



**YSGOL GYFUN HEOLDDU**  
**HEOLDDU COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**



**YSGOL GYFUN HEOLDDU**  
**HEOLDDU COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**  
BARGOED, CAERPHILLY

**TRANSITION 2025-26**

# **PROSPECTUS**

**YEAR 6-7**

Heolddu Comprehensive School  
Mountain Road, Bargoed, CF81 8XL  
01443 875531  
[www.heoldducomprehensive.org.uk](http://www.heoldducomprehensive.org.uk)

**"A caring learning community that  
promotes inclusivity and wellbeing  
successfully..."**

**Estyn, 2018**

# CROESO CROESO CROESO CROESO

The aim of this Year 7 prospectus is to give you an insight into the school and should prove to be an informative tool whether you are a parent, guardian or pupil.

At Ysgol Gyfun Heolddu, **all individuals are valued**. Our pupils are supported to achieve their ambitions, explore their aspirations and develop their talents in a highly successful and inclusive environment. We recognise the diverse needs of our school community and believe in equipping all pupils with the skills, knowledge and confidence for their future. As a thriving, positive and ambitious school, we encourage success through effort and a can-do attitude and have the very highest expectations of all of our pupils. Our aim is that all pupils leave the school as self-motivated, resilient and independent citizens of Wales and the World. **TimHeolddu** staff have strong links with partners and continue to provide a wide range of opportunities for pupils to **Achieve Excellence Together**.



## CROESO!

Welcome to Ysgol Gyfun Heolddu: a mixed 11-18 comprehensive school, serving a close-knit and strong local community, where every pupil is valued and treated as an individual. Central to our ethos is the success of every student in the school and for us this means a high quality learning experience in every classroom and excellent behaviour at all times. Our core values capture our vision and ethos:

- Passion for learning and teaching
- Achieve together
- Being positive and having fun
- Raise aspirations
- Deep respect

Ysgol Gyfun Heolddu is a school where young people's talents and abilities are nurtured and where they can develop their ambitions. Our aim is that all pupils leave the school as highly-qualified, confident and articulate young adults. We are passionate about our students and are deeply committed to ensuring that they have a rich and successful experience at Heolddu. We believe in equipping pupils with the skills, knowledge and confidence for the future, and the dedicated body of staff here work tirelessly to support success for all. We expect our pupils to give of their best; as such our learner values are highly visible throughout the school:

### Respect

### Aspiration

### Resilience

If you would like your child to join our warm, welcoming, vibrant and caring school community please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a visit. You will not be disappointed!

We are so proud that in 2018 Estyn found that "Pupils are proud to belong to the Heolddu school community. Most pupils feel safe and say that the school deals effectively with any concerns that they have". "Most pupils are courteous and respectful towards staff, visitors and fellow pupils. They behave well, arrive promptly to lessons, and demonstrate positive attitudes to learning. Many apply themselves appropriately to a variety of activities and concentrate well".

Diolch yn fawr,




**Mrs Nerys Davies**  
Pennaeth | Headteacher



# our values

At Ysgol Gyfun Heolddu, we believe that the foundation of a successful educational experience lies in our core values: respect, aspiration, and resilience. We foster respect by valuing diverse perspectives and promoting a sense of belonging within our community. Our aspirational ethos drives pupils and staff to strive for excellence, nurturing ambitions toward achieving goals. Additionally, we instil resilience in learners, equipping them with skills to overcome challenges and adapt to change. Together, these values create a supportive environment where every pupil can thrive.

- **Respect**
- **Aspiration**
- **Resilience**

A photograph of a child's hands drawing in a notebook. The notebook is open, showing a colorful drawing of a landscape with green hills and a yellow sun. The child is using a black pen to draw. On the desk, there are various art supplies, including a green pencil case, a black marker, and a pencil. The background is a dark red wall.

“A **caring** learning community that promotes **inclusivity** and **wellbeing** successfully”

Estyn, 2018



# meet the team

This is an exciting time for your child. However, the transition from primary to secondary school can be an overwhelming experience. At Heolddu, you will find a dedicated staff on hand to support you and your child through this process.

