

YSGOL ST CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL



Building a future...



WELCOME CROESO

ALL PUPILS WILL MEET THEIR POTENTIAL
AND MAKE STRONG PROGRESS IN AREAS
THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO AND FOR THEM.



St Christopher's consists of five Phases for pupils aged from 6-19 years old:

PEBBLES

We encourage a love for learning and a sense of belonging

ENGAGE AND INNOVATE

We provide a broad and engaging curriculum that meets the interests of our pupils

DISCOVERY

St Christopher's inspire pupils to be as independent as possible

STEPPING STONES

St Christopher's prepares all pupils for the next steps in their journey. We also maintain an Eco centre which is located on the outskirts of Wrexham.

Every Phase has a distinct curriculum approach that provides pupils with a clear pathway from their entry at school to supporting through to the transition post 19 years old.

Each Phase has an assistant headteacher responsible for the day to day running of the Phase. This is your first point of contact if you have any concerns or would like to share information.

Pupils will acquire the basic functional skills they need and have robust plans to support transition onto the next steps in their lives.

BUILDING A FUTURE

ST CHRISTOPHERS SCHOOL PROVIDES EDUCATION FOR PUPILS WITH A RANGE OF ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS.

The School admissions policy clearly outlines the procedure and guidance for successful applicants. Referrals come from Wrexham's ALN Department through their multi disciplinary panel meetings.

All pupils will have an Individual Development Plan (IDP) or will have one shortly after arrival through Personal Centered Planning (PCP) approached meetings. Families will be invited to visit the school to meet staff and be shown around the school before the pupil begins.

Transition will then be implemented which will start with the head of Phase contacting the parents/carers to arrange an opportunity for all to discuss the pupil's strengths, interests and needs using a person centered approach.

St Christopher's School's Uniform is an important part of our school community and we encourage all pupils to wear the school uniform which consists of;

red or black sweatshirt, black, white or red t-shirt, black trousers or skirt.

TIMES OF SCHOOL DAY

- MORNING SESSION: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- AFTERNOON SESSION: 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM







KEEPING LEARNERS SAFE

THE GOVERNING BODY TAKES SERIOUSLY ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO SAFEGUARD AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN.

The headteacher is the designated Safeguarding lead but we recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, including temporary staff, volunteers and governors. All have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm, and child welfare is our paramount concern.

Policies for Keeping Learners Safe and Safeguarding can be found on our website.

Everyone is committed to working together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements within our school to identify and support those children who are, or are at risk of, suffering harm.

Our school provides a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of all pupils.

ABSENCES

It is important that parents/carers report all absences promptly to school. Pupils may request up to 10 days authorised leave of absence in a school year.

Requests may be made via the leave of absence form.

Further information can be found in the schools absence policy.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

A BROAD CHALLENGING AND ENGAGING CURRICULUM ENSURES PUPILS SUCCESSFULLY MEET THEIR FULL POTENTIAL AND BECOME AMBITIOUS CAPABLE LEARNERS.

The Curriculum for Wales offers the following six areas of learning and experience:

- Expressive Arts
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Health and Well Being
- Language, Literacy and Communication
- Science and Technology

There is also three cross-curriculum responsibilities – literacy, numeracy and digital competence and where appropriate, both a Welsh dimension and an international perspective will be included.

ROUTES FOR LEARNING

Routes for Learning is a fit-for-purpose assessment for learners with profound learning difficulties and additional disabilities. It was specifically developed with a more holistic view of learners and focuses on how they learn. It supports the development of 'child considered' approaches and forms the early part of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework in Wales.

EQUALS CURRICULUM

We also follow this unique curriculum specifically designed and written for learners of all ages with complex and severe learning difficulties and are split into the following areas:

- Pre-formal Curriculum
- Formal Curriculum
- Semi-Formal Curriculum
- Formal Curriculum

The key Schemes of Work include early levels of My Communication, My Physical Well-Being, My Sensory Play, My Independence, My Creativity and My Outdoor School.





ASSESSMENT & PROGRESS

PUPILS ACHIEVE AS MUCH AS THEY CAN TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL, HELPING THEM TO BECOME ENTERPRISING CREATIVE CONTRIBUTORS.

Challenging and motivating but realistic Individual Educational Progress targets (IEPs) are created which are constantly used and reviewed by the class team. Progress towards these targets are monitored each term through close analysis of the progress data.

ANNUAL REVIEWS

We have adopted a PCP (Person Centred Planning) approach which is a process for continual listening and learning, focusing on what is important to each pupil now and in the future, acting upon this in alliance with all who are involved in the pupil's life.

Special reviews also take place for pupils at the end of each Key Stage, as they move through Phases.

The reviews are an excellent opportunity for all to celebrate pupils' achievements, and set challenging and exciting targets for the future.

COMMUNICATION

A range of approaches are in place to support individual pupils in the best way, following recommendations from Speech and Language therapists.

