

William Brookes School

Much Wenlock



A Coubertin School with specialisms in Performing Arts and Maths & Computing



PROSPECTUS 2011



**William Brookes
School**

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Head:

Mr G R Renwick

Chair of Governors:

Mr I Baker



“I think that all the ICT technology in the new school is great. ICT is my favourite subject – today we have made a podcast”
James Hammond Y8 student L7

“I was very pleased with the excellent induction of Y6-Y7 and it is obvious that the school has worked very hard to make this as smooth as possible.”
Parental comment from recent questionnaire

“I like my tutor group”
Phoebe Munro Year 7 student B3

“Having vertical tutor groups ensures that there is always someone to help you out – they have done it before and can pass on their knowledge”
Alice Sidebottom Y10 student A4

“I have seen both of my children blossom into confident and happy children who are highly motivated to achieve their best under the guidance of the staff at William Brookes School. I couldn't be happier with what the school does”
Parental comment from recent questionnaire

Welcome to William Brookes School

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in William Brookes School. I am very proud to lead this school, which is such an excellent place to learn. We have just had our best ever results at both GCSE and A level. 66% of all A2 grades were A*-B with nearly 90% at A*-C, helping virtually all students to obtain their desired place at University. At GCSE we gained 66% 5+A*-C including English and Maths, with 97% gaining 5+ A*-G. Exam results are the basis to changing future lives, allowing access to the next stage of a career path. Good citizens though are the product of more than what happens in the classroom. Our Olympian heritage makes an ideal platform for generating an ethos of participation in a wide variety of activities. A key tagline for this year is taking "PRIDE in William Brookes School": Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence. I want all students to leave this school feeling successful and keen to make a positive contribution to society. I am frequently proud of their achievements, humbled by their talents and inspired that they will change things for the better. Our role is to support their journey towards independence, ensuring they are safe and secure in their time with us. I hope you can walk through the doors of this school and be amazed by the fantastic building and resources you see. It is far more important to me though, that you leave inspired by the young people and staff you have met.

Geoff Renwick - Head



From our December 2009 Ofsted Report:

"William Brookes is a good school, where students from a range of backgrounds achieve well. Since the last inspection, students' attainment has risen and is now consistently high."

"These factors, together with the school's excellent ethos and philosophy, good processes for self-evaluation and action planning, demonstrate its good capacity to improve."

"Students enjoy attending this school and they are proud to do so. The large majority of students work hard, approach their tasks with enthusiasm and demonstrate sustained commitment to their studies. Their good behaviour and positive attitudes towards each other and their work create a positive climate for learning."

"Students are keen to take on responsibility and are influential in shaping important aspects of school life."

"Students' achievement is the result of good teaching and excellent care, guidance and support...The curriculum meets the needs of the students well and also makes a strong contribution to their future economic well-being."

An Olympian School

Because of our unique heritage in Much Wenlock, we are working closely with a range of organisations involved in the programme for the London 2012 Olympic Games. For example, we have already been involved in the launch of the London 2012 Mascots, *Wenlock* and *Mandeville* and the launch of the '2012 Community Games Toolkit'. Students meet regularly with high profile representatives from the Olympic movement who provide inspiration and motivation for all to achieve their personal best.

Introduction & School Aims



William Brookes School is a Shropshire Council co-educational 11-18 comprehensive secondary community school, with some 940 students on roll during 2010-2011 including 115 in the Sixth Form. There are 60 teachers and 50 support staff.

The school serves a wide and essentially rural area, stretching from the South of Telford, including Broseley, to the Corvedale. There are eight main partner primary schools but students joining in September 2010 have come from 30 different primary schools. A large number of the students travel to and from school by bus.

The school is situated in an attractive setting on the edge of the small, historic town of Much Wenlock, 12 miles from Shrewsbury and a few miles south of Telford and Ironbridge.

As a 'High Performing Specialist School' we have two specialisms, Performing Arts and Maths & Computing.

We are also a 'Coubertin School' and we work in partnership with an international network of *Coubertin Schools* across Europe and beyond, as well as with the Wenlock Olympian Society.



The school was founded in January 1953 as Much Wenlock County Secondary School. In 1970 the school received its first comprehensive intake and was renamed William Brookes School. This was in recognition of the life and work of Much Wenlock's Dr William Penny Brookes, who was a public spirited man, influential in the founding of the modern Olympic Games through his contacts with Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

5 key transformational themes are woven through the body of the educational principles that inform the vision for our *pathfinder school*.

