

YSGOL RHIWABON

~ SINCE 1575 ~



School Information 2023 – 2024

www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk

X@ysgolrhiwabon



CONTENTS

PAGE

From the Headteacher	3
5 Golden Rules	4
Feedback from Estyn and School of the Year	5
Parent Feedback	6
Our Curriculum	7
Equal Opportunities	10
Additional Learning Needs Provision	10
Careers and the World of Work	10
Homework	11
Daily Act of Collective Worship	11
Use of Welsh Language across the School	11
Sex & Relationship Education	11
Student Support and Guidance	12
The School Day	13
Lunchtime Arrangements	13
Attendance	14
Holidays in Term Time	14
Medical Information	14
School Meals/ParentPay	15
School Uniform	16
General Appearance	18
Personal Belongings	18
Admissions	19
Out of School Visits - Charging Policy	19
Security, Health and Safety Arrangements	19
Child Protection	19
Complaints Procedure	20
Communication Routes	20
Term and Holiday Dates	21
The School Governing Body	22
Home School Agreement	23
After School and Holiday Club	24
Contact us	25

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parent/Guardian

It is with great pride and pleasure that I introduce Ysgol Rhiwabon. The information contained in these pages provides important details about how the school is organised, underpinned by our core values. We are a caring, family school with excellent community links with Ruabon and its surrounding villages. Ysgol Rhiwabon has a proud heritage, which provides us with the firm foundations we need to develop the youngsters in our care. At the same time, we are a modern, innovative school with lots of exciting learning experiences available for our students. We continually review provision to ensure that we meet the needs of all our learners.

We have a very caring, hardworking staff in Ysgol Rhiwabon and visitors to our school comment regularly on the calm, happy, family atmosphere where standards of uniform and behaviour are high and where our young people are supported and challenged to be the very best they can be.

This year, March 2023 Ysgol Rhiwabon was awarded the 'School of the Year' Award as part of the Leader Education Awards 2023. This recognised the school's academic successes alongside its focus on the wellbeing of the students and the contribution the school makes to its local and wider community. In addition, Ysgol Rhiwabon had an Estyn Inspection in February/March 2023 with very positive outcomes.

"Ysgol Rhiwabon is a caring and inclusive school, which strives to support its pupils to 'Succeed with Soul' and to develop both academically and personally". (Estyn 2023)

We continue to be one of few schools in Wales in the Professional Teaching Institute, which involves our staff and students in outstanding training. We are regularly asked to take students from our school to talk to teachers from across the UK and they have featured in national publications, commenting on inspirational teaching. Staff from our school also work as consultants for the Professional Teaching Institute. This keeps Ysgol Rhiwabon at the forefront of best practice across the UK.

Our Primary transition programme has developed significantly in recent years, it has received glowing feedback from parents and the youngsters involved. This year, Estyn recognised the school's work with Year 6 and 7 as a key strength of the school, commenting on the warm welcome and safe culture established for our younger members of the school community, including our exciting SWAN Transition Project.

In recent times, our school has improved in so many ways, modernising and responding to the many changes, which face our staff every year. I believe though, that Ysgol Rhiwabon is founded on strong traditional values, and it is this, which will lead to our continued success in the future.

You, as potential parents of our school, are a vital part of Ysgol Rhiwabon's future. I know you will be impressed when you visit us. As a parent myself I know the importance of making the right decision for our children's secondary education and for this reason I would encourage you to visit Ysgol Rhiwabon. You will receive a very warm welcome and we will be proud to show you our school in operation. I look forward to meeting you.

Melanie Ferron-Evans
Headteacher

YSGOL RHIWABON



“This is our school, these are our expectations”

Our Five Golden Rules are:

- 1)** We will all treat each other with respect.
- 2)** We will all work hard to get the very best from each other.
- 3)** We will allow teachers to teach and students to learn without interruption.
- 4)** We will be safe in each other’s company and not fight or bully each other.
- 5)** We will care for and take pride in our school and local community.

