



## The School

Welcome to Cheslyn Hay Academy. We hope that the following information provides an insight into the school and encourages you to consider working here.

Cheslyn Hay Academy joined Windsor Academy Trust in December 2018. It originally opened in 1977 as a purpose built 13-18 school but has since changed to 11-18. Our student admission number (PAN) is 224, organised into eight forms of entry. Currently we have 1285 students of which 160 are in the Sixth Form.

### **The Catchment Area**

The school is situated in a pleasant part of South Staffordshire quite close to Junction 11 of the M6 and is quickly and easily accessible by road particularly the M6 Toll road. The catchment area consists of Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Featherstone. We also take a number of students from Wolverhampton, Walsall and Cannock. About half of the students travel to school by bus.

### **Ethos**

We seek to provide a rich, high quality education within a secure, caring and disciplined environment that allows all to develop their potential whilst recognising the needs of others and of society. The excellent 'respect' ethos ensures that all systems of care, guidance and support are based on caring for students as individuals.

### **Leadership and Management**

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) consists of the Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers, five Assistant Headteachers and the School Business Manager. Each member has clear roles and responsibilities that include line managing departmental and pastoral leaders. The School Business Manager line manages the leaders of the various support teams such as Administration, Finance, Premises and ICT. Middle leadership consists of Heads of Department and Heads of Year who lead and manage a range of subject and pastoral teams.

### **Staff**

Recruitment of high quality staff is not an issue. The present staffing provides a healthy balance of age and experience; there is also a good mixture of colleagues who have been at the school for many years and those who have recently joined. Typically, staff work extremely hard and are willing to go the extra mile when it is required. They are very supportive of each other and many participate in the regular social events that are organised.

### **Staff Development**

There is a strong professional development programme linked to performance management and the school's improvement priorities. Various staff working groups run annually that are well supported by many staff. Most years we cater for graduate trainees and our induction programme for NQTs is well established. A significant number of our staff move on to middle and senior leadership posts both within and outside of the school. We enjoy excellent links with various higher education providers and the West Midlands Consortium.

### **Curriculum**

In all years students follow a broad and balanced curriculum. In Year 7 and 8, the teaching groups are mixed ability with the exception of English and mathematics. In Year 9 grouping by student ability is progressively introduced. In Years 10 and 11 the core curriculum includes English, mathematics, science, physical education and religious studies. At Key Stage 4, students opt for some subjects and they are expected to pursue a broad range of subjects which includes those contributing to the Ebacc and vocational qualifications. SEN provision is by ensuring all students

follow a curriculum which maximises their success alongside extra support in lessons. A comprehensive range of A Level subjects together with A Level vocational courses are offered in the Sixth Form. As well as what you would typically expect, we run courses such as politics, media studies, philosophy and ethics, and vocational courses in art, business, health and social care and sport. Sixth Form students also participate in a weekly enrichment programme.

### **Enrichment**

As part of our commitment to develop all students the school offers a range of activities that take place during lunchtime, after school, at weekends and during the school holidays. The school has an outstanding reputation for the number and variety of trips it runs each year. Our annual residential visits include Conway outdoor pursuits centre, Barcelona, Venice, London, France, Germany and Stanley Head outdoor pursuits centre.

### **Pastoral**

A strong pastoral system based on year groups ensures the provision of a caring and supportive environment for students to work in. We have a team of Learning Mentors to support the students and the work of the Heads of Year. Typically, tutors take responsibility for approximately twenty-eight students. We enjoy close links with outside agencies and have on campus our own inclusion specialists and support centre that complements the steps taken in the main school to help our students make the most of the opportunities we provide. The school has an exceptionally strong commitment to providing the highest standards of care and support to all students.

### **Buildings**

Although built in the late 1970s, the school accommodation is in excellent condition as we place great store by providing staff and students with a pleasant working environment. Departments are accommodated in their own suites of rooms and there is a central library and lecture theatre. All year groups have their own social area including the sixth form. We also have an extensive sports centre, which includes a swimming pool, five court sports hall, gym, spinning studio, multi-purpose suite and state of the art flood lit football and hockey pitches and netball and tennis courts. We have a purpose built Sixth Form Centre and an Independent Learning Centre (ILC) with 75 computers and an interactive whiteboard. Our refurbished Café and Snack Bar was designated as a 'Centre of Excellence'. Our Achievement Centre (The ACE) in the top of the library, creating an area for small group work, mentoring literacy and numeracy.

### **ICT facilities**

All teaching spaces benefit from interactive whiteboards linked to computers and projectors. We have a number of computer suites complemented by computer clusters in various subject areas. The school is served by its own intranet and very fast broadband.

### **Links with other Schools**

The school enjoys excellent links with its five partner primary schools through the Cheslyn Hay Cluster and the other schools within Windsor Academy Trust.

### **Conclusion**

We are very confident of a bright future for the school. We have come a long way in recent years but there is still plenty to do. Applications are welcomed from colleagues who feel that they can lead us to sustain that which makes the school special, but ensure we address successfully those areas that need further development so that we can improve the quality of education we provide for our young people.

For further information about Cheslyn Hay Academy, and to view the prospectus please visit <http://www.cheslynhay.windsoracademytrust.org.uk>

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