



# WHITCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD YR EGLWYS NEWYDD

**SPECIAL RESOURCE BASE**  
**CANOLFAN ADNODDAU ARBENNIG**

## *Life in WHS for a Special Resource Base student*



A prospectus designed to encompass all aspects of school life for potential students at Whitchurch High School SRB

**Learning for Life**  
**Dysgu gydol Oes**

In a successful, inclusive and caring community  
Mewn cymunedol llwyddiannus, gynhwysol a gofalgar

*Be the BEST you can be Byddwch y GORAU y gallwch fod*



# Welcome Croeso

*I am proud to introduce and welcome you to Whitchurch High School SRB.*

We trust you will find our prospectus gives you a feel for what life is like here at our unique school and what we stand for. We are very proud of our school community and all those who are part of it.

Which Special Resource Base (SRB) school you choose will be one of the most important decisions you will have to make for your child as a parent. You will want your child to be happy, safe, cared for and challenged. Whitchurch High School SRB will provide a caring, creative and challenging environment where this will be achieved.

All staff at Whitchurch High School SRB work to encourage, establish and maintain positive relationships, by demonstrating to pupils that they are welcome, liked and respected.

An unconditional acceptance is vital to each pupil's success in the school. The warmth of environment, security and level of mutual respect and trust achieved between staff and pupils will have a significant impact upon the lives of the children at the school. A calm and consistent positive approach is adopted, promoting confidence and self-esteem, providing a secure environment and demonstrating appropriate and acceptable ways of expressing emotion.

We look forward to meeting you in the future.

**Mark Powell** Headteacher

**Paul Morgan** Assistant Headteacher

A warm welcome to WHS through the eyes and experience of a Y13 student...

*Welcome to Whitchurch SRB. I was so nervous at first starting WHS but staff were extremely helpful. I soon started to feel much happier once I was introduced to new people and made new friends.*

*I found Year 8 very difficult due to illness and other difficulties but staff were so supportive this year flew by. In Year 9 I felt settled and happy, the subjects were really interesting.*

*We moved into the new location in Year 10 but I found Year 10 and 11 really exciting. The last two years have been my best years at WHS. I have achieved a number of goals and become more mature. I really enjoyed Pathways, creating and looking after a garden, work experience, visiting and hosting coffee mornings with other schools, and transition to college has given me more confidence and experience that will help my nerves when starting college.*

*I hope you have fantastic time like me at WHS, and if I had to give you one piece of advice, "it would be to Follow Your Dreams!"*

**Josh Year 13**

*Whitchurch High School Student  
Ambassador for 'Follow Your Dreams'*





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## Mission Statement

*To be a caring, well ordered and successful community in which all individuals who come to learn and work here are able to develop their maximum potential.*





# Rationale and Aims **Rhesymeg a nôd**

## Rationale

All pupils of the school irrespective of race, gender or ability have a right of access to an education which is broad, balanced and relevant and which meets statutory requirements. This prospectus should show what all aspects of life are like for students at Whitchurch High School SRB.

## Aims

**The child's achievement and wellbeing are at the centre of all we do, our aims are:**

- create and maintain an environment that is safe, warm, friendly and welcoming.
- provide a stimulating and challenging curriculum that builds on outstanding teaching, outstanding TA support and high expectations of pupils.
- work with parents and outside agencies to meet the needs of our learners.
- establish an environment that builds upon the existing baseline of each individual need, and one that has the capability to challenge academically.
- foster within the school an ethos that prioritises regard for others, where the rights and dignity of pupils and staff are upheld, and where teamwork is nurtured to the advantage of all.
- encourage pupils to make the 'right choices' in their lives.



