

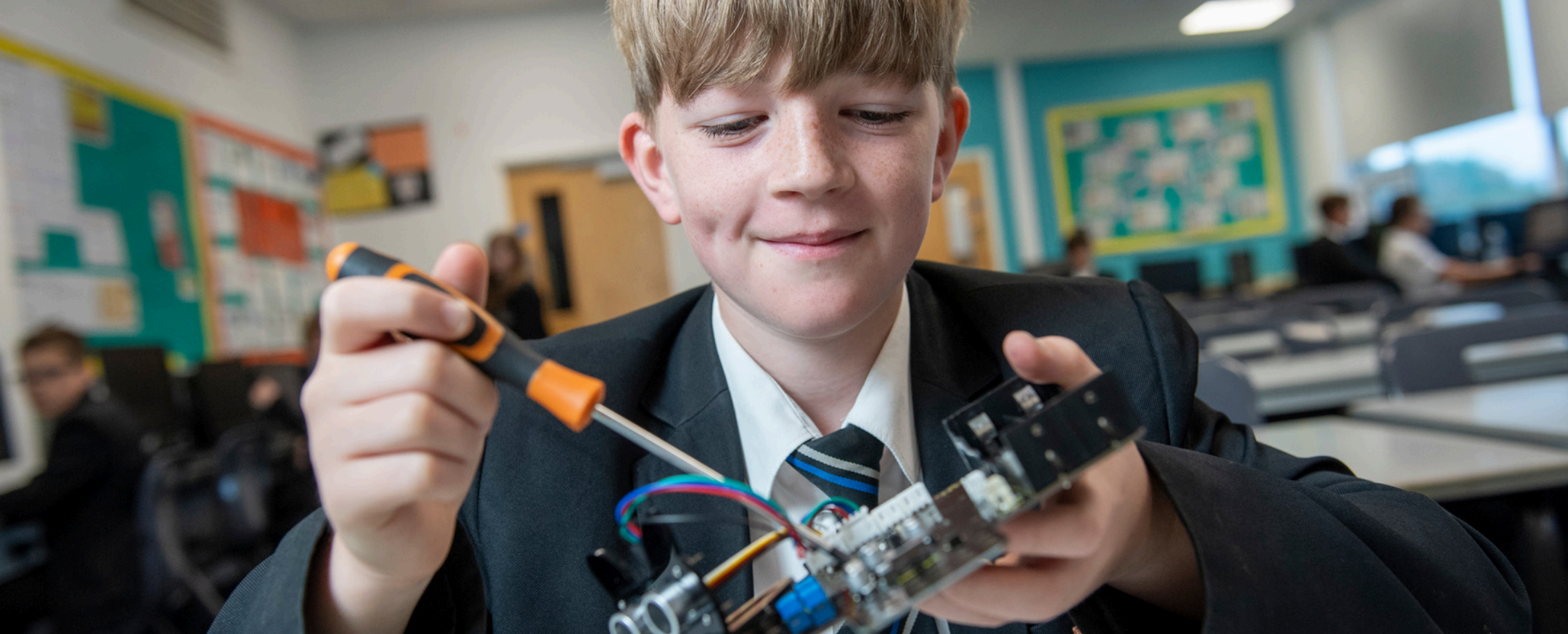


PROSPECTUS

2025/2026

#ASPIRE

www.westcraven.co.uk



A warm West Craven welcome to you and your child

We know that the transition to secondary school is a milestone and the start of a new chapter for your child. It is an exciting time, where your child is really able to develop and pursue their subject and extra-curricular interests by making the most of what West Craven High School has to offer. Whether it's learning in our specialist facilities, such as the dedicated science laboratories, food rooms and computer suites, spending time choosing the right book from our substantial library, or making use of the sports fields and multi-purpose all weather pitches, there is something at West Craven High School for everyone.

At West Craven, our approach is summed up by our motto 'Ad Vitam Paramus', meaning 'We are preparing for life'. Your child's dream is our purpose! Our small size means that we really know your child; their ambitions and strengths as well as what they need to do to improve and make progress. In the summer this year, we checked-in on every single Year 11 student after results day to ensure that every child had been successful in securing their place after leaving our care. We take great pride in the knowledge that our students leave us ready, able and qualified to take their next steps.

