



**Welshpool High School**  
Ysgol Uwchradd Y Trallwng

*Raising Achievement By Raising Expectations*

*Codi Cyrhaeddiad Trwy Godi Disgwyliadau*

# Welshpool High School

## CURRICULUM POLICY

**Date Reviewed: April 2024**

**Date for Review: April 2025**

**Signed** .....  
**Chair of Governing Body**

**Date:** 25/04/2024

**Signed** .....  
**Headteacher**

**Date:** 25/04/2024

## **AIMS**

The school's curriculum follows statutory requirements and the requirements of the National Curriculum.

It is balanced and broadly based, and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of our pupils and of society and prepares our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The school provides fulltime supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age, which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical aesthetic, creative and vocational education, appropriate for their ages and aptitudes.

Pupils are expected to acquire skills in literacy, numeracy, ICT and thinking skills. Additionally, there are clear opportunities to promote Curriculum Cymraig, Global Citizenship, PSE and Careers and the World of Work.

Personal, social and health education reflects the school's aims and ethos and is delivered alongside appropriate careers guidance.

The school sets out to:

- Develop pupils in the 4 Purposes of the Curriculum for Wales.
- Ensure that pupils develop the essential literacy and numeracy skills.
- Provide pupils with a full and rounded entitlement to learning.
- Foster pupils' creativity and develop essential skills, including learning skills.
- Inspire pupils to a commitment to learning which will last a lifetime.
- Promote high standards in all learning and teaching.
- Promote a healthy lifestyle.
- Ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress.
- Give pupils a 'voice' about how and what they learn.

Religious education is also provided for all pupils.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Entry to all programmes of study is based on academic suitability and appropriateness, regardless of sex, race, disability, religion, or belief.

Disabilities: In accordance with statutory requirements the school aims to make the curriculum accessible to all pupils as far as is reasonably practicable.

## **DIFFERENTIATION**

A variety of differing teaching and learning methods and materials are used in all courses to suit pupils' different needs.

## **SUBJECTS OFFERED THROUGH THE 6 AREAS OF LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE**

KS3: English, Maths, Science, Modern Languages, Information Technology, PE, Drama, Music, Art, Technology, Welsh, Geography, History, RVE, PSE and Careers.

KS4: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Numeracy, Science, PE, Welsh, Ethical Studies, Health Education, Careers, Welsh Baccalaureate.

#### **OPTION SUBJECTS AT KS4**

Modern Languages, Product Design, Engineering, Hospitality and Catering, Art, Photography, Information Technology, Geography, History, Music, Drama, Health and Social Care, Business Studies, PE/Sport, Prince's Trust Award, Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (SWEET Award).

#### **POST 16 OPTIONS**

Welshpool High School is part of the Chweched Powys Sixth county wide collaboration, offering a wide choice of level 2 and 3 courses across different centres and providers in Powys.

Post 16 options available at Welshpool High School: Mathematics, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Psychology, Drama, History, Geography, Health and Social Care, Design and Technology, Art, Photography, Music, Business, PE, Sport, English, ICT, Politics, Media Studies, Welsh Baccalaureate, and consortium subject provision.

#### **DISAPPLICATION**

In accordance with the law the school has the right to respond to individual needs by modifying the National Curriculum programmes, or disapplying the National Curriculum for the duration of Key Stage 4 to:

- Allow a pupil to participate in extended work-related learning.
- Allow a pupil with individual strengths to emphasise a particular curriculum area.
- To allow a pupil making significantly less progress than other pupils of their age to consolidate their learning and progress across the curriculum.

Decisions about any of the above will only be made after discussion with the pupil and parent.

#### **RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICAL STUDIES (RVE)**

RVE is available to all pupils and promotes awareness and tolerance of other beliefs and cultures. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RVE.

#### **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

All pupils up to Year 11 are expected to take part in a number of acts of collective worship throughout the school week. The school has a programme of collective worship involving some Lower School/Upper School assemblies, year group assemblies and 'Thought for the Day'. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of collective worship and should inform the Headteacher in writing if they wish to do so.

The school has a policy that outlines its approach to collective worship.

## **RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION**

The school provides relationship and sex education as a cross cutting theme throughout the curriculum for all pupils, in which pupils are encouraged and guided by moral principles and taught to recognise the value of family life.

The school's policy is available to parents. It has been drawn up in consultation with staff, pupils and parents, and takes into account the views of representatives from the community. It has regard for the government's guidance in Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (0116/2000).

## **POLITICAL EDUCATION**

The promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school is forbidden by law. Political issues are introduced in a number of courses and are presented in a balanced manner.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

All pupils are expected to take part in the school's Physical Education programme. Pupils can only be excused from PE lessons for medical reasons, for which a note from a parent will suffice, or other reasons agreed with the school.

## **EXTRA –CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The school has a wide and varied programme of cultural and sporting activities that take place outside the formal curriculum, e.g. D of E, sports clubs, academic intervention, music clubs, etc. All pupils are encouraged to take part in the programme.

## **HOMEWORK**

The school expects homework to be set as appropriate. As guidance, the school expects pupils to spend the following times on homework:

Year 7 and 8	45 to 90 minutes per day
Year 9	1 to 2 hours per day
Year 10 and 11	1 to 2 hours per day
Year 12 and 13	2 to 3 hours per/during the day

## **ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS**

The school has an Additional Learning Needs policy outlining the support and interventions offered to pupils. The school will determine the appropriate curriculum pathway and course choice for these pupils in consultation with parents and pupils.

## **CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS**

Parents who have concerns about any aspect of the curriculum should discuss these in the first instance with the pupil's tutor.

The school has a Complaints Procedure in place, which can be obtained from the Headteacher.

### **MONITORING AND REVIEW**

This policy will be monitored by the Deputy Head (Curriculum) who will report to the Headteacher on its implementation on a regular basis.

The Governing Body will be fully apprised of curriculum developments through the Policy, Curriculum and Performance Committee.

Significant progress has been made by the school in the planning and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales. The Governing Body have been actively involved in these developments and apprised of progress made by the school throughout.