

Ysgol Eirias

PROSPECTUS





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Dear All

Here at Ysgol Eirias we believe that one of the greatest gifts we can give a child is education. We are committed to taking your child on a journey of learning and exploration and aim to instil a lasting, life-long love of learning. We see every child as an individual, seeking to nurture each child's talents and skills to ensure that they make the very best progress regardless of starting point.

Key values of trust, respect and care resonate throughout the school; we believe most firmly in the importance of outstanding care, support and guidance and we strive to always place your child at the centre of our actions.

The school operates in a climate of rigorous self-evaluation and we are constantly looking to improve. Collaboration is important to us as we continue to research the very best teaching and learning strategies and provide creative, inspiring and challenging learning opportunities for your child.

The school is extremely well-resourced and we are particularly proud of our sporting facilities. From the international standard hockey pitch and all-Wales Rugby training barn to the highly sought after Athletics arena we guarantee high class sporting provision.

We have a talented team of staff, passionate about their subject and committed to understanding the way young people learn. We are proud of our pupils; proud of their politeness and achievements and proud of the contributions they make to our community.

With a history of excellence and the promise of an outstanding future, the school has received national recognition for its achievements and values; I lead this school with great pride.

We extend a very warm welcome to Ysgol Eirias.

Annwyl Bawb

Yma yn Ysgol Eirias, credwn mai'r rhodd fwyaf gwerthfawr y gallwn ei roi i blentyn yw addysg. Rydym yn ymroddedig i fynd â'ch plentyn ar daith o ddysgu ac archwilio ac rydym yn anelu at feithrin cariad parhaus, gydol oes tuag at ddysgu. Rydym yn gweld pob plentyn fel unigolyn, yn ceisio meithrin talent a sgiliau pob un ac yn sicrhau eu bod yn gwneud y cynnydd gorau posib beth bynnag yw'r man cychwyn.

Mae gwerthoedd allweddol ymddiriedaeth, parch a gofal yn atseinio trwy'r ysgol; credwn yn gadarn ym mhwsigrwydd gofal, cefnogaeth ac arweiniad rhagorol ac ymdrechwn i roi eich plentyn yn ganolbwynt i'n gweithredoedd bob amser.

Mae'r ysgol yn gweithredu mewn awyrgylch o hunan-asesu trwyadl ac rydym yn chwilio am ffyrdd i wella trwy'r amser. Mae cydweithredu yn bwysig i ni wrth i ni barhau i archwilio'r dulliau gorau posib o ddysgu ac addysgu a darparu cyfleoedd creadigol, ysbrydoledig a heriol i'ch plentyn.

Mae gan yr ysgol adnoddau rhagorol ac rydym yn hynod o falch o'n cyfleusterau chwaraeon. O gae hoci o safon rhyngwladol a chanolfan hyfforddi Rygbi Cymru i'r Stadiwm Athletau, rydym yn sicrhau darpariaeth chwaraeon o safon uchel.

Mae gennym dim talentog iawn o staff sy'n frwdfrydig am eu pwnc ac yn ymroddedig i ddeall sut mae pobl ifanc yn dysgu. Rydym yn falch o'n disgyblion; yn falch o'u cwrteisi a'u gorchestion ac yn falch o'r cyfraniad maen nhw'n ei wneud i'n cymuned.

Gydag enw da rhagorol ac addewid o ddyfodol arbennig, mae'r ysgol wedi derbyn cydnabyddiaeth cenedlaethol am ei gorchestion a'i gwerthoedd; rydw i'n arwain yr ysgol hon â balchder mawr.

Estynnwn groeso cynnes iawn i Ysgol Eirias.



HEADTEACHER YE *Mrs S Sutton* YE PENNAETH



Ysgol Eirias

Home School Partnership Agreement



For students to achieve success at school, it is important that parents, students and the school work together. Each party has an equally important role to play in this partnership.

The School will:

- Provide a safe, well ordered and caring environment
- Have clear aims and objectives for all students
- Endeavour to help your son/daughter to achieve his/her potential
- Demonstrate that each student is valued as an individual
- Keep parents fully informed

‘the school provides pupils with care, support and guidance of exceptional quality.’ **ESTYN**

As a Pupil will:

- Work to the best of my ability at school and at home
- Always try to get on with others within the school community
- Obey school rules
- Take a pride in my own appearance by wearing school uniform correctly
- Attend regularly and be on time to school and lessons
- Show a caring and courteous attitude towards others

As Parents/Guardians we will:

- Support the school in the standards it seeks to achieve.
- Help my/our child to take an interest in his/her work and help to sustain their effort and achievement
- Attend my/our child's Parents' Evenings
- Keep the school informed relating to matters which may be affecting my/our child's progress or attitude
- Monitor my/our child's progress through the student planner and exercise books and available data
- Ensure regular attendance and high standards of punctuality
- Ensure correct school uniform is worn
- The form tutor, pupil and parents are asked to sign the planner each week



School's Vision

Ysgol Eirias is a centre of excellence in learning where everyone is encouraged to reach their potential. We endeavour to equip the members of our school body with the confidence and skills to enable them to make a positive contribution to the world of work and in our local and wider community.

We have high expectations based on traditional values of good behaviour and mutual respect. Equity is important to us and as such, the quality of teaching, learning and support enable every child to achieve their potential. We are proud of a culture that cares for pupils' physical and emotional wellbeing and believe this to be critical to success in life.

Here at Ysgol Eirias we believe passionately in the development of our staff. High quality, personalised, Professional Learning supports all members of the team in ensuring the best possible experience both inside and outside of the classroom.

Mae Ysgol Eirias yn ganolfan rhagoriaeth ar gyfer dysgu ble annogir pawb i gyrraedd eu potensial. Rydyn ni'n gwneud ein gorau glas i roi'r hyder a'r sgiliau i aelodau o gorff ein ysgol i'w galluogi i wneud cyfraniad positif i fyd gwaith ac o fewn ein cymuned lleol a thu hwnt.

Mae gennyn ni ddisgwyliadau uchel yn seiliedig ar werthoedd traddodiadol ymddygiad da a pharch tuag at ein gilydd. Mae chwarae teg yn bwysig i ni ac felly, mae ansawdd yr addysgu, y dysgu a'r gefnogaeth yn galluogi pob plentyn i gyrraedd eu potensial. Rydyn ni'n falch o ddiwylliant sy'n gofalu am les corfforol ac emosiynol y disgyblion ac rydyn ni'n credu bod hyn yn allweddol ar gyfer llwyddiant mewn bywyd.

Yma yn Ysgol Eirias, rydyn ni'n credu'n llwyr yn natblygiad ein staff. Mae Dysgu Proffesiynol personol o ansawdd uchel yn cefnogi pob aelod o'r tîm i gael y profiad gorau posibl y tu mewn i'r ystafell dosbarth a thu allan.





School Uniform and Appearance



'Pupils' and students' personal, social and learning skills are outstanding'

ESTYN

At Ysgol Eirias we are very proud of our school uniform, and insist that it is worn as described below. We ask that parents take the responsibility for ensuring that their son/daughter is in the correct uniform each day. Students who do arrive in unsuitable clothing may be sent home to change or loaned items from school stock. The final decision in any decision relating to uniform lies with the headteacher.

Items of uniform are available from many high street stores. The tie and jumper are available from *Boppers Boutique, Woodlands Road West, Colwyn Bay and School Talk, Mostyn Street, Llandudno*. Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding uniform. Any items purchased which do not meet the criteria set out below will need to be changed:

Boys and Girls Years 7-11

- Black full length school trousers (not jeans, jean style, skin tight or leggings style) or plain black knee length skirt.
- Plain white school shirt
- Maroon jumper with school badge
- School tie (in house colours)
- Plain, low heeled black leather type shoes with no logos (No boots or trainers, trainer style or canvas shoes)
- A plain appropriate topcoat (not leather or leather style)
- Tights (opaque or sheer) neutral colour or black. Socks should be black with trousers, white with skirts.
- Hair should be neat, tidy and of an even natural colour
- No extreme of make-up or hair style is permitted.
- Religious head-wear if worn should be plain black
- ALL ITEMS MUST BE NAMED

Jewellery and Make-up

For Health and Safety reasons the only acceptable items of jewellery are:

- A wristwatch
- One pair of small plain stud type ear-rings (to be worn in the ear lobes)
- Make up if worn should be natural looking
- Nail varnish should not be worn
- No tattoos or body piercings are allowed

P.E. uniform: BOYS

- White gym top with collar + Ysgol Eirias Logo
- White shorts
- Trainers (non marking soles)
- Red and black reversible rugby jersey
- Black games shorts/cycle shorts (for gymnastics/ athletics) or plain black sport leggingd (not tracksuit bottoms, no zips or pockets on leggings.
- Black rugby socks
- Shin pads and a gum shield

P.E. uniform: GIRLS

- White gym top with collar and Ysgol Eirias logo
- White (or black) socks
- Trainers (non marking soles)
- Black games shorts/cycle shorts (for gymnastics/ athletics) or plain black sport leggingd (not tracksuit bottoms, no zips or pockets on leggings.
- Red hooded top with school crest
- Shin pads and a gum shield



Behaviour for Learning

We expect high standards of behaviour to be maintained so that all our students can work to their full potential. Our **Expectations Code** is clearly displayed in all teaching areas.