Nevertheless, we know that this transition is an anxious time too. We place as much importance on the children coming to us from Year 6 to Year 7, as we do for those moving on to a fantastic future post-16. Our team approach will ensure a wrap-around care for your child from the moment they join us to the moment they leave. Your child's form tutor will be the most important contact and should remain with them throughout their five years with us. We have tried to provide all the information you need in this prospectus, but I urge you to come and see what school life is like for yourself. I look forward to meeting you.



Lynne Blomley
Director of Education



John Bates
Principal



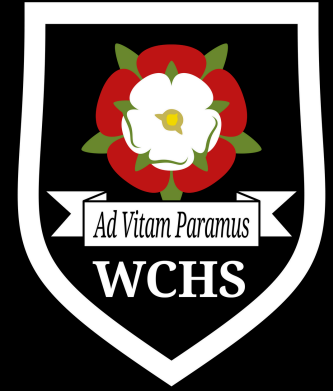
Why choose us?

Our core values of ASPIRE: Ambition, Supportive, Positivity, Independence, Resilience and Equality underpin all that we do in school. By becoming part of the West Craven family, you can expect:

- **A school at the heart of the community**
- **Staff who get to know and develop every child as an individual**
- **A commitment to quality teaching and learning**
- **A curriculum tailored to individual needs that enables all students to succeed**
- **High levels of care and support**
- **Extra-curricular activities**
- **An excellent range of visits and trips**
- **A commitment to develop the whole child – their social, moral, spiritual and cultural experiences and interests.**



Applying to West Craven High School



Visit us

We will be holding an open event on Thursday 2nd October 2025. To register your interest in this event, please book your free tickets on our website, and follow us on social media to be kept up-to-date.



Apply

Applications for secondary school places open in the September before your child is due to start secondary school and run to the deadline of October 31st of that year. To apply, you need to visit the Lancashire County Council website: Lancashire.gov.uk.

You will find out if you have been successful in securing a place in March of the year your child is due to start secondary school.



Stay in touch

In the meantime, you can keep up-to-date with activities at the school by following our Facebook and Instagram pages and regularly visiting our website.

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact us by calling 01282 812 292 or emailing

office@westcraven.co.uk



Teaching and Learning

We have a dedicated team of qualified teaching staff who are all committed to providing the very best for every student.

Each student is valued as an individual and is encouraged to take an active part in all aspects of school life. We recognise that all students have different strengths, aptitudes, and interests. Our purpose is to ensure that our students are encouraged and supported to pursue their interests, harness their strengths, and develop their areas for development.

We understand that one size doesn't fit all; our lessons are responsive to the students in them. Our teachers use low-stakes assessment techniques to check students understand before moving on, and they provide individual feedback to help students understand the next steps in their learning and make the required improvements. Teachers encourage students to be resilient and to see mistakes as part of the learning journey. A culture of high expectations, alongside a curriculum and lessons personalised to meet the needs of all students, underpins our aim to bring out the best in all our students.



Challenging and Inspiring

We provide opportunities to stretch and challenge all students inside the classroom and beyond. Our 5 year curriculum will ensure that students study a broad and balanced range of academic subjects. We guide students to consider their strengths and choose subjects at Key Stage 4 that broaden their opportunities post 16. We do encourage many of our students to attain the English Baccalaureate by the end of Key Stage 4. This is a suite of subjects including English, Maths, Science (our most able will study Triple Science), a Humanities subject and a language. This qualification is highly regarded by universities as a balanced foundation for higher education.

Each student will be able to choose a personalised pathway based on what is right for them. Our aim is to ensure that every child achieves to their full potential and is able to access the next steps in their education journey.