Olympism



'Every Child Matters', allied to the fundamental principles enshrined in the Olympian ideal of a 'healthy mind in a healthy body'.

Communications

- At the heart of the everyday practice, to meet the needs of students and the community, to provide breadth of access to the curriculum and to exploit the benefits of e-learning, thereby encouraging the further development of citizenship and personal development.

Extended Community Partnerships

- An extension of the foundation of success, partnership working will strengthen relationships with and between all the communities served by the school, through opportunities in learning, sport, arts and culture.

- Grounded in the historic legacy of William Penny Brookes and the founding work of Coubertin, Olympism draws on the pursuit of personal excellence.

Innovative Teaching, Personalised Learning & Achievement

- A sustained focus on innovative teaching and learning, harnessing the benefits of the new technologies, developing the practice of the school workforce and providing opportunities via learning pathways, for all to progress and achieve in an outstanding school.

Social & Emotional Health & Well-being

- Active pursuit of the 5 outcomes of



'Coubertin School' Links



Being a *Coubertin School* is very important to the school. Pierre de Coubertin, who is heralded as the creator of the modern day Olympic Games, was inspired by a visit to Much Wenlock in 1890 as the guest of Dr William Penny Brookes. Coubertin was a French philosopher who believed in educating the whole body and mind. He had heard of the work of William Penny Brookes and, in particular, the Olympian Games that he organised in Much Wenlock each year. He decided to visit England and come and see Dr Brookes and between them they discussed plans to revive the ancient Olympic Games. Later Coubertin was to say, "...if the Olympic Games that modern Greece has not yet been able to revive still survive today, it is due not to a Greek but to Dr W P Brookes. It is he who inaugurated them 40 years ago and it is still he, now 82 years old but still alert and vigorous, who continues to organise and inspire them". Sadly, Dr Brookes died just before the first modern day Olympics in 1896 and therefore was unable to see his dream come true. Juan-Antonio Samaranch, while he was president of the International Olympic Committee, visited the grave of William Penny Brookes in Much Wenlock and said, "I have come to pay tribute and homage to Dr Brookes, who really was the founder of the Olympic Games."

The International Youth Forum

There is a network of *Coubertin Schools* around the world; it started in Europe and therefore there are many schools in this continent but recently there have been schools co-opted in Tunisia, Kenya, Cameroon and Australia, as well as Beijing. Many schools are brought into the Coubertin family because they are specialist sports schools; however it is our special history that enables us to be a part of the network.

As a *Coubertin School* we are invited every two years to an International Youth Forum, each held in a different country. The first was in Le Havre, where Coubertin lived for most of his life, the second here in Much Wenlock, and subsequently in Lausanne (the home of the IOC), Genova-Arenzano, Radstadt, Tábor and Olympia. The 2011 Forum was held in Beijing. Each time we are invited to take 7 – 10 Sixth Form students and during the week they have workshops and discussions on different Olympic principles, social events that encourage interaction between the different countries and sporting activities. They also have to compete for a *Coubertin Award*, which has four elements:

1. Community service (that has to be undertaken in advance)
2. Olympic knowledge test
3. Sports tests
4. An arts presentation involving a performance to all participants during the Forum
5. Olympic values

Students always leave the Forum having learnt a great deal about Olympism and its relevance to today's world. Friendships begun during the Forum, with people from all over the world, have developed into on-going contact, visits and wide-ranging shared activities and interests

Now that London 2012 is a reality, and with London 2012 mascot *Wenlock* rooted in our community's Olympic traditions, our students have helped launch the '*2012 Community Games Toolkit*' in Much Wenlock, with Olympians Jonathan Edwards and David Moorcroft. This draws on the inspiration of Dr William Penny Brookes' original concept for the Wenlock Olympian Games and we hope that our Olympic heritage here in Much Wenlock will now get the wider recognition it deserves and Dr William Penny Brookes will become a national hero!

Jonathan Edwards, Deputy Chair of LOCOG Nations and Regions and Vice President of the Wenlock Olympian Society says: "Seeing the heritage of the Much Wenlock Games being taken to the streets across the West Midlands through the Community Games is very exciting. This is what the 2012 Games are all about – inspiring people with the values of the Olympic and Paralympic Movements and encouraging greater sports participation. Given my involvement in both the 2012 Games preparations and the Wenlock Olympian Society, I am particularly proud to support the Community Games.

