

"The exceptional school ethos creates an extremely positive, inclusive and caring learning environment that brings about very high levels of pupil participation across the school and community."

ESTYN 2013



Ysgol Uwchradd Castell Alun High School
PROSBECTWS 2016 - 2017 PROSPECTUS



Open Evening Wednesday **5th October** at 6.30pm

Open Mornings Thursday & Friday **6th & 7th October** at 9.30am & 11.00am

For further information please telephone **01978 760238**

Castell Alun High School, Fagl Lane, Hope, Flintshire LL12 9PY

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www.castellalun.com  @CastellAlun

Contents

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 2 | Contact Information | 18 | Outside the Taught Day Our School Local Authority | 26 | Sex and Relationships Education Policy |
| 4 | Welcome | 19 | E-Learning and Communication | 27 | Careers Education |
| 6 | Head Teacher's Welcome | 20 | Admission to Castell Alun | 28 | School Day / Term Dates 2016 - 17 Attendance 2015 - 16 |
| 7 | Student Support | 21 | Charging and Remissions Student Development Additional Needs | 29 | School Meals Out-Of-School-Hours Learning |
| 8 | Vision and Values | 22 | Proud to be Welsh | 30 | School Uniform |
| 9 | Enjoying School Life | 23 | Curriculum: Lower School Curriculum: Upper School | 32 | Public Examination Results 2016 |
| 10 | Engaging and Interactive Learning | 24 | Curriculum: Sixth Form | 37 | In Partnership with Parents Complaints Procedures Safeguarding at Castell Alun |
| 11 | Space for Learning | 25 | Religious Education and Assemblies Equal Opportunities | 38 | Home School Agreement |
| 12 | Community Partnerships | | | | |
| 13 | High Aspirations | | | | |
| 15 | School Information | | | | |
| 16 | Celebrating Success | | | | |



Welcome to Castell Alun High School

Your journey begins here ...

At Castell Alun we believe passionately in providing all of our students with the best possible learning opportunities and experiences. Whether it's lessons, trips, sporting events or school productions, our team works tirelessly to prepare the young people in our community for an exciting future.



Working together with parents and carers, we aim to ensure that every learner is guided, supported and nurtured through one of the most important phases of life's journey.

Everyone remembers their time in secondary school; our aim is to pack that time full of opportunities for self expression and the development of new skills so that our students can thrive in a top quality learning environment and become successful.

We surround every child with exceptional pastoral care, exciting and innovative teaching, and

access to sport, dance, music, culture, fun and friendship.

Our students flourish in this context and our examination outcomes reflect our commitment to every single boy and girl who joins our special community.



"The strong pastoral and curricular links with partner primary schools contribute to the highly effective transition of pupils from Year 6 to Year 7."

Croeso i Ysgol Uwchradd Castell Alun



"Pupils at Castell Alun High School greatly value their school."

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Head Teacher's Welcome

Castell Alun first opened its doors to the young people in our community over 55 years ago. Since then, the school has grown not only in student numbers, but also in its standing locally and nationally. Our school is built on core values of respect, hard work and responsibility. As the school's fifth Headteacher, I feel privileged to continue this tradition, and challenged to further build on our excellent reputation.

Our staff team is incredibly committed. Our teachers and support staff put a huge amount of time and effort into providing all learners with the best possible opportunities to succeed and enjoy school life. Our students are especially polite, willing and enthusiastic in all that they do. Perhaps their biggest contribution is the care and kindness they show each other. This is quite exceptional and I feel plays a large part in Castell Alun being such a special, happy and welcoming place to learn, develop and grow.

The world is changing so fast it sometimes seems hard to keep up. We know our students need to develop into highly skilled, adaptable and flexible lifelong learners, who can excel in whatever challenges may face them in adult life. They need a solid foundation built on high aspirations, traditional values, and access to an exciting range of learning experiences to set them up for a rich, fulfilling and happy life. Please take the time to read this prospectus and come along to one of our **Open Mornings** or the **Open Evening** to experience our wonderful learning community for yourself.



Graham Hughes
Head Teacher

"The level of care, concern and respect pupils have for each other is outstanding."

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Student Support

Student support is of the utmost importance to us as it forms the foundation for all that will be achieved whilst at Castell Alun.

It is essential that each of our students feels part of the Castell Alun family and we pride ourselves on the quality of care provided by all members of the team, from Group Tutors to Student Development Managers and subject specialist teachers.

We endeavour to keep in very close contact with all students' families and believe that a child's education is best served by whole-hearted engagement in a true partnership between school and home.



Vision and Values

"Pupils at Castell Alun fully enjoy school life and participate enthusiastically in all the learning experiences and opportunities that the school provides."

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We work diligently to provide every child with an education which will empower them with the skills, knowledge and understanding they will need to prosper in modern society. Underpinning this commitment we have our School Mission Statement and Code of Conduct.

We have very high standards at Castell Alun and, working with parents and carers, we can say with considerable confidence that all of our young people understand and play their role in abiding by our rules wholeheartedly.

Castell Alun is an inclusive school where every child is expected to develop self-discipline, commitment and personal responsibility. We have proven systems for making sure that all students can find, explore and develop their talents, in whatever area these may be.

Our team is highly skilled and totally committed to the school's vision for learning.



Enjoying School Life



The most important thing to us is that our students are happy. Everything is built upon this principle. Attendance at Castell Alun ranks as one of the very best in Wales. There is no doubt about it, the more you put into school life, the more you'll get out of it.

