



**YSGOL CLYWEDOG  
PROSPECTUS 2019**

Being the best we can be



**Ysgol Clywedog**

Standards, Respect, Achievement, Care

Being the best we can be



**Ysgol Clywedog**

Standards, Respect, Achievement, Care



Ysgol  
Clywedog



# WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Thank you for taking an interest in Ysgol Clywedog. We are delighted to share with you an insight into our lives here. Ysgol Clywedog has served the children of the Wrexham area for over a decade and is proud of its history and heritage.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

At Ysgol Clywedog we aim to work together in securing the best outcomes for every student. Learning is placed at the centre of everything we do and we are committed to empowering students to become:

- successful learners who enjoy learning, achieve and make progress;
- enterprising and creative people who contribute fully to life and work;
- responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society and
- confident and happy individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.

Our curriculum is designed to stretch the more able and talented and to support those who need interventions or specific support. We believe competence in a variety of traditional and 21st century skills is an essential outcome for all students. Our enrichment curriculum ensures that students have the opportunity to access a wide range of activities and clubs during their time here. These opportunities, together with our dedicated staff and innovative curriculum enable students to get the most out of their school life and enjoy their time at Ysgol Clywedog.

We pride ourselves on the excellent care, guidance and support we provide for students and make sure that every child has the most appropriate and best quality educational opportunities throughout their school lives. We believe it is important that all students can access a safe, supportive and inspirational





community where learning is a positive experience, which will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

The recent success and achievement of the school can be directly attributed to the presence of a very supportive parent body, a caring, forward thinking, dedicated and highly professional staff, an energetic, thoughtful and determined student body and a pro-active, ambitious governing body. We work collaboratively with young people and their parents to ensure that each student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and to enjoy their learning.

We are very ambitious and pride ourselves on the culture of high expectations and high aspirations that is central to our ethos. We expect every student to achieve their absolute best in their examinations and to involve themselves in the wider opportunities of school life. Every child is encouraged from the start of their school life at Ysgol Clywedog to aim high and to believe that any future aspiration is possible.

Mr M Vickery

Headteacher

@YCHHeadteacher



Type to enter text  
Type to enter text

## CARING ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

Stimulating curriculum that concentrates on the foundations of literacy and numeracy and meets the needs of every child.

We allow every student to learn in a pleasant, safe location based on respect and looking after one another.

Your son or daughter's time at school is such an important time of their lives. It's where they form the bedrock of their future and build the foundations of adulthood.

At Ysgol Clywedog we believe in looking after and encouraging our young people so they achieve the very best they can. We want every young person to appreciate and understand the value of education in a caring, inclusive environment and develop the skills needed for life.

Our school promotes a culture of achievement and respect. Individuals are recognised for their strengths and are supported at every stage of their education. We expect great things from every single person who spends time with us here and we celebrate success in every area of school life.



Your children are what makes our school great. We look forward to welcoming your child to Ysgol Clywedog soon.



## **TAILORED LEARNING TO EMPOWER AND ACHIEVE**

Starting at high school is an exciting, enjoyable voyage where young people make the transition into adulthood. They learn the life skills needed to succeed, grow and achieve their goals.

When students join us at Ysgol Clywedog, we give them a wide, stimulating curriculum that encourages young people to explore the academic world, fires their imagination and sparks a lifelong love of learning.

The classroom environment is one of inclusivity, listening and independent thinking and students are challenged to improve their knowledge by passionate teachers through debate, discussion and dedication.

At Ysgol Clywedog minds are stretched, talents are nurtured, creativity is allowed to blossom and results are achieved. Every young person is special and their life here is geared towards success; academic success, sporting success, artistic success and success in life.

**Ysgol Clywedog is the ideal platform for young people to feel motivated to learn and achieve.**

Every child at Ysgol Clywedog is equipped with everything needed to lead a full and happy life.

Our school boasts modern, well-equipped buildings and acres of sports and recreation facilities that create a comfortable place to learn. Sitting close to the banks of the River Clywedog, who we take our name from, and with uninterrupted views of the spectacular Clwydian Range, our students have the ideal natural palette to feed their imaginations.

Ysgol Clywedog is situated on the outskirts of Wrexham, away from the distractions of the busy town, so our young people benefit from a stunning, peaceful location in which to study. They enjoy the quiet, focused environment that helps inspire young minds to achieve their goals.

The wonderful surroundings at Ysgol Clywedog are what make our school unique. Generations of young people have found it a special, inspiring environment for learning.





