





Welcome

I am immensely proud to be the Headteacher of The Winston Churchill School; an inclusive and caring learning environment, in which all learners, both young people and adults, are challenged appropriately to:

- Excel in their learning
- Develop positive relationships
- Respect and contribute to their community
- Understand their responsibilities as local and global citizens

My team and I have high expectations: staff up-hold these, students know and respect this and essentially our parents support the school. We are a modern forward thinking school, with traditional values.

Winston has a continuing reputation for innovation and success. Students are encouraged to be open-minded, to engage with new ideas, to think creatively and to invest in their own success. Our students are encouraged to take on leadership roles; our senior prefect team, music captains and sports captains are role models.

Therefore, students at Winston flourish as they are inspired and challenged in a positive, secure environment. We never forget that you have a choice and that you want that rich learning experience for your child.

We look forward to welcoming your son or daughter into our school and we are privileged to contribute to their development.

Zoë Johnson-Walker
Headteacher



We think the students should tell you about our school; so we invited them to write to us about their experiences, what they have learned, what they have enjoyed and how the school has helped them develop.

After an overwhelming response, we chose a cross section of students to represent the different ages and strengths within our student body.

This booklet brings together the comments those students made with a wide range of pictures of school life taken throughout the year.



When I first came to Winston I joined basketball club because it was something I enjoyed. When I walked into my first session I was frightened because it was for all year groups. It turns out that once you all get to know each other it becomes a lot easier to communicate and work together as a group. Soon after I joined I had the opportunity to be a tour guide for new parents. Taking this opportunity two years in a row really helped me boost my confidence"

Zainab, Year 8

"Winston has helped me be a more caring person and be kind to other students and teachers. Sometimes you will be rewarded. My reward was a hot chocolate with other students and the headteacher."

Harry, Year 7



"German has given me many opportunities, as when you're in the lesson you are not only learning a different language, it also gives you the opportunity to have fun, step out of your comfort zone and communicate with different people you haven't talked to before"



"English for me is an important subject because this language is the second language I have learnt in my life."



"Science is sometimes hard for me but it is fun because you can do experiments. It can be challenging for some people but they always try their best."



"I hadn't studied astronomy before I came to Winston. I have had the opportunity to use the planetarium to bring this subject to life. We have been given the opportunity to present our projects about different planets in the planetarium. This has allowed us to use our initiative and develop our presentational skills."

Rebecca, Year 8



"I feel I have taken advantage of the opportunities given to me at Winston. I feel settled and happy with the progress I have made. I am more willing to have a go and develop a growth mindset. If I didn't have people encouraging me to take part I would have missed out on the experience they have given me. I feel my confidence within my subjects has grown as well as my self-belief in my learning. Winston has allowed me to blossom."



"Focusing on the Winston Competencies within lessons has helped me to develop different skills. Communicating through our online system called Frog has challenged me to manage my time and ensure that I complete tasks and hand in assignments on time. The staff will give targets to improve within lessons as well as out of them. This helps us to challenge ourselves to ensure we can achieve our best in all subjects."



"I didn't think I was sporty before starting at Winston but Winston PE staff have encouraged me to take part and get involved. Keeping healthy is important for your body as well as your mind."

"I feel the teachers trust me to work independently. They show me respect, and allow/encourage me to express my opinions within lessons. I believe the rules and consequences at the school are fair. If there is ever an issue, our form tutors are great at finding a solution and solving your worry/concern."

"I really like chemistry because when you study this subject, you will do some great experiments. In my opinion, this is a great way to learn as it engages people more than just writing down notes. It will also teach you more as you can witness whatever is taking place right in front of your eyes!"



"I feel like Winston has given me a lot more opportunities, because I have more subjects to study. Also there are the school productions where you can sing and dance your heart out. This is an amazing opportunity and experience as it will build character and confidence for the future."

Dewi, Year 8



"I love studying maths at Winston because it involves problem solving which is an excellent life skill to have. I also like maths because it can be challenging but it will pay off once you have the hang of it and you have a better understanding."



"In drama club, we play drama games which are really fun because you play with other people that you may not have known and form new friendships. I love drama because it is a way for other students to express themselves. It also can be a way to build confidence and collaboration, a major skill for the future"



"At Winston, I feel that I am able to discuss my concerns with a teacher or Year Leader because I trust that the school community will help me overcome any challenges or difficulties that I might face and we can work together to help me develop and grow as a person."