We celebrate achievement and success in many ways as we feel that praising students is the best way of encouraging them to do well. Everyone enjoys being praised. We therefore have a wide system of rewards which include:

- frequent oral and written praise
- positive marking
- referral to senior staff for recognition
- displaying students' work
- celebrating achievement through our email newsletter, website, social media and newspaper articles
- recognition of success in assemblies
- positive comments in the student planner
- commendations and certificates
- termly prizes
- social events
- rewards trips and extra-curricular activities

Unfortunately, sometimes students do not respond to such a positive approach and as a result sanctions are necessary. Consequences of inappropriate behaviour may include detentions, being placed on a monitoring report, community service, and withdrawal from privileges or from class. We strive to involve parents as early as possible and may invite you to school to discuss problems that develop.

For more serious offences a pupil may be placed in social inclusion as an alternative to an exclusion. Pupils placed in social inclusion will have minimal contact with their peers during this time and will be supervised while he/she completes work set by subject staff. Students isolated in this way will have minimal contact with their peers. Alternatively, it may be necessary to exclude a student from school for a fixed number of days.

Exclusion is never taken lightly but is always considered as an option when a student commits an assault or uses verbal abuse. The school works very closely with the Local Education Authority in matters relating to student exclusions.



The **Expectations Code** makes clear the expectations we have of our students.

Our full expectations code can be viewed by visiting eiriaspects.com or by scanning the QR code.

Non Negotiables

Ready

- Line up outside room.
- Greeted by teacher.
- Enter room and stand behind desk.
- Equipment and planners out on desk.
- Pupils have correct equipment.
- Coats and bags removed.
- Mobile phones to remain in bags.



Respectful and Safe

- Hands up, no shouting out. Follow instructions without question.
- Speak as you wish others to speak to you.
- Same behaviour management plan applied to all students across all subjects.

Release

- Stand quietly behind desks.
- Do not leave until told to do so.
- Do not dismiss until after the pips.

'An emphasis is placed on good behaviour and on respect for each individual and the environment' **ESTYN**





The *Transition* from *Primary to Secondary* School Education



'Transition arrangements are firmly established across curriculum areas and provide strong progression between key stages. The school supports pupils in the transition from primary to secondary school exceptionally well.'

ESTYN

At Ysgol Eirias we appreciate that moving up to secondary school is probably the biggest change a young person's life. It is vital that pupils are given every opportunity to experience how a secondary school works at an early stage.

The transition programme at Ysgol Eirias centres on two experiences in Years 5 and 6:

Year 5

The Year 5 Taster Day is a day centred on fun and enjoyment whilst learning and involves lessons in English, Maths, Science, Technology and PE.

Former Year 5 pupils have commented:

"In our English lesson the 6th formers taught us how to act out drama pieces, it was really good fun!"

"Maths was held outside working on measuring and calculating."

"Dr Williams taught us how to use Bunsen burners and he showed us how he blew up melons."

"We made a pencil holder in the tech labs, Mr Sherry drilled the holes."

"In the afternoon we went to the barn at Parc Eirias and played 5 aside and basketball."

Our taster day is usually held at the beginning of June and sets the scene for their next experience in Year 6.

Year 6

In Year 6 pupils attend our Transition Week which is held in July. The week includes a wide programme of lessons and activities which give a realistic experience of what Year 7 will be like in September.

The essence of the week can be summed up in the following quote:

"Our programme involves pupils having lessons on Monday and Tuesday morning with their current Year 6 classmates and form tutor. On Tuesday afternoon, pupils move into their new form groups. On Wednesday and Thursday pupils will go to lessons in their new groups."

This gives a real sense of moving from Year 6 to Year 7 within the space of a week.





'Students make extremely good progress in lessons. They respond very well to the highly effective teaching that they receive. They take active parts in lessons showing very good recall of prior learning and participate very effectively in individual, paired and group work.' **ESTYN**

The Year 7 Curriculum

We are very proud of our curriculum in Year 7 which has been acknowledged by the Welsh Government for being innovative and relevant to the needs of the modern learner.

Our curriculum is an AoLE project based learning programme which are completed throughout Year 7. These projects focus specifically on giving pupils the skills and knowledge of how to operate as autonomous learners and reflects the new curriculum.

This programme incorporates the very best teaching methods employed in Key Stage 2 and brings them into a Key Stage 3 environment. The result is a style of teaching and learning that eases a pupil's transition from primary to secondary education, which in turn leads on to motivating pupils towards higher order learning and enquiry.

It has been acknowledged that this programme meets the needs of the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum Guidelines whilst also looking to the future of Welsh education. Outside of the project curriculum pupils are taught Numeracy, Literacy, Welsh and French / German as separate subjects; each having their own discrete lessons. Pupils can support their work in lessons by attending our after school homework club which is held in the school library Monday to Thursday until 4.10 and Friday 3.55.

Contact with parents and home

In order to give parents as much information possible, the Year 7 Pastoral Team organise a number of events throughout the year. Before starting school in September parents and prospective pupils will have the opportunity to attend our Parents Information Evening designed to impart as much information about the transition from Year 6 to Year 7.

For the first two weeks in September the Head of Learning and Form Tutors are available to meet parents for a brief chat from 8.20 in the morning at the school gates. In October we hold a Form Tutor/Parent Evening with the sole aim of discussing how pupils are settling in and putting faces to names.

Each year parents will receive progress reports giving details of pupil effort and attainment across the curriculum. This is followed up towards the end of the year with a formal written report from teachers which can be discussed at the Year 7 Parents' Evening.

The Year 7-8 Transition

Having prepared our pupils for Year 7 it is equally important that we prepare them for studying in Year 8 and beyond.

Our Year 7-8 transition programme involves pupils commencing their Year 8 curriculum just after the Spring Bank holiday in May. Pupils move away from the project lessons and have a new timetable based around a traditional curriculum. This prepares them fully for the expectations of studying in Years 8 and 9.

Our experience indicates that in the last half term of Year 7 we have a group of highly motivated pupils engaging in lessons that inspire to learn and move forward with their education.





The School Curriculum



We are a truly comprehensive school and strive to make the curriculum appropriate to the needs of all students, whatever their talents and abilities. It is designed to stretch the most able and to provide support for those needing additional help.

Year 7-9 KS3

To ease the transition from Primary School Year 7 students study an innovative, skills based curriculum. Externally verified by Estyn as an 'outstanding' feature of our provision the project based curriculum runs alongside a solid core of Mathematics, English, Welsh and French/German.

In Year 8 and 9 students are organised into three broad bands (D, E and F) and then within each band students are placed into sets according to ability where appropriate. All KS3 students study English, Maths, Science, Welsh, French or German, Geography, History, RS, Technology, PE, Expressive Arts, ICT Skills Challenge and PSE.

Year 10 and 11 KS4

At this level of study we are trying to further broaden the options for students. Most will study GCSEs, some will take vocational courses, others may attend college for 1 day as part of the Alternative Learning Programme (ALP).

English, Maths, Science, Welsh RS, PE, PSE and the Skills Challenge are compulsory, but students do have some options to continue subjects from KS3 or start completely new courses for example: GCSE PE, Media and Business Studies, Philosophy & Ethics, Engineering and Psychology.

The resources for all faculties are complemented by a well stocked Library, which also houses nine computers and the reading room.

Years 12 and 13 KS5

Ysgol Eirias has a large VI form. Students need to apply for a place during Year 11. External applications are also invited. An excellent range of courses are offered, over 30 subjects including traditional A/AS level courses and vocational courses. Most of our VI form students go on to university.

Welsh is compulsory to 16 and popular as a post 16 option. We encourage pupils to use incidental Welsh wherever possible.

Skills Challenge Certificate

The Skills Challenge Certificate is the core of the Welsh Baccalaureate and is a standalone qualification in its own right. All pupils will complete the skills challenge at Key Stage 4 and 5. The qualification comprises 4 components:

- Enterprise and Employability
- Community
- Global Citizenship
- Individual Project

These units make up the assessment of the Skills Challenge Certificate. When learners complete the Skills Challenge Certificate and achieve a GCSE C Grade in Maths or Numerary, and English alongside other supporting qualification at the relevant they will also achieve The Welsh Baccalaureate.

'The curriculum is broad and balanced, meets legal requirements and is open to all learners. It is enhanced effectively by a wide range of extra-curricular activities.'

ESTYN



The School *Faculty* System

Ysgol Eirias has 10 Faculties, each led by an experienced Head of Faculty. Within each Faculty there may be a number of different departments, each with their own Head of Department. Read on to learn a little of what we teach. . .