We offer a huge range of learning activities and experiences within and beyond taught lessons, and once we spot talents we

are relentless in nurturing and developing them. We are able to boast ex-students running highly successful businesses, managing huge manufacturing plants, performing in the West End, playing sport professionally and several others who now teach in our school.

We listen carefully to our learners and respond to their suggestions. It is, after all, their school. We have a very active school council, who,

working with the wider student body, raise a tremendous amount of money every year for the school and a broad range of charities.

Many of our students volunteer in the local community. They support, clubs, groups, teams and other organisations. Our students work hard, play hard and don't waste a minute or opportunity. Their outcomes at the end of Year 11 and 13 are of course life changing for so many.

Engaging and interactive learning



“There is a comprehensive range of learning resources, and teachers use them effectively to support pupils in their learning.”

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Teaching and Learning is at the core of what we do. We believe that learning in our school is exciting, enjoyable and rewarding and we aim to provide our students with the best possible opportunities to succeed.

As a large school we are able to offer a huge range of subjects and great facilities. We treat all students as individuals and our staff know how to get the

best out of each child. We expect our learners to ask questions, to challenge knowledge and grow as independent life-long learners. Our students leave Castell Alun as confident young adults with a wealth of experiences behind them and bright futures ahead. The school's reputation locally and nationally also means that many of the very best teachers choose to work at Castell Alun and our staff are immensely proud to be part of our success.

Space for learning



Originally built in 1958, our school has grown and evolved to meet the needs of the 21st century learner. We have wi-fi in every room and other specialist facilities in a broad range of subjects.

Our students have access to social areas, high quality dining facilities and the school itself is based in a lovely, quiet village setting. We have a vibrant, well stocked library, great sports facilities, study areas and well equipped classrooms. Our Sixth Form enjoys its own areas for studying, snacking and socialising and our campus is clean, welcoming, bright, homely and well respected by all who use it.

Community partnerships

At Castell Alun we are proud to be part of our local community. Our students are excellent ambassadors for the school in the way they engage in our many varied links and partnerships.

We raise large sums of money for local charities every year and our Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and Welsh Baccaulaureate involvement provide well used platforms for community service.

Our students put on high quality concerts in school and across our local area.

Our adult education programme is long standing and we are constantly looking for ways to enhance and develop this facet of school life.

A large number of ex-students live and work locally and their children and even grandchildren attend Castell Alun.



“Large sums of money are raised for charity with a strong emphasis on supporting ‘local’ charities.”

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High aspirations

We believe that all our students are capable of impressive things and we always encourage them to aspire to be the best they can be in everything they do.

With careful, considered guidance and personal support our students constantly achieve the examination grades of which they are capable and consequently pursue further study or career paths which are of real interest to them. We work with our students to set ambitious, but achievable, targets in each subject and we monitor and support every learner.

We welcome a great variety of visiting speakers into school each term to deliver presentations and provide workshops about various aspects of life beyond school, including inputs from various professions and worthy charities. Castell Alun is now also recruiting ex-students to come and visit groups of current students in order to discuss particular career and further study paths.

Duke of Edinburgh

The Award is a nationally recognised recognition of achievement and endeavour. It can include many varied activities, skills and physical challenges.

Students can start preparing in Year 9, but from September in Year 10 the planning for expeditions begins. Volunteering, starting a new skill and doing a physical activity are part of the award.

The Bronze Award is carried out in Year 10, with two expeditions from May onwards. These are usually carried out in the Llangollen area.

The Silver Award is done in Year 11, the final expedition is after the GCSE examinations. The expedition is likely to be in Snowdonia or the Peak District.

If students are successful, they can opt to do the Gold Award in the 6th Form, this is a two year programme, and involves more time on each section, as well as a residential element.





