

# Welcome to Croeso i



## Year 6 Information Booklet Llyfryn Gwybodaeth Blwyddyn 6

Strive | Believe | Achieve

## OUR KEY MEMBERS OF STAFF



**Mr Matthew Sims**  
Headteacher



**Mr John Healy**  
Chair of Governors

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# Introduction from Mr Sims

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 6 Pupils,

I am delighted to welcome you to Cwmbran High School as you prepare to take the exciting next step in your educational journey. This transition booklet has been designed to support a smooth and confident move from primary to secondary school, and to provide you with key information to help you feel prepared for the year ahead.

At Cwmbran High School, we place great value on our strong partnerships with our cluster primary schools. Through these close relationships, we already know a great deal about our incoming pupils and work collaboratively with your current teachers to ensure continuity and support from day one.

As your Headteacher, my mission is clear – to raise aspirations, drive improvement in every area of the school, and ensure every learner is given the opportunity to thrive. We are proud of our inclusive and caring school community, where high expectations are matched by high levels of support. Our core values of respect, positivity, resilience, creativity and kindness underpin everything we do.

We are committed to developing ambitious, ethical, confident and creative learners who will leave Cwmbran High School ready to fulfil their dreams and contribute meaningfully to society. Our motto – Strive, Believe, Achieve – reflects our belief in every child's potential and our shared commitment to helping them succeed.

We are excited to welcome you into our school community and look forward to sharing many successes together in the years ahead.

Mr Matthew Sims  
Headteacher





# Our School Values

At Cwmbran High School, everything we do is guided by our core values: Positivity, Kindness, Resilience, Respect, and Creativity. These values shape our school community and help every pupil grow into the very best version of themselves.

We believe that success begins with a positive attitude. By encouraging Positivity, we support each other to approach challenges with confidence and enthusiasm. Kindness is at the heart of our community—every member of our school is treated with care, compassion, and empathy.

We know that learning can be tough at times, but through Resilience, our pupils develop the strength to overcome obstacles and bounce back from setbacks. Respect is the foundation of how we treat one another—valuing our differences, our school, and our wider community.

We also champion Creativity, encouraging pupils to explore new ideas, think differently, and express themselves in ways that inspire and engage.

Our mission is to create a thriving, inclusive school where learners are challenged, supported, and inspired every day. We aim to build confident, ambitious young people who are ready to make a positive difference in the world—both now and in the future.

Together, we are building a school where every success is celebrated, every voice is valued, and every learner is encouraged to dream big, aim high and “Strive, Believe, Achieve”.

Positivity	Kindness	Resilience	Respect	Creativity
"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."	"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."	"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."	"Respect is a two-way street, if you want to get it, you've got to give it."	"I've no special talent. I'm only passionately curious"
- Winston Churchill	- Maya Angelou	- Malcolm X	- R.C. Risch	- Albert Einstein

# Attendance

As a school we reward pupils for their excellent and improved attendance through positive points, certificates, front of canteen queue passes, raffle ticket draws, trips and many more. However, it is acknowledged that pupils' progress is often affected if their attendance drops below 95%. 4 days missed in a half-term means less than 90% attendance.

The LA policy that all schools in Torfaen adopt, state the following as not valid reasons for absence

- ❖ Family holidays in term time (only in exceptional circumstances)
- ❖ Looking after younger siblings
- ❖ Waiting for visits from representatives of utility companies
- ❖ Waiting for home deliveries
- ❖ Shopping for clothing
- ❖ Hairdressing appointments
- ❖ Birthday treats

These should be restricted to outside of school hours

## **WHAT PARENTS / CARERS CAN DO TO HELP**

- ❖ If you think there may be any issues, don't hesitate to contact the school.
- ❖ Keep a daily record of your child's attendance.
- ❖ Contact the school on the first day of absence and all subsequent days your child may be absent if it is unknown if the absence will be long term.
- ❖ Holidays in term time will not be approved except in exceptional circumstances; this decision will remain at the Headteacher's discretion.