We are proud to be part of the Extraordinary Minds Academy, a unique training and extra-curricular programme set up by Nelson and Colne College. The programme runs over three years to help students prepare for college, progress to top universities in the country, and ultimately reach their career aspiration. The programme includes a visit to the University of Oxford. We are equally proud of our links with employers and colleges providing apprenticeships and training post 16, which mean the vast majority of our students secure their chosen pathway after leaving us.



Our Curriculum

Our five year curriculum aims to provide sequences of learning which are engaging, well planned and focus on lifelong learning experiences for all. Our curriculum is balanced and delivered by subject specialists in defined pathways of study. Schemes of learning promote the key interdisciplinary skills of problem solving, building resilience, thinking strategies, numeracy, literacy and effective communication. At Key Stage 3 we build upon the experiences in English and Maths at primary school and broadening students' experiences in a range of subjects including Science, History, Geography, French or Spanish. These are studied alongside practical subjects such as Art, Drama, Technology and Music. We aim to nurture the social, moral and cultural interests and experiences of students within the subjects they learn and also through the PSHE curriculum.

West Craven operates a two-week timetable. In Years 7 to 9, students over the two weeks will study:

- **English, Mathematics and Science**
- **History and Geography**
- **French or Spanish**
- **PSHE and RE**
- **Computing**
- **Drama and Music**
- **Art and Technology**
- **PE**

At Key Stage 4 we encourage students to maintain a balance of core subjects including English, Maths, Science, a Humanities subject and a Language. Beyond this we aim to provide opportunities to suit all students with academic, practical and vocational courses on offer. Students will choose their subjects at our Options Evening in Year 9. Our curriculum is under constant review to ensure we are meeting the needs of individual students in an ever changing world as we prepare them for life as adults.



“ The school has designed an ambitious curriculum
OFSTED ”

Career Driven

At West Craven High School, we encourage our students to think about their career aspirations and understand the benefits of planning for them early in order to guarantee the best possible success. Research evidence suggests improved careers education is linked to higher academic achievement at GCSE and greater personal economic security.

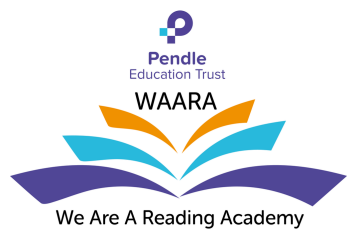
We believe it is essential that the school contributes to preparing young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life. Careers learning is intended to be a golden thread woven throughout the school curriculum from Year 7 to 11, that supports young people to explore their dreams, make decisions and manage transitions as learners and workers, towards being valuable lifelong professionals.



With strong links to local employers and a curricular focus on careers, we ensure that our students' ambitions are linked to careers which they will find both fulfilling, profitable and rewarding with a firm understanding of the changing local labour market and job opportunities. Local and national employer involvement in our curriculum is essential to our students' educational experience. All students who attend West Craven High School, will be exposed to the knowledge and skills they need to make informed choices and achieve economic wellbeing in later life.

We have been measured against the CEC guidance and have over a number of years consistently maintained 100% compliance with all 8 Gatsby Benchmarks. This means our students benefit from live experiences, visits and mentoring, in addition to enterprise projects, at least two weeks' work experience and employability skills sessions delivered by local employers and organisations. Students receive training with CV writing and interview techniques; how to achieve their chosen next step position at 16 and beyond.

Students' success is recognised and supported by Employability Awards, which are given at key stages of transition for successful Work Experience completion, CV writing and employer interviews and other areas of recognised employability skills. Students can achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold awards and they are encouraged to keep in their personal achievement portfolio.



Reading Focus

At West Craven High School we are proud to be a Reading Academy. Reading is seen in every lesson, every day across the school.

All our students in years 7, 8 and 9 have designated lessons in our school library to borrow a book, or books, of their choice from a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels. We promote reading for interest and pleasure as well as helping and supporting our pupils to challenge themselves with their reading choices. Our knowledgeable and experienced librarian and English teachers will guide the book choices. We strongly recommend that students read at home for at least 15-20 minutes every day.

In addition we run several programmes in school to promote and develop reading at all levels.