ESTYN AND SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AWARD QUOTES



"Transition arrangements to support pupils' well-being are a strength of the school. Staff help pupils settle in well by being welcoming and getting to know them quickly." (Estyn 2023)

"Ysgol Rhiwabon is a caring and inclusive community, which values the well-being and character of its pupils as highly as their learning." (Estyn 2023)

"Younger pupils benefit from effective transition arrangements to help them settle well into school life. In addition, pupils with additional learning needs receive helpful support to enable them to develop their academic and life skills." (Estyn 2023)

"The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum, including a wide range of worthwhile academic and vocational subjects to meet the needs of nearly all pupils. In lessons, a majority of pupils make good progress in their knowledge and understanding. These pupils make suitable contributions to class discussions and use subject specific terminology appropriately. Many pupils locate facts and information from texts accurately and can write suitably for a range of purposes and audiences." (Estyn 2023)



"The winner of this category was Ysgol Rhiwabon, who are committed to ensuring that every individual achieves the very best.

They strive for young people to leave school confident, happy and equipped with the skills for lifelong learning."



PARENT QUOTES AND FEEDBACK

- *"As a parent, it was great seeing how happy and excited my son is going to school each morning."*
- *"The school uniform looks fantastic, nice to know that students have had input to style and choice."*
- *"The school website and App are brilliant. They really do help me know what's going on."*
- *"After School Clubs – fantastic range of activities on offer. My daughter attends netball and has represented the school in matches – she thoroughly enjoys this!"*
- *"The Lead Learner gave me a phone call to let me know how my son was settling in – it really put my mind at rest."*
- *"It's good to see a school where parental feedback is being made easier."*
- *"The transfer to Ysgol Rhiwabon has gone extremely well, with the support and organisation of all the staff."*
- *"It's a relief just knowing that my child is well supported during his transition into high school."*

Some Year 6 Transition Comments and Feedback from Parents

- *"They have enjoyed everything this week. They have got to know their class, dinners and teachers. My boys loved doing the quiz."*
- *"My child enjoyed meeting the other Year 7 students before starting full time."*
- *"My child seems to have enjoyed all aspects of the school so far. She seems to be settling in well, however a bit nervous. She says the teachers are very helpful."*
- *"My child enjoyed all of this week. Getting to know the layout of the school and the teachers etc., it really helped her settle in as it can be a very daunting experience."*
- *"He seems to have enjoyed everything so far. He likes his Form Tutor and has enjoyed the sporting activities and History."*
- *"My daughter has enjoyed it and has been made to feel really welcome, I think it's working fab!"*
- *"What you do now is very good in settling the children into the school."*
- *"Keep on going with your fantastic ideas for making the transition from primary school as smooth as possible."*

OUR CURRICULUM

Our working week consists of twenty-five one-hour lessons. In addition, we have a tutor period every day to ensure students' wellbeing and readiness to learn. Lessons are organised within a ten-day, two-week timetable to enable us to fulfil the requirements of the New Curriculum for Wales at Key Stage 3 and GCSE and vocational requirements at Key Stage 4 and to ensure that the students have the appropriate number of hours for each subject. This organisation of time will be reviewed as we continue to develop the New Curriculum for Wales.

We have very strong links with our feeder Primary schools and this means that when students come to us in Year 7, they settle in quickly and their work progresses naturally from the work they have been doing in Year 6. They already know the school and they have made several visits.

When students enter the school, they are taught in mixed ability groups. This allows students to settle in and to establish themselves before they are organised into sets according to their needs and abilities.

In addition to form time, we have a PSHE, well-being lesson once a fortnight for all Year Groups. This helps us to address health and social issues, offering students valuable information, advice and guidance. This includes presentations from external agencies, providing up to date, expert advice on important issues.

Continuous assessment and testing of each student's progress is built into all subjects. All students are provided with targets for improvement and have opportunities during the year to discuss their progress with subject staff and form tutors. Their targets are reviewed regularly through the school tracking system. Each student's work is continuously monitored and the school marking system provides detailed comments on next steps to improve and how to do that.

