



Westminster Academy and the International Baccalaureate Programmes

ABOUT WA

- 1138 students
- 47% Free School Meals (FSM)
- 57% EAL students
- 60+ home languages spoken
- 17% SEN support

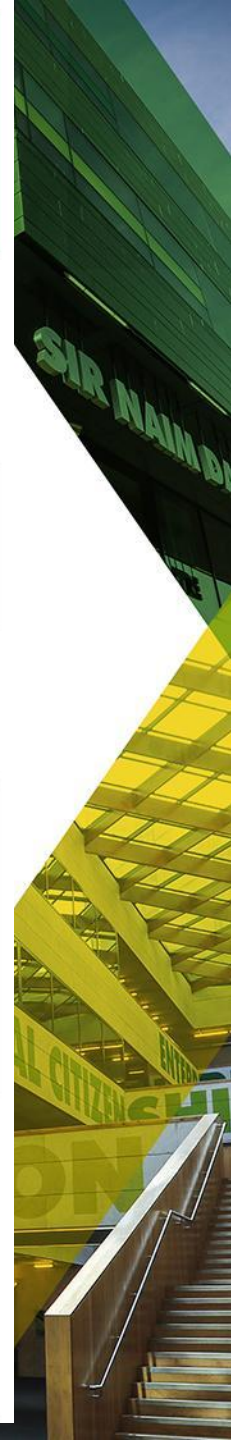


ABOUT WA

- Opened 2006; now 1100+ students
- Single Academy Trust (sponsor: Dangoor Education)
- International Baccalaureate World School offering IB Diploma and Careers-Related Programmes (KS5)
- Graded Outstanding in 2013
- Steadily improving Y11 academic outcomes...



Year 11 performance data	2022	2021*	2020*	2019	England average 2022
Progress 8 (progress made between the end of primary school and the end of secondary school)	+0.44	Not calculable	Not calculable	+0.37	-0.03
Attainment 8 (how well students performed in up to 8 qualifications)	55.3	55.7	57.9	51.9	48.7
% achieving grade 5 or above in English and maths GCSE	65%	55.9%	63%	55%	50%
% of students achieving the English Baccalaureate (students achieving qualifications at Grade 4 and above in English, maths, sciences, a language and either history or geography)	55%	55%	68%	46%	27%
EBacc average point score (a student's average point score across the five 'pillars' of the EBacc: English language and literature, maths, the sciences, geography or history, and a language)	5.3	5.1	5.4	4.8	4.3



ABOUT WA

- **WA offers two IB programmes in sixth form:**
 - IB Diploma Programme (IBDP)
 - IB Career-Related Programme (IBCP)



ABOUT WA

- **International Baccalaureate (IB)**

- 100% of Sixth Formers offered university places
- IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) students consistently above world average (36.0 points in 2022)
- Five IBDP students achieved 40+ points in 2022
- 2022 destinations include LSE, Oxford, UCL, King's College London, two apprenticeship/degree

- **Awards / Recognition**

- Healthy Schools Gold
- Trauma-Informed Practice Silver
- PSHE Centre of Excellence
- Pride in Inclusion Bronze
- Geography Quality Mark
- Music Mark



ABOUT WA: CAREER READY



ABOUT WA: OPPORTUNITIES



ABOUT WA: ECA



ABOUT WA: PARTNERSHIPS



The Open
University



WA CORE PURPOSE 2022-25

Mission: *Education is Success*

Values

- **Honesty**
- **Enterprise**
- **Responsibility**
- **Opportunity**

Ethos

- *Student-centred and personalised learning for **every** student, in a respectful environment so that **all** our students are **safe, secure and successful**.*
- *WA fosters a proud, cohesive, and ambitious staff body through an engaged and innovative professional learning community, where continuous active learning dialogue results in sustained progress for all students and professional growth for all staff.*

IB Learner Profile

- *Inquirers*
- *Knowledgeable*
- *Thinkers*
- *Communicators*
- *Principled*
- *Open-minded*
- *Caring*
- *Risk-takers*
- *Balanced*
- *Reflective*

Strategic Focus 2022 - 2025

Vision: *A place where every individual achieves personal success*

- *Viewing learning from the perspective of the individual;*
- *All students benefiting from a child-informed approach;*
- *Using a distinctive, IB-informed “WA way” of teaching, learning and curriculum design;*
- *Nurturing student leaders;*
- *Teachers and students using assessment effectively;*
- *Enabling intergenerational learning and support;*
- *Developing curriculum collaboratively, with a whole-school perspective.*