Arts College Aims & The Edge Arts Centre



The Edge Arts Centre has been re-created as a key element of the new school and includes a performance hall (with retractable seating for 240), dance and drama studios that provide a “black box” facility with seating for 100 and a lecture theatre/cinema with seating for 90, all of which are fully equipped for theatre, film and music, with dressing rooms and full technical support. There is a large concourse area, linked to art exhibition space, a small café (with a licensed bar) and further dining facilities. The music area completes the Arts Centre facilities, with a music technology suite, a recording studio and a number of practice and ensemble rooms. These specialist areas of the school provide a venue for an extensive range of music, dance, drama and other Arts events throughout the year.

Separate fliers give full details of the programme for school and the wider community.

Arts College aims:

- To extend curriculum opportunities in the performing arts subjects, including cultural, creative expressive and technological enrichment.
- To increase take-up of, and interest in, the performing arts subject courses, particularly post-16.
- To work in partnership with a wide range of school, business and community groups in the William Brookes School community and with Shropshire Council and community arts groups to provide an increased number and range of high quality learning opportunities through sharing specialist facilities and resources (including specialist teachers/artists in residence).
- To develop and disseminate good practice to share with our 8 partner primary schools and the secondary schools in the South East Learning Forum (SELF).



Maths & Computing College Aims



We are committed to developing a visible and distinctive mathematics and computing ethos within the school, and to communicating this to our local community, including industry and businesses.

- To create a visible mathematics and ICT/computing ethos that inspires and motivates, raises attainment and improves post-16 participation in the specialist subjects.
- To develop a mathematically and ICT/computing rich curriculum.
- To address the needs of future citizens, as well as those of future mathematics and ICT/computing specialists.
- To develop a rich repertoire of teaching and learning strategies to enrich provision for our own students and for those in our partner schools.
- To develop and disseminate resources and good practice to be shared with other schools and the wider community.

Much Wenlock Leisure Centre



The new Much Wenlock Leisure Centre forms an important part of the new school campus with a full range of indoor and external facilities, for a variety of sporting and recreational activities that include archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, fencing, football, gymnastics, hockey, martial arts, rugby, tennis, trampolining, swimming, volleyball and more. A number of the clubs who use these facilities have had substantial success, locally and on the national stage.

The new Centre includes the following facilities:

- 4 court sports hall
- activity hall/gymnasium
- fitness suite
- 25m 6 lane indoor swimming pool
- 200 metre polymeric running track, with 100 metre straight
- astro-turf pitch (ATP) for hockey and football
- multi-use, floodlit games area for tennis (4 courts), football, netball and basketball
- grass football/rugby pitch

The neighbouring Gaskell Recreational Ground has additional facilities for community use which can also be available for school use.

Leisure Centre



Visiting the School

Parents who are considering applying for a Year 7 place for their children are invited to the following events:

Wednesday 12 October 2011	OPEN EVENING	19.00 - 21.00
Friday 14 October 2011	OPEN MORNING	09.15 - 12.30
Thursday 24 November 2011	SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING	19.00 - 21.00
Monday 2 July 2011	NEW PARENTS' INDUCTION EVENING	18.30 - 21.00

All parents in our partner primary schools [Barrow CE, Brockton CE, Broseley CE, John Wilkinson, Buildwas, Church Preen, Christ Church CE (Cressage) and Much Wenlock] have been invited to join the Head and school representatives at a series of evening meetings in primary schools, or in *The Edge Arts Centre*, for a presentation about William Brookes School.

During Year 6, pupils from our partner primary schools are invited to participate in a range of activities organised by the school (If we are aware of parents' intentions at an early stage, prospective students from other schools can join the full range of activities), which include:

- School Sports Coordinator programme, including an annual sports morning, sports activity days, events and after-school activities, often run by William Brookes Junior Sports Leaders
- Arts College programme, including the Sixth Form Pantomime, an annual Dance Festival, the *Encore* Performing Arts activity programme, musical ensembles and choirs and the Wenlock Olympian Society Live Arts Festival which is held at the school
- Specialist Maths & Computing activities (eg The Jaguar Car Maths Challenge)
- Events organised for gifted & talented primary pupils (eg Science Challenge)
- Year 6 Induction Days (5th & 6th July) for all pupils who will be joining Year 7 in September 2012

Parents are welcome to visit the school in order to look round and to discuss the individual needs of their child but must telephone the School Reception to arrange an appointment in advance.

A ***New Parents' Guide***, which contains a comprehensive guide to day to day life at William Brookes School, is issued to all parents of students who are allocated a place. This guide is also available on our website through the following direct link <http://www.williambrookesschool.co.uk/parents.php>

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled students, under Part 4 of the DDA:

- o not to treat disabled students less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
- o to make reasonable adjustments for disabled students, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
- o to plan to increase access to education for disabled students.

