The central aim of our school is **Raising Achievement by Raising Expectations**

We believe that:

*high expectations of behaviour, attitude and learning contribute to young people fulfilling their potential; high expectations lead to the development of responsible and well-educated young people.*

In meeting this central aim we seek to involve parents, students and staff in a purposeful and productive partnership. In addition, we acknowledge the importance of our community and its support as a resource for learning of all kinds.
INTRODUCTION
by the headteacher

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our school and begin to share with you important information about Welshpool High School. I do hope that after reading this prospectus you will believe, as a student or a parent, that Welshpool High School provides the appropriate ethos and a suitably happy and confident environment in which to work and learn. Welshpool High School is a caring and positive learning community which aims to help every student to achieve success. Every student is encouraged to aim high and work hard towards the fulfilment of their ambitions and potential.

We believe we instil values and practices that enable students to be self-disciplined and focused on learning. We want students to aim high, develop independence as learners, and to be able to work co-operatively and purposefully with peers and adults both individually and as part of a team. In terms of supporting this development, we view the positive partnership between home and school as essential.

We are also a learning community that is determined to provide the best learning experiences for our students. We are responsive to the challenge of preparing our students for the needs of a changing world, and we are rigorous in developing a curriculum and teaching and learning methods to meet these needs.

We endeavour to provide support and opportunity for students of all abilities through our curriculum, pastoral programmes and a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities.

We care very much about developing and encouraging the skills, interests and competencies of our students, not only academically but beyond the classroom also.

We have active links with business and industry and a close relationship with our primary schools. We have a vibrant Student Council which is actively involved in school based decisions and there are strong links with Welshpool Town Council. The Governing Body serves the school extremely well.

We also encourage you to think of a seven year partnership in which your child stays with us up to and including the 6th Form.

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I look forward to your child joining us. Together we can ensure that he or she enjoys a successful and rewarding secondary education.

Jim Toal - Headteacher
INTRODUCTION
by the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to thank you for reading this prospectus and considering Welshpool High School for the education of your child.

It is a great privilege for governors to help support Welshpool High School. The last Estyn inspection judged the school good in all areas. Its pupils consistently return excellent examination results and also feature regularly at county and national level in sports. Not least Welshpool High has a strong pastoral ethos that fosters a happy, caring school at the centre of our community.

At a number of levels governors work with the Head Teacher, the Senior Leadership Team and individual staff to guide, challenge and support the activities of the school. Under the mission to raise achievement by raising expectations the Governing Body engages strategically and tactically to set targets and monitor outcomes to help a strong school continually get stronger.

As governors we perceive school success as measured by more than examination results. The feedback we receive from within and outside the school, the very high levels of parental satisfaction (greater than 95% year-on-year), the means by which school trips and external events are conducted, all affirm a pride for being part of Welshpool High School. As I hope you will discover.

Mark Hart, Chair, Governing Body
INTRODUCTION
by the head boy and girl

The first day of High School or Sixth Form is a daunting prospect for everyone. However it is in our best interests here at Welshpool High School to make this transition comfortable and enjoyable.

Welshpool High School is renowned for its sporting opportunities and links to local clubs as well as having a strong reputation for the arts, with regular events including Christmas productions and the summer concert.

Academic studies are a priority, and so the combined efforts of students and staff contribute to our outstanding level of attainment. Staff have always strived to offer support and mentoring to create the best possible learning environment for students. Advice from peers and older students is another invaluable resource which is accessible at our school.

Having attended Welshpool High School for six years now, we have both developed positive relationships with many members of staff and fellow students, whom we can only thank for their hard work in helping us to reach where we are now.

For more information, please attend our open evening, where you can view the range of opportunities on offer at Welshpool High School. We have both thoroughly enjoyed our time here and are proud of what the school has helped us to achieve.

Paige Casement
(Head Student Girl)

Carwyn Owen
(Head Student Boy)
School Address:
Welshpool High School,
Salop Road, Welshpool,
Powys. SY21 7RE

School Office Tel:
01938 552014

E-mail:
office@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk

Web Address:
www.welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk

Absence Line:
01938 554119

Fax:
01938 555711

Headteacher: Mr J Toal
Chair of Governors: Mr M Hart

The school is a mixed comprehensive for pupils aged between 11 and 18 years. It is maintained by Powys Education Authority who can be contacted at the following address.

Director of Education:
Interim: Mrs Lynette Lovell,
Powys County Hall,
Llandrindod Wells,
Powys. LD1 5LG

Tel:
01597 826000

Planned admission number:
197 students

Language Category:
English Medium.
The main language of communication is English.

Timing of the School Day:
Registration 8.55 - 9.05
Assembly 9.05 - 9.15
Lesson 1 9.15 - 10.05
Lesson 2 10.05 - 10.55
Break 10.55 - 11.15
Lesson 3 11.15 - 12.05
Lesson 4 12.05 - 12.55
Lunch 12.55 - 13.45
Registration 13.45 - 13.50
Lesson 5 13.50 - 14.40
Lesson 6 14.40 - 15.30
## Autumn Term 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st session</td>
<td>Tues 3rd Sept</td>
<td>Fri 25th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Term</td>
<td>Mon 28th Oct</td>
<td>Fri 1st Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd session</td>
<td>Tues 5th Nov</td>
<td>Fri 20th Dec</td>
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## Spring Term 2020

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Session</th>
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<th>End Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st session</td>
<td>Tues 7th Jan</td>
<td>Fri 14th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Term</td>
<td>Mon 17th Feb</td>
<td>Fri 21st Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd session</td>
<td>Mon 24th Feb</td>
<td>Fri 3rd Apr</td>
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## Summer Term 2020

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st session</td>
<td>Tues 21st Apr</td>
<td>Fri 22nd May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Term</td>
<td>Mon 25th May</td>
<td>Fri 29th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd session</td>
<td>Mon 1st June</td>
<td>Fri 17th July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Teacher in Service Training Days

- Mon 2nd Sept
- Mon 4th Nov
- Mon 6th Jan
- Mon 20th Apr
- Mon 20th Jul
- Occasionally we are instructed to add additional days by the Welsh Assembly Government.