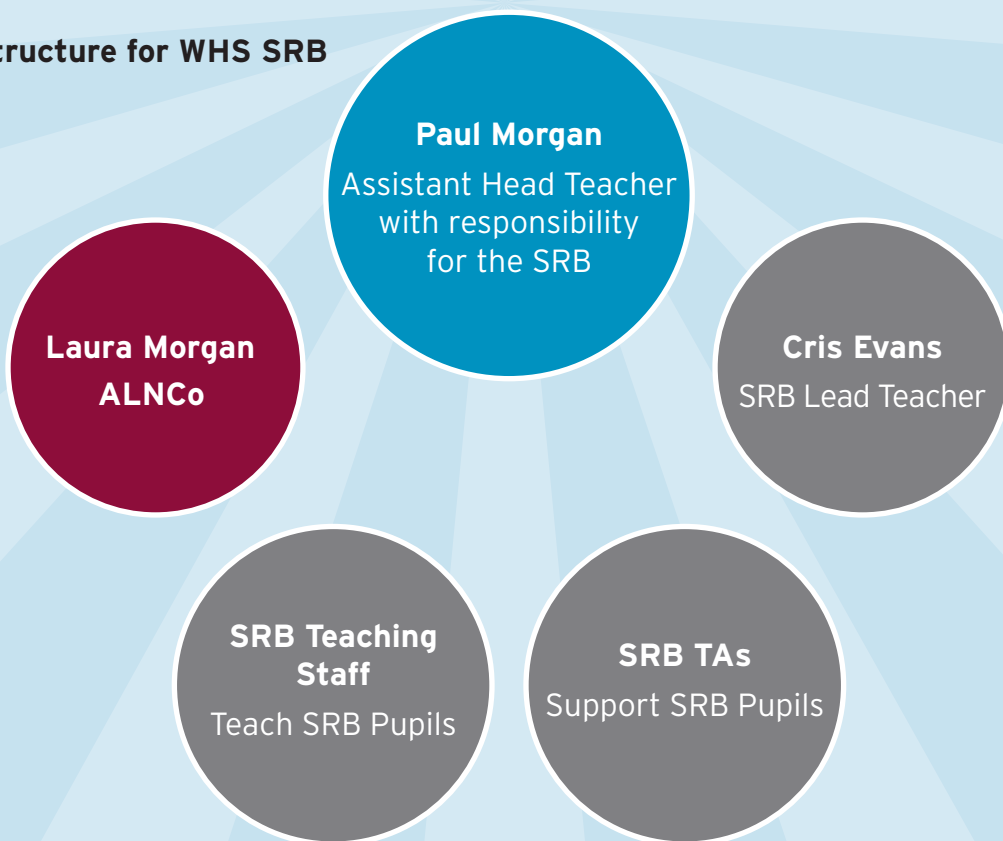


# Our School **Ein Ysgol**

*A positive, supportive link between home and school is vitally important for the academic and social development of all children.*

Whitchurch High School Special Resource Base (SRB) has the capacity to teach up to 70 pupils whose statements include predominantly Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and also a range of other Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Our KS3 SRB is based in Lower School and our KS4/KS5 SRB is based in Upper School. Throughout the year there are opportunities for parents to discuss problems and celebrate successes with staff, as well as in annual review meetings and parents evening. WHS is a large school so to support communication we have provided a structure showing you who holds what position in the school, and how the SRB fits into that structure.

## Staffing structure for WHS SRB



*“I enjoy learning new things and feeling clever.”*





*At Whitchurch High School SRB pupils are taught through National Curriculum subject areas.*

These are differentiated to a level which enables each pupil to succeed. In addition, pupils are offered a variety of opportunities according to their interests and abilities. Emphasis is placed on developing pupils' physical, communicative and life skills.

The school has three curriculum stages:

- KS3 (11-14 year olds)
- KS4 (14-16 year olds)
- KS5 (16-18 year olds)

**At each stage of the curriculum the following areas are targeted:**

### **Core Educational**

**Language, Literacy and Communication Skills** - Pupils are immersed in language experiences and activities. Their skills develop following a literacy programme, talking, signing/communicating and listening. They should be encouraged to communicate their needs, feelings and thoughts, encouraged to discuss experiences in individual and group play.

**Numeracy Skills** - Within the SRB at Whitchurch High School, pupils develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of mathematics through oral, practical and play activities. They enjoy using and applying mathematics in practical tasks, in real-life problems, and within mathematics itself. They use a variety of ICT resources as tools for exploring number, for obtaining real-life data and for presenting their findings.

### **Life Skills**

Pupils should experience the familiar world through enquiry, investigating the indoor and outdoor environment in a safe and systematic way. They should be given experiences that help them to increase their curiosity about the world around them

### **Key Skills**

We teach Key Skills through all curriculum subjects, and we also develop them within the pastoral curriculum. Key Skills form a cornerstone of curriculum planning throughout the school. For example, we give the children many opportunities to develop the application of number key skills in their geographical studies, and when we teach physical education we stress the importance of working with others.

*“The teachers are helpful and make lessons fun.”*





# Teaching **Addysgu**

*What can you expect from staff At Whitchurch High School SRB?*

All our teaching staff are continually striving to be outstanding teachers. Consistency across the Key Stages is essential and as such all our teaching staff aim to carry out the following in their classrooms.



High expectations and a positive approach to learning and achievements

Provision is built on detailed knowledge of students' needs and requirements as per Statements, Annual Review and ongoing changes

Specialist staff in place

An individual development plan

Every opportunity to achieve a recognised qualification



A positive approach with every student



# Teaching Assistants

## Cynorthwyr Addysgu

*What can you expect from the teaching assistants at Whitchurch High School SRB?*

At Whitchurch High School SRB we know the strengths of each Teaching Assistant (TA). This allows us to match pupils up to Teaching Assistants best suited to them, thus gaining the most from each individual. Consistency across the Key Stages is essential and consequently all our teaching assistant staff aim to carry out the following when working with their pupils.

