



CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD CATHAYS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

CYFLEOEDD I BAWB

Annual Governors' Report 2025-26

Foreword from the Chair of Governors

I am delighted to introduce the Cathays High School Annual Governors' Report to Parents. This is an important document which gives parents information about some of what the school achieved through the 2025-26 academic year. I trust that our report will give you an idea of the ways in which the multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-lingual community of Cathays High School fulfils our mission of "Opportunities for All". It is our overarching aim that all young people can learn important knowledge, develop new skills, encounter a variety of experiences and, equally as important, enjoy their time at secondary school.

It is clear from the report that our school achieved many notable successes across a wide range of fields including academically, culturally and in the sporting arena. We are particularly proud of our Debating Team for winning the national UK Debate Mate championship, the first school from Wales to do so and our Year 11 girls' basketball team on becoming Welsh National champions last year for the fourth year in a row. The school put on a very successful production of *Oliver* in the summer term and our school year ended with the always popular *Culture and Languages Day*. This allows all members of our community to celebrate their home cultures and what is important to them.

Many young people from years 7 to 13 enjoyed a wide-ranging programme of sporting, cultural, academic and intellectual opportunities that furthered their skills and

experiences. This is a vital element of the ethos of Cathays High School.

In Years 10 to 13, our students took GCSE, A-Level and ESOL qualifications and performed admirably. Almost all making excellent progress from their starting points. In the context of national averages, the students have achieved very strongly enabling them to have positive opportunities in their next stage of their education and careers. Our young people achieved close to or even exceeded the outcomes of 2024 and 2025 across all key performance indicators, especially at GCSE where a quarter of Year 11 students achieved five or more A* and A grades. These results demonstrate the excellent standard of teaching and learning at the school, the strong systems of support and the hard-work and determination of our students.

It gives me huge encouragement for the future of Cardiff, Wales and the wider world to see the resilience of these young people to achieve and make such positive progress.

I would like to thank the Governing Body for their dedication during the last school year and praise their readiness to support and challenge school leaders in a robust and appropriate manner. Stuart and I are very grateful for their commitment to the Cathays High community demonstrated in their willingness to volunteer their time to support the school.

Cllr. P. Wong,
Chair of Governors

Prifathro /
Headteacher: Mr.
Stuart Davies
BA (Hons), MA. Ed, NPQH

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Chair of Governors

Cllr. P. Wong

Headteacher

Mr. S. Davies

Deputy Headteacher

Mr. H. Picken

Mr J Taylor

Assistant Headteachers

Mrs. K. Harrington

Miss. N. Jones

Mr. G Taylor

The Governing Body would also like to thank the teaching and support staff of Cathays High School for their professionalism and determination to support our young people. The staff have shown great commitment and dedication to our children and families. I also

extend my thanks to parents and families for your support. Partnerships between Governors, school staff, families and pupils are vital for a successful school and we are fortunate to have such strong bonds in our

wonderfully diverse and inclusive community.

Cllr. Peter Wong

Chair of Governors

Headteacher's Review

The last academic year was a hugely successful one in many aspects of school life. Cathays High School's accomplishments are built around a clear vision underpinned by our mission to provide "Opportunities for All". This means that we want all members of our community, and especially our young people, to feel that they can make progress, learn new skills and enjoy rich experiences as part of their curricular and extra-curricular programmes. That clarity around our aims means that governors, staff, pupils and their families can work together in strong partnerships to do the best for every student.

It was a joy to share the success of so many learners in years 10-13 on examination results days. Students worked very hard and remained focused throughout the last academic year. They listened to and acted upon the advice of their teachers and teaching assistants to have the best chances of success. Our outcomes at GCSE and A-Level were very strong and compared very well to 2024 and 2025 which is a significant achievement as the previous year's results were significantly above the expected outcome for Cathays High School in all key performance indicators. It makes me extremely proud of our students, and the staff who support them, when they achieve these kinds of outcomes through their hard-work and perseverance.

Improving attendance has been a key priority for us over several years. I am delighted to report that for the third year in a row our whole-school attendance was improved and above national averages. We are keen to see it return to the very high pre-pandemic levels of 94% and therefore improved attendance remains a priority for the school. I appeal to all parents to support us in this endeavour by encouraging their children to attendance levels above 97%. Studies show that this is likely to have a significantly positive impact on levels of progress and happiness for children.

