

BRECON HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD ABERHONDDU

DID YOU KNOW?

Our school roll number has seen pleasing growth over the last three years and we are aiming for this to continue this year with welcoming you from September 2024



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I am very proud to warmly welcome you to Brecon High School and to our state-of-the-art building.

Brecon High School is going through exciting change. This is an excellent time to join the school and become a part of something very special. Each and every member of our school community strives to be the best they can be. Achievement is viewed in many different ways at our school and is something that is recognised and celebrated as often as possible. The school serves a wide catchment area and is growing its reputation and standards with every term that passes.

Our pupils represent everything we are aiming to achieve. They are courteous, hardworking, mature and respectful. Values such as these are visible throughout our school community. Our shared ambition creates opportunities for us to work together, using our core values to support each other to achieve.

Academic success and personal development are given equal status at Brecon High School. Pupils develop into well rounded young people who are ready for the challenges of the wider world. My staff and I are determined to ensure that every pupil flourishes in order to reach their full potential.

Richard Jenkins

Headteacher



DID YOU KNOW?

Developing pupil leadership opportunities within Brecon High School is a significant strength within the school community.

The school has a strong School Council that plays an active and important part of school life. The Council is tasked with being involved in key decisions that are made on behalf of all pupils.

THE VISION FOR BRECON HIGH SCHOOL

The vision for Brecon High School is defined as: - preparing pupils for their future by developing strong values, and maximising personal potential in a safe and caring learning environment.

This will be achieved by:

- Each pupil taking responsibility for their learning
- Providing the skills for every pupil to be prepared for their future
- All staff to have high expectations for all pupils
- Providing a high quality teaching and learning experience
- Developing independent learning skills
- Making education a journey, not a competition, creating lifelong learners
- Raising the profile of our Welsh identity both within the school and our local community
- Offering a range of opportunities in and outside the classroom
- Staff, pupils, governors and parents being united to achieve success
- Being inclusive and consistent for all pupils
- Celebrating the success of our pupils
- Communicating through a range of media
- Setting aspirational yet achievable targets for all pupils
- Creating a learning environment that inspires and supports learners



DID YOU KNOW?

Our sporting heritage is an important source of pride for the school.

The school is actively involved within regional sporting events and has many teams that represent the school each term.

Over many years, we have had pupils achieve local, regional and national honours in a range of sports.

The school currently has regional and national champions in a range of disciplines.

ABOUT BRECON HIGH SCHOOL

Brecon High School is an 11-18 mixed comprehensive English-medium school with a Welsh first language stream. Situated in the heart of the Brecon Beacons the school takes its pupils from a variety of local primary schools and the wider rural community.

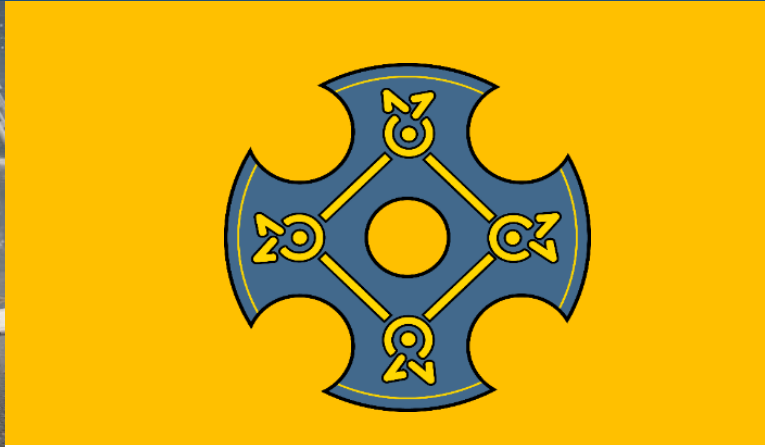
We are excited to have moved into our new school which has been purpose built for secondary education in the 21st century.

Facilities include The Science 'Openlab', an innovative science teaching area, fully equipped Technology rooms, a Drama/Dance studio and performance space and Music rooms with a recording studio.

We are very proud of our sporting achievements and offer a sports hall with fitness suite on site. Our close proximity to the Brecon Leisure centre affords us the use of pitches for football, rugby, hockey and cricket along with the swimming pool and athletics tracks.