Communication of progress with Parents and our families is achieved through interim data information, a parents' Evening and a full report which provides detailed written feedback on a student's progress in every subject. In addition, Year 7 parents are also invited to attend a 'settling in' meeting with tutors. Parents also have the opportunity to come to school to discuss progress at a parents' evening. Dates are to be found in the school calendar. Before meetings students are encouraged to make appointments for their parents with subject teachers and form tutors. These meetings are important contact points for parents and teachers, and students are reminded of the importance of home-school communication. Parents are also welcome to make an appointment at any time to discuss any matter of concern using the contact details at the end of this Information Booklet.

Our school curriculum can conveniently be considered in two linked stages as follows:

Key Stage 3	Years 7 - 9	11 – 14 years old
Key Stage 4	Years 10 - 11	14 – 16 years old

Key Stage 3 – Years 7, 8 and 9

Students study a broad range of subjects at Key Stage Three as part of the New Curriculum for Wales, as well as learning important cross- curricular skills through thematic work which runs across all subject areas. The aim during this Key Stage is to prepare students thoroughly to take up the challenge of examination courses at Key Stage Four and to develop learners who are:

- Ambitious and capable
- Enterprising and creative contributors
- Ethical, informed citizens
- Healthy, confident individuals.

Details of the New Curriculum will be available on our school website from September 2023.

The Key Stage Three curriculum for all students consists of the following subjects:

English	Information Technology
Mathematics	Music
Science	Physical Education
Art	PSHE
French	Religious Studies
Geography	Technology
History	Welsh

We believe that all students should have a thorough grounding in the use of Information Technology, for which we have excellent and expanding facilities. Apart from specialised computer rooms, all classrooms have IT facilities with internet access and an interactive whiteboard. These classroom improvements have greatly enhanced the learning experiences for all students. Recent investment in the school has led to the refurbishments of two learning hubs, complete with the latest mobile technology and Chrome Books which can be used in all subject areas.

Key Stage 4 – Years 10 and 11

In Year 10, students are now able to exercise a significant degree of choice over the courses which they can opt to study. We believe, however, that it is important for our learners to follow a balanced curriculum.

"The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum, with a wide range of worthwhile academic and vocational subjects to meet the needs of all pupils." (Estyn 2023)

All students must study English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education, Personal and Social Education, Welsh, Religious Education, and the Skills Challenge Certificate. Students currently choose their options from the following list of subjects:

Art	Health and Social Care
History	Design Technology
Information Tech	Drama
Economics	Engineering
Music	French
Sociology	Geography
Sport Studies	

Students may choose to study from the range of vocational courses on offer both in school and in Coleg Cambria. These courses are delivered via the Wrexham 14-19 Network. Ysgol Rhiwabon has excellent collaborative links with Wrexham College allowing students to opt for one subject to be studied in Wrexham if appropriate.

Vocational Courses Level 1 and 2 and GCSE Courses

Construction	Horticulture	Spanish
Customer Service	Hospitality and Catering	Computing
Engineering	Performing Arts	Small Animal Care
Hair and Beauty	Salon Services	Travel and Tourism

This provision allows students the flexibility to study both academic and vocational qualifications as they prepare for their post-16 pathway.

We also provide Enrichment for students who may find the demands of GCSE difficult. The compulsory core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science are followed alongside vocational courses, college and community placements.

Before embarking on any courses, we offer extensive advice and support on the suitability of option choices. Parents are provided with detailed information and are involved in the option process working with the school.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Equal opportunities for all students are embodied in the main aims of the school, in particular, the intention to:

- help students achieve their potential
- gain self-reliance and self-respect
- acquire a range of skills appropriate to the world in which we live so that they are prepared for the demands of life beyond school

The full policy covers areas of gender, multi-cultural education and special needs and is available upon request.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS PROVISION

The school has an Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator who liaises with the various curriculum areas and outside agencies. She works alongside the Senior Leadership Team to ensure the new ALN Reform is implemented effectively, according to statutory guidance. Additional Learning Needs provision embraces a wide range of short and long-term programmes and aims to help and support those students who experience difficulty with aspects of learning. While there may be some withdrawal for individuals or small groups, the main form of support is in mainstream classes and is provided by both Additional Needs staff and subject specialists. Pastoral Support Programmes are used with students whose behaviour is causing particular concern.

