



PROSPECTUS
CYFARTHFA HIGH SCHOOL



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Cyfarthfa High School is proud of its long history of achievement and we are determined to be the very best in Wales.

Our wide and fascinating curriculum allows students the opportunity to enjoy a variety of subjects and experiences. Our aim is to ensure that every student flourishes to become the very best of themselves within a challenging and supportive environment.

Thank you for entrusting Cyfarthfa High School with the responsibility of your child's academic success and pastoral development.

Merthyr Tydfil's reputation as a powerhouse of industry was built on the shoulders of hard work, determination and ambition - qualities we encourage in every one of our students as we continually endeavour to help them succeed in every aspect of school life.

LYNDON BRENNAN
Headteacher



OUR ETHOS – ACHIEVEMENT BY CARING

All children will be joining us on their own personal journey and our role is to nurture their talent. We will widen their aspirations, enabling each child to thrive. Implicit in this is the school's desire to:

- **Raise achievement levels**
- **Enhance the ethos of the school**
- **Promote the virtues of truth, rigour, hard work and high expectations**

OUR HISTORY

Cyfarthfa High School was established in 1970, following the amalgamation of Cyfarthfa Castle Grammar School and Georgetown Secondary Modern School. Following many years based on two sites, the school combined at Cae Mari Dwn in September 2014. Today Cyfarthfa High is a comprehensive school of more than 1,000 students in the 11-16 age category.

AIMS, VISIONS AND VALUES

Our aim is to develop students academically, personally, socially, physically and intellectually to their full potential according to their own abilities and aspirations.

We aim to:

- Develop an ethos that values everyone, encourages respect and creates an expectation that everyone will achieve their full potential
- Tackle underachievement
- Promote the virtues of tolerance, personal pride and confidence
- Enhance self-esteem
- Extend the range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences to enrich minds and increase skills
- Place the school at the heart of the community
- Strive for improved standards of achievement

LEARNING

Learning is a personal journey of discovery for each child and will be brought to life through creative, imaginative and exciting teaching techniques. Our innovative curriculum sets aspirational milestones for each stage of a child's educational journey.

CURRICULUM

Our wide and fascinating curriculum allows students to enjoy a variety of subjects and experiences.



BEHAVIOUR AND EXPECTATIONS

We want to help children develop a sense of self-worth, self-discipline and co-operation. We operate a system of rewards to all students for good behaviour and effort.

WELSH LANGUAGE

Welsh is taught as a second language and our aim is for all children to become as bilingual as possible. Extra support is available for children with English as an Additional Language.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Cyfarthfa is mainly Christian but recognises a broad range of other faiths. Non-sectarian religious education and worship are provided. Collective worship takes place each day and is based on key values for life. Parents/carers are entitled to withdraw their child from Religion, Values and Ethics lessons.

DISABILITY SCHEME AND ACCESS PLAN

The school is committed to ensuring equal treatment of all its employees, students and any others involved in the school community, with any form of disability. We will ensure that people with a disability are treated equally in any procedures, practice, or service delivery.

SAFEGUARDING

We are very conscious about the security of our school site which is why there are rigorous safeguarding procedures during the school day.

HEALTHY BODIES HEALTHY MINDS

We are committed to ensuring all students are supported to become healthy young adults. Mindfulness underpins our emotional wellbeing strategy, along with all students regularly exercising and both eating and drinking healthily.

SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Our aim is to give every child, regardless of ability, the opportunity to discover and improve their skills through sport. This encourages them to be creative, competitive and to face different challenges as individuals and teams.