School Information



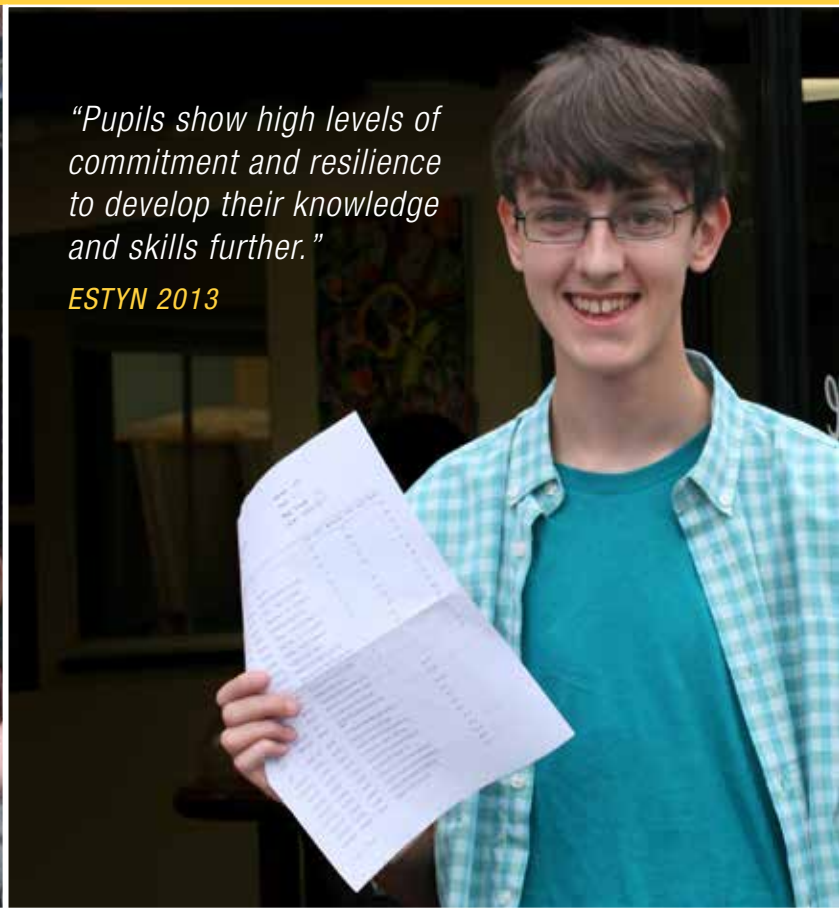
Celebrating success

At Castell Alun we want all students to succeed. We take every possible opportunity to celebrate the contribution of our students and we pride ourselves in giving students the recognition they deserve for their efforts.

For students who have performed to the best of their ability in a particular subject or won an award outside of school, we use our school website, electronic screens, the media, newsletters and letters of recognition to share these successes with others.

For high performers in specific subjects and those students who put exceptional effort into school work we recognise this through certificates, prizes and awards during the school year.





"Pupils show high levels of commitment and resilience to develop their knowledge and skills further."

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Outside the taught day

Our School



Learning happens in many different ways. At Castell Alun, students are given the best possible opportunities to enjoy learning, both in and out of the classroom. We offer a huge range of extra curricular activities from music, dance and drama to sport, debating and engineering.

Our study club facility is available after school every Tuesday and Thursday and buses are provided specifically to allow access to this provision.

We pride ourselves on planning a great many stimulating trips for students, both locally and further afield, with at least three visits going abroad each year as well as a wealth of opportunities to explore the local area.



Castell Alun is an English medium co-educational school catering for over 1350 students.

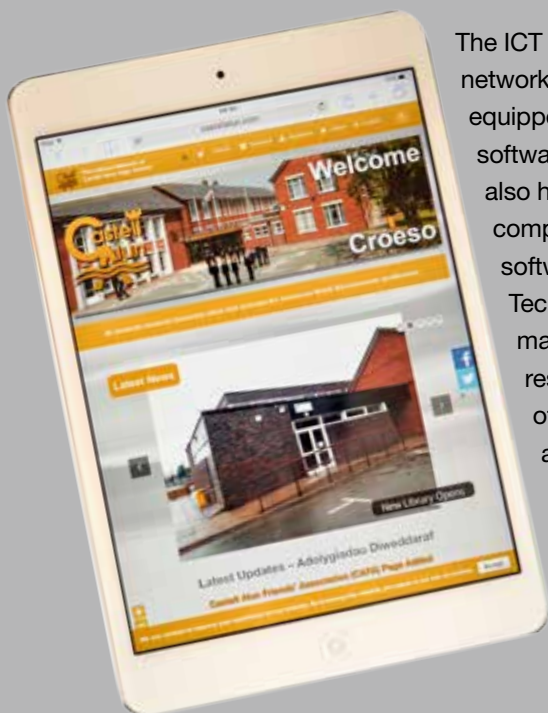
Originally opened in 1958, there have been three stages in the school's development: firstly as an 11 - 16 Secondary School, then a short spell as a Junior Comprehensive and, finally, its present status as an all through 11 - 18 Comprehensive School. The school serves a number of communities from Dobshell near Hawarden in the north, to Llay in the south and from Kinnerton near Chester in the east, to Treuddyn in the west. We are located in the pleasant village of Hope, three miles from the border with England and roughly equidistant between Chester and Wrexham. This provides for a rich and balanced cultural mix of English and Welsh which is reflected in the ethos of the school.

Local Authority

The Education Department Lifelong Learning Directorate
Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6ND
Telephone: 01352 70 40 68

E-Learning and Communication

Castell Alun's learning environment includes a well-stocked Library and Study Areas, as well as several ICT suites. These areas are open throughout the school day and are supervised by staff during school hours. The pleasant working atmosphere in the Library and Study Areas, and the availability of help and advice, are much appreciated by staff and students.



The ICT suites consist of networked computers equipped with up-to-date software and the school also has specialist computer facilities and software in Music and Technology. Students make full use of ICT resources in a variety of subjects and ICT and digital literacy is regarded as an integral part of students' development.



To support this, classrooms are equipped with a digital multimedia projector that connects to a computer/iPad and there is a Virtual Learning Environment which students can access remotely thus offering access to the latest web content, animations and presentations. The recent addition of a wi-fi network aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience for all, engaging students in new and innovative ways. Communication with parents, carers and the wider community is very important to us.

Our school website can be found at www.castellalun.com and we also have a very active 'Twitter' community via [@castellalun](https://twitter.com/castellalun). Along with email, these are useful ways in which to hear about the wonderful endeavours of our students, and to keep updated on school news.

Acting Chair of Governors: [Mr Idris Williams](#)

Director of Lifelong Learning: [Mr Ian Budd](#)



[@CastellAlun](https://twitter.com/CastellAlun) www.castellalun.com

"The extensive extra-curricular provision has had a positive impact on pupils' achievement, wellbeing and attitudes to learning."

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Admission to Castell Alun



The school takes 211 students into Year 7 each year. For the academic year 2016/2017 we received 249 written applications. There were 10 appeals, 7 of which were successful.