## Parental Consultation Evenings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>April</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>February</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>January</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Evening</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As a member of the Welshpool High School Council for the past 3 years, and the elected chairperson, I have seen the council grow into a decisive committee of around 40 dedicated students, devoted to creating a better school environment. Within the school, the student council is both valued and respected as a vehicle for student voice. By sharing and feeding back ideas to staff, governors and fellow pupils, we work together to tackle key issues which affect our school including uniform, learning strategies and more recently, a push to educate students on their rights.

We are proud of our links with the Welshpool Town Council, holding meetings with the Town Clerk, Mr Robinson, once per term. In addition to our connections with the community, we have a variety of other key sub-committees within the school: The Student Nutrition Action and Eco Group, the Teaching and Learning Group and the Fundraising Committee, along with many more. Also two pupils represent the school and council at Powys Youth Forum. Each group feeds back to the main student council at our monthly meetings, allowing for every aspect of life at Welshpool High School to be represented.

We are currently focusing and improving our schools environmental credentials; considering how we use single use plastics and planning how we can plant trees on the school grounds. We hope this will both improve the look and feel of our school grounds, providing shade as well as doing our part to address wider environmental issues.

We look forward to helping you have your voice heard.

Tom Davies-Hughes: Chairperson of the School Council.
ENGLISH
Mr B Corfield
Mrs C Evans
Mrs E Hurst (PT)
Mrs V Jones
Mrs H Thomas
Mrs S Hamer
Mrs S Russell
(Covering Maternity Leave)

MATHEMATICS
Miss H Bridgland (PT)
Mrs N Forsyth
Mr R Powell
Mrs J Baines
Mrs K Pointer
Miss M Davies
Mrs R Aldridge
(Covering Maternity Leave)
Mrs L Williams

SCIENCE
Mr D Bass
Mrs A Cottrell
Mrs S Lewis
Mrs C Hoole
Miss S Ormond
Mr D Phillips
Mrs S Phillips
Mr A Whitley
Mr D Wilde

ART
Miss H Barker
Mrs L Wilde (PT)
Mrs E Richards (PT)

PERFORMING ARTS
Ms L McNally

GEOGRAPHY
Mrs H Evans (PT)
Mr S McDermott
Mr R Pengelly

HISTORY
Mrs K Grindley
Miss J Haycock

PSYCHOLOGY
Mrs V Jones

IT & VOCATIONAL
Mrs A Cottrell
Mrs C Francis-Jones
Miss M Jones
Mrs D Smith

LEARNING SUPPORT
Mrs J Baines
Mrs C Evans
Mrs S Jones (PT)

MUSIC
Miss G Charles
Mrs C Evans

PE
Ms W Langford
Mr J Loxam
Mrs M Poulton (PT)
Mr A Humphreys

FRENCH & SPANISH
Mrs E Guppy
Mr C Haskew
Ms N O’Sullivan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Mrs P Watts

TECHNOLOGY
Mr J Birch
Mrs R Lewis
Ms M Rowland (PT)
Mr S Thomas

WELSH
Miss C Tibbott
Mr S Monk

CLASS SUPPORT
Mrs M Davies
Mrs C Doody
Mrs K Dart
Mrs D Evans
Mrs R Graham
Mrs H Gannon
Mrs H Gwilt
Mrs M Kowuchowska
Mrs A Ward
Miss K Martin
Mrs S Sheppard

P.A. to the HEADTEACHER
Mrs H Muir

OFFICE
Mrs A Davies
Mrs K Davies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs C Jones</td>
<td>Business Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs M Robins</td>
<td>Data Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs K Morris</td>
<td>Attendance Officer and Pastoral Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs L Hughes</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms A Swift</td>
<td>Librarian/6th Form Learning Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs H Benfield</td>
<td>Reprographics Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs R Hughes</td>
<td>Technology Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Fellows</td>
<td>IT Systems Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr K Lynch</td>
<td>IT Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs G Gannon</td>
<td>Senior Science Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs J Thomas</td>
<td>Science Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs M Robins</td>
<td>Examinations Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr J Taylor</td>
<td>School Caretaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr D Greenfield</td>
<td>School Caretaker (evenings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs J Williams</td>
<td>Catering Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr C Owen</td>
<td>Cover Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr H Williams</td>
<td>Cover Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs H Fletcher</td>
<td>Cover Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs R Bartley</td>
<td>Social Inclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs J Evans</td>
<td>Careers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs S Nazar</td>
<td>Student Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs R Aldridge</td>
<td>Student Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A key feature of the school is partnership and co-operation between school and home. Excellent communication is something of which we are proud and most parents get to know the Form Tutors and Heads of Year well. Prior to admission to the school in September, new students and their parents are invited to meet Form Tutors and Senior Staff at the induction evening in the summer term. If students wish to be admitted to the school at any other time of the year, the Headteacher, Mr J Toal, will be happy to arrange a personal interview and a tour of the school. We ask that you look carefully at our Home-School Agreement which is part of the prospectus. Rather than ask all parties to sign this, we would be grateful if you would advise of any elements which would cause difficulty.

