



School Prospectus

Wood Green Academy | Excellence as Standard



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Our Mission

We want to improve our students' life chances so they are successful, respectful, healthy and kind.

At Wood Green Academy, we are very proud of our achievements and have been a high performing school for many years.

We are renowned for the outstanding behaviour of our students and for how well-mannered and respectful they are. We believe this is due to a combination of the enjoyment our students experience as members of the Wood Green Academy family, the firm discipline and the support that underpin their progress.

'Teachers have a right to teach and students have a right to learn'.

This is key to our ethos at Wood Green Academy.

Wood Green Academy's reputation and achievements mean that we are always oversubscribed. Parents and carers recognise that an education at Wood Green Academy will equip a student in the best possible way for their future in the world of work or higher education.

Through adaptive teaching, tracking and aspirational targets, we endeavour to enable every single student to achieve their potential.

Parents and carers are a vital ingredient in our recipe for success: we strive for excellent home-school communication and involvement. We have found that the most successful students are those who take ownership of their learning, get involved fully in academy life and whose parents take an active role in their education.



Mr J Topham
Headteacher



Our Family

We want our students to ask questions,
read widely and research deeply...

Wood Green Academy is at the heart of the local community. We see ourselves as the centre of an extended family unit. We take our responsibility towards our students, their families and the local community very seriously.

First and foremost, we know that we will provide a first-class education for our students. Equally important is the care that we provide.

Parent and student surveys clearly show that safety, enjoyment, and support are delivered in abundance by Wood Green Academy. Our excellent levels of attendance and the exceptional attitude of students towards their learning are further evidence of this; students enjoy being part of the family of Wood Green Academy. Not only do we embrace the local community in our efforts, but we strive to contribute further afield with our fundraising, charity work, and trips abroad.

Our commitment to high-quality support is reflected in the recognition that we received from Ofsted, who noted that **'pastoral care is central to the school's mission. Pastoral leaders know pupils, families and the local community well'**.

We encourage our students to be first-rate citizens and to see themselves, along with Wood Green Academy, as members of the national and global community.



Our Curriculum

We want our students to listen, reason and debate whilst showing consideration to others...

Here at Wood Green Academy, we believe that the quality of our curriculum is fundamental to the achievement and enjoyment of our students.

Every individual student's needs are paramount to us. At our 'foundation' stage, students follow a broad range of subjects and a comprehensive enrichment programme. There is no barrier at our 'specialist' stage when it comes to choosing options: we are truly inclusive. Our programme includes academic and vocational courses offering everything from science to sport, maths to media. We believe that it is not only what happens in the classroom, but also the opportunities and experiences outside it, that help shape our students.

As Ofsted noted, **'The school ensures pupils receive an ambitious curriculum'**.

For students to be truly successful and happy, they need to develop an 'I Can, I Will' attitude. As an Academy, we have invested in teaching strategies, leadership roles and wider opportunities to support the students to develop seven key attributes. These are: resilience, risk-taking, reflectiveness, curiosity, flexibility of mind, drive and initiative. In Years 7 and 8, students record where they have demonstrated these attributes in and out of school, and can earn their bronze, silver and gold awards. **'We strive for pupils to leave the Academy as confident, successful and well-rounded young people.'**



Our Development

At Wood Green Academy, we are committed to supporting every student's personal development, helping them grow into confident, responsible and compassionate young people. Alongside their academic journey, our students take part in a wide range of experiences designed to nurture character, resilience and leadership.

We are proud to have achieved both the Silver and Gold UNICEF Rights Respecting School Awards, which recognise our dedication to creating a school where children's rights are learned, respected and lived every day. This ethos underpins the way our community works together and ensures that the student voice is at the heart of our school.

Our brand-new Wellbeing Garden provides a calm and reflective space for students, encouraging positive mental health and a balanced approach to learning. Leadership and responsibility are fostered through opportunities across school life, with students playing a key role in shaping our community. From the Eco Committee and Wellbeing Committee, to the CDI Committee and Peer Support Committee, pupils are encouraged to take ownership, share ideas and make a real difference. Through these experiences, students leave Wood Green with the confidence to lead, the compassion to care and the skills to thrive in their future lives.

We strive to develop not only successful learners but also kind, confident and resilient young people, ready to make a positive difference in the world beyond school.



Our Staff



We want our students to put in exceptional effort and act upon advice to improve further...

We are extremely proud of our team of staff. We know that a school could not operate without the vital role played by our teachers and support staff. We value all our staff and they are totally dedicated to providing the best environment possible for our students.

Our staff are devoted, hardworking and genuinely care for our students. This was celebrated by Ofsted in April 2025, who commented that: **'Pupils in all years, including students in the sixth form, talk of positive relationships with staff, several of whom attended the school themselves. Equality, respect and tolerance are at the heart of the school's values. Pupils feel safe.'**

Our teaching staff are subject specialists who hold degrees in their subject areas. All teachers also participate in weekly professional development sessions to ensure that their subject knowledge is kept fresh, and that they are abreast of all the latest research in terms of the best ways to teach, and the best ways to support students to learn.

Teachers at Wood Green Academy are continually updating their own professional knowledge to benefit our students. We have staff training every week to ensure that the education we provide is always challenging, engaging and a combination of proven best practice with up-to-date innovation. Such is our reputation, we are involved in a huge number of schemes for sharing our best practice and expertise with other schools, colleges, universities, and educationalists who want to know the secrets of our success. The expertise of the Wood Green Academy staff also plays a crucial role in training the next generation of great teachers not only at Wood Green Academy but in the region through our work as the Lead School for Initial Teacher Training.



Our Specialisms

As a Specialist Sports College, Wood Green Academy has a national reputation.

We are former winners of the Daily Telegraph’s Specialist Sports College of the Year Award and as a Youth Sport Trust Ambassador School, we lead on national initiatives relating to sport. Wood Green Academy sees sport as its driving force and a uniting principle, encouraging team spirit, individual effort, competition, and academic success.

We concur with Public Health England that, ‘a positive association exists between academic attainment and physical activity levels of pupils’.

Wood Green Academy has an additional specialism which is testament to our wide-ranging excellence in many fields. Our Maths and Computing Specialism has enabled us to invest in a range of technologies across the curriculum. This has resulted in higher levels of student engagement, more creative and innovative teaching and greater levels of enjoyment for our students. We are also able to support schools and societies within our community as well as providing enhancement and enrichment activities for parents and students.

These approaches have enabled the Maths and Computing Specialism to contribute to some of the Academy’s outstanding achievements.

We want our students to make the right choices and take responsibility for themselves and others...



Our Sixth Form



Our 'believe, achieve and succeed' attitude helps pupils throughout their journey towards attaining their ambitions...

We are justifiably proud of our Sixth Form. Students choose to return to us or join us because of the unrivalled care and quality of education they know they will receive in their Post-16 studies at Wood Green Academy Sixth Form Centre.

It is important to us that every sixth former, whether a returning or new student, is known, valued and supported. Our students come to us knowing they will receive the very best standards of teaching and expertise in the subjects they have chosen to take them forward into the future.

We offer a diverse curriculum with a wide range of subjects that allows students to combine our A-level pathway with our Level 3 Vocational pathway. We are very proud of the part we play in helping students go on to university and higher apprenticeships and to prepare them with the skills needed for their future careers.

In order to do this, we have a wide range of enrichment and extracurricular activities to suit everyone, from supporting lower Academy classes, by being a reading or Maths mentor to being part of the Ambassador Programme and leading whole academy charity events. There is also work experience and access to university summer schools and taster days, so that students are fully prepared for their future careers.



Believe
Achieve
Succeed



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