## ■ Senior Leadership Team



**Mrs N. Davies**  
Headteacher



**Mr A. Johnston**  
Deputy Headteacher



**Mr G. Davies**  
Assistant Headteacher



**Ms L. Entwistle**  
Assistant Headteacher



**Miss S. Blucher**  
Assistant Headteacher



**Miss L. Harris**  
Business Manager

## ■ Heads of Year



**Miss L. Jones**  
Head of 7



**Mr T. Barnes**  
Head of Year 8



**Miss F. Probert**  
Head of Year 9



**Miss K. Mills**  
Head of Year 10



**Mrs L. Brinkworth**  
Head of Year 11




**Miss A. Price**  
Head of Years 12 & 13

## Attendance Matters

Every young person is entitled to an education. While we endeavour at Heolddu to remove any barriers to learning, regular attendance and punctuality are key to ensuring the best possible outcomes for pupils. These qualities are valued by employers and are essential life skills.

In school, we promote **Attendance HERO's**: Here, Every day, Ready, On time. Our team is committed to working closely with you as a family to support our aim of maximum attendance levels.



“The **HUB** team go over and above in what they do. The school has left **no stone unturned** in their support for my children.”

Parent Voice Survey, 2022



"There is comprehensive and well-designed provision for pupils with additional learning needs. Helpful pupil profiles and personalised development plans assist staff to meet the needs of these pupils effectively. For example, specific interventions help to ensure that many pupils make good progress in reading. Overall, pupils on the additional learning needs register make sound progress in line with their abilities."

Estyn, 2018



**Miss C. Jones**  
ALN Coordinator

You are welcome at the **Heolddu HUB** and **Sensory Garden** if you require support and guidance. We aim to break down barriers to learning and help you to socialise and be happy. You may be included in specific reading, spelling, literacy, numeracy or social communication interventions and you may be included in a range of interventions focusing on your social communication or emotional wellbeing. There are always staff on hand to help and support you. In our **Tŷ Cwtsh** sensory room, you can relax and take control of your emotions. In our garden area, you can make new friends, play games, and help us to harvest our plants and vegetables.



**Miss E. Vaughan**  
HLTA



**Mrs A. Lavelle**  
Learning Support  
Assistant



**Mrs C. Baker**  
Learning Support  
Assistant



**Miss K. Hall**  
Learning Support  
Assistant



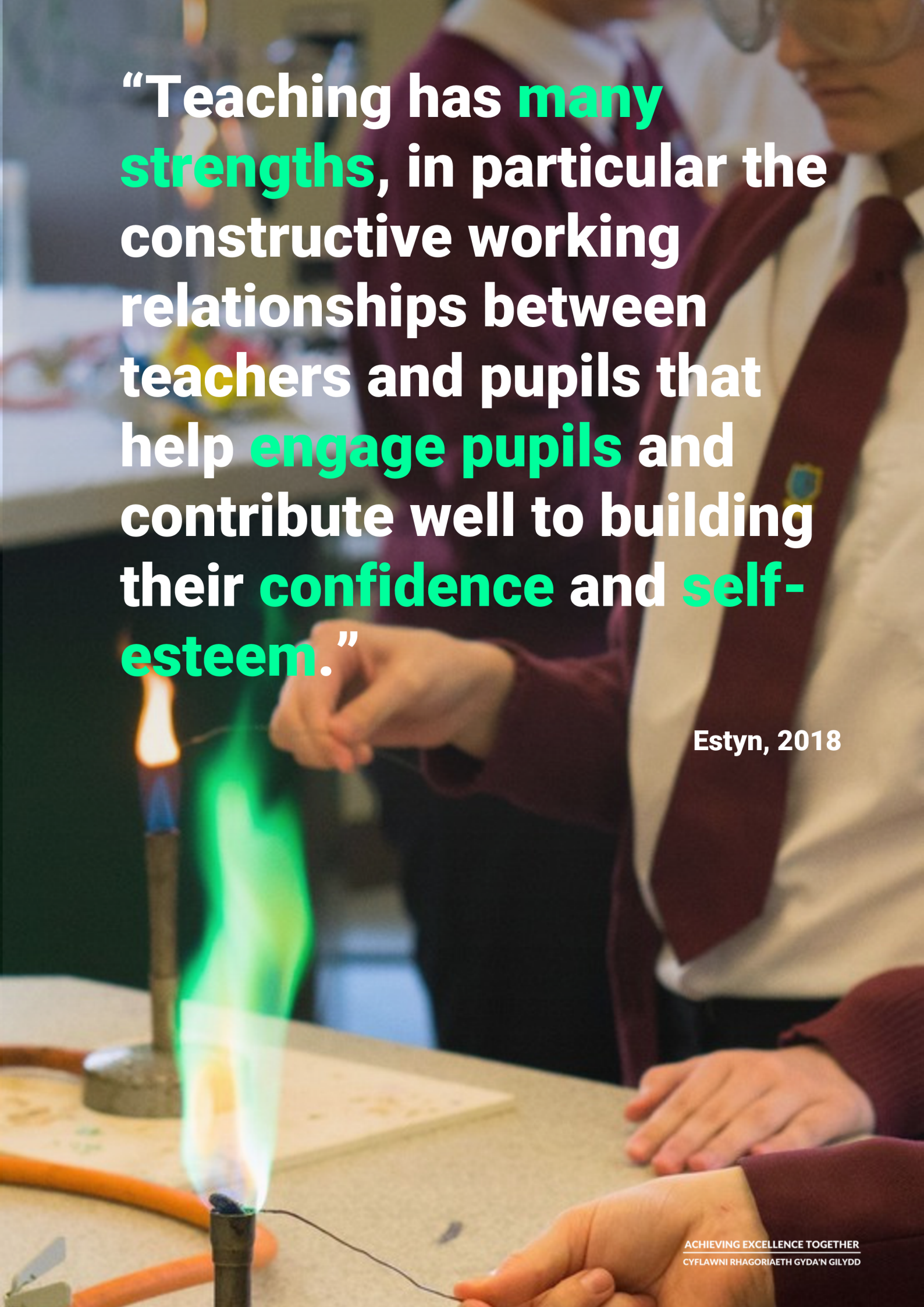
**Mrs K. West**  
Learning Support  
Assistant



**Mrs T. Butterworth**  
Learning Support  
Assistant



**Mrs N. Parry**  
Learning Support  
Assistant

A student in a school uniform is lighting a Bunsen burner in a science laboratory. The student is holding a matchstick to the burner's nozzle. The burner is already lit, and a bright blue flame is visible. The student is wearing a white shirt and a maroon tie. The background is slightly blurred, showing other students and lab equipment.

“Teaching has **many strengths**, in particular the constructive working relationships between teachers and pupils that help **engage pupils** and contribute well to building their **confidence** and **self-esteem**.”

Estyn, 2018

# the school day

## ■ Term Dates

### Autumn Term 2025

- Autumn term starts Monday 1 September 2025
- Half term starts Monday 27 October 2025
- Half term ends Friday 31 October 2025
- Autumn term ends Friday 19 December 2025

### Spring Term 2026

- Spring term starts Monday, 5 January 2026
- Half term starts Monday, 16 February 2026
- Half term ends Friday, 20 February 2026
- Spring term ends Friday, 27 March 2026

### Summer Term 2026

- Summer term starts Monday, 13 April 2026
- Half term starts Monday 25 May 2026
- Half term ends Friday 29 May 2026
- Summer term ends Monday, 20 July 2026

## ■ Timetable

Your timetable operates on a two-week rotation:

**Week 1** = 25 Lessons

**Week 2** = 25 Lessons

## ■ Lesson Times

<b>Registration</b>	08:30 - 08:50
<b>Lesson 1</b>	08:50 - 09:50
<b>Lesson 2</b>	09:50 - 10:50
<b>Break</b>	10:50 - 11:10
<b>Lesson 3</b>	11:10 - 12:10
<b>Lesson 4</b>	12:10 - 13:10
<b>Lunch</b>	13:10 - 13:50
<b>Lesson 5</b>	13:50 - 14:50
<b>End of Day / Extracurricular Activities Begin</b>	14:50

## ■ INSET Days

**INSET (1)** | Monday, 1st September 2025

**INSET (2)** | Friday, 19th December 2025

**INSET (3)** | Friday, 13th February 2026

**INSET (4)** | Monday, 13th April 2026

**INSET (5)** | Monday, 6th July 2026

**INSET (6)** | Monday, 20th July 2026



# expectations

At Heolddu, we believe that being clear helps everyone feel happy and supported. When we all understand the rules and what's expected, school is a kinder and fairer place.

That's why we apply our expectations **fairly and consistently** for everyone. "**Clear is Kind, Unclear is Unkind**" reminds us that good communication helps everyone do their best.

## Behaviour Expectations Poster



# TÎMHEOLDDU



OUR VALUES ARE

**RESPECT, ASPIRATION, RESILLIENCE**

HEOLDDU PUPILS...

...COMMUNICATE RESPECTFULLY

...ARRIVE ON-TIME

...WEAR CORRECT UNIFORM

...ARE READY TO LEARN

...FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS  
*FIRST TIME, EVERY TIME*

...THINK HARD



# SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

**YEARS 7 - 11**

- ✓ **BURGUNDY BLAZER** *and/or* **BURGUNDY V-NECK JUMPER** *with school logo\**
- ✓ **WHITE SHIRT** *buttoned to the neck*
- ✓ **BURGUNDY CLIP-ON TIE**
- ✓ **BLACK STRAIGHT** *or* **PLEATED SKIRT** *to the knee (no LYCRA/stretchy cotton), or* **BLACK TROUSERS** *(no skinny/jegging/jeans-style)*
- ✓ **FORMAL PLAIN BLACK FLAT SHOES** *(no boots/trainers/canvas-style)*
- ✓ **PLAIN BLACK SOCKS**, *ankle length/long,* *or* **PLAIN BLACK TIGHTS**
- ✓ **RAIN/SHOWERPROOF COAT** *to be removed when inside the building (no denim, hoodies, leather coats)*



✓ **Straight / Tapered**



✗ **Leggings, Jeans, Skin-tight**



✓ **Permitted**



✗ **Not Permitted**



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Jumpers with the school logo may be worn beneath the blazer.
- Jewellery, makeup, and painted or false nails are **strictly forbidden**.
- Hair should be a natural colour with no extremes in style, highlighting, dip-dyeing, unnatural combinations, e.g., *purple, blue, green, etc.*
- In all cases, the final decision on uniform and appearance, deemed appropriate or otherwise, will be made at the Headteacher's discretion.
- Mobile phones are **strictly forbidden**.

**\*Iron-on school badges are available free of charge from reception.**





**“Pupils make a strong  
contribution to the **life** and  
**work** of Heolddu.”**

**Estyn, 2018**



# SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

## P.E. KIT

### REQUIRED

- ✓ **WHITE POLO SHIRT** *with/without school logo\**
- ✓ **PLAIN BLACK SHORTS, or PLAIN BLACK GYM LEGGINGS**
- ✓ **TRAINERS**
- ✓ **SWIMMING SHORTS or SWIMSUIT**
- ✓ **TOWEL**
- ✓ **BAG**

### OPTIONAL

- ✓ **PLAIN BLACK HOODIE** with school logo
- ✓ **BURGUNDY RUGBY JERSEY**
- ✓ **RUGBY SOCKS** (*black, or with school logo*)
- ✓ **RUGBY or FOOTBALL BOOTS**



### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 'Converse', plimsolls, and high-top styles are not suitable for sports and are therefore not permitted.
- In colder weather, black tracksuit bottoms will be permitted. The school will inform parents when this is appropriate.
- Large branding will not be permitted on shorts or leggings.
- **\*Iron-on school badges are available free of charge from reception.**

# SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

## SIXTH FORM

✓ **WHITE COLLARED SHIRT or BLOUSE**

✓ **BURGUNDY HEOLDDU SIXTH FORM TIE**

✓ **BLACK TROUSERS or SKIRT** (*No leggings, jeans, etc.*)

✓ **PLAIN BLACK SHOES**

✓ **PLAIN BLACK SOCKS or TIGHTS**

✓ **PLAIN BLACK JUMPER and/or CARDIGAN**



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Suitable jewellery (*wristwatch, small earrings, or necklace*) for a professional environment.
- Suitable hair colour and style for a professional environment.
- Make-up suitable for a professional environment.
- No hoodies, coats, etc., to be worn in corridors.
- No phones or earphones to be used outside of the study room.



**“Pupils are proud to belong to the Heolddu school community...”**

**Estyn, 2018**



# independent learning

**At Heolddu Comprehensive School, we believe that completing homework will help you to:**

- Develop as an effective independent learner.
- Plan and organise your work.
- Practice what you have learned in class.
- Check over anything you find difficult.
- Learn to think things out for yourself and express them in your own words.

Parents and pupils will also be able to access homework assigned in lessons via ClassCharts and Google Drive. More information will follow in September.

During the school week, we run a Homework Club in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC), where you can utilise the school facilities and resources to research and complete homework.

## **Equipment Required:**

You will need:

- School Bag – clearly identified and big enough to carry several schoolbooks, a pencil case, other equipment, and sometimes a PE kit.
- Handwriting Pen
- Spare Biro Pen
- Green Pen
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific Calculator

## **Optional:**

- Coloured pencils
- Felt pens
- Highlighters
- Sticky notes
- Note pad





**“Many pupils use ICT skills appropriately to undertake research, create interesting presentations and produce spreadsheets.”**

**Estyn, 2018**



## **ClassCharts Reward System**

At Heolddu, we believe that praise and positive reinforcement are fundamental to nurturing strong relationships and fostering a supportive, engaging learning environment. Recognising pupils' efforts and achievements not only motivates them to excel but also reinforces a school-wide culture of Respect, Aspiration, and Resilience.

## **ClassCharts Points**

At our school, pupils can earn positive points from any member of staff, with these points recorded on ClassCharts, an online platform accessible to both pupils and parents/carers. Login details are provided during the induction process, ensuring that progress is transparent and easily monitored. Points can be awarded for reasons such as producing outstanding work, showing enthusiasm for learning, exhibiting kindness to others, achieving significant progress, and demonstrating consistent commitment to their studies. This system ensures that praise is visible, consistent, and aligned with the school's values and TîmHeolddu Expectations, aiming to motivate and encourage pupils to strive for excellence in all lessons and become accomplished learners.

## **Faculty & Pastoral Nominations**

Every half term, department and pastoral teams nominate pupils who deserve recognition for their hard work and effort during lessons to receive the Star of the Term Award.

## **Attendance Rewards**

Regular attendance is pivotal to pupils' success, greatly influencing both their emotional wellbeing and academic progress. To acknowledge the importance of consistent attendance, each half term, pupils are recognised for their excellent or improved attendance. This includes participation in raffle draws and the distribution of certificates and letters home commending their commitment.

## **Family Assemblies**

Throughout the year, we hold two Family Assemblies, where pupils, staff and parents/carers come together to celebrate the achievements of individual pupils. This is an opportunity for pupils to be recognised for their efforts in individual subjects as well as acknowledging pupils who consistently demonstrate the TîmHeolddu values and expectations.



A young girl with blonde hair tied in a ponytail, wearing a maroon school sweater over a white collared shirt, is sitting at a green desk. She is looking down at a book or paper she is holding, with a slight smile. The background shows a window with a view of a green outdoor area.

**“The school provides valuable opportunities for pupils to develop their leadership skills, to contribute to decision making and to play a full part in the life of the school.”**

**Estyn, 2018**

# stay in touch



**HeoldduComprehensive@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk**



**[www.heoldducomprehensive.org.uk](http://www.heoldducomprehensive.org.uk)**



**01443 875531**



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**@HeoldduCS**