Our reporting system aims to give students and parents as much useful information as possible. A progress report on each student is sent to parents termly. Parents are encouraged to respond if there are areas of concern. At the end of Year 11 every student receives a personal Record of Achievement. The Parental Consultation Evenings are held annually and are extremely well attended. At these, staff and parents are able to exchange information and ideas in a relaxed environment. Parents who are unable to attend are invited to contact their child’s Head of Year.

When a student is ill and unable to attend school, parents are asked to telephone the school absence line or contact the school Attendance Officer.

The usual procedure is to send a letter with the child on his or her return to school. In the event of long term illness, we can offer some continuity in the child’s education. If a pupil becomes unwell at school, they should go along to the medical room and a parent will be contacted if necessary.

A complaints policy is available on the school website in the event of a parent wishing to make a formal complaint about the school’s curriculum or organisation.
We have excellent links with primary schools. Our new Year 7 students will already be familiar with the school buildings, the curriculum and the teaching staff, having spent two days and an evening at the school in the summer term of Year 6. They will know their Head of Year, who will make regular visits to them in their primary schools. Moving to a new school can be a big step for young people, but we believe our students are well prepared and ready to enjoy the exciting new opportunities offered to them at this school.

**Tutor groups**

The school is organised in year groups and students entering Year 7 are grouped into tutor groups. The pastoral and academic development of each student is overseen by their Form Tutor, who is concerned with every aspect of the student’s education. The Form Tutor plays a vital role in monitoring the academic progress of each student, and students are helped to set targets and develop as effective learners.

It is the function of a good school to make opportunities available to its students and then ensure that they benefit from those opportunities. We expect participation and endeavour and we help students to live up to our expectations. Also we expect our students to come to school properly dressed, properly equipped and ready to give their best.

When any contact with the school is necessary, the Head of Year will offer support and advice.

**Standard of expected behaviour**

The most important rule of the school is that everyone should show respect for other people and their property.

We believe that bullying is unacceptable and should not be tolerated and we are successful in dealing with known and suspected incidents of bullying. The anti-bullying policy is available on the school website.

![Year 6 during their induction day at Welshpool High School.](image-url)
An important rule of the school is that everyone should show respect for other people and their property. We should expect to give and to receive respect.

**At the start of lessons, we should**
- arrive on time or expect to make up the lost time at break or lunchtime
- enter the classroom or laboratory sensibly, safely and quietly
- take off jackets
- take out books, pens and pencils ready for work
- remain quiet for the teacher to take the register

**During lessons we should**
- concentrate at all times and try to do our best
- put up a hand before answering questions
- work sensibly and not distract anybody else from their work
- record homework in the homework planner
- not eat, chew or drink
- not use radios, electronic devices, mobile phones or other distractions from work. If an attempt is made to use them during lessons they will be confiscated until the end of the day. More than 3 confiscations will lead to parents being asked to collect the item.

**At the end of lessons we should**
- wait until the teacher gives the instruction to pack away
- pick up any litter and put it in the bin
- leave the room in a sensible manner
During free time such as break and lunchtime we should
♦ behave sensibly and respectfully to everyone else
♦ try to understand other people’s points of view
♦ move quietly around the school
♦ avoid bullying, fighting or swearing
♦ not use radios, electronic devices or mobile phones
♦ never leave school without first asking permission from a teacher or from the office

Absence
♦ We should always bring a letter from home explaining an absence when returning to school. (Parents should contact the school office or leave a message on the absence line on the first day of absence).

Essential Equipment
To enable students to work effectively we recommend that they bring the following pieces of equipment to school with them every day:
- a bag, 2 pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, coloured pencil crayons (not felts), calculator, homework planner (provided by the school) and a reading book.

Homework
All students need time to work on their own. Homework can take a number of forms such as reading, researching, making notes, revising, reflecting etc. Parents can play a very important part in supporting their child in doing homework by encouraging them, getting involved on occasions, and creating a quiet, warm place in which their child can work without unnecessary disturbance.

Homework is set regularly and every student will receive a homework planner to record actual details.
Travelling to and from School
We expect all our students to behave appropriately when travelling to and from school. Many of our students travel to and from school by bus. We expect the same standard of responsible and courteous behaviour on school transport as at school. Any queries concerning transport can be directed to the Assistant Headteacher, Mr D Phillips, or to the Transport Co-ordination Unit, County Hall (01597 826000).

Lunch Arrangements
Only in exceptional circumstances will students be allowed home for lunch. Students may either bring a packed lunch from home or purchase a meal in our dining hall, where a range of food is provided. Drinks and snacks, like filled rolls and fruit, are available in the Foyer at breaktime and breakfast is served each morning from 8.30 am.

Uniform
The school uniform has been chosen to be a suitably smart alternative to casual clothes and every pupil is expected to wear it.

A full list of the uniform is given on the following pages.
SCHOOL UNIFORM

GIRLS
Black formal school skirt, or tailored trousers, NOT canvas, denim, corduroy or fashion trousers.
Plain white shirt.
Grey V neck school jumper embroidered with the school motif.
Black blazer embroidered with the school motif.
Black, charcoal grey or white socks, or black tights.
Official school tie.
Black school shoes, not canvas, not trainers.

