



4.1 Clubs & Activities

A number of clubs and activities are organised by staff, mainly during lunchtime and after school. Some of these activities, for example the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, lead to out-of-school expeditions. Others might include Electronics, Computers, Model making, Textiles, Languages, War games, Chess, Food, Animation, Board games and a wide range of sports and environmental activities.

The Library is open and supervised during lunchtime, as are the computer facilities. Students have the opportunity to apply to join the Shropshire Library Assistants' Scheme.

There are two weekly 'Encore' performing arts activity programmes immediately after school for Years 6-8, and in the evening for Years 9+.

Year 8 and Year 10 drama productions, together with the Year 11 post-exam production and the Sixth Form pantomime, provide a further focus for extra-curricular activity, together with an annual musical. There are Year 12 and Year 13 Theatre Studies productions each year as part of the A level programme.

There is a wide range of opportunities for students to be involved in music activities at lunchtimes and after school with various ensembles are established to provide opportunities for students to participate in music making, including:

- **School Choir:** open to students and staff, it performs regularly in the school.
- **Xpress Club:** the focus is to encourage a wide range of music making from rock and pop bands, through singer/songwriter solo performers to diverse ensembles performance.
- **Guitar Club:** a lunchtime guitar tuition session.
- **String Group:** a lunchtime activity for any string players
- **Saxophone Group:** this group offers saxophone players the opportunity to play jazz and popular music standards with their peers.
- **Orchestra:** an activity for students of all different abilities playing brass, string, woodwind and percussion.

There are a number of dance clubs for different age groups.

The PE department offers an extensive programme of lunchtime and after school clubs, in a wide variety of activities and sports, to all age groups. In addition there are regular fixtures against local schools in district and county events.

An additional, fare-paying bus service to Broseley, Ironbridge and Madeley leaves school at 5.15 pm.



4.2 Field Trips, Visits & Out of School Activities

The school arranges a variety of out of school activities. Some of these are very much an integral part of the daily/weekly routine of the school whilst others take place less frequently, generally to places farther afield, and of longer duration. Three school minibuses provide the opportunity to take small groups out on a regular basis. Those visits forming part of the regular routine of the school include sports matches, athletics, visits to local community groups, college placements, local theatre, concert and exhibition visits and social activities. Transport for such visits is usually by hired coach or school minibus.

Supervision will be provided by school and other staff, parent and other adult helpers, and is determined for each outing taking into account what the children are doing, where they are going, how they are getting there and so on. Whatever other help is used at least one member of the school's full-time teaching staff is involved and is in charge. Supervision also complies with any standards set down by Shropshire Council and all supervisors are CRB checked. Where trips are 'local', school journey/personal accident insurance cover is not normally taken out, but please see the paragraph about insurance in section 6.

Parents who want any more detailed information about these activities are asked to contact the House Leaders. On joining the school, parents are asked to sign a form to signify their consent to their children taking part in these regular activities.

Other activities include trips such as a week long visit to the Shropshire Centre at Arthog on the Welsh coast (Year 8), a two day visit to the North French coast (Year 7), a well-established French exchange with the *Collège de Vouvray, in the Loire Valley* (Year 9) and a ski trip (Years 10 and 12). The History, Geography, Business Studies, English and Music departments sometimes organise trips to Europe as well as visits in Britain. Every other year, Sixth Form students represent Britain at the weeklong *Coubertin Schools' International Youth Forum*, which in 2011 will be held in Beijing. There are also a number of day visits and fieldwork across the years, as well as expeditions in connection with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. JSLA students are often involved in organising sporting activities in our partner primary schools. Detailed information about these trips and consent forms will be sent to the parents concerned at the planning stage of each trip.

4.3 J L Edwards Memorial Trust Awards

Jack Edwards was the Headmaster of Much Wenlock Modern School for 16 years. As the first Headmaster of the school that was to become William Brookes, he had an enormous influence. He also played a role in the life of the wider community of Much Wenlock. He was a cheerful, wise and enthusiastic man who was a much loved local figure until his death in 1968. Many adults in the community including many of your parents and grandparents still remember him with great respect and affection.