English Faculty

Comprising: English, English Literature, Music, Drama, Media, Classical Civilisations and Expressive Art.



English and English Literature

The English teaching team is a dynamic energetic group who work hard to ensure the effective and innovative delivery of the English Curriculum.

English is housed in ten main classrooms, all of which have an Interactive whiteboard which is used for PowerPoint, Internet Access, ActivBoard facilities and specific programmes designed for whiteboards.

The Curriculum at KS3 offers a wide range of reading material from Shakespeare to Stoker, Almond to Zephaniah. Students will experience writing in a range of forms, from letter drafting to dramatic monologues. They also have an opportunity to develop their oracy skills through drama, debate and presentations.

At GCSE Level, students have the opportunity to experience a wide range of literature as well as develop their personal and creative writing.

They will study contemporary literature as well as more traditional texts, including poetry, novels and drama, and will continue to build on the skills in creativity and oracy that are developed at KS3.

At A Level, both Language and Literature are offered for AS and A2 students.



Music

The Music Department is a vibrant department which makes full use of a range of equipment to develop students' understanding and skills. The course buzzes with opportunities to study and compose music.

There is a team of 8 peripatetic teachers who offer lessons in woodwind, brass, string, guitar, singing and harp as an extension of the Music curriculum.

At KS3 students develop an understanding of a range of musical topics including Blues, Reggae, Film music and World music, whilst at KS4 and 5 students build on their listening and appraising, performing and composition skills.

Aspects such as Classical music, Popular music and 20th Century music are studied at this level.

Students have access to a range of instruments and can also use subject based computer programs such as Encore and Sibelius in the fully equipped ICT suite.



Succeeding Together



Expressive Arts

Exciting projects offered for years 8 and 9 which include the five aspects of Expressive Arts.

Learners will be able to explore and experience, create and express, respond and reflect

Drama

The Drama department is an active and energetic department offering both GCSE and A Level studies.

Students are given the opportunity to show their performance and technical skills during the course and are often involved in assemblies, concerts, revues, musicals and plays for both paying audiences and for other year groups as revision. The students' devised and scripted pieces are often performed during an evening performance before their assessments take place.

A wide range of texts from Miller to Bernard Shaw to Sophocles are studied and performed and students have the opportunity to study various Theatre Practitioners and experiment with their unique directing styles.

Theatre trips are a vital part of the course and students can enjoy a variety of experiences from local amateur performances to West End musicals during the popular London weekend.

In addition to all the opportunities provided

within the curriculum, the Drama Department offers various extra curricular activities, including drama club for Year 7 and 8, rehearsal time for GCSE and A level as well as the rehearsals which take place leading up to a summer concert or musical.

Media

Media Studies is offered at A Level and introduces students to the diverse and powerful world of media and offers students the opportunity to develop their skills of analysis and production of a range of media artefacts.

The course has a practical focus and is assessed through coursework portfolios. A variety of exciting briefs provides students with an interesting introduction into the production and consumption of a wide range of media products.



Classical Civilisations

This AS and A-Level qualification introduces students to the literature and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. Students become immersed in the mythology, religion, politics, archaeology and philosophy of Classical Greece. From Homer's the Odyssey to the plays of Sophocles, students are given a comprehensive foundation for further study. Classical Civilisation is a life-changing and enhancing subject, with many past students choosing to pursue it at degree level.



'The attainment of learners shows outstanding progress when compared to their abilities on entry.

They fulfil their potential and are well prepared to move on to their next stage of learning.'

ESTYN



Mathematics Faculty

The **Mathematics Faculty** is composed of staff with a vast range of skills and abilities to cater for every student in the school.

With the use of the most recent technologies not only are students able to review taught lessons at home but also download worksheets, take online tests and provide feedback to teachers on how they feel they are progressing through the course.

The emphasis of teaching is to try and tailor the course to suit each individual student so that they have the confidence and tools to become a successful mathematician at Ysgol Eirias.

Every teacher and student has access not only to the school VLE but also dedicated online maths resources specifically purchased to help students of all ages and abilities achieve.

GCSE mathematics has undergone significant changes and from September 2015 GCSE's in Numeracy and Mathematics are delivered. In KS3 the faculty follows a thematic curriculum in line with the new orders set out in the Donaldson review. This develops students' deeper understanding of the subject and prepares them for GCSE studies.

We have a strong intake at KS5 where the Faculty has the depth of teaching to offer the **Further Mathematics** course at A-Level for those who wish to continue their studies at a higher education institution.



'Students' thinking and problem-solving skills have improved greatly' **ESTYN**

Science Faculty

The **Science Faculty** is an energetic team of teachers specialised in **Physics**, **Chemistry** and **Biology** who endeavour to meet the needs of all students through the effective delivery of the Science curriculum.



Science is housed in ten well-equipped laboratories, all containing data projectors, three of which have Interactive Whiteboards. This enables the department to facilitate the integration of Internet resources and PowerPoint presentations into the delivery of the courses.

KS3 Science follows the National Curriculum through cross science themes. The thematic approach enhances the links between the 3 areas of Science. Students develop good thinking skills and are able to present their findings clearly using scientific terminology.

KS4 offers the WJEC GCSE Double Award Science course and delivers a modern approach to **Biology**, **Chemistry** and **Physics**. Students are encouraged to utilise their skills across all areas of work.

At **KS5** we are well subscribed, gaining excellent results across Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science. Medical Science is also taught in KS5. All A Level courses are achieved following the guidance of dedicated experienced staff.

Cymraeg Faculty

The **Welsh Faculty** plays an integral role in ensuring students at Ysgol Eirias appreciate and understand the importance of Welsh identity. The team is passionate about instilling a sense of pride in our students and to enable them to fulfil their potential.

At Ysgol Eirias we teach Welsh as a second language with the option for more able students and those from Welsh medium primary schools to study an accelerated gallop course.

Year 7-9 First Language

At KS3 a range of topics such as leisure activities, the area, new technology and environmental issues are taught in a wide range of creative and dynamic ways. From writing emails and letters to group discussions and interactive presentations, all students develop essential skills which make them proficient communicators.

Year 7-9 Gallop Course

The gallop course ensures that students build upon their current fluency and maintains their passion for communicating through the medium of Welsh. Students are assessed using second language criteria through a specially designed curriculum aimed at maximising challenge and enthusing students who already have a high level of fluency in the language. Students study a range of topics such as extreme sports, prejudice and Welsh identity.

Year 10-11 Gallop Course

(Depending on subject choices in Year 9) Students who have followed the gallop course at KS3 will sit their Welsh Second Language GCSE in Year 10 and study the Welsh Second Language AS Level in Year 11. This

course of study offers sufficient challenge and ensures students achieve high fluency in the language.

Year 10-13 Second Language

Issues relating to Colwyn Bay, Wales and The World are central to the curriculum at GCSE level. The skills students have acquired at KS3 are developed to encourage greater oral fluency and a more sophisticated syntax.

Communication in 'real' contexts is promoted and students are given the opportunity to practise their language skills in authentic situations. A knowledge and appreciation of Welsh heritage and culture is the focus at A Level. Students experience Welsh poetry and prose in a variety of forms and develop the fluency and linguistic ability to discuss and analyse literature.

Students are also afforded the opportunity to study an element of Welsh culture of their choice for their coursework portfolio. Topics ranging from popular culture to medieval stories have been chosen in the past to create exciting and interesting pieces of work.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The Welsh faculty continues to offer a wide range of extra-curricular



activities. We understand the importance of providing each student with the opportunity to use their Welsh outside the classroom and through the Eisteddfod, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, John Muir Award and Cymraeg Bod Dydd we are able to offer something for everyone. Annual trips to Cardiff, Glan-Llyn and theatres around North Wales have also proved very popular.

A highlight in the school calendar is the Year 7 Eisteddfod showcasing the linguistic and creative ability of our younger students and promoting cross curricular activities.

Cymraeg - Sector Leading Estyn

The Welsh faculty was rated Sector Leading in the 2014 Estyn inspection. Estyn stated that the faculty ensures *"that pupils understand the benefit of learning and using the Welsh language"* and that the school *"has developed a strong Welsh language provision"*.



