



**WATLING**  
— ACADEMY —

**Year 8 Learning Pathways Evening 2023**

# Key people - M



Ms C Bell  
Head of Year



Mr A Brown  
AHT Link

Mrs N Thompson  
Pastoral Assistant

## 8M Form Tutors

8MARD – Mr Rathod

8MGKY – Miss Kennedy

8MLHR – Mrs Harper

8MMDS – Miss Dennis

8MRBE – Mrs Betteridge

8MSBI – Miss Bibi

# Key people - K



Mrs S Dixon  
Head of Year



Mrs N Bennett  
AHT Link

Mrs D Roberts  
Pastoral Assistant

## 8K Form Tutors

8KAES – Mr Evans

8KKHH – Mrs Hollingsworth

8KKHN – Mrs Khan

8KSFT – Mr Frost

8KSWT – Mrs Wint

8KYZO – Ms Zhao

# Rewards

- We have 3 academy rules- **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness.**
- Praise and rewards are central to encouraging positive choices and maintaining a strong community. We expect high standards and will recognise and celebrate student achievement. This is done through a variety of ways, such as House Points, postcards/letters home and reward assemblies, to give but a few examples.



# Sanctions

Should students behave in a way that disrupts their learning or the learning of others, we use the following steps:

- We will issue a **reminder** to help students make the right choice to rectify their behaviour.
- A **W1 (Warning 1)** will be issued if the behaviour continues. This will be logged on Class Charts.
- If the student is still not making the right choice, staff may need to issue a **W2 (Warning 2)**. A W2 will lead to a restorative conversation at 3.15pm between the teacher and student. If the student fails to attend, a breaktime detention will be issued for the following day.
- Should the behaviour continue following a W2, a member of staff will remove the student from the classroom and take them to our reflection room.

# The Role of the Form Tutor

- The role of the Form Tutor is crucial in our mission to ensure that no student is anonymous at Watling Academy.
- They will develop a strong relationship with both you and your child to ensure that we are taking a holistic approach to your child's education.
- Students will meet their Form Tutor every day at 8:40am and will complete a variety of tasks during their tutorial session (12:10 – 12:30).
- If a student has any concerns or issues, they should speak to their Form Tutor, so that we can put any support required in place with immediate effect.
- The Form Tutor is also the first port of call for parents, should you wish to discuss anything with us.

# Uniform



*'At Watling we firmly believe that the wearing of the Academy uniform helps to instil pride, supports positive behaviour and encourages students to identify with the Academy and its ethos'.*

# Attendance

## How can you support?

- Ensure your child is punctual to school every day.
- Keep us informed of any absence and the reason.
- Ensure you avoid term time holidays for your family.
- When possible, book medical/dental appointments outside of school time.
- Liaise with Form tutor and Pastoral team should you need support with raising your child's attendance.



### Impact of missed Education

90%

95%

100%

Cumulative loss of Education

= Half a year of school over 5 years

= Quarter of a school year over 5 years

=No loss of Education



# Curriculum allocation for Year 8

Subject	Lesson Allocation per Week
English	3
Mathematics	3
Science	2.5
Computing	1.5
Design Technology	2
Geography	1.5
History	1.5
Modern Foreign Languages	2 (Spanish or Mandarin)
Physical Education	2
Art	1
Drama	1
Music	1
Religious Education	1
STEM Innovation	1
Wellbeing (PSHE)	1
Tutorial	5x20 minute sessions

We have 5 lessons a day.

Each lesson is 60 minutes.

Students follow a two-week timetable. '2.5' lessons per week means 5 lessons over the 2-week cycle.

Times of our school day are published on our website.

# Student Groupings Year 8

Students are grouped into different year groups – ‘M’ and ‘K’

Students will be in the same teaching groups for the following subject groups

Design Technology

Maths

English

PE

Science  
Computing

Art  
Drama  
Geography  
History  
Music  
Religious Education  
STEM Innovation  
Spanish or Mandarin  
Wellbeing

Maths and English teaching groups are setted groups. These will be reviewed throughout the year.