BOYS
Black tailored school trousers, NOT canvas, denim, corduroy or fashion trousers
Plain white shirt.
Grey V neck school jumper embroidered with the school motif.
Black blazer embroidered with the school motif.
Black, charcoal grey or white socks.
Official school tie.
Black school shoes, not canvas, not trainers.

ALL PUPILS
Black shoes (not trainers/not canvas).
A dark coloured coat or jacket (not a hoodie).
Apron for Food Technology.

Please mark all items with the student’s name.

All items are available online at: www.constructive.co.uk
or through the Constructive Clothing shop.
(1-3 Church Street, Welshpool, Powys SY21 7DL)
GIRLS
Black and green polo shirt embroidered with the school motif.
Black shorts (these must be plain).
Black football socks / white sports socks.

BOYS
Black and green polo shirt embroidered with the school motif.
Black shorts.
Black football socks.

Optional Items:
Reversible black/green rugby top.
Hooded top embroidered with the school motif.
Black long sleeve base layer.
All students need trainers (not black soles) and a towel.
Students are advised to wear gum shields and shin pads for all outdoor games.
All PE uniform can be purchased from the Constructive Clothing shop.

1-3 Church Street,
Welshpool, Powys
SY21 7DL
The aim of our curriculum is to provide our students with a rich, varied and challenging programme which will equip them with the knowledge and skills they need to lead fulfilled lives. The National Curriculum sets out the basic framework for every school in the country. Our curriculum not only meets National Curriculum criteria, but also incorporates a number of important educational features which build on the strengths and expertise in the school. Some of these features are outlined below.

- Strong outcomes in all of the core subjects (English, Maths and Science) due to a well planned curriculum and high quality teaching.
- Good facilities and opportunities for Technology, Information Technology, PE and Drama.
- In Key Stage 4 Science, all students follow at least a Double Award Science GCSE. The most able scientists can study three separate GCSE Science courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Excellent provision for Languages with two modern foreign languages being offered to our KS4 students. We are able to offer English, Welsh, French and Spanish to ‘A’ level standard. Subject to demand.
- Music, Art and Drama are popular courses and they are taught in specially designed accommodation.
- Music has an outstanding reputation. We have a jazz band, a concert band, a singing group and Upper School choir. Many of our students are members of the Montgomeryshire Youth Music, and a number of students have won places in national bands, orchestras and choirs.
- Drama also has an outstanding reputation. We provide a range of opportunities for students to get involved in drama productions. Many of our students choose to join the Montgomeryshire Youth Theatre and several have become professional actors.
- Art is popular and there is excellent provision for students wishing to develop in this area. Several extra curricular activities are offered.

Continued.......
CURRICULUM features

- Excellent provision for students with Special Educational Needs.

- Vocational courses are offered at Key Stage 4 and in the Sixth Form. An increasing number of our students have entered university because of their excellent vocational and ‘A’ Level results.

- An impressive range of ‘AS’ and ‘A’ level courses are available in the Sixth Form. We also collaborate with neighbouring schools and colleges to offer over thirty courses at AS/A Level and Level 3.

- Excellent curriculum provision for Physical Education. GCSE and ‘A’ Level PE are popular options.

- Key Stage 4 courses may lead to qualifications at GCSE Level 2 and Level 1, and BTEC Level 2 and Level 1.

- Welsh, of course, remains a statutory part of the National Curriculum at Key Stages 3 and 4.
The National Curriculum splits secondary education into 2 key stages:

**Key Stage 3**: Years 7, 8, 9 (Age 11 - 14 years)

**Key Stage 4**: Years 10, 11 (Age 14 - 16 years)

**Key Stage 3**: All students follow courses in these subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Religious Education
- Welsh
- French (some pupils also study Spanish from Year 9)
- Design and Technology
- PE
- Art
- Music
- Drama
- Personal and Social Education (PSE)
- Health Studies
- Information Technology (IT)

Initially in Year 7 most students are taught in mixed ability tutor groups. As soon as desirable, some departments reorganise the teaching groups and students are placed in sets according to ability. This enables students to be taught in classes which best meet their academic needs. In all courses students are assessed regularly and the opportunity exists for them to be moved to different teaching groups if necessary.

At the end of Year 7 other departments reorganise classes and place students into sets. In Year 9, the end of Key Stage 3, National Curriculum levels are reported to parents.

**Key Stage 4**: All students follow a core of subjects and select optional subjects as shown. The example below is our current offer for Year 10.

**Core Subjects:**

- Welsh
- English
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Numeracy
- Double Award Science
- Welsh Baccalaureate
- RE
- PE
- PSE including Learning & Study Skills
- Careers Education
- Academic Monitoring
- Health Education

**Option Subjects:**

- GCSE
  - Art
  - Drama
  - French
  - Geography
  - History
  - Music
  - PE
  - Spanish
  - D/T Engineering Design
  - Single Sciences

- BTEC
  - First Award in Business
  - First Award in Engineering
  - First Award in Health & Social Care
  - First Award in Hospitality
  - First Award in ICT
  - First Award in Travel & Tourism
  - First Award in Sport
All students in KS4 study the Welsh Baccalaureate. The central focus of the Welsh Baccalaureate at National/Foundation Level is to provide a vehicle for students to consolidate and further develop essential and employability skills and to provide experiences which will enable them to be better prepared for their future destination, whether that is university, further training or employment. The emphasis in the Welsh Baccalaureate is on applied learning, for instance acquiring and applying a range of transferable skills relevant to the needs and demands of the workplace and further education.