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)

- Non-profit organisation based in Geneva
- Founded 1968 to provide a continuum of education for “global nomads”
- Mission: *‘The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.’*
- 4 programmes: Primary Years (1-6), Middle Years (7-11), Diploma and Careers-Related (12-13)
- Studied by 1.95 million students in 159 countries; very rare in UK state schools



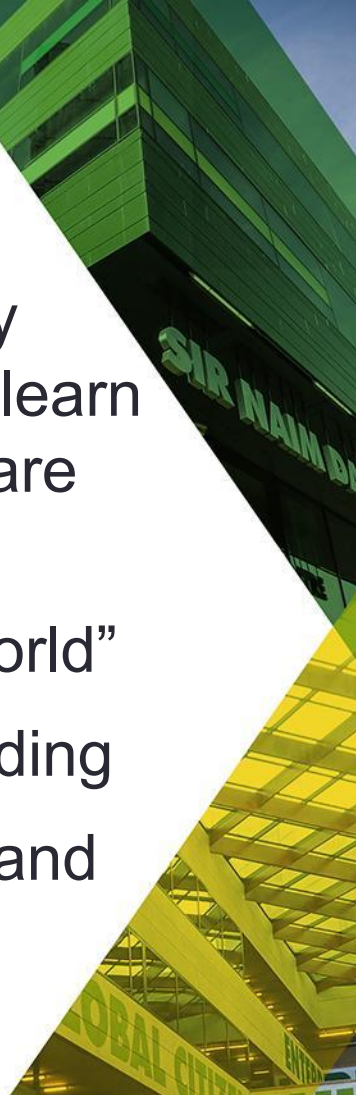
WHY DOES WA OFFER IB?

- Alignment with goals of WA Sponsors and Mission of school (“Education is success”)
- Emphasis on globally-minded citizens who personify the IB Learner Profile
- Internationally recognised and respected
- Academic outcomes that give students as many choices as possible, in and outside of the UK
- Focus on critical thinking skills, nurturing curiosity, intercultural understanding
- Balanced curricula requiring sustained commitment



AN IB EDUCATION

- Helping young people understand that *how* they learn (“Approaches to Learning”) and *why* they learn (development of the Learner Profile attributes) are as important as *what* they learn
- Connecting learning at school with *their* “real world”
- Collaborating to turn experience into understanding
- Building understanding through inquiry, action, and reflection
- Recognizing that learning is a global activity
- Recognizing different perspectives



AN IB EDUCATION

- Inquiry-based and student-driven study complement direct instruction (not “either/or”)
- Learning communities in which students can increase understanding of language and culture
- Consideration of global issues and challenges e.g. the environment, development, conflict, rights, cooperation and governance
- Subjects not taught in isolation; students make connections across different fields



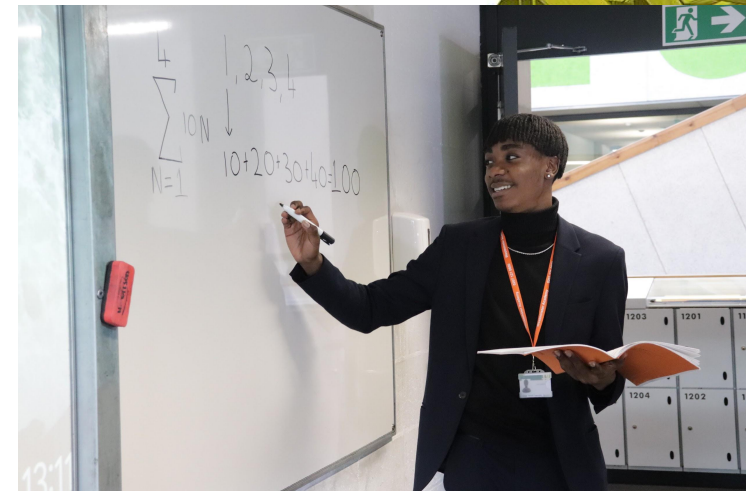
IB LEARNER PROFILE

- The Learner Profile is the personification of the IB mission and ethos, aiming to develop learners who are:
 - Inquirers
 - Knowledgeable
 - Thinkers
 - Communicators
 - Principled
 - Open-minded
 - Caring
 - Risk-takers
 - Balanced
 - Reflective
- These attributes aim to empower learners to create a better, more peaceful world



APPROACHES TO LEARNING

- The IB Approaches to Learning (AtL) are skills and attitudes that should be deliberately nurtured by the teaching and learning:
 - Thinking skills
 - Communication skills
 - Self-management skills
 - Research skills
 - Social skills
- These AtL often provide the educational “bridge” between IB and other curricula
- **AtL and Learner Profile: What**
- **remains after final examination**



THE IBDP CORE



THE IBDP CORE: THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (TOK)

- Students consider the nature of knowledge and how we know what we claim to know
- Example themes from previous TOK exhibitions:

Who owns knowledge?