# Our Curriculum at Watling Academy

Our curriculum is supported by three key themes:

- Milton Keynes
- STEM
- Sustainability

- Curriculum information is available on our school website.
  - Curriculum learning journeys
  - End points
  - Key vocabulary
  - Careers information



## A brief overview of learning in Science



Science Learning Journey

## Key Stage 3 Curriculum End Points and key vocabulary: Science

### Year 7



Year 7 Science: Curriculum End  
Points and key vocabulary

### Year 8



Year 8 Science: Curriculum End  
Points and key vocabulary

# Dual objectives: Learning habits

## Emotional

- Questioning
- Thinking
- Resilience
- Perseverance
- Noticing (finding evidence)
- Concentrating

## Cognitive

- Creating, imagining, innovating
- Risk-taking
- Problem solving
- Making links and applying knowledge
- Analysis and evaluation
- Reasoning and making judgements



## HOW DO WE BECOME EFFECTIVE LEARNERS?

## Social

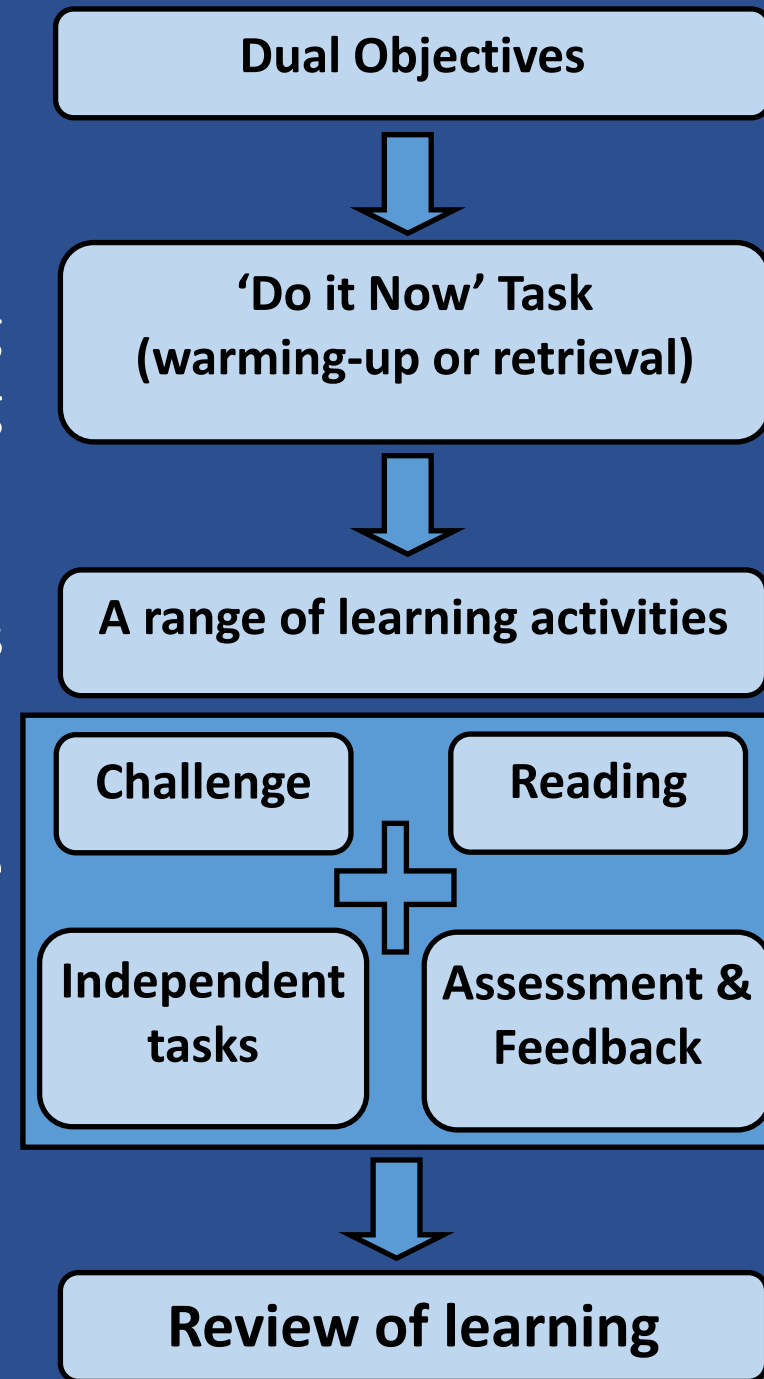
- Listening
- Communicating
- Planning and organisation
- Leadership

## Reflective

- Planning and organisation
- Self-regulation
- Learning from mistakes
- Research
- Collecting and using data

# What are lessons like?

- Lessons follow a familiar structure. Starting with a 'do it now' task and ending with a review of the lesson and learning that has taken place.
- All lessons will include a range of activities that have elements of:
  - Challenge
  - Tasks students complete independently
  - Opportunity to develop reading skills
  - Assessment and feedback.
- We expect PROUD presentation and students to be equipped to learn.



# Reading

Promoting reading is a priority for our students at Watling Academy.

