



WEAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

“Weaverham High School has helped me to achieve a success beyond my expectations and to develop lasting friendships.”

Matthew Lowe MSc (Cantab) MPhil (Oxon),
Kennedy Scholarship MIT,
Consultant Economist, World Bank and IMF
(Weaverham High School 2000-2005)



WEAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Choosing a secondary school for our children is one of the most important decisions we make as parents.

At Weaverham High School we have one overriding priority - the learning of your child. It continues to be the key focus of our work. Our consistently high GCSE examination results are external recognition that we are achieving this central goal.

At Weaverham High School we serve the nearby villages of Weaverham, Sandiway, Cuddington, Delamere Park, Acton Bridge, Crowton, Dutton, Norley and Whitley. The school is regularly

over-subscribed but comprises nearly 40% of pupils who are from "out-of-zone" areas

On these pages you will find an insight into life at Weaverham High School but this is no compensation for visiting the school to see it for yourself. You will find a caring, happy, busy and hardworking community where pupils enjoy working in an ordered environment with access to excellent facilities.

At Weaverham High School we have a great deal of which we are proud. We invite you to come along and see the school for yourself.

“Weaverham High School has a number of very significant strengths including students’ high attainment and outstanding achievement.”



LEARNING & THE CURRICULUM

All pupils follow a broad and relevant curriculum. We have high expectations of the academic standards that pupils will achieve and the quality of work they will produce. Our aim is to develop their knowledge and skills so that pupils will be able to learn throughout their lives.

When pupils join the school they are placed into a broad ability band in which they are taught for most subjects. As they progress through the school the teaching groups are decided by each subject.

Years 7, 8, 9

Pupils in these years follow a largely common programme. In addition to National Curriculum subjects, pupils also have lessons in Drama, a second Foreign Language and Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE). All pupils take part in the Accelerated Reader programme to develop their reading skills and encourage them to read for pleasure. Special

activities are undertaken to develop the Learning and Thinking Skills of pupils. They are a focus of our Year 7 residential week and of our Learning Skills days.

Years 10 & 11

Pupils are able to study ten GCSE subjects with English, Maths and Science being compulsory and all pupils having the option of studying all 3 separate sciences. Our EBacc pathway means that most pupils also study a Foreign Language (French, German or Spanish), as well as a Humanities subject.

We provide a wide range of optional subjects, including GCSEs, BTEC diplomas, key skills courses and some college-based programmes. Additionally all pupils study Religious Studies and our core studies programme (PE, Computing, Health Education and Citizenship), as well as undertaking a period of work experience in Year 10.





“I made friends for life at Weaverham; the teachers’ expertise and guidance gave me the foundations for the future.”

Rebecca Crist BSc
Purchasing Manager, Jaguar Land Rover
(Weaverham High School 2005-2008)

“The sense of community and great teaching at Weaverham High School helped me to reach my full potential in all areas of life.”

Tom Adams BA (Oxon)
Actuarial Analyst KPMG
(Weaverham High School 2004-2009)



PUPIL SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

At Weaverham High School we are concerned that no pupil gets overlooked especially as some of our pupils have come from small primary schools.

Pupils stay in the tutor group they join for their entire time at the school. Most groups have the same tutor throughout the school. This means that at any time every pupil is well known by at least one member of staff. Each tutor is a member of a year team. The Head of Year oversees the pupils and tutors in the year group. The Head of the Year will remain with the pupils while they are at the school. The Head of Year is assisted by the Pastoral Support Manager attached to each year group.

Our primary link co-ordinator first meets pupils in their primary schools and then arranges the induction week in July. Year 6 pupils attend Weaverham High School for one week, in order to meet each other and to find their way around the school.

The school has a clear code that makes explicit our expectations regarding the behaviour of our pupils. This is accompanied by a rewards system that recognises good behaviour. Prizes and rewards are given to pupils when they reach key milestones. These systems are supported by a progressive range of appropriate consequences.

“Students in all year groups commented that they enjoy school, feel safe and have confidence that adults will deal sensitively and promptly with any concerns they raise.”



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



At Weaverham High School we have a well-deserved reputation for activities outside the usual curriculum. We believe every pupil needs to experience success in some aspect of school life. This gives them the confidence to tackle those parts they find more difficult.

Physical Education & Sport

We have a long experience of success in PE and sporting activities. We have regular Saturday morning fixtures and tournaments. Many pupils further develop their skills through local clubs to achieve national recognition. Every afternoon over 15% of pupils remain at school to participate in sporting activities.

We operate the following sports clubs and teams: Rugby, Hockey, Football, Netball, Cross-Country, Table Tennis, Badminton, Athletics, Tennis, Cricket, Rounders, Gymnastics, Volleyball and Trampolining.

Creative Arts

We encourage pupils to learn to play a musical instrument through our subsidised music lessons. Pupils have the opportunity to play in one of the school bands or ensembles and take part in our annual Music Festival. These also perform in external competitions.