The school's Accessibility Plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body to increase access to education for students with impairments in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- o increasing the extent to which disabled students can participate in the school curriculum;
- o improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of education and associated services;
- o improving the delivery to disabled students of information which is provided in writing for students who are not disabled.

The Equalities Act 2010 extends the Disability Equalities Scheme into a Single Equalities Scheme covering disability, gender, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation and gender reassignment. A revised Policy and Scheme will be available by December 2011.

Admissions Policy



The school's current admissions policy is operated by Shropshire Council Children & Young People's Services (CYPS) Directorate, which is the Admissions Authority for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools within Shropshire.

The school had an admission number of 162* for the Year 7 intake in September 2011. The number of preferences received and places allocated was as follows:

Date of allocation	Admission Limit	No of 1 st preferences received	Total Places Allocated	No of 2 nd preferences allocated	No of 3 rd preferences allocated
March 2011	162	171	162	11	2

* including children with Statement of Special Needs

All applications for school places, including mid-term or "In-Year", will be co-ordinated by Local Authorities (LA). Parents complete just one common application for their home LA stating preferences for up to three schools, regardless of the location of the schools to which they want to apply and of who the school's admission authority might be. If there are more applications for places than are available within the admission limit, then priority will be given based on residence in catchment area, sibling connections, residence outside catchment area but attending in-area primary school for more than a whole academic year immediately prior to transfer, residence outside catchment area and whose homes are nearest to the school and, exceptionally, medical circumstances or Statement of Special Educational Needs.

All applicants living within the Shropshire Local Authority boundary (that is, where council tax payments are made to Shropshire Council, but not Telford & Wrekin) must either apply online or complete the appropriate Shropshire Council application form.

Applicants living in another English Local authority area must use the application form from their home authority council admissions team.

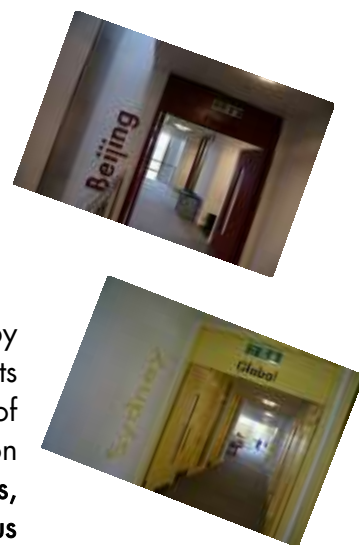
Full details of the policy, together with information about the arrangements for admission, are set out in the "Parents' Guide to Education in Shropshire". Copies of this booklet are available from the Admissions Team, Children & Young People's Services Directorate, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ or from the Shropshire Council website www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Any specific requests for information on admissions should be directed to the Admissions Team on telephone no: 01743 254364 or via email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk.

The admission arrangements for those students with special needs but without a statement are the same as those for all students. Students with a statement are placed by the Local Authority (LA) which makes every effort to comply with parent and student preference, in accordance with the Authority's admission procedures.

Student Curriculum & Pastoral Support



Students belong to one of four Houses, named after the first four Olympic cities of the 21st century: **Athens, Beijing, London and Sydney**. Each House is made up of 10 tutor groups and each tutor group has 20 students, 4 from each of Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. The groups are under the care of a **Tutor** who is central to every student. There are many advantages to this structure, which enables students of various ages to benefit, in different ways, by working together in mutual co-operation. Students have the opportunity to take on a position of responsibility and make a positive contribution including as **House Captains, Senior Prefects, Prefects, Sports Captains, Mentors, Junior Sports Leaders, Bus Monitors, Charity Managers, School Council reps**, etc.



We identify and track progress of the gifted and talented cohort of William Brookes School. This is done at every report interval (at least twice per year group). All departments have extension materials and alternative provision available for our high attainers. The aims are:

- to ensure that all students with high potential have the opportunity to become high achievers
- to increase the range of opportunities available to gifted and talented students

The academic work of the School is organised in **4 LEARNING ZONES**, each incorporating a number of different subject areas. In each Learning Zone there are Zone, House and Subject Leaders and the core subjects also have an Assistant Subject Leader:

ENTERPRISE & TECHNOLOGY - London	GLOBAL - Sydney
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths • Business Studies • Design & Technology (D&T) • Information & Communications Technology (ICT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science • Geography • Personal Social & Health Education/Citizenship (PSHE) • Law/Government & Politics
PERFORMANCE - Athens	PEOPLE - Beijing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) French & German • Performing Arts Music/Music Technology Dance Drama/Theatre Studies Film Studies • Physical Education (PE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Art & Design • History • Psychology • Religious Education (RE)

Students are taught in a variety of groups during Year 7. In some subjects groups are of mixed ability, in others re-grouping takes place by ability (e.g. sets in Maths). There are smaller classes for practical subjects (e.g. D&T, PE).