We do this through:

- Opportunities for silent reading
- Reading Rules sessions
- Targeted activities within the curriculum
- Assessing reading skills

How can parents support students?

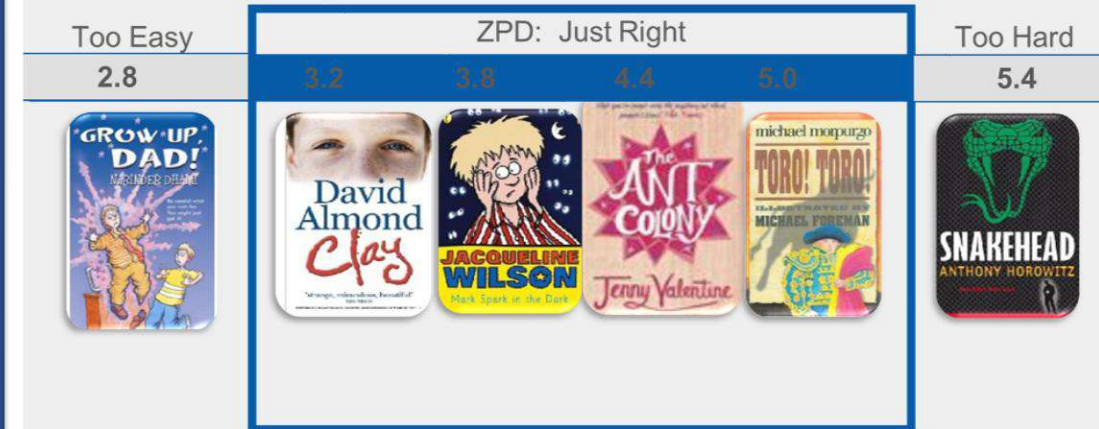
- Talk about reading and the importance of reading skills in your daily life
- Encourage students to read each day or read to your son/daughter regularly
- Join a local library
- Ensure students have a reading book that they enjoy
- Encourage students to read anything – this could be instructions or recipes.



# Star Reading Assessments

- All students will sit a termly Star Reading Assessment to assess key reading skills including:
  - Vocabulary
  - Comprehension
  - Inference
  - Analysis
- These are online assessments that adapt to individual reading levels
- Students will be given a ZPD level to support them in picking the most appropriate books to support them in progressing in their reading.