What role does imagination play in producing knowledge about the world?

Does all knowledge impose ethical obligations on those who know it?

How can we know that current knowledge is an improvement upon past knowledge?

THE IBDP CORE: EXTENDED ESSAY (EE)

- An independent, self-directed piece of research, leading to a 4,000-word essay
- Examples from previous Year 13 cohorts:

English Literature



To what extent does William Blake use 'The Little Black Boy' to achieve the purpose of political advocacy for the emancipation of black people in the 18th century?

Biology



How accurate is the fingerprint?

History



To what extent has Arabism been the main factor impacting Kurdish nationalism in the Bashur region since 1945?

THE IBDP CORE: CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY AND SERVICE (CAS)

- Students demonstrate continued commitment to creativity, activity and service and undertake a project in one area.
- Examples include:
 - Setting up a penpal system with a care home during lockdown
 - Producing a monthly newsletter
 - Mentoring younger students
 - Volunteering at community events
 - Social action projects
 - Creating artwork
 - Supporting sports clubs



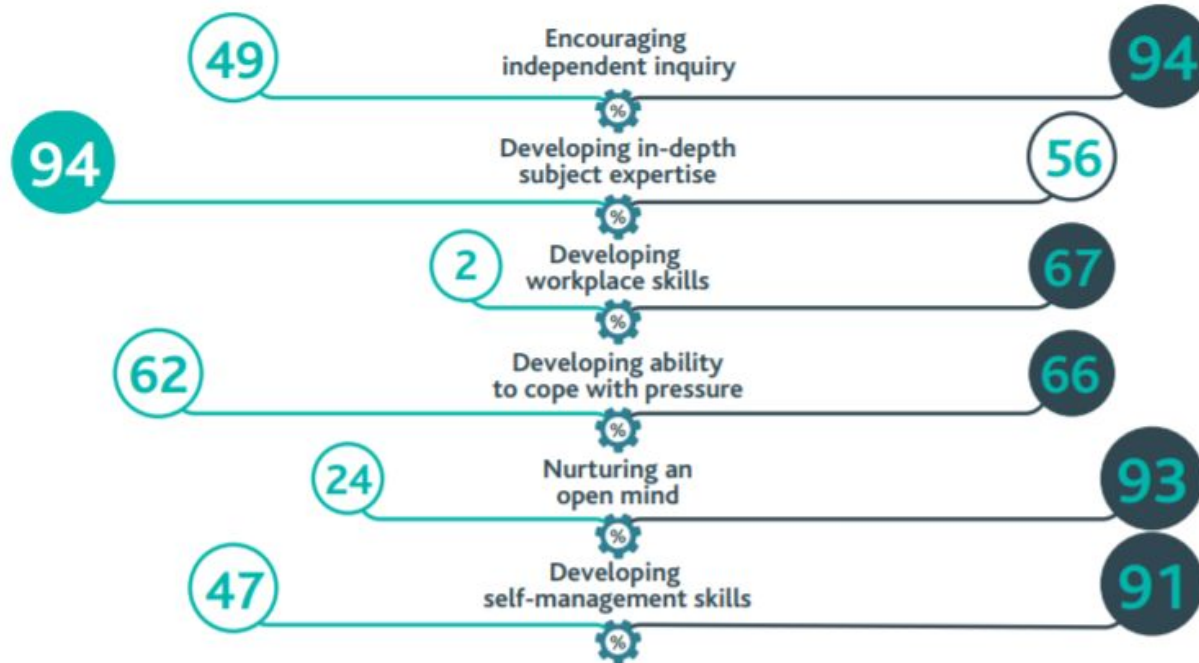
UNIVERSITY PERCEPTIONS OF IBDP GRADUATES

How well do you think each of these exam systems develop the following qualities in students at present?