Year 7 & 8 students follow courses in English, Maths, Science, Design & Technology, History, Geography, French, Art, Performing Arts (Music, Dance, Drama), PE/Games, RE and Personal, Social & Health Education/Citizenship (PSHE). A weekly Information & Communications Technology (ICT) lesson and a special study skills and tutorial programme support work in all subject areas.



In **Year 9** students have the opportunity to develop further their languages (including German) and performing arts skills, alongside key skills for education, life and further learning support.

Year 10 students continue with a core curriculum that includes English (language and literature), Maths, a Science course (core, additional, applied and triple options), PE, Personal Social & Health Education/Citizenship (PSHE) and 5 further option courses which can include a Study Support programme that includes a regular work-based placement. Some follow a more vocational model through the South East Learning Forum Work and Vocational Education (WAVE) programme with either a one day per week College based course or a Level 2 Diploma course at one of our Forum schools.

Most courses lead towards certification at GCSE with OCR National, BTEC, Diploma, Certificate of Achievement, ASDAN Key Skills and Functional Skills accreditation in some subject areas. The college day release course in 3 subject areas is offered to some students at NVQ Level 1 or BTEC National.

William Brookes School holds the **Investors in Careers award**. All students are introduced to our careers advisors and we have an excellent careers section in our Reedman Library. We have a dedicated personal advisor from Shropshire Connexions (careers service).

All students in Year 11 undertake a placement at the start of the autumn term as part of a longstanding Work Experience scheme. All students take part in a comprehensive programme of activities to prepare them for their placement including 'Finding your Placement' and 'Health & Safety' presentations from the Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Education Business Partnership. Students are awarded a Shropshire Work Experience Achievement Certificate on successful completion of their placement.



Y11 Destinations

	2010		2009	
	Number	%	Number	%
Continuing in Education	132	84.1	137	86.7
E2E and other non-employment	7	4.5	5	3.2
Full-Time Employment	9	5.7	9	5.7
Voluntary and personal development activities	0	0	0	0
Part-Time Employment	0	0	0	0
Unemployed	4	2.5	1	0.6
Not Active	2	1.3	1	0.6
Moved out of contact	3	1.9	5	3.2
Refused Response	0	0	0	0
	157		158	100



Sixth Form

The Sixth Form is an expanding area of the school and we currently offer 23 A level courses (see separate Guide). All students study AS General Studies and take part in a growing Enrichment programme. They are given the opportunity to gain a wide range of extra qualifications. Most go on to study at University or College. UCAS references are written by personal mentors, subject staff and the Head of Sixth Form, along with students' personal statements. This provides a very personal touch to this very



important application. All students receive individual guidance and support from their tutors during tutorials as well as during private study periods. Student progress towards target grades is closely monitored using a system of 'Working At Grades' (WAGs). The students have their own facilities in which both to study and socialise. There is a Sixth Form Council run by the students. In 2009 Ofsted rated the 'Care, guidance & support' and 'Personal development & well-being' in the Sixth Form as outstanding and 'Standards & achievement' as good.

The Sixth Form Council is an active part of the Sixth Form. Led by a student elected President and Vice President, the Council is responsible for dealing with any issues that arise and put forward suggestions for taking things forward. Each Sixth Form student takes on a role either within the Sixth Form or within the wider school community for example helping in lower school classes and as an Associate Tutor for a House Tutor Group.

Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG) in the Sixth Form is of paramount importance to us. We have a team of specialised tutors who are able to offer expert advice to students. Many of our students go onto university and we have a well-established structure in place for supporting UCAS applications. For those students who opt not to go to university we have an excellent programme where we work closely with the Connexions service to offer advice and often aid in securing work placements and training.



