



CATHAYS

HIGH

SCHOOL

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Welcome to Cathays High School

Our 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 treated with respect and fairness.

Our primary role is to develop our pupils, ensuring they have a strong grounding in the three key behaviours of being prepared, showing respect and having pride in themselves 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-able to manage their own well-being;
- have the skills and qualifications to be ambitious, capable and enterprising young people, taking control of their learning, lives and careers;
- be the future leaders of Cardiff, Wales and the world, ensuring they have high expectations of themselves and others.

Values

'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
- 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)



TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL



"All of the teachers in the school have been supportive throughout my time here. They all have taken time to listen to any of my problems and help in any way they can."

YEAR 7 STUDENT



Transitioning from primary school to **Cathays High School**

The school has a peer support system which assists in the smooth transition from primary to secondary school.

Valuing the parents' role starts when we visit the primary schools and talk to them about Cathays High. Parents of Year 6 students are invited to Cathays High in July to meet their child's new Head of Year and Form Tutor.

The school's Open Evening each autumn attracts many parents from all over Cardiff. Visitors comment on the warmth of the welcome, the openness of staff and students, as well as the reputation for good standards of behaviour, tolerance and education. Throughout the year parents are involved in Parent-Teacher meetings, which gives us the chance to gather parental views and respond to their suggestions.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL



We Believe in **Opportunities For All**

All members of Cathays High School are expected to show respect and care for one another at all times.

All members of our school community are valued as individuals and each individual plays an important role in helping our school to develop and grow.

Our school values

- Be **prepared** and focused for learning
- Show **respect** for all students, staff and the environment
- Show **pride** in ourselves and our environment

"The teachers really help us to develop our skills. From Year 7 they helped me with the subjects I never thought I'd enjoy and get good grades in."

YEAR 13 STUDENT



at Cathays High School we are



and focused for learning

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

Cathays High benefits from a hard-working, well-qualified and dedicated team of teachers and support staff. We are proud to be a diverse, multi-cultural school and we are fortunate to have vibrant, conscientious students and very supportive parents.

As a school we aspire to high standards and excellence from our students in all that they do. We aim to ensure that students feel happy and safe at school as they work towards their future academic and personal success. We value all our members equally, regardless of gender, colour, creed, ability, class, or age.

Cathays High is first and foremost a place of work, but we believe our school is about more than academic success. It is about being part of a wider community; giving and taking opportunities; being involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities that broaden educational experience, and preparing our students for life in the 21st century.

Our extensive and highly skilled inclusion and well-being team provide the very highest standards of care, support and guidance for all students. Our most recent Estyn inspection recognised this as an excellent feature of our school. All of our staff work hard to help our students overcome any barriers and challenges to learning to ensure the best outcomes for all.



“Well-being is a clear strength at Cathays High School, and pupils place great value on how the school’s cultural diversity is embraced and celebrated through school life.”

ESTYN REPORT

“Cathays High School is a highly caring and inclusive community where effective care, support and guidance for all pupils is a significant feature of the school’s work.”

ESTYN REPORT

OPPORTUNITIES



OPPORTUNITIES

FOR ALL

TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR ALL



“Cathays is not only a school but an educational hub with its own unique community, comprised of various cultures from all walks of life. It brings success to those who work and hope to those who need it.”

PARENT

Our curriculum is centred on the needs of every individual in each curriculum area.

All lessons in our school are taught through the medium of English. Our teachers use assessment information and individualised teaching methods to ensure that all of our students make progress. This allows us to monitor achievement to ensure everyone gets the teaching and support to fulfil their potential.

The school has many links with partners in the community, including several universities. Cardiff University runs projects such as a creative writing club and workshops for Sixth Form students. Many students have gained places in prestigious universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and Cardiff.

“Pupils place great value on and actively celebrate the school’s cultural diversity. They treat each other with respect and successfully develop the key attitudes and behaviours that will help them to become life-long learners and ethical, well-informed citizens of Wales.”

ESTYN



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING THROUGH SPORT

Cathays High has a long tradition of sporting success. Teams and individuals continue to compete regularly, gaining success at local, county and national levels.