Pupils from all year groups take part in the Shakespeare Festival and our frequent dance and drama productions. These are in addition to the regular dance and drama clubs which take place on a weekly basis. Recent productions include West Side Story, the Wizard of Oz, Joseph, High School Musical and Peter Pan.

Our regular Art Clubs give pupils the opportunity to explore new media and to extend the work they are doing in Art lessons.



THE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

This programme also utilises expertise from outside the school to vastly extend the opportunities for pupils. Activities include: archery, dance classes, driving lessons, dry-slope skiing, fencing, gardening, war gaming, golf, trampolining, canoeing and climbing.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

The school is a registered centre for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and we provide one of the largest number of participants in the North West. The programme allows pupils to learn new skills and develop values that will sustain them in their adult lives. It enables them to validate some of the experiences they normally undertake as members the school, as well as providing

opportunities for working together and challenging their own limits in the expedition.

Residential Activities

We know pupils benefit from the relationships developed through residential activities. All Year 7 pupils spend one week in the Spring Term undertaking activities at a residential centre.

Each year pupils from Weaverham High School take part in exchange visits to our partner schools and undertake language based trips to France and Germany. Additionally there are residential trips including an annual ski trip, water sports trip, overseas sports tournaments and a trip to the First World War battlefields.

“Both parents and pupils speak very highly of the extensive enrichment opportunities which are available.”





HOMework

Homework is an integral part of the learning of each pupil. Homework helps pupils to develop their independent learning skills as well as preparing them for GCSE work.

Pupils are issued with a homework timetable and a planner in which to record the work set for each subject. Homework is also recorded on the Frog Learning Platform. We ask parents to play a key role

by providing the conditions in which pupils can work well and by signing the planner each week.

The school library is open after school and we operate a Home and Dry homework club to enable pupils to work in a supervised environment. This also provides access to computer facilities for pupils who do not have them at home.

PARENTS

We encourage parents to be fully involved in the life of the school. We expect our parents to take a close interest in the progress of their children. When we work together in partnership the best possible learning takes place.

We want you to know your child's achievements so you will be invited to attend an early progress evening in Year 7, annual parents' evenings and an information evening each year. You will receive at least 2 progress reports each year along with an

annual report and you will be able to track your child's progress through our on-line Insight Parent Portal.

We have an active Weaverham High School Association which provides an opportunity for parents to support the school through fundraising events. These events include a craft fayre, social events and wine tasting. All the proceeds go directly to support the education of the pupils.



“The inspiring attitude to be the best you can and to make the most of every opportunity you are given was one of the most important aspects of Weaverham High School.”

Rebecca Annells
(former member of the Youth Parliament)
Biological Sciences, Exeter College,
Oxford University
(Weaverham High School 2008-2013)

“My time at Weaverham High School is one that I shall never forget. I have had opportunities to do so much more than I thought myself capable and I leave with friends, memories and a confidence that I will never lose.”

Maisie Mullins
Sir John Deane's Sixth Form College
(Weaverham High School 2011-2016)



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

We place special emphasis on the personal development of our pupils. Our aim is to see them develop from newcomers in the school community to taking on leadership responsibilities, within both the school and in the wider community.

We provide leadership development programmes and give pupils opportunities to exercise these skills among their peers. This includes roles as Ambassadors, Sports Leaders, Peer Mentors and Prefects, as well as participating in the Duke of

Edinburgh Award Programme. These experiences enable our pupils to develop personal skills which they will find essential in the future.

Our goal is that pupils develop the characteristics which will empower them to embrace and overcome challenge, recognising what they can achieve is without limits. Within the school community or wider afield, members of Weaverham High School are the leaders of tomorrow.

BEYOND WEAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL

At Weaverham High School we provide our pupils with the skills to go on learning throughout their lives. When they leave us pupils are well prepared for the next stage in their career.

The majority of our pupils choose to continue their education at Sir John Deane's Sixth Form College, Reaseheath College or one of the local FE colleges. Our dedicated careers team support pupils to find an appropriate apprenticeship. Every year over 60% of our former pupils go onto university.

You will encounter former pupils of Weaverham High School throughout the world in all kinds of careers. They are the leaders in their businesses or in their chosen fields.

You will discover these former pupils share a number of things in common – happy memories of their time at Weaverham High School, many friends who are former pupils and a gratitude for the experience they enjoyed and the preparation for life they received while pupils at the school.



OBTAINING A PLACE AT WEAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Applications for pupils starting in September of Year 7 at Weaverham High School have to be made through the Local Authority. For those living near to the school this is Cheshire West and Chester Council. Applications are made in October for admission into Year 7 the following September. It is generally the case that applications exceed the number of available places but experience shows that those determined to send their children to Weaverham High School are successful in doing so.

We hold an open evening in late September to enable prospective pupils and parents to look

around the school. Those parents and pupils who wish to visit the school on an individual basis are asked to contact the school to arrange a mutually convenient time. Approximately 40% of places at the school are filled by 'out-of-zone' pupils.

Applications for places in the other year groups should be made directly to the school.

An application form can be found on our website. In the first instance all enquiries about admissions should be made to the Headteacher's PA, telephone 01606 855926.





Weaverham High School

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