



THE CORBET SCHOOL

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

General Information September 2016

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. OUR SCHOOL

The Corbet School is an, 11-16, Converter Academy. It is a mixed comprehensive school situated in a pleasant, rural position eight miles from Shrewsbury and eleven miles from Oswestry. The Welsh border is about twelve miles to the west and some fifty miles away is the attractive Mid-Wales coastline. Housing in Shropshire is cheaper than in some other areas of the country.

Originally opened in 1957, Corbet was re-organised as a comprehensive school in 1977. It serves a circular attendance area of some eight miles radius and therefore a large proportion of the 668 pupils travel by the school bus and take school meals. The school enjoys a good reputation in the county and a number of children attend from outside the attendance area. The school day commences at 8.45 am and ends at 3.20 pm, and is organised into a 5 period day (one hour per period). The day is split two: two: one with a break at 11.05 am and lunchtime starting at 1.30 pm.

The school chose to adopt Foundation Status as from September 1999, and from September 2011 applied for and adopted Academy Status

The Corbet Parent Association is very supportive and fosters both parental contact and involvement. It has proved to be extremely helpful to the school in raising considerable, financial sums.

OFSTED REPORT – June 2013

The school recently received an OFSTED Inspection which was, like its previous inspections very complimentary. The main findings concluded that “The Corbet is a good school with outstanding student behaviour” .

It stated “Behaviour in lessons is outstanding. Students have very positive attitudes to learning, are well motivated to succeed. They collaborate very well together, consistently showing respect for others while challenging their ideas constructively. When working independently, for example in pairs and small-groups, their discussion remains highly focused and purposeful”.

It went on to state that “The best teaching gives students frequent opportunities to work independently. For example, in a BTEC physical education lesson, students were asked to take on the role of leader and then to discuss the qualities which make good leadership. This encouraged them to think more explicitly about these qualities and deepened their understanding of the role”.

2. **CURRICULUM**

We have 31 full-time *and* 14 part-time teachers who deliver a wide curriculum in academic, practical and leisure pursuits. Although broad-based, the curriculum remains balanced with setting in core subjects. In the Upper School, pupils experience a core curriculum, including for many, languages. Pupils have the opportunity to select three other subjects. We are also offering a number of Level 1 and 2 vocational courses. Corbet has a tradition of achieving excellent examination results. In 2016 we achieved 71% 5+ A*-C (inc E&M), 72% A*-C in Maths and English, E-Bacc 36%. Pupils transfer for further education to either the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College, the Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology, the Walford and North Shropshire College and some into other local schools who are Sixth Form providers as well as some private sector schools.

Children's pastoral needs are recognised by organising the pupils into small, tutor groups in each year on a horizontally-grouped basis, with some continuance of tutors between KS3 and KS4. Each year group is assigned a Pastoral Assistant who are led by the Learning Manager and overseen by an Assistant Headteacher

We have a house system which creates healthy competition and the opportunity to develop pupil interests and aptitudes both within and outside the formal curriculum. The five houses are directed by Heads of House.

Extra-curricular activities are well established. Some take place at lunchtime due to the high proportion of pupils who use school buses before and after school (approx. 80%). Others, including inter-school sports matches and visits to the theatre, etc., take place after school and parents arrange for the collection of their children. Each year, various school parties enjoy visits further afield in Britain and on the continent.

3. **STAFFING**

The departmental structure within the school is as follows:-

English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Design & Technology, Humanities, ICT, Modern Languages, Performing Arts, Physical Education, PSHE, and Learning Support.

The Head believes in distributed leadership model, with a wide measure of responsibility given to senior and middle managers. Teachers have considerable freedom and leadership is encouraged at all levels of school. The school has good systems to monitor performance and ensure accountability.

The Leadership Team consists of the Head, Deputy, three Assistant Heads and the School Business Manager. Various staff meetings are held which make recommendations to the Head on all aspects of school policy and give the staff opportunities to participate in decision-making. Working parties address themselves to specific issues. We feel that this open style of management ensures that staff accept collective responsibility for the implementation of all aspects of school policy and feel committed to shaping the school's future.

4. **THE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

In addition to normal classroom provision, there is specialist accommodation for:-

Art, Food Technology, Textiles, Technology resistant materials, Graphics Studio, electronics, five Science Laboratories, Music, Humanities, Library, assembly/dining hall, 3 Computer Rooms, Gymnasium, Sports Hall, Modern Foreign Languages and Drama.

The school is always seeking to improve, refurbish and extend its buildings. The Technology and Languages facilities have recently undergone extensive renovation and the school has received considerable funding from the academies building fund to help refurbish other parts of our buildings.