Through following the Welsh Baccalaureate course, students raise their skill levels and improve their confidence, enabling and empowering them to take their place as responsible and active citizens within a diverse society. Alongside and through the development of skills, the Welsh Baccalaureate provides students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of society, the community in which they live and wider awareness of global issues, events and perspectives.
Our Sixth Form provision aims to cater for the needs of 16 - 19 year old students who wish to remain in full-time education. We are able to offer a broad range of courses and the Sixth Form is popular and expanding, with approximately 50% of students staying on. The Sixth Form accommodation includes a study area, access to computers, a careers library and a newly refurbished common room. All Sixth Form students are supported by a team of experienced staff: the Head of Sixth Form, Learning Coach and Tutors. We aim to cater for each individual’s subject preferences and combinations. The current range of academic and vocational Post-16 courses available is shown below.

**BTEC Level 3**  
Art, Design (Photography), Business Studies, Health and Social Care, Information Technology, Land Based Studies, Performing Arts, Media Studies.

**‘AS’ and ‘A’ Levels**  

‘A’ Levels are designed primarily as an entry route to University and are therefore highly academic. Success depends on a sound academic footing and the ability to study independently.

GCSE re-sit examinations in English and Mathematics for Sixth Form Students may be taken following consultation with the Head of Year.

**Entry Requirements**

We recommend that students have gained GCSE grades A* to C in at least 5 subjects to access most Sixth Form courses.

A separate prospectus is available which gives a full description of the Admission Criteria.

**Course Requirements**

In order to help students keep up with the pressures and demands of studying in the Sixth Form, they receive regular assessments, termly reports and individual interviews with staff. Further details of course assessment are available from the Head of Year on request or are available in the Sixth Form prospectus, published separately.
We are justly proud of the support offered to students with additional learning needs across the ability range. Some of our students have exceptionally high academic ability; others have specific learning difficulties. Some of our students will hold a statement of educational needs. Whatever the ability, we aim to meet each student’s individual needs and to take into account the views of the student and parents.

For example, one student may need stimulating material to extend and enhance the curriculum while another student may need a specific support programme such as reading, handwriting skills, spelling skills, or dyslexia support.

Admission arrangements for students with special educational needs are the same as for all students. Students with a statement are placed by the Local Authority, who make every effort to comply with parent and student preference in accordance with the Local Authority’s admission procedure.

With the imminent restructuring of the code of practice, a closer relationship between school and home will ensure a smooth transition to the new procedure.

On entry to the school, most students undertake standardised tests in reading, spelling, and verbal and non-verbal reasoning and mathematical skills to inform future provision.

Our policy is to teach students in groups which best meet their educational needs.

Some students with specific learning difficulties might be taught in small groups or will visit the Department for Learning Support for some of their lessons. In-class support will be provided in accordance with the student’s statement of educational needs.

Selected students will be invited to take part in a reading or spelling intervention using short, intensive courses. Our suite of computers enables students to practise their keyboard skills and some students may benefit from using programmes to enhance performance in memory skills, touch typing, reading and mathematics.

Some students will take part in lessons designed to enhance emotional literacy and may also be invited to attend support groups.

Mrs Evans (Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator) is also responsible for monitoring and reviewing the needs of Looked After Children, Gypsy Traveller pupils and students with English as an Additional Language. Students at KS4/5 with additional learning needs will also be provided with additional support for external examinations.

The school policy on special educational needs is available on request.
The following flow chart is to show how the Department for Learning Support helps pupils on entry to High School:

Provision for SEN pupils in Welshpool High School

**Year 6-7**
Are the pupils Statemented or School Action Plus?

Yes on SEN Register

- Medical
- Dyslexic/SPLD
- General Learn. Diff.
- Emotional support

- support as needed
- 1 lesson/week targeted teaching
- 2 registrations per week, support in lessons, exams, small groups, depends on Statement
- Depends on Statement, HoY involvement & pastoral support.

No may be on SEN register at School Action

- Small Groups
- Spelling
- Reading
- Handwriting
- Emotional Behaviour Support

- One lesson per week, if spelling standardised score is less than 95 in Year 7 or Year 8+
- One lesson per week, if reading standardised score is less than 95. Not all in lessons in beginning of Year 7, not all on SEN Register.
- One lesson every 3 weeks or as required.
- Provision depends on Individual, HoY involvement & pastoral support.
At Welshpool High School, More Able and Talented is defined as:

“Those who show exceptional ability in one or more subject areas or those who possess a general academic learning ability that is significantly greater than most of their peers.”

In addition to this, the broadest definition is taken into account to also include less easily acknowledged traits such as leadership and interpersonal skills. Generally, the term ‘More Able’ is concerned with academic subjects, e.g. Maths, English, etc and ‘Talented’ refers to the arts, PE, Music, etc. The group reflects the upper 5-10% of your child’s year group.

At Welshpool High School we believe that ALL children are entitled to an education that will enable them to succeed and achieve. This includes the more able students and we therefore strive to provide an education that is both personal to their needs and motivates them to excel and achieve. It is important to remember that a child may not be above average in all subject areas.

What students should expect from being in the More Able and Talented Group:

- enrichment through personalised learning, both inside and outside the classroom
- opportunities to develop and encourage independence and self-assessment
- to be able to nominate themselves as More Able and Talented
- to be able to suggest and select their own extra-curricular activities
- involvement in many More Able and Talented activities

How are More Able and Talented students identified?

The method of identification for More Able and Talented is extensive and annually reviewed. No one method can be entirely accurate, therefore we endeavour to obtain as much information about individual students as possible.

