



YSGOL RHOSNESNI
HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Rhosnesni High School
Respect, honesty, success



What makes Rhosnesni High School special?

Welcome to Rhosnesni High School.

Here at Rhosnesni, we are a thriving community school built on the values of respect, honesty and success. We have high expectations of our students; uniform, attendance, punctuality and good manners are all incredibly important. We are proud of our reputation for high standards, discipline and teamwork. This is The Rhosnesni Way.

Inclusivity

We are also passionate about inclusivity and strive to create a school environment where everyone can be themselves and have the opportunity to shine. We see the potential in every student; we are a place of optimism and ambition and know that education can help to increase the opportunities available to you and transform your life.

All students and staff at Rhosnesni embrace the language and heritage of our country whilst celebrating the diversity and culture of 21st century Wales.

Helping you to settle in

We know what a big change starting secondary school can be, so everyone here will do their very best to support you and help you settle in quickly.



How will you help me get ready for secondary school?

To help you prepare for your move to Rhosnesni, we hold two transition days at the end of the summer term. They are a great opportunity for you to begin to find your way around the school, meet some of your new classmates and start making new friends.

Throughout the two days, you will be involved in lots of different activities and lessons which will give you the opportunity to meet some of your new teachers and start to understand more about the ethos here at Rhosnesni.

You will be able to choose if you wish to have lunch in the canteen or would like to bring a packed lunch. The canteen serves a variety of delicious healthy options, and the school will even cover the cost for you on the two transition days.

Moving to secondary school is an exciting time but we know that you may also be feeling worried or concerned. If you are feeling like this, make sure you speak to someone about it and explain how you are feeling. Discussing your concerns will help and you should also try to focus on the positive aspects of school you are looking forward to.

Our top tips for preparing for your move to secondary school are:

1. Visit/revisit the school website
2. Go through what happens on the first day
3. Focus on the positives
4. Get school equipment ready
5. Make sure your uniform is 'good to go'
6. Label clothes and equipment
7. Check the school's Mobile Phone Policy
8. Make sure the school is aware of any relevant information about you
9. Make arrangements for the school journey
10. Have a good 'day before'



Advice from Year 7s

'There are lots of people around to help. If you ever feel worried, you can go to Nurture or the Pastoral Hub! Also, the Peer Mentors are always there.'



'Try to mix with pupils from other schools – you might make some new friends! By sticking with just the students you know, you're limiting yourself!'



'Finding my way around was my biggest fear, but the teachers and Peer Mentors take you around for the first few weeks. By the end of the first week, I already knew my own way!'



'The food in high school is so good. You can have all sorts for break and lunch. I'd definitely recommend getting the pizza.'

'I was really nervous about coming to Rhosnesni in case I didn't have anything to do in break and lunch. Then I found all the clubs and activities – make sure you join some extra-curricular activities!'



What is expected of me?

We expect all students to follow a set of principles for directing behaviour in, around and outside school. They are known as 'The Rhosnesni Way'. These principles are the cornerstone for everything we represent and are closely linked with our core values.



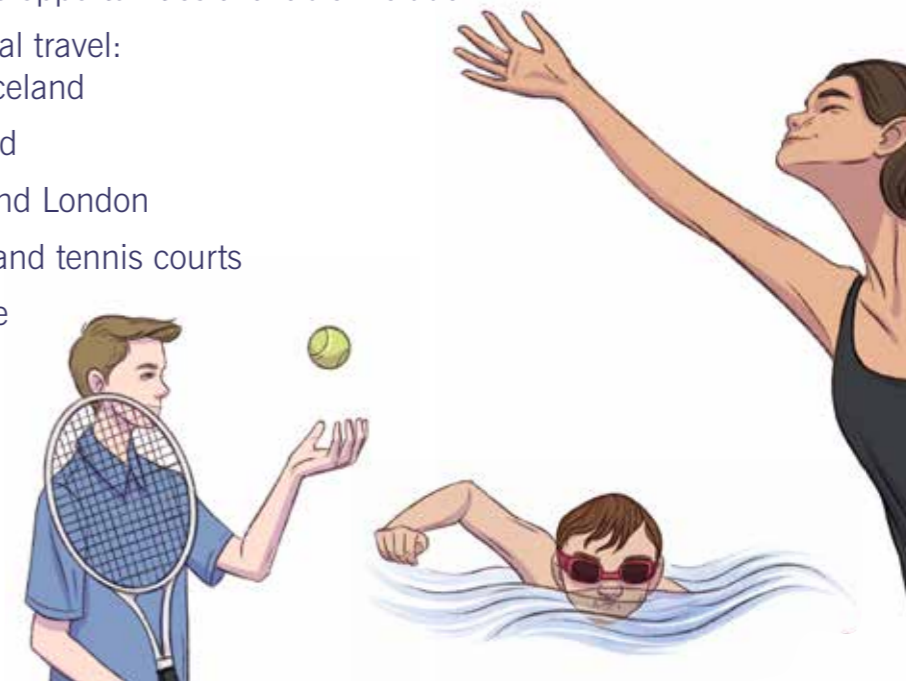
They are:

- We take off outdoor coats before entering the building.
- We switch off and safely conceal our mobiles before entering the school site.
- We wear full uniform correctly. Our skirts, trousers and shoes are appropriate for school.
- We follow the instructions of adults within this building.
- We treat each other with respect and consideration at all times.
- We arrive to school and all lessons on time.
- We have attendance of 97% or better.
- We always give our best in lessons.

What clubs and activities can I do?