We are required to operate within the 'Admission Arrangements' as laid down by the Local Authority, copies of which are available from:

**The Education Department,
Lifelong Learning Directorate**

Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 6ND
Tel: **01352 704068**

Application for Admission

Parents or Carers of students in their final year of primary school will receive a 'Parental Preference Form'. Parents should, if they wish, indicate Castell Alun as their first choice of secondary school.

Responsibility for school transport rests with the Local Authority. Transport will be provided for students where Castell Alun is the nearest school to the home address, but only if the home address is more than 3 miles from the school (measured along the shortest possible route). Occasionally, if a route is deemed to be 'hazardous' then transport may be provided from addresses nearer to the school.

There is close liaison between us and our local primary schools. Students due to join Castell Alun in September are invited to visit the school for our Induction Day during the Summer Term. Further information is provided at an evening, held in July, for those parents whose children will be starting at Castell Alun in September. Parents are welcome to visit the school at other times but are asked to make an appointment. Telephone: **01978 760238**.



Charging and Remissions

The school follows the Local Authority's charging policy document in relation to remissions, optional extras and activities organised by third parties.

Charges made will be those permissible under the Education Reform Act 1988 and associated Statutory Instruments.

Student Development

On arrival at the school, each student joins a Tutor Group under the specific care of a Group Tutor. There is no order of ranking within the year as each group is seen as being equal.

The allocation to groups takes place after liaison with the local primary schools. Castell Alun is organised for pastoral purposes into Year Groups. Years 7, 8 and 9 make up the Lower School. Years 10 and 11 make up the Upper School. Years 12 and 13 make up the Senior School. Each Year Group is comprised of a number of Tutor Groups, each with its own Group Tutor and led by a Student Development Manager.



"The school works well with a range of external agencies to meet the specific needs of individual students and offers useful information regarding career paths."

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Additional Needs

The school aims to provide access to the whole curriculum for students with additional needs through a number of support strategies. The school is adapted for students with mobility disabilities. We have a Disability Access Plan which outlines anticipated future improvements.

The school welcomes students with additional needs, with or without statements, in the same way as other children. The Additional Needs Register lists these students and is circulated to every member of staff. Students needing support in literacy and numeracy are monitored and given access to small group teaching during English and Mathematics lessons. Additional help with reading and/or spelling skills is provided by a basic skills teacher who works with students on a rotating extraction programme.

We also have 'Nurture Groups' in Year 7. These offer small groups of students a more intimate and supportive curriculum whilst they adjust to the demands of secondary school education. The member of staff responsible for promoting the educational achievement of looked after children is Mr Carl Pugh.

Proud to be Welsh

Whilst Castell Alun is an English Medium School, the Welsh culture is emphasised throughout the school in many areas.

The Welsh Department plays an important role in ensuring the delivery of the language through its teaching provision but also promotes the culture of Wales in a number of extra-curricular activities. Welsh is used in main school assemblies and the Curriculum Cymreig is an integral part of subject specific schemes of work throughout the school.

Students who enter the school in the final year of Key Stage 3 or during Key Stage 4 may be exempted from the normal National Curriculum requirements to study Welsh if they have not studied Welsh in the school curriculum for at

least one academic year in any of the three preceding academic years. However, even though the statutory requirements to teach Welsh does not apply to those students who meet the above criteria, the Governing Body and Headteacher may decide that the subject should be taught.

The understanding of the Welsh culture and language is extended in the Sixth Form through participation in the Welsh Baccaulaureate qualification.



“Pupils’ understanding of Welsh culture and traditions is developed well through a range of subjects and extra-curricular activities including an annual Eisteddfod.”

Curriculum

Lower School

In Year 7, every child will follow a timetable comprising:

English

Expressive Arts

(Games, Gymnastics/Dance, Music)

Humanities

(Geography, History, Religious Education)

Languages

(French and Welsh, German in Year 9)

Mathematics

Science

Technology

Art

Information Technology

ALL subjects are included within the framework of the National Curriculum. In addition students will experience: Personal and Social Education (PSE), an Assembly (Year or Group) and Whole School Assembly.

Upper School

The aim of the Upper School is to provide each student with a balanced curriculum which caters for individual interests and aptitudes, without closing too many avenues of study.

Towards the end of Year 9 students are asked to choose from a number of options and this process is carried out with full consultation between parents, students and staff.

Details of option programmes are provided in a separate booklet distributed during the Spring Term of Year 9.

A Parents' Evening for Year 9 students is held prior to the final option choice. Students also study the Intermediate Welsh Baccalaureate qualification, elements of which includes community participation, enterprise citizenship and an individual project.



“The Welsh Baccalaureate qualification in Key Stage 4 and in the Sixth Form is a strong feature. The course provides a wide range of opportunities for pupils to improve their skills, which include beneficial activities to support the community.”

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Curriculum

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Castell Alun offers wide-ranging educational opportunities. Students are expected to adopt a mature pattern of behaviour and attitude, to transmit this by example to younger students, and to contribute to the school and its values.

Each student in the Sixth Form is guided, supported and monitored from the outset. At Castell Alun we are very proud of the guidance programme we have developed. This has enabled a great many students over the years to obtain a place in Higher/Further Education. This programme is complemented by liaison with employers and



universities who recognise that students from the Sixth Form at Castell Alun achieve academically, and have developed qualities which enhance their chosen career or Higher Education course.

Castell Alun has had consistently good exam results for a number of years that exceed both county and

national averages. Subject choices include a range of level 3 courses at AS/A Level and BTEC. Information about courses and option choices is conveyed to parents during the Spring Term in Year Eleven. As an extension to subjects offered in the Sixth Form, all students undertake the Welsh Baccalaureate at Level 3.