A summary of the process is as follows:

- information/nomination from previous school
- internal & external assessment and testing
- specific subject criteria developed by teacher/parent/self nomination
All subject areas are also requested to identify and monitor the students who they believe to be the more able in their subject area.

**In summary:**

- each year group has a More Able and Talented list which represents the top 5-10% according to the More Able and Talented definition as stated earlier
- each subject department has a More Able list, students identified through specific criteria for their subject area

**Celebration of Success**

Welshpool High School values the celebration of achievement at all levels and in all areas of school life. It is essential that More Able and Talented students adopt the following attitudes:

- to aspire to reach their full potential;
- to be confident that celebrating success is rewarding;
- to take pride in their achievements.
SPORTS PROVISION
and extra-curricular activities

Sports Provision
The school believes that PE is important with lifelong physical activity being considered essential for good health, which should not be taken for granted. The PE programme is planned to provide vigorous, purposeful and regular activities through which our students can experience enjoyment, well-being and achievement. PE includes competitive and non-competitive activities, individual and group activities and has a focus on health-related exercise.

The PE programme lays the foundation for

♦ skill development
♦ lifelong participation in selected aspects of physical activity
♦ positive attitudes to health and physical activity

The activities in the PE programme include football, rugby, hockey, netball, basketball, softball, badminton, athletics, gymnastics, cricket, tennis, rounders, adventurous activities, swimming and health related fitness.

The Flash Leisure Centre on the school campus gives us a wonderful opportunity to extend the PE programme. Swimming, bowls, spinning and work-outs in the fitness suite are very popular and encourage long term health awareness. The multi-purpose sports hall caters for team and individual sports. The astroturf facility allows the school to deliver a wide range of activities during and after school hours.

Summer 2019 has also seen an upgrade of our school sports facilities. This includes a re-surfaced football/rugby pitch, new netball/tennis courts, long jump pits, cricket nets and athletics track. An exciting time to be joining Welshpool High School.

The Physical Education Department also provides an extensive range of extra curricular activities. Extra curricular clubs and competitions give students the opportunity to fully participate in a variety of sports.
SPORTS PROVISION
and extra-curricular activities

Extra Curricular clubs cater for students who wish to participate in meaningful exercise. A variety of clubs run on a weekly basis throughout the year. Inter-form fixtures are a prominent feature and students take great pride in representing the school.

All age groups have the opportunity to compete against other schools throughout the academic year and have been particularly successful in recent years, especially in team games (hockey, netball, football and rugby) as well as having exceptional success in athletics, cross-country, swimming and tennis.

Welshpool High School are current holders of the Gareth Oldham Cup which is awarded for outstanding achievement in track and field athletics, sports hall athletics and cross-country championships.

Pupils also have the opportunity to progress from competitive school sport through to county, regional, national and international level. The school currently has a number of successful teams and individuals who have achieved ‘elite’ level performance.

The PE department also offers outdoor education residential courses, as well as organising the school skiing trip.
The 5 x 60 scheme continues to have a positive impact on the pupils of Welshpool High School.

By offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities, the 5 x 60 scheme is aimed at increasing young people’s participation in physical activity. Activities such as dodgeball, basketball, table tennis, badminton and spinning are offered to encourage all the pupils at Welshpool High School to get involved with sport and to enjoy a healthy lifestyle.

The scheme makes the most of the talents on offer at the school by using the Sixth Form students to assist in the running of many of the lunchtime activities. As the Sixth Form students are considering their future options, this experience is extremely useful as it provides them with a taste of what is required when working with young people.

5 x 60 has also made links with many of the sports clubs from the Welshpool area. Coaches and instructors from these clubs are often used to run the activities, so that the pupils know that they can take part in activities outside school, should they wish to do so.
EXTRA CURRICULAR
activities

Art

As the lead school for art in Powys and Ceredigion we lead the way in collaboration with ERW and NAWR. We have a range of extra curricular activities in Art. We offer a More Able and Talented (MAT) Art Club Monday lunchtimes. Students enter competitions, work on community projects and are issued with extension booklets to use in their Art lessons. This is for Key Stage 3 students only.

We offer Art Club to Key Stage 4 and 5 Wednesday lunchtimes and after school. Students are able to catch up on homework and use the materials available as well as studying independently. When available, we offer evening classes in life drawing with a local artist for A Level students.

In Year 10 and 11 we offer Artist Workshops and the opportunity to visit Galleries in Liverpool. KS5 Students have the opportunity to go to London or Birmingham on the Art Gallery trip and we offer a residential trip for Years 12 and 13, depending on opportunities and demand. We work closely with Oriel Davies Gallery and Andrew Logan Museum of Sculpture, offering trips and workshops to the galleries. MAT students participate in the ‘Criw Celf’. Criw Celf is run by the Oriel Davies gallery, Newtown, and sponsored by the Arts Council Wales. We offer a Year 8 trip where students visit the art galleries and have the opportunity to explore the arts.

Drama

Drama and Theatre studies offers a range of extra-curricular activities for students. In Year 10 and Year 11 students are given the opportunity to attend a theatre trip. This takes place in one of our local Theatres, such as Theatre Hafren, Newtown or Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury. Year 12 and 13 students become regular visitors to our local Theatres enabling them to gain knowledge of various types of performance. The KS5 students also have the opportunity to attend a residential trip in partnership with the Art Department. Most recently this took place in Birmingham, where students had the opportunity to watch a contemporary production of ‘The Wizard of Oz’ in the Birmingham Repertory Theatre. School productions are a very important aspect of Welshpool High School. These productions ignite energy throughout the school in rehearsals and during the run of the shows.