CAREERS AND THE WORLD OF WORK

The school provides a comprehensive programme of career guidance in partnership with Careers Wales for all students. Information for parents can be viewed on the Careers Wales website www.careerswales.com.

There is a well-equipped careers information area in the school library and students are encouraged to make full use of it. An introduction to careers starts in Year 8 and structured careers guidance begins in Year 9 as part of the preparation for Key Stage 4 courses. Years 10 and 11 experience Careers Education and Guidance across the curriculum as part of the PSE programme. Mock interviews supported by local employers are available for all Year 11 as they prepare for further education and the world of work. They are also supported in preparing important paperwork ready for college applications and the world of work. Every student in Year 11 experiences a mock interview run by Careers Wales and staffed by local employers. These experiences combine to prepare our students for further education and world of work.

"Older pupils benefit considerably from the career advice and support staff provide to help them make decisions about their future. This includes individual interviews, writing curriculum vitae and interview preparation with local business people. These activities have a positive impact on pupils' understanding of career options and help to raise their aspirations." Estyn 2023

HOMEWORK

All good schools approach homework with high expectations and Ysgol Rhiwabon is no exception.

Successful homework policies are based on a three-way partnership: school, students and parents.

Here in our school we set regular homework for all of our students from Years 7 to 11.

Our parents sign a home-school agreement with an undertaking to support children at home with all aspects of homework. Our students also sign this agreement which highlights the importance of independent study. We have outstanding facilities through Google Classroom and learning on line programs such as MathsWatch which support learning at home. This allows students to work independently and we offer every assistance so that progress can be consolidated away from the classroom. All our students are issued with a student planner to record homework details and this can be looked at regularly both by form tutors and parents to help our young people continue to improve and develop their skills.

DAILY ACT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

There is a weekly programme for the Daily Act of Collective Worship which is set out in the staff bulletin. Time is provided for student reflection in year assemblies and tutor group sessions. School aims are promoted and students are encouraged to reflect upon moral issues, spiritual values, Christian faith, different cultures and beliefs and community responsibility.

USE OF WELSH LANGUAGE ACROSS THE SCHOOL

In accordance with the Local Authority and Welsh Government Policy, we aim as a school to promote the bilingual development of each student and to safeguard the cultural standing of the Welsh language. All students have Welsh lessons throughout their five years of compulsory education and the curriculum has been planned to allow students to learn about Welsh history and culture. The school Eisteddfod is a major event and provides students with the opportunity to participate in both off-stage competitions and to perform on-stage during Eisteddfod day. The use of incidental Welsh in all subject areas and around school is encouraged. With the school's launch of its Urdd branch, all students have the opportunity to compete in a range of sporting technology and more traditional Eisteddfod on-stage competitions within a Welsh/bilingual environment.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

The Governing Body has approved a policy for Sex and Relationship Education which is in line with government and LA guidelines. Sex and Relationship Education is delivered as part of the PSE programme. If parents are concerned in any way about the content of the programme they are welcome to contact the Headteacher.

STUDENT SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

"Ysgol Rhiwabon is a caring and inclusive community, which values the well-being and character of its pupils as highly as their learning. Staff work together productively to support pupils' individual needs. The school ensures that it provides beneficial opportunities for pupils to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding." Estyn 2023.

Form Tutors and Lead Learners form the backbone of a strong structure which provides care for students throughout the school. Form Tutors are the link between the academic and pastoral sides of school life, whilst Lead Learners co-ordinate the work of their year teams and are the main contact between home and school.

Students in Years 7 to 11 have time together each day as a tutor group with their Form Tutor. During these sessions, tutors have the opportunity to discuss and monitor student progress. Form time also allows valuable learning activities to take place, including assemblies, literacy and Numeracy and general wellbeing. Parents are encouraged to contact the Lead Learner or Form Tutor at an early stage to discuss progress or share concerns. Children are most successful when they know that teachers and parents work together. Lead Learners have significant teaching timetables and may not be immediately available on the telephone. Details of any issues may be given to members of our administrative team to pass on to Lead Learners.

We are fortunate to be able to access a range of support services. Lead Learners have the overview of students' needs and so are usually the conduits through which services are accessed.