“Pupils develop self confidence and their social and life skills extremely effectively.”

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Religious Education and Assemblies

Students are expected to attend regular whole school and year assemblies.

Students also follow a course of Religious Studies (which is also offered as an optional examination subject in the Upper School). Parents have the right to withdraw their child from these activities on written application to the school. All tutor groups engage in a daily act of collective worship, including time for reflection, which is broadly Christian in nature.

Equal Opportunities

The school is committed to the principle of equal opportunity for all. Initiatives designed to further this principle are actively promoted and supported.

We seek to encourage the development of attitudes which endorse the equal worth of all individuals and to ensure that all aspects of the curriculum and administration subscribe to the principle of equal opportunities.

Staff aim to devise teaching, learning and class management strategies that emphasise the principle of equal worth and in doing this we attempt to lay the foundations of a just and equitable society.



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

In accordance with the requirements of the 1986 Education Act, the governors of the school reviewed and approved the Sex Education Programme offered to our students. This policy has been updated in line with statutory requirements and approved by the Governing Body.

The Policy states:

‘All students, whatever their background, should be encouraged to appreciate the value of stable family life, marriage/partnerships and the responsibilities of parenthood. They should be helped to consider the importance of self restraint, dignity, respect for themselves and others and acceptance of responsibility, sensitive to the needs and views of others and of loyalty and commitment’.

The Governors judged that the Sex and Relationships Education Programme is being delivered with **‘due regard to moral consideration of the value of family life’** (as delineated in the Act).

The Governors also resolved that Sex and Relationships Education will be delivered within the **‘Health’** unit through the P.S.E. Programme, supported by the National Curriculum relating to Science.

Resources for the unit will be selected and developed with regard for the age of the students, within a moral framework and be consistent with Governors’ Policy and Statutory Requirements.

Sex and Relationships Education forms a compulsory part of the curriculum for all students but any parent wishing to withdraw their child from the Sex and Relationships Education Unit of the PSE Programme should apply in writing in the first instance to the Headteacher.

All materials are available for inspection by parents or carers. If any parent wishes to preview these materials then they should contact the school.



Careers Education



Careers guidance begins in the Lower School and is made available to students of Year 9 prior to their options and entry to the Upper School.

A modular programme is followed by all students of the Upper School in conjunction with the Careers Service, (Careers Wales), which offers each student of Year 11 an individual advice and counselling session.



Careers Wales staff are available for interviews with individual students and parents under the direction of Mr Andrew Duffy, Extended Learning Coordinator.

Sixth Form students are provided with active careers advice. They are given guidance on subject choices and how these impact on university courses and future employment opportunities. All students in Years 12 take part in a week of work experience.

The School Day

Term Dates 2016 -17

| | | |
|----------|----------|-----------------------|
| 8.45 am | - | Warning bell |
| 8.50 am | 9.15 am | REGISTRATION / P.S.E. |
| 9.15 am | 10.15 am | Period 1 |
| 10.15 am | 10.30 am | BREAK |
| 10.30 am | 11.30 am | Period 2 |
| 11.30 am | 12.30 am | Period 3 |
| 12.30 pm | 1.15 pm | LUNCH |
| 1.15 pm | 2.15 pm | Period 4 |
| 2.15 pm | 3.15 pm | Period 5 |
| 3.15 pm | - | End of School Day |



| AUTUMN TERM | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|
| Thursday 1 st | September | School closed - Staff Training Day |
| Friday 2 nd | September | School closed - Staff Training Day |
| Monday 5 th | September | School reopens |
| Friday 21 st | October | School closes - Half Term |
| Monday 31 st | October | School reopens |
| Friday 16 th | December | School closes - Christmas holiday |
| SPRING TERM | | |
| Tuesday 3 th | January | School closed - Staff Training Day |
| Wednesday 4 th | January | School reopens |
| Friday 17 th | February | School closes - Half Term |
| Monday 27 th | February | School reopens |
| Friday 7 th | April | School closes - Easter holiday |
| SUMMER TERM | | |
| Monday 24 th | April | School opens |
| Monday 1 st | May | School closed - May Day |
| Friday 26 th | May | School closes - Half Term |
| Monday 5 th | June | School reopens |
| Wednesday 19 th | July | School closes to students - Summer holiday |

Attendance 2015 -16

| Students' Attendance Figures 1 st September 2015 - 27 th May 2016 | |
|--|--------|
| Attendance | 95.3 % |
| Unauthorised Absence | 0.2% |

School Meals (Facilities Services: Catering Division)



A range of food is available each day from the 'Food Court', which provides a choice of full meals and a range of substantial 'snack' meals.

All items are individually priced, but each day a set meal for around £2.15 is available from the main dining room. Students are welcome to bring in a packed lunch. Drinks are available from vending machines in the school, and drinking water is available from fountains situated around the school. Eligibility for free school meals can be discussed with the School Office.

Out-of-School-Hours Learning



Students are encouraged to play a full part in the life of the school and a wide range of activities are offered at lunchtime and after school.

These normally include: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Choirs, Cricket, Dance, Drama groups, Hockey, Rugby, School Jazz Band, Football, Urdd Netball, Eisteddfod preparation and lunchtime and after school subject study groups.

Study Club runs on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 3:30pm to 4:40pm.

Free buses that cover all the normal bus routes are available at 4:45pm.

"Pupils understand the importance of 'healthy living' well."