A school is about more than just academic success and last year we had a very full programme of extra-curricular opportunities. It is a vital part of a young person's education to belong to club or team where they can learn to develop skills and responsibilities outside of the formal learning that takes place in classrooms. These opportunities allow them to develop friendships and a sense of pride in, and belonging to, their community. We believe is a vital ingredient in the success of our school. There were a great many successes in several areas and a flavour of that is contained within the report.

I am very pleased to be able to welcome students for the start of the 2026-27 academic year. Pupils have settled well into the new term and are incredibly enthusiastic about the opportunities they have before them. I look forward to working with everyone this year to ensure that the school fulfils its mission of "Opportunities for All".

Stuart Davies

Headteacher



Key Facts 2026

Pupils on roll PLASC : **1272**

Number of Teaching Staff: **76**

Number of Support Staff : **53**

Pupils from minority backgrounds: **85.3 %**

First language other than English: **70%**

Eligible for FSM: **32%**

Mobility: **20%**

Information for Parents on Standards

Attendance:

2023-2024- 89.6%

2024-2025- 90.8%

2025-2026- 91.2 %

Vision, Aims and Values

VISION

Our vision for **Cathays High School** is summed up by our mission of "Opportunities for All". This means that we add value to the lives of pupils, families, colleagues and the community who are all happy and proud to be part of Cathays High School.

We are a multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-faith community. We are committed to creating an inclusive, positive environment where everyone is valued and treated with respect and fairness.

Our primary role is to support the development of our students, ensuring they have a strong grounding in the three key behaviours of being prepared, showing respect and having pride in themselves, the school and their community.

AIMS

By instilling these key behaviours, and pursuing our vision, we can support our young people to:

- Become healthy, confident and resilient citizens- able to manage their own wellbeing;
- Have the skills and qualifications to be ambitious, capable, creative and enterprising young people- taking control of their learning, lives and careers
- Be the future leaders of Cardiff, Wales and the world - impacting positively on society and ensuring they have high expectations of themselves and others.

VALUES (these are the shared, common beliefs on which our vision is built) "**Opportunities for All**":

- Inclusive school for all young people, families & colleagues
- Mutual respect, trust and empathy between all students and colleagues
- Everyone can make excellent progress from their starting points
- High expectations of behaviour, achievement, progress and effort from all members of our community
- Committed to being a learning organisation seeking continual improvement for all
- Celebrating our diversity and the unique features of our community
- Enthusiastic about the common elements of our identity as citizens of Cardiff & Wales (cynefin)
- 3 key values: Prepared, Respect & Pride (pupils)
- 3 key values: Collaboration, Ownership & Team-first (staff)

Membership of Governors

	Name	Term of Office Ends
LA Governors	Cllr P. Wong (Chair) Ms J. Setchfield Cllr N.Mackie Cllr C. Weaver Mr E Pratt	April 2029 May 2029 September 2027 June 2029 November 2026
Community Governors	Ms K. A. Slade Mr A. Bhagat Mr S.Kielthy Mr I. Hassan Ms G Wiegand	October 2028 October 2027 November 2028 November 2028 November 2028
Parent Governors	Mr I Nazrul Dr Bakhsh Ms Bhanu Mrs A Bell Dr Muhith Mrs H Parsons	November 2025 October 2026 November 2029 February 2028 November 2027 November 2028
Headteacher	Mr S. Davies	
Teacher Governors	Miss B Churches Mr N. Salter	September 2028 November 2027
Non-Teacher Governor	Miss B Henderson	October 2029

The Chair of the Governors is **Cllr. Peter Wong**.

Cllr Wong can be contacted via the **Clerk to the Governors**, Mrs P Benincasa at Cathays High School, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3XG .

Telephone: 029 2054 4426

Email: pbenincasa@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk

The Deputy and Assistant Headteachers attend full Governors meetings as observers and are also observers on various committees.

The Governing Body has continued to support the school's ongoing plans for school improvement. The professionalism, hard work and dedication of both staff and students at the school has been rewarded by very strong results being obtained in August at GCSE and A Level and in other qualifications.