Y13 Destinations 2011

Forename	Surname	University	Course
Navreet	Aujalay	MANCHESTER	Pharmacy
Matthew	Beaumont	LANCASTER	Biological Sciences
Jacob	Benyon	BIRMINGHAM	Computer Science/Software Engineering
George	Bilsby	MANCHESTER	Mathematics
Samuel	Birt	YORK	Chemistry
Thomas	Challen	KEELE	History & International Relations
Adam	Clark	BATH	Chemical Engineering
Bethan	Copeland	NOTTINGHAM	Modern European Studies
Elanor	Crawford	LIVERPOOL	Law / French
Oliver	Crossley	OXFORD	Chemistry
Megan	Dawes	NOTTINGHAM	American Studies & History
Ryan	Gibbs	BANGOR	Accounting & Finance
Lorna	Gordon	LEICESTER	International Relations
Stacey	Harper	LEEDS METROPOLITAN	Film & Television Production
Jessica	Harrington	LEEDS TRINITY	Business & Management
Chloe	Hawker	LOUGHBOROUGH	English
Philippa	Hawker	OXFORD BROOKES	English
Nicole	Hayward	WEST OF ENGLAND	Psychology
Edward	Hearne	BIRMINGHAM	Chemistry
William	Holley	SHEFFIELD HALLAM	Creative Writing
Gemma	Hollins	WOLVERHAMPTON	Business Management
Kate	Ingram	CARDIFF	Business Economics with European Language
Samuel	Jones	BATH SPA	Creative Music Technology
Sam	Lamplugh*	ESSEX	Philosophy
Rebecca	Lefroy	MANCHESTER	Medicine
Matthew	McAvoy	YORK	Electronic Engineering with Music Tech
Amy	McWalters	NOTTINGHAM	English Studies
Mollie	Muscutt*	SHEFFIELD HALLAM	Mathematics
Alec	Nash-Thomas	SHEFFIELD HALLAM	Screen Studies
Connor	Nolan	COVENTRY	Theatre & Professional Practice
Sam	Packwood	KEELE	Biochemistry & Biology
Rosemary	Robinson	CHESTER	Psychology
Andrew	Sheldrick	STAFFORDSHIRE	Geography
Kate	Singleton	WINCHESTER	English Languages Studies & Film Technology
Jordan	Spilsbury	CHESTER	Dance
Callum	Taylor	WOLVERHAMPTON	Business Management
Thomas	Wootton	LIVERPOOL	Politics
Michael	Yates*	GOLDSMITHS, LONDON	English with Creative Writing

*Denotes students from last year

Public Examinations



GCSE courses are normally offered in the following syllabuses:

Art & Design (OCR)	Business (OCR Nationals)	Citizenship (AQA)
Dance (AQA)	Design & Technology (AQA)	Drama (EDEXCEL)
English (AQA)	English Literature (AQA)	French (EDEXCEL)
Geography (OCR)	German (EDEXCEL)	History (EDEXCEL)
Information Technology (OCR)	Mathematics (EDEXCEL)	Music (AQA)
Religious Education (OCR)	Physical Education (OCR)	Science (OCR)

Other courses offered in partnership with the South East Learning Forum include:

NVQ Construction	NVQ Hairdressing	NVQ Motor Vehicle
Creative & Media Diploma	Engineering Diploma	Sport & Active Leisure Diploma
Society, Health & Development Diploma	Business, Administration & Finance Diploma	ASDAN Wider Key Skills Level 3



A level courses are normally offered in the following syllabuses:

Art (OCR)	Biology (AQA)	Business Studies (EDEXCEL)
Chemistry (AQA)	Dance (AQA)	Design (AQA)
English Language & Literature (AQA)	English Literature (AQA)	Film Studies (WJEC)
French (EDEXCEL)	Further Mathematics (AQA)	General Studies (AQA)
Geography (EDEXCEL)	History (AQA)	ICT (OCR)
Law (AQA)	Mathematics (AQA)	Music (OCR)
Music Technology (EDEXCEL)	Physical Education (OCR)	Physics (AQA)
Government & Politics (EDEXCEL)	Psychology (EDEXCEL)	Religious Studies (EDEXCEL)
Theatre Studies (AQA/EDEXCEL)		

Key for Examination Boards:

AQA	=	Assessment & Qualifications Alliance
EDEXCEL	=	University of London Examinations & BTEC
OCR	=	Oxford, Cambridge & Royal Society of Arts Examinations, MEG
WJEC	=	Welsh Joint Examination Committee

Student Services



This is an important area of the new school with a front desk providing key information and support for all students.

The Student Support Centre includes a number of rooms, housing the Learning Support provision (including the SENCO's office), the Behaviour Support Room, the Pastoral Support Team, the Inclusion Manager, the Link Surgery and several meeting and small group rooms which are used by staff, students and visiting agency representatives.

Our Team works in partnership with school staff and outside agencies to equip students

with strategies for managing emotional, behavioural and social challenges.