To report pupil absence, please use the option for the absence line  
(This can be accessed 24 hrs a day)

If you are concerned about your child's education, or become aware that they are missing school, please contact Cwmbran High School, on 01633 643950. The staff will always be interested in the care and well-being of your child.

For further information or advice, please contact:

- Your child's Form Tutor
- Head of Year
- The Attendance Team

# Start of Term Arrangements – September 2025

**The first day of the Autumn Term for Year 7  
is Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**

**Year 7 pupils will start at  
at 8.35 am**

## **Pupil Arrival**

If you drop your child off by car, please use the Pupil Drop-off Area and observe the traffic control measures at the front of the school. Please do not park in the staff carpark or on the main road outside the school.

Please ensure pupils arrive at school no later than 8.25 am so that they are not late for registration.

## **Pupil Equipment**

There will be a big drive on ensuring pupils bring the correct equipment to school every day, so that lessons can start promptly, and pupils are able to present their work to the required standard. Please ensure they bring the items required, as detailed on page 15.

Your child's Form Tutor will check that they have the correct equipment every morning during registration. Please support your child by ensuring they have the equipment to learn.

The school will provide a small selection of equipment at cost price. If pupils wish to purchase any basic equipment, they will need to bring money into school with them.

# Contacting the School

## **VIA THE SCHOOL APP:**

When your child joins us at Cwmbran High School, you will receive details to log into the Cwmbran High School app. This is an invaluable means of communication to and from school and you will also need this to manage your child's canteen / school payments account.

## **BY TELEPHONE:**

a) Please note that the busiest times are between 8.15 am and 8.35 am and between 1 pm and 2 pm.

b) You will be connected to an automated system.

To report pupil absence, please use the option for the absence line  
(This can be accessed 24 hrs a day)

To speak to specific staff, please listen and choose the appropriate option.

c) If the person you wish to speak to is unavailable, please leave a message and they will return your call as soon as possible.

## **TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT:**

Please leave a message on the required voicemail with your request, a preferred appointment date and time, and the relevant person will contact you as soon as possible.

Mrs Haynes, Head of Year 7 is always pleased to meet with parents / carers. However, please note that although you are always welcome, interviews / meetings are by appointment only, as staff are mostly teaching all day.



# Communication

Form Tutors and Heads of Year will be in regular contact with Parents / Carers, both formally and informally, and have the overview of pupils in their Year Groups.

Form Tutors are the first point of contact for Parents / Carers.

Subject Teachers may contact Parents / Carers about specific incidents or concerns they may have.

Essential information of a general nature is also posted via:

- ❖ The Cwmbran High School App
- ❖ The school website – [www.cwmbranhighschool.co.uk](http://www.cwmbranhighschool.co.uk)
- ❖ X – @CwmbranHigh
- ❖ Facebook page – Cwmbran High

Please note that our Social Media sites are for information purposes ONLY!

If you have an issue or concern, please contact the school directly.

Please remember that all of our young and impressionable pupils are able to view the content on these sites and that any abuse or defamatory comments will be reported, deleted immediately and the person(s) will be blocked from accessing the school's Social Media accounts.

# School Day & Term Dates

## ■ Your School Day

Time	Session
08:35 – 08:50	Form Time
08:50 – 09:50	Period 1
09:50 – 10:50	Period 2
10:50 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 12:15	Period 3
12:15 – 01:15	Period 4
01:15 – 01:50	Lunch
01:50 – 02:50	Period 5

## ■ 2025/2026 Academic Term Dates

Term	Start Date	Half Term	End Date
Autumn	Monday 1st September	Mon 27th Oct – Fri 31st Oct	Friday 19th December
Spring	Monday 5th January	Mon 16th Feb – Fri 20th Feb	Friday 27th March
Summer	Monday 13th April	Mon 25th May – Fri 29th May	Monday 20th July

Please arrive by 8:35am to be ready for the start of the school day.