Business and Communications Faculty

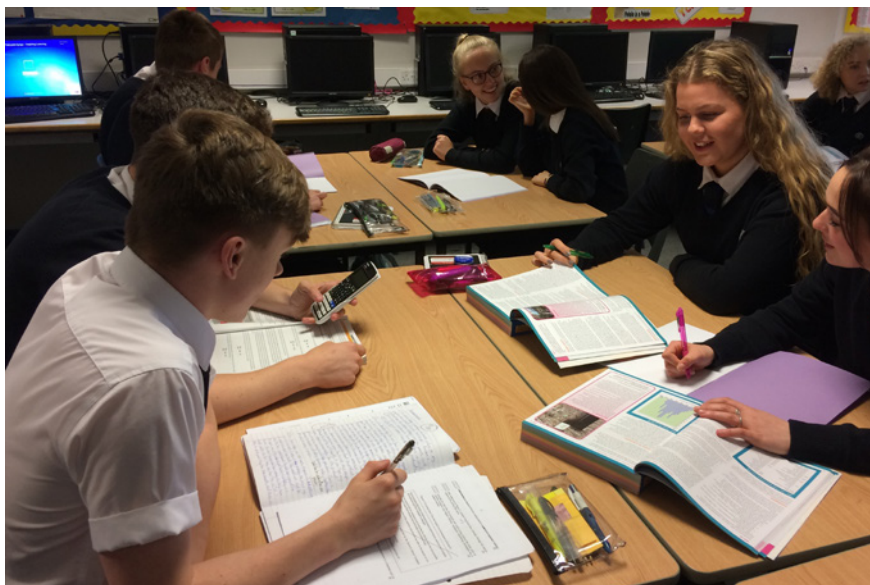
Housed in a modern block, classes are taught by a dynamic team of highly-qualified and dedicated teachers. There are over 200 computers in the Faculty with access to the latest software through the Microsoft Schools Agreement. All rooms have printers and most have scanners, whilst digital cameras, camcorders and recording equipment are also available. Three support staff ensure the smooth running of the technology.

In Years 8-9, students have one dedicated ICT and Computer Science lesson per week, in the course of which they will discover the basics of word processing, spreadsheets, databases, desktop publishing and PowerPoint presentations.

The emphasis at KS3 is threefold: students are encouraged to develop their technical skills and become confident in trying out new features of the software; they will work on their layout and presentation skills to make their documents as professional as possible and they will learn and use key Computer Science concepts.

A number of subjects are delivered at KS4. A GCSE in ICT is embarked upon by many students. The course in ICT is very practical and students develop their understanding of software encountered at KS3, as well as being introduced to more sophisticated software packages.

Other optional subjects include Business, Tourism and Computer Science.



The emphasis in these subjects is on developing the important skills of communication, analysis and evaluation, which help our students to become better decision makers.

KS5 subjects are very popular and include ICT, Economics, Health and Social Care Tourism, Computer Science and a range of Business courses. Many of our students continue their study of these subjects at university.

Enterprise thrives at the school with teams succeeding in both local and National competitions. KS3 students have the opportunity to participate in the enterprising 'Tenner Challenge'. Formal debating is popular and teams enter national competitions including the mock debate of the EU Council and the Stock Market Challenge.

A number of visits to companies are undertaken to develop our students'

understanding of the world of business and the importance of ICT. Links with local business provide design opportunities for students in ICT.

Visiting speakers are used to enhance the delivery of our subjects. All students on Tourism courses make visits to assess how tourism is managed and developed in a variety of locations as well as preparing a visit of their own. Economists enter a range of competitions, including the renowned Bank of England Challenge.

KS3 pupils have taken part in a number of extra-curricular Computer Science activities. These include the FirstLegoLeague robotics competition; the CodeRed computer game-writing club, using Scratch and Kodu and activity days with Technocamps.



Languages Faculty

Comprising: Modern Foreign Languages (MFL – French & German)

Creative and dynamic delivery of the Curriculum is of the utmost importance within the Languages Faculty and all members of the team strive to instil in our students a passion for learning languages and an understanding of different cultures.

As GWE MFL Centre of Excellence for the past 5 years, we aim to provide a range of opportunities for students to communicate and extend their use of Language, aided by the use of new technology, I Pads & cultural Links.

‘The vast majority of students are fluent and confident speakers, who explain ideas and express opinions well’

ESTYN

Year 7-9

At KS3 a range of engaging topics such as environmental issues, new technology, leisure activities, healthy eating and travel are introduced, and combined with opportunities for creative use of language.

Within the Faculty, emphasis is placed on the communicative approach to language learning and students develop their skills through role plays and presentations, games, grammatical knowledge and exposure to authentic texts and audio visual resources.

Year 10-13 French and German

Having already acquired a working knowledge of the language, the focus in MFL at GCSE level is to promote spontaneous speech and enable students to communicate effectively with native speakers in different contexts.

Our students are provided with the skills to manipulate the language confidently and gain a cultural insight into the country in which the language is spoken.

At A level, students have an opportunity to study cultural issues relating to modern society and analyse films and literature, as well as further extend the range & complexity of their language skills. Sessions with Language Assistants provide students invaluable contact with native speakers to further develop fluency and confidence.

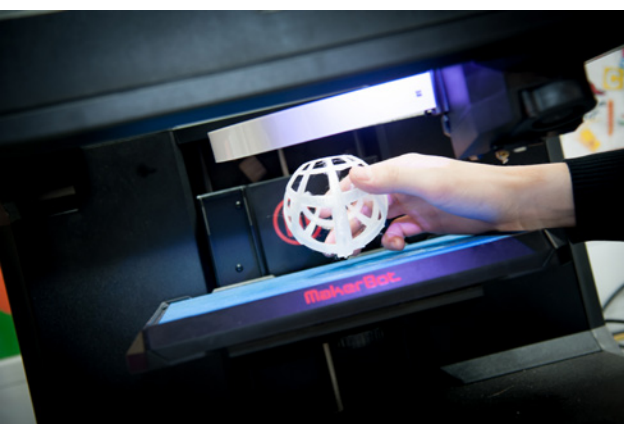
Weekly contact with Language Assistants provides students invaluable contact with native speakers.





Technology Faculty

Comprising: Engineering, Food & Nutrition, Product Design, Health & Social Care and Child Development, Art, Graphic Communication and Textiles.



The Faculty is housed in a modern suite of subject specific rooms and workshops. Additionally an ICT suite including access to a 3D printer is used to extend workshop experiences.

In **KS3 Technology** pupils undertake a range of projects from designing and making meals to electronic lights, from soft toys to passive amplifiers.

In **KS3 Art** pupils will undertake projects based on artists ranging from Lowry to Jasper Johns and experience everything from painting to printing and sketching to 3D sculpture.

At KS4 pupils can opt for a large range of Technology based subjects including **Art, Engineering, Food & Nutrition, Health & Social Care and Child Development, Product Design, Graphic Communication and Textiles.**

In **GCSE Product Design and Engineering** pupils will pilot projects in Year 10 before embarking on a major project in Year 11 using a full range of workshop equipment and machinery.

Food & Nutrition and Health & Social Care and Child Development involve investigative and practical coursework in both Years 10 and 11.

Graphic Communication involves two substantial pieces of coursework over the two year course involving both hand drawn and computer designed Graphic work.

In **GCSE Art** pupils produce major units of work based on Human Form, Still Life and Landscapes.

In **Fashion and Textiles** they will construct fashion garments following current trend and using complex methods of decoration.





Humanities Faculty

Comprising: History, Geography, Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics, Sociology.

The **Humanities Faculty** plays a vital role in equipping young people for adult life. The Humanities subjects are concerned with people – how they live, their relationships with each other and the environment, and how human action and belief, now and in the past, have influenced events and conditions. An understanding of human societies, help us to make informed judgements about significant contemporary issues.

The Humanities teachers work together as an energetic and dynamic team to help young people develop an understanding of the social and cultural context of modern society and the range of possible futures in a world of rapid technological and cultural change.

History

In **History**, students learn about the development of Wales, Britain, Europe and the World using case studies from the Middle Ages to the 20th Century. The GCSE course offers a breadth of study, covering Wales, Britain, and the USA.

Geography

The **Geography** curriculum is made up of both human and physical aspects, allowing students to develop an understanding of how humans interact with the environment, in an ever changing globalised world. Examples are drawn from Wales, Europe and the World, to ensure that students have a balanced and contemporary view of local and global developments.

Religious Studies

In **Religious Studies** students are given an insight into the six main religions of the world, looking at founders of different faiths and places of worship. At KS4 all students study Core RS and Full and Short Course GCSE **Philosophy and Ethics** are offered. A consideration of Human Rights and Environmental issues are central to all that we do and we are committed to preparing students to live in a multi – cultural society.

Underpinning all that we do is a commitment to equipping young people with the skills that enable them to become confident, autonomous learners. Field trips and educational visits play an important role in the Humanities Curriculum - both local and further afield.

Regular trips include:

- The WW1 battlefields
- Normandy beaches
- Llanberis Slate Museum
- Imperial War Museum
- The Manchester Synagogue
- Liverpool Cathedral and Docks
- Iceland

Sociology

If you are naturally inquisitive, argumentative, do not see the world in black and white terms, are prepared to read widely, observe and research the world around you, this subject will enable you to see everyday life in a completely different way. Sociology is a voyage of discovery, an experience that will change the way in which you think about everything you do.

Sociology is offered at AS and A2 level.

Career options include Human Resource Management, the Forces, the Police, Teaching, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Social Work and the Probation service.