A LEVELS

Percentages represent combined scores of good and excellent

IB DIPLOMA



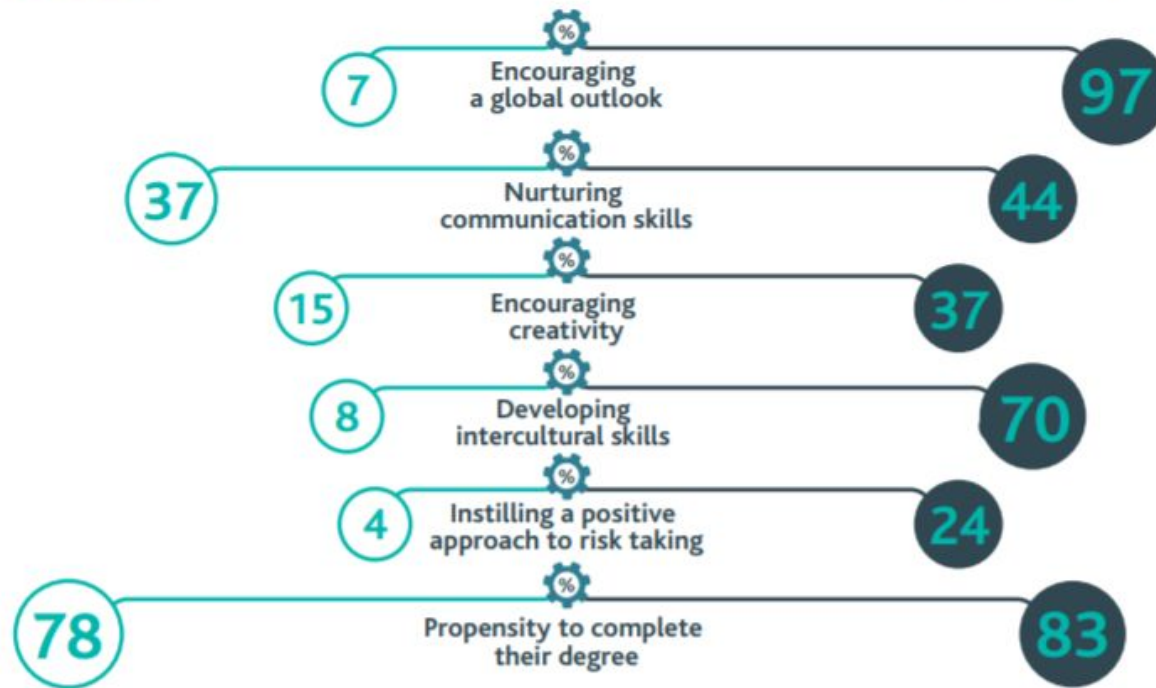
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IB DIPLOMA



THE IB CAREER-RELATED PROGRAMME (IBCP)



Consists of...

One BTEC Extended Diploma (3 A Level equivalent)
Two IB Certificates
The IBCP Core (Service Learning, Language Development, Reflective Project, Personal and Professional Skills)
Career Ready



Grading...

BTEC – Three grades given.

From PPP to D*D*D*

IB Certificates – graded from 1 to 7

The Core – pass/fail

We expect DDD, with two 4s as a minimum



Best for...

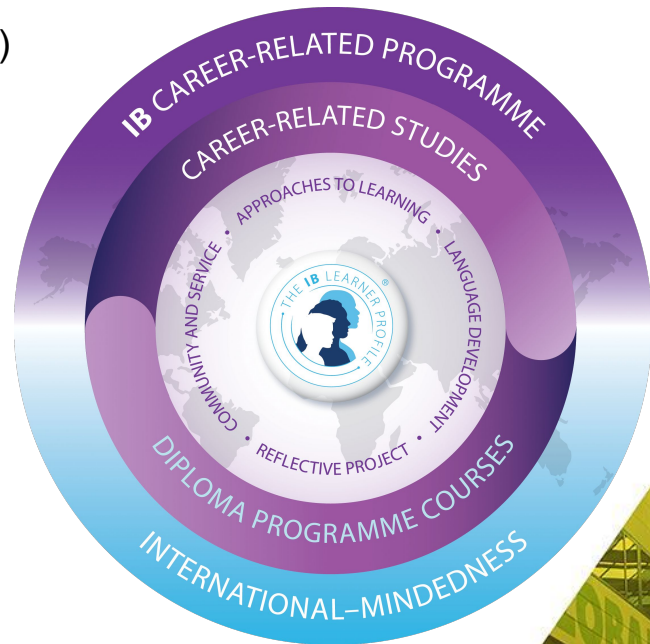
Students who prefer a mixture of academic and vocational subjects

Students who have a clear career ambition



Entry Requirements

Six grade 5s at GCSE including English and Maths



THE IBCP CORE

- **Personal and Professional Skills** - Students develop attitudes, skills and strategies to be applied to personal and professional situations
- **Service Learning** - Students develop and apply their knowledge and skills to meet a community need
- **Reflective Project** - A high level piece of work for which students identify, analyse, critically discuss and evaluate an ethical issue arising from their career-related studies
- **Language Development** - Students improve their proficiency in a second language



AN IB EDUCATION: THE FUTURE?



