



YSGOL JOHN BRIGHT

WELCOME

# OUR VISION

Empowers students to become confident,  
independent, lifelong learners

Celebrates achievement and rewards success

Encourages students to be aspirational and  
motivated, both inside and outside the classroom

Inspires students to value each other,  
our achievements and the community in  
which we live and learn



“The Headteacher has been successful in communicating with staff and supporting the wellbeing of the whole-school community, especially during lockdown. As a result she has created an open, supportive ethos and secured a safer, more caring environment”

ESTYN 2021

# Welcome

Dear Parents



Ysgol John Bright is an exceptional school filled with young people who are gifted, inspiring, talented and caring. I hope this booklet gives you a taste of our vibrant and inclusive learning environment which I welcome you and your child to join.

Our inclusive curriculum is designed to both stretch the more able and talented and to support those who need additional help. Our enrichment programme ensures that students have the opportunity to access a wide range of activities and clubs during their time at YJB. These opportunities, together with our dedicated staff and innovative curriculum enables students to get the most out of their school life and enjoy their time at Ysgol John Bright.

We pride ourselves on the excellent care, guidance and support we provide for our students, making sure that every child has the most appropriate, best quality pastoral and educational opportunities throughout their school lives. We believe it is important that all students can access a safe, supportive and inspirational community where learning is a positive experience, which will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

We have recently had a very positive Estyn Inspection which acknowledged the huge progress and was another milestone on the way to YJB becoming “a truly exceptional school”. The improvements had been achieved during the pandemic which had presented schools with unprecedented challenges.

We, as a school, focused on keeping everyone safe and put learners at the centre of everything we’ve done, meaning throughout lockdown we offered live timetabled teaching and ensured that children’s education had not been disadvantaged. We were already ahead of the curve in terms of technology with the use of Google Classroom and we made sure every child had a digital device at home from the very start to ensure they were not disadvantaged. The Behaviour and Wellbeing Team and the Directors of Learning made sure they kept in constant contact with families who may have needed additional support.

We are passionate about nurturing exceptional, independent thinkers who are happy and confident individuals. Whether it is opening minds through exciting opportunities or challenging students to be the best they can be, we want our students to have the very best preparation for life.

We aim to create a supportive environment where everyone is valued for their contribution to the school, giving our students the confidence to learn and work as part of a community, collaborating with, and caring about, those around them.

If you would like more information, or to visit us at any time, please feel free to contact me.

Mrs Ann Webb

Headteacher



# Working Together

Ysgol John Bright is populated with gifted, talented and inspiring young people; a community where everyone has a role within the school. All our students are encouraged to have a 'can do' attitude, whether that be through academic progress, sporting activities, participation in the arts, sciences, or even by becoming a member of the School Senedd.

Here we believe in providing the very best opportunities for our students. Joining YJB is the start of an exciting journey with a three-way relationship between students, their families and our staff at the heart of our friendly, successful community.

*"Ysgol John Bright have been amazingly supportive of my daughter. They have encouraged her to do her best and celebrated with her when she does well. The pastoral side of the school is truly brilliant and it's so good to know that your child is having the actual support they need. YJB guides our young adults and encourages individuality".* **/Parent of Year 9 student**

"Leaders, teachers and governors share the same aspirations of raising standards, improving the quality of teaching and strengthening leadership at all levels" ESTYN 2021

Our Additional learning Needs team is equally highly regarded; students with additional needs thrive at Ysgol John Bright. Our skilled teaching, learning support and pastoral support staff know that every young person is unique

and special. They work tirelessly to ensure that each one of our students has the opportunity to shine. We ensure that students are provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and celebrate diversity, to prepare them for life.





# Nurturing Individuals

*We work hard to ensure that every student is familiar with our exciting learning facilities before they begin at YJB.*

We aim to ensure a smooth transition from our local primary schools. Many of your children will have already visited YJB, either on our open evenings, taster days, jamborees or through sporting activities. We are proud of our reputation as a friendly, caring and well-disciplined school. We work within an atmosphere of mutual support and collaboration.