Welsh Baccalaureate Faculty

The **Welsh Baccalaureate** is the flagship qualification of Wales. At the heart of the Welsh Baccalaureate is the Skills Challenge Certificate which comprises 3 challenges; The Enterprise and Employability Challenge, The Community Challenge and The Global Citizenship Challenge. In addition students must complete an Individual Project on a topic of interest to them.

To gain the full Welsh Baccalaureate students must also achieve a C grade in Maths Numeracy GCSE or Maths GCSE and English Language GCSE plus three other qualifications at the relevant level.

Attainment of the Welsh Baccalaureate is evidence of both academic achievement and the development of the essential skills that large employers and universities believe are vital to succeed.

Key Stage 4

The Skills Challenge Certificate is delivered across a range of core curriculum areas. The Community Challenge is embedded into Core PE, learners acquire the skills of leadership and coaching and are then able to transfer these skills to an area of their choice for their assessment. The Global Challenge is delivered within core RS, starting in Year 9 and into the early part of Year 10 learners consider the impacts of extremism on society, here they develop their creativity skills to develop a raising awareness campaign for the issues they have considered. The enterprise Challenge is delivered by the Business Communications Faculty in one timetabled lesson a week in Year 10. Here learners will



get the opportunity to work in a group to develop an innovative product and pitch their idea. The individual project will be embedded into GCSE English.

Key Stage 5

The Advanced skills challenge certificate works alongside the excellent pastoral programme delivered in the 6th form.

Students will have the opportunity to be a Keynote speaker at a global issues conference and plan for financial independence and life post Eirion as part of the employability challenge.

The Individual Project

At both levels of study students will complete an Individual Project relevant to that level, this is a research assignment

that is student lead and can be on a topic of interest to students, ideally linked to continued study or future career aspirations. The Individual Project is both challenging and exciting, allowing student to fulfil their potential. Recent lines of research have included an investigation into the working of the NHS and a report on the long term impact of Brexit.



Physical Education Faculty

The **Physical Education** Faculty prides itself on the broad base of activities delivered by the specialist teachers during KS3. A balance between team games and individual activities offers our junior students the opportunity to develop existing skills and experience new activities.

Starting from september 2019 our year 7 learners will study a health and wellbeing project as part of the PE lessons.

At the end of KS3 the students will be given the option to design their own programme for KS4, focusing on the activities they find enjoyable and challenging. KS4 also offers new activities for the students, such as Vollyball, Trampolining and Badminton..

The Faculty runs a varied extra curricular programme which runs 4 days a week, 39 weeks of the year. This programme is an extension of the curriculum, offering opportunities for the more able, motivated and talented to represent school teams in many different sports, along with recreational activities for students of all abilities. Students will have opportunities to get wet, cold and terrified on an outdoor activities weekend and may also have the memorable experience of a sports tour or a ski trip.

The school has an excellent record in County, Regional and National competitions and our roll of International honours continues to grow. We currently have students representing Wales in Hockey, Sailing, Skiing, Mountain running and Swimming.

The Faculty has A brand new 4G Football + Rugby Pitch, A Gymnasium, A Health an wellbeing Suite, an all weather Hockey pitch, indoor and outdoor Tennis courts, a Sports hall, an Athletics arena and an indoor Rugby training facility. We offer GCSE+KS5 Vocational Sport exam courses for students who wish to combine their practical ability with academic study of the subject.

We offer our students an abundance of opportunities and ask only enthusiasm, commitment and determination in return.



Our Sporting Aims are:

- To develop all studentes physical literacy.
- To develop co-ordination and mobility through a structured and developmental programme of skill acquisition
- To increase each student's awareness of his/her own capabilities and an appreciation of individual differences
- To develop a knowledge of safety procedures and an understanding of safe practice, including the need for rules and regulations
- To sustain an appreciation of physical movement through observation, analysis and evaluation
- To provide for the development of co-operation, communication and creativity through structured and progressive problem- solving situations
- To develop the ability to apply knowledge, skill and concepts appropriately and effectively in a variety of situations
- To develop an appreciation of health, fitness and the benefits of an active lifestyle for a persons' wellbeing.
- Promote lifelong involmment in physical activity for all.

'The school monitors its budget to an exceptionally high standard and provides excellent value for money.' **ESTYN**



Social media celebrating Physical Education at Ysgol Eirias

PE Achievements

The PE faculty prides itself on the range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities that are available to learners of all abilities and experience levels. We are passionate about the physical, mental and social benefits of physical activity and promote lifelong involvement.



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 29 Mar
6th form gymnastics group still going strong #wellbeing #yoga4teens @Eirias



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 17 Oct 2018
A very competitive senior rugby fixture tonight between @EiriasPe and St David's. A 19-17 win for @Eirias. All 21 players played their part. Tries from Tom Price, Tom Brooke and Morgan Ashworth, 2 conversions also for Tom Brooke. @MrlycettPE @WelshRugbyUnion



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 23 May
Year 7 Health and Well-being lesson taking advantage of the weather and the setting in Parc Eirias. #mentalhealth #knowledgeispower #thenextgeneration @Eirias



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 24 Jan
We have broadened our KS 4 curriculum this year with the addition of a unit of Yoga. The feedback is very positive with focus on the wellbeing of our learners. Thank you to Sam Hare for her expertise. @Eirias #mindset #wellbeing



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 9 Mar
Great morning in Rhiw Bach mine and we then came out to the beautiful scenery above Cwm Penmachno. @nwoes @Eirias



eiriasPE @EiriasPe · 28 Feb
Awesome day for group 4 today. They did their first black run. Huge progress from such a positive group. #gnarly @Eirias @HalsburySki





Sixth Form at *Ysgol Eirias*

At Ysgol Eirias we have a large Sixth Form housed in a purpose-built centre. It has a proud record of success including significant numbers of Oxbridge entrants.

The school offers a wide range of AS and Advanced Level courses as well as vocational courses. Some vocational courses may be combined with A Level courses.

Seren network and extra-curricular provision

The School actively engages in the Conwy and Denbighshire Seren Network. This provides our most able students to access opportunities to support their applications to the most competitive universities and courses. For example, our students have attended seminars provided by Ysbyty Glan Clwyd for medicine, Oxbridge outreach events and residentials, university Open Days and subject master classes. All students are given access to wide range of extra-curricular opportunities including university talks, a Higher Education Evening and UCAS Exhibition in the summer term of year 12. We also have Skills Day, involving a wide range of activities to take students out of their comfort zone and build team spirit.

Alumni and guest speakers

As a large and thriving 6th form, we have the benefit of many alumni students who have gone on to a wide range of interesting academic and career paths. We have invited many of our alumni students to come in to deliver interesting talks on subjects including: studying and volunteering in the USA; life as an airline pilot; Advanced Skills nursing; working for google and Facebook; theatre direction; a Turtle Conservation Project; studying Vet Science and Medicine; Higher Apprenticeships in Engineering and much more besides. This has enabled our students to gain insight into a wide range of pathways and build valuable links and work placement opportunities as a result..



AS and A2 Level

- Applied Business
- Applied Science
- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisations
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Environmental Science
- French
- Further Maths
- Geography
- German
- History
- Mathematics
- Media
- Music
- Physics
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Sociology
- Cymraeg Ail iaith
- Welsh Baccalaureate

IFS Level 3 Certificate and Diploma

- Financial Studies

Cambridge Technical Level

- Health and Social Care
- ICT
- Sport

A separate Sixth Form Prospectus is available on request.



Additional Information

Additional Learning Needs

Eirias has well developed policies for supporting the learning of students with additional needs. We aim for all our students to reach their full potential, whether they are young people with exceptional abilities or difficulties.

Learning support is the responsibility of all teachers. However, a team of specialist learning support staff leads our work. Provision is made for students to be withdrawn from mainstream lessons to receive additional literacy support from specially trained staff.

There is a well resourced area for individual and small group tuition for students with dyslexia, speech and language difficulties and statemented pupils who receive extra literacy and numeracy support or those for whom English is an additional language (EAL).

In many KS3 lessons Teaching Assistants support the work of the subject teacher. These specially trained staff work alongside individuals or small groups of students in the classroom helping to maintain their interest and clarifying further tasks set.

Access for students with Disabilities

This school will not tolerate harassment of disabled people with any form of impairment, or students who are carers for disabled parents.

In accordance with the Disability Equality Duty [within DDA 2005], the school has undertaken the production of a disability equality scheme which will provide us with a framework for integrating disability equality into all aspects of school life and demonstrates how we are seeking to meet the specific duty.

Security, Health and Safety of Students and Staff

The school site is enclosed with the main school entrance having an electronic security system fitted. The school buildings are protected by an extensive CCTV camera system located both inside and outside the school buildings.

All visitors report to the main reception where they sign in and out, and are issued with a visitor badge for easy identification around the school.

