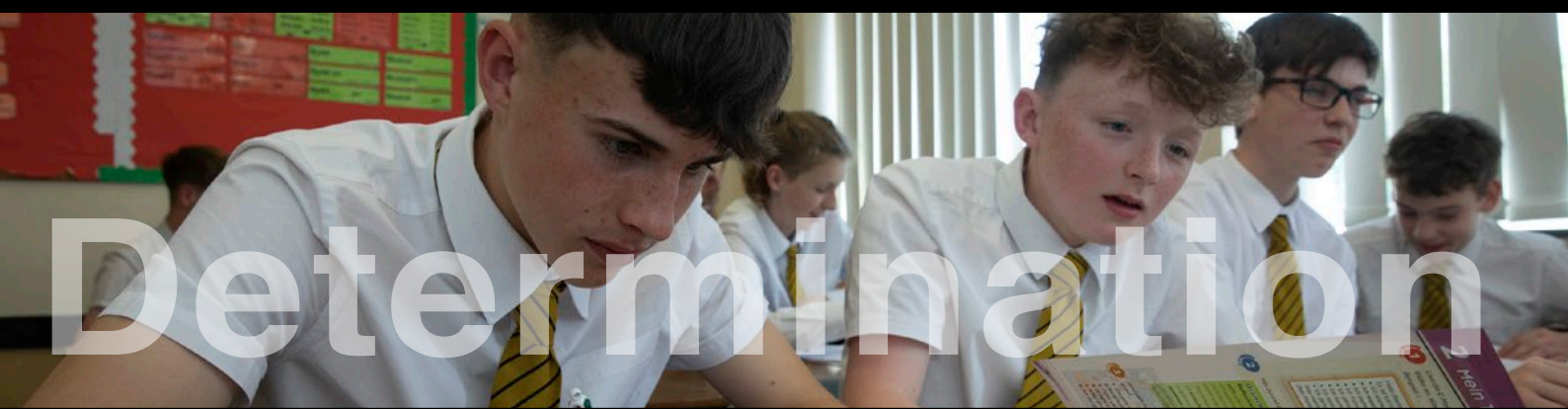




Respect



Determination



Honesty

YSGOL UWCHRADD
CASTELL ALUN
HIGH SCHOOL
PROSPECTWS 2022 - 2023 PROSPECTUS






There will be a new intake Open Evening
on **Thursday 29th September**
and an open morning on **Friday 30th September**

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

Tel/Ffon: **01978 760238** Email/Ebost: **main@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk**

www.**castellalun.com**  @CastellAlun

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"The quality of teaching makes a strong contribution to pupils' wellbeing and personal developments as well as the standards that they achieve."

ESTYN

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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. This remains our core purpose.

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.

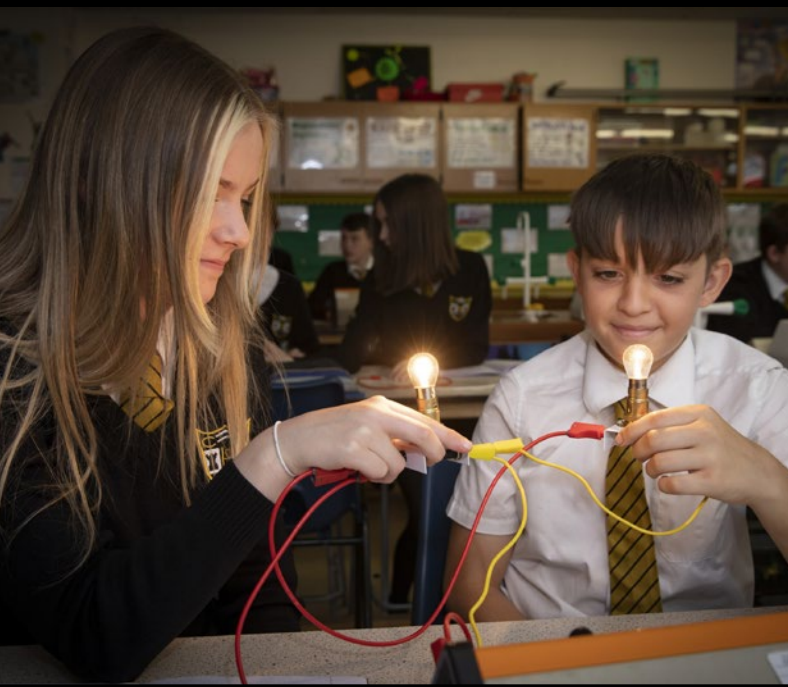
We surround every child with exceptional pastoral care, exciting and innovative teaching, and access to sport, dance, music, culture, fun and friendship.

