



**The Winstanley School**

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

# Prospectus





**“Pupils are happy and feel safe.  
They know that their teachers care  
for them. Pupils work together and  
support each other well.”**

**OFSTED, 2023**



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# Welcome

Our vision is that everyone in our school will 'Shine Brighter than they thought they could'. This means that every student and every member of staff is given the opportunity to improve, develop and excel. We have high aspirations for our students and want each one to achieve the best they possibly can. We are a small school where every student is known personally and lessons and learning are adapted according to their needs.

Our SHINE values (Supporting others, Hard work, Independence, Never giving up and Excellence), underpin all that we do: from residential trips to additional small group tuition in maths; from charity fundraising to academic university visits; from our after school Aspire programme to holiday revision sessions. Staff, students and parents are united in working together to ensure success for every student. We hope you will be able to find the time to visit Winstanley with your child and please contact my PA should you wish to meet with me to answer any questions you may have.

Since our OFSTED inspection in September 2023 we have been graded a 'Good', school which reflects the hard work of our staff and the continuous development as a school enabling our students to have the best possible outcomes from their time with us.

**Dave Bennett, MBE**  
**Executive Headteacher**

"Members of staff and teachers are supportive and caring towards the students and they are treated as individuals and not just collectively. The school provides a safe environment for them to learn. I have been very happy with the school during the time my children have been Winstanley students."

**Parent of Year 8 and Year 10 students**

# SHINE Values

Supporting others, Hard work, Independence and Never giving up, drive everything we do at Winstanley: together they lead to Excellence. The SHINE values underpin all aspects of the social, cultural and academic curriculum. We aim for every student to 'SHINE brighter than you thought you could'.

We have high aspirations for our students and therefore have high expectations. A key part of our focus on first attention to best conduct is celebrating success and rewarding effort and attainment regularly. We want all students to develop their confidence and grasp each and every opportunity that they are offered during their time at school.

Because we are a small school we can offer a nurturing and supportive environment where everyone is known. We are very proud to be one of only two schools in Leicestershire to have been awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark which recognises our supportive and inclusive ethos: our non-teaching heads of House are available throughout the day to support all students to SHINE.





“Our teachers are always happy and they are amazing at what they do. I love the encouragement and positivity at Winstanley.”

**Year 7 Student**

## Support for Year 7

We know how important careful preparation is to ensure the transition to secondary school is as smooth as possible. Winstanley staff visit our feeder primary schools and we aim to provide several occasions when primary students (Year 5 & 6) are involved in activities either at Winstanley or with our students. Where students may need a more bespoke transition programme we provide many opportunities to visit and become familiar with the school.

## Pastoral Care

We know that students learn best when they feel happy and safe. As a small school we are able to know each student well and offer a wide range of support. The CREW leader is the first point of contact for students and their parents and carers. Students will be in CREW for 50 minutes each day where we have a programme of activities based on target setting, developing student agency and our SHINE values. CREW leaders will also deliver SHINE lessons once every two week cycle which will include the statutory PSHE and careers programmes.

CREW leaders are supported by non-teaching Heads of House and the wider learning support team to ensure that issues are resolved before they can become barriers to learning. Our house system enables all students to have a sense of belonging and be part of a team which is made up from all year groups. Prefects and ambassadors from each house are available to help students to feel settled and valued within the school community.



# Curriculum

**Our curriculum is focused on developing confident well rounded individuals that are excited by learning. We use authentic experiences and quality first teaching to raise aspirations and inspire our students to aim for excellence in all they do.**

## Year 7 & 8

All year 7 & 8 students will follow a bespoke curriculum designed across the LiFE MAT: the Real LiFE curriculum. This curriculum aims to ensure that students gain knowledge, skills and values through an enquiry focused approach which provides personalisation, immersion and product oriented learning. The Real LiFE curriculum is delivered through CREW (coaching, reflection, enrichment and wonderful work) sessions which give the students meaningful opportunities to develop as learners. Alongside CREW students will experience cross-curricular missions as well as discrete 'traditional' subject lessons. Cross-curricular missions focus on real world issues or problems with specific themes linked to the UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development. There will be regular opportunities for the students to showcase their progress whilst developing their confidence and presentation skills.

