



CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD CATHAYS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

CYFLEOEDD I BAWB

Annual Governors' Report 2024-25

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 2024-25 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 attempts to fulfil our mission of ensuring "Opportunities for All". It is our overarching aim that all of our young people have the opportunities to 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 Year 10 girls' basketball team on becoming Welsh National champions last year for the third year in a row. The school put on a very successful production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* 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 unique cultural experiences and identities, 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, ensuring that young people enjoy their time at Cathays High School and find it a fulfilling and inspiring time in their lives.

Also, our young people in Years 10 to 13 who sat GCSE, A-Level and ESOL qualifications performed admirably, with almost all making excellent progress from their starting points. In the context of national averages, the students have performed 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 across all key performance indicators, especially at GCSE where almost 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 overcome the challenges they have faced with such positivity. The most recent Estyn report from May 2022 was outstanding and was further echoed in the more recent Estyn Interim Visit in June 2025 (both of which can be found on the Estyn website). Governors, staff and students have not rested on their laurels since the last full inspection. There is a commitment to ensuring continued improvement and development for the benefit of our children and their families. 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

Cllr. P. Wong,
Chair of Governors

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Headteacher: Mr.
Stuart Davies
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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

very grateful for their commitment to the Cathays High community demonstrated in their willingness to give up their free time to support the school

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. It is clear that partnerships between Governors, school staff, families and pupils are vital for a successful school and we are fortunate to have such strong partnerships 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 are able to 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 outcomes 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 though 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 which we believe is a vital ingredient in the success of our school. There were a great many successes in a number of 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 2025-26 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 ensuring "Opportunities for All."

Stuart Davies

Headteacher



Key Facts 2025

Pupils on roll PLASC :1273

Number of Teaching Staff:78

Number of Support Staff :51

Pupils from minority backgrounds:83%

First language other than English:66%

Eligible for FSM:36 %

Mobility:15%

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 Emlyn Pratt	April 2025 May 2025 September 2027 June 2025 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	Dr. A Ahmed 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	Mr D. Fergusson	October 2025

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 .

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Email: pbenincasa@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk

The **Deputy Headteacher** and the **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:

Mr. S. Davies Allensbank Primary School

Mrs. K Harrington: Albany Primary School

Mr. J. Taylor: Gladstone Primary School

Mrs N Jones- Roath Park Primary School

Finance and Staffing Committee

The membership of this committee for 2024/25 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:

- Human Resources Policy
- Whole School Pay Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Appointments
- CCTV Policy

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

Curriculum, Standards and 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	
Dr. A. Ahmed	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:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| • Child looked after | Spiritual and Moral Education | ICT |
| • Positive relationships for learning | Educational Visits | Online Safety |
| • Child looked after | Cymraeg Cathays | |
| • Positive relationships for learning | Numeracy | |
| • Quality Assurance | Personal and Social Education | |

Premises and Community Matters Committee

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

Mr.S. Kielthy(Chair)	Cllr. N. Mackie M (Vice Chair)
Mr. S. Davies	Mr. D. Fergusson
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

- Health and Safety
 - Bomb Threat
- | |
|--------------------------|
| Building and Maintenance |
| Health and Safety |

Information for Parents on Standards

ATTENDANCE:

2022-2023 - 88%
2023-2024- 89.6%
2024-2025- 90.8%

Exam Results Overview

A Level (15 pupils)

<p>Strengths</p> <p>QI Score - Grade 3 (0.99) same as 2024</p> <p>Red subjects</p> <p>Art</p> <p>History</p> <p>Overall grades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A* - B - 57% higher than 2023(3pp) and 24(6pp) E+ - Maintained the same as 2023 at 96% Level 3 Threshold from starting points 16 - 91% 17 - 100% Overall - 93% 	<p>Areas for development</p> <p>Improve outcomes at A*-A and C+</p> <p>Improve outcomes of blue subjects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry Physics Psychology Sociology
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$$1+ \left(\frac{\text{Number of Expected Passes}}{\text{Entries} \times 100} \right)$$