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



"Castell Alun High School provides an exceptionally positive, caring and supportive environment for its pupils."

Values & Vision / Gwerthoedd a Gweledigaeth



Respect / Parch

We treat everyone equally
We are kind, polite and help others
We behave appropriately



Determination / Penderfynolrwydd

We never give up - we are 'all in'
We remain positive and persevere
We are ready to learn



Honesty / Gonestrwydd

We take responsibility for our actions
We are truthful in what we say and do
We are trustworthy and reliable



Vision / Gweledigaeth

The Castell Alun team will work in partnership with our local community and embrace national priorities to provide all students with excellent **learning** experiences that will develop them into **ambitious** and **capable, enterprising** and **creative, ethical** and **informed, healthy** and **confident** young people, who are fully prepared to reach their potential.

Headteacher's Welcome



Mr C Ellis
Headteacher

Welcome to Castell Alun High School, a happy and successful community where every student is recognised as an individual and where we aim for all to realise their potential.

Learning is at the centre of everything we do both in and out of the classroom and with so many opportunities we are confident your child will flourish here. School life is fundamentally about making progress, moving forward and improving. Everyone has a role to play at Castell Alun in order to realise our aims and indeed translate our vision for high quality learning into reality. Team work plays a significant part in our inclusive ethos, and so too do initiative

and originality. We encourage positive attitudes and a 'can do' culture.

We remain passionately committed to moving with the times in order to prepare all students for the future, but this is grounded constantly in traditional values of respect, determination and honesty. We pride ourselves on our family atmosphere and the fact that students feel safe and cared for. Our dedicated, energetic and talented staff team are committed to high standards and endeavour to bring 21st century learning to life for each individual

Our forward-thinking curriculum and extensive programme of extra-curricular



"A culture of high expectation and respect for others permeates all of its work."

ESTYN

activities develop our students' creativity and employability skills, and prepare them for life after school as happy, well balanced and successful global citizens.

We are extremely proud of our past whole school academic successes at both GCSE and A level and also the vast number of fantastic individual student achievements, whether academic, sporting, artistic or personal.

Many of our students gain a place at the top universities around the nation or commence prestigious apprenticeships or employment and go on to enjoy successful careers in every walk of life.

Student Support



Senior Leadership Team

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 and support staff.

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.



Mr Craig Stewart
Assistant Head

who will be joining us in September 2022

Our inclusive ethos is one in which the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and wellbeing of every young person matters. We have clear policies and systems and whilst good behaviour is the norm, we recognise it is also important to have fun and enjoy the whole school experience.

It really is a privilege to be the Headteacher of this unique school. Together with our dedicated staff team and the unfailing support of

the wider community, parents/carers and Governors we will harness your child's individual strengths to help them to flourish and develop into a creative, confident and caring citizen, who is excited about learning and eager to make a mark on the world. Our students are happy here because they feel inspired, engaged, supported and challenged, but, above all, because they experience success.

Mr C Ellis - Headteacher

Expectations

“Pupils engage very well in lessons, show great pride in their work and are curious, inquisitive and enthusiastic learners.”

ESTYN

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.