All SEN students are integrated into mainstream classes for most of the timetable. The progress of each student at School Action and above is monitored carefully by working with individual students and small groups. Each Learning Zone includes two Teaching Assistants whose roles are to support students with SEN within the subject areas and to liaise with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) about students' requirements.

School uniform is worn by all students in Y7-11 and the standard of uniform is high. The wearing of uniform in school ensures that **all students are neat and business-like in appearance**, which in turn affects their attitude to school and to their studies. Most items are available from chain stores but items marked * are bought through the school and/or named suppliers (Bristows or SR Embroidery).

The basic school uniform currently comprises:

- Black skirt or trousers
- *House tie
- Sky blue shirt/blouse
- *Navy blue V neck sweatshirt with crest logo
- Black socks/tights
- Black shoes

All students are issued with a personalised SmartCard which they wear on a printed school lanyard, together with their locker key. Their card uses a single identifier to simply and efficiently provide access to a number of key facilities within the school, including **cashless catering, printing** and the **Library**. Individual lockers are issued to all students at the start of the school year or on joining the school. Lockers are located in communal spaces within each House.



Catering Services



There are 3 main catering outlets in the new school campus:

- **Restaurant 1850** – open for breakfast, during morning break and at lunch time
- **Café Si** – open all day for Sixth Form students and staff and again during programmed evening events in *The Edge Arts Centre*
- **Café Sport** – located in the Leisure Centre, open during morning break and at lunch time, as well as at various times when the Leisure Centre is open to the public. There are **vending machines** in Café Sport, which offer a further choice of drinks and snacks.

Students use their SmartCards to pay for catering services at electronic “Point of Sale” units (POS)

All three are run by *Catering Academy*, an independent catering company which is building a reputation for bringing innovative solutions to a wide range of client facilities. They also offer the facility for private catering services out of school hours and information about this will be available on the school website, alongside menus, details of special offers, etc. and the opportunity to give feedback on services available in school.

William Brookes School received accreditation in National Healthy Schools Award in July 2011. It is an important collaboration between education and health ministries, local education authorities and health trusts. It aims to improve student performance by enhancing all aspects of a healthy life, both physically and emotionally, in the school and wider communities.



Transport

The catchment area of the School is one of the largest in the West Midlands. Each day the majority of students are brought in by school buses. Minibuses and taxis are also involved in link-ups on some of the routes. Bus passes are distributed to in-area students at the start of the year and are shown to the driver on entry to the bus on each journey.

Please remember: If you apply for a place at William Brookes School and live out of the catchment area or, you move out of the catchment area, you are responsible for transporting your child to school throughout your child's time at the school. The school does currently organise a fare-paying bus service from the South Telford, Madeley and Ironbridge areas, however, places are limited and should be applied for via Student Services on an annual basis. For definitive eligibility information on our catchment area please contact Shropshire Council.

After-school, fare-paying, public service buses, provided by Arriva:

39	leaves WBS for Broseley (£1.10), Ironbridge and Madeley (£1.95)	17.16
436	leaves Queen Street for Cressage, Cross Houses & Shrewsbury	17.00 & 19.00
436	leaves Queen Street for Morville & Bridgnorth	17.25, 18.15 & 20.15

We encourage students to use these buses as an aid for their study support and other after-school activities.

Other 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, Shropshire Library Assistants' Scheme, Computers, Model making, Textiles, Languages, War games, Chess, Food, Animation, Board games and a wide range of sports and environmental activities.

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

There is a wide range of opportunities for students to be involved in music activities with various ensembles are established to provide opportunities for students to participate in music making.

There are two weekly 'Encore' performing arts activity programmes immediately after school for Years 6-8, and in the evening for Years 9+ as well as Year 8 and Year 10 drama productions, together with the Year 11 post-exam production and the Sixth Form pantomime, which 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.

Every Child Matters

William Brookes School and Shropshire Council work together to ensure the five outcomes of the Every Child Matters agenda are universal ambitions for every child and young person, whatever their background or circumstances.

- Being Healthy
- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Achieving Economic Well-Being

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 School, 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 parents and grandparents still remember him with great respect and affection.

The idea of the Trust was to ensure that the original motto of the school that has now become William Brookes School lived 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.

In March each year the Trust meets to select for funding a number of schemes put forward by students. In the following November the Trust meets again at the school for their AGM and an Annual Reception where they hear from student Award Winners how successful the funded schemes have been.



School Fund



William Brookes School Fund was established many years ago in order to enrich and further extend the opportunities offered to students in the school. It is run by a committee, which includes representatives from the staff, parents and students.