Productions enable students to shine as performers, set designers and costume and lighting designers. Our past productions have included ‘A Christmas Carol’, ‘Oliver’ and ‘Peter Pan’. This year we are currently working on a new production ‘Rock of Ages’.
Science

In Science there are also a number of fun opportunities outside the laboratory. Every year we send a team of scientists to Aberystwyth University for a science competition and we have a strong record of success. Other competitions take place both in school and at other venues including the Top of the Bench Chemistry competition, the Biology Challenge and CREST Awards. Sixth Form students act as Ambassadors and help to run the very popular year 7 Science Club which takes place during a lunch time. We always look for opportunities to host science shows and invite visiting speakers to the school and all pupils enjoy our science Enquiry Days at the end of each academic year.

The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

Back in 2006/7 a group of 20 intrepid Year 12 students became the first group to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh’s Silver Award at WHS. After completing their activities and two demanding (and in the summer of 2007 spectacularly wet) expeditions they had all completed the Award by the time they left at the end of Year 13. Since then nearly 300 students in 11 groups have followed their path and have experienced what WHS D of E has to offer. At Silver level, students undertake a sporting activity such as hockey or football; they develop a skill such as playing an instrument or learning a language and they undertake community service such as paired reading or sports coaching. All these take place in their own time and many of the activities are linked to WHS and the wider Welshpool community. For an hour a week after school, students attend expedition training sessions led by Mr Whitley, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Cottrell or Mr Pengelly where they learn skills such as navigation, use of outdoor equipment, first aid, teamwork, camp cooking and expedition planning. A one day training walk goes to Machynlleth for navigation practice in the mountains and then there is the fun part: two expeditions to undertake in order to complete the award.
The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

The summer training expedition goes to Long Mynd and the Stiperstones and the autumn qualifying expedition to Llangollen and The Berwyns. Both trips are 3 days walking and 2 nights camping, with students carrying all their own equipment and planning their own routes.

We’ve seen all weather conditions on these expeditions in the last few years and some seriously determined WHS students have completed the expeditions despite all that the elements can throw at them! All students would agree that D of E is fun, it is a way of meeting and working with both friends and new people, it develops opportunities to undertake activities outside of school time and looks great on CV and UCAS forms when it comes to leaving school.

At the moment the award is limited to 20 students in Year 12 due to staff numbers and group sizes for the expeditions.

Mr Pengelly or Mrs Lewis can be contacted for further information.
Music Department

Extra-curricular activities are a central feature of Welshpool High School’s Music Department. The regular clubs include a Singing Group, Jazz Band, Concert Band and Drum Core (Marching Band). All rehearsals are centred around the bi-annual Concert Nights, at Christmas and during the Summer Term.

The music groups also play an active role in the wider community, one key date during the Autumn term being the R.A.B.I Carol Concert at the Livestock Market. Other events during the course of the year include the annual ‘Mince Pies and Music’ event and visits to The Rhallt by the Singing Group.

The most important highlight of the department’s extra-curricular calendar has to be the school production. This production helps pupils develop their confidence and stretch their capability. Whether they take part as a soloist on stage, help back stage or participate in the chorus or band, one thing is for certain; they end the final performance night with an immense sense of pride, confidence and achievement, having undoubtedly given us all a few surprises along the way!
Careers Education

Careers information and guidance feature prominently in the school curriculum. The individual student’s need is our main concern and this is catered for in a professional manner.

Throughout Years 8, 9, 10 and 11, students receive information and individual guidance from experienced careers staff, including a resident Careers Officer. Students have access to a well equipped careers library and computer research facilities including Careers Wales online.

Careers’ Mark

Welshpool High School has been working very hard to improve its provision for careers and the world of work, and in July 2018 we were awarded The Careers Wales Mark. Achieving the award demonstrates the improvement of standards in the provision of careers and the world of work. The Careers Wales Mark recognises that Welshpool High School has demonstrated they have active procedures in place to ensure a continuous process of improvement.
Work Experience

All students have the opportunity to spend a period of time on a work experience placement. As far as possible, the students link their placement to the school subjects they are studying, and undertake projects to help them with their GCSEs. Some students also use the work placement to sample, and identify themselves with, various careers.

Our staff closely monitor students’ experiences on work placement and certification is incorporated into their final Record of Achievement.

At the end of Year 11, many of our students continue their education in the Sixth Form studying ‘A’ Level courses. Other students may go on to local colleges of Further Education or Modern Apprenticeships.

The Careers Service is pleased to offer professional impartial advice to students and their parents and arranges personal interviews immediately following examination results in Years 11 and 13.

Educational Visits

Trips are an important part of the school curriculum and can significantly enrich the experience of students.

The same standard of behaviour that is expected in school will also be expected on trips.

Where there are any concerns about the behaviour of a student, the opportunity to take part in trips will be withdrawn.
The School Library is a resource for the whole school.

Features include:

- quiet study facilities for our Sixth Form
- all day access to computers for individual study and research
- a reference Library to support research and study in all subject areas
- comfortable seating for leisure reading and browsing
- books! Fiction and Non-Fiction for all ages, interests and abilities

The Library is open to all before and after school and during break times and lunchtimes when it is busy with students reading, researching, doing homework and choosing books to borrow for their personal reading. Year 12 and 13 students may use the library at any time of the day for private study, if it has not been booked for a class project.