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, whether in session in the school building or indeed learning from home, 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 and punctuality at Castell Alun is very important. 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 standard 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,

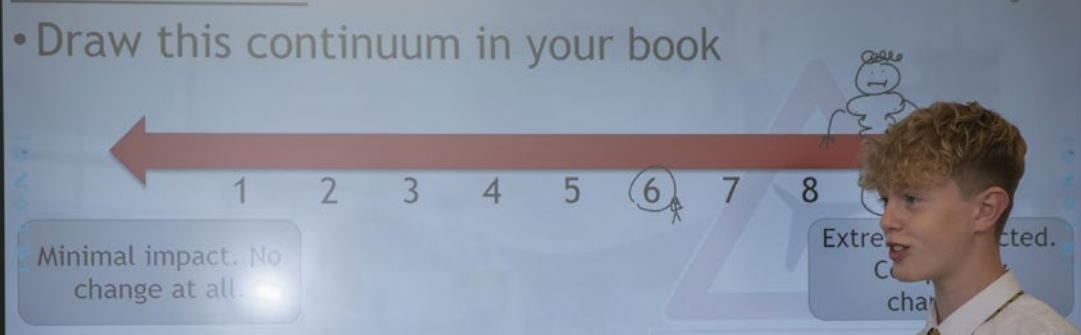
working with the wider student body, raise a tremendous amount of money every year for the school and a broad range of charities.

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

Starter Task:

- Draw this continuum in your book



Minimal impact. No change at all.

Extreme impact. No change at all.

- In your opinion, on a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you think the coronavirus pandemic has affected tourism?
- Draw a symbol where you'd place yourself along the scale.

you must explain why you've placed yourself in your book

Teaching and Learning is at the core of what we do. We believe that learning, whether socially distanced in school or indeed in the home environment, should be 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, 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 recently had a new build facility, Y Celtec, which is a state of the art learning area for students.

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 including a new multi purpose floodlit pitch, 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.

"Pupils make consistently strong progress in developing their knowledge, understanding and skills."

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 Bacallaureate involvement provide well used platforms for community service. Our students put on high quality concerts in school and across our local area.

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

We have a proactive Castell Alun Friends' Association and we are pleased to be able to open our Library to the community with the help of a local volunteer group.



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 a full range of aspects of life beyond school. These include inputs from professions and worthy charities. Castell Alun also recruits ex-students to come and visit groups of current students in order to discuss particular career and further study paths.

Duke of Edinburgh

This National Award recognises both achievement and endeavour. It can include many varied activities, skills and physical challenges.

The Bronze Award is available to Year 10 students. Volunteering, starting a new skill and doing a physical activity are also part of the award.

The Bronze expedition and training are completed in the spring of Year 10, usually in the Clwydian Hills or Llangollen area.

The Silver Award starts in Year 11, with the final expedition being after the GCSE examinations. The expedition is usually in Snowdonia or the Lake 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.



"Activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and community and charity events contribute well to the personal development of many pupils." **ESTYN**

Y Celtec

In September 2021 we opened our new building, Y Celtec. The facilities in this three storey building allow all of our students to benefit from working in an environment that is equipped for today's 21st century learner. The building predominantly houses three main learning areas: Design Technology including state of the art workshops, dedicated engineering and graphic products classrooms as well as a fully

equipped food technology room; Art and Design, including three large Art classrooms, Art Studio and Resource room with printing facilities and glass kiln; Expressive Arts with specialist Dance Studio and multifunction Drama/Performing Arts room. All classrooms are fully equipped with interactive smart screens and have access to individual I.T. facilities to enhance teaching and learning across the subjects.



"The physical education department has established a number of valuable links with local clubs, which helps the pupils to develop their leadership skills."

ESTYN



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, social media and other media, school e-mail systems, blogs 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, reward trips / activities and awards during the school year as part of our school Praise and Rewards Scheme.

There are two types of praise points which are awarded electronically.

- **ATTAINMENT** - awarded when a student completes their very best work, either in the classroom or at home.

- **EFFORT** - awarded when a student's effort exceeds our expectations.

There is a termly assembly for each year group where individual and whole class achievements will be recognised / rewarded.



"Teachers have consistently high expectations of pupils. They plan demanding activities that promote strong progress as well as developing effectively pupils' independence in their learning."

ESTYN



Outside the taught day

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, whether on the school premises or not. We offer a huge range of extra curricular activities from music, dance and drama to sport, debating and engineering.

