

# The Alun School Prospectus

*“The school provides outstanding care, support and guidance to pupils and this has a highly significant impact on their learning.”*

*“Pupils receive high quality advice when choosing options at Year 11 and the Sixth Form. This supports pupils effectively and contributes considerably to ensuring that pupils progress successfully to their chosen future pathways.”*

Estyn 2016



**OUR PLACE IN YOUR FUTURE**

# Dear student,

Please find enclosed the Alun School Prospectus for 2019-2020. We hope it provides you with a comprehensive guide to the many ways we enhance the education of our sixth form students by providing a wide range of educational opportunity.

A high proportion of our own students continue into our Sixth Form; they are joined by many students from other schools and colleges, together comprising one of the largest sixth forms in Wales. We offer an extensive choice of nearly 40 Advanced Levels and BTEC courses which is amongst the widest choice available anywhere in North Wales.

In order to support students in fulfilling their academic potential, we offer a high quality of pastoral care that is organised by the Sixth Form team led by Dr. Erasmus, Assistant Headteacher. His knowledge and experience of making successful applications to university is second to none, and the range of extra-curricular opportunities that we offer, including performance, music, sporting and charity events, play a large part in our students being able to develop a strong personal profile.

Our Post-16 Open Evening takes place on Thursday 7th February 2019, between 18:00 and 20:00. For further information, please contact Dr. Erasmus.

I look forward to working with you in the future.



**Mrs J Cooper - Headteacher**



# Specialist A-level Centre

## The Alun Sixth Form is a Specialist Advanced Level Centre

All subject departments are on an easily accessible single site at the Alun School in Mold. We have an extensive range of subjects to choose from, with highly qualified teachers and well resourced departments. We consistently have excellent results in all subject areas. We include at least five hours of teaching per week in each subject area and provide personalised support from a range of specialist tutors. In addition, we have well-established links with all the top universities.

