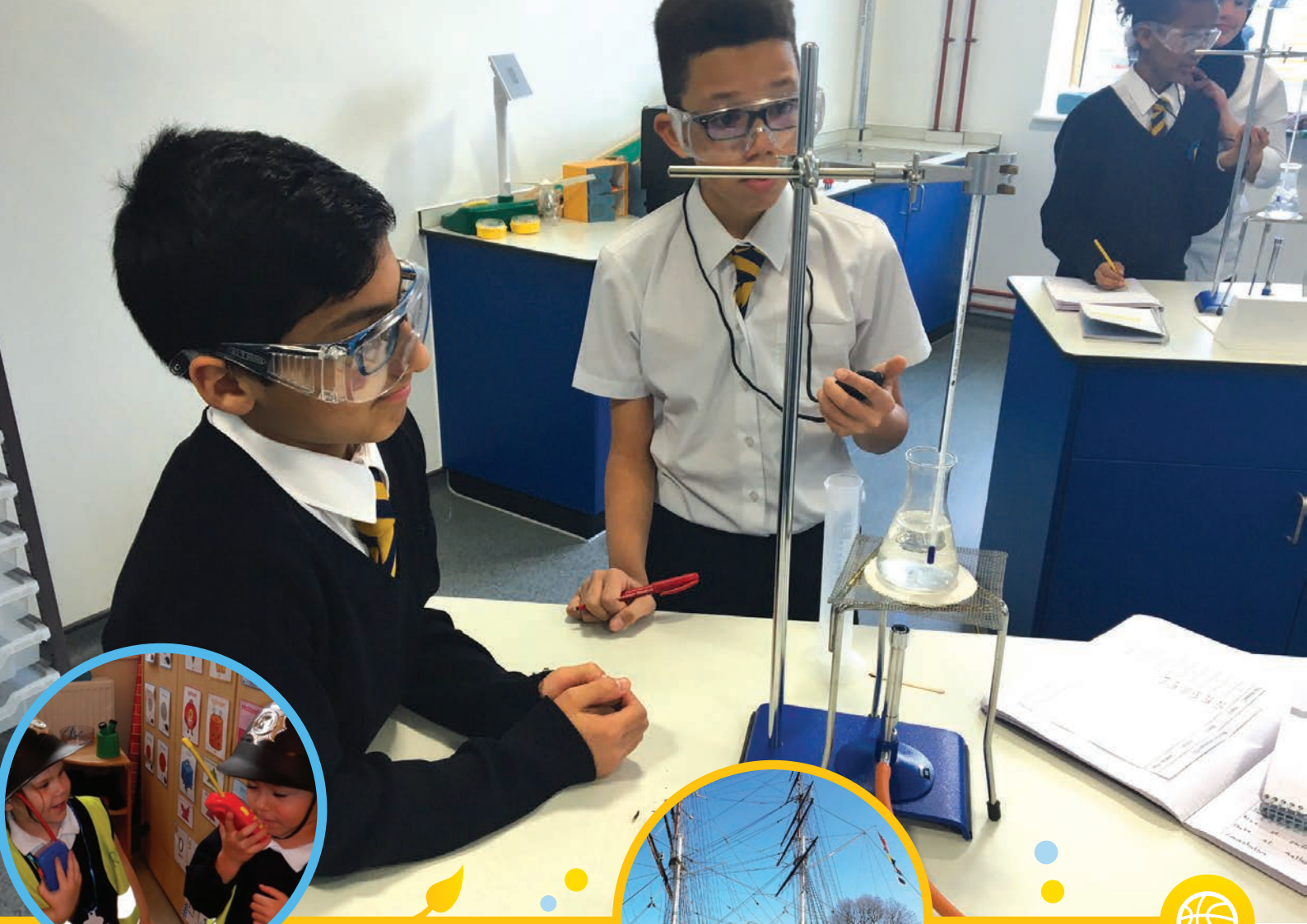
Whitefriars School Secondary Section

Prospectus



**Whitefriars
School**

member of the **Heathland Whitefriars Federation**





'Pupils' attitudes towards learning are exceptional' (OFSTED)



Whitefriars School



Our pupils make rapid progress and achieve academic excellence in an environment of love and care. Our school is a strong family where expectations are high, values are positive and children are treasured. Our goal is to equip our pupils with the knowledge, character, and learning power to achieve top grades at GCSE and A level and to lead successful lives.