Our Study Club facility is normally 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 during each standard school year as well as a wealth of opportunities to explore the local area.



Our School

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

Telephone: 01352 704068

The Education Department Lifelong Learning Directorate

Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6ND

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 competency is regarded as an integral part of students' development.

We are also truly excited about the opportunities which our new building is already providing to students. Classrooms throughout Castell Alun are equipped with a digital multimedia projector or smartscreen TVs, and our Virtual Learning Environment allows students access remotely to the latest web content, animations and presentations. Indeed our use of Google Classroom has increased greatly over recent months and this VLE is now at the very core of both classwork and homework learning experiences. Our wi-fi network enhances the teaching and learning experience for all, engaging students in new and innovative ways using mobile devices across the school.



Chair of Governors: [Mrs Helen Williams](#)

Chief Officer Education & Youth (Flintshire): [Mrs Claire Homard](#)



@CastellAlun

www.castellalun.com



Admission to Castell Alun



The school takes 211 students into Year 7 each year. We are grateful that the school's reputation means that we are continuously over-subscribed.

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**

Parents or carers of students in their final year of primary school will complete an online 'Parental Preference Form' via Flintshire County Council. 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.

We liaise closely with our local primary schools. Students due to join Castell Alun in September are usually 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 Welsh Government's and local authorities guidance for schools on activities within its Charging and Remissions Act 1996 policy.

Charges made will be those permissible under the Education Act 1996 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.



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 basic skills teachers, who work 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 Craig Stewart.

We have embraced the Additional Learning Needs Reform (commencing September 2021), our Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCO), Dr Nicola Davies works tirelessly to ensure that staff are equipped to help students with a great variety of learning needs.

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.

The understanding of the Welsh culture and language is extended in the Sixth Form through participation in the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification. Our students are also eager participants locally, nationally, and often internationally in the Eisteddfod.



“There is a well-coordinated and high profile whole-school approach to developing pupils’ knowledge and understanding of Welsh language and culture.”

ESTYN



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, in Year 7 , French, German and Welsh in Year 8 and a choice of French / German / Spanish with Welsh in Year 9.)

Mathematics

Science

Design Technology

Art and Design

Computing & ICT

ALL subjects are included within the framework of the National Curriculum. In addition students will experience: Personal and Social Education (PSE) Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE), 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 to Year 9. A Parents' Evening for Year 9 students is held prior to the final option choice. Students also study towards the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification at National / Foundation Level in Year 10 and Year 11. Elements include community participation, enterprise, citizenship and an individual research project.



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, or a prestigious Higher Apprenticeship. 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 11. As an extension to subjects offered in the Sixth Form, all students are able to undertake the Welsh Baccalaureate at Advanced Level, and this qualification has assisted countless students in being accepted at their first choice university over recent years.



“The school provides high quality advice and guidance which provides invaluable support for pupils making important decisions at the end of each key stage.”

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 and personal wellbeing, 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. These aims are further realised through our School Council Equality and Diversity Group.

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.



“Pupils show positive attitudes towards their learning and develop successfully as ethical, informed citizens”

Relationships and Sexuality Education

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Act, the governors of the school reviewed and approved the Relationships & Sexuality 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 Relationships & Sexuality 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 Relationships & Sexuality 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 are selected and developed with regard for the age of the students, within a moral framework and are consistent with Governors’ Policy and Statutory Requirements.

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



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 Mrs Gill Roberts.

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 Year 12 would normally take part in a week of work experience.