### Advanced Level Results 2018

A\* - E pass rate 100%

A\* - C grades 82%

A\* - A grades 29%

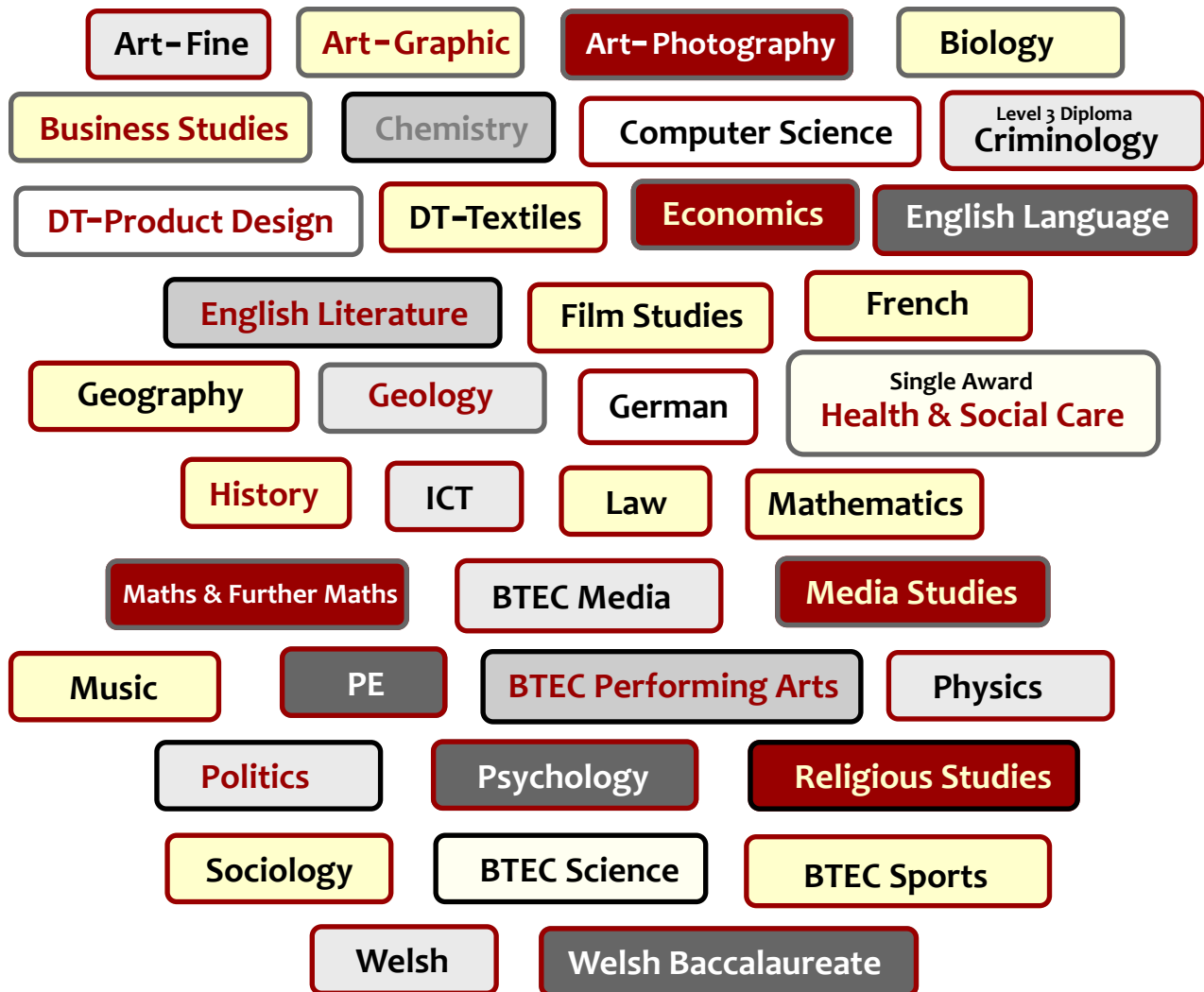


The Alun Sixth Form is amongst one of the largest and most successful in Wales with almost 500 students on roll and a choice of over 40 Advanced Level courses.

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# Courses available

(Click on the links below for more subject information)



Your course choices will be influenced by a number of factors:

What is your career aim? Which subjects do you enjoy? Which style of learning suits you best?



You may also wish to study a subject not offered at GCSE; we offer a wide range of courses for you to choose from. Remember that subjects change substantially between Year 11 and Sixth Form. It can be a good idea to consider new subjects in the Sixth Form.

# Application process

Before entering the Sixth Form there are choices to be considered and decisions to be made. We can support you with this on an individual basis; we also have a programme of events designed to help you move smoothly on to the next stage of your education.

Below are the main features of our schedule for this year.

## Post-16 Open Evening : Thursday 7th February 2019

This is the chance to gain detailed information on the courses available. All departments are open from **18:00 to 20:00**. Teachers and students will be on hand to answer all of your questions. There will also be advisors available to provide individualised guidance.

## Submitting an Application

All applications are submitted online via a link on the Alun School website, see the Home Page for details.

We accept applications right through until September 2019, but where courses are restricted by numbers of students priority is given to applications that arrive by **Thursday 11th April 2019**.

## Induction Day - External Applicants only: Monday 1st July 2019

A full day of activities designed to allow applicants from other schools and colleges to meet each other and get to know the Sixth Form. An individual invite will be issued in advance.

## Induction Day - All Applicants: Tuesday 2nd July 2019

This is a full day of activities designed to allow all applicants, including those who attended the Alun School in Year 11, to experience sessions for each course they may go on to study. You will meet the subject teachers and they will set the scene for the start of term.

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# Enrolment days

## Enrolment Days : Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd August 2019

Having received your GCSE results, you will need to formally enrol on your chosen courses. Two days are set aside for enrolment and you can come and enrol on either day. This is the day when you make your final choice of courses. The information supplied on the enrolment day allows us to have an individual timetable ready for every student on the first day of term. Late enrolment sessions will be advertised on our website for students unable to attend enrolment days. We will allocate you a tutor group according to your friendship group and course choices.

## Start of term

Join us in the Common Room at 8.50am on the first day. After a brief welcome and introduction you will join your Personal Tutor until 11.15am. At 11.30am the timetabled courses begin.



A Level Results Day 2018

# Being in the Alun Sixth Form

**Some Sixth Forms are too much like school.  
Some colleges are too impersonal.**

**The Alun Sixth Form offers the best of both worlds.**

**Students have the freedom to express themselves as young adults,  
whilst still receiving all the support and guidance  
they were used to up to the age of 16.**

*Students have their own Sixth Form study centre  
equipped with wifi access for use with mobile devices.*

*Students have their own common room that includes  
its own fully-staffed snack bar, TV and personal lockers.*

*Students in the Alun Sixth Form are not required to wear a uniform.*

*Students are allocated a personal tutor.  
Tutors build up a relationship with them over their time in the Sixth Form  
and support their careers advice or university application.*

*There is a Sixth Form council that meets to discuss activities and events.*

*Sixth Form students can take part in a wide range  
of music, drama and other performance-related activities.  
There are also Sixth Form teams in a wide range of sports  
which compete at local and national level.*



# Welcome Week

Starting in the Sixth Form can seem quite daunting at first. However, there is no need to worry. The Sixth Form team are on hand to help you settle in and will provide you with a Goody bag full of useful things. During the first few weeks of term there is plenty on offer to help you get to know your teachers and meet new people.

