

## Key Stage 3 Subject Overview

**English:** The overarching aim for students studying English at Wingate School is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. Wingate School follows the UK National Curriculum for English which aims to ensure that all pupils have the ability to read and write easily, fluently, and with a good understanding as well as encouraging and developing the habit of reading widely for pleasure. To achieve this, we have clear Schemes of Work with diverse teaching resources covering a plethora of genres from pre-20th Century text, poetry, play scripts, and modern pros. To ensure that students are actively learning, students are taught using a varied pedagogy: drama, presentations, group media projects as well as building the skills to peer and self-assess work. Progress is tracked through continual and formative assessment with clear personal targets set.

**Maths:** The programme of study for Mathematics at key stage 3 is organised into units that build and develop from key stage 2. Students should make connections across mathematical ideas to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning, and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. Students are taught to apply their mathematical knowledge in science, geography, computing, and other subjects.

Wingate School streams our students dependent on their ability. Decisions about progression are based on the security of pupils' understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils who grasp concepts rapidly are challenged by being offered rich and sophisticated problems before any acceleration through new content in preparation for key stage 4. Those who are not sufficiently fluent are supported to consolidate their understanding, including through additional practice, before moving on.

The Wingate Curriculum and Schemes of Work are streamlined with the UK national curriculum for mathematics and aim to ensure that all pupils:

- become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.
- reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language
- can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

**Science:** Wingate students follow the UK National Curriculum where our aim is that all students are able to describe scientific processes and key characteristics in a common language. Students will also be familiar with, and use technical terminology. Wingate students will build up an extended specialist vocabulary to be used in scientific experiments and reports. The principal focus of science teaching in key stage 3 is to develop a deeper understanding of a range of scientific ideas in the subject disciplines of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. KS3 Science is taught using a cohesive and inclusive Scheme of Work where each class is taught by a subject specialist: Biology, Physics, Chemistry. Teachers use a varied pedagogy to ensure active learning within their lessons including practical experiments, group projects, and independent study. Progress is monitored through continual assessment to ensure students develop a secure understanding of each key block of knowledge and concepts in order to progress to the next stage.

**Art & Design:** Wingate students will be taught to develop their creativity and ideas, and increase proficiency in their execution. They will develop a critical understanding of artists, architects, and designers, expressing reasoned judgments that can inform their own work. Pupils will use a range of techniques to record their observations in sketchbooks, journals, and other media as a basis for exploring their ideas. Students are encouraged to use a range of techniques and media, including painting to increase their proficiency in the handling of different materials. Students will enhance their ability to analyse and evaluate their own work, and that of others, in order to strengthen the visual impact or applications of their work as well as learn about the history of art, craft, design, and architecture, including periods, styles and major movements from ancient times up to the present day.

**Computing:** Wingate's budding computer programmers are taught to use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly, and securely, including protecting their online identity and privacy. Students should be able to recognise inappropriate content, contact, and conduct and know how to report concerns. Pupils will be taught to design, use and evaluate computer programs whilst building on their understanding of key algorithms that reflect computational thinking as well as using logical reasoning to compare alternative algorithms for the same problem. Our young programmers will learn to use two or more programming languages, at least one of which is textual, to solve a variety of computational problems. Students will continue to develop their understanding of how numbers can be represented in binary, and be able to carry out simple operations on binary numbers. Through projects, group work, and active learning, students will understand the hardware and software components that make up computer systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems whilst understanding how instructions are stored and executed within a computer system. Students will progress and develop their understanding of how data of various types (including text, sounds, and pictures) can be represented and manipulated digitally, in the form of binary digits; undertaking creative projects that involve selecting, using, and combining multiple applications across a range of devices. All students are expected to set and achieve challenging goals.

**Geography:** Wingate Geographers follow the UK National Curriculum for Geography where pupils develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine. Students will develop their ability to define physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the links that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world. Students follow a clear Scheme of Work that includes a varied pedagogy to ensure we maximise active learning. Our Geographers will gain confidence in how to collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes. Students will learn how to interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) as well as building on their skill to communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

**History:** Wingate Historians follow the UK National Curriculum for history which aims to ensure that all pupils know and understand the history of Britain as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day. Students will learn how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. Young historians will know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world such as the nature of ancient civilizations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind to gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilization', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'. Students will build on their understanding of historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference, and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions, and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives, group projects, and presentations as well as themed based active learning days. Wingate historians will gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national, and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious, and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

**Modern Languages:** Our Wingate linguists are streamed into sets according to their capabilities. All students will build on the foundations of language learning laid at key stage 2, whether pupils continue with the same language or take up a new one. Students will focus on developing the breadth and depth of their competence in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, based on a sound foundation of core grammar and vocabulary. French and Spanish as a Foreign Language should enable pupils to understand and communicate personal and factual information that goes beyond their immediate needs and interests, developing and justifying points of view in speech and writing, with increased spontaneity, independence, and accuracy. It should provide suitable preparation for further study.

**Spanish as a First Language:** Native Spanish Speakers follow the Spanish National Curriculum with a clear focus on reading, writing, active listening, and speaking. Students will understand the importance of grammatical structures and patterns, extended vocabulary, and have access to a variety of text covering different genres; poetry, play scripts, news articles, and more informal blogs and diaries. Students will understand the importance of how the structure of text creates different voices and moods and will develop and use a wide-ranging and deepening vocabulary. Our modern language department has an in-depth scheme of work that covers a multitude of pedagogy to incorporate different learning styles. Individual student's attainment is tracked through regular formative and informative assessments with clear personal targets reviewed and set to ensure progression. Lessons are planned and delivered to stimulate ideas, develop creative expression, and expand understanding of the language and culture of Spain.

**Social Science:** In line with the Spanish system, all Wingate students study Social Science at KS3 where they learn the History and Geography of Spain. Students are taught using a variety of resources and styles including media, presentations, speeches, debates as well as formative and summative assessments. Students develop their minds and learning techniques in readiness for the more in-depth course at KS4.

**Music:** Our Wingate performers and musicians follow the UK National Curriculum where pupils build on their previous knowledge and skills through performing, composing, and listening. Students will develop their vocal and instrumental fluency, accuracy, and expressiveness. Students will experience and understand musical structures, styles, genres, and traditions, identifying the expressive use of musical dimensions. Performers are encouraged to use new technologies appropriately; showing appreciation and understanding of a wide range of musical contexts and styles. Wingate students will be encouraged to play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression both rehearsed and improvised. To stretch our budding performers, students are encouraged to compose unique scores of music and develop musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres, and traditions to show increasing sophistication, including the use of tonalities, different types of scales, and other musical devices. We support and nurture our students to listen with increasing discrimination to a wide range of music from great composers and musicians; developing a deepening understanding of the music that they perform and to which they listen.

**PSHE:** (Personal, Social, and Health Education). All students have access to a Personal Tutor who delivers the PSHE course. Wingate students follow a clear scheme of work that covers all areas of their lives in and out of the classroom. PSHE is a vital support to all our students where they are given the life skills they need. Students will cover a wide range of topics including study techniques, mental wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, sex education, and online safety as well as researching career and academic pathways for their future.



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**Religious Education:** Wingate School believes that every child has the capacity to learn, engage, reflect and experience quality Religious Education. RE is taught within a creative, thought-provoking and understanding environment. We discuss the different cultures, religions, and traditions within our diverse communities that are local, national, and worldwide. Students will develop the skills to be respectful, reflective, intuitive, and open-minded. This is with the vision of making their futures and their world a secure, accepting, and diverse place to live.