The school's relationship with its partner schools continues to be strong and details are given under community links. Senior staff are co-opted to primary school Governing Bodies:

Mrs. K Harrington: Albany Primary School

Mr. J. Taylor: Fair oak Primary School

Mrs N Jones- Roath Park Primary School

Finance and Staffing Committee

The membership of this committee for 2025/26 was as follows:

Cllr. P. Wong (Chair)	Ms. KA. Slade (Vice Chair)	Mr. S. Davies
Cllr. C. Weaver	Mr I Hassan	Mr E Pratt
Mrs. J. Setchfield	Mr. A. Bhagat	Dr J Muhith

The Committee's main task is to set and monitor the budget for the financial year and agree and monitor staffing levels within the budget, giving due consideration to the School Development Plan.

The committee approved the following policies:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Human Resources Policy | 8) Professional Development Review |
| 2) Whole School Pay Policy | 9) Initial Teacher Training |
| 3) Data Protection Policy | 10) NQT |
| 4) Appointments | 11) Professional development |
| 5) CCTV Policy | 12) Staff Laptop Usage Agreement |
| 6) Professionalism in Practice | 13) Revised Pay Policy |
| 7) Freedom of Information | 14) Data protection |

As well as the annual policies: **Charging and Remissions, Gifts and Hospitality, Jubilee fund, Travel Expenses Payment**

Curriculum, Standards & Student Matters Committee

The membership of this committee for 2024/25 was as follows:

Mrs. J. Setchfield (Chair)	Ms. G. Wiegand (Vice Chair)	Mr. S. Davies
Cllr. P. Wong	Mrs Bhanu	
Miss. B Churches	Dr T Bakhsh	
Mr I Nazrul	Mr N Salter	

The committee meets each term to monitor and evaluate standards, and learning in the school, and received presentations on a wide range of aspects of school policy and curriculum.

The committee approved the following policies:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1) Assessment and Target Setting | |
| 2) Exam /non-exam assessments | |
| 3) Curriculum | 7) Online Safety |
| 4) Quality Assurance | 8) Personal and Social Education |
| 5) Spiritual and Moral Education | 9) Substance misuse and incident management |
| 6) Educational Visits | |

Premises and Community Matters Committee

The membership of this committee for 2025/26 was as follows:

Mr.S. Kielthy (Chair)	Cllr. N. Mackie (Vice Chair)
Mr. S. Davies	Miss B Henderson
Mr. I. Hassan	Mr.E Pratt
Mrs A Bell	Mrs H Parsons

The committee meets each term to oversee changes and improvements to the school building and environment, including all health and safety issues. The committee also monitors all matters related to the school as a community and the school in the community.

The committee approved the following policies:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1)Health and Safety | 3) Building and Maintenance | 5)Communication with parents/guardians |
| 2)Bomb Threat | 4) Health and Safety | |

Understanding the Acronyms of School Performance Measures

ALPS	A Level performance system	AS/A Level targets based on prior attainment (KS4)
T Score	Teaching and Learning Score	
QI SCORE	Quality Indicator	Measured against targets
CSI	Core Subject Indicator	Core Subject Indicator: 5 A*-C GCSEs or equivalents including English, Mathematics, and Science.
APS	Average Point Score	APS is used in Maths, English, Science and SCC
SCC	Skills Challenge Certificate	Made up of 4 challenges
WBQ F&N	Welsh Baccalaureate National and Foundation	SCC plus 5 GCSEs at C+ (N) or G+ (F)

Capped 9 Score	The Capped 9 measure focuses on Year 11 pupils' results from nine of the qualifications available in Wales, including subject specific requirements.
FSM	Free School Meals
ALN	Additional Learning Needs
	Professional Predicted Grades (PPGs) are used for exam classes in years 10-13. This is the grade a student will get at the end of a course in KS4 & 5 if they carry on working in the same way that they are now without any additional intervention. It is a prediction based on a teacher's professional judgement and the work of the pupil. It is not the grade they would get if they sat the exam now with the knowledge and skills missing.

Results Overview 2026

STRENGTHS

A*-A outcomes improved

Red subjects

Health and Social Care

History

2 pupils will be studying Medicine this year

Overall grades

A* - A - 23% higher than 2025 (13pp) and 24(6pp)

Level 3 Threshold (Pupils achieving 3+ A Levels) 90%

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Improve outcomes B+, C+ and E+

Improve Alps Score (Grade 5 in 2026)

Improve outcomes of blue subjects

- Art
- Biology
- English
- Maths
- Sociology
- PPG accuracy

Grades	2026	2025	2024
A*/A	23%	12%	18%
A*-B	35%	57%	51%
A*-C	55%	67%	72%
A*-E	93.75	96%	97%

ALPs grades go from 1 (top 5%) to 9 (bottom 5%). This tells us where we are in relation to 6th form providers in England and Wales.