The Educational Social Worker works with the teaching staff to help students and families. She liaises closely with the Lead Learners and Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator. She also links with other agencies which may provide support for our students. The Educational Social Worker will pursue any cases of unexplained absence.

Youth Workers in school form an effective link between the school and community for many of our students. They support young people both individually and in small groups.

We are fortunate to have the services of a Counsellor who is in school on one day per week. Students may make appointments with her via the school office. Counselling sessions are confidential and have proved very useful for some students.

We believe that orderly conduct, which shows consideration for others, is very important. Without it, students cannot achieve their potential and teachers cannot get on with their teaching. All students are made aware of the high standards of behaviour which are expected of them. The school has an anti-bullying policy which provides clear guidelines and strategies for dealing with bullying. There is also advice available on the school website for students and parents on bullying and online safety.

"Pupils say that staff deal promptly and sensitively with any incidents of bullying. Pupils know who to speak to if they are worried or need support and benefit from valuable specialist support within the school's well-being hub when needed." Estyn 2023

We place a lot of importance on praise for good work, good behaviour and attendance. Students are rewarded for making good progress in lessons, attending regularly and making a positive contribution to school life.

THE SCHOOL DAY

The school day is organised as follows:

REGISTRATION	8.50am – 8.55am
Lesson 1	8.55am – 9.55am
Lesson 2	9.55am – 10.55am
BREAK	10.55am – 11.10am
Lesson 3	11.10am – 12.10pm
Lesson 4	12.10pm – 1.10pm
<u>Lunch – 1.10 – 1.40</u>	Years 7, 8, 9
<u>Registration – 1.10 – 1.40</u>	Years 9, 10, 11
<u>Lunch – 1.40 – 2.10</u>	Years 9, 10, 11,
<u>Registration – 1.40 – 2.10</u>	Years 7, 8, 9
Lesson 5	2.10pm – 3.05pm

Parents should note that students will be supervised from 8.40am until 3.20pm only, unless they are participating in extra-curricular activities organised by the school.

LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

Students in Years 7 to 11 remain on the school site during the lunchtime break unless parents/carers have made a written request for the student to have lunch at home. In such cases, parents/carers are responsible for students' behaviour and safety outside school.

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is vital for success; students need to be present in lessons in order to learn. It is difficult to catch up with missed work at any stage of school. Students find that the pressures of examinations, coursework and controlled assessment increase if time is lost through absence.

For students to gain most from school they must attend regularly and punctually. **As controlled assessment in school is now part of the examination process, students absent from school for any reason – including family holidays – may find that they miss a vital examination component with a consequent effect on their final grade. Research suggests that 17 missed school days in a year leads to a one grade drop in achievement at GCSE.**

Whilst **it is the parents' legal responsibility to ensure regular and punctual attendance**, it is important that there is effective liaison between home and school. We ask parents to make a telephone call on the first day of absence followed by a letter confirming the date(s) of absence when their child returns to school. If parents want their child to leave the school premises, we ask that they similarly explain the absence by letter or telephone. In the case of a medical appointment, the appointment card is sufficient. Students who leave the school premises during the day are expected to sign out at the school office.

Where students are genuinely absent for an extended period we arrange for work to be sent home.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

We know that those students who attend school regularly have the best chance of success in all aspects of school life and that taking a holiday in term time will affect their potential. This is becoming more apparent with important controlled assessments and external examinations happening throughout the academic year. Apart from in exceptional circumstances, the school does **not** have to authorise holidays in term time and will always advise parents not to book a holiday that will take a child away from statutory school days.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

The school aims to make life as pleasant, productive and comfortable as possible for all students. To help us achieve this, parents of new students are asked to supply written details of any medical problems to the Lead Learner. This will enable us to maintain records of medication used and actions necessary in the event of an emergency. The Community Health Physician is in regular contact with the school and can assist in producing a Health Care Plan in appropriate cases. Parents are, of course, expected to inform the school of any new or changed medical condition which may arise after a student is admitted to the school.

SCHOOL MEALS - PARENTPAY

Ysgol Rhiwabon provides students with a wide variety of quality hot food and snacks at breakfast, morning break and lunchtime.