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School Uniform

The school expects a high standard of uniform dress from each student and we are sure that this policy will be supported.

Make-up and **nail varnish** are not permitted in school. **Jewellery** can be hazardous for certain activities during the school day. Only one pair of plain ear studs may be worn (one in each ear lobe). One plain signet ring may be worn but large sovereign type rings are unsuitable. A **watch** is permitted but no other bracelets, bangles, necklaces or arm bands. Body / facial jewellery is not permitted, i.e. nose, eye, tongue studs, spacers etc.

For safety reasons, long **hair** must be kept under control and extreme hair styles and colours are not acceptable (this includes shaven heads including grade 1's). We have always considered natural hair colour to be acceptable; hair which is peroxide blonde / white or an unnatural / contrasting colour is outside the normal range. Failure to abide by this rule may result in removal from lessons and / or break times. Excessive use of hairspray, gel or mousse is also not allowed for safety reasons. Care must also be taken when using aerosols so as not to cause problems for asthmatics.

BASIC UNIFORM

- Outdoor wear** Coat (*denims, leather jackets and track suit style tops are not acceptable*).
An optional rain jacket with school badge is available.
V-neck sweater: Black with embroidered school badge.
(*Only available from school supplier - round neck sweaters are not acceptable*).
- Shirt** White (*conventional style buttoned to collar*).
- Trousers** Plain black tailored style
(*jeans / canvas or skinny / tapered / skin tight trousers are not acceptable*).
- Skirt** Plain black (*approximately knee length*).
- School tie** Gold with narrow black stripe* - Lower School.
Black with narrow gold stripe* - Upper School.
- Socks and Tights** Boys: Plain dark coloured socks.
Girls: With trousers - plain dark coloured socks.
Girls: With skirts - plain black, opaque tights or black ankle socks.
- Footwear** Black shoes (*not more than 2 centimetres heel*).
NB: Trainers/black pumps or plimsolls are not permitted.
If wearing boots for bad weather, a change of footwear will be required for indoor wear.



*Ties are available for purchase from school.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION GIRLS AND BOYS KIT

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Rugby and Soccer Shirt | <i>(boys only)</i> Reversible shirt - <i>(black and yellow)</i> |
| Shorts | Black <i>(football style)</i> |
| Socks | Black football |
| Boots | Studded soccer or rugby for winter games |
| Shinpads | Safety for football lessons |
| Sweatshirt | <i>(girls only)</i> Black with Castell Alun logo |
| Training Bottoms | <i>(optional)</i> Plain black <i>(no stripes)</i> with Castell Alun logo |
| Fitness leggings | <i>(girls only)</i> Plain black must be sports dri-fit 3/4 length only |
| Skort | <i>(girls only)</i> Black with yellow stripes and Castell Alun logo |
| Training shoes | Canvas shoes are not allowed - only sports trainers |
| Towel | For games lessons |

SCHOOL SUPPLIER

Items of the Physical Education uniform together with the school sweater and rain jacket are available from:

Forrester Sports, New Street, Mold

Telephone: **01352 75 66 36**



Public Examination Results 2016



"Performance at Key Stage 4 in qualifications that include English and Mathematics has been strong over recent years."

ESTYN 2013

Results 2016

| Key Stage 3 Outcomes | Percentage of students achieving level 5 or above | |
|------------------------|---|-------|
| | School | Wales |
| English | 91.8 | 89.2 |
| Mathematics | 96.6 | 90.1 |
| Science | 94.7 | 92.8 |
| Core Subject Indicator | 90.9 | 85.9 |



| GCSE Subjects | Entries | A* | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | A*-C | A*-G |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|------|------|
| Business Studies GCSE / FC | 45 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 56 | 100 |
| Art & Design GCSE / FC | 48 | 5 | 20 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 92 | 100 |
| Astronomy GCSE / FC | 12 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 92 | 100 |
| Biology GCSE / FC | 59 | 7 | 15 | 25 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Chemistry GCSE / FC | 59 | 10 | 12 | 26 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98 | 100 |
| Chinese GCSE / FC | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Performing Arts - Drama GCSE / FC | 21 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 81 | 100 |
| English Literature GCSE / FC | 185 | 6 | 42 | 68 | 56 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 93 | 100 |
| English Language GCSE / FC | 218 | 11 | 31 | 56 | 80 | 28 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 82 | 100 |
| Food Technology GCSE / FC | 22 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 100 |
| French GCSE / FC | 54 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 67 | 100 |
| Geography GCSE / FC | 60 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 17 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 85 | 100 |
| German GCSE / FC | 31 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 65 | 100 |
| Health & Social Care GCSE / FC | 18 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 100 |
| History GCSE / FC | 117 | 34 | 36 | 24 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 89 | 100 |
| Law / Legal Studies GCSE / FC | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Mathematics GCSE / FC | 216 | 22 | 33 | 46 | 75 | 28 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 81 | 100 |
| Music GCSE / FC | 22 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 82 | 100 |
| Sport/PE Studies GCSE / FC | 52 | 3 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 77 | 100 |
| Physics GCSE / FC | 59 | 11 | 13 | 25 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Religious Studies GCSE / FC | 91 | 20 | 31 | 18 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 87 | 100 |
| Science: Core GCSE / FC | 119 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 71 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 77 | 99 |
| Science: Additional GCSE / FC | 88 | 7 | 9 | 21 | 40 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 100 |
| Product Design GCSE / FC | 33 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 48 | 100 |
| Welsh (Second Language) GCSE / FC | 44 | 7 | 17 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Welsh (Second Language) GCSE / SC | 167 | 7 | 24 | 47 | 36 | 18 | 19 | 13 | 3 | 68 | 100 |
| Religious Studies GCSE / SC | 118 | 6 | 15 | 24 | 29 | 19 | 14 | 4 | 6 | 63 | 99 |

