



Skills
Sailiau



Wellbeing
Lles



Attitude
Agwedd



Knowledge
Gwybodaeth



Ysgol Maes Hyfryd

“Moving to High School”

Welcome to Ysgol Maes Hyfryd

Thank you for choosing Maes Hyfryd as your child's next school.

Transition

It is an exciting, but sometimes scary thought, when children have to leave their Primary School and move up to High School. So, we hope that the information in this booklet will help you find some answers to any questions you may have and make you and your child feel happier about the next stage of their life.

The Transition Team

Mrs Helen Millard Headteacher, Assistant Head of Sensory Mrs Erica Harwood and Assistant Head of Key Stage 3 Mrs Veronica Breeze, Family Engagement Worker, Mrs Tanwen-Messum Johnson. Our School Nurse is Mrs Julia Griffiths

These will be the first people you meet when thinking about your child's move up to High school. Mrs Breeze and Mrs Harwood have already attended the important Transition reviews Pen Coch. Pupils joining us from mainstream will have now been notified of their placement from the local authority and Mrs Breeze will have visited your child in their classroom.

Unfortunately transition through the current Covid Pandemic has been a very difficult challenge. Normally by this stage in the year parents will have had the opportunity to visit school and pupils would have been able to spend considerable time visiting school for some joint fun activities.

This year it has been very different! We have invited parents to join our Transition Dojo and staff will now be adding videos and pictures for pupils to familiarise themselves with our building and more importantly the staff.

Please check out our school website to look at our school prospectus which has everything you need to know about Maes Hyfryd in much greater detail (or you can access this directly off the schools' website

<http://www.maeshyfyd.co.uk/>



Our transition plan usually consists of numerous opportunities for pupils to experience life at Maes Hyfryd and for parents to meet staff & be shown around the school.

We are always available to assist you with your individual queries or needs, believing strongly that no question is too small or too "silly". Good communication enables smooth transition, so a proactive relationship between parents, pupils and school is paramount for happy pupils & parents.

If an individual needs an enhanced transition, either because they have complex care needs or a heightened sense of anxiety, again Maes Hyfryd can accommodate additional visits by staff & pupils, either to Maes Hyfryd or in the familiar setting of Pen Coch, when this is reinstated.

The role of a transition team is to ensure information about an individual is shared, and plans are implemented to facilitate as smooth a transition period as possible. The team considers what support should be provided to reduce anxieties where possible and staff from both schools work closely to achieve this.

Transition will take a different form during the pandemic.

We will include a 'virtual' tour of school so that you can share it with your child to become familiar with the building and they will also share photographs to introduce themselves and pupils can become familiar with new faces. This is not ideal but in the current situation it's something positive we can do to prepare pupils for moving to a new school.

The School Day at YMH



Time	Activity
8.55 am	Doors open for students
9.00 -9.10am	Registration and collective worship
9.10- 10.45 am	Lesson time
10.50 - 11.10am	Break time
11.15 am	Lesson time
12.00-1.00pm	Lunchtime
1.00- 1.15 pm	Registration & PSHE
1.15- 3.20 pm	Lesson time
15.20pm	Preparation for end of school day
15.25 pm	Pupils leave school

YMH has 4 departments:

- Sensory Department - Assistant Head - Erica Harwood
- Key Stage 3 - Assistant Head - Mrs Veronica Breeze
- 14 – 19 Assistant Head - Mr Matthew Wynne

Family Engagement Worker – Mrs Tanwen Messum- Johnon

Our Family Engagement worker at role is to support you, your family and your child to ensure that you are all getting the very best from our school community. Tanwen will work impartially and confidentially and can provide support, advice, information and a 'listening ear' if ever you have any concerns, issues, worries or feedback in relation to family life.

After parents & pupils have chosen YMH as their High school, there will be lots of consultation between YPC & YMH, to ensure that your child is placed in the most appropriate department, then within that department, the most appropriate class. This is a decision that is carefully considered to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils. We usually find it works very well, but again to reassure you as a parent, IF there are any concerns, we are flexible and will make changes if necessary.

All students attending YMH are also provided with escorted transport if required. This is arranged through Flintshire transport department (01352 704532) and is not the responsibility of the school.



YMH has 12 individual classroom spaces as well as a number of specialist facilities, including Nurture room, an Independent Living Skills (ILS) room; light and dark sensory rooms; a therapy room; medical rooms; parents' room; soft play area; an outdoor play area & gym: sensory activity areas as well as access to a hydrotherapy pool at Ysgol Pen Coch.

YMH has two sensory rooms, the Light and Dark therapy rooms, specifically designed as a quiet space for pupils to develop sensory skills through a range of stimulating objects. We now have a fabulous Sensory Garden.



The Sensory Department

The sensory department caters for pupils with more complex needs, including those with autism who use augmentative forms of communication and those with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD). The pupils in the sensory department may also have additional associated difficulties such as sensory impairments and complex health needs. Due to the nature of pupils placed in the sensory department, each class has a high staffing ratio to support curriculum access, personal care and learning. We currently have two classes that cater for pupils with ASC and two classes for pupils with PMLD. If we feel your child's needs would be best met in the sensory department then this would be discussed with you at their year 6 transition review.