## **THINKING MINDS - SCIENCES**

At Ysgol Clywedog, we believe science is an integral part of modern culture that challenges the imagination and creativity of young people. The teaching of science engages students to find out about the world around them, and how things work. They learn through experimentation and modelling to develop ideas, evaluate explanations and encourage critical thought. We show our students how science relates to the contemporary world and its influence on technology as well as the natural world. We use modern methods alongside traditional techniques. Every aspect of science is covered, from energy and forces to chemical behaviours and organisms, and their place within the universe. Students understand

the characteristics of different elements, how things work and the impact of forces on objects. Science is a central part of our young people's education at our school and it is taught by dedicated teachers with a love of science in all its forms. They encourage students to use scientific equipment to measure results accurately, think in scientific terms and draw conclusions from evidence presented. Students leave Ysgol Clywedog with the building blocks for scientific knowledge firmly in place.

**MINDS ARE STRETCHED, TALENTS  
ARE NURTURED**



## **THINKING MINDS - ENGLISH**

At Ysgol Clywedog, we pass on our passion for reading to every young person. With a curriculum covering the classics, poetry and dramatic prose and a focus on the basic skills, our students study novels by the world's most respected authors, learn all about Shakespeare's greatest plays and explore the ideas behind contemporary poems.

Our young people will learn what makes truly great literature, offer their opinions on set texts and develop a love of reading and writing. We instil a sense of wonder and amazement at the written word through group reading, imaginative practical exercises and develop a sense of enjoyment in English.

Your child will learn the theory behind the English Language and develop greater communication skills. We show our young people how to structure their sentences correctly, examine different writing styles and help them prepare their work perfectly.

With an emphasis on getting the basics right first, our students learn how to develop their writing skills through studying the techniques behind different genres and how to recreate them. We also help them appreciate spoken language and how it can affect people's perception of us.

English is a rich and wonderful language and helps form an individual's identity. It reflects our culture. Our students learn to understand how language works by looking at the patterns, origins and conventions used. They will be able to choose and adapt what they say and write in different situations and appreciate and interpret the choices made in other's language.



## **THINKING MINDS** - MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a fundamental skill everyone needs in a modern society. It is used in every aspect of life from the workplace to the home, and is behind every scientific, engineering, technological and economic discovery.

At Ysgol Clywedog, we challenge our young people to think independently and apply reason to solve problems. We develop their competence, creativity and application of mathematics. We help them recognise the discipline of their subject and understand the learning processes involved. We don't just limit our maths teaching to the classroom; we relate it to the outside world, and its part in managing money, assessing risk, problem-solving and decision making. At the heart of our teaching is a focus on the basics of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and statistics. Our students take these basic starting points and explore what's possible when these expand.

Mathematics is at its best when it stimulates moments of pleasure and wonder. At Ysgol Clywedog, we help create those moments.

At Ysgol Clywedog, our students receive a thorough, all-round mathematical education. Among the key skills they will learn during their time here are an increased confidence in all mathematical methods and techniques. They will be able to use similar mathematical techniques on a series of increasingly demanding tasks, and use appropriate resources including ICT, to assist in their mathematical work.

We will also teach students how to think for themselves and work on tasks in a variety of real and abstract situations where they have to choose the most appropriate mathematical method to solve them.

Working as part of a team is very important to us at Ysgol Clywedog. Through group participation, our students will learn the value of evaluating and discussing both their own and others' mathematical work and how to present mathematical ideas as a group to others in the class.

Creativity in all its forms is an integral part of life at Ysgol Clywedog.



## CREATIVE MINDS - DRAMA AND DANCE

### EISTEDDFODS

We worked closely with the National Eisteddfod of Wales when it was held in Wrexham in 2011. The field next to our school was chosen as the festival's main site, and many of the events were held here, including local music acts, poetry and literature readings and family-friendly acts that all celebrated the creative and artistic heritage and culture of Wales.

The International Eisteddfod is Europe's largest cultural festival and attracts visitors and performers from all over the world. Being a part of it was a huge honour for us and helped raise the profile of our school.

Every year at Ysgol Clywedog, we hold our own annual Eisteddfod where students can show off their singing, dancing, musical and poetry skills.

## DRAMA AND PRODUCTION

At Ysgol Clywedog, we have some of the best drama facilities in Wrexham. As well as following the curriculum in these subjects, we also run after-school groups and societies, where students can develop their talents and improve their skills.

Our school loves getting involved in amateur dramatics and students can tread the boards in wonderful productions like "Our Day Out" and "The Wizard of Oz". Performing arts plays a huge part in our school here at Ysgol Clywedog. As well as having the opportunity to take part in plays and musicals, our students have attended musical workshops with the male voice choir, "Only Men Aloud". Our GCSE Drama students always achieve high examination marks and put on fantastic shows for students, teachers and parents to enjoy.

Creativity in all its forms is an integral part of life at Ysgol Clywedog.