GCSE (Trends over time)

5A*-A (24.5% 2026, 25.2% 2025, 24.2% 2024, 21.7% 2023, 23.8% 2022, 21.1% in 2019) is very strong over time

Level 1 (5 A*-G) - 99% 2026, 99.5% 2025, 100% in 2024 and 2023, excellent over time

97.5% (2026) 97% (2025) 98% (2024) 98.1% (2023) 100% (2022), 100% (2021) 100% (2020) & 100% (2019) of pupils achieved Level 1 through GCSEs only which are very strong

96% (2026) 94% (2025) 96.7% (2024) 97.45% (2023) 97.3% (2022) & 97% (2019) of pupils achieving 9 qualifications A*-G or equivalent which is very strong

Level 2+ (inc Literature) 58.3% (2026) 58.4% (2025) 58.8% (2024) 58% (2023) 56.5% (2022) & 49% (2019) and is strong over a number of years

Strong outcomes in Level 2 best Science at 60% (2026) 63% (2025), 59% (2024) 57% (2023) 61% (2022) & 56.8% (2019) and improving APS (37.9) 2025 (37.3) 2024, (35.6) 2023, (APS) & 34 (2019) which is generally strong when compared to similar schools

Best English has been consistently high for the last three years at 68% (2026) 70% (2025) 64% 2024, 73% (2023) 67% (2022) & 61% (2019) and APS 40.3 (2025) 41.1 (2024) 41.4(2023) 39.5 (2022) & 38 (2019) and has been strong over many years

Best Maths outcomes are very strong over the last three years 67% (2026) 66% (2025) 69%(2024) and 62% (2023) which is a significant improvement on 54.1% in 2019, and APS 39.5 (2026) 40.4 (2025) 39.3 (2024) & 39 (2023) which is a significant improvement on 35.8 (2019)

Positive upward trend in grade distribution more A and B than D grades & more A*-C than D-G grades over four years which are very strong (2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2019).

Foundation & National SCC outcomes have been strong over time.

Areas for development

1. Improve eFSM outcomes in most subjects in line with nFSM
2. Reduce the numbers of U grades in Science (Year 10), especially for Double Award and those students most vulnerable to under-achievement
3. Improve outcomes in ICT and H&S Care at A*-A and C+
4. Improve the performance of boys in PD, ICT, Geography and Spanish.
5. Improve the accuracy of KS4 PPGs in-line with the Made-for-Wales GCSE specifications

Standards and outcomes of groups

FSM:

1. To improve the performance of FSM pupils in L2+ and Best A*-C Maths, English and Science to be closer to the A*-C outcomes of NFSM pupils in 2026-27
2. Improve A*-A outcomes for eFSM pupils in many subjects at GCSE in 2026-27

Gender:

1. Improve the outcomes of boys in Best English A*-C and L2 Threshold inc Eng and Eng Lang

ALN:

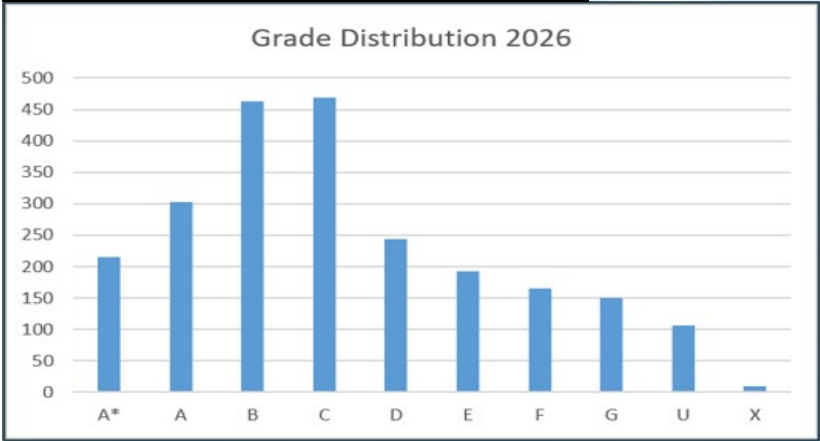
- 1)To improve the outcomes of ALN pupils in most KPIs. Dropped in 2026
- 2)Ensure standards for most ALN (and lower ability pupils) in lessons and books are at least strong in 2026-27