Public Examination Results 2016



A Level Results 2016

| A Level Subjects | Entries | A* | A | B | C | D | E |
|--------------------------------|---------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Art & Design | 22 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| Biology | 71 | 1 | 7 | 17 | 24 | 10 | 9 |
| Business | 25 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Chemistry | 59 | 2 | 9 | 22 | 8 | 12 | 5 |
| D&T Food Technology | 16 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| D&T Product Design | 13 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Drama | 12 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| English Language | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| English Literature | 69 | 4 | 7 | 26 | 27 | 4 | 1 |
| French | 10 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Geography | 24 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| Health & Social Care | 19 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| History | 139 | 6 | 35 | 70 | 25 | 2 | 1 |
| Information Technology | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Law | 28 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 4 |
| Mathematics Further | 11 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 2 |
| Mathematics | 72 | 5 | 15 | 17 | 11 | 13 | 5 |
| Music | 23 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| Performing Arts (Dance) | 11 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Physics | 53 | 1 | 5 | 18 | 12 | 13 | 4 |
| Politics | 14 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| Psychology | 98 | 4 | 5 | 20 | 32 | 32 | 4 |
| Religious Studies | 81 | 2 | 17 | 36 | 20 | 5 | 1 |
| Sport/PE Studies | 17 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| Welsh (Second Language) | 11 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| Overall totals (exc WBQ) | 906 | 31 | 133 | 286 | 242 | 140 | 59 |
| Welsh Baccalaureate (Advanced) | 240 | 0 | 92 | 82 | 65 | 0 | 0 |
| Overall totals (inc WBQ) | 1146 | 31 | 225 | 368 | 307 | 140 | 59 |

| A*-A | A*-B | A*-C | A*-E |
|------|------|------|------|
| 27% | 45% | 77% | 100% |
| 11% | 35% | 69% | 100% |
| 8% | 32% | 60% | 100% |
| 19% | 56% | 70% | 94% |
| 6% | 19% | 44% | 100% |
| 15% | 46% | 75% | 100% |
| 17% | 58% | 75% | 100% |
| 0% | 17% | 83% | 100% |
| 16% | 54% | 93% | 100% |
| 40% | 70% | 80% | 100% |
| 17% | 29% | 63% | 100% |
| 0% | 26% | 74% | 100% |
| 30% | 80% | 98% | 100% |
| 0% | 0% | 50% | 100% |
| 11% | 32% | 54% | 100% |
| 18% | 55% | 82% | 100% |
| 28% | 51% | 67% | 92% |
| 13% | 30% | 82% | 100% |
| 27% | 73% | 91% | 100% |
| 11% | 45% | 68% | 100% |
| 21% | 43% | 86% | 100% |
| 9% | 30% | 62% | 100% |
| 23% | 68% | 93% | 99% |
| 12% | 18% | 53% | 100% |
| 18% | 45% | 91% | 100% |
| 18% | 50% | 77% | 100% |
| 38% | 73% | 99% | 99% |
| 23% | 55% | 82% | 99% |

| Vocational Subjects | Entries | Numbers achieving | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|---|---|---|-----------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | D* | D | M | P | D1 (D*D*) | D2 (D*D) | DD | DM | MM | MP | PP |
| BTEC Creative Media Production | 14 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| BTEC Sports Coaching (Double Award) | 25 | | | | | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| BTEC Sport | 7 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | |

| Percentage | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Distinction or above | Pass or above |
| 36 % | 100 % |
| 44 % | 100 % |
| 71 % | 100 % |

Key Stage 4 Vocational Qualifications 2016

| Vocational Subjects | Dist * | Dist | Merit | Pass | D*2 | D2 | M2 | P2 | D1 | M1 | P1 | Entry Level |
|--|--------|------|-------|------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|
| Mathematics Additional L2 | 0 | 18 | 8 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Media Studies CNAT L2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | | | | |
| CAD (Industrial) NQF / L2 (equ 0.5) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Performing Arts Dance BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Performing Arts Dance BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 7 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| ICT CNAT L2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | | | | |
| Applied Sciences BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Applied Sciences BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 0 | 2 | 5 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Sports Studies BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Sports Studies BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 3 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Public Services BTEC/L2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Media Studies CNAT L1 | | | | | | | | | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| ICT CNAT L1 | | | | | | | | | 4 | 1 | 1 | |
| Public Services BTEC/L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 2 | |
| CAD (Industrial) NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 25 | |
| Building NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 1 | |
| Engineering NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 7 | |
| Catering Studies NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| Vehicle Finishing NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 1 | |
| Beauty Services NQF / L1 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 6 | |
| Building NQF / Entry Level | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 |