$$1+ \left(\frac{3,960 - 3,997.68}{48 \times 100} \right) = 0.99$$

A level QI score = 0.99 QI grade = 3

Subject	Entries	Expected Points	Actual Points	Score	Grade
A - Arabic	1	74.29	120	1.46	1
A - Art (Craft)	2	174.00	200	1.13	3
A - Biology	3	257.22	220	0.88	5
A - Chemistry	2	165.22	40	0.27	9
A - Digital Technology	1	74.29	60	0.86	-
A - English Lang. & Lit.	2	161.20	160	0.99	5
A - Health & Social Care - S	6	494.99	480	0.98	5
A - History	1	92.00	100	1.08	2
A - Italian	2	152.61	200	1.24	3
A - Mathematics	3	247.83	240	0.97	4
A - Persian	1	103.75	120	1.16	-
A - Physics	2	165.22	120	0.77	7
A - Portuguese	1	70.77	80	1.00	4
A - Psychology	3	246.71	200	0.84	7
A - Sociology	2	164.00	160	0.88	8
A - Spanish	1	70.77	100	1.29	2
A - Urdu	1	92.00	120	1.28	4
WBQ - Advanced Skills Challenge Cert	14	1,170.72	1,240	1.05	5
TOTAL	48	3,997.68	3,960		

Red Subjects (top 25%)

Art

History

Black subjects (top 75%)

WBQ

Maths

Biology

English

Health and Social care

Blue Subjects (bottom 25%)

Chemistry

Physics

Sociology

Psychology

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.

Grades	2025	2024	2023
A*/A	12%	18%	36%
A*-B	57%	51%	54%
A*-C	67%	72%	80%
A*-E	96%	97%	96%

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AS

Strengths

QI Score - 0.90 (Grade 6) grade 7(2024) and grade 8(2023)

Red Subjects

- Biology
- History
- Maths
- Physics

Overall grades

- A 11% - Higher than 2023(6pp) and 24(2pp)
- B+ 21% - Higher than 2023(3pp) and 24(2pp)
- C+ 44% - Higher than 2023 (12pp)and 24(6pp)
- E+ 78 Higher than 2023(18pp)

Areas for development

- Improve C+ outcomes
- Improve E+ outcomes

Improve outcomes in blue subjects

- Art
- English Lang and Lit
- Sociology

Value Added Score

$$1 + \left(\frac{\text{Actual pts} - \text{Expected pts}}{\text{Entries} \times 50} \right)$$

$$1 + \left(\frac{1,880 - 2,221.11}{67 \times 50} \right) = 0.90$$

AS level QI score = 0.90
QI grade = 6

Subject	Entries	Expected Points	Actual Points	Score	Grade
AS - Art (Craft)	2	55.34	20	0.65	8
AS - Biology	10	399.18	350	0.90	3
AS - Chemistry	8	328.63	250	0.80	5
AS - Digital Technology	7	189.66	160	0.92	-
AS - English Lang. & Lit.	4	101.91	50	0.74	8
AS - Health & Social Care - 5	9	246.06	280	1.08	5
AS - History	2	73.43	90	1.17	2
AS - Mathematics	7	247.20	250	1.04	2
AS - Maths (Further)	1	33.02	0	0.34	9
AS - Physics	2	52.89	60	1.07	2
AS - Psychology	10	360.31	300	0.88	5
AS - Sociology	5	133.68	60	0.71	8
Red Subjects (top 25%)	7	2,221.11	1,880		

Red Subjects (top 25%)

Biology

History

Maths

Physics

Black subjects (top 75%)

Chemistry

Digi Tech

Health and Social Care

Psychology

Blue Subjects (bottom 25%)

Art

English

Sociology

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

GCSE

Strengths

- 5A*-A - 23.8% (Higher than 2023 and 2024)
- L2+ (Lang only) 56.1% (Higher than 2023 and 2024)
- L2 - 71.5% (Higher than 2023 and 2024)
- CSI - 54.2% (Higher than 2023 and 2024)
- Best English A*-C (up 6pp on 2024 at 70%)
- Improved APS in Maths 40.4 (Stronger than 2023 and 2024)
- Improved APS in Science 37.9 (higher than 2023 and 2024)
- Best Science A*-C (up 4pp on 2024)
- APS Science improved by 0.4p (37.9) higher than 2023 and 2024)
- Improved outcomes in WBQ and SCC at National and Foundation level
- APS SCC improved by 2.4p (43.3) higher than 2023 and 2024.