Standard School Day Term Dates 2022 -23

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 pm	Period 3
12.30 pm	1.15 pm	LUNCH TIME
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 1st	September	School closed - Staff Training Day
Friday 2nd	September	School closed - Staff Training Day
Monday 5th	September	School reopens to all students
Friday 28th	October	School closed - Staff Training Day School closes - Half Term
Monday 7th	November	School closed - Staff Training Day
Tuesday 8th	November	School reopens to students
Thursday 22nd	December	School closes - Christmas Holiday
Friday 23rd	December	School closed - Staff Training Day
SPRING TERM		
Monday 9th	January	School reopens
Friday 17th	February	School closes - Half Term
Monday 27th	February	School reopens
Friday 31st	March	School closes - Easter Holiday
SUMMER TERM		
Monday 17th	April	School reopens to students
Monday 1st	May	School closed - May Day
Friday 26th	May	School closes - Half Term
Monday 5th	June	School reopens
Wednesday 19th	July	School closes - Summer holiday
Thursday 20th	July	School closed - Staff Training Day

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 £2.75 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. Food allergies can be discussed with the school nurse (Mrs Paula Jackson and Catering Manager (Mrs D Bibby). We operate a cashless catering system and money can be paid onto personal accounts both via machines in school and using the School Gateway app online.

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, Dodgeball, Ball, Choirs, Cricket, Dance, Drama groups, Hockey, Rugby, Football, Urdd Activities, Eisteddfod preparation and lunchtime and after school subject study groups in a variety of subjects.

Study Club normally runs on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 3:30pm to 4:40pm, but there are also after school activities running throughout the week.

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



School Uniform

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

Natural / discreet make-up is only allowed. Nail varnish and false / acrylic nails are not permitted in school.

Jewellery can be hazardous for certain activities during the school day. Only one ear stud may be worn in each ear. Two plain rings may be worn but large, sovereign style 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 for certain activities, e.g. P.E. etc. and extreme hair styles and colours are not acceptable in the main school (this includes shaven heads and grade zero). We have always considered natural hair colour to be acceptable; hair which is peroxide blonde / white or an unnatural / contrasting colour is outside the acceptable range.

Failure to abide by these rules may result in removal from lessons and / or break times for students in years 7-11.

Basic Uniform

Outdoor wear Coat (denims, leather jackets and track suit style tops / hoodies 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

Pleated black school skirt of an appropriate length (*'tube', 'skater' or 'pencil' styles are not acceptable*).

School tie

Gold with narrow black stripe* - Lower School.
Black with narrow gold stripe* - Upper School.

Socks and Tights

With trousers - plain black socks.
With skirts - plain black, opaque tights or black ankle socks.

Footwear

Black shoes (*not more than 2 centimetre heel*).
Shoes with a sports branded logo, black pumps and boots are not permitted.
Shoes should be of a material that is suitable to be polished.

* Ties are available for purchase from school.