| Vocational Subjects | % Dist + (Level 2) | %Pass + (Level 2) | %Dist + (Level 1) | %Pass + (Level 1) | %Pass + (Entry Level) |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Mathematics Additional L2 | 34 | 74 | | | |
| Media Studies CNAT L2 | 0 | 70 | | | |
| CAD (Industrial) NQF / L2 (equ 0.5) | 0 | 100 | | | |
| Performing Arts Dance BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 100 | 100 | | | |
| Performing Arts Dance BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 41 | 100 | | | |
| ICT CNAT L2 | 0 | 45 | | | |
| Applied Sciences BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 0 | 100 | | | |
| Applied Sciences BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 6 | 100 | | | |
| Sports Studies BTEC / CE2 (equ 1.0) | 0 | 100 | | | |
| Sports Studies BTEC / EC2 (equ 2.0) | 21 | 100 | | | |
| Public Services BTEC/L2 | 0 | 100 | | | |
| Media Studies CNAT L1 | | | 67 | 100 | |
| ICT CNAT L1 | | | 67 | 100 | |
| Public Services BTEC/L1 | | | 0 | 67 | |
| CAD (Industrial) NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Building NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Engineering NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Catering Studies NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Vehicle Finishing NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Beauty Services NQF / L1 | | | 0 | 100 | |
| Building NQF / Entry Level | | | | | 100 |



In Partnership with Parents

We believe that educating children is a process that is best done in partnership with parents.

For this reason we like to ensure that information is passed on from school as appropriate through newsletters, prospectuses, bulletins, year books, information letters and other documents.

We actively promote the positive image of our school in the media and on the school's website and seek feedback from parents and other members of the wider community at regular intervals. Parents who are unhappy with their children appearing in the media should inform the school.



Complaints Procedures

Under the terms of Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988, procedures have been laid down concerning complaints made by parents or others on specific items concerning the delivery of the National Curriculum.

(These procedures DO NOT cover complaints of any other nature).

Any concerns expressed by parents and others about the school curriculum and related matters will continue to be considered and, so far as possible, dealt with through informal discussion with teachers and the Headteacher in the first instance. Where the issue is not resolved, the matter may then be the subject of a formal complaint

and, if appropriate, referred to the Governing Body. If deliberations fail to provide a satisfactory outcome, the issue will then be referred to the Local Authority.

The school also has a procedure for dealing with general complaints and copies of The School's Complaints Policy are made available upon request.

Safeguarding at Castell Alun

At Castell Alun, we aim to create and maintain a healthy and safe environment for all members of our school community.

We have a considerable number of policies in place to support this, with due regard given to current national legislation.

Copies of these policies are available from the school by request.

Home School Agreement

The school is committed to:

- high quality learning experiences
- high expectations
- continuous improvement and development
- providing opportunities to experience, recognise and celebrate success for all

Our Code of Conduct clearly states

what is expected of each of our young people:

- respect others
- be polite
- be well presented and dress appropriately
- behave properly both in and out of school
- be punctual and well prepared for work
- move around the school in a safe and civilised way
- take pride in the whole school environment
- maintain a reputation for being trustworthy and reliable
- take pride in the whole school environment
- maintain a reputation for being trustworthy and reliable

'At Castell Alun we have always emphasised the importance of school and parents working together in partnership. We believe that commitment to this partnership is essential if each young person is to achieve their full potential'.

The School's Commitment

Governors, Headteacher and Staff are committed to doing their best to ensure that all students have access to a broad, balanced curriculum and receive a quality education in an environment which develops a strong sense of social, cultural, moral and spiritual values.

We are also committed to:

- Encouraging attitudes and behaviour which develop honest, polite, well behaved, young people who respect themselves, staff, each other, their community and property (as outlined in our Behaviour and Discipline Booklet)
- Developing the personal qualities and talents possessed by our students
- Providing support for all our students.
- Providing equality of opportunity regardless of gender, race, disability or creed
- Building partnerships with parents
- Informing parents regularly regarding the progress of students
- Setting homework on a regular basis to assist students' learning and raise standards
- Working with outside agencies for the benefit of students' academic and pastoral welfare
- Provide opportunities to experience, recognise and celebrate success for all

Parents' Commitment

For our school to be successful, we require parents to demonstrate their support by ensuring their commitment to:

- Supporting the school's Behaviour and Discipline Code by working in partnership with staff.
- Ensuring that their child is on time for school and attends regularly. (Parents are responsible for ensuring regular and punctual attendance and should notify school if their child cannot attend).
- Providing the necessary uniform and equipment in line with school regulations.
- Supporting the school by ensuring that the high standards of behaviour demanded by the school are followed at all times (including during journeys to and from school).
- Supporting the school's homework schedule by checking and signing student organisers each week.
- Ensuring their child does not behave outside school in a manner which will bring the good name of the school and family into disrepute.
- Ensuring that their child abides by the school's anti-bullying policy and reporting any incidents of bullying of which they become aware.
- Ensuring that they inform the school of any relevant changes in the home situation (ie change of address, emergency contact numbers etc) and including any concerns or problems which could affect their child's work or behaviour.

Students' Commitment

At Castell Alun there is a requirement that students will:

- Always abide by the Code of Conduct and the Behaviour and Discipline procedure.
- Always be polite and courteous to all students and adults within the school.
- Always obey the anti-bullying policy and report any incidents of bullying that they become aware of.
- Maintain high standards of discipline both inside and outside the classroom.
- Be punctual, attend regularly and be prepared for lessons with the necessary equipment.
- Be dressed correctly in full school uniform.
- Do not behave in a manner which will damage the good name of the school and/or their family at any time, both inside and outside school.
- Take pride in the school and local environment.
- Work to the very best of their ability at all times.
- Be prepared to help and show consideration for others.
- Ensure that homework is always completed on time.

Uniform information - see pages 30 and 31.



Castell Alun High School, Fagl Lane, Hope, Flintshire LL12 9PY

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Cover artwork by Students of Castell Alun High School