We believe that anyone can learn anything and the growth mind-set underpins everything we do. We do not believe that some pupils are bright and that others are not. We believe in the limitless capacity for everyone to achieve great things. We believe that what we become and what we achieve comes from great teaching, hard work and fantastic support.

We provide pupils with a broad, balanced and diverse curriculum of the highest quality where representation is key. We have state-of-the-art buildings with a wide range of extensive facilities. Our pedagogical approach is rooted in the science of how children learn. We ask lots of questions, we explain in small steps, we link to prior learning and we guide first practice. Our pupils think hard

about their learning. Our home learning system is very well organised. We read a lot because it has a profound impact on educational outcomes.

Our teachers get to know the pupils as individuals and build meaningful relationships that last. We ensure that all of our pupils feel they belong. We explicitly teach our pupils to live by positive shared values and to hold these deep in their hearts. We are a Rights Respecting Gold accredited school. We value and celebrate the rich diversity and inclusivity within our school community, promoting equality for all. We offer a wide range of innovative clubs.

In May 2018, OFSTED graded our school as outstanding. In September 2021 we opened our sixth form.

We look forward to working closely with each and every one of you to find friendship, fun and success as we build a bright future together. We love our school and we are sure you will too.

Pritam Kumar Vekaria – Headteacher



'Pupils from a diverse range of backgrounds are welcomed into the school. They receive the support and encouragement they need to excel' (OFSTED)



Curriculum

We provide pupils with a curriculum of the highest quality and its design reflects our high aspirations for every pupil. We fully embrace all of the requirements of the National Curriculum and provide a broad and balanced curriculum. We also recognise that the National Curriculum is only one element of a pupil's education and we use the time and space available to enhance it according to the needs of our own pupils.

We provide the knowledge required for pupils to be educated citizens and we provide access to the best that has been thought and said. We promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils and our curriculum allows our pupils to appreciate human creativity and achievement.

We place a real focus on the spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary integral to all aspects of the curriculum and we use every relevant subject to develop mathematical fluency. We fully cater for the needs of pupils for which English is not their first language and for pupils with SEND.

Subjects are linked in order to provide the integrated experience necessary for high levels of learning. For example we learn about volcanoes in Geography, explode them in Science, make a presentation about them in Computing and write about them in a piece of flash fiction in English.

Our curriculum is fully enriched with a programme of visits and visiting speakers. We take our pupils on fabulous trips around the UK and abroad.

At Key Stage 3, pupils develop mastery of essential skills in English, Maths, Science, Spanish and Humanities. Our pupils learn a variety of programming languages in Computing. We provide exciting learning opportunities in Art, Design Technology, Physical Education, Drama and Music. Our pupils follow a meaningful programme of Personal, Social and Health Education. All our KS3 pupils study Latin and Classical Civilization.

In Years 10 and 11 all of our pupils study GCSEs in English, English Literature and Maths. Most of our pupils will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics and the rest will complete Additional Science (a combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

The majority of our pupils will study for the English Baccalaureate which means they will study Spanish and either History or Geography. These pupils will then select two more subjects from Art, Business, Classical Civilisation, Computer Science, Drama, Design Technology, Food Preparation, Music, Physical Education and Religious Studies. The rest of our pupils will study for the majority of the English Baccalaureate.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to complete a GCSE qualification in any other languages which they speak.

All of our Key Stage 4 pupils will study a programme of Computing, Religion, Physical Education, PSHE and Citizenship.



Reading

We read a lot. Our teachers and form tutors regularly read books and stories to our pupils. Our pupils regularly read their own books.

We do this because reading has a profound impact on educational outcomes.

Facilities

Our large buildings offer a wide range of extensive facilities including:

- High-specification ICT facilities
- Dedicated Dance and Drama studio
- Modern and well-equipped Science labs
- Specialist facilities for catering and horticulture
- Large music centre with a suite of practice rooms
- Specialist Art and Design technology studios
- A large and well-equipped Sports Hall
- All-weather sports pitches
- An attractive dining area
- School forest

Lunch

The Pantry provide our catering, their food is delicious and is all cooked on site.