Outside of lesson time students are supervised by staff at the start of school, at break, lunchtime, and as they leave school at the end of the day.

There are approximately twenty teaching and administrative staff qualified as first aiders.

The school makes every effort to ensure that the school environment is a safe one for everyone and has a comprehensive Health and Safety policy that is available on request.



'Pupils with additional learning needs achieve at or above expected levels. Over the last three years none have left without appropriate qualifications and all achieve at least five equivalent to grades A*-G'

ESTYN

Eirias Pupil Inclusion Centre (*EPIC*)



Our Eirias Pupil Inclusion Centre (EPIC) has two distinct areas for supporting students.

Cynnal

Cynnal is primarily an area that ensures students who require academic, behavioural, emotional, social, medical or attendance support receive appropriate interventions. Students will normally be placed in **Cynnal** on a temporary basis. This may be full time or part time with students encouraged to return to main stream lessons as soon as they are able.

Students may access a range of alternative courses that may replace or supplement aspects of their mainstream curriculum.

Hafod

Hafod is the area within EPIC that caters for ALN vulnerable and Additional Learning Needs students who have a place in **Hafod** written into their Statement of Additional Needs or School Action Plus contract agreement.

Students with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) receive appropriate support in **Hafod**. A temporary discretionary place in **Hafod** can also be offered when screening and test scores show evidence that small group teaching will benefit academic progress. Students progress at their own level as they move through from year 7 to Year 11.





Pastoral Organisation

We are very proud of our strong pastoral system. Each student belongs to his/her Year group and one of eight mixed ability form groups that make up that year.

It is usual for the form teacher to remain with the form group from Year 7-11 which allows strong links to develop.

Each group of form tutors is led by a Head of Learning who is supported by an Academic Development Co-ordinator.

Whilst the Head of Learning for year 7 and 12/13 remain static to facilitate links with the Primary Schools and Universities, it is usual for the Head of Learning to remain with the year group

and move up the school together from Year 8-11. Each form belongs to one of the school houses in partnership with other year groups.

To help Year 7 settle and make the transition from Primary School, the students are mainly taught in a dedicated homebase room. School staff will liaise as appropriate with all external agencies.





Healthy Schools Scheme



Ysgol Eirias is a Phase 5 Healthy school and use the national quality award guidelines as a tool kit for providing our students with the best possible foundation to lead a healthy lifestyle and enjoy their learning environment.

In accordance with the Appetite for life measure, our restaurant offers students a variety of choices each day that are nutritionally analysed. Healthy eating is encouraged and promoted through meal deals and offers. Students who do choose to bring their own lunch are also asked to follow the government guidelines which are noted in the school planner.

Our student voice is a proactive group that work closely with our catering team to ensure the food is tasty and meets the guidelines. The menu has been adapted based on student feedback and taste test to develop the seasonal menus.



Restaurant Facilities

The school runs a cashless system, whereby parents can use the Parent Pay app or website to credit their child's account. Free school meal allowances are topped up automatically every lunch time.

The restaurant offers students a range of different choices daily which is freshly prepared.

The different choices are:

- A traditional counter offering a two courses meal. Examples being a roast dinner and apple crumble. Vegetarian options are also available.
- A pasta bar
- A Curry bar
- A grab and go counter for more convenience
- A sandwich deli, students can choose their own type of bread and sandwich filling and have it made up for them.

Special diets can be accommodated, please contact the head chef for details.

The average cost of a two course lunch is £2.50. Students who bring in a packed lunch eat in the school hall and may also purchase drinks, fruit and confectionary.

The restaurant is also open at break time to serve their breakfast/snack menu and allow students to top up their dinner cards if they are paying with cash.

'The attainment of learners shows outstanding progress when compared to their abilities on entry.' **ESTYN**



Ysgol Eirias Eirias Student Voice

Student Voice works closely with student body, community, Leadership Team, Governors and parents to help make Eirias a great environment to learn and develop life skills.

Student Voice meets every month and has a cabinet who coordinate a range of meeting types from full members meetings to specialise student groups.

Student Voice is made up of a mixture of learners' from all year groups, and other groups like the well-being ambassadors, Nurture and Digital Leaders. Any learner can apply to become a member. We also have two members on the school's governing body, Wales Youth Parliament and Conwy Youth Parliament.

Student Voice gives learners the opportunity to ask questions and help shape our school and help it work in the community. They invite a range of visitors to meetings and meet regularly with the Leadership Team to discuss their concerns and ways to solve issues raised by the student body.

Student Voice is involved in a variety of activities with the local food bank, children's hospices through to new initiatives at school to help shape the learning experience here at Eirias.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors are a group of students, from various year groups, who have attended training on various areas to help support others. This ranges from mental health to healthy relationships. The students create resources for staff to share with form classes on various topics that promote wellbeing.

'The Eirias School Parliament gives the pupils a valuable opportunity for decision-making within the school.'

The Parliament successfully involves other pupils in decision-making'

ESTYN



Rewards at Ysgol Eirias

The school aims to provide high standards of behaviour, self discipline and learning through positive encouragement and reward.

As well as praise in class and through written comments in exercise books, students are rewarded in a variety of ways.

Across the school, students collect merits for good work and behaviour and there are termly competitions among the tutor groups for the largest number of merits collected.

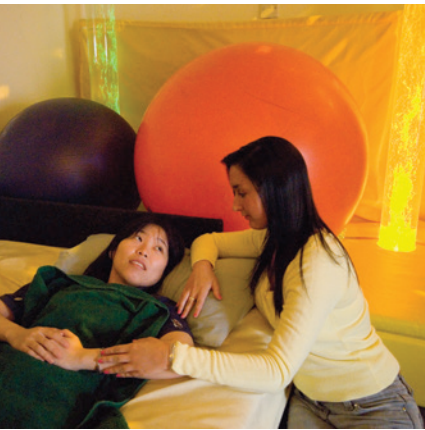
Certificates for attendance are also awarded. Stickers are awarded for exceptional achievements. Recognition

postcards are also used and are posted home to students. Postcards are sent out termly.

All rewards are linked to the 'House System' and promote collaboration.



Career Guidance



Career guidance and support is an important feature of students' experience from Year 7 – Year 13. Building on self awareness and appreciation of skills, careers is an integral part of the Pastoral Programme with many additional opportunities as outlined below.

At Ysgol Eirias, we strive to enable students to develop careers awareness through their pastoral topics but also as related to their subjects.

Ysgol Eirias has been accredited with The Careers Wales Mark Award, this is an award designed by Careers Wales to recognise a commitment to the continuous quality improvements with an educational institution to meet with the Welsh Government's requirements that are set out in the Careers and the World of Work; a framework for 11-19 year-olds in Wales.

The programme is designed to equip young people with the skills they will need in order to manage their working life, whether they leave education at 16, 18 or 21 so that they have the most up-to-date knowledge and understanding of working practices to make effective career choices.

Our range of services includes:

- A pastoral programme of careers education, which provides opportunities to develop and apply the knowledge, understanding and skill necessary to make realistic career decisions.
- Identification of careers links in all Faculty (subject based) schemes of work and a developing interest in work related education.
- A "drop in" careers resource base for students and staff with comprehensive, up-to-date information on opportunities in education, training, employment and apprenticeships.
- Individual guidance from independent Careers Wales staff.
- Access to Careers Wales online comprehensive personalised website for careers information, career planning and options selection.





Sixth Form Careers

Sixth form have their own dedicated careers resource section within their excellent Resource Base facility which is well stocked and regularly updated, catering for employment opportunities, apprenticeships, scholarships and further education applications.

Periodicals, magazines and newspapers are additional resources to internet access.

There is a regular and current programme of opportunities to engage with employers, HE providers, subject and skills specific events.

The university entrance programme is described in the Sixth Form prospectus and students are individually supported by both Careers Wales and school staff at every stage of their application.

A supporting and successful service is provided for potential Oxbridge candidates involving appropriate and specialist expertise.

'The provision for work-related education and the development of enterprise is excellent.

The ways in which it prepares pupils and students for life-long learning are outstanding.'

ESTYN





Sex & Relationship Education



In Ysgol Eirias we strive to ensure that all our young people have the knowledge and understanding to make decisions that will to enable them to lead happy and healthy lifestyles, but also equip them with the skillset to question, evaluate and have the confidence to seek help in times of need.

Our PSE Programme has been designed to develop personal responsibility, self-esteem, respect and consideration of others through a formal manner lead by the pastoral team.

Health professionals will occasionally be invited into the school to help lead the students through the programme.

The PSE programme is updated every year to meet the ever evolving needs of our students, changes to the programme are made based on student feedback, results from our health and wellbeing survey, consultation with other professionals based in the community and parents. The scheme of work can be viewed via our website/ upon request via the Head of Learning.

R.S. and Collective Worship

All KS3 and 4 students study Religious Studies. In addition, KS4 students can opt to study Philosophy and Ethics as a full or short GCSE course.