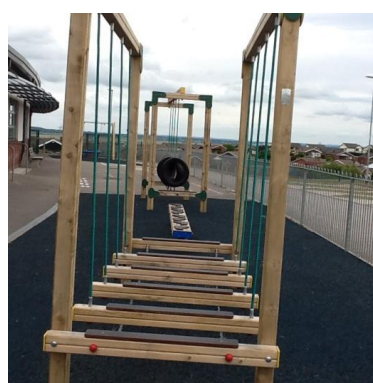
The curriculum has a strong sensory bias and is based on the needs of the individual pupils. There is a significant emphasis on developing communication and conceptual development and pupils follow personalised programmes of work to develop these skills, such as Picture Communication Exchange System (PECS), use of eye gaze technology and therapeutic interventions.

Therapies are an important part of the curriculum offered in the sensory department and we have developed and implemented a range of ASC specific and PMLD specific therapies to meet the needs of our youngsters. In our ASC classes, pupils undertake Lego therapy and Venturing into Play to aid social communication skills and physical therapies for self-regulation such as Cosmic Yoga, sensory circuits and rebound therapy. Pupils with PMLD receive therapies to develop mobility and tactual skills through Tac Pac, sensory dance massage, use of the vibroacoustic bed, rebound and hydrotherapy.

Those with low vision will also undertake regular sessions in the dark room for visual stimulation led by specialist staff. Our therapies take place in our specialist rooms throughout school, such as the light and dark room, soft play and physio room. The Soft Play room helps to develop gross motor skills. Every surface is soft padded so pupils can have fun using the apparatus safely. Students can practice Physiotherapy programmes as well as completing Sherborne Movement exercises within the area.



As well as our outdoor gym facilities YMH is delighted to announce that we have made a major investment in new playground equipment for the Sensory & Key Stage 3 departments.



In addition, YMH students access our ECO centre at Padeswood, to complete forest school activities; horticulture and design technology modules.



School Uniform

Ysgol Maes Hyfryd is committed to developing a range of extra curricula activities and ask that parents support their child's attendance at these activities as much as possible



YMH uniform consists of:

- Dark grey/black skirt or trousers
- Marl grey polo shirt with school logo
- Dark purple sweat shirt/ cardigan with school logo
- Black shoes or trainers
- Dark outer coats

Clothing and footwear essential for PE is as follows: -

- Plain black shorts or black short skirt with built in shorts
- Plain black jogging pants
- White polo/t shirt with logo
- Trainers/ Football boots

**Ysgol Maes Hyfryd uniform can be purchased from either
Forrester Sports, Chester Street, Mold. 01352 756636
Get Logo'd, Chester Road East, Shotton. 01244 816955**



YMH has access to the Hydro therapy pool based at Ysgol Pen Coch, our primary feeder school. Named students access the pool 2 or 3 times a week, depending on their initial assessment, where they follow programmes set by the physiotherapist

YMH is supported by the Health Authority Physiotherapy service and sessions are held twice weekly for named students. Physio's work in partnership with YMH staff to follow daily programmes

Lunchtime at YMH

All students have a choice and can choose their meal from

- a traditional hot meal with meat and/or vegetarian choice
- a salad or pasta
- a selection of sandwiches / rolls
- jacket potatoes
- hot dessert and/or fresh fruit.

Students are encouraged to bring cash in at the beginning of a week for our "cashless system". Pupils are supported to enter the monies into the system using their own unique fingerprint sign in system. When pupils choose their lunch, the payment is then "taken away" from their account by again using their fingerprint. (Obviously any pupil eligible for Free school meals will have amounts credited to the system)

The four week menu is made available for parents at the start of each term so that parents can inform staff of any particular dietary restrictions if the child is unable to communicate that information themselves. Ysgol Maes Hyfryd Staff support the students in developing their social skills and also monitor the variety of food they choose to encourage a healthy balanced diet. Students who prefer to bring a packed lunch will also eat in the school hall and may also buy drinks, fruit etc. from the servery.

Ysgol Maes Hyfryd supports healthy lifestyles and students are requested not to bring crisps, fizzy drinks and chocolate bars to school for snack or lunch. Parents are asked to support this policy

Please use the photos and information in this booklet to share with your child and talk about their new school. During the Summer Term you will receive additional information about the class they have been placed in, alongside photos and names of staff and other pupils who will also be in the class.

The more information we can share with you, hopefully the less anxiety you will feel. We are sure your child will be very happy at Maes Hyfryd and settle quickly, but feel assured if that's not the case, we are always approachable & here to help. Connecting to Dojo is an excellent way of sharing information via video clips, messages and contact with our school, please use this to your advantage. We can have a two-way interaction.

Follow us on Twitter to check out what's happening in school. Our Tweets are protected and we only accept followers when we know who they are. When you connect to Dojo let us know your user name for Twitter, as you will appreciate it's not always obvious.

[Ysgol Maes Hyfryd](https://twitter.com/MHyfryd)

@MHyfryd



Or on our website

<http://www.maeshyfyrd.co.uk/>



Important Notice

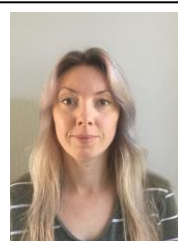
Due to the COVID 19 Global Pandemic our transition plan has not been implemented in the way we would have liked.

Staff are working hard to think of new ideas that will help with transition and to prepare your child for their new school.

We will keep you informed with important information and hopefully be able to have a 'virtual' transition instead.



Mrs Breeze



Mrs Harwood

Teachers in Sensory and Key Stage 3



Mrs Caroline Staunton



Miss Zara Trickett



Miss Alice Davies



Miss Nicola Caffery



Miss Cerys Jones