Areas for development

- Improve eFSM outcomes in most subjects in line with nFSM
- Reduce the numbers of U grades in Science (Year 10), especially for those students most vulnerable to under-achievement
- Improve outcomes in ICT at A*-A, C+ and G+
- Improve Outcomes at A*-A and C+ in H&S Care and Sociology (
- Improve the performance of girls in PE
- Improve the accuracy of KS4 PPGs in-line with the Made-for-Wales GCSE specifications

Standards and outcomes of groups

FSM:

- To improve the performance of FSM pupils in L2+ to be closer to the A*-C outcomes of NFSM pupils in 2025-26
- Improve A*-A outcomes for eFSM pupils in many subjects at GCSE in 2025-26

Gender:

- Improve the outcomes of boys in Best English A*-C
- improve the outcomes of girls in Best Maths A*-C

ALN:

- To improve the outcomes of ALN pupils in the WBQ National
- Ensure standards for most ALN (and lower ability pupils) in lessons and books are at least strong in 2025-26

Indicator	2019**	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Diff on 2024
5 A*-A	21.1%	24.8%	31.7%	23.8%	22.3%	22.9%	23.8%	0.9pp
L2+ (Lang only)	41.4%	59.8%	56.8%	55.1%	54.8%	55.6%	56.1%	0.5pp
L2+ (Lit & Lang)	48.9%	59.8%	56.8%	56.5%	58%	58.8%	58.4%	0.4pp
L2	59.4%	82.1%	78.4%	71.4%	68.2%	64.1%	71.5%	7.4pp
L1	100%	100%	100%	99.7%	100%	100%	99.5%	0.5pp
CSI	40.6%	54.7%	48.9%	52.4%	50.3%	51.6%	54.2%	2.6pp
Capped 9	377.3	393.6	405.7	381.7	383.9	383.2	375.7	7.5p
Pupils leaving without qualifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Best English A*-C	61.65%	79%	69%	67%	73%	64%	70%	6pp
APS Eng	38.1	42.5	43.5	39.5	41.4	41.1	40.3	0.8p
Best Maths A*-C	54.1%	67%	65%	61%	63%	69%	66%	6pp
APS Maths	35.80	39.4	41.0	40.9	39.4	39.3	40.4	1.1p
Best Science A*-C	55.6%	57%		61%	57%	59%	63%	4pp
APS Sci	33.7	37.2	38.3	35.6	36.1	37.5	37.9	0.4p
WBQ F&N	91.9%	99.1%	97.8%	93.9%	95.4%	91.5%	92.1%	0.6pp
WBQ N	41.3%	59.8%	55.4%	53.7%	54.8%	45.8%	48.6%	2.8pp
SCC F&N	99.26%	99.1%	100%	99%	97.5%	97.4%	99.7%	2.3pp
SCC N	91.73%	99.1%	89%	83%	83%	78.43%	89.72%	11.29pp
APS SCC	43.1	43.0	42.9	41.6	41.8	40.9	43.3	2.4p

GCSE Headlines

	2025	2024	2023
5A/A*	23.8%	22.9%	21.7%
L2+	58.4%	58.8%	57.3%
L2	71.5%	64.1%	68.2%
L1	99.5%	100%	100%
CSI	54.2%	51.6%	49.7%
Capped 9 score	375.7	377.5 (383.2)	383.8
APS Eng	40.3	41.1	41.4
APS Maths	40.4	39.3	39.4
APS Science	37.9	37.5	36.1

Grade Distribution Summary			
Grade Distribution	%2025	%2024	%2023
A*-A	21.83%	18.64	22.74
A*-B	41.89%	35.33	42.51
A*-C	62.09%	54.20	62.85
D-G	32.98%	41.95	33.62
A*-G	95.07%	96.15	96.5
U/ X	4.93%	3.85	3.5

+ In favour of Boys

Gender

- In favour of Girls

Indicator	Percentage achieving 2025			Diff 2024	Diff 2023
	Boys	Girls	Diff 2025		
Total Number	123	91	+32	+11	-1
5 A*-A	26	20.9	+5.1pp	-12.5pp	-13pp
L2 Threshold inc Eng & Maths (Lang only)	56.1	59.3	-3.2pp	+3.8pp	-9.6pp
L2 inc EM (Lit and Lang)	56.1	61.5	-5.4pp	+4.7pp	-10.9pp
L2 Threshold	69.1	74.7	-5.6pp	+1.2pp	-14.8pp
Level 1 Threshold	99.2	100	-0.5pp	0pp	0pp
CSI	51.2	58.2	-7pp	+7pp	-5.8pp
Capped 9	371.8	390.9	-19.1p	-0.8p	-20.2p
A*-C English	62	81	-19pp	-5pp	-13pp
APS Eng	38.5	42.7	-4.2p	-1.5p	-4.2p
A*-C Best Maths	70	61	+11pp	+10pp	-5pp
APS Maths	41.4	38.5	-2.9p	+2.9p	0.2
A*-C Science	63	63	0pp	+8pp	0
APS Sci	38.4	37.3	+1.1p	+2.6p	0.2p