Physical Education

GIRLS AND BOYS KIT

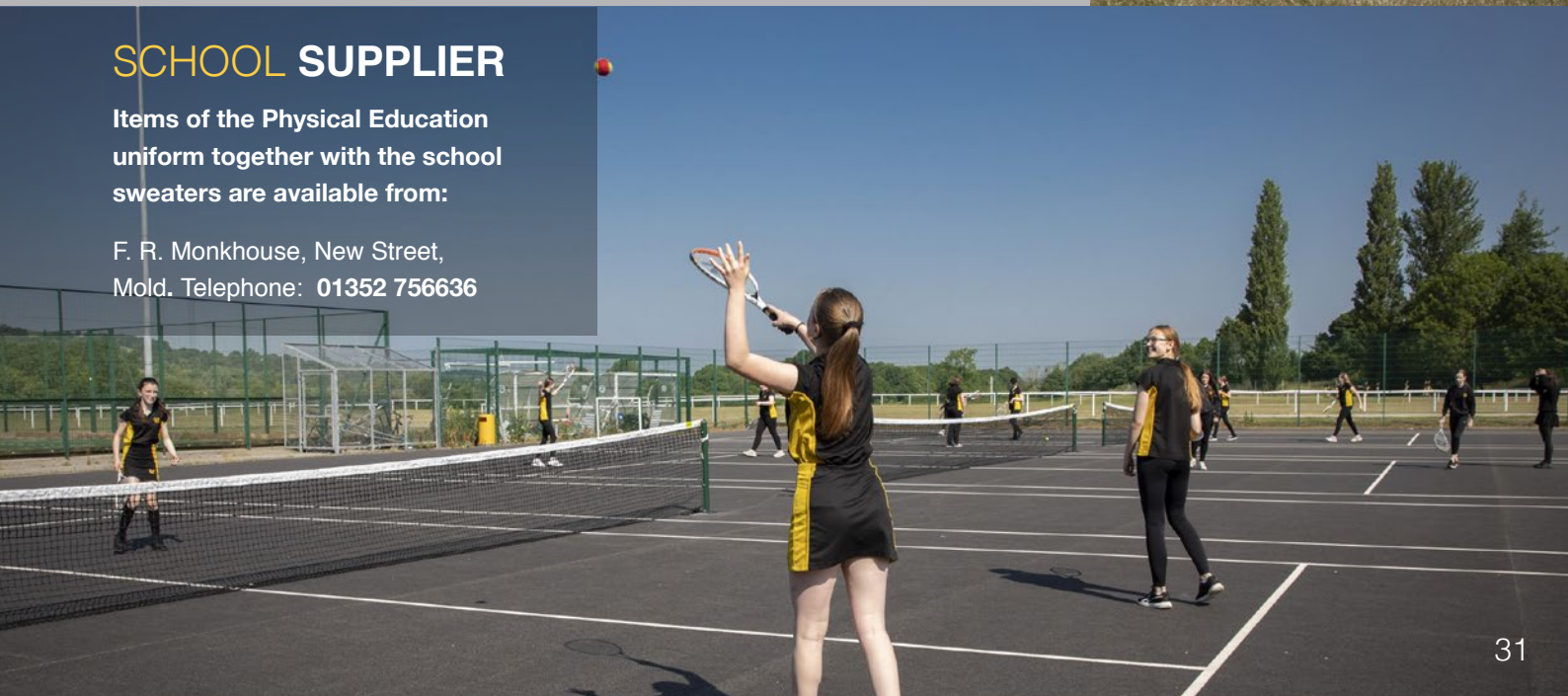
Sports Shirt	Black and Yellow with Castell Alun logo
Shorts	Black (football style, no stripes or sports logo)
Boots	Studded soccer or rugby for winter games
Shinpads / Gumshields	Safety for football and rugby lessons
Sweatshirt	Black with Castell Alun logo
Tracksuit Bottoms	Plain black (no stripes or sports logo) with Castell Alun logo (optional)
Socks	Black football
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 sweaters are available from:

F. R. Monkhouse, New Street,
Mold. Telephone: 01352 756636



Public Examination Results 2022



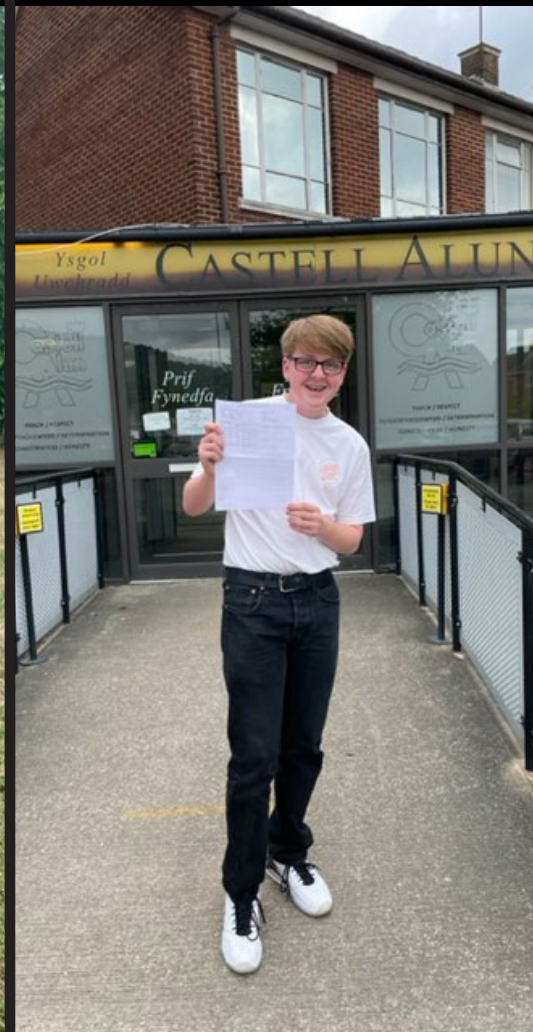
"The school has comprehensive systems to monitor pupils' academic progress and their wellbeing. It uses this system extremely well to celebrate achievement as well as to identify any underperformance or barriers to learning. This enables the school to intervene promptly to meet the needs of individual pupils."