"The greatest challenge has been during lessons where the teacher has not told me the direct answer but encouraged me to think differently and discover the solution myself; they have given me the freedom to push myself and to work through problems on my own, helping me to gain a better understanding of the subject matter."

Jessica, Year 8



"So far at Winston I have excelled in art thanks to the amazing teachers and resources open to me. From acrylic paint to collages, I have learnt so many new skills and can't wait to see what else I can try in the future."



"In English I have had so many new learning opportunities and skills opened up to me and have also excelled hugely in creative writing and using imagery; I am now able to use a variety of techniques in my work and have learnt how to properly pick apart sections of a text to therefore find out the deeper meaning."



"The trust the school places in me has helped me develop so that I am not afraid to speak out about my opinions and ideas and feel a sense of belonging within the class."



"Music at Winston is full of opportunities; you can learn all sorts of instruments and take part in many different music clubs. I belong to the choir and it has really helped with my confidence. When I first joined I was surprised how amazing it sounds when all the different vocal parts join together"

Rebecca, Year 8



"I am challenged in maths lessons and this has given me a love for problems. I go straight for the hardest questions and then take steps back if they are too hard. It has helped me develop because I am now not afraid to ask questions or ask for help and am willing to try everything a number of times."



"Trust is a big thing in life because if you can trust people then you can reach out, connect, get help and get support. At Winston the trust is amazing because it really gives me confidence to know I can trust any member of staff and a large number of students too."

"In lessons I have learned skills as well as knowledge and how/when to use them. Clubs have taught me teamwork and patience; teachers have helped and motivated me all the way through school."



"Winston Churchill provides a safe environment enabling us to learn to the best of our abilities. The trust that is shared between the students and teachers is key to gaining confidence to ask questions, try new things and learn empathy towards our peers."

Belle, Year 9



"I have interviewed people who applied for a job at the school, asking them questions, which has opened my eyes up to what is needed and preparing me for what will be expected of me in an interview."

"I have really enjoyed things I would never have thought of doing, like reporting for the BBC and participating in debates."



"I'm part of the girls football team and we have made it to 3 district finals which was an amazing experience for our team. It is important to be part of a team as it teaches you how to communicate and collaborate effectively."



"We are challenged everyday making us more resilient and able to think for ourselves to find ways round our challenges."



"Since I've been at Winston I have gained communication skills, confidence and now I don't mind speaking or presenting an idea in front of others. My vocabulary has broadened and I have learnt methods of persuasion and how to construct an argument, all of which will help me in later life."





"I attend possibly the widest variety of musical groups one school can provide, from orchestra to session band, string group to percussion to choir and the list of open opportunities just goes on and on. They have improved both my technical and performance abilities and I have made amazing friends across year groups."

Ethan, Year 10



"The opportunities provided at Winston have helped me develop massively. It's boosted my confidence and has given me a myriad of different skills that will definitely help me going forward."



"I think without a lot of trust in others and in myself, I wouldn't be where I am today. For instance, without trusting myself, my friends and my drama teacher, I would never have auditioned for the school production (After Class) that kickstarted my love of performing and regular appearances in later productions."





"I enjoy science, especially the practicals. I also had the opportunity to go on a STEM trip where we had to build a bridge using different materials and then check if it could handle different weights. That helped me develop ingenuity as we had to really think about how to do it well with the resources we had."

Shravan, Year 8

"In astronomy we learn a series of topics connected to space; it has given me a more enlightened way of thinking due to the fact that we still have so many things to discover. It has made me more open minded about the way I live, encouraging me to process things in a more intellectual way."



"Being challenged has helped develop my self-esteem resulting in me having a more inquisitive way of thinking. Trust has encouraged me to come out of my shell and discover new people."



"I think that the opportunities I have been given at Winston, such as tour guiding and helping at Information Evening, have given me that urge to be a leader and to mentor other students. Being at Winston has also shown me how to learn from my mistakes."

Obinna, Year 8



"'Be the best you can be' has helped me develop resilience as it is useful when you are trying to solve a tricky question; for example, when I am stuck and giving up would not be the best thing to do, I try having a go with the knowledge I have."





The Winston Churchill School

A comprehensive school for boys and girls aged 11 - 16

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