TAs help keep learners on task

TAs support other staff in the classroom as part of the team

TAs actively involved in the whole lesson, helping and differentiating with resources where required

TAs reinforce a teacher's explanation

TAs display high expectations and a positive approach to learning and behaviour

TAs use suitable language and questioning relating to pupils ability

TAs maintain a positive relationship with learners

TAs have a good command of subject material



TAs responsible for a classroom environment being ready for learners

TAs have awareness of learners needing attention and act accordingly



# Transition - Getting to know you

## Pontio - Dod i'ch adnabod

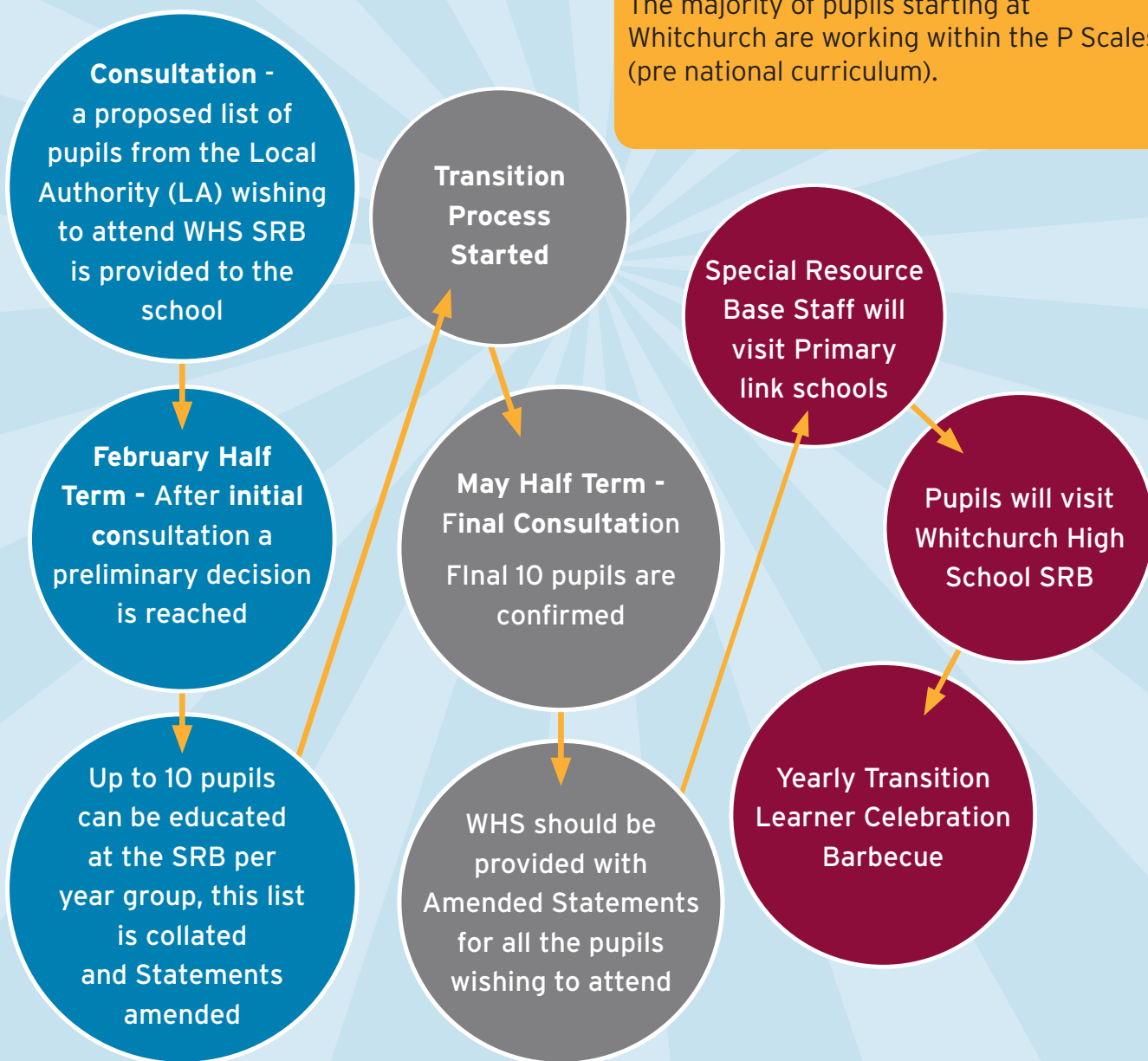
*Before a pupil starts at Whitchurch, a full transition plan should be in place.*

This should start at the Annual Review in Yr. 5 or 6. An amended statement naming Whitchurch is needed by May ½ term for successful transitions to occur.