GCSE Results 2022

GCSE Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	% A*-A	% A*-C	% A*-G
Art & Design GCSE / FC	36	3	9	12	10	2	0	0	0	0	33	94	100
Biology GCSE / FC	45	26	14	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	89	100	100
Chemistry GCSE / FC	45	22	18	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	100	100
Design & Technology GCSE / FC	40	1	4	10	13	4	5	3	0	0	13	70	100
Drama GCSE / FC	8	0	2	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	25	88	100
English Language GCSE / FC	208	18	39	70	41	32	6	1	1	0	27	81	100
English Literature GCSE / FC	193	12	32	66	53	26	2	2	0	0	23	84	100
French GCSE / FC	13	1	5	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	46	92	100
Geography GCSE / FC	52	7	14	7	13	6	4	1	0	0	40	78	100
Health & Social Care GCSE / FC	27	0	7	4	8	8	0	0	0	0	26	70	100
History GCSE / FC	105	9	24	30	24	11	5	2	0	0	31	83	100
Home Economics: Food GCSE / FC	21	2	2	7	4	5	1	0	0	0	19	71	100
Computer Science GCSE / FC	25	5	5	2	5	6	0	2	0	0	40	68	100
Mathematics GCSE / FC	209	34	30	66	41	24	8	5	1	0	31	82	100
Mathematics - Numeracy GCSE / FC	208	35	28	45	52	17	20	5	5	1	30	77	99.5
Music GCSE / FC	21	4	5	3	4	3	1	0	1	0	43	76	100
Physics GCSE / FC	45	22	16	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	84	100	100
Religious Studies GCSE / FC	79	15	23	19	11	7	2	1	1	0	48	86	100
Spanish	8	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	63	100	100
Sport / PE Studies GCSE / FC	50	10	8	15	13	4	0	0	0	0	36	92	100
Welsh (Second Language) GCSE / FC	184	21	31	53	48	18	7	4	1	1	28	83	99

	A**	A*	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG	U	% A*-A	% A*-C	% A*-G	
Science (Core) GCSE / DA	162	3	2	11	19	23	34	22	12	10	10	10	1	2	0	2	1	16	74	99.4

Public Examination Results 2022



“Sixth Form pupils demonstrate consistently high standards in their work. They show strong independence and maturity in their learning and have well developed subject knowledge.”