The Head Chef also runs cookery classes for our pupils which they love!



'The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. The school is a calm, orderly place' (OFSTED)



'Pupils love learning' (OFSTED)

Values

We explicitly teach our pupils to live by positive shared values. Our pupils learn to be respectful, determined and resilient. Our pupils learn to be appreciative, loving and honest. This creates a positive school environment and excellent behaviour. We are a Rights Respecting Gold accredited school. The rights of everyone to learn, be safe and feel safe underpins all we do. We have very high expectations; our pupils hold the door for each other and say thank you to pupils and staff for helping them.



Positivity



Tolerance



Peace



Resilience



Democracy



Love



Forgiveness



Freedom



Honesty



Humour



Charity



Respect



Unity



Responsibility



Determination



Thoughtfulness



Appreciation



Patience



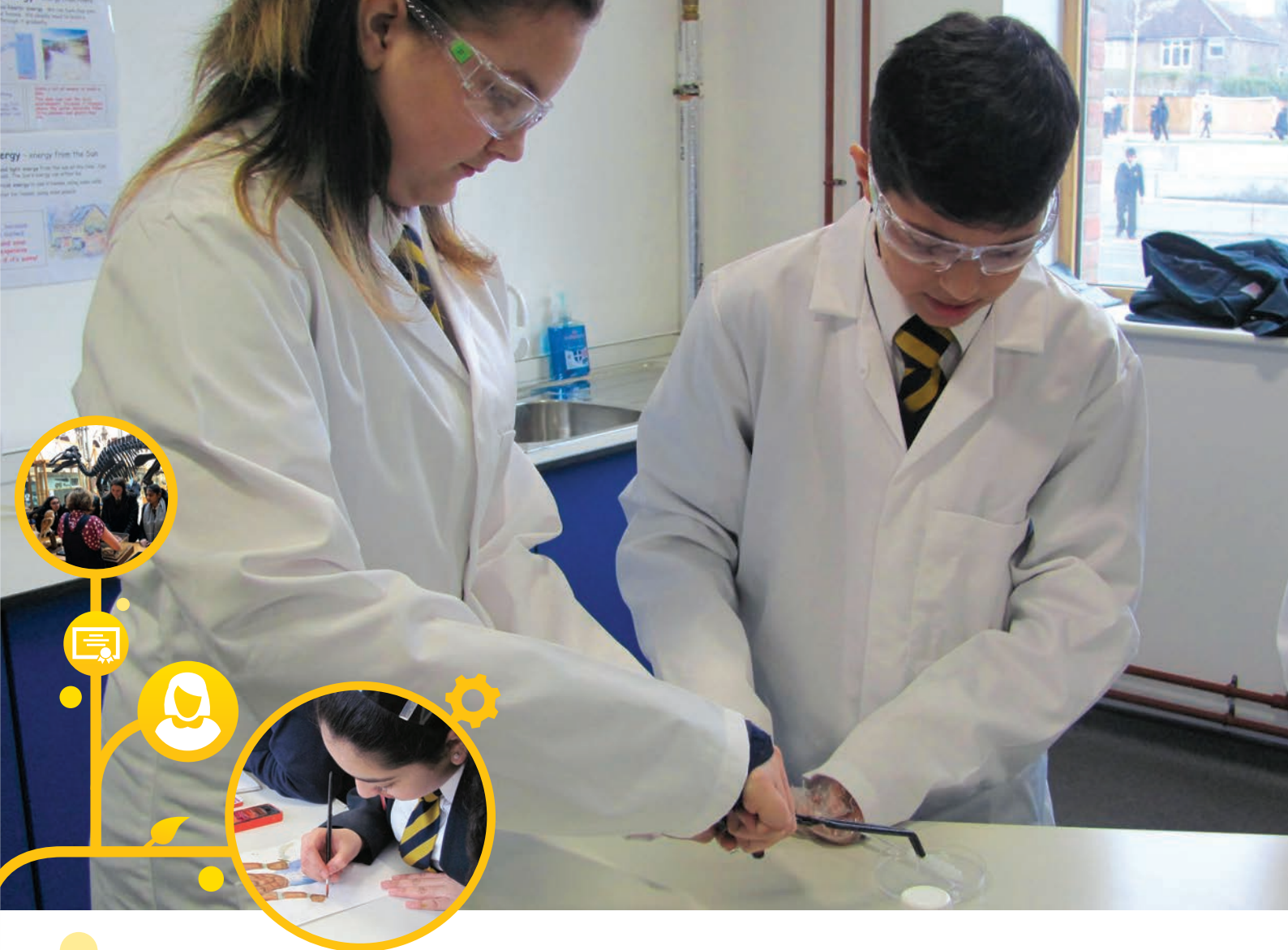
Trust



Harmony



Courage



Beyond the curriculum

We offer a wide variety of clubs so that pupils can discover new interests. These include art, textiles, photography, gardening, cooking, media, gadget and origami. Our clubs change regularly and are very innovative. Our pupils choose what clubs they would like us to provide. We run every extra-curricular club you can think of.

There is a thriving choir and rock band and pupils learn to play musical instruments in music lessons. Our pupils sing in assembly because it binds the community together.