T TIMES Education Commission

BRINGING OUT THE BEST

How to transform education and
unleash the potential of every child

June 2022

A TWELVE-POINT PLAN FOR EDUCATION

1 A British Baccalaureate, offering broader academic and vocational qualifications at 18, with parity in funding per pupil in both routes, and a slimmed-down set of exams at 16 to bring out the best in every child.

2 An “electives premium” for all schools to be spent on activities including

by helping pupils who fall behind to catch up.

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AN IB EDUCATION: THE FUTURE?

Tuesday, 15 Nov 2022

Also see
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A 'British Baccalaureate' for schools? What you need to know

New PM Rishi Sunak wants to reform post-16 education, but there are two big hurdles: time and the returning schools minister



John Dickens

27 Oct 2022, 10:51

[More from this author](#)



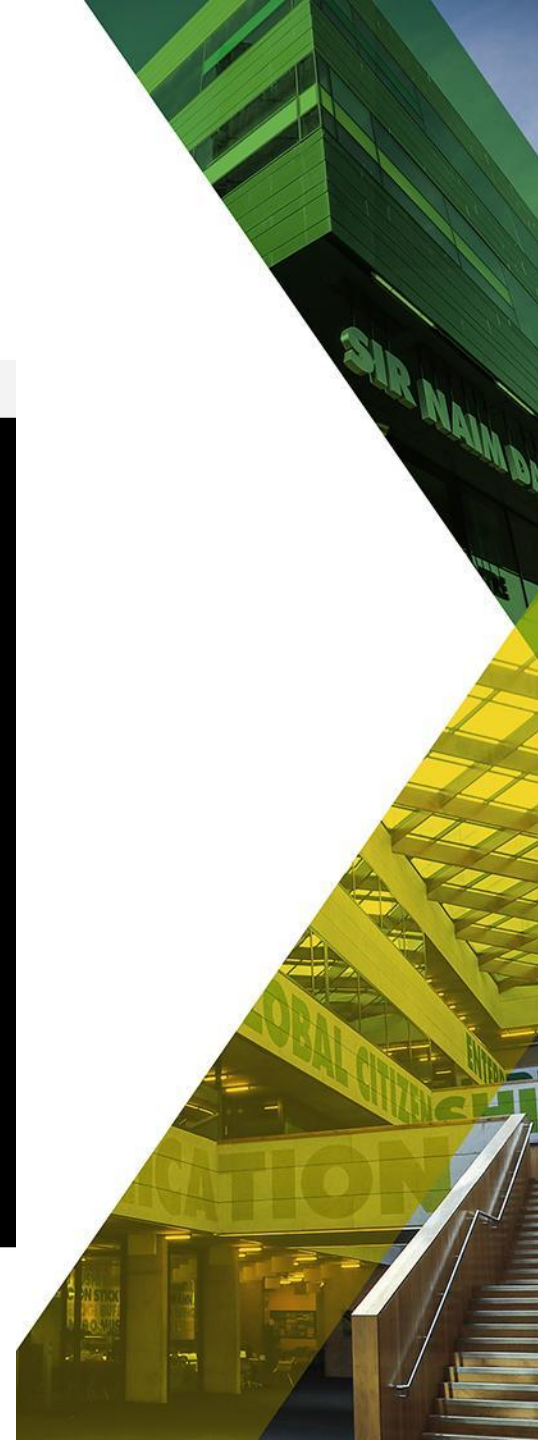
[See discussion](#)



New prime minister Rishi Sunak reportedly wants to reform post-16 education with a new 'British Baccalaureate'.

[More from this theme](#)

[Sixth form college](#)



AN IB EDUCATION: THE FUTURE?