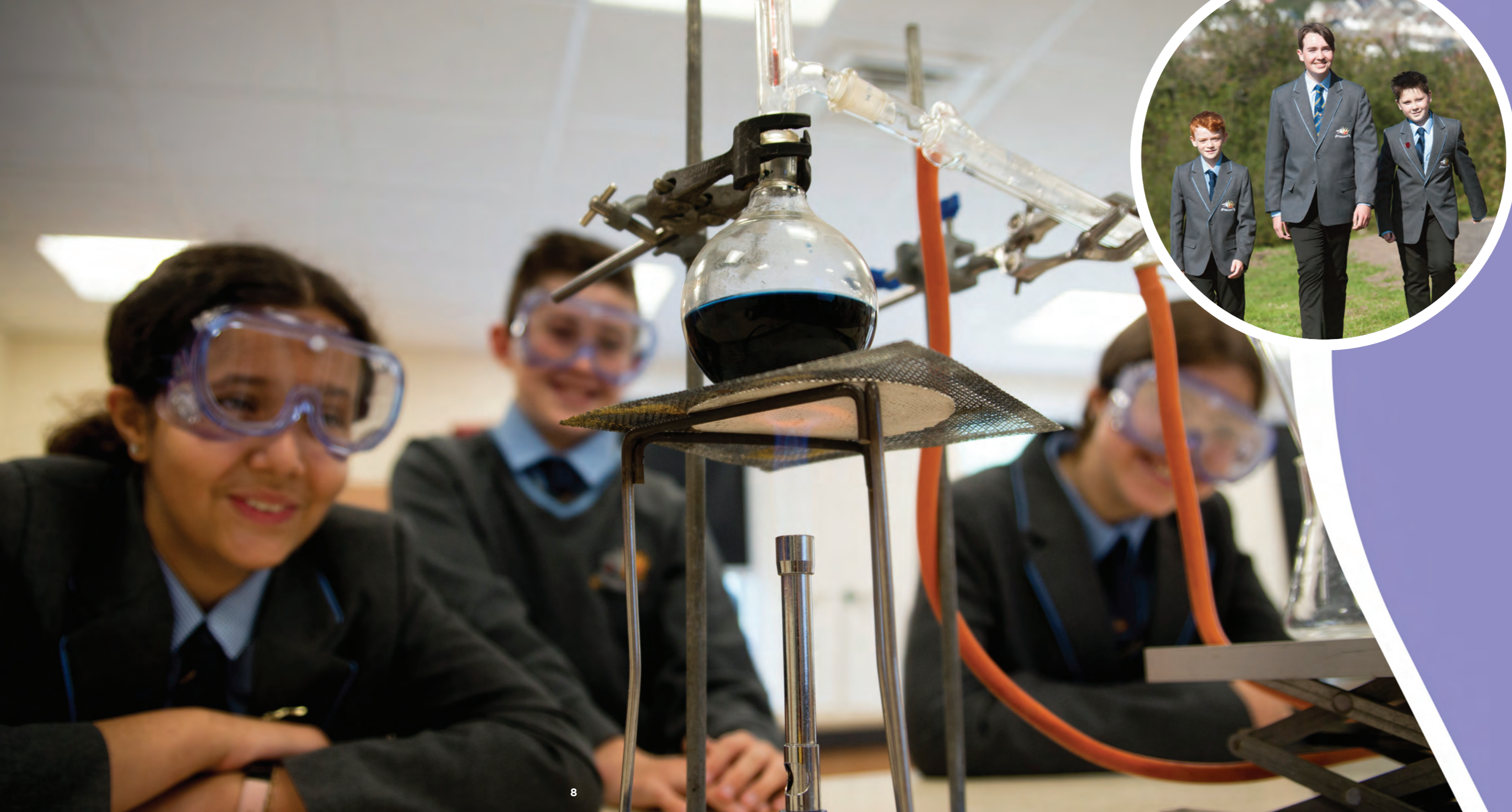
LINKS WITH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

We have five partner primary schools and links are well established. Transition processes begin in Year 5 and continue with a wide range of academic and pastoral events for all learners and their families.

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the school curriculum.





VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

When organising school trips which enrich the educational experience of the students, the school invites parents to voluntarily contribute.

HOMEWORK

Details on the homework provided for your child can be found on Microsoft TEAMS and ClassCharts.