Our sports clubs include football, netball, cricket, badminton, rugby, basketball, gymnastics, athletics and dance. We enter our sport teams into every local and national competition we can find.

Every year we put on a production and extravaganza which is open to all pupils.

Our pupils learn outside in our very own forest area.

Teaching and learning

We ask lots of questions. This moves knowledge from working memory to long term memory.

Our spaced practice reduces forgetting time. We know that anything that needs to be remembered needs to be periodically recalled from memory.

We explain in small steps because working memory can only contain a certain amount of information.

We overcome competing stimuli by keeping explanations concise.

We link to prior learning because we know that pupils understand best when they can link to what they already know.

We include all pupils in every lesson.

We guide first practice to ensure that misconceptions are rectified.

Our pupils think hard because memory is the residue of thought.

We focus on next steps. This means our pupils are learning exactly what they need to learn at the right time. This is real differentiation.

We esteem to motivate pupils to go over and above and to raise the expectation bar.

Our learning experiences are memorable with sparkle that engages our pupils.

We have very high expectations.



Home learning

Our well-organised home learning system allows pupils to successfully consolidate current learning.

Every week our KS3 pupils:

- Complete tasks from the home learning grids daily
- Self-quiz from their knowledge organisers
- Complete online Maths questions
- Complete a piece of English work
- Read for pleasure