- Three times a year our pupils are tested using the national New Group Reading Test to assess and monitor reading ages. This data is used across the school to inform all teachers of reading ability in each pupil.
- Phonics and reading intervention sessions to support reading in those below chronological reading age.
- Robust Reading in Form time – a chance for form tutors to read with their form, the expectation being that the pupils read for pleasure in this environment. This helps garner a love of reading.
- The use of the school library to borrow books – the library is open break and lunch times every day to offer a place to borrow books and read quietly.
- A range of new books are purchased termly and displays and reading focusses are out and rotated in the library each week – the We are a Reading Academy newsletter is published each week with news of new stock, book events and book recommendations for the whole family.
- We also enjoy a range of book and reading related events across the school year, from National Poetry Day to World Book Day.

A photograph of several students in school uniforms sitting at desks in a computer lab. In the foreground, a young woman with long brown hair and freckles is smiling and looking at a computer screen. Next to her, a young man is also looking at a screen. In the background, other students are visible, including a girl with long brown hair and a boy with glasses. The desks are equipped with computer monitors and keyboards. The overall atmosphere is positive and focused.

“ My daughter has really settled into high school and made lots of new friends, we are so proud of her. ”

PARENT



Life at West Craven High School

Our core values of **ASPIRE: Ambition, Supportive, Positivity, Independence, Resilience and Equality** are at the heart of life at West Craven High School and students are awarded core value achievement points through the ClassCharts website and mobile app for demonstrating these attributes in all aspects of school life. We will celebrate students' success and achievements throughout the year with reward events, assemblies and in our annual Star Awards Evening. There are also numerous leadership opportunities for students of all ages. In Year 7 students will have the opportunity to be a form tutor group representative or they could become involved in the School Council. There are leadership opportunities as Sports Ambassadors, Year 7 Champions, Eco forum representatives, and Anti-bullying Ambassadors, to name a few. Older students have the opportunity to act as mentors to our Year 7 students and towards the end of Year 10 students can apply to become Prefects or even Head Prefects.



Extra-curricular and Community Focus

All students are encouraged to take part in the wide variety of activities at West Craven High School. We encourage not just academic development but personal growth through structured sessions before school, at lunchtime and after school. All extra-curricular activities are free and are a great way to try something new and make new friends, just simply turn up and have a go! Extra-curricular timetables are updated regularly and further information regarding activities can be found from form tutors.



Examples of activities on our current extra-curricular timetable include choir, band Club, Duke Of Edinburgh, table tennis, drama, dance, library sessions, art, photography, science club, badminton, netball, football, basketball, homework club, and much more.

As well as daily extra-curricular activities, we also arrange many trips and activities outside of school including to Chester Zoo and the Blue Planet Aquarium.

These trips allow students to further develop their knowledge of subjects and bring learning to life whilst creating long lasting memories of their time at West Craven High School.



Community Involvement

At West Craven High School we see ourselves as a learning community at the heart of the wider community and as such we encourage our students to be active citizens in their local community.

Building Bridges

Students in Years 7 and 9 can experience working on a 'building bridges' programme that explores the important issues around identity, culture and community and provides them with the opportunity to work as a team on a potentially winning community project. If selected as the winning project it is funded by the Building Bridges programme to run as an actual event with our students leading with their own design.

Duke of Edinburgh

We place great importance on encouraging our students to have a go and take part in this established and highly respected national award scheme.

We offer our students the opportunity to complete both Bronze and Silver awards with us. Students complete key elements including volunteering in their local community, taking on a new physical activity and learning a new skill as well as being successful in the expeditions.



Burnley Football Club



As a key asset in our local community, our partnership work with BFC is a real strength for our students. With regular visits to Turf Moor and use of their teaching suites, we currently participate in the Education and Enterprise Programme and the Interventions Programme, with excellent access to educational facilities and sporting experts.

Local Charities

Students work hard to raise funds to support local charities such as Open Door, Pendleside Hospice and Petal Cancer Fund.



Care and Support

We aim to offer high levels of care and support for all our students.

The Form tutors play a vital role in this as a twice daily point of contact. Your child's form tutor will play a key part in helping them settle into secondary school. The form tutor is also an important point of contact for parents.