The school operates a cashless biometric dining system through ParentPay. The system is controlled by the latest technology and avoids the need to have cash, including students on free meal entitlement.

When a student uses the biometric system, it allows them to purchase food without using cash. Each student has an individual account which needs to be kept in credit by the parent/carer and it is important to keep the account topped up.

If your child exceeds the free meal value the extra amount is deducted from the money credited to the account and will need to be topped up.

In addition, our Online Payment System will allow you to pay for school meals directly and to view the purchases that your child has made. The link is available from our website –

www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is representative of our desire to make Ysgol Rhiwabon the very best school with the highest standards. It has been devised after extensive consultation with students, parents, staff and governors.

It is assumed that when students choose to join Ysgol Rhiwabon they do so with a sense of pride and an acceptance of the standards we have set. The adherence to the school uniform code is a demonstration of this pride. Our uniform carries our sense of identity into the wider community too.

Please note that this guidance is very brief and intended to be a summary of the main requirements of the school uniform. Parents and Carers should always refer to the detailed guidance issued and available on our school website – www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk.

Uniform requirements

Blazer with school badge

School tie (clip on)

Formal white shirt with collar

Optional plain black V-neck jumper (no logos etc. to be an option during winter months at the discretion of the Headteacher)

Black tailored, business style trousers

Black knee length skirt (optional for girls)

Plain black or grey socks (or tights for girls)

Formal, business style plain black shoes

PE Kit

Students are expected to possess the necessary and appropriate kit for Physical Education and Games.

Boys

Games Kit

Plain red football shirt

Black shorts

Red football socks

Football boots

Black tracksuit for winter

Trainers

Gym Kit

Plain white T-shirt

Black shorts

Black tracksuit bottoms for winter

Trainers

Girls

Games Kit

Plain white T-shirt

Black shorts

White socks

Trainers

Black tracksuit

Gym Kit

Plain white T-shirt

Black shorts

White socks

Trainers

Black tracksuit

OUR SCHOOLWEAR

OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday 09:00 - 17:00*

*APPOINTMENTS ONLY DURING PEAK SEASON.

WWW.OURSCHOOLWEAR.CO.UK

Order online now and get your order delivered via DPD,
Royal Mail or free **CLICK AND COLLECT** to our store.

**ATTENTION: PICKING UP YOUR ORDER IS COMPULSORY
WHEN CHOOSING CLICK AND COLLECT.**



@ramleisurewxm



@ourschoolwear

Find us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest updates about our
opening times and your school uniform.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE BACK →

01978 360 360

Info@ramleisure.com

RAM Leisure & Workwear Ltd, Unit 31 Whitegate Ind Estate,
Wrexham, LL13 8UG

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Like any reasonable organisation we allow no extremes of appearance at Ysgol Rhiwabon. Jewellery is limited to a watch, **one** plain ring and **one** pair of plain gold or silver studs in pierced ears. **No other facial piercings are allowed.** Similarly, we do not permit extreme hairstyles. Whilst we are aware that fashions change, and that yesterday's extreme is tomorrow's normal hairstyle, it should be noted that unnatural colours, 'tram lines' cut into hair, and similar marks or cuts made with hair trimmers, shaved heads or long Mohicans and stripes or bands of colour are considered an extreme of hairstyle unsuitable for school. Excessive make-up (including coloured nail varnish) is also considered unsuitable for school.

Uniform and general appearance will be monitored by staff and in the case of any potential conflict the school Leadership team will be the final arbiter.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Mobile phones – whilst we accept that students will want to have a phone for potential emergencies on the way to and from school, they are to be out of sight, switched off and kept in a bag at all times during the school day. This includes break and lunch times. If the school policy is not followed, pupils' phones will be confiscated for the day. We ask that parents refrain from texting or calling their child during the school day. Urgent messages can be taken by the school office and will be dealt with immediately.

All other electrical equipment should be left at home to avoid loss or unnecessary disruption to lessons. This includes earphones which are often attached to mobile phones, thus preventing students from hearing instructions which may be vital to their safety.