Our safe and secure site offers a dedicated dining area and covered external areas for socialising.

Anyone wishing to enquire about hiring our facilities should contact Richard Jenkins at the school (please see our contact details on the reverse of this document).



DID YOU KNOW?

We are immensely proud of our Welsh stream within the school and are aspiring to grow this as quickly as possible.

Learning within a bilingual setting brings many advantages that our whole school community benefits from each term.

OUR CURRICULUM

All pupils at Brecon High School enjoy a full and varied curriculum in line with national requirements. To maximise pupil achievement and help pupils to do their best, we use a mix of setting and mixed ability groupings. A variety of teaching strategies, both traditional and modern, are employed, including whole class teaching, individual, paired and group work. Our aim is to raise standards and expectations for all our pupils.

At Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9), all pupils follow a course which includes the mandatory core subjects: Maths, English, Welsh and Science. In addition, Key Stage 3 pupils will study a wider variety of subjects from Expressive Arts, Humanities and Design and Technology.

At Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11), all pupils continue to follow the core subjects to GCSE while also studying additional GCSE and BTEC subjects which they will choose at the end of Year 9 with the guidance of subject teachers. Pupils will also complete their Welsh Baccaulaureate qualification which is the equivalent of an additional GCSE.

Pupils who choose to remain at Brecon High School have access to a wide range of subjects taught at school in small groups, or at one of local consortium High Schools or at the local college NPTC. In addition, Sixth Form pupils will complete the advanced Welsh Baccaulaureate qualification.

WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

At Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils study Welsh, either first or second language to GCSE. Additionally, Key Stage 3 pupils have the opportunity to study Science, History, RE, French and Geography through the medium of Welsh. As noted by Estyn "Bilingualism is a strength and is actively promoted throughout the school."

SCHOOL UNIFORM



SHIRT: Plain white, long or short sleeved

TIE: Blue and gold clip-on tie

BLAZER: Blue with school crest

TROUSERS: Plain black, tailored, not skinny or leggings

SKIRT: Black, knee length pleated

FOOTWEAR: Plain black shoes that can be polished, with sensible heels, no canvas shoes, trainers or boots



OUTER COATS: Sensible, plain black. These should be removed whilst inside the school

BAG: A strong rucksack or holdall

JEWELLERY: 1 wristwatch, 1 plain ear stud in each ear, 1 dress ring.

SCHOOL PE UNIFORM

Boys

Blue and Gold short sleeve games top
Blue and Gold reversible rugby top
Blue and Gold shorts
Blue and Gold games socks
White ankle socks
Trainers
Studded boots for rugby/football
RECOMMENDED - Plain Black tracksuit
/jogging bottoms

Girls

Blue and Gold short sleeve games top.
Blue and Gold midliner
Blue and Gold skirt.
Blue and Gold games socks
Plain Black leggings
Plain Black shorts
White ankle socks
Trainers

ALL - SWIMMING KIT for KS3 and GCSE PE – Girls; own single piece costume.
Boys; own swimming trunks or shorts (Not long-legged), towel and waterproof bag.
Only in the first half of spring term and dependent on pool availability. ALL KIT SHOULD BE NAMED.



For rugby and football when played on pitches; reversible rugby top, shorts, games socks and studded boots (for safety). Trainers if played on ATP. (Weather dependent). For football, shinpads are recommended.



For indoor activities and summer activities short sleeved games shirt, shorts, white ankle socks and trainers. If outdoors and cold, rugby shirt can be worn on top of games shirt for warmth plus black joggers/tracksuit bottoms.

Gymnastics is done in this kit but barefoot (for safety).



For netball; short sleeved games shirt and skort, white ankle socks and trainers.

For hockey; short sleeved games shirt and skort, games socks and trainers. Shinpads and gumshields are recommended.

For indoor activities, such as basketball, badminton, and summer activities such as athletics, rounders and tennis the girls wear short sleeved games shirt, plain black shorts/leggings, white ankle socks and trainers. If outdoors and cold, midliners can be added for warmth.