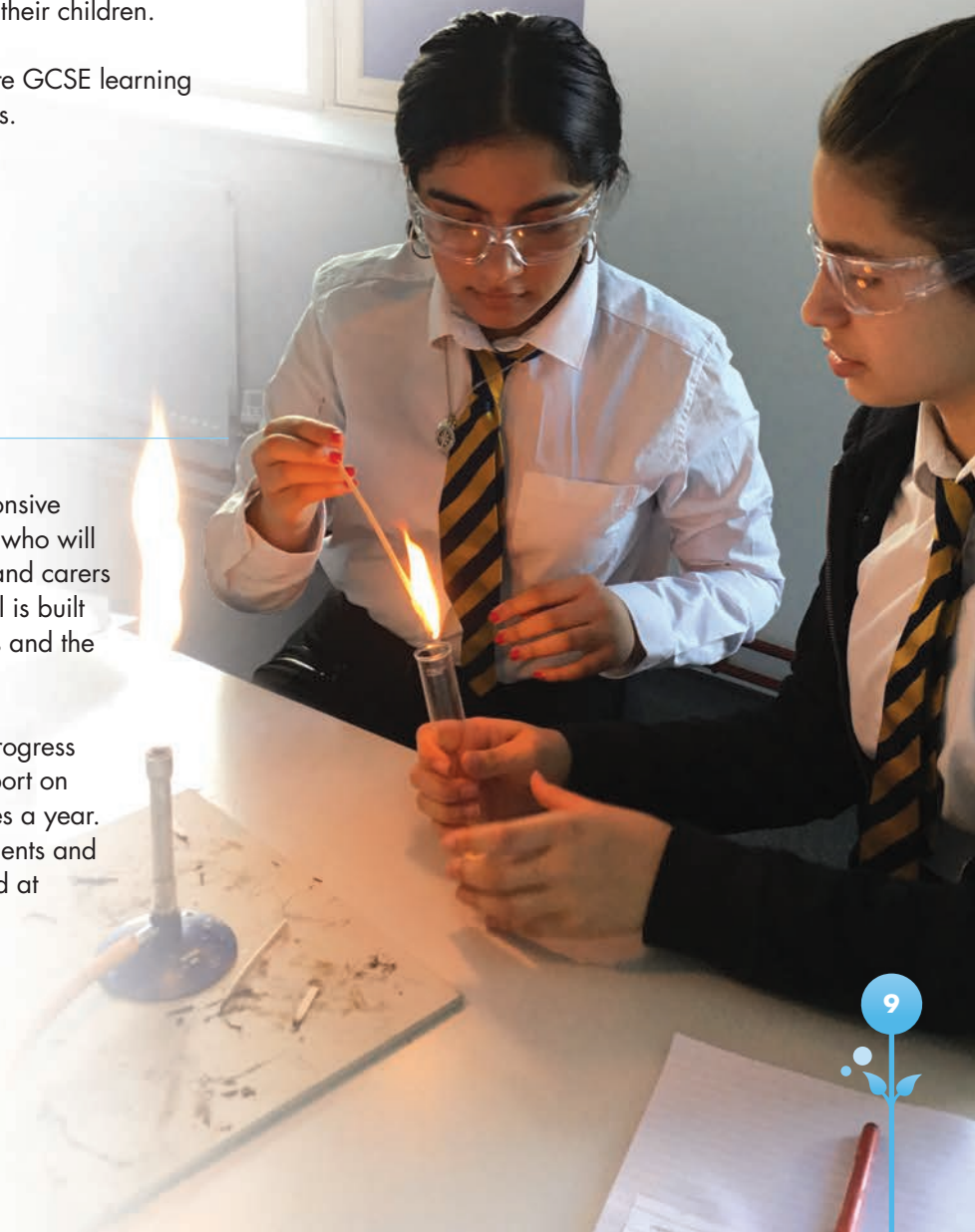
The learning tasks and all the required information are published and communicated in advance. This removes the administrative barriers to great progress and allows families to fully support their children.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils complete GCSE learning tasks which are set by their teachers.

Engaging

We have a highly visible and responsive leadership team and teaching staff who will always find time to talk to parents and carers about the pupils' needs. Our school is built on strong partnerships with families and the local community.

We formally report on KS3 pupil progress three times a year. We formally report on GCSE and A-level progress six times a year. These reports detail pupil achievements and their next steps. These are discussed at parents' evenings.



Pupil support

Our teachers get to know the pupils as individuals and build meaningful relationships that last. This makes the school a happy place. We motivate the pupils through praise and recognition. Young people who need to build their English skills are

given effective support and achieve at least as well as their peers. Pupils with learning or social needs are supported through a range of interventions and individualised programmes to ensure they also achieve well and develop high self-esteem.

House system

We have a hugely successful house system where forms take part in friendly competition in a range

of activities. These include sports, cooking and photography.

Sixth Form

In September 2021 we opened our innovative Sixth Form. We welcome pupils from Year 11 in Whitefriars School and also external pupils.

We provide a unique sixth form experience with a challenging and rewarding curriculum and fantastic relationships between teachers and pupils.

Our curriculum offer will grow year by year. Currently we offer the following A-Levels:

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Economics
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Spanish





All our pupils have Record of Achievement pages in their planners to record their merits. Merits are awarded for pupils who go above and beyond and embrace the growth mind-set. These merits allow them to work towards a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award each year. Upon achievement of

these awards pupils receive certificates, special mentions in assemblies, recognition in newsletters and an invitation to the Gold Award trips. If a pupil achieves a gold award in all of the three year groups then their name will be inscribed on the 'Roll of Honour'.

Contact us

For details of our open morning and open evening, admissions policy and more information about Whitefriars School, contact us at:

Email: office@whitefriars.harrow.sch.uk

Telephone: **020 8427 2080**

Website: www.whitefriarssecondary.net





2023/24