Religious and moral issues can be addressed through *Thought for the Day* in form time, or a whole year group can come together for a weekly assembly.

Assemblies provide opportunities where all students can relate to issues and morals regardless of their faith and religion.

Parents who wish to withdraw their children from either Religious Studies or Assemblies in whole or in part, should contact the Headteacher.





Homework at Eirias

Homework is an integral element of the student's education and is set on a regular basis in accordance with a published timetable.

All students write their homework in to their student planner to aid organisation.

Parental support in supervising the completion of such work is appreciated and parents are asked to sign the student planner weekly keeping a check on teachers comments and rewards. Homework Club runs daily in the Library and is supervised by staff.



Equal Opportunities

The concept of equal opportunities is based upon the principles that each individual has the right to human respect and dignity.

Equal opportunities in practice involves recognising and responding to an individuals' needs. It is implemented for the whole school ethos, for student development, for staff development and to fulfil our legal obligations.

Our aims are to be a fully inclusive school and to take reasonable steps to ensure that there are no discriminations against any student. For this to be in effect, we aim to encourage all in the school community to challenge stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice and develop confidence. Any form of harassment will not be tolerated and will be dealt with through appropriate action by a member of staff.

Equal opportunities does not mean treating every person in the same way. It means acknowledging and responding to individual needs and strengths allowing students to endeavour to fulfil their potential.

It is the responsibility of all staff to develop approaches which support and promote Ysgol Eirias policy, to maximise student development.



'Pupils' and students' personal, social and learning skills are outstanding. They co-operate well with one another, seek to solve problems creatively and engage in improving their own performance to a high degree.' **ESTYN**



General Information



Personal Equipment and Belongings

Students are expected to come to school with the correct equipment for each lesson.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT

Pens, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, pencil case, geometry set, calculator. A strong school bag will be needed to carry books and equipment.

All items should be clearly labelled with students name and form.

Prohibited items

The school will accept no responsibility for prohibited items brought to school such as mobile phones, cameras and other expensive items.

Anyone seen using these whilst on school premises may have the item confiscated and parents will be expected to collect at the end of the school week.

Child Protection

Ysgol Eirias fully recognise its responsibilities for child protection within the All Wales Child Protection Procedures.

Occasionally, a young person may disclose that something has happened to them which suggests they are at risk of harm. When this happens school is required BY LAW to inform

the local Social Services Department who will, if necessary, investigate the matter. Naturally, school (usually Mrs. Crombie, Deputy Head) will inform parents of the concern UNLESS in doing so the pupil would be placed at increased risk of further harm.

Physical Restraint

On very rare occasions members of staff may need to physically restrain a young person.

This will always be undertaken using a reasonable degree of force. Parents will be informed if such a situation arises. However, as previously stated such situations are VERY rare occurrences.

Looked After Children

Ysgol Eirias is a fully inclusive school and as such the Head, Governors and staff are committed to ensuring all students are provided with a quality education matched to their individual needs. This includes Looked After Children (LAC).

We are aware of the educational disadvantages faced by Looked After Children and understand the need for positive systems of support to overcome them. At Ysgol Eirias we constantly monitor the attendance, progress and achievement of our Looked After Children. Mrs L Kerfoot Robson, Assistant Head, has responsibility for the oversight of Looked After Children.



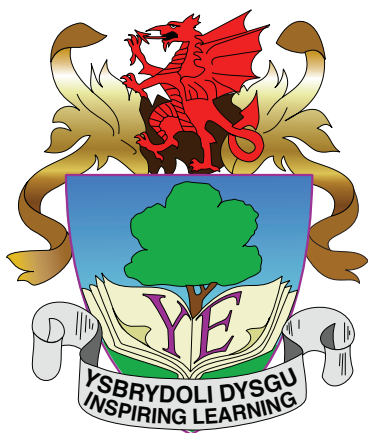
Report Writing

Students receive feedback from teaching staff on a regular basis, but parents will receive formal reports in two forms during the academic year.

The **'Termly Update'** is designed to provide a snapshot of progress, and contains an indication of progress towards agreed target levels or grades, whilst the **'Annual Report'** will in addition contain detailed written comments from each teacher and target areas for improvement. All reports are electronically produced, draw on a wealth of assessment data and are specifically designed to involve parents in the education process.



Llysoedd Ysgol School Houses



Ysgol Eirias operates a 'house' system for students across all year groups which includes Llysoedd Eirias (Houses) comprising two forms in each year group.

There are be lots of opportunities to earn House Points with all the faculty and house competitions lined up every year.

Students across all year groups have the chance to put their ideas forward during House meetings as well as helping to organise different activities such as vertical assemblies, friendship activities and competitions.



Bilingualism

At Ysgol Eirias, we are proud of our Welsh heritage, culture and language. It's an integral part of our national identity. This is reflected in the Welsh we speak and hear around school and this will enrich everyone's experience of living in a bilingual country. We strive to give every student the opportunity to develop their Welsh language skills as we firmly support the Welsh Government's vision of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.



Mandarin

Ysgol Eirias is one of Wales' Confucius Classrooms, which supports the delivery of Mandarin language lessons and teaches understanding of the Chinese culture. With a dedicated tutor to deliver Chinese within the school, our students have the opportunity to experience a range of activities and language learning journeys through lessons, after school clubs and trips. In 2016, Eirias students visited Xiamen University as part of their studies. Many of our students go on to gain valuable qualifications in the Chinese language and benefit from the opportunities this brings.

'Outstanding working relationships develop exceptional attitudes to learning on the part of pupils and students.'

ESTYN

Life-changing experiences

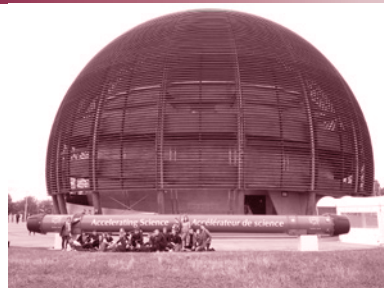
Ysgol Eirias works with renowned expedition organisations to provide students with a once in a lifetime experience.

Previous trips have included:

- Trekking in the Andes on the border between Argentina and Chile
- Project work at Ysgol yr Hendre and Esperanza Animal Sanctuary
- Visiting the Welsh communities in **Patagonia**
- Nordic Skiing and Horse riding in stunning Bariloche
- A hop over the border to Brazil to see one of the natural wonders of the world – Iguazu Falls
- A marathon journey around China; taking in sections of The Great Wall, the Terracotta Warriors **and Beijing**.
- A Malawian trip, working in rural villages on much needed projects
- A month long expedition in Peru **taking in the spectacular sights of Machu Picchu and white water rafting on the Rio Chili**.
- Visiting the Borneo rainforests to **work with sun bears and witness orang-utans in their natural habitat**.

All our expeditions involved some form of project work, a trek along a challenging mountain route which involves camping, and some time to become immersed in the local sights and sounds.

These amazing cultural experiences allow pupils to develop their interpersonal skills, claim their independence, as well as putting themselves through a range of different life skills that stay with them throughout their lives. All whilst seeing truly stunning parts of the world.





After school activities

Our after school programme of activities hopes to meet each student's interest. We have a wide range of clubs on offer and encourage our students to pick a variety during their time at Eirias.

Our students get the opportunity to meet new friends and build better relationships with others from different forms and year groups. This in turn helps their confidence grow whilst working independently, in groups or as a team.

We use the expertise of our teaching staff as well as using trained professionals to develop a mixed programme which can include:

- All sports
- Badminton club
- Basketball club
- Hockey club
- Football club
- Netball club
- Rugby club
- Gymnastics club
- Fitness club
- Gospel / Choir club
- Orchestra
- Drama club
- Dance club
- Film club
- Cookery club
- Clwb siarad Cymraeg (Welsh speaking club)
- Homework club
- Engineering club
- Our Environment club
- F1 Challenge club
- Young Enterprise club
- Clwb Pump

Extra Curricular Provision

Examples of past experiences:

- Year 7 pupils visited Paris and Disneyland at Easter and enjoyed a day in Disneyland Paris together with an afternoon visit to the Louvre and Notre Dam and a boat trip on the Sienne
- Students from all year groups participated in the carol service at St Paul's Church - reading, instrumental and vocal
- Many staff and students were involved in the school production of 'RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET'
- Drama students visited various theatres throughout the year
- Students were involved in Operation Christmas Child sending love in a box to Children in Haiti, Belarus and Romania





- Geography students from Year 10 & 11 visited Iceland in February half term. Visiting the Blue Lagoon, taking part in a glacier walk and seeing the thermal springs at Geyser
- Year 12 History and Economics students went on a tour of the Houses of Parliament and visited the Imperial War Museum and Bank of England in a visit to London
- Year 12 ICT students mingled well with the animals on a research trip to Colwyn Bay Zoo
- Year 12 students worked with industry to develop a circuit tester and systems to allow the testing of expensive rechargeable batteries as part of the Engineering Education Scheme for Wales winning the Environmental Award at the final ceremony. Numerous
- Eirias pupils enjoyed a trip to Nant Bwlch Yr Haeam Outdoor Centre for a residential
- Students enjoyed Drama sessions in the Hall which merged 3 groups together – around 100 students all pretending to be at a bus stop!
- Year 9 students visited Berlin to investigate the history of World War II and the Cold War
- 6th Form History students had the opportunity to interview a Holocaust survivor and attended a Holocaust memorial event
- Year 9 students took part in a Holocaust memorial poetry and art competition
- Classical Civilisation students enjoyed a trip to Athens over Easter
- Yr10 French students hosted a Welsh cream tea “creole style” for pupils visiting from Guadeloupe
- Language students get creative, making animations in French, German and Spanish after school clubs
- AS & A level French students are introduced to French cinema with film trips to Theatr Clwyd
- Year 7 Health and Fitness Day. All of Year 7 were off timetable to enjoy a day of PSE and PE related activities; including a drugs raid, sponsored run and peer led snackathon





Electronic Registration



Registration of students at Ysgol Eirias is conducted electronically over the school's wireless network during every lesson and at the start of the morning session.