Fund raising is carried out in two ways:

- (i) Individually organised sponsored events, and
- (ii) Half-termly non-uniform days.

Presentation Evening



This is an important event in our School Calendar for many of our students, as it gives recognition to those who have exceeded expectations in many different ways throughout the preceding academic year.

Some may have achieved exceptionally well in their examinations at GCSE, A2 and A levels; some might have had results that were way above what was predicted for them, and others who have made real progress and commitment throughout the whole year. Then there are those who have given excellent service to the school through the Arts or Sport, Community Service etc. Whatever the area, whatever the award, the recipients have made a real impact on the whole school and even out in the wider community and this is our opportunity to let them know that we are proud of what they have done, and to encourage them to keep up the good work. This encouragement is achieved by the giving of reward vouchers, trophies and certificates that are generously sponsored by local businesses, school governors along with past and present staff and local dignitaries.

Fund-Raising & Community Service



- Events are organised by the students (and staff) in order to raise money for charities. Our Citizenship course requires all students to take an active part in fundraising.
- Older students, including those in the Sixth Form, are involved in the organisation of collections for national charities, as well as school events including coffee mornings, lunchtime concerts and non-uniform days.

The Community & Vocational Studies programme in Years 10 and 11 involves visits and work placements in local schools, care centres and playgroups.

Friends of William Brookes School

All parents are members of the 'Friends of William Brookes School' (FoWBS), which is affiliated to the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations. It is concerned with supporting the educational aims of the School, organising fund-raising activities to provide finance for resources additional to those provided by the LA, and arranging opportunities for parents, carers and staff to meet socially.

In recent years activities have included bingo and quiz evenings, cake stalls, and an annual May Fair and draw. FoWBS also organises the 100+ club, which runs six half-termly draws, each with a prize fund of £100. Parents and carers are cordially invited to join, both as a means of winning a possible cash prize **and** contributing to useful additional school resources.

In recent years, FoWBS has contributed funds towards the school minibus, library books, PE equipment, computers and musical instruments, as well as special projects and resources in a range of departments and clubs throughout the school.

Communication with Parents

Parents are welcome to come in to school to review general progress or to discuss any problems. We ask parents to make arrangements in advance through the Tutor or House Leader but, if appropriate, a meeting can be arranged with a member of senior staff or the Head.

A special Target Setting Day is held during the Autumn Term, to which parents and students are invited for individual interviews. This is a very important day for all students and parents and we ask them to prioritise attendance.

More formal consultation evenings are arranged at an appropriate time in the school year for each Year Group. These occasions provide the opportunity for parents to discuss students' progress and development with tutors and specialist subject teachers.

A termly newsletter *The Edge* is published on the school website. It is also available as hard copy if requested. **Newsheets** and **information sheets** are also published in order to ensure parents are kept up to date with important issues.

Parents are requested to provide an email address. This enables us to contact parents with important messages and information using our *Schoolcomms* system. We need to ensure messages reach home efficiently and promptly. Parents are invited to contact the school by email as well through our central email address admin.williambrookes@shropshirelg.net

The Schoolcomms system enables parents to receive communications from school quickly and reliably. We can send letters by email to your inbox and short messages directly to your mobile phone as a text message.

As a parent you will:

- receive letters more reliably and promptly
- see letters in your inbox like any other email
- get a short text message if we need to contact you urgently
- still get paper letters if you don't have email
- not need to rely on your child for delivery

We can:

- send more letters and information
- save money on admin time, printing and paper
- contact you urgently when necessary

"It was without a doubt, the best week of my life. Friendships were made, achievements were gained and fabulous memories were created – incredible"
Francesca Flynn Y13 student who took part in the Coubertin Youth Forum in Beijing – August 2011

'Taking part in J L Edward this year was an amazing experience, as it allowed me to go to Belgium with my orchestra. I made some really great friends, and had the most incredible time. I wouldn't have been able to have this amazing music experience if it wasn't for the money kindly given to me from the J L Edwards Trust and I really appreciate everything.'
Katie Birt, Y10 student, recipient of J L Edwards' Award 2011

"I have had the opportunity to work with the new school project from the start. I feel that I, with other students, have had a say and influence in the way it has been designed and built. They are amazing facilities to work and learn in."

Danny Budd Y11 student & One School Pathfinder Ambassador

"The fantastic, new sports facilities help us to strive for excellence and be the best we can be."

Imogen Fawcett & Georgie Benbow Y8 students

"William Brookes School has a warm and inviting atmosphere and, as a new student, I have made many friends and been well supported by staff."

Ellen Bassett Y12 student