

Campws Cymunedol Y Dwyrain Eastern Community Campus

july 2018

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### Welcome to Eastern High



As Headteacher & Chair of Governors, we are proud to share with you in this prospectus, the innovative and exciting opportunities awaiting the young people who attend our school.

We work closely with parents and students to create a caring and purposeful learning environment, where students enjoy coming to school and are proud to be here. We believe that every student can succeed with the right support and encouragement, and constantly review and improve our provision to ensure this happens.

We want our school's future success to be measured not just in terms of good exam results, but also in terms of our ability to help young people develop the personal skills, talents and confidence they need to flourish in life and to make a positive contribution to society.

Our students benefit and thrive from the cutting-edge facilities in our new building (which opened January 2018), and a learning environment that promotes security, high-quality learning experiences, teamwork, communication and independence.

We understand that the choice you are making is a difficult one. The 'best' school is of course the one which best suits your child. Please do visit us during the day or on one of our open events, or if you would like to meet with me to discuss the school further, please do call.

Both staff and students a have real optimism for the future success of all students who come here. We would like your child to be part of that future. We look forward to welcoming you.

Jonathan Angell & Barbara Cooke Head teacher & Chair of Governors



Megan - Year 10

# HIGH SCHOOL

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"We have great teachers" Macheala - Year 11

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## A Sustainable Future For All

Our vision is very simple: in short, we want every student who joins our learning community to leave at the end of their time with us with the knowledge, capabilities and wherewithal to:

### Flourish in Life

In order to achieve this vision we believe in developing attributes and values in all our students that are sustainable throughout life. We have identified four areas upon which all aspects of life at Eastern High are focussed:

Effective, Meaningful Learning

Relationships & Partnerships

Mind, Body & Soul

Use of Resources & Environment

"I like how supportive members of staff are"

Harvey - Year 8

"The chrome books have really helped with learning"

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Paige - Year 8



## Sustainable Effective, Meaningful Learning

### **Developing a Learning Community**

Everyone, staff, students and parents are part of the learning community at Eastern High. All our students are on a journey to become confident, independent learners and it is our aim to instil a thirst for learning that does not stop on leaving school and will carry on throughout life.

As a staff body, we are here to provide support, assistance and expertise when and where necessary. All our staff participate in a weekly professional development programme, in order to ensure we constantly review and improve our practice.

#### **Our Curriculum**

Our curriculum aims to be personalised, meeting the needs of all individuals as far as practically possible. We are fortunate to share our site with Cardiff and Vale College and as a result, our close partnership with them, widens our curriculum offer at Key Stage 4.

We ensure all our students can access the curriculum effectively, and so place a high emphasis on the development of literacy, numeracy and the development of good habits in relation to learning. This allows students the opportunity to develop flexible, adaptable and independent learning skills, essential for the 21st Century.

### Learning Support

Our Learning Support Team ensures that the needs of all students are met. Our new building is equipped with a number of small tutorial rooms which allows us to provide one-to-one tutoring and small group work, focussing on literacy and numeracy as well as social skills. This is in addition to the excellent team of in-class teaching assistants we have and also learning mentors who play a big part in supporting learners.

### **Additional Learning Opportunities**

We have introduced an innovative Prep-Time activity for every student in the school towards the end of each day, where students study an identified topic in silence for the period of Prep-Time. Students are trained in how to revise effectively and are then tested in what they have revised within the next week. This is proving to be an effective preparation for GCSE exams.

We also run an extensive extra-curricular programme which is well attended by students.



## Sustainable Relationships & Partnerships

Eastern High places a high emphasis on developing and sustaining, healthy relationships and fostering effective partnerships both in school and throughout life. We value diversity and aim to give everyone in the school an equal chance to learn, work and live, free from the action or fear of racism, discrimination or prejudice.

### **Pastoral Support**

We are very proud of the way we organise our pastoral care which we believe is second to none! Our Pastoral System boasts:

- Four Houses each with vertical tutor groups (which we call Learning Families). The Learning Families are described as 'vertical' because each group has 3 or 4 students from each year group in them. This allows greater opportunity for peer mentoring and support.
- We always aim to keep the groups to on or below 20 students per group. Each group, meets twice daily (once for Prep-Time) and has two tutors.
- In addition to this, the four Houses are supported by two full time pastoral House Officers who each manage 2 Houses and 4 House Support Officers for each House, who work closely with our students.

### **Conflict Resolution**

We use restorative practices throughout all areas of the school community, for example between students, between students & staff and even amongst staff if necessary. This very successful programme prevents the escalation of any disagreement or incident and develops methods to resolve potential conflict situations.

### **External Partnerships**

Our positive working relationship with our local primary schools and with Cardiff and Vale College, ensures there is continuity and progression at each stage in your child's education. We have also placed high importance on developing and maintaining links with local businesses and employers which has resulted in fantastic opportunities to extend our curriculum and bring relevance to the classroom.

### **Pastoral Support**

Having a child at secondary school is a very different experience to having one in primary school. Your child has many teachers and you don't see other parents as you might have when your child was at primary school.