Students who contravene the uniform and appearance, mobile phone and electrical equipment policies will be asked to take items to the office for safekeeping. At the end of the day students can reclaim their property.

On the rare occasion when students continue to contravene the policies, parents will be contacted and asked to collect the items from school.

ADMISSIONS

The school serves the areas of Ruabon, Acrefair, Rhosymedre, Newbridge, Cefn Mawr, Chirk, Pentre, Froncysyllte and Garth.

It is therefore the school's policy to admit any student who is resident in this area, unless he or she has defined special needs for which it is beyond the scope of the school to provide.

Parents of students who reside outside this area may choose to send their child to the school. Such students will be admitted at the beginning of Year Seven up to the school's standard number following the WCBC Admissions procedure, which is available to follow through our school website.

CHARGING POLICY – OUT OF SCHOOL VISITS

The school offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities including clubs, teams, visits, activities and residential courses.

Where possible, activities essential to the curriculum are free to all students. It is, however, sometimes necessary to ask for voluntary contributions to enable activities to take place.

SECURITY, HEALTH AND SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

The school endeavours to take every precaution to ensure the security, health and safety of students, employees and visitors. The policies and procedures for security, health and safety are kept under review by the Governors' Finance, Premises, Health and Safety Committee.

The school also receives advice from the local authority and complies with the current policies.

The school buildings, general site and certain areas of the interior of the building are covered by a CCTV system, in addition to coded exterior doors for security of the premises.

CHILD PROTECTION

The school has a child protection policy based on child protection procedures advised by Wrexham LA, which in turn comply with the All Wales Guidelines. The school therefore has an appointed Child Protection Officer and has a duty to refer any concerns about the well-being of students to the Social Services Department for further advice.

The School's Child Protection Officer is Mr J Forman, Assistant Headteacher.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

At Ysgol Rhiwabon, we recognise that parents/carers have a crucial role to play in supporting their children to succeed at school and we encourage a good partnership between the home and school. Visits by parents/carers to school, reports, newsletters and open evenings further strengthen this partnership.

There may be occasions when problems occur and in most cases these are usually sorted out quickly at the informal stage. However, if you have a concern about the school, you may wish to complain formally. We aim to make our complaints procedure easy to follow.

You should contact the school in the first instance and discuss your concerns with a member of staff. This could be your child's Form Tutor, Lead Learner, Assistant Headteacher or Headteacher. Most problems can be dealt with successfully and promptly at this stage.

COMMUNICATION ROUTES

In addition to the traditional methods of face to face meeting, letters and telephone calls, the school has invested in other routes of communication with parents.

The school website www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk is the primary source of school information and latest news. In addition, it will let parents download a **Free App** for mobiles, which will alert parents to items in the calendar and new information on the website.

The school also uses a text messaging and email system to issue messages direct to your mobile for use in an emergency and to alert you if contact is needed with school.

Finally, the school uses **X** **@ysgolrhiwabon** to issue many of its press releases or simply update many of its followers on what is happening in school.

Please take time to register for these communication routes as it will make your contact with school quicker.

Website: www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk

Free App: available through the website

X: **@ysgolrhiwabon**

Ysgol Rhiwabon Academic Year Dates 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term

Staff Training Day

Friday

1st September 2023

Staff Training Day

Monday

4th September 2023

Term begins

Tuesday

5th September 2023

Close for half term

Friday

27th October 2023

Open after half term

Monday

6th November 2023

End of Term

Wednesday

20th December 2023

Staff Training Day

Thursday

21st December 2023

Staff Training Day

Friday

22nd December 2023

Spring Term

Term begins

Monday

8th January 2024

Close for half term

Friday

9th February 2024

Open after half term

Monday

19th February 2024

End of term

Friday

22nd March 2024

Summer Term

Term begins

Monday

8th April 2024

May Day

Monday

6th May 2024

Close for half term

Friday

24th May 2024

Open after half term

Monday

3rd June 2024

Staff Training Day

Friday

28th June 2024

End of term

Thursday

18th July 2024

Staff Training Day

Friday

19th July 2024

Ysgol Rhiwabon Governing Body September 2023

Chair of Governors	Mrs J Lowe
LA Governors	Mrs J Lowe Mrs A Swarbrick Mr K P Jones Mrs A Tynan Mr A Davies
Parent Governors	Mrs S Meadow Mrs E Matthews Mr A Owen Mrs P Hardy Mr W Harwood Mrs L Biddle
Community Governors	Mr G Edwards Mr J Roberts Mr M Davies Mr D Thompson Ms C Davies
Teacher Governors	Mrs V Wright-Davies Mrs E Beveridge
Staff Governor	Mr N Money Penny
Clerk	Mrs E Williams