## Zone of Proximal Development



Students select books according to ZPD and their interests

	0.0 - 1.9
	2.0 - 2.9
	3.0 - 3.9
	4.0 - 4.9
	5.0 - 5.9
	6.0 +



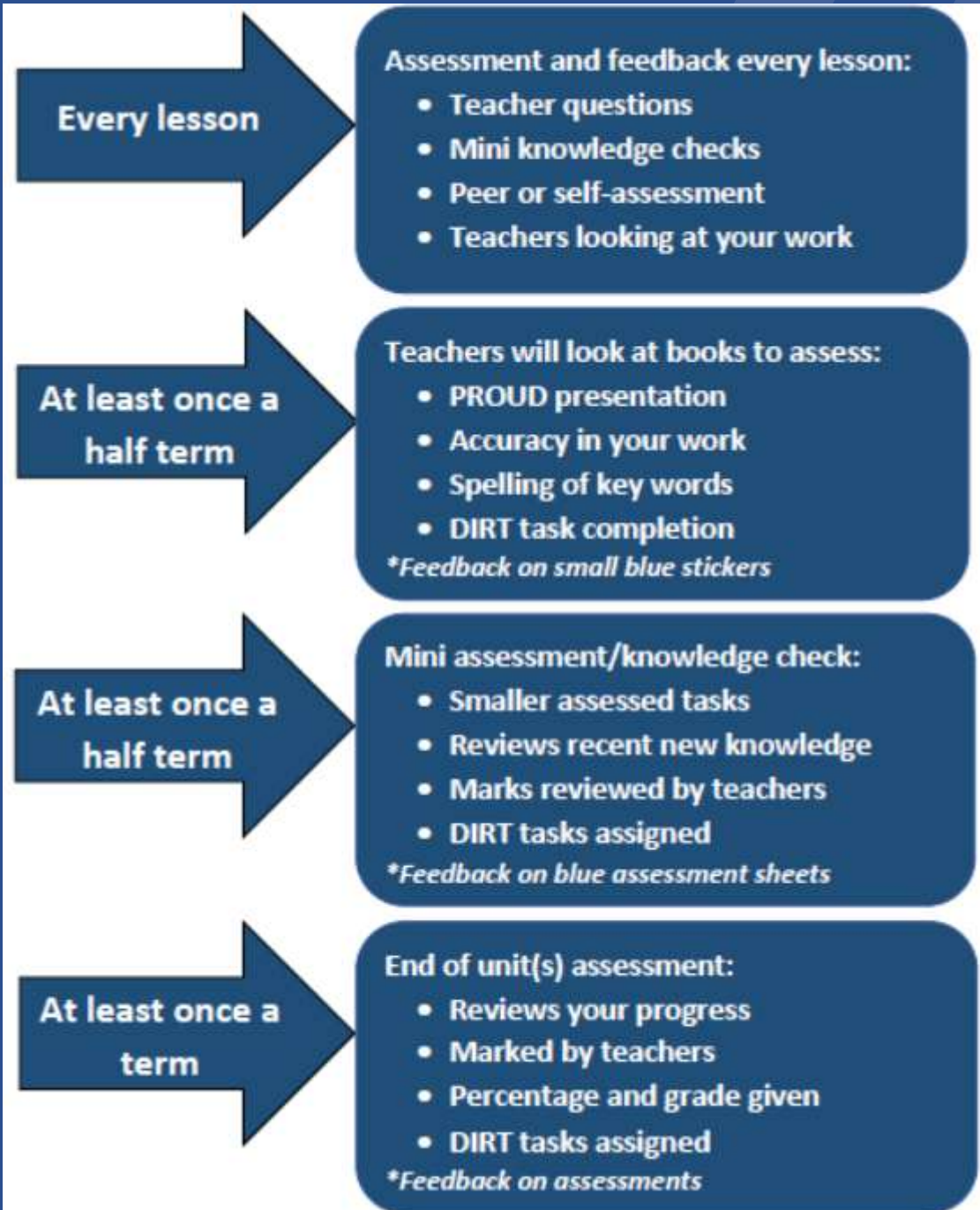
# Assessment and feedback



## Teacher feedback

<i>PROUD presentation</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> PROUD presentation consistent <input type="checkbox"/> Attention needed
<i>Review of student work</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> No additional comments <input type="checkbox"/> Review comments on work
<i>Spelling of <u>key words</u></i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling is correct <input type="checkbox"/> Some errors
<i>DIRT tasks</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Not completed <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>Date</i>	

Remember to reflect on your feedback: What do I need to do to improve?



# Progress Reports

Progress Reports home to parents three times a year to report of student progress across each term.

- Autumn Term
- Spring Term
- Summer Term

Reporting Engagement, Behaviour, Homework, Current Learning Grade

CLGs are cumulative and based on all the assessment students have completed in each subject.

WATLING ACADEMY PROGRESS REPORT													
END OF YEAR REPORT: SUMMER 2021-22													
Name: C													
Please find below a summary of Chloe's progress over the course of the Summer Term here at Watling Academy. This report contains information on how well Chloe has engaged in learning, both within the classroom and through their completion of homework tasks, as well as overall behaviour and conduct across the Academy.													
These areas are reported on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the maximum and 1 being the minimum.													
This is a holistic overview of student progress across the term and scores given reflect this. You will also find a summary of student attendance and termly total of House and Behaviour points.													
Subject	Homework Grade			Engagement Grade			Behaviour Grade			Current Learning Grade			EoY Target
Review Period	1	2	EoY	1	2	EoY	1	2	EoY	1	2	EoY	
Maths	1	1	1	4	4	4	5	4	4	T1	T1	1C	1C
English	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	T1	1C	1A	1B
Science	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	1B	1C	1C	1C
STEM Innovation	N/A			4	4	4	4	4	4	N/A			
Geography	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	1C	1B	1A	1C
History	4	3	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	T1	1C	1C	1C
RE	N/A			5	3	3	4	4	4	1C	1B	1A	1A
Spanish	2	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	T1	1C	1C	1B
Computing	1	2	4	4	4	2	4	4	4	T1	T1	1C	1C
Art	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	1A	1A	1A	1A
Drama	N/A			4	3	4	4	4	4	1B	1B	1B	1B
Music	N/A			4	4	4	4	4	4	1B	1B	1B	1B
DT/Food	2	5	3	4	5	5	4	5	5	1C	1B	1A	1B
Well Being/PSHE	N/A			3	5	5	4	5	5	N/A			
PE Core	N/A			4	4	4	4	4	4	N/A			

# Student Progress Current Learning Grades

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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- Student progress is tracked across 5 years using an assessment system that considers the knowledge that students have.
- It is similar to the GCSE assessment system.
- Students have a projected flight path based on individual FFT targets for GCSE. Students will have milestone targets across Y7-11.
- Students are graded using subgrades, to highlight how securely they are achieving within a particular grade boundary (e.g 2a,2b,2c).