GCSE Headlines

	2026	2025	2024
5A/A*	24.5%	23.8% (25.2%)	22.9%
L2+	58.3%	58.4%	58.8%
L2	67.2%	71.5%	64.1%
L1	99%	99.5%	100%
CSI	50.5%	54.2%	51.6%
Capped 9 score	376.8	375.7 (378.5)	377.5 (383.2)
APS Eng	40.8	40.3	41.1
APS Maths	39.5	40.4	39.3
APS Science	37.8	37.9	37.5

Grade Distribution Summary

Grade Distribution	%2026	%2025	% 2024
A*-A	22.31	21.83%	18.64
A*-B	42.29	41.89%	35.33
A*-C	62.54	62.09%	54.20
D-G	32.41	32.98	41.95
A*-G	94.95	95.07%	96.15
U/X	5.05	4.93%	3.85



+ In favour of boys

Gender

- In favour Girls

Percentage achieving 2026					
Indicator	Boys	Girls	Diff 2026	Diff 2025	Diff 2024
Total Number	96	108	-12	+32	+11
5 A*-A	16.7%	31.5%	-14.8pp	+1.8pp	-12.5pp
L2 Threshold inc Eng & Maths (Lang only)	45.8%	60.2%	-14.4pp	-3.2pp	+3.8pp
L2 inc EM (Lit and Lang)	52.1%	63.9%	-11.8pp	-5.4pp	+4.7pp
L2 Threshold	61.6%	72.2%	-10.6pp	-5.6pp	+1.2pp
Level 1 Threshold	99%	99%	0pp	-0.5pp	0pp
CSI	43.8%	56.5%	-12.7pp	-7pp	+7pp
Capped 9	360.8	391.1	-30.3p	-8.8	-0.8p
A*-C English	60%	75%	-15pp	-19pp	-5pp
APS Eng	38.3	42.9	-4.6p	-4.2p	-1.5p
A*-C Best Maths	69%	66%	+3pp	+11pp	+10pp
APS Maths	39.4	39.6	-0.2p	+3.4p	+2.9p
A*-C Science	56%	63%	-7pp	0pp	+8pp
APS Sci	36.6	38.8	-2.2p	+1.1p	+2.6p

Boys Achieved higher

A*-C Best Maths, WBQ F&N and SCC N.

Girls achieved Higher - All other KPIs

Significant gaps

Girls outperformed boys by more than **10pp** in 5A*-A, L2, L2*, A*-C English & WBQN. They also achieved 30+ more points in the Capped 9

Efsm/Nfsm

+ In favour of eFSM

- in favour of non-FSM

	%FSM 2024	%FSM 2025	&%FSM 2026	% Non- FSM 2026%	2026 FSM-NFSM PP Diff	2025 FSM-NFSM PP Diff	2024 FSM- NFSM PP Diff
5A*-A	9.7%	19	17.6%	27.9%	-10.3pp	-9.9pp	-24.9pp
L2+ (Lang only)	41.7%	42.3	39.7%	60.3%	-20.6pp	-21.7pp	-26.2pp
L2+ (Lit & Lang)	45.8%	44.9	39.7%	67.6%	-27.9pp	-21.3pp	-24.6pp
Level 2	51.4%	55.1	50%	60.3	-10.3pp	-25.8pp	-23.9pp
Level 1	100%	100	97.1%	100%	-2.9pp	+0.7pp	0pp
CSI	38.9%	41	38.2%	56.6%	-18.4pp	-20.8pp	-24.1pp
Capped 9	346.4	350.4	351.7	389.4	-37.7p	-44.5p	-59.1p
English A*-C	52%	54	53%	75%	-22pp	-24pp	-23pp
APS English	37.7	36.8	37.9	42.2	-4.3p	-5.5p	-6.4p
Maths A*-C	58%	55	53%	74%	-21pp	-18pp	-20pp
APS Maths	34.9	35.7	36	41.3	-5.3p	-7.6p	-8.3p
Science A*-C	47%	49	42%	69%	-27pp	-22pp	-24pp
APS Science	32.9	33.1	32.4	40.5	-8.1p	-7.7p	-8.7p

FSM performance improved in many KPIs from 2025.

