

# Welcome to Upper School

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Year 9 open evening 2026





# Meet the Progress Team



**Miss A Howells**  
Assistant Progress Leader



**Miss C Evans**  
Progress Leader



**Mrs L Jones**  
Progress Assistant



# Meet the Progress Team



**Mr Duncan**  
**Transition Co-ordinator**



**Mrs Robson**  
**Assistant Headteacher**  
**Years 7-9**



**Mrs Morgan**  
**ALNCo**



# Meet the Progress Team



**Miss L Armstrong**  
Wellbeing and Transition Officer  
Years 10 – 13



**Miss B Acton**  
Progress Assistant



**Miss C Hollings**  
Assistant Headteacher  
Years 10 & 11



**Miss K Armitage**  
KS4 Progress Assistant for  
targeted students

**Mr Scott Gwynne – Careers  
Advisor – Careers Wales**



# Timeline: Year 9 Options Process

- COMPLETION OF ILPP: September 2025 to June 2026
- YEAR 9 OPTIONS LAUNCH: 18th November 2025
- UPDATED OPTION SUBJECT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE: December 2025
- KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECT OPTION TALKS IN LESSONS AND ASSEMBLY: December 2025 and January 2026
- **KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS OPEN EVENING: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026, 5-7pm**
- **FREE CHOICE SURVEY: 26<sup>th</sup> January – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026** – the decisions made by pupils at this stage are used to help formulate the Key Stage 4 option grid.
- **OPTION GRID AVAILABLE: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**
- **INDIVIDUAL PUPIL INTERVIEWS & CAREERS WALES WORKSHOP: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**
- **OPTION FORMS SUBMITTED: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026**



# Subject Areas not studied in Years 7 - 9

- Art Photography
- Business Studies
- Health and Social Care and Childcare
- Geology
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Social Studies

- Sport and Coaching Principles
- Skills Challenge
- SWEET – Succeeding with Employment, Education & Training
- Wales, Europe and the World (WEW)
- Work Related Education (WRE)

[Level 1 is equivalent to GCSE D, E, F, G](#)

[Level 2 is equivalent to GCSE A\\* to C](#)



# Attendance – Every Day Matters

Above 97%	Less than 6 days absence over the year: excellent attendance. <b>Students with this attendance should achieve the best grades they can</b> leading to better prospects for work, college or university.
95%	<b>School target for all students.</b> Less than 10 days absence in a year. <b>Students with this attendance are likely to achieve</b> their target grades and have good opportunities for work, college and university.
90%	19 days absence over the year. <b>Students with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may drop an exam grade;</b> it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.



# Key Questions: Making Informed Decisions

- **What topics are on the specification?**
- **How is the course structured: what percentage of the grade will be an exam?**
- **Will there be NEA (Non-Exam Assessment), if so, how will this contribute to the overall grade?**
- **Will there be any external examinations in Year 10?**
- **Will I be able to achieve a good GCSE grade?**



# Key Questions: Making Informed Decisions

- Consider subjects that pupils find enjoyable.
- The motivation and rationale behind selecting an option is important:
  - Ensure that subjects are not taken because of friendship groups as there are no guarantees that students will be in the same class.
  - Ensure that subjects are not taken because students like a particular teacher.



**Ysgol Uwchradd Yr Eglwys Newydd**  
**Whitchurch**  
**High School**

WELCOME   HOME   ADMISSIONS   CURRICULUM   GOVERNORS   PARENTS   STAFF   STUDENTS

Croeso   Hafan   Derbyniadau   Cwricwlwm   Llywodraethwyr   Rhieni   Staff   Myfynwyr

Assessment  
Curriculum Overview  
ILPP/CWRE  
Exam information  
**Year 10 and 11 Subject Information**  
Year 12 and 13 Subject Information

**Year 10 & 11 Subject Information**

Home   Core Curriculum   Option Subjects

Our year 10 and 11 curriculum is designed to meet the needs of individual students, allowing them to maximise their progress in core subjects and have flexibility in



## WHS Website: key links

Year 9 options launch presentations they can be found at the following location on the school website:

<https://www.whitchurchhs.wales/Curriculum/Y10and11SubjectInformation/>

Subject specific information is also available on the school website at the following location:

<https://www.whitchurchhs.wales/Curriculum/Y10and11SubjectInformation/Option/index.html>

Video presentations of each subject area can be found at the following location:

<https://www.whitchurchhs.wales/Curriculum/Y10and11SubjectInformation/OpenEvening/index.html>

GCSE Prospectus – All details of option choices.

[GCSE Prospectus](#)



# Upper School Map

