



Sixth Form Admissions Policy 2024/25

Review Annually

Last Reviewed by Governors School Performance Committee: Autumn 2024

Next Review: Autumn 2025

The Sixth Form at Ysgol Harry Tudur / Henry Tudor School

Ysgol Harri Tudur's Sixth Form has an excellent track record of success and for providing extensive opportunities for its students, academically, pastorally and experientially. The Sixth Form is an equal opportunities recruiter and welcomes students with varied interests and abilities, illustrated by a wide ranging options choice which allows students to work to their strengths, choosing either traditional subject combinations or a more individual and eclectic mix which suit and enhance students' interests and abilities.

Entry Requirements and Enrolment Threshold Statement

The entry requirements for the Sixth Form at Ysgol Harri Tudur are in line with those found across other post-16 options in the local authority. Grade targets of 5 x A*-C at GCSE or equivalent are usually required for entry, however the school is willing to negotiate a pathway with learners who may not possess this number but whose particular subject skills make them a worthwhile candidate. Subject candidates typically should achieve a C grade in most GCSE subjects which they hope to continue at Level 3, however Mathematics and Pure Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) require B grades due to the high mathematical / scientific ability needed to pursue these subjects at Advanced Level.

The typical Year 12 intake from in-house Year 11 progression and from outside the school is between 80 and 100 students annually. The Published Admission Number can differ each year and is set by the Local Authority. This number is currently set at 70 students in Year 12. These students access a subject offer that includes traditional A Levels, alongside more vocational offers in BTEC Level 3 and Cambridge Level 3 courses. The Sixth Form does not currently offer Level 2 qualifications other than GCSE Mathematics and English re-sit, however there are plans to do so with a wider vocational suite in 2025. Our typical 80-100 student intake ensures that we have viable subject offers across the curriculum, whilst simultaneously providing students greater space and wider opportunity for individual support, to enable them to achieve their potential in all subjects. There is no upper application threshold as the school has the flexibility to accommodate additional learners in subject areas where multiple classes are required, this is evident in additional classes offered in subjects such as English and IT, whilst our very successful Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced offer features in all four option blocks. Should a capacity issue arise then learners will be treated fairly, with academic potential and suitability a principal consideration. In brief, our inclusive philosophy means that if a learner has the ability and the ambition to return to the Sixth Form then we will accommodate them wherever possible.

The Application Process and Post-Application Support / Communication

The school's sixth form admission arrangements come under the umbrella of the Council's admission arrangements for Community and VC Schools. The Sixth Form Options process is managed by the Leader of Key Stage 5 and traditionally includes multiple options assemblies and 1:2:1 talks with Year 11 pupils followed by an on-site Sixth Form Options Evening in early February each year. In 2020 and 2021 the on-site event was replaced with a virtual options experience which includes a digital prospectus and subject information for the whole Sixth Form curriculum offer, guidance from the Leader of Key Stage 5 and videos covering all aspects of our academic and pastoral offer. Students and their parents engage live on this site with subject teachers who offer Q&A sessions on subject content and suitability. Students

then notionally have two weeks to submit their options form virtually via the site. The initial submission deadline in 2024 was Friday 2nd February.

Once students have submitted their options form their choices are recorded formally by a letter of acknowledgement, stating the choices and with the caveat that their place is provisionally accepted but is subject to pupils achieving their entry requirement. The Leader of Key Stage 4 and 5 meet to discuss any individual learner choices that appear to be at odds with their strengths and subsequent meetings between pastoral staff and learners take place to ensure clarity and consistency. This may result in learners changing some of their offers from a more informed position. Names are then shared with Key Stage 5 subject teachers who may choose to discuss and further assist students with their Key Stage 5 preparation.

Oversubscription Criteria

In the case of oversubscription for a place on a particular course, the following criteria will be used to allocate the available places:

- Learners with statements of special educational need or an Education Health & Care Plan that name a school in the statement are required to be admitted to the school that is named. The admissions authority does not have the right to refuse admission.
- Young Person Looked After and all previously Looked After Children.
- Priority consideration will be given to Ysgol Harri Tudur learners.
- Learner attainment in the subjects they wish to study.
- Learner Attitude To Learning (ATL) scores.
- Pupil suitability to the course.
- Date of receipt of application.

Ysgol Harri Tudur applicants' internal data will be utilised for the above process and the schools of the external applicants will be contacted for them to provide the above data.

Sixth Form Transition Events

In 2024 Year 11 students who had applied to the Sixth Form were invited to join Google Classrooms managed by teachers who set introductory tasks. Funding allowing, this is being replaced with a two week Sixth Form transition event in school in mid-June. Students will be invited into school to attend Key Stage 5 'taster' lessons in order to confirm their choices and enable them to plan ahead with regards pre-reading and research.

Upon enrolling in the Sixth Form on the first day of the Autumn Term, all students are assigned a Tutor and undergo a series of tasks and activities to help them settle into the Sixth Form; this may include a team building educational visit depending on funding available. Students can change their options if they feel they are not suited to them within the first two weeks of term, subject to GCSE grade requirements. All subjects operate an introductory four-week curriculum, at the end of which is a Competence Task in every subject. Students who pass the Competence Tasks automatically progress with their studies, students who struggle with their Competence Tasks are offered additional support with subject teachers.

Application Rejections & Appeals

In the rare instance that a learner is refused access to the Sixth Form, whether that is due to a wholly inappropriate GCSE profile or other significant concern, the decision to decline an application rests with the Headteacher, Mrs F.E. Kite and the Leader of Key Stage 5, Mrs H. McMillan. Notification of the declined application will be made to the learner and their parent(s) in writing, outlining the reasons and with an invitation to discuss the decision if further clarification is needed. Any letter of decline would also include guidance for further steps with regards careers or further training and would include the contact details of Miss Angharad Bell, Careers Wales Advisor. The learner and/or parents of the learner who are not offered a place, have the right to appeal against non-admission by following the Pembrokeshire County Council Schools Appeals process. Further information about the process can be found on the Pembrokeshire County Council website by the following link. As noted in the Appeals booklet all appeals must be submitted to PCC within 10 working days of the notification of the decision to refuse.

Sixth Form Point of Contact

For all Sixth Form applicants, the first point of contact should be Mrs H. McMillan, Head of Sixth Form & Leader of Key Stage 5 at the school's address, main switchboard 01646 682 461 or email sixthform@yht.wales. These details appear on all correspondence with applicants.