We believe that all students should participate in sporting activities. The school has an innovative partnership with Maindy Sports Centre, which includes a refurbished Sports Hall, a purpose built Dance Studio, a Fitness Suite and a dedicated Sports Studies teaching area.

Our Sports Officer works closely with the Community Learning Co-ordinator and PE staff to provide a wide range of physical activities for our pupils as part of the out-of-school hours programme. Our very active Student Sports Council provides the lead in the development of sport at Cathays High.

Cathays High School's Basketball Academy is thriving. All year groups can participate from Year 7 to Year 13, including sessions for our partner primary schools.



at Cathays High School we show



for all students, staff and the environment

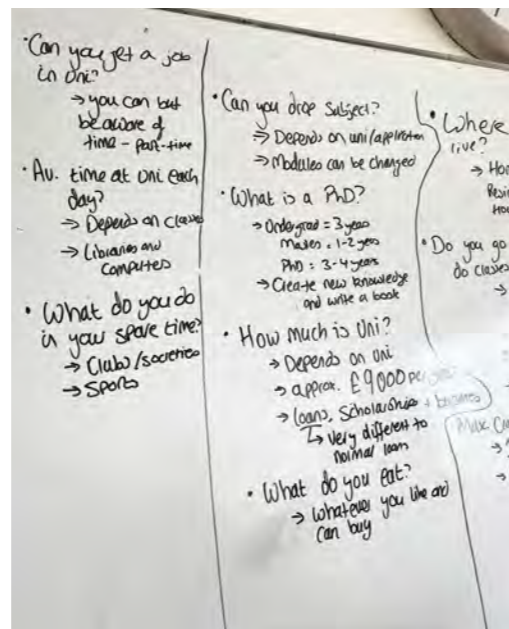
PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR THEIR FUTURE

Cathays High School has a successful and lively Sixth Form which aims to develop students both socially and academically.

Our Sixth Form meets the needs of all students aged 16-19 regardless of prior achievement. Students are supported to achieve success at the very highest academic standards and in their own unique learning pathways.

The Sixth Form aims to bridge the gap between compulsory education and the world of work or higher education by allowing students independence, whilst maintaining a high level of care and rigorous academic monitoring.

The value of independent study is encouraged and promoted. Cathays High has a number of well equipped and purpose built facilities to allow collaborative and quiet study to take place. Students are encouraged to lead activities around the school, such as organising charitable events, greeting visitors and addressing pupils and parents at school events.



"Teachers at Cathays helped me to achieve a fantastic set of exam results across a wide range of subjects, teaching me the value of hard work in order to reach my goals and I am sure they will do the same with countless other students for many years to come."

Ex-Student studying at Jesus College, Cambridge

"Leadership at all levels has a significantly positive impact on pupils' progress and well-being."

ESTYN REPORT

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Our Community Learning Co-ordinator arranges a wide range of activities for pupils, their families and members of the community. Courses are provided for pupils to help develop personal, social, learning and leadership skills.

The Learning Resource Centre is open early morning, lunch time and after school with staff on hand to offer guidance and advice.

Trained staff deliver the Duke of Edinburgh programme which helps students to learn new skills, help others and experience adventure, as well as giving those participating a great sense of achievement.

There are many school trips that support the curriculum. These include theatre visits, Geography field work, residential outdoor activity weeks and cultural exchanges. Our innovative summer timetable ensures an exciting and action-packed end to the school year, enriching the lives of students and staff. This ensures all students access enrichment activities without missing out on their subject-specific learning.



“The opportunities that both my children had in Cathays have shaped them into ambitious, confident and independent learners who actively seek out new experiences. Without the extra effort of many members of staff, I know they would not have done so well. Cathays is a school, that as teaching gets ever harder and demanding, still believes in the individual child.”

PARENT



at Cathays High School we show



in ourselves and the environment



CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL
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OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
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Crown Way, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF14 3XG

Tel: 02920 544 400

E-Mail: schooladmin@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk

Twitter: [@CathaysHigh](https://twitter.com/CathaysHigh)

Further Information can be found on the school website
www.cathays.cardiff.sch.uk