We offer a huge range of extra-curricular activities to help enhance your experience here at Rhosnesni. They are a great opportunity to try something new, improve your confidence and develop your leadership skills. There really is something for everyone and we encourage all students to take part. Some of the opportunities available include:

- Local, regional and international travel: Spain, Germany, France and Iceland
- The Annual National Eisteddfod
- Residential visits – Glan-Ilyn and London
- A swimming pool, sports hall and tennis courts
- 5x60 Sports Wales Programme
- School Council and student leadership opportunities
- Peer Mentor Team
- Science activities
- Drama, Dance and Music
- Art galleries and theatre visits



At Rhosnesni, we are also passionate about inclusivity and building an aspirational culture. To help achieve this, we have clear routines, visibly displayed in all classrooms, that all students are expected to follow.

We also want to encourage, celebrate and reward high standards of achievement and effort and we do this through our rewards system. Each lesson is graded, and you will be given ATL (attitude to learning) points. Through the rewards system you can win certificates, prizes and special rewards. All the awards are presented in a special assembly at the end of each half term.



Who should I go to if I am worried?

At Rhosnesni, your emotional and physical wellbeing is very important to us and there are a number of different people you can go to if you need help with something. If there is something worrying you, your first port of call would be your Form Tutor. They will play a big part in your time with us and will help support you in the following ways:

- To help you settle into life at high school
- To get to know your interests and hobbies
- To provide support and advice as required
- To instil confidence and trust
- To be the first point of contact for your parents/carers
- To check your uniform
- To communicate key messages
- To check your planner

You can also speak to your Head of Year, Peer Mentors and the Pastoral Support Team.

The Pastoral Team is supported by a Student Wellbeing Coordinator, on-site Youth Workers, the School Nurse and the School Counsellor, so no matter what the problem is, there will always be someone available to help and support you through it.

The Pastoral Hub is where all the Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year sit, and you can go and speak to someone there any time.



What school uniform will I need?



As part of the high standards we set at Rhosnesni, we expect all students to wear the full school uniform at all times.

- **Blue blazer** – plain school style blazer with school badge on the chest pocket. This is a compulsory item to be worn at all times on the school premises.
- **School tie** – approved school clip-on ties only – blue and yellow stripes.
- **Plain white shirt** – long- or short-sleeved collared shirt with all buttons fastened and the shirt tucked properly in at the waist.
- **Black 'V' neck jumper (optional)** – not compulsory but is the only acceptable garment if an additional layer is required over a shirt and under a blazer.
- **Plain black trousers** – Regular cut, full-length trousers.
- **Plain black skirt** – 'A' line or pleated knee-length skirt.
- **Black tights** – plain opaque black tights only.
- **Black socks** – only plain black socks can be worn – no trainer style, over-the-knee or knee-high socks.
- **Black shoes** – plain black traditional formal style leather or leather style shoes.

Coats should be suitable for school; warm and waterproof. They should not be worn inside the school building.

PE Kit

You will need to bring the appropriate kit to all lessons. This consists of the following items:

Gymnastics – black shorts, pale blue polo shirt (logo), bare feet

Swimming – costume, trunks, goggles, towel, flip flops

Games – black shorts, dark tracksuit, pale blue polo shirt (logo), sweatshirt, clean trainers

Equipment

You will need a sturdy school bag that is big enough to carry A4 exercise books and you will need to make sure you have the following equipment:

- Pencil case
- Pens
- Pencils
- School planner



It is a good idea to pack your bag the night before and check it again in the morning to make sure you don't forget anything.

We would prefer that you do not bring a mobile phone into school but if you do, it must be switched off and put away safely in your bag whilst you are in school.

Dear Year 6 student,

Welcome to the team! Here at Rhosnesni, we believe that working together is the best route to success. I completely understand that you may be feeling a little nervous, perhaps quite apprehensive, about joining us in September. This is completely normal! You are about to face one of life's biggest changes – going from a place you know inside out, to a big new building with lots of new people. I'd be more worried if you weren't feeling a little strange!

I'm Mrs Anderton-Schofield, and I'm the Head of Year 7. Most of you will have met me already when I visited your school. I am the person in charge of ensuring that your move from primary to secondary goes as smoothly as it possibly can.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you in Transition Week in July and in September when you start with us properly. Everyone here at Rhosnesni is really excited for your arrival and we cannot wait to meet you – you will be a very important member of our school community!

Included in your pack is lots of information about our school. In addition, we have already set up a Google Classroom that your Year 6 teacher will have given you the code for. Please spend some time going through this with your parents/carers as they may be able to help you with some of the projects on there!

We have lots of clubs and extra-curricular activities for you to sink your teeth into once you have found your feet. Whether you're into drama, football or chess – there's something

here for everyone (not to mention our thriving gardening club!) Starting secondary school is the perfect time to try something new, so give it a go. You never know, you might discover a hidden talent you didn't know you had!

Moving to secondary school is and should be an exciting time. It is a huge step in any young person's life. The Pastoral Team, Mrs Dokk-Olsen (our ALNCo) and I will be on hand if you need any further support or have questions about the move from primary to our secondary school. Do not worry if you need a little extra help from time to time; this is completely normal and we will do all we can to help you with your learning, the busyness of the school day and being around lots of new people.

In the meantime, if you do have any questions, please contact the school at: Rhosnesni.Transition@rhosnesni-high.wrexham.sch.uk.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to our school. Enjoy the rest of Year 6, work hard, and I will meet you soon. Your journey at Rhosnesni is about to begin...

See you soon!

Mrs Anderton-Schofield



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