The JL Edwards Trust

After Jack died in 1968, the large community institutions of the area, like the Old Student's Association, the Wenlock Players, the Youth Club, the Town Councils of Broseley and Much Wenlock, the School Governors, the Rotary Club of Ironbridge, of which Jack was a member, and many others got together to form a Trust in his name.

The idea of the Trust was to ensure that the original motto of the school that has now become William Brookes School lives on in the deeds and actions of its students. This was 'Courtesy, Enterprise and Endeavour'; three things that Jack Edwards valued very highly, and wanted to encourage in the students who attended his school.

Taken together the motto still represents the best of what we hope young people will aspire to in their thoughts, words and actions. Each year in March the Trust meets to select a number of schemes put forward by students to fund, and in the following November the Trust meets again at the school to hear how successful the funded schemes have been.

The aim is to offer to students the opportunity to be supported in something that they would not otherwise be able to undertake, with the aim of improving and developing their characteristics in respect of Courtesy, Enterprise and Endeavour. The method of selection is through an informal interview of the candidates by a panel of trustees following receipt of a detailed outline of their proposed scheme

The family, Jack's wife Betty, and his sons, Bill and Jonathan, were delighted to support the development of the Trust and successive members of the family have been pleased to work with the official trustees who are the representatives of the community institutions listed above. Betty served on the Trust from 1968 until her death in 1976 at which time Bill and Jonathan became involved until 2007 and both came back to the school to assist in the selection of Award Winners each year and to hear of the success of the schemes. After the sad death of Bill in 2007, his two children, Kate and Robert, have now joined their uncle, Jonathan, as members of the Selection Committee.

Students are invited to submit an application in the Spring Term and they are required to report on their project following the Annual General Meeting of the Trust in the Autumn.

4.4 The School Council

The **School Council** has developed over the last six years in response to initiatives from senior students in PSHE/Citizenship classes and the Schools for Health project.

Members of **School Council** and the **Sixth Form Council** are nominated and chosen by Tutor Groups to represent their interests and to debate issues of wider importance in the school at monthly Year Council meetings. The School Council has an important advisory function and is central to active citizenship in the school. Issues that have been dealt with include changes to uniform, health and safety, the behaviour code and vision for the new school (including attending a weekend conference). Subcommittees have worked on issues relating to the Dining Hall, healthy eating and the school environment and Student Council members also contributed to policy reviews and event planning for the school's Golden Jubilee. The School Council receives the proceeds of two Non-Uniform Days and is responsible for allocating these funds to projects in school and charities.

School Council members have represented the school on community bodies such as the Bridgnorth Community Safety Partnership, Schools for Health and the Rural Transport Group. Members are involved in meeting visitors in school including County Councillors, our local MP, National Politicians and members of the Royal Family. In 2005/06 the Council members proposed a scheme to introduce peer mentors for new intake students which is now well established.

School Council members have been actively involved in local democracy week which has led to some members working with the local council as well as at national level with MPs to provide a voice and take action on the behalf of young people in Shropshire.

During the *One School Pathfinder* re-building project, a volunteer group of OSP Ambassadors has met weekly with the Head to contribute to the development of the schemes. They, together with a larger group of students, have contributed to a number of meetings, consultations, conferences, seminars and other presentations and have played an increasingly important role in influencing numerous aspects of the design and organisation.



4.5 Student Roles & Responsibilities

Students at William Brookes are encouraged to take on additional responsibilities in school in order to support staff and other students in ensuring the school runs in an efficient and effective way. From September 2010, to support our move to a House system, we will be introducing a new structure of roles and responsibilities for students. This will build on previous systems and afford students the opportunity to take on a position of responsibility ranging from 'House Captains' and 'Sports Captains' to 'Activities Co-ordinators' and 'House Prefects'. These students play a key role in assisting at school functions, such as Open Evening, Open Morning, Parents' Consultation Evenings and Presentation Evening as well as a number of other events. More than this, they lead the way in the organisation of charity events, developments in students related ICT issues and ensuring they represent the view of students in any other areas.