This allows for prompt information exchange between teaching staff and the pastoral teams within the school so that issues relating to

attendance and punctuality can be identified quickly and addressed effectively.

Support is given to students with attendance below 90% through the involvement of various agencies at the discretion of their Head of Learning.

The School and its Governing Body

The school is proud of the effective working partnership between its senior staff and the Governing Body.

The Chair of Governors is Mr. Kerry Jones. If you wish to contact him, please do so using the school address.

Library and Homework Club

The Ysgol Eirias Library has a wide range of materials and offers a Homework club for Years 7 and 8 after school in the Library. BOOST is available for Years 9-11.

- Open until 4.15pm Monday to Thursday
- Open until 4.00pm Friday
- Pupils must bring work with them

Holidays in Term time

At Ysgol Eirias we do not approve of holidays taken in term time. We feel very strongly that the benefits of a holiday taken in term time are far inferior to the benefit of the education that we provide.

The staff at Eirias work hard to ensure the effective delivery of all aspects of the students' education, and it is not possible to catch up on this once missed, despite any efforts made to copy up.

We are not obliged to authorise holidays and will certainly not authorise holidays under the following circumstances:

- Where attendance of the student is less than 96%
- Where the student is not accompanied by the parent or guardian
- Where holidays are close to or include examination periods
- Where the time exceeds 10 school days



Initial *Teacher* Education

The school is a centre for Initial Teacher Education. The structure of the course requires the majority of a Associate Teacher time be spent in school.

The management of the ITE programme at Eirias seeks to provide a supportive environment and a quality training package in which Associate Teachers can develop their skills. Each trainee teacher is assigned to a subject mentor under the overall guidance of the Principle or Lead Mentor. The Associate Teachers in the teaching practice blocks are supported by a framework of supervision and guidance.

Regular lesson observation and feedback ensure an ongoing dialogue and encourage

Associate Teachers to take responsibility for their progress through reflection and target setting.

Ysgol Eirias is proud to be a Lead Network School for Caban: The North Wales ITE Programme.

Other development opportunities include **Step into Teaching**, **Developing Teachers** and **Middle Leaders** courses. These courses are run in-house and are designed to support teachers in their ongoing development.

The school is also part of the 'IRIS' community: a staff development system that enables staff to securely record their teaching in order to improve and develop practice.



'There is high quality and very well-established partnership working.

This is a significant strength and has benefited the school and its pupils.

The school's partnerships have also been highly beneficial to its partners.'

ESTYN

School Charges and Remission

The Governing Body is required by the Education Reform Act, 1996, section 449-462, together with the Welsh Office Circular 4/89 to establish a Charging Policy that conforms to the requirements of the legislation.

General Principles

No charge can be made for admission to Ysgol Eirias.

No charge would be made for entry into any recognised public examinations provided the students have been prepared within the school. If, however, the student fails to attend, or fails to prepare for such an examination without good reason, the parent or guardian may be charged the examination fees.

Charges will be made where students wish to re-sit examinations.

Voluntary contributions may be requested by the Governing Body to cover the costs of any visit/activities in school and outside of it, provided these experiences fall outside the National Curriculum

Where charging is permissible, in accordance with the legislation, the Governing Body may use its discretion whether to make any charge.

In practical subjects or project work, a charge for materials or ingredients may be requested in cash or kind, on the condition that parents or guardians have agreed in advance, and that they wish to own the finished artefact/product. Students should not be excluded if no contribution is made.

Where school property has been damaged, payment may be requested.

Music tuition is paid through parent pay.



Admissions Policy



Application for entry to Year 7 at Ysgol Eirias

Application for Year 7 entry to Ysgol Eirias should be made by completing the application form provided. The number of intended admissions for Year 7 is 239. For information on admissions you can contact our Admissions Officer Mrs. Thomas through reception.

Where applications exceed the number of places available, certain criteria contained in the Admissions Policy Document will be applied to determine admission. A copy is available on request. Where admission has not been possible, parents or guardians may appeal through the Independent Appeals Committee.

Sixth Form

For students wishing to access courses at Ysgol Eirias Sixth Form, you must meet certain entry requirements.

The criteria are published in the Sixth Form prospectus which is available on request. In all cases a good attendance record during KS4 education is expected.

Our Student Manager is Mrs. Joanna Rowlands whose role includes supporting Heads of Learning and Deputy Heads with student pastoral aspects such as uniform, punctuality and attendance.

Mrs. Rowlands supervises the school referral area dealing with student behavioural, social and medical issues and relaying this information to parents where appropriate. If you wish to make an appointment with Mrs. Rowlands regarding any issues, these can be made through reception.

Contacting Ysgol Eirias

Ysgol Eirias, Eirias Road, Colwyn Bay
North Wales LL29 7SP

Tel: 01492 532 025

Fax: 01492 531 684

E-mail: general@eirias.conwy.sch.uk

Reception

Mon - Thurs	08.00 - 15.45
Friday	08.00 - 15.15

Parents who wish to send an urgent message to their child may do so by telephoning reception and the message will be passed on.

Absences

In the event of a student's absence please inform the school attendance officer on the day of absence. This should be followed by a note of explanation in the student planner when the student returns to school.

We also require a note if parents wish their child to leave the premises during normal school hours.





Complaints Policy

Of course we hope there are no complaints, but if you do have any concern please contact the school as described below:

If any parent/student has a complaint, it must be addressed to the Headteacher, who will endeavour to respond as quickly as possible. Nevertheless matters requiring investigation may require a reasonable amount of time.

If the complainant is dissatisfied with the Headteacher's response, The Chairman of Governors should be contacted. If unable to deal with the issue directly, it will be referred to the appropriate Governors committee.

If dissatisfied with the teacher's or Headteacher's approach, the person concerned can then submit a formal complaint to the Headteacher. He or she must do so in a written formal complaint, specifying its nature as exactly as possible.

The Headteacher will then consider urgent complaints as quickly as possible. In any event the Head will inform the complainant within twelve school days.



Documents available to Parents

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires schools to inform parents of the arrangements made for them to view documents relating to a variety of matters.

School policy documents can be found on the school website or by contacting the school.



DISCLAIMER:

The information contained in this Prospectus was correct at the time of publication.

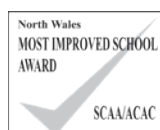
YSgol Eirias reserve the right to make changes in the best interest of maintaining high standards.



Succeeding Together

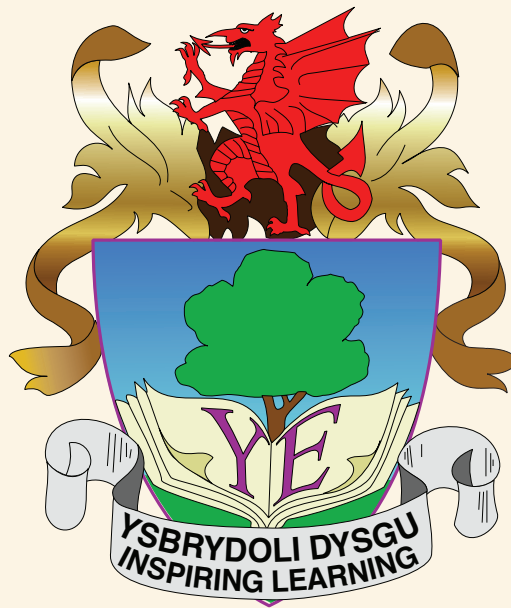


worklife support





Ysgol Eirias



Ysgol Eirias, Ffordd Eirias, Bae Colwyn LL29 7SP

Ysgol Eirias, Eirias Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 7SP

Ffôn / Tel: 01492 532025 Ffacs / Fax: 01492 531684

Ebost / Email: general@eirias.conwy.sch.uk