Gap between FSM and nFSM pupils closed in many KPIs but nFSM outperformed FSM in most performance measures apart from WBQ F&N and SCC F&N (same result)

ALN

Indicator	%ALN 2024	%ALN 2025	%ALN 2026
5 A*-A	11.1%	14.3%	0%
Level 2 inc EM Lang only	33.3%	28.6%	0%
L2+ (Lit/ Lang)	33.3%	28.6%	0%
Level 2	33.3%	28.6%	42.9%
Level 1	100%	100%	85.7%
CSI	33.3%	28.6	0%
Capped 9	295.5	289.5	255.6
English A*-C	33.3%	29%	21%
APS Eng	30.7%	24.4	22.9
Maths A*-C	33.3%	29%	14%
APS Maths	29.1	21.1	19.1
Science A*-C	33.3%	29%	21%
APS Sci	22.7	22.9	17.9
WBQ F&N	66.7%	57.1%	50%
WBQ N	22.2%	28.6%	0%
SCC F&N	77.7%	85.71%	100%
SCC N	44.4%	42.86%	75%
APS SCC	30.1	30.9	22.2

14 pupils

(very different cohort to last year)

Increase in Level 2, SCC F&N and SCC N



EISTEDDFOD 2026

This year, our Eisteddfod was a fantastic celebration involving hundreds of students across KS3. Every year, students take part in competitions, read and compose poetry, sing and perform. We are always very grateful to the Languages Team for all their hard work and effort in organising this event. House Leaders always put in a great deal of effort in organising their houses and the announcement of the winning house is always a tense moment! This year the winner was Clementine Cosh.



After School Clubs 2025- some of the sports activities offered to pupils.

SPORT TIMETABLE						
Days	Before school		Lunchtime		After school	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Mon					Basketball (Talybont) TB	Basketball (Talybont) TB
Tue			Basketball (GYM) TB	Basketball (GYM) TB	KS3 Cricket (Yard) JS	KS3 Cricket (Yard) JS
Wed					Basketball practice or home games (Wk1) (Talybont) TB	Basketball practice or home games (Wk1) (Talybont) TB
					KS4 Cricket (Yard) SC	KS4 Cricket (Yard) SC
Thur	Basketball 8:00am (GYM) TB		Basketball (GYM) TB	Basketball (GYM) TB	Basketball theory (GYM) TB	Basketball theory (GYM) TB
					Baseball (Yard) EMW/ZG	Baseball (Yard) EMW/ZG
Fri		Basketball 8:00am (GYM) TB	Friday prayers in the GYM	Friday prayers in the GYM	Street Dance (GYM) 3:30-4:30pm JukeBox	Street Dance (GYM) 3:30-4:30pm JukeBox

Most popular clubs

Badminton - 65

Basketball - 86

Boys' football - 70

Netball - 77

Art drop-in - 36

Minecraft - 85

Daily basketball ball on the yard - 55

Daily football on the yard - 73

After School Clubs 2025- some of the non-sports activities offered to pupils.

NON-SPORT CLUBS		
Days	Lunchtime clubs	After school clubs
Mon	Homework club (D&T3) EW	Homework club for KS3 maths (CALCELLA) 3:30-5pm CR
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Boardgames club & Y9 Call of Cthulhu (26) DK2	
	Quiz club (29) MM	
	Minecraft available in 32 & 36	
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	
Tue	Homework club (D&T3) EW	GCSE Art drop in
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Chess club (Y5) SM2	
	Language club (CAL) 12:40-1:10pm CR	Geography drop-in (Y18) RL
	DnD club (10) RAL	
	Minecraft available in 32 & 36	
	Crochet club (28) AEstanom	
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	
Wed	Homework club (D&T3) EW	
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Minecraft available in 36	
	Animal club (15) 1pm SB	
	Digital Leaders (32) MM	
	Crochet club (28) AEstanom	
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	
Thur	Homework club (D&T3) EW	GCSE Art drop in
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Minecraft available in 32 & 36	Geography drop-in (Y17) AD
	Science club (Room 15) 1pm SH1	GCSE History Coursework catch up (Y14) GT
	Board Games Club & Y8 Paranoia (26) DK2	Debate Mate club (10) RAL 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	
Fri	Homework club (D&T3) EW	
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Minecraft available in 32 & 36	
	Juma'ah (Friday prayers) (UH) AA/Sixth Form pupils	
	DnD club (10) RAL	
	Welsh club (Room 11) NF/URDD Week 1 ONLY	

Extra curricular clubs



We were very pleased with the significant number of clubs, fixtures, and opportunities available for our students last year. Both sport and non-sport clubs were extremely popular with students. Examples of such clubs were Minecraft, board games, Welsh, Art, football, and Table Tennis. In total, over 29 clubs were offered.

