



ETHOS, VALUES & AIMS

1. Westonbirt School is an Independent School for girls from ages 11-18, attending either as day or boarding pupils.
2. Westonbirt is on a large Gloucestershire estate with extensive grounds, providing an ideal, stimulating educational environment. Success is nurtured and celebrated. Westonbirt School embrace girls of wide academic ability and the school prides its self on their reputation for serving the individual needs of each and every pupil.
- 3. Westonbirt School - Academics**
 - 3.1 The curriculum at Westonbirt aims to be broad, balanced and differentiated. The National Curriculum is followed in most subjects. The school seeks to provide an atmosphere of enjoyment in all subject areas, encouraging pupils to embrace work that is challenging. The school actively seeks to recruit staff who have good qualifications in their chosen discipline so that the needs of the very able are met at all levels.
 - 3.2 Entry to the school is by entrance examination and interview with Heads of Department and the Headmistress. In Year 7, all pupils are screened by the Learning Support Department and relevant strategies are adopted to target individual requirements. Provision for the needs of overseas girls is monitored and implemented by the ELT department as girls enter the school.
 - 3.3 Good work is encouraged at all times and is reinforced by the rewards/sanctions policy. Extension activities are set wherever appropriate. Good standards of literacy and numeracy are encouraged across the curriculum.
 - 3.4 Students' progress throughout the school is monitored regularly with assessments taking place four times a year. Results are recorded and reported appropriately by using a common framework. Pupils' work is marked using the school's marking policy, adapted to suit departments' individual requirements. This provides a comprehensive and holistic approach to student progress across the whole curriculum. Target setting is a major school initiative which is being applied to all years to encourage pupils to confront their progress and adopt strategies for improvement.
- 4. Westonbirt School - Pastoral**
 - 4.1 A key concern of the school is the physical and social well being of all pupils. Staff provide children with knowledge, skills, opportunities and resources within an environment that nurtures spiritual well being. This is partly, but not wholly, achieved through daily acts of worship, a Life Skills programme, and regular contact with tutors and housemistresses.

- 4.2 Year 7 girls are assigned to Beaufort House upon entry to the school; they then become members of one of three other Houses. The school actively promotes a family atmosphere within a House and encourages healthy competition between the Houses.
- 4.3 Westonbirt is a multi-cultural community and the school fosters an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding at all levels. All girls are treated equally and the school has strategies to ensure that racism and bullying are identified and dealt with quickly.
- 4.4 In order to ensure that all pupils are safe the school has a range of Health and Safety policies and procedures, and promotes healthy eating. The School Sister oversees the provision of health services, and all the pupils are educated through the Life Skills Programme about discrimination, sex and personal relationships, and the problems and issues associated with drugs, alcohol and smoking.