A dedicated Attendance Officer works with parents and students to ensure excellent attendance and punctuality. Our SENDCO and team of Teaching Assistants provide tailored support and intervention for students with additional needs. This support underpins the progress students are able to make in their learning. Pastoral support at West Craven High School is strong, with a dedicated team of staff to support students through school. We are also one of only two secondary schools in Pendle to benefit from the services of a Burnley FC in the Community Emotional Wellbeing Worker.

We know that the best learning takes place when students feel safe and happy, and we don't underestimate the importance of building positive relationships, both with students and parents and carers. This starts the moment your child joins West Craven, as we all work together for the best interests of every student in our community.



“ Staff have been amazing at making sure my son settled into high school. ”
PARENT



Leading Parent Partnership Award

West Craven High School has been commended for its work in partnership with parents and carers after achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA).

The LPPA is a nationally recognised award supporting schools who deliver effective parental engagement. The assessment is made by an external advisor. A team of staff at West Craven High School successfully put together evidence in eight categories for the advisor and are now celebrating after securing the Award for the first time.

Commenting on the evidence produced by the team at West Craven, Awards Verifier Maureen Nash said: “There is strong leadership of parental involvement at West Craven High School, led by the Executive Principal and leadership team who have a clear vision to provide high quality education, recognising the value of parent partnership.



Where are they now?



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Aamna Manazir



Where are you moving on to?
A Levels in Chemistry, Biology and Physics at Nelson and Colne College.

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
Year 11 Geography trips



Pendle
Education Trust



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Ruby Robinson



Where are you moving on to?
A T Level in Early Years Education at Nelson and Colne College

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
Taking part in the rounders after school club



Pendle
Education Trust



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Lewis Barnes



Where are you moving on to?
A T Level in Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction at Burnley College

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
Lunchtime football with my friends



Pendle
Education Trust



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Ava Craddock



Where are you moving on to?
A BTEC Beauty Therapy course at Craven College

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
I loved the sports days



Pendle
Education Trust



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Alfie Thomas



Where are you moving on to?
A Levels in Accountancy, Economics, and Chemistry Burnley College

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
I loved my PE lessons and football



Pendle
Education Trust



YEAR 11 LEAVERS
2025
Olivia Marsden



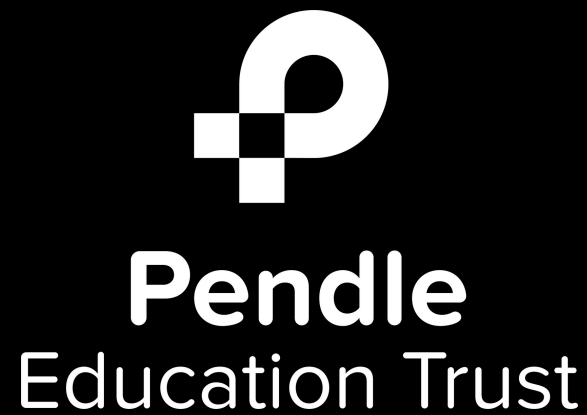
Where are you moving on to?
A T Level in Healthcare Science at Nelson and Colne College

What are your future ambitions?
To progress to university

What is your favourite memory from West Craven?
Year 11 Sports Day



Pendle
Education Trust



**West Craven High School
is proud to be part of the
Pendle Education Trust family**

Pendle Education Trust is a family of schools in Lancashire. Our Trust is sponsored by the 'Outstanding' Nelson and Colne College. Established in 2013 Pendle Education Trust continues to grow, welcoming new schools to the family.

We believe every child should only be a short walk away from a world class school.

Through close collaboration with our children, parents, staff and local partners we strive to deliver an excellent education for children in Pendle and the surrounding districts.

Please visit our website for more information:

www.pendleeducationtrust.co.uk



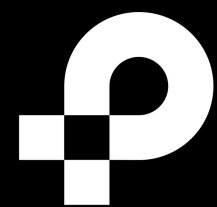
West Craven High School

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