



Whitmore High School Year 7 Aspire

“Raising Standards at KS3”

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History of Aspire

The Aspire programme was launched in **Autumn 2021**.

Over **100** pupils from Key Stage 3 participated in 2021/22 and this grew to over **150 pupils** during 2022/23.



Aspire: A Huge Success



Pupil attendance and engagement

Staff involvement

Also **Estyn** were VERY impressed!





Estyn



"An **exemplary** feature of the schools work is the provision for more able and talented pupils through the 'Aspire' programme"

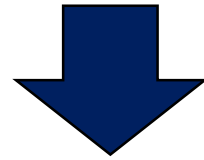
"Aspire helps them (pupils) to develop into **ambitious, knowledgeable and inquisitive** young people."

"The innovative 'Aspire' programme **challenges and inspires** more able pupils in Key Stage 3 in areas such as science, literature and economics."

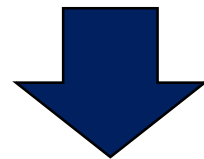
Overall aim of Aspire (Key Stage 3)



“Provide **enriched and extended** opportunities across the curriculum”



Raising aspirations, expectations and standards in KS3.



To provide a foundation of **positive attitudes to learning** that will benefit pupils in **KS4** and in further education.



Identification of Aspire Pupils

A variety of information utilised for Aspire selection:

- * CATs (Cognitive Ability Tests)
 - * English, maths & science progress tests
 - * Welsh national reading & numeracy tests
 - * Comparative Judgement writing tests
 - * Accelerated Reader Star reading tests
 - * Ongoing classroom performance



Benefits of being part of Aspire

Academic Benefits

- **Extra support and challenge** from subject specialist staff.
- Sessions focussed on ensuring solid foundations are laid for **increased** levels of difficulty.
- **Extending** curriculum content.



Benefits of being part of Aspire

Other Benefits

- Visits and **guest speakers**
- Pupils will be able to enter the school building from **7.45am**
 - A free **Breakfast** will be available until **7.55am**.*



Impact of Aspire

The programme focuses pupils on:

- Striving for **excellence** in academic development.
- Increasing their **motivation** to be the best version of themselves.
- Understanding that **hard work and resilience** will be rewarded.
- Understanding that **delayed gratification** is a concept to be valued.



Impact of ASPIRE



Aspire aims to help pupils:

- Become **role models** for their peers.
- Develop **confidence** in different areas of the curriculum.
- Fully understand and uphold the Whitmore High School Values:
 - **Resilience**
 - **Hard work**
 - **Respect**
 - **Responsibility**



Year 7 Aspire - History - Owain Glyndwr



During this term, we aim to develop pupils skills in source analysis and being able to distinguish between facts and opinions.

We hope to enrich their knowledge of Welsh history, by exploring the life of Owain Glyndwr and assessing the impact he had on Welsh society.

Pupils will look at both positive and negative interpretations of Glyndwr, before being given the opportunity to form their own judgement.



Aspire Timetable 2023/24



ASPIRE Timetable: November 6th 2023 to December 8th 2023



You can access a copy of the Aspire timetable from the school website.

Please take time to familiarise yourself with it.

<https://www.whitmorehigh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/ASPIRE-Timetable-2023-24.pdf>

Date	Year	Staff	Content	School Week	Aspire Week
Monday 6 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 1	1	4
Tuesday 7 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 1		
	9	IR	Finance		
Wednesday 8 th November	7	DG	Science		
Thursday 9 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 2		
Friday 10 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 2	2	5
	9	IR	Finance		
Monday 13 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 1		
Tuesday 14 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 1		
	9	IR	Finance		
Wednesday 15 th November	7	DG	Science	1	6
Thursday 16 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 2		
Friday 17 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 2		
	9	IR	Finance		
Monday 20 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 1		
Tuesday 21 st November	7	BW	Maths Group 1	2	7
	9	IR	Finance		
Wednesday 22 nd November	7	DG	Science		
Thursday 23 rd November	8	BW	Maths Group 2		
Friday 24 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 2		
Monday 27 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 1	1	8
Tuesday 28 th November	7	BW	Maths Group 1		
	9	IR	Finance		
Wednesday 29 th November	7	DG	Science		
Thursday 30 th November	8	BW	Maths Group 2		
Friday 1 st December	7	BW	Maths Group 2	1	8
	9	IR	Finance		
Monday 4 th December	8	BW	Maths Group 1		
Tuesday 5 th December	7	BW	Maths Group 1		
	9	IR	Finance		
Wednesday 6 th December	7	DG	Science	1	8
Thursday 7 th December	8	BW	Maths Group 2		
Friday 8 th December	7	BW	Maths Group 2		
	9	IR	Finance	No Aspire Sessions (due to assessment period) w/b Monday 11 th December and w/b Monday 18 th December	
Christmas Holidays		23rd December 2023 – 8th January 2024			

Aspire: Parents and Guardians



Support

Encourage

Keep up to date:
[@whs_aspire](https://twitter.com/whs_aspire)



"Raising Standards at KS3"

[Edit profile](#)

WHS ASPIRE

@whs_aspire

Twitter page for pupils involved in the ASPIRE program at Whitmore High School.

Aspire expectations

Pupils must have high expectations of themselves at all times

Academic Performance

Attendance

Punctuality

Behaviour

Effort

Uniform

What happens if pupils do not meet expectations of Aspire?



Accepting an invitation to the Aspire programme is **not compulsory**.

An acceptance of the invitation means a **commitment** to being part of the Aspire group and benefitting from it.

We have set **high expectations** and if they are not maintained, we will support pupils to help them.

However, consistently falling below the standards set will lead to **other pupils** being given the opportunity to be part of Aspire in their place.



Aspire: What happens next?



If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity for your child, please respond via the Google form (link is below) by **3.00pm Tuesday 19th December** at the very latest.

Year 7 History

<https://forms.gle/Rp1RkCocVfsFuDxz5>

Responses after this time means a place in Aspire **cannot be guaranteed**.

If you have issues with accessing this link, copy and paste it into your browser or respond via email to huttonm6@hwbcymru.net with the subject as:
Child's name – Accept/ Decline - ie Mark Hutton - Accept

Aspire: What happens next?



History Sessions will begin:
Wednesday 17th January 2024

There will be **7** pre school sessions

The final session will be:
Wednesday 13th March 2024



*Sessions start at 8am, but doors open at 7.45am

Year 7 Aspire Further Information



Any enquires about the Aspire programme should be directed to:

General questions about the Aspire programme:

Mark Hutton: Academic Enrichment Manager - huttonm6@hwbcymru.net

Questions specifically about the Aspire History Programme:

Ellie Piper: History - pipere12@hwbcymru.net