Library-based project work across the curriculum is a feature of life for every school year group, giving students the opportunity to improve their skills in independent learning and research.

Book related events such as competitions, quizzes, and author visits are also held. We run a permanent schedule of Book Fairs where students have the opportunity to buy books.

The Librarian is on hand to advise students on their reading and to help them find the resources they need for research.
All Year 7 students take part in Library Induction training in which they learn how to find their way around the library and how to make best use of its facilities.

We have a well established Reading Booster Programme, where Year 12 and Year 10 students team up with Year 7 or Year 8 students to help them gain confidence and fluency in their reading.

The library is supported by a computerised library management system which facilitates quick and accurate cataloguing, membership records and book loans. The system is installed on the school’s curriculum network so that the library catalogue can be consulted from any computer in school.
Please find below a copy of the High School’s Home/School Agreement

Welshpool High School
Home/School Agreement

THE SCHOOL WILL TRY TO

♦ care for the student’s safety and happiness
♦ deal with any cases of bullying or harassment firmly and in accordance with our anti-bullying policy
♦ ensure that the student is given the opportunity to achieve his/her full potential, both educationally and developmentally
♦ encourage high standards of work and behaviour and try to instil a sense of responsibility and belonging within the community of the school
♦ provide details of school policies on behaviour
♦ provide a balanced curriculum and endeavour to meet the individual needs of the student
♦ provide a report, at least three times a year, concerning the student’s level of achievement and progress
♦ provide facilities and books in the Library for extra-curricular study
♦ provide opportunities to discuss the progress of the student and, if necessary, any problems that may arise
♦ provide access to extra-curricular activities

Continued over......
AS PARENT(S)/CARERS(S) I/WE WILL TRY TO

- make sure he/she attends regularly, on time, properly equipped and wearing school uniform
- inform the school (on the first day of absence) if he/she is absent
- support the school’s systems of rewards and sanctions
- support the school’s policies and rules on behaviour
- let the school know of any changes in circumstances or problems that may affect his/her work or behaviour
- support him/her with his/her homework and other aspects of home learning
- attend Parents’ Evenings and discussions about his/her progress

AS A STUDENT I WILL TRY TO

- attend school regularly and on time
- wear the school uniform and make an effort to have a clean and tidy appearance
- bring all equipment/books in a bag and take care of school property
- arrive on time for each lesson
- complete all homework, classwork and coursework on time and to the best of my ability
- tell a member of staff if anyone is being harassed or bullied
- keep the school free from litter and graffiti
- be polite and helpful to others
- avoid disrupting the learning of others
- follow staff instructions
- remain on the school premises at all times
At the beginning of September 2019, 158 students joined year 7. In 2018/2019 there were no appeals.

We follow the Powys County Council admission policy for all students of compulsory school age. Entry to the Sixth Form is outlined on page 22.

Our admission policy is available on the school website and a hard copy can be requested from our main office.

**Safe Guarding/ Child Protection/ Equal Opportunities**

Welshpool High School fully recognises the contribution it makes to Child Protection. Support and interventions are in place and several detailed policies are available on request to support our safeguarding of pupils.

As part of our Policy on Safeguarding, all staff at Welshpool High School have a duty to make a referral if there is a concern.

The Governing Body at Welshpool High School is committed to securing the safety and well-being of employees, pupils and others affected by activities on School premises. There are regular inspections of the school carried out by the School Health and Safety Officer. Any potential hazards are identified and the necessary action is taken to ensure that the School remains a safe environment for the children to work and play in.

There are regular Fire Drills, when children practise speedy evacuation of the building.

In assemblies such procedures are also reinforced.

To provide improved site security, Welshpool High School operates a closed circuit television system (CCTV) comprising a number of fixed cameras located around the school site. All cameras are monitored from the main office and are only available to selected members of staff.

……..Continued
At Welshpool High School we are committed to promoting equal opportunities by fostering an environment of respect among all its potential and existing students and staff regardless of their gender, marital status, disability, colour, race, nationality or ethnic origin, learning difficulty, religion or belief, sexual orientation or age.

Please visit our school website to find out more about our latest activities and achievements. The website is updated regularly.

www.welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk
DATA 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stayed on in Sixth Form</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>NVQ Traineeships</th>
<th>1%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Went to Further Education College</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>Obtained full-time employment</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance of Compulsory Age Students 2018-2019**

The attendance figure for this year is 93.9%. Out of the number of absences 5.6% were authorised and only 0.5% were unauthorised.

**Attendance Figures for Welshpool High School**

The next page relates to student performance and highlights our examination results at Key Stage 4. In January 2020 the latest comparative information will be available.
The Welsh Government has introduced the following measures to assess school performance. At present no national comparative data has been made available.

**These are the figures for Welshpool High School in 2019.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capped 9 Measure</td>
<td>The average of all pupils’ Capped 9 points scores. Includes best Language/Literature, best Maths/Numeracy, best Science and best 6 others</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Measure</td>
<td>The average of all pupils’ best language or literature GCSEs across the whole cohort</td>
<td>41.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy Measure</td>
<td>The average of all pupils’ best Mathematics or Numeracy GCSEs across the whole cohort</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Measure</td>
<td>The average of all pupils’ best Science GCSE across the whole cohort</td>
<td>41.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate measure</td>
<td>The average of all pupils’ Skills Certificate qualifications across the whole cohort</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In calculating points scores grades are awarded the following number of points:

A* 58; A 52; B 46; C 40; D 34; E 28; F 22; G 16