YSGOL RHIWABON
HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Please take a moment to read through this agreement. It is important that parents/guardians understand that these are more than just words. By sending your child to Ysgol Rhiwabon and by signing this agreement you are undertaking to uphold and support the school's values and principles in a meaningful way.

1 As a Parent I agree to:

- encourage my child to work hard and abide by Ysgol Rhiwabon's "5 Golden Rules";
- ensure that my daughter / son attends school regularly, on time and properly equipped;
- inform the school of my child's absence;
- support the school's ethos and values in a demonstrative and practical way when necessary;
- make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behavior, including any changes to medication or medical needs;
- ensure that my child behaves appropriately on school and public transport;
- ensure that my child wears the appropriate uniform as outlined in the uniform guidelines, prospectus and school website;
- encourage and support opportunities for home learning;
- attend parents' evenings and other meetings called about my child's progress;
- support the school's rewards and sanctions procedures, including after school detentions;
- work with the school in a positive manner in supporting my child's overall progress in school.

Signature: _____ **Date** _____
Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

2 As a School we agree to:

- promote Ysgol Rhiwabon's "5 Golden Rules" as a way of working successfully together;
- support your child to reach his/her full potential as a valued member of the school community;
- care about your child and his/her safety and happiness and celebrate their achievement;
- let you know about any concerns or problems that affect your child's work or behaviour;
- provide a balanced curriculum suited to the needs of your child;
- prepare your child for the world beyond school;
- provide regular reports on your child's progress.
- arrange parents' evenings during which your child's progress will be discussed;
- keep you informed about school activities through letters home and notices of special events;
- be open and welcoming and offer opportunities for you to become involved in the community life of the school;

Signature: _____ **Date** _____
Headteacher

3 As a Student I agree to:

- support the principles of Ysgol Rhiwabon's "5 Golden Rules" and behave accordingly;
- attend regularly and be on time;
- bring all the equipment I need every day including my student planner;
- wear the school uniform as outlined in the uniform guidelines, prospectus and school website;
- complete my classwork and homework to the very best of my abilities;
- not bring the school's good name into disrepute;
- understand that my behaviour when wearing the school uniform reflects on how the school is seen by the community;
- behave appropriately on school and public transport or when travelling to and from school and on school trips.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student (Please Print Name): _____ **Form:** _____

Jumping Jacks

Out of School Club



and Holiday Club

ALWAYS LOTS
OF FUN
AND
PLACES
NOW AVAILABLE!

**

TO BOOK YOUR
CHILD'S PLACE,
PLEASE CONTACT GILL
ON 07543455965.

**

CHILDREN CAN NOW
ATTEND THE HOLIDAY
CLUB FROM 3 YEARS



Dysgu Dros

CSW Registered childcare
Qualified Play work Staff

Opening times

Term Time

Mon – Fri
3.00pm to 6.00pm

Holiday Club

Full Day 8.00 am — 6.00pm
Half Day 8.00 am — 1.00pm
Half Day 1.00pm — 6.00pm
Closed Christmas Holidays

Age 4 years to 14 years
Special Needs Children up
to 18yrs

Contact
Gill for more information
Mobile 07543455965



Ysgol Rhiwabon
Pont Adam
Ruabon
Wrexham
LL14 6BT

Tel: (01978) 822392

Headteacher: Mrs M Ferron-Evans B.A. (Joint Hons) MSC. N.P.Q.H.

E-bost/E-mail: mailbox@rhiwabon-high.wrexham.sch.uk

Gwefan/Website: www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk

X @ysgolrhiwabon