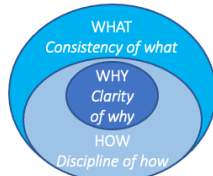


This shows plain black leggings and midliner being worn for outside activities in cold weather.

Vision

At Brecon High School, our curriculum vision is firmly rooted in our school statement: 'be the best you can be'. This guiding principle shapes our approach to education, taking into careful consideration the diverse needs of our student population. Our goal is to nurture confident young adults who actively engage in society and contribute positively to their communities. Central to this ambition is the cultivation of personal resilience and responsibility in all our pupils. We empower our students to take charge of their own learning journey, encouraging them to assume responsibility for their education. This approach not only instils the art of making informed choices but also equips them with the skills to thrive in an ever-changing world. By fostering a learning environment with high expectations for everyone and leading by example, we lay the foundation for our students' aspirations to become tangible realities, providing them with the stepping-stones toward a successful future.

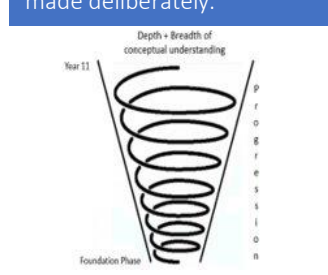
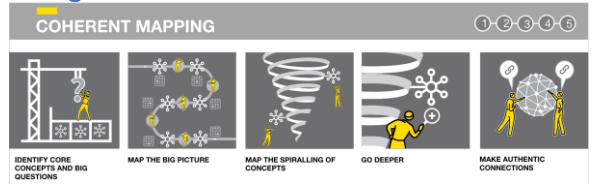
Our Curriculum



At Brecon High School, our curriculum is thoughtfully crafted to cater to the diverse needs of all our students, offering a comprehensive and well-rounded range of experiences. We acknowledge and embrace the individuality of each pupil, understanding that their learning journey can vary. Our curriculum is continuously evolving, providing meaningful learning experiences that encourage self-reflection, empathy towards others, and an understanding of their roles in both their local community and the broader global context. We pose significant questions that challenge our students, encouraging them not only to ask questions but also to explore potential answers through a variety of engaging learning opportunities. Importantly, we value the voices of our students, actively listening to their thoughts and needs, ensuring that their perspectives shape and enrich their learning experiences. Our dedicated staff members are committed to facilitating an environment where curiosity is nurtured, and knowledge and skills are developed, empowering our students to thrive both academically and personally.

Our curriculum design follows the Walkthru approach known as 'Coherent Mapping'. Our coherent curriculum weaves learning experiences, knowledge and skills. Students form a deep understanding within and between knowledge domains. It requires vertical planning so new knowledge builds on secure foundations and horizontal planning so links between areas of concurrent learning are made deliberately.

Design



Our inclusive curriculum is deliberately crafted to be both expansive and profound, ensuring that every student engages in challenging learning experiences. This approach aims to empower all students to enhance their academic knowledge, expand their vocabulary, and cultivate essential 'cultural capital.' Additionally, our curriculum is designed to make every student 'assessment ready,' equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in evaluations. Furthermore, we are dedicated to ensuring that all students not only acquire but also retain the foundational knowledge essential for a successful transition to the next stage of their education, thereby opening doors to even greater opportunities in the future.

Areas of Learning

Language, Literacy, and Communication; Expressive Arts; Humanities; Health and Wellbeing; Welsh; Science and Technology; and Mathematics and Numeracy are our distinct areas of learning. Within each of these areas, there are specific 'what matters' statements that serve as guiding principles. Our staff employ these statements and their underlying concepts as foundations for planning tailored learning experiences for students. Moreover, our curriculum's core focus revolves around the four purposes: fostering ambitious, enterprising, healthy, and ethically informed citizens, shaping a well-rounded educational experience for every student.

Assessment

Assessment will remain an integral aspect of our daily teaching and learning practices, enabling both students and teachers to gather valuable insights from their interactions. Students will actively engage with feedback provided by teachers, gaining a clear understanding of their performance and receiving guidance on areas for improvement and progression. We will maintain open communication with students and parents, providing regular updates on their academic journey at key points throughout the year, ensuring transparency and collaboration in the learning process.