Boys Achieved higher 5A*-A
A*-C Best Maths
APS Science
Girls achieved Higher - all other KPIs

Significant gaps
A*C English (in favour of Girls)
A*-C Maths (in favour of boys)

+(in favour of eFSM)

eFSM/nFSM

-(in favour of non FSM)

Indicator	%FSM 2023	%FSM 2024	%FSM 2025	% Non-FSM 2025	2025 FSM-NFSM PP Diff	2024 FSM-NFSM PP Diff	2023 FSM-NFSM PP Diff
5A*-A	13.6%	9.7%	15.4	28.7	-13.3pp	-24.9pp	-13.9pp
L2+ (Lang only)	39.4%	41.7%	42.3	64	-21.7pp	-26.2pp	-25.8pp
L2+ (Lit & Lang)	39.4%	45.8%	44.9	66.2	-21.3pp	-24.6pp	-30.9pp
Level 2	50%	51.4%	55.1	80.9	-25.8pp	-23.9pp	-31.3pp
Level 1	100%	100%	100	99.3	+0.7pp	0pp	0pp
CSI	33.3%	38.9%	41	61.8	-20.8pp	-24.1pp	-28.2pp
Capped 9	351.7	346.4	343.7	394	-50.3p	-59.1p	-55.5p
English A*-C	56%	52%	54	78	-24pp	-23pp	-29pp
APS English	37.9	37.7	36.2	42.6	-6.4p	-6.4p	-6p
Maths A*-C	42%	58%	55	73	-18pp	-20pp	-37pp
APS Maths	33.3	34.9	34.7	43.6	-8.9p	-8.3p	-9.8p
Science A*-C	38%	47%	49	71	-22pp	-24pp	-33pp
APS SCC	39.7	37.8	40.6	44.5	-3.9p	-5.8p	-4.2p

Red - significant difference - over 10pp or 6 points in APS (i.e. 1+ grade difference)

FSM performance improved in many KPIs from 2024.

Gap between FSM and nFSM pupils closed in most KPI though nFSM outperformed FSM pupils in most measures.

Green - gap reduced from last year

ALN

Indicator	%ALN 2023	%ALN 2024	%ALN 2025
5 A*-A	6.7%	11.1%	14.3%
Level 2 inc EM Lang only	13.3%	33.3%	28.6%
L2+ (Lit/ Lang)	13.3%	33.3%	28.6%
Level 2	20%	33.3%	28.6%
Level 1	100%	100%	100%
CSI	13.3%	33.3%	28.6%
Capped 9	295.6	295.5	289.5
English A*-C	33%	33.3%	29%
APS Eng	30.9	30.7%	24.4
Maths A*-C	13%	33.3%	29%
APS Maths	22.5	29.1	21.1
Science A*-C	20%	33.3%	29%
APS Sci	22.9	22.7	22.9

7 pupils

Increase in A*-A, APS Science, WBQ N and F level and the APS SCC.

Acronym		
Alps	A Level performance system	AS/A Level targets based on prior attainment (KS4)
T score	Teaching and Learning score (Alps)	
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 Need	
PPG	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 teachers 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.	

EISTEDDFOD 2024



The Cathays Eisteddfod was held on the 14th of February this year. Pupils from Year 7, 8 and 9 took part and were lively, loud, competitive but very respectful when pupils were taking part in stage competitions. The talent this year was excellent, and we had some amazing entries in the variety of class competitions as well as an array of on-stage talent. A huge congratulations to Clementine Cosh Year 10 for writing an excellent poem about Wales and winning the Chair. The Eisteddfod was yet again a huge success and the winning house for 2025 was Llewelyn.



Basketball success

Pupils have represented Cathays in all age groups of the Basketball Wales Schools tournaments and we are really proud of the determination and pride shown by our pupils. Congratulations to our Y10 girls' basketball team who have won the Welsh National Finals for the third year in a row. The girls travelled to North Wales in April, after winning both the local and regional rounds, to play two strong games to be crowned National Champions....yet again! The girl's commitment, enthusiasm and hard work are exemplary and we are all looking forward to next year's Basketball Wales tournament already. A special mention to Maiz who was selected as Most Valuable Player after outstanding play.