Several enrichment activities were also very well-received. Students wishing to study medicine were invited for twilight sessions in the Heath hospital over a few months as part of the PACE programme, something we do every year. Year 10 students also completed a 1500-word dissertation at an undergraduate level as part of the Scholars' Programme. All students achieved either a 2:1 or a 1st when assessed by a PHD student from Cardiff University.





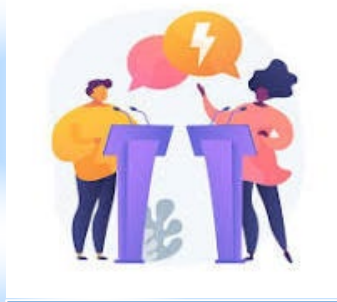
Our Year 11 team won the **Basketball Wales National Finals** for the fourth year in a row this spring





Non sports clubs

Debate Mate - UK Champions



After winning the **Cardiff Debate Mate Cup**, Cathays High School travelled to London to compete in the Debate Mate Cup Grand Final at the Salesforce Tower, going head-to-head with top schools from London, Liverpool, Manchester and Grimsby..... and they won !

Over 170 secondary schools across the UK took part in this 17-week programme, with just 10 schools reaching the Grand Final. To be crowned national champions is an extraordinary achievement.

Even more remarkable is the fact that this is the first time a school from Cardiff, and outside of England, has won the Debate Mate Cup Grand Final!



School Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Start of Term

Tuesday 1st September

Half term

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

End of term

Friday 18th December

Total days: 74

Spring Term 2026

Start of Term

Monday 4th January 2027

Half term:

Monday 8th February- Friday 12th February

End of term

Friday 19th March 2027

Total days: 50

Summer Term 2025

Start of term

Monday 5th April 2027

Half term:

Monday 31st May 2026 -Friday 4th June 2027

End of term

Monday 19th July

Total days: 71

*Tuesday 20th July- Inset day completed as twilight



Parent Learning Group

The Parent Learning Group has been working at Cathays High School for over 12 years to support families from Cathays and the surrounding areas with learning. It promotes family well-being and provides guidance to help individuals develop themselves as well.

SUPPORT NETWORKS

RHWYDWEITHIAU CYMORTH

Some of the examples of the courses available last year :-

Monday	Driving Theory @ Cathays Library 9 to 11am	Family Follow-up 11am to 1pm	Wellbeing session @ Tesco Community Centre 1 to 3pm	
Tuesday	Childcare taster E3 @ Cathays Library 10 to 12 noon	Digital Skills: Spreadsheet E3 @ Cathays Library 12 to 2 pm	Confidence Building E3 @ Cathays Library 2 to 4pm	
Wednesday	Creative skills @ Cathays Library 9 to 11am	ESOL for families @ EYST Butetown 11.45 to 12.45pm	Cooking skills @ EYST Butetown 1 to 3 pm	
Thursday	ESOL for families @ Cathays Library 10 to 12 noon	Numeracy skills E3 @ Cathays Library 12 to 2 pm	Family catch-up 2 to 4pm	
Saturday	Fitness @ Tesco Community Centre 10 to 11am	 Dysgu Oedolion yn y Gymuned Adult Community Learning		

Culture Day 2026

Cathays High School's Culture & Languages Day was, once again, a great success. pupils were invited to dress in clothes that reflected their and their family's culture and background and included activities relating to many different countries.

This annual event coincides with the Language Team's Languages Day aimed at promoting language development for Y 7 students. This includes a range of activities and speakers relating to the promotion of learning other languages.

At our school we have 73 languages spoken, something we are very proud of. The day culminates with a fantastic fashion show, something that is extremely popular with all students and staff across the school.



Other events over the year

Macmillan Coffee morning



We hosted our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning for staff on 22nd October, organised by Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Alexander.

The staff baked and donated an array of delicious cakes, making the event a real treat! Thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised an amazing £327.87 for Macmillan Cancer



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CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL – OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL