



William Brookes School
Prospectus



Welcome to William Brookes School

Welcome to William Brookes School, an exciting and vibrant school nestled in the heart of the idyllic Shropshire countryside. Whilst our setting is strikingly rural, our beautiful school serves a range of communities from rural hamlets to urban sprawl. We embrace the diversity that comes with our varied intake.

William Brookes School has a uniquely rich heritage and is the only Coubertin School in the United Kingdom. Much Wenlock itself played host to the Shropshire Olympic Games from 1861, led by founder William Penny Brookes, which inspired Pierre Du Coubertin to revive the ancient Olympic games.

Our expectation is that all members of the school community, be that staff or students, embrace the Olympic Values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship – a powerful ethos for those who are blessed with sporting abilities, but equally for those whose abilities, talents and interests lie elsewhere. Our values also reflect those of Olympism, encouraging our students to be ‘the best they can be’.

I am proud to embody our Olympic values (Respect, Excellence and Friendship) in everything that I do as Acting Headteacher of William Brookes School. I grew up in Shropshire and attended William Brookes between 1993-1998. I have a special insight into the needs of our young people and their communities, and am passionate about making William Brookes School the best school that it can be for our young people and the staff who work here.

If our values and ethos align with your own then please reach out to us so you can get to know us better. We would love to connect with you and your children, and to warmly welcome you to the school for a visit.



Ruth Shaw
Acting Headteacher



OUR VISION AND VALUES

Our Vision: To inspire our young people to be 'the best they can be'

Our Aims:

- To ensure outstanding academic progress, and outcomes, that provide students enriching life choices
- To nourish the whole child. To provide numerous extracurricular enrichment opportunities that facilitate personal growth and improved mental and physical wellbeing
- To provide the highest pastoral support so that students feel safe, cared for and valued

Our Values:

- Respect.
- Excellence.
- Friendship.



YEAR 6 TRANSITION

We **understand** the need for a **bespoke** approach to the transition between **Primary** and **Secondary** School.

As part for their transition package, Year 6 students will experience:

- An Open Evening where they can tour the school and meet their new teachers
- A visit to their Primary School from the Head of Year 7
- A transition day where they will attend taster lessons, meet their form tutor and sample the school's facilities
- An email from their form tutor introducing themselves
- Regular written contact from the Head of Year
- A parental transition evening
- A meeting between the Head of Year and the student's Year 6 class teacher

To ensure that our transition package is appropriately personalised, some students may also experience:

- A school visit from the school's SENDCO
- Additional visit/s to the school site to build confidence and familiarity
- A meeting with a key member of the SEND team
- Introduction to our Child Looked After coordinator
- An invitation to an SEND/ Pupil Premium Coffee Morning
- An invitation to afternoon tea for students from our smaller feeder primaries
- Home visits from our safeguarding team
- Offers of additional support regarding attendance
- A member of our support team may attend meetings with external agencies

Our aim is that when you join us in September, alongside the perfectly normal nervous excitement, you feel assured and confident, with an established connection to the school.

THE CURRICULUM

Key Stage 3

Our traditional three-year key stage 3 curriculum is broad and balanced. Our students have access to the following subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Computing, and Information Technology
- RE
- French or Spanish
- Design Technology
- Physical Education
- Drama
- Art
- Dance
- Music
- PSHCE

Our school understands the requirement for students to be confident readers. We instil a love of reading in our students by following an Accelerated Reader programme alongside bespoke phonics interventions for targeted students.

Key Stage 4

Our two year key stage 4 curriculum allows students to personalise their curriculum via the Options Process.

- English Language and Literature*
- Maths*
- Science*
- Core Physical Education*

*Compulsory subjects

A wide selection of the subjects studied at KS3 are available to study at GCSE, as well as BTEC Business Studies, BTEC Health & Social Care, Cambridge Technical iMedia and Cambridge National Diploma in Physical Education.

A small number of our students may follow a bespoke curriculum at KS3 and/or KS4 which may include an Alternative Provision or work experience placement.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

We are **passionate** about **developing** the **whole student**.

A successful school experience will result not only in empowering exam results but also a real sense of self-confidence, personal value and resilience. We want students to make great decisions, and have an understanding of their value in the world and the positive contribution they can make to society.

All students are entitled to access our mandatory PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education) programme alongside our RSE (Relationships, Sex Education) package. These programmes are all about how individuals develop and change, such as how we grow physically and how we change through adolescence. It is about

how we develop healthy, respectful relationships with other people, our families, friends and teachers.

At William Brookes School we promote British values, diversity, respect and tolerance. British values align with our Olympic values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship. We encourage students to be outward facing, open minded and curious about the wider world.

'The school has a carefully sequenced and age-appropriate approach to personal development.'

- Ofsted 2024



PASTORAL SUPPORT

At William Brookes School we care deeply about the **happiness** and **wellbeing** of our students.

Our substantial pastoral team work tirelessly to ensure that students are well supported, guided and empowered to make good choices.

As in every school, there are occasions when students report bullying. Bullying is dealt with swiftly and taken seriously; every student deserves to feel valued and safe in school.

We are a highly routinised school; students respond well to clear expectations and routines. At William Brookes School, all students start the day with a whole school line up. We have high expectations around standards of uniform, student conduct and have highly structured lesson expectations.

Our well-trained staff have a caring, understanding and considerate approach to managing student behaviour. At William Brookes School you will rarely hear raised voices; instead you will witness respectful conversations between staff and students that focus on reflection and self-development.



SUPPORT HUBS

At William Brookes School, we adopt a joined-up, **holistic** and **collaborative** approach to student support:

- Rio Hub – Rio is run by our Behaviour Manager and a team of Pastoral Support Officers. This team supports students with managing their behaviour via student interventions such as mood boards, cooking and table tennis.
- Wellbeing Hub – Our Wellbeing Hub is managed by skilled and approachable support staff. Staff support students via bespoke academic interventions, who may feel too anxious to attend lessons or where there may be safeguarding concerns. Wellbeing interventions are also delivered such as Art therapy, yoga and breathing techniques.
- Tokyo – Tokyo Hub is a nurturing environment for those students with a special educational need. Our team of incredible Teaching Assistants, Higher Level TAs and ELSA work with our inspiring young people to ensure that their needs are met.

'Pupils with SEND are identified quickly and appropriate plans for support are put in place.'

– Ofsted 2024

REWARDS

Rewards are an important way of motivating students and recognising their achievements.

- The Oscars
- Rewards Assemblies
- Celebration Friday
- Certificates
- Headteachers Awards
- House Points
- Attitude to Learning Grades
- Rewards trips



INCLUSION

A successful school experience will adopt an inclusive approach. It is our intention that every child thrives, regardless of their starting point or personal context.

Teaching staff are trained in using adaptive teaching strategies to ensure inclusivity and full access to the curriculum.

The school's Stand Together Events provide the opportunity for students and staff to embrace diversity and learn from one another's differences and commonalities.

A range of school trips within the UK and abroad, encourage students to be outward facing and curious about different cultures.



EXTRA CURRICULAR

William Brookes offers students an **impressive** array of learning experiences **outside** of the classroom.

After school clubs boost young people's confidence to interact socially with others; make new friends and provide them with new skills and interests. Above all, they offer an important space to have fun and relax away from the classroom.

- **Swimming**
- **The Duke of Edinburgh's Award**
- **Rugby**
- **Football**
- **Netball**
- **Basketball**
- **Puzzle club**
- **Chess club**
- **Choir**
- **Strings group**
- **Rock band**
- **Drama club**
- **Elite Dance**

FACILITIES

Sport and Leisure

William Brookes School is fortunate to have its own leisure centre, attached to the school. The sporting facilities at William Brookes School are impressive including swimming pool, astro-turf, running track, fitness suite, multi use games area, dance studio and tennis courts.

William Brookes students also have access to a fully-staffed library, theatre, drama studio, rewards café, break out spaces, multi-use classrooms, well-being hub, IT suites, recording studio, music practice rooms and lecture theatre.

TRIPS

Students have the opportunity to **benefit** from a range of trips and visits, some of which take **place abroad**.

Current trips include:

- Theatre
- France
- Spain
- Ski trip
- Harry Potter World
- Art galleries
- Water activities
- Theme Park
- Outdoor pursuits
- Field work
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

'Numerous clubs, and exciting residential visits, broaden their experiences and cultural understanding.'

- Ofsted 2024

PLANNING FOR ADULthood

Careers education is essential to achieving this mission and developing our students into well-rounded young people ready to go out into the world. Our vision is that careers guidance at William Brookes would achieve the following:

- Inspire
- Broaden horizons
- Break down barriers and stereotypes
- Provide practical support
- Develop skills

We aim for all students to feel inspired by the possibilities for their future studies and careers, and hear from a range of employers about their sectors and what it is like to work in them.

CANTEEN

Our school canteen is a popular eatery for staff and students alike.

We understand the importance of healthy eating and every day canteen staff cook healthy menu options from fresh. Whilst 'grab and go' items are available to students, they also have daily access to the deli' where sandwiches and salads are available, and a hot food counter where delicious, healthy and hearty lunches are served.

'Careers education is well-planned, beginning in Year 7 with visits to universities.'

- Ofsted 2024



KEEPING IN TOUCH AND HAVING YOUR SAY

We **encourage** an **open** dialogue with parents.

William Brookes School families may email staff with individual queries, in fact we encourage parents/carers to share concerns as soon as possible so we can address them swiftly.

Families will also benefit from:

- Annual consultation evening with teaching staff
- Annual meeting with Form Tutor
- Annual written report with academic targets and a pastoral comment
- Regular parent forum 'drop ins' on popular topics
- Communication with Tutor via the student planner
- House Point updates
- Behaviour Point updates
- Weekly WBSpotlight, celebrating the week previous and communicating key messages
- Access to the weekly student Broadcast via the school website
- Regular Twitter updates
- Daily attendance updates via the Arbor app
- Information evenings

- Macmillan Coffee mornings
- SEN and Pupil Premium tea and cake 'drop in' events
- An open door policy to school visits
- Certificates celebrating academic progress, improved attendance, impressive Attitude to Learning Grades

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Our admissions arrangements are managed by Shropshire County Council. Each year we seek to welcome 162 Year 7 students to our school.

Our admissions policy states that if we receive more applications than places, we give priority to Children Looked After, and children with Special Educational Needs; children living within the defined catchment area and then, children living outside of the catchment area.

Choosing the right school for your child is an important decision. Please contact the school if you would like to visit the school during or after the school day.



THE 3-18 EDUCATION TRUST

Our school is a member of the 3-18 Education Trust.

The 3-18 Education Trust is a family of schools dedicated to providing the very best education experience for everyone in their care. As the name suggests, the Trust works collaboratively with all age groups from nursery to post 16.

The Trust's goal is that every individual is in a great school.

CONTACT US

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