## **CREATIVE MINDS** - ART & DESIGN

At Ysgol Clywedog, our budding young artists explore the visual, develop their creativity and shape their imagination. Using a mixture of new and traditional media, they will gain an insight into the mind of an artist and learn the skills and techniques to bring their concepts to life.

We watch our students' confidence grow as they learn how to express themselves through art in all its forms from painting and drawing to textiles and animation. Our well-equipped art studios have everything the modern artist needs to create stunning masterpieces in every medium.

The history and culture of art is important too, so we teach our young people about how the great masters worked and show them

artefacts from the global world of art and tell them the stories behind them.





## **CREATIVE MINDS - MUSIC**

We love music at Ysgol Clywedog. Interacting with music is a positive experience that can change behaviour, alter moods and bring a feeling of well-being to everyone involved.

Music encourages communal enjoyment and increases confidence in even the shyest of students. It improves self-discipline, creativity and forges an appreciation of a wide variety of musical styles. The social side is really central to our ethos here and music is a great way for everyone to get involved.

Keen musicians can hone their skills, take up new instruments and join our wonderful orchestra. There is a fantastic choir for gifted singers. Together, our most-talented musicians and singers provide the musical-accompaniment to our school performances, and compete regularly outside of school.

As well as these traditional music forms, our young people learn how to combine music with other art forms to create film soundtracks and music videos, adding atmosphere to drama and live performance.



## **THINKING MINDS** - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Ysgol Clywedog prides itself on being at the forefront of technology in teaching. We have eight specialist information technology rooms on site at the school and achieve excellent results in this area.

During the past school year, we have purchased a Google Expeditions immersive classroom and are constantly investing in new technology so our young people understand every aspect of the world of computers. We use this understanding to show them how computing fits into the real world once they leave school. Most jobs use PCs or Macs at least some of the time. We translate knowledge from the classroom to the workplace so that our students can make the transition easily.

Our students are taught about the more creative side of information technology too, learning how to build websites, make online videos and make engaging presentations. The passion and creativity of the teaching staff is clear for all to see and our young people thrive on it.



## **WORKING MINDS** - PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We are extremely proud of our sporting facilities and the achievements of our students. The school has its own playing fields where a variety of sports are played. We also have our own all-weather outdoor football pitch, two tennis courts and indoor swimming pool.

The school enjoys regular success in football, netball, swimming and athletics and many of our students have been selected to represent their county at national sporting events. Students are encouraged to pursue sporting activities outside of school and a number of them were involved with the Olympic Torch relay when it passed through Wrexham.

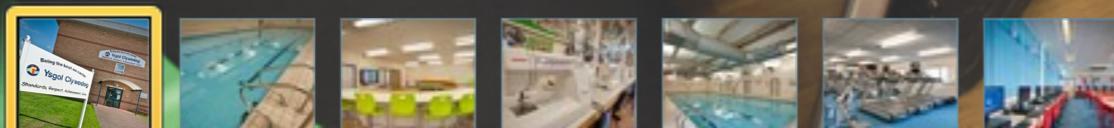
We also follow the 5x60 Sports Programme, in conjunction with the local authority. This programme enables all students to take part in a sporting activity for sixty-minutes at least five times a week. We have our own onsite 5x60 Officer who helps run a wide-range of activities ranging from street dance to Ju-Jitsu, either after school or at lunchtimes.





## INVESTMENT IN THE BEST FACILITIES

We have strong links with Coleg Cambria in Wrexham and encourage students to continue their education there. Every year, many of our successful GCSE students sit their A-Levels, take extra GCSEs or start vocational courses at Coleg Cambria. Ysgol Clywedog has a proud record of ex-students achieving great things at Coleg Cambria. We have had students gaining places at Oxbridge, and others studying medicine at the UK's most respected Universities. Coleg Cambria also sponsor our brand new ICT suite and helped us purchase laptops and PCs to furnish it. The walls of the suite are filled with inspirational pictures of high-achievers from both Ysgol Clywedog and Coleg Cambria, complete with biographies to spur our current students on to greater things. Like us, Coleg Cambria promotes the cultural and educational wellbeing of students. For the last two years, seventy students from Thailand spent time visiting our school and the college. Our students found learning about a different culture an enlightening experience and made lifelong friendships with the Thai students. The partnership with Coleg Cambria is an extremely important and enjoyable part of our students' lives at Ysgol Clywedog.



We'd love to show you around our school. Call 01978 346800 now, to book your school tour and meet the team.

Or visit our website for more information and contact details:  
[www.clywedog.org](http://www.clywedog.org)

Ruthin Road  
Wrexham  
LL13 7UB  
Phone: 01978 346800  
Fax: 01978 346814  
[www.clywedog.org](http://www.clywedog.org)