Extra curricular clubs



CLUBS/FIXTURES

Days	Before school		Lunchtime		After school	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Mon			KS3 Badminton (SH) JS/EMW	KS3 Badminton (SH) JS/EMW		Football Club (Yard) EMWilliams
			Cheerleading (GYM) ZG	Cheerleading (GYM) ZG		Y10/11 Basketball (SH) TB
Tue			Year 7/8/9 Basketball (SH) TB	Year 7/8/9 Basketball (SH) TB	Football (Talybont) JS/LW1	Year 7/8 Netball (SH) MC
Wed			Year 7 Dodgeball 12:40-1pm (GYM) EMW	KS3 Dodgeball 1-1:20pm (GYM) EMW	Basketball practice or home games (SH) TB	Basketball practice or home games (Wk1) (SH) TB
Thur	Basketball 7:45am (GYM) TB		Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB		KS3 Rugby (Maindy) SC	Year 10/11 Basketball theory (GYM) TB
			Gymnastics (GYM) MC	Gymnastics (GYM) MC		Year 9/10/11 Netball (SH) ZG
			Table tennis (UH) GRT	Table tennis (UH) GRT		
Fri		Basketball 7:45am (GYM) TB	Year 7/8/9 Basketball (SH) TB	Year 7/8/9 Basketball (SH) TB	KS4 Badminton (SH) JS	KS4 Badminton (SH) JS

NON-SPORT CLUBS		
Days	Lunchtime clubs	After school clubs
Mon	Homework club (D&T3) EW	Homework club for KS3 maths (Cathays Library) 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	
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	
Wed	Homework club (D&T3) EW	Homework club for KS3 maths (Cathays Community Centre) 3:30-5pm CF
	Art drop in every lunch (37)	
	Minecraft available in 36	
	Animal club (15) 1pm SB	
	Digital Leaders (32) MM	
	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	
	Board Games Club & Y8 Paranoia (26) DK2	GCSE History Coursework catch up (Y14) G
	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	
	Prayer rooms: Boys (20) LH/AA & Girls (23) HM	

Non sport clubs

Debate Mate - Urban Debate

This year, our debate team has continued to thrive and is once again at the top of the league tables in Wales, consequently, the team were invited to attend an event at 10 Downing Street and meet the Prime Minister! Our winning team arrived bright and early in Westminster and after refreshments settled in to watch the top debating teams across the UK battle it out for a winning title. We were introduced to celebrity judges, Deborah Meaden from Dragon's Den; Jaz Singh from The Traitors; and international DJ and Philanthropist, Cuppy. Following this, we were greeted by Sir Keir Starmer who spoke of the importance of debating and the skills developed by the Debate Mate programme. After a thrilling round of debating and an impressive show of skill, we then received some insight from Debate Mate CEO, Margaret McCabe, who spoke of their mission to improve social mobility by teaching key skills through after school debate programmes across the UK. To wrap up our time in No.10, we heard from Comic Relief CEO, Samir Patel, who sponsored the event and the motion debated at the UDL Round 1. The Debate team then took part in the Debate Mate Cup at the Principality Stadium on April 3rd and performed really well



School Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Start of Term: Monday 1st September

Half Term:

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st
October

End of Term: Friday 19th December

Number of School Days: 75

Spring Term 2026

Start of Term: Monday 5th January

Half Term:

Monday 16th February- 20th February

End of Term: Friday 27th March

Number of School Days: 55

Summer Term 2025

Start of Term: Monday 13th April

Half Term:

Monday 25th May – 29th May

End of Term: Monday 17th July

Number of School Days: 65

Inset days 25/26

Monday 1st September 2025

Friday 7th November 2025

Monday 5th January 2025

Monday 9th March 2025

Friday 20th March 2025



Parent Learning Group



The Parent Learning Group has successfully run the Immunisation project in collaboration with NHS and Public Health Wales to promote the vaccines needed for children in schools during 2024. It has shown a positive impact in terms of a significant increase in numbers to help our children.

The Food4All charity has been supporting our Parent Learning Group since from 2020 and Covid for our Food Donation project. However, recently their donations of food from supermarkets have not only supported families in need but also been utilised for our Breakfast Club, with many of our children in school benefitting by getting a wholesome meal to start the day with a refreshed mind.

Culture Day 2024

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 a large number of different countries.

This annual event coincides with the Language Team's Languages Day aimed at promoting language development for Year 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, as you can see over the next few pages...