# Homework

- Homework is set regularly via Class Charts.
- Tasks should take between 15-20 minutes to complete.
- Support for students within homework clinic.
- Students will be rewarded for regularly completing homework

## Weekly Homework tasks set

- |                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| • English           | • MFL   |
| • Maths             | • PE    |
| • Science           | • Drama |
| • Computing         | • Art   |
| • Design Technology | • Music |
| • Geography         |         |
| • History           |         |

# Introducing GCSE Pod

- ❑ Online platform to support with revision and practicing of key knowledge learnt in the classroom
- ❑ Provides support videos and helpful hints
- ❑ Provides instant feedback on what you got right or wrong and what you need to work on.
- ❑ You can see and monitor your progress over time
- ❑ You can access it on your phone via the app



# Tutorial Programme

During the tutorial programme, students will get involved in various different activities to enhance their learning and engage with different aspects within the school.

## Tutorial programme

### Assemblies

Assemblies are school meetings that happen every other week for each year group.

### Celebration assemblies

These take place once a half term  
They are a way of recognising the achievements of students in various subjects across the school

### Reading Rules Program

The Reading Rules program as a weekly session led by form tutors.

### Tutorials Introduction

The tutorials are weekly PSHE-based lessons with subject-related themes.

### House Challenges

House Challenges are an exciting opportunity to earn house points.

### STEM Challenges

STEM skills are in high demand in the job market and that participation in STEM challenges can lead to exciting opportunities and careers in these fields.

# Student wellbeing and personal development

Student well-being is essential in Watling because it not only enhances academic performance but also prepares students for the challenges of life, fosters a positive and inclusive learning environment, and has far-reaching effects on individuals and communities.

- **Dedication to Well-being:** We are committed to fostering a healthy and caring environment.
- **Mental Health Priority:** We place a strong emphasis on positive mental health, which is fundamental to our academy's mission.
- **Supportive Foundation:** Positive mental health underpins our essential work in supporting students, staff, and their families.
- **Core Values:** We actively promote our core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Kindness in all our endeavours.
- **Inclusivity:** We ensure that every student is recognized and valued, leaving no one anonymous in our community.

# Trips and Visits:

We will continue to expand our programme of educational visits throughout the year and will update parents and students with any upcoming opportunities.

Previous Trips at Watling Academy

Subject	Trip	Subject	Trip
Art	MK Gallery - Boyd and Evans Yr8	Pastoral	Anti Bullying Conference
Careers	Career Inspiration Session	PE	Sports Leadership visit - Whitehouse
Computing	Teentech Festival	PE	English Schools Athletics
Drama	Milton Keynes Theatre	PE	X-Country Championships - Stowe
DT	Design Museum	PE	Womens Euros
DT	V&A Innovate Finals	PE	STEM Football Trip
Eco Council	Middleton Wood Meadow - Eco Council	RS	University Outreach Trip
Eco Council	Hazeley Wood - Eco Council	Science	Big Bang Fair
Eco Council	Climate Conference - Eco Council	Science	Science Leaders Outreach - Whitehouse
Maths	Women in Mathematics	SLT	Thorpe Park
Maths	Maths Challenge	SLT	Whipsnade
MFL	Spanish Translation Bee	STEM	Women in Engineering - Nifty Lift
MFL	Spanish Spelling Bee	STEM	Young Women in STEM



# Careers - Year 8

Students will:

- Explore different job opportunities through the Community and Careers unit of Wellbeing lessons.
- Take part in careers month activities linked to curriculum areas. They explore where different subjects could lead them. They are encouraged to reflect on their skills and to engage a family members in a conversation about their own career path.
- Have the opportunity to engage with employers and ask them questions about their role.
- Use Unifrog to log and track their skills and experiences.

# Tutor and subject consultations

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023:**  
Tutor Consultation Evening

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024**  
Subject Consultation Evening

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024:**  
Tutor Consultation Evening



# Communication

Query:	Who to contact:	Phone Number:	Email:
General Enquires	Main Reception or School Website	01908 794 094	admin@watling.academy
Pastoral queries about student	Form Tutor Head of Year	Please contact reception for teacher details	
Academic queries about student	Head of Department	Please contact reception for teacher details	
Medical Assistance regarding student	Mrs Carpenter		CarpenterN@watling.academy

Each student is also issued a student planner. Please write any communications in this to also contact your child's form tutor.

Thank you