Geoff Barton @RealGeoffBarton

Sep 16

"The government has to reduce the weight of exams in GCSEs, explore the use of technology in assessments, ensure these qualifications work better for all young people, and champion the arts and technical subjects": my comments on behalf of @ASCL_UK: buff.ly/3CgYhwF

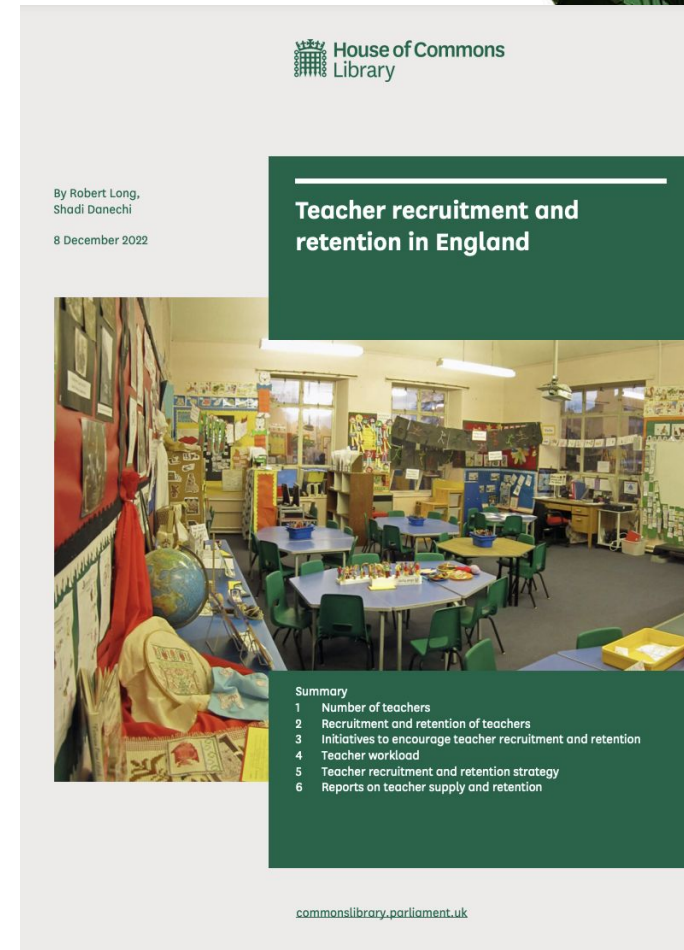


AN IB EDUCATION: THE FUTURE?



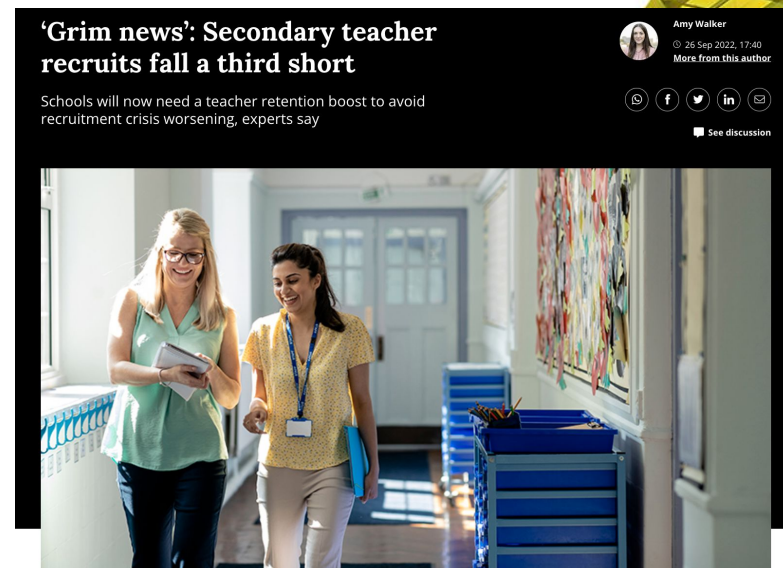
NATIONAL CHALLENGES

- Funding
- Ever expanding expectations of schools
- Political uncertainty
 - White Paper goals?
 - Post-16 defunding?
 - MAT mandated?
- Teacher recruitment / retention
- Post-covid “backlog” for tertiary education



LOCAL CHALLENGES

- Socioeconomic challenges
- Lack of recent investment in community
- Language challenges for parents and carers
- Connecting young people with local opportunities
- Political uncertainty?
- Teacher recruitment and retention
- Falling pupil numbers



“EDUCATION IS SUCCESS”!



“EDUCATION IS SUCCESS”!

The students of Westminster Academy recently completed an exciting project in which they filmed themselves sharing their thoughts about their school.



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