Review

We believe that the iterative aspect of curriculum work might be captured as a never-ending story. We need to lean into the fact that curriculum development is ongoing. Through an ongoing commitment to evaluation and improvement, we strive to provide an enriching and supportive learning environment for all pupils, fostering their growth and success.

STAFF 2023-24

Pennaeth / Headteacher	Mr R Jenkins
Dirprwyon / Deputy Headteacher	Ms B Jenkins
Pennaeth Cynorthwyol/ Assistant Head	Mr M Hirst
Pennaeth Cynorthwyol/ Assistant Head	Mrs A Hosford-Allen
Lead Practitioner	Mrs S Soper
Lead Practitioner	Mrs N Pease

Maes Profiad Dysgu yn Arwain/Area of Learning Experience Leads

Expressive Art	Mrs S Melhuish
Health, Fitness and Wellbeing	Mr A Morgan
Humanities	Miss L Acreman
- Second in Humanities	Mr J Bryant
Language, Literacy & Communication	Mr A Griffith
- Second in Language Literacy & Communication	Miss J Daniels
Mathematics & Numeracy	Mrs A Hosford-Allen
Science, Technology & ICT	Mrs N Pease
- Second in Science, Technology & ICT	Mr G Gillard (ICT)
Welsh	Miss L Cross
Welsh Baccalaureate	Miss C Huggins

Teaching Staff

Art	Mrs K Thomas
D&T	Mrs D Gillard
English	Mrs J Hawkins
	Mr R Williams
Geography	Miss M Williams
Maths	Miss A Hughes
	Mr S Stafford
Music	Mr N Bell
PE/Geography	Mrs D Morgan
RE	Miss A Rogers
Science	Mr N Evans
	Miss T Gibbs
	Mr O Griffiths
	Mr C Northey
	Mrs S Workman
Science W/M	Mr T Davies
Welsh	Miss F Thomas

Progress & Guidance

Managers
Y7 – Miss J Dover
Y8 – Miss C Richards
Y9 – Mrs J Parry
Y10 – Mrs L Jones
Y11 – Mr. G. Roberts
Y12/13 – Mrs A Stephens

ALENCo:
ASD Teacher:
English as an Additional Language Teacher:
Wellbeing Co-ordinators:
Higher Level Teaching Assistants:
Learning Support Assistants:

Mrs D Watson
Ms L Oliver
Mrs M Gillespie
Mrs N Chilvers/Mrs J Kerr
Mrs C Potter/Miss B Cadmore
Mrs R Adams, Miss N Bosley,
Mrs C Dillon, Mrs F Jenkins,
Mrs K Wilkinson,
Mrs S Williams, Mrs R Wyatt
Mrs L Burnett

Family Forces Officer:

Non-Teaching Staff

Mrs A Lloyd – Finance Manager
Miss M. Coleman – PA to SLT
Mr P Carey – Site Supervisor
Mr S Veillet/Mr M Gregory/Mr J Devereux – IT
Mrs R Bartlett—Webb – Exams Officer
Mrs J Kerr – Attendance Officer
Mr G Sierchio – Receptionist
Mrs R Gethin – Data Manager
Ms D Jones – Science Technician
Mrs W Medd – Technician

DID YOU KNOW?

We have specialist facilities to cater for pupils with additional learning needs.

Visits to the school can be arranged upon request. Please contact the school at your earliest convenience.

We have our own school app that all parents and pupils are subscribed to when choosing Brecon High School. This app is the main communication tool for all correspondence. This is also supported by our website and Facebook page.

THE SCHOOL DAY

8.50 – 9.15 a.m.	REGISTRATION/ASSEMBLY
9.15 – 10.15 a.m.	LESSON 1
10.15 – 11.15 a.m.	LESSON 2
11.15 – 11.30 a.m.	BREAK
11.30 – 12.30 p.m.	LESSON 3
12.30 – 1.30 p.m.	LESSON 4
1.30 – 2.20 p.m.	LUNCH
2.20 – 2.30 p.m.	REGISTRATION
2.30 – 3.30 p.m.	LESSON 5

CONTACT US

ADDRESS

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EMAIL

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FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/BreconHighSchool/>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/BreconHigh>