During year 8 students will be able to make a choice from a wide range of option subjects to create their GCSE pathway. All students (with their parent/carers) will have an interview with a senior member of staff to support their decision making.

**“The teachers and students have had a huge impact on me; not only academically but also by developing my character. Winstanley provided so many opportunities to excel.”**

### **Year 11 Student**

## **Years 9-11**

In years 9-11 all students study Maths, English, Science and History or Geography or a foreign language. Further subjects studied will depend on the individual options pathway. Options available to choose from include Fine Art, Drama, Computer Science, Business Studies, Hospitality and Catering, Media Studies, Music, Resistant Materials, PE and Sports Studies.

Across all year groups students will have learning activities designed to motivate, stretch and challenge them. Wider curricular opportunities are also organised to raise aspiration, inspire and support all our learners.

Students' individual needs are met by the learning support and pastoral teams, supporting each individual students learning, emotional and social needs. When a particular learning need cannot be addressed within the usual classroom provision small group withdrawal may occur. Additional literacy and numeracy lessons are offered in this way.



## Wider curriculum opportunities

Within lessons students will experience authentic learning experiences which link their learning to real events, issues or scenarios. Subject areas also provide opportunities for wider experiential learning to broaden and deepen enjoyment of their subject through clubs, such as sports clubs, STEM activities, music and Arts clubs as well as through organising visits to places and events of interest or importance. The after school Aspire programme provides a wide range of activities. All students attending Aspire Clubs will also be able to access a free meal at the end of the session.

## Rewards

Each term students that work consistently hard in lessons are nominated to receive subject colours. Teachers send postcards home to notify parents of in lesson successes and every lesson that a student meets expectations they will receive positive behaviour points which contribute to being able to access rewards. Excellent attendance brings reward opportunities as well. Students that have demonstrated improvement or have been an active part of the community will be invited to 'hot chocolate with the Head'. House challenges and the Supernova scheme offer further opportunities to reward students that demonstrate the SHINE values.





# Prefects

## and the student governing body

During Year 10 students can apply to become the prefects. A rigorous selection process is undertaken to ensure that our prefect body are role models who demonstrate the SHINE values. Prefects are expected to represent the school with visitors and at events; participate in assemblies, mentor the younger students and inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

“The highlight of my time at Winstanley was the opportunity to take an active role in local issues and being a Stephen Lawrence Ambassador. I am now about to study politics at Oxford University inspired by learning experiences and opportunities that were available to me at Winstanley.”

**Year 11 Student**



# A typical day for Year 7

“The best thing about Winstanley is the support system that is offered by not only teachers but students too. The school has a real sense of community, enabling all students to find their place in the world.”

**Year 11 Student**

**08:35 – 09:25** CREW/Tutor time \*including reading and learning interventions, assembly and SHINE weekly (2 x activity slots – 08:35- 09:00 / 09:00- 09:25)

**09:25 – 10:20** Lesson 1

**10:20 – 11:15** Lesson 2

**11:15 – 11:35** Break

**11:35 – 12:30** Lesson 3

**12:30 – 13:25** Lesson 4

**13:25 – 14:10** Lunch

**14:10 – 15:05** Lesson 5

After school activities are open to all students until 4pm.





'A school with a warm family feel, brimming with determined and welcoming staff.'

**Dr Kate Chhatwal,  
OBE, Challenge  
Partners**

“This is a school which wants the very best for all pupils. Leaders have a clear vision for the school and are determined that pupils will succeed.”

OFSTED, 2023

# SHINE

brighter than you thought you could...

## The Winstanley School

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