These include: PECs (Picture Exchange Communication System), PODD book (Pragmatic, organised and dynamic display), Eye gaze computers and iPad apps.

Ongoing training of staff to work with Makaton Sign Language, British Sign Language and the use of individual communication aids to provide a total communication environment for all pupils.

Further information about our curriculum can be found in our Phase brochures and within our teaching and learning policy.

HEALTHY CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS

WE HAVE A POSITIVE APPROACH TO THE BEHAVIOUR OF ALL PUPILS AND FOR ALL TO ACHIEVE THEIR BEST.

Staff use approaches to promote behaviour positively, consistently and calmly setting routines early at school to support pupils.

It is important to us that pupils feel safe at school and for this be effective pupils need to know what to expect everyday.

A key approach is to engage early with parents/carers as you know your child best and are in a strong position to support us in school.

To support everyone understand and manage behaviours we use:

ONE PAGE PROFILES

This identifies what is important to and for every pupil.

PUPIL BEHAVIOUR PLANS

A few pupils require individually tailored behaviour plans in order to best support them to behave positively and engage fully in school life.

Personal Handling Plans may be needed to keep everybody safe. Pupil specific risk assessment if required will support a pupil's full inclusion.

CARE PLANS

These plans are written to ensure all who work with the pupil are fully aware of their medical needs and the care and procedures required to keep them safe and well.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

The school nursing team train staff to administer essential medication at school. Further information can be found in our medications policy.





HEALTH & WELL-BEING TEAM

LEADING ON OUR WELLBEING VISION, THIS TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS ENSURE PUPILS ARE WELL, HEALTHY, SAFE, AND ENGAGED IN EDUCATION.

THE TEAM INCLUDES:

- Educational Psychologist
- Speech and Language therapist
- Medical Coordinator
- Family Engagement officer
- Attendance Liaison officer

We aim to be a welcoming school environment and the team are happy to meet with families in our Retreat cafe or you can call the main office to talk to a member of the team.

THE REACH OUT CENTRE (ROC)

Working with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board we run the ROC Reach Out Centre which is a purpose-built wellbeing centre where pupils can receive help for any non-educational matter.

The Learning Disability Nurses work with students on self-esteem programmes, sexual education, emotional regulation and safeguarding.

The ROC is used by a wide range of visiting professionals like social workers, dietitians, speech and language therapists and counsellors who work with our nurses, teaching and classroom support workers, pupils, and families.

ETHICAL INFORMED CITIZENS

WE BELIEVE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IS CENTRAL TO GOOD EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE.

St Christopher's School aims to reaffirm the principles of our Equal Opportunities Policy and extend our pupils' awareness and knowledge of our diverse society. Discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, faith, culture, gender or ability is not tolerated at the school.

Through our Religious Education curriculum pupils are exposed to experiences of different faiths and cultures and are supported to explore aspects of their own and others' beliefs.

We focus on the development of pupil's independence and self advocacy skills helping to prepare them for the wider world and the richness of life today's world.

Y GYMRAEG

We follow Welsh Government guidance on teaching Welsh and celebrate our local, national and international roots and culture.

COMPLAINTS

The school tries to operate in an informal and friendly manner and there are opportunities for discussion of any issue. We always endeavour to work with parents / carers to sort out queries and difficulties before they become major issues or cause for complaint. Our complaints procedure is available upon request or can be downloaded from our website.





PREPARING PUPILS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Building on pupil's knowledge and understanding the Stepping Stones and Discovery 16-19 curriculum encourages and gives pupils the confidence to become:

- AMBITIOUS CAPABLE LEARNERS
- ENTERPRISING CREATIVE CONTRIBUTORS
- HEALTHY, CONFIDENT INDIVIDUAL
- ETHICAL INFORMED CITIZENS

Pupils are offered a range of vocational options in school and in local colleges including Sports Leaders courses,

- SPORTS LEADERS COURSES
- BUSH CRAFT
- OUTDOOR PURSUITS
- EXPRESSIVE ARTS
- MECHANICS
- CONSTRUCTION
- LIFE SKILLS
- DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
- BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE
- HAIR & BEAUTY
- DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Pupils can gain accreditations from awarding bodies such as Agored, WJEC, VTCT, Duke of Edinburgh Award and SPLUK Sports Leaders.

We have close partnerships with many external agencies to enhance the experience for our Students including the FAW Trust, Empower be the Change, Sport Wales, Active Wrexham and Achieve More Learning.

We work closely with Careers Wales to provide advice and guidance to our students and develop an awareness of the world of work.

To prepare pupils for a successful transition to further education we work in partnership with local and specialised college providers ensuring our pupils are confident in their next placements.

Sixth form facilities include: our "Retreat" a sixth form café and social rest room, Cuts and Curls a hair and beauty salon, an indoor Gym, and the Millennium Eco Centre.

YSGOL ST CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL

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All policies are available from the main office
on request or download from our website.