At Eastern High your child's tutor is your first point of contact. We also hold regular information evenings to keep you up to date. There are texts with important messages sent regularly. Our website, is always up to date and our parent's app called 'Xpressions' keeps you informed. We aim to make the transition for you as a parent from primary to secondary as worry free and seamless as possible.

"The pupils and teachers are **kind** and **welcoming**"

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Ellie - Year 10

"There are lots of things to do at break, lunch and after school"

Callum - Year 8

## Sustainable Mind, Body & Soul

This area focuses on developing a healthy mind and body, ready to enjoy all life has to offer, but also to cope effectively with its difficulties. We aim to raise aspirations and develop high levels of confidence in all our students.

### Enrichment

There are a large variety of after school clubs on most days of the week. Eastern High has one of the highest participation rates of all the schools in Cardiff for sporting events. Our regular music, theatre and dance performances are always looked forward to by parents, staff and students as is our student produced magazine. We also offer a range of enrichment trips, both foreign locations and across the UK.

### **Engaging Students**

We believe in developing the leadership potential and personal responsibility of all our students. In their Learning Families, Year 10 and 11 students are responsible for developing the reading skills of our younger students through our paired reading scheme and supporting them in their day-to-day life in the school.

We have a strong Student Council that has representation at Senior Leadership Meetings, and on the Governing Body.

We also have Student Leaders who have a number of different responsibilities such as ICT Champions, Green Team and Restorative Leaders. We aim to fully involve as many students as we can in the continuing development of our school community.

### Supporting Academic Progress & Addressing Special Needs

In addition to supporting the social, cultural and emotional needs of our students, we have a strong team to support the academic progress of our students. Eachhouse has an Academic Progress Leader, who monitors student academic progress in class and arranges any additional intervention or support required, to ensure the student achieves their maximum potential.

To support our inclusive view of education we also have a strong Special Educational Needs team who support students both in the class and individually. The support given covers a range of areas such as: literacy & numeracy; English as an additional language; hearing impairment; and dyslexia.



Find out more in the 'Our School' section of our website: easternhigh.cardiff.sch.uk

### Sustainable Resources & Environment

This area focuses on developing an awareness of the importance of caring for and making the most of the resources we have within the environments in which we live.

#### Facilities & Our New Building

We are now well and truly settled into our new £26million building. The building which the students and wider community have contributed ideas, incorporates many environmentally friendly and energy saving features. There are also wonderful state of the art facilities which includes:

- Newly equipped science labs fit for 21st century learning
- Large sports hall with additional gyms and multi gym
- 3G+ football/rugby pitch along with all-weather courts and a rugby pitch
- A fully equipped training kitchen
- A construction yard and newly equipped technology rooms.

In addition to this, we can also take advantage of the College vocational facilities including: motor vehicle and engineering workshops and a hair and beauty salon.



#### Information & Communication Technology

The school is ICT rich with a full set of laptops shared between every two classes, in addition to state of the art IT rooms (including an Apple suite). We also have excellent music technology and design technology/graphic suites equipped with Apple computers.

One of the major concerns parents have in the 21st century is ensuring that their child is using ICT appropriately and safely. We see it as a major role for schools today to address this issue. We encourage students to use ICT when it is appropriate, but not extensively or exclusively. We also have excellent monitoring software which can identify inappropriate use.

#### **Cashless School**

We are a cashless school, where students or parents can add money to our system via pay points, credit or debit card. We use a finger print recognition system in order to pay for food bought on the premises. This has the potential to allow parents to monitor online their child's diet during school hours.

#### **Resource & Environmental Education**

In Year 10 or 11 the majority of our students sit a Personal Finance exam as we believe this is one resource all our students need to learn to use wisely in the future.

We also have a growing student 'Eco Team' in the school, who carry out work and activities with regards to our school environment, for example advising and developing our recycling policy. Over the coming years we are also excited by the prospect of developing a small farm on-site.

"I love Eastern High because the facilities are great"

Dylan - Year 9

### Our Enrichment Promise

### We promise that every student will have the opportunity to:

- Attend at least one after school activity on a regular basis
- Represent the school in at least one sporting, cultural o academic event.
- Complete at least one outward-bound style visit.
- Take part in or help to organise a school production or event.
- Take part in a formal presentation to others using digital technology.
- Be involved in an international experience, within the school, the community or abroad.
- Contribute to the wider community by taking part in some form of public service within or beyond the school.
- Take part in or help organise a fund-raising event within or beyond the school.
- Make a positive contribution to sustain the school and the wider environment.
- Take part in an event or visit that will explore future careers.

#### **School Uniform**

School uniform indicates a commitment to the shared ideals of the school and promotes equality in a very easy, visible and understood way.

Eastern High takes uniform very seriously and parents/carers are asked to consider this commitment to uniform in the school.

Full details on our uniform can be found on the school websites: easternhigh.cardiff.sch.uk/uniform

> "People love Prep Time, it's all about getting your best grade"

> > Caitlyn - Year 11

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### Get in touch

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easternhigh.cardiff.sch.uk

"The staff at Eastern High have really helped me"

Dafydd - Year 10