Guidance and support for students is outstanding and contributes strongly to their success. The Curriculum equips students with the skills and attributes they need to succeed as a learner at Ysgol John Bright and beyond, as lifelong learners in the 21st century. Our Sixth Formers play a vital role in supporting younger students through the transition from primary to secondary

*"Our son has had nothing but positive experiences in his first year at Ysgol John Bright. The leadership team has ensured that the students and staff were equipped to face the challenge at hand and students have been provided with an as close to 'normal' experience as possible. During periods of 'lockdown' the class timetable has continued with daily form taking place and regular 'check-ins'. Feedback was detailed and constructive with the on-line parents' evening a winner for me".* **Parent of Year 7 student June 2021**

"Pupils behave well and listen attentively and with respect to teachers and their peers. Teachers build and maintain positive working relationships with pupils" ESTYN 2021





# Achieving Success exceeding Potential

*We aim to encourage students to respond to inspirational teaching and be challenged to fulfil their personal, academic, sporting and extra curricular potential.*

Our innovative teaching staff are passionate about passing their knowledge on to the next generation through the broad curriculum we offer. Our philosophy is encouraging success for all and ensuring that each student achieves the best they can at Ysgol John Bright and learns within an environment of challenge. Whatever their talent, we strive to nurture and develop it together.

Our aim is for each student to develop their talents and interests to the full, whilst experiencing a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. We want all of our students to not only acquire new knowledge, but to become more confident communicators and, importantly, young people!

*"I cannot speak highly enough of the education provided at this school. The staff provide a tailored approach to the students, based on their individual needs, they get to know the children well and maintain excellent communication. This is a welcoming and very inclusive school which promotes respect, acceptance and understanding". Parents of siblings in Years 7, 9 and 11*

"Teachers plan work which builds on pupils' prior knowledge and understanding well, resulting in strong progress in thinking skills. There is a coherent and consistent approach to planning and teaching" ESTYN 2021





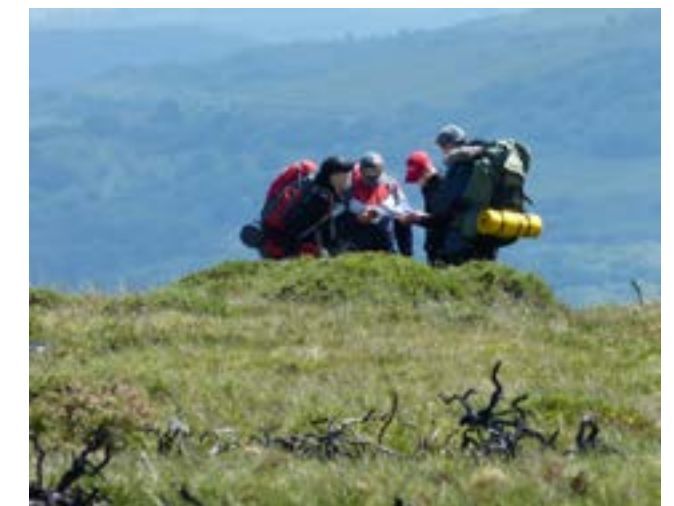
# Opportunities **beyond** the **classroom**

*The school offers a very wide and varied range of extra-curricular activities that enrich students' learning experiences and support wellbeing. In addition to the usual sporting and cultural activities, the school offers students the opportunity to participate in debating events, maths challenges, creative writing, 'Coding Academy', an Adventure Club, Duke of Edinburgh, an extensive range of educational visits - the list is endless!*

We provide our students with a broad and rich experience. We put a great deal of emphasis on clubs and activities that lead to a wider sense of learning. Opportunities for our students beyond the classroom help them develop as well-rounded individuals as well as supporting their core learning experiences.

We offer extra-curricular events such as overseas expeditions to America and Europe, skiing, water sports, Duke of Edinburgh, theatre trips and activity adventure breaks. Our annual music production is held in Venue Cymru to rave reviews and performed to packed houses. We hold enterprise and team activities which help develop rounded individuals, enhanced by links to the local community.

*"Our children love their time at YJB! We spent a long time choosing which school would be their best fit and we have no regrets. We truly believe our children are having a fantastic education. They feel safe and secure and free to enjoy learning, develop themselves and learn to express themselves. The teachers are extremely kind and caring and are always ready to help and support our children. They absolutely love the extra-curricular activities they partake in and staff go above and beyond to help with these".* **Parent of Year 8 and 10 students June 2021**





# Next steps going forward

The supportive and aspirational ethos of the school continues in our high achieving Sixth Form where we support all our students to achieve their potential with a majority progressing to universities all over the country. Not only achieving excellent academic results at Ysgol John Bright, our Sixth Formers have also made extremely valuable contributions to the local community.

Over the last few years our students have raised thousands of pounds for various local and national charities and led on many community projects, not only helping the community around us, but giving the students the skills and confidence to succeed in their own life journeys.

*"We would just like to thank you and all your staff for supporting and teaching our daughter over the last five years. She has had excellent care and support with dedicated staff who 'go that extra mile' to ensure she reached her potential. She is looking forward to starting Sixth Form and would not have wanted to be anywhere else."*

**Parent of Year 11 student**







INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT







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