



YSGOL GYMUNEDOL
CWMTAWE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



WELCOME | CROESO

Cwmtawe has an excellent reputation for the quality of education and the outstanding learning experiences we provide. We are very proud of our pupils and their achievements.



The school's motto 'We can and we will succeed by working together and giving our best' encapsulates all that we do. Every pupil is encouraged and nurtured to reach their potential, both inside and outside the classroom.

We all know that when our children feel happy and safe, they can perform at their best. Our pupils in Cwmtawe are at the heart of everything we do. We value and foster strong partnerships with parents/carers and understand that we can help children far more by working together.

All pupils are encouraged to make the best of their time in school, and we strive to ensure they are well prepared for their next stage of education or for the world of work.

I hope this prospectus gives you a feel for what Cwmtawe is all about. However, it is just a snapshot. Please visit our website for further information or, even better, come and visit us at the school.

Mr. C. L. Hitchings
Headteacher

WELCOME

**"I was worried
about making
friends but now
it feels like a
second home"**

Year 7 pupil



“Pupils make exceptional progress in each key stage in acquiring the skills and knowledge needed to move on to the next stage of learning”

Estyn

LEARNING



LEARNING

TEACHING

What happens in our classrooms is the most important factor that impacts on the progress our pupils make. Therefore, we invest considerable time and resources in ensuring that pupils have access to the very best teaching, resources and facilities. This has been recognised by external organisations, including Estyn and Welsh Government.

“The high quality teaching is a major strength of the school” Estyn

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum has been carefully developed to meet the needs of all pupils and provision is tailored to ensure they thrive. There is a strong emphasis in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 on developing pupils' skills and creativity, particularly in Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence. Towards the end of Year 9, pupils make subject choices from a wide range of options to study to GCSE level.

Pupils with Additional Learning Needs are catered for through a fully inclusive approach. The curriculum and support structure is designed to ensure everyone can access the full range of learning experiences and achieve well.

We have high expectations of all pupils and monitor their progress closely using our well-established XL@Cwmtawe system. This has been replicated in many schools across Wales and is the cornerstone of our academic and pastoral support systems.

“Cwmtawe's lessons are made fun by the teachers” Year 7 pupil

OUTCOMES

Our GCSE results are consistently outstanding. This can be attributed to the hard work and commitment of pupils, staff and the strong support of parents/carers. The school consistently performs in the top sector of similar schools in Wales on GCSE results and the progress pupils make throughout their secondary education.

As pupils move through the school, we also focus on developing the skills and attributes they will need to thrive in further education and the workplace. This is achieved through our pastoral system, the Welsh Baccalaureate and a strong careers education programme.

CARE & SUPPORT

We all know that happy children are more likely to achieve well, which is why our focus is on working hard but also enjoying every day of school.

We are committed to developing strong relationships between home and school, which inevitably results in a more rewarding school experience for pupils.

The pastoral system in Cwmtawe is second to none. An experienced Form Tutor, Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year will closely monitor your son or daughter's progress, supporting them at all times. Our teachers know our pupils really well. They are adept at spotting when pupils are struggling and give freely of their time to guide and support.

Attendance at school is of paramount importance if pupils are to achieve their potential. The school performs consistently well on Welsh Government attendance measures, which is a firm indication that pupils enjoy school. Where difficulties arise at home which are impacting on this, we have a dedicated Family Engagement Officer to support the whole family to get attendance back on track.

We have high expectations of pupils in terms of their behaviour, effort and endeavour. Pupils are encouraged to do their best in every area of school life.

“Cwmtawe is an amazing school that boosts confidence” Year 8 pupil

Being a true community school, Cwmtawe has very strong partnerships with local businesses, community groups and volunteer organisations. These serve to enrich and enhance the curriculum and learning experience for all pupils.



“The school has very good procedures to support pupils' emotional and physical health and wellbeing to ensure that all pupils reach their full potential”

Estyn

CARE & SUPPORT



“There are many
after-school clubs
where everyone is
welcomed”
Year 7 pupil

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We firmly believe that school is more than just lessons and examinations.

Pupils in Cwmtawe are encouraged to gain valuable experiences outside the classroom, and fully immerse themselves in all that the school has to offer.

The range of extra-curricular clubs, trips and activities is outstanding. These range from sporting clubs and fixtures, to languages, art, music, creative writing and computer coding to name but a few. Whatever your child's interest, there is a club to cater for it.

There are also many opportunities to explore interests a little further afield. Many of our pupils choose to visit France in Year 7 to develop their linguistic skills. This is followed up with a visit to Germany in Year 8. There are sports tours, visits to Llangrannog and Cardiff to develop Welsh Language skills and annual skiing trips to Austria and New York.

The journey starts in Year 5 and Year 6, when pupils from our primary schools visit us for sports, technology and science skills days. Then early in Year 7, all pupils and staff are involved in a charity Fun Run.

Towards the end of the summer term in Year 7, pupils are involved in a Forest Skills outdoor education team-building activity. This firmly bonds the year group together, developing a wide range of skills and preparing them for the challenges to come in Year 8.

As they mature, many of our pupils become involved in the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at bronze, silver and gold levels.



**"I absolutely
love it here"**
Year 7 Pupil

**"My children are
proud to attend
Cwmtawe, enjoy
school and love
their teachers"**
Parent



**Pupil participation
and decision-
making through
the school council
is a strong feature"**
Estyn



Our facilities and resources are second to none. In addition to spacious classrooms and learning areas, we have excellent sports facilities including sports hall, gymnasium and a recently refurbished CV room. Technology is used across the curriculum and pupils have easy access to nearly 1,000 devices including PCs, laptops and iPads.



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AND WE WILL
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Ffordd Parc Ynysderw
Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4EG

T: 01792 863200

E: cwmtaweschool@npted.org

www.cwmtawe.org