TARGETS AND MILESTONES

Having goals and targets gives students a sense of self-worth and encourages them to make further progress. Academic targets and Pastoral targets, for improvement in attendance and punctuality are set at the beginning of every half term.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches will be available to all students. A range of healthy meals and snacks are available each day.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Parents and carers can contribute to their child's development by encouraging them to take part in a variety of activities. They are also requested to discuss their child's individual targets and to encourage that they are achieved.

COMMUNITY LEARNING

Opportunities for adults and members of the wider community to be involved in school life is a developing feature. Volunteering towards the support of school-based activities offers excellent opportunities for individuals to support their children and family.

ADMISSION STATEMENT

The local authority manages the admission process to the school at each entry point.

ATTENDANCE

School attendance is vital. We expect all students on roll to attend every day as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. Persistent lateness can be as damaging to a child's education as absence.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

The curriculum will be adapted and the level of provision will vary according to the needs of the student. This information is agreed with the student and parent/carer.

ANTI-BULLYING

Cyfarthfa High School is a school where all students strive to keep each other safe and happy. We are a caring and supportive environment which encourages young people to be respectful of others. Students and their parents or carers can feel confident that they will be protected from the fear of bullying.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP POLICY

This programme is designed to provide students, with information about loving relationships, the nature of sexuality and the processes of human reproduction. Facts are presented in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner which are set within a clear framework of values and an awareness of the law on sexual behaviour.



HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

The School will:

- Provide a safe, stimulating, well ordered and caring environment
- Have clear aims and objectives for all students relating to their education, behaviour, attitude and ability
- Communicate with you promptly should we have any concerns or worries relating to your child
- Offer you the opportunity to express your views regarding your child's education and invite you to meetings
- Value each student as an individual
- Provide regular homework
- Ensure we are available, by arrangement, to discuss your child's progress or your concerns

The Parent / Carer will:

- Strive to support their child in the standards the school seeks to achieve
- Help and encourage their child to take an interest in their work and homework
- Take part in regular discussions regarding their child's progress and development
- Inform the school of any matters which may be affecting their child's progress or attitude
- Assure regular attendance and high standards of punctuality
- Support the school in its school uniform policy
- Help their child to follow the school's rules

The Student will:

- Show that they are willing to work to the best of their ability
- Cooperate with others within the school community
- Take pride in their own appearance and wear school uniform correctly
- Complete their homework on time
- Look after their school and its surroundings
- Look after their own and other people's things in school
- Respect other people and their opinions
- Follow the school code of conduct



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

There are six subcommittees as part of the Student Leadership Team containing students from all year groups.

EXAMINATION ENTRY POLICY

All students will be entered for external examinations with the exception of those who have been absent for a long time or through agreement with the parents or carers.

CAREERS AND ENTERPRISE EDUCATION

The curriculum has been designed to develop a wider range of entrepreneurial skills to help students' understanding of the working world and economy around them; while creating opportunities for students to explore and apply their skills to real life scenarios and experiences.

UNIFORM

Uniform is compulsory so we endeavour to provide one which is attractive to students. However we do reserve the right to decide what is suitable in respect of personal appearance.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The Welsh Government is determined to raise standards in schools throughout Wales. Challenging national targets have been set and individual local authorities and schools are required to set their own. The targets we have set ourselves reflect a realistic level of challenge.

MOBILE DEVICES

Mobile telephones are allowed but must be switched off during lesson times and assemblies. If a phone, iPod or tablet interrupts a lesson or assembly it will be confiscated and parents/carers may be asked to call at the school to collect it.

WHO TO CONTACT

Students encountering difficulties or problems should initially speak to their Form Tutor. Parents/carers wishing to discuss their children's welfare and education should contact the school directly and request a call back from the Progress Leader (within 72 hours). In an emergency, parents/carers may contact any senior staff who can be reached at 01685 725222.



CYFARTHFA HIGH SCHOOL

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