

# 6

## American high schools

### Before you watch

1 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 How many students are there at your school?
- 2 At what ages do students in your country start and finish school?
- 3 What subjects do you study? Do you have to study all these subjects or did you choose to study some of them?

### Comprehension check

2 **▶** Watch the DVD clip. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 How old are the students when they start at West Milford School?  
 a twelve  b fourteen  c fifteen
- 2 What type of school is West Milford?  
 a a public high school  
 b a private high school  
 c a public art school
- 3 What is an elective subject?  
 a a subject you choose to study  
 b a subject you have to study  
 c a subject you study after school

3 **▶** Watch again. Number the lessons (A–G) in the order that you first see them.

- A  woodwork
- B  English
- C  music
- D  physical education
- E  art
- F  film photography
- G  mechanics

4 **▶** Watch again. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 It doesn't cost students any money to go to West Milford School. (true/false)
- 2 Each lesson is an hour long. (true/false)
- 3 Students must wear the same clothes to school every day. (true/false)
- 4 Physical education is an elective subject. (true/false)
- 5 Students don't have to use their own cameras in the photography class. (true/false)
- 6 Lots of students choose to study art. (true/false)
- 7 Students who study music must already play their own instrument. (true/false)
- 8 West Milford is a normal American high school. (true/false)

### Round up

5 **SPEAKING** Work in groups. Answer the question.

Would you like to go to school in the USA? Why? / Why not?

## Vocabulary

6 **RECYCLE** Complete the sentences with the correct adjective form of the nouns below.

ambition creativity flexibility intelligence maturity punctuality self-confidence

- 1 Matthew would like to own his own company one day. He's .
- 2 Armita is very smart and is good at solving problems quickly. She's .
- 3 Robert is fourteen, but he behaves like an adult. He's .
- 4 Amanda writes beautiful stories and poems. She's .
- 5 Abdul isn't shy and believes in his abilities. He's .
- 6 Sophie is always on time. She's .
- 7 Fiona is happy to change her plans to suit other people. She's really .

7 Complete the text with the words below.

curriculum fees periods uniform

## THE BRIT SCHOOL

The Brit School in south London is one of the most unusual schools in the country. As well as teaching the core national  of English, maths, science, computing and citizenship, the school specialises in music, theatre, dance and TV production. Lessons are usually taught in 50-minute , and take place in one of the classrooms or in the recording studios, two theatres, or three dance studios that are at the school. Students don't need to pay  to attend the Brit School, and because the school encourages students' creativity, they don't have to wear a . But the school isn't for everyone, and only young people with special talents can go there.

### Extension

- 8 Work in groups. Make a presentation to give to a group of students from the USA about the school system in your country. Include the following:
- the different types of schools and the ages of the students that go there
  - the curriculum that students follow
  - the fees that students need to pay
  - the exams that students must do and when they must do them
- 9 Give your presentation to the class and answer any questions. Then ask questions about the other presentations. Use the key phrases for asking for information.

#### Asking for information

Could you tell me ...

I was wondering ...

I'd like to know ...

May I ask ...

Another thing I wanted to know is ...