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A Level Results 2022

A Level Subjects	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E				
Art & Design GCE / A	9	0	2	5	2	0	0	0	2	22%	7	78%	9	100%	9	100%
Biology GCE / A	17	5	3	4	5	0	0	0	8	47%	12	71%	17	100%	17	100%
Chemistry GCE / A	12	3	5	1	2	1	0	0	8	67%	9	75%	11	92%	12	100%
Computer Studies GCE / A	5	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	20%	2	40%	4	100%	4	100%
D&T Product Design GCE / A	8	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0%	4	50%	8	100%	8	100%
Drama GCE / A	4	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	25%	3	75%	4	100%	4	100%
Economics GCE / A	6	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	3	17%	2	33%	3	50%	6	100%
English Language GCE / A	7	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	3	43%	7	100%	7	100%	7	100%
English Literature GCE / A	7	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	3	43%	5	71%	7	100%	7	100%
French GCE / A	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	100%	0	100%	0	100%	0	100%
Geography GCE / A	14	1	1	3	4	4	0	1	2	14%	5	36%	9	64%	13	93%
Health & Social Care GCE / A	12	0	0	3	4	3	2	0	0	0%	3	25%	7	58%	12	100%
History GCE / A	29	4	14	9	2	0	0	0	18	62%	27	93%	29	100%	29	100%
Mathematics GCE / A	30	12	7	1	5	3	1	1	19	63%	20	67%	25	83%	29	97%
Mathematics Further GCE / A	6	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	50%	5	75%	6	100%	6	100%
Music GCE / A	4	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	50%	3	75%	4	100%	4	100%
Physics GCE / A	21	3	4	2	5	5	2	0	7	11%	9	89%	14	100%	21	100%
Politics GCE / A	9	0	1	7	1	0	0	0	1	11%	8	89%	9	100%	9	100%
Psychology GCE / A	47	6	11	12	13	1	3	1	17	36%	29	62%	32	89%	46	98%
Religious Studies GCE / A	7	0	1	5	0	1	0	0	1	14%	6	86%	6	86%	7	100%
Criminology L3 / L3	56	0	16	21	12	3	0	4	16	29%	37	66%	49	88%	52	93%
Medical Science L3 / L3	7	0	0	0	3	2	1	1	0	0%	0	0%	3	43%	6	86%
Sport / PE Studies GCE / A	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	67%	6	100%	6	100%	6	100%
Welsh (Second Language) GCE / A	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0%	1	33%	3	100%	3	100%
Overall totals (exc WBQ)	328	46	75	91	73	24	11	8	121	27%	210	51%	272	77%	317	100%
Baccalaureate WBQ / A	44	4	16	11	8	5	0	0	20	45%	31	70%	39	89%	43	100%
Overall totals (inc WBQ)	372	50	91	102	81	29	11	8	141	38%	241	65%	311	84%	360	97%

Vocational Subjects	Entries	Numbers achieving										Percentage				
		D*	D	M	P	D1 (D*D*)	D2 (D*D)	DD	DM	MM	MP	PP	Distinction or above		Pass or above	
Business (Voc) BTEC / SD3	29	14	9	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	79%	29	100%
Nutrition / Diet L3 / L3	7	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14%	7	100%
Performing Arts Voc BTEC / DI3	7	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	1	1	0	0	6	86%	7	100%
Performing Arts Voc BTEC / EC3	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	75%	4	100%
Performing Arts Voc BTEC / SD3	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100%	4	100%
Sports Studies BTEC / DI3	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	75%	4	100%
Sports Studies BTEC / EC3	7	0	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	43%	7	100%
Performing Arts Voc BTEC / CE3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100%	2	100%

Key Stage 4 Vocational Qualifications 2022

Vocational Subjects	Number						
	Entries	D*	D	M	P	1	U
Mathematics Additional / L2	27	0	21	3	0	0	3
Business Studies BTEC / L1 & 2	49	35	2	10	2	0	0
Performing Arts BTEC / L2	19	3	1	7	3	5	0
Sports Studies BTEC / L2	9	0	1	3	3	2	0
Production Process BTEC / 1 & 2	10	0	1	3	3	3	0
Hair & Beauty L2	13	0	8	4	1	0	0

Percentage	
% Dist +	% Pass +
78	89
76	100
21	75
11	78
10	70
62	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 prospectuses, bulletins, information letters, Social Media, School e-mails 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

The Governing Body's Complaints Policy reflects the complaints procedure outlined in The Welsh Government circular 2011/12 - Complaints Procedures for School Governing Bodies in Wales.

Any concerns expressed by parents and others about the school curriculum and other school issues will continue to be considered and, so far as possible, dealt with through informal discussion with

Student Development Managers, Learning Managers or Senior Staff in the first instance.

Copies of The School's Complaints Policy are made available upon request, and can be accessed via the school website.

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 value of respect is summarised in the following bullet points and is expected at all times from all of our students:

- 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



The School's Commitment

Governors, the 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
- 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, creed or family finance
- 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 Values & Vision 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 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.
- 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.
- Abide by our published expectations

Uniform information - see pages 30 and 31.



Parch

"The school is highly successful in promoting exceptionally strong levels of pupil wellbeing. This has a significant impact on pupils' personal development and the standards that they achieve."

ESTYN



Penderfynolrwydd



Gonestrwydd



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Email/Ebost: main@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk

 @CastellAlun