# School Uniform

All pupils in Years 7 – 11 are expected to wear school uniform as outlined below. It is important to note that a compulsory black blazer will be phased in at the start of the 2023/24 academic year, starting with pupils in Year 7. The expectation for uniform is:

- **White Shirt** (please ensure the collar is large enough as the top button will be done up at all times)
- **School Tie**
- **Black Cotton V-neck Jumper / cardigan \*** (No hoodies/ sweatshirts)
- **Black Blazer** - These are available from various retailers. Blazers with the school badge are available from Pretty Miss. School badges are also available from Pretty Miss should parents/carers wish to sew onto a plain blazer.
- **Black tailored trousers** (not tight or skinny fit- no leggings or jeans) / black tailored shorts or Black knee length skirt.
- **Black or grey socks/tights**
- **Plain black shoes** - (trainers are not permitted)
- **Plain coat / jacket** (no large logos or patterns, no sleeveless coats or any type of hoodies will be allowed)
- **No jewellery apart from one stud in each ear, one flat ring and a watch**
- **No facial piercing or tunnel / spike earrings** (Pupils will be asked to remove and the item confiscated.
- **No extreme hair colour or styles** (Natural colours only) - pupils will be instructed to wash out extreme colours when they return home and tie hair up if possible for the remainder of the day. Tramlines or patterns in hair are not permitted.
- **No obvious make-up or nail varnish**

\* Item is not compulsory

# Physical Education

At Cwmbran High School, pupils will experience a very diverse range of activities. To help to encourage all pupils to participate in sport, fitness and physical activities we offer a wide variety of activities both in lesson time and in after school clubs.

Our after school clubs are run by PE Department staff and also by specialised coaches who have been hired by our AYP Officer (5 x 60, Mr Jacob Guy. The 5 x 60 programme has been set up to encourage as many pupils to participate in a range of activities; 5 times a week for 1 hour each session.

Parent/carers volunteers are always welcome to help run Sports Clubs. Please get involved.

## PE Uniform

### Boys

- Plain black T shirt – Round neck
- Plain black shorts
- Black rugby socks
- Studded football / rugby boots and suitable trainers (no daps are allowed)

### Optional items:

- Reversible rugby top
- Black and purple polo top/round neck
- Black and purple shorts
- School rugby socks
- Quarter Zip black top
- Black base-layer top ('skin')

### Girls

- Plain black T shirt – Round neck
- Plain black shorts
- White socks
- Suitable trainers / training shoes (no daps are allowed)

### Optional items:

- Black and purple polo top / round neck
- Black and purple shorts / skort
- Quarter Zip black top
- Black base-layer top ('skin')
- Plain black leggings

## Labelling clothing

With over 1100 pupils in our school, it is important that families label the uniform of children. Uniform will occasionally become misplaced so having a label clearly identifying the name of the pupil will help reduce the risk of loss.

### Coats

We encourage pupils to wear a coat to school, when required. However, coats should not have any large logos on them. Coats must not be worn inside the school building.

### Blazer

The blazer is a symbol of our school identity. Pupils are expected to wear their school blazers every day to and from school. They should also wear the blazer inside the school buildings, unless given permission by a member of staff to remove it.

### Trousers

Denim, corduroy, chino, tapered, skinny-jean style or skin-tight style trousers are not permitted. Students are expected to wear black trousers which sit smartly at the waist and on the ankle/shoe line.

### Skirts

There is no official school skirt. However, any skirt worn to school must be black and the length of the skirt should be appropriate for a school and/or workplace environment.

### Footwear

We expect our pupils to wear leather or leather-type shoes with a low heel. Black trainers including popular designs such as Converse, Nike, Vans etc or boots are unacceptable. Please see below examples of footwear that are not acceptable:





### **Make-up and nails**

We do not encourage students to wear make-up or nail varnish to school. However, if make-up is worn, it must be subtle and discrete.