Good planning creates an invaluable opportunity for the school to gain information from the parents and carers regarding their child's level of understanding, speech and language development and physical development.

The majority of pupils starting at Whitchurch are working within the P Scales (pre national curriculum).

Transition flow chart from Year 6 into Year 7



*“There are lots of great trips to go on”*





*Our standards are high and we seek excellence in every area of school life.*

**We recognise and celebrate achievement, in addition to acknowledging the students' numerous talents.**

We believe children thrive in a secure, but challenging, setting where they are treated with care and respect, allowing for personal and moral development. This allows the student to have a chance to take responsibility for their own learning.



## **Anti - Bullying**

Whitchurch is totally opposed to bullying of any form. As a school we celebrate diversity and have a clear Strategic Equality Policy (SEP).

## **Outside Visits**

We recognise the importance of enabling our pupils to access the local community. We organise trips to local facilities, such as the library or town centre.

## **Safeguarding**

The school complies to all safeguarding regulations. All staff are fully trained and assessed.

## **Annual Reviews**

All Whitchurch SRB children have a Statement of Educational Needs. Children have an Annual Review which enables parents/carers, the Local Authority and other agencies involved to review the Special Educational Needs Statement, discuss progress and set targets for the forthcoming year. Parents/carers are expected to attend Annual Review Meetings.

## **School Meals**

Pupils can choose to have a cooked meal or bring in a packed lunch. All our meals are cooked on site. School meals provide a healthy balanced diet at a reasonable cost. The school complies with Appetite for Life.



# Pastoral Care **Gofal Bugeiliol**

*Your first point of contact should be to the SRB Administrative Assistant, who will contact the relevant person.*

Descriptions to inform you of where the SRB Admin will categorise your call

Categories			
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
SRB admin (Response timescale - 24 hours)	SRB teaching staff/non-teaching staff. (Response timescale - 24 hours)	SRB Lead Teacher/ Pastoral Team (Response timescale - 48 hours/present day depending on the time information received).	Head of School/ Assistant Head Teacher
Basic admin issues that can be dealt with via a phone call/ email to parents or staff or a message to students. Examples of this may include trips, attendance, sharing of information, SRB enquiries and contact with outside agencies.	An incident that requires a response from a member of staff working with the pupil.  This can be a behavioural incident, academic/ subject issue, trip or SRB related enquiry that cannot be dealt with by admin staff. Admin staff will forward the details to the relevant member/members of staff to deal with.	Any issue of a more severe nature, child protection, child in danger or an urgent action that requires intervention by Lead Teacher. This may include a prolonged issue from Level 2, pupil wellbeing issue, complaint or severe behavioural problem. Issues, once dealt with, will be forwarded to admin for inclusion into day book.  Any issue that has not been correctly dealt with within the Level 2 guidelines for referral to Head of School/ Assistant Head Teacher.	Any issue that cannot be dealt with by Lead Teacher/Pastoral team alone.

**Please note that:**

All communication with staff within the SRB must come via the SRB administration team. This ensures all queries are dealt with fairly and efficiently.

The Lead Teacher will only be able to respond to parents between 3.15 and 4.30 each day, other than in exceptional circumstances.





# Behaviour, Achievement and Expectations

## Ymddygiad, Cyrhaeddiad a disgwyliadau

*What do staff at Whitchurch High School SRB expect from pupils?*

Praise, positive behaviour strategies and reward play a significant role in helping children to achieve. This will be positively encouraged with pupils by all staff.

In order to create an environment that is conducive to learning, students will have a clear understanding of behavioural expectations, in and out of the classroom.

Effective classroom management is a corporate responsibility and as such, is the responsibility of all members of staff. It is acknowledged that certain incidents need to be referred using the structured framework. Behaviour or attainment issues will be managed by individual teaching staff, with the assistance of support staff conducting the lesson.

The SRB School Standards are displayed in all classrooms and will form the basis of being a Whitchurch Pupil.

Always be polite



Do your own learning



Bring your pen and planners



Always work hard



Be kind to others



Arrive to lessons on time



Try to look smart



Let others join in



*Be the BEST you can be Byddwch y GORAU y gallwch fod*



## Find out more **Am fwy o wybodaeth**



The school is very proud to host part of the City of Cardiff's SRB provision for children with additional learning needs.

Admission is through an SEN statement and is administered by Cardiff Council and the school in partnership. For more information for and support please contact the SEN Casework Team on **029 2233 0709**

If you are interested in our school or have any questions please contact the SRB Administrative Team:

Letter: SRB Administrative Assistant,  
Whitchurch High School,  
Penline Road, Cardiff, CF14 2XJ

Phone: 029 2062 9700

Fax: 029 2062 9701

Email: [SRBadmin@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:SRBadmin@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk)