### **Jewellery**

Any necklace must be worn underneath the shirt and easily removed for PE lessons (for health and safety reasons). Pupils may wear a plain metal stud only. All other piercings are not acceptable. All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons.

### **Hair**

Hair should be natural in colour. Hats and baseball caps should not be worn inside the school building. They should only be worn to keep the head warm during the winter or to protect from the sun in the summer.

### **Religious head coverings**

A number of world faiths wear head coverings as a symbol of their identity. The school does not specify a particular colour of head covering (for pupils who are required to wear one for religious reasons) as the style may vary dependent on cultural differences.

### **Mobile phones**

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used during the school day. We accept however, that pupils may wish to bring their mobile phone with them to use on their way to and from school. Please be aware that the mobile phone remains the responsibility of the pupil and the school cannot be held liable for any loss, breakage or theft.

The Headteacher's decision regarding uniform is final.



# Equipment



Pupils are required to bring a suitable bag to school containing the basic equipment outlined below:

- ❖ Black pens and a red pen
- ❖ Pencil
- ❖ Ruler
- ❖ Eraser
- ❖ Sharpener
- ❖ Planner

Useful Items that pupils may wish to bring:

- ❖ Coloured pencils/pens
- ❖ Highlighter pens

Useful subject specific items of equipment may include:

- ❖ Calculator
- ❖ Accelerated Reading Book (KS3)
- ❖ English dictionary
- ❖ Languages dictionary



# Canteen Facilities

We would like to welcome you to the canteen at Cwmbran High School. We provide a variety of hot and cold meals to suit all children, with special emphasis on healthy eating.

The Canteen operates on a self-service basis, so that the children may select a meal of their choice; which includes a dessert or fruit or drink. We have several meal deals on sandwiches, jacket potato and breakfast.

Freshly made paninis and a Pasta Bar, in addition to the freshly made Salad Bar, which has a large variety of salads and at least two protein options each day. We also offer a variety of vegetarian dishes.

If your child is involved in lunchtime activities, we provide a packed lunch consisting of a sandwich, drink and a piece of fruit. There are a large selection of drinks available, which include fruit juice, bottled water, milk shakes and fresh milk.

Throughout the year there will be special offers and promotions which will include theme days etc.

If you have a child who has a special dietary requirement, please do not hesitate to contact the Catering Manager.

The school operates a cashless system and you will be sent details of how to access this account via the Cwmbran High School app. Please complete the form via the link on page 13 of this booklet to give permission for your child's finger print to be used to access this account at school.

We hope your child will enjoy the food that we have to offer.

NB: Initially Year 7 pupils will be allowed to leave the lessons before lunch 10 minutes early, to allow them to access the canteen before other pupils, while they settle into Cwmbran High School.

## Safety & Security

**ALL Year 7 pupils MUST remain on site during the school day**

### YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY STARTS HERE

Unannounced visitors, including parents/carers, are not allowed onto school site during the school day. We expect all visitors, including parents/carers, to be polite and to adhere to expectations of reasonable and responsible behaviour. Please be aware that CCTV is in operation at all times.

Please adhere to the regulations set out below:

- Children brought to school by car should be dropped off and collected from the school's 'Pupil Drop Off' area.
- Slip roads into and out of the school must remain clear. No parking is permitted in these areas at any time.
- Parents/carers and visitors must adhere to traffic flow systems at all times.

Report any accident / incidents immediately, to the school Receptionist as and when they occur, recording as much information as possible e.g. name of person, injury sustained, vehicle etc.

Please complete the following forms  
using the link below.

<https://www.cwmbranhighschool.co.uk/year6-datacollection>

1. Medical
2. Confidential pupil information
3. Photography/Media in school
4. Cashless Catering
5. Parent/Carer(s) Suggestion Form





📍 Ty Gwyn Way, Fairwater, Cwmbran, Torfaen, NP44 4YZ

☎ Tel/Ffôn: **01633 643950**

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