## Team Building

Take part in the first of many inter-form sporting competitions. They start with rounders and continue with a Year 12 Vs Year 13 rugby match in the first half term.

## Tutor Group Picnic

During the first full week of term, you will be invited to spend lunch with your tutor. You can decide on the food and theme of the event. This will give you the opportunity to get to know your tutor and each other.

## Friday Forum

Why not come along to C20 to take part in 'Friday Forum', our weekly debate session. Topics are chosen by students and argued over from 9 - 9.15 am every Friday.

## Mindfulness

We offer a free 'Mindfulness' session during the first week of term to give you an opportunity to learn some coping strategies to use during your time of study.

## The Great Tutor Group Quiz

Help your tutor group to work its way up the inter-form quiz league. Quizzes are held on a biweekly basis during morning registration on a Wednesday. Each tutor group takes turns in compiling a quiz to test the other tutor groups.

## Bake Sale

Join in with a Bake Sale in the Sixth Form foyer. All money raised will support the school charity.

## Cinema Night

The Sixth Form team would love you to join them for an evening out at the cinema.

## Enrichment Fair

Sixth Form is not just about studying in class. You need to make the most of your time outside of lessons so that you can develop your skills and experience.

We have lots of opportunities available in the Sixth Form so please come along to the Enrichment Fair to find out all about them.





# The best you can be

**The Alun Sixth Form provides an extensive range of enrichment activities to support all our students to achieve their potential.**

**This includes:**

**Early applicant tutorial support**

**Work placement**

**Science scholarships with local industries including Hanson Cement, Nicepak and Qioptig**

**Sutton Trust University placements**

**UKMT and Physics Olympiad**

**Engineering Education Scheme**

**Headstart University placements**

**Friday forum - debating society**



Students receiving certificates for Royal Society of Chemistry Young **Chemistry Communicators'** Award



Students receiving their Olympiad Challenge certificates

## The Seren Network

The Alun School is a member of The Seren Network which supports high achieving sixth formers to reach their potential, through a programme of extra-curricular activities.

As members of the local Seren Hub, which comprises of teachers from schools and colleges across the area, we offer advice and guidance on how to make a competitive application to leading universities.

To qualify, students must have achieved 5A\* or equivalent in their GCSE examinations.

For more information on the Seren Network and your local hub, visit the Seren Network website: [www.gov.wales/seren](http://www.gov.wales/seren)

# Achieve your potential

Choose from a wide range of enrichment activities.

Public Speaking Society

Mindfulness

Chocolate Theatre

Paired Reading

Bunsen Buddies

Sum Buddies

'Girl Up' group

5 X 60 PE support



We also have external links with Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and Claire House.



# Enrichment

## Curriculum Enrichment and Extra Curricular Activities

### Charity work

Sixth Form students have many opportunities to work within the wider community to raise money for local charities and learn skills in planning and co-ordination. Strong team work and perseverance has raised substantial amounts of money for the school's chosen charities.



### Trips

Sixth Form students have multiple opportunities to take their learning outside of the classroom. The wide range of visits including various city trips, art galleries and foreign exchanges provide a wealth of experience for our Sixth Form students and greatly assist with their studies.

# Our place in your future

## Leavers' Ball



Students in the Alun School Sixth Form have a strong sense of unity and form a strong bond of friendship. The Sixth Form Ball takes place at the end of Year 13. It is a formal occasion which allows staff and students the chance to celebrate their individual and group successes.

## Opportunities for Leadership

Our Sixth Form students are given opportunities to develop their leadership skills. We have a number of Sixth Form Ambassadors who assist with Year 6 Induction Days and Year 6 tours of the school. This provides valuable experience for a student's personal statement for UCAS.

Students have the opportunity to participate in the Engineering Education Scheme as well as undertake work placements with local industries.



EESW Big Bang Event



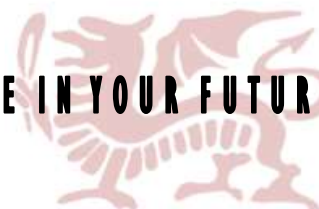
Working with Year 6



# A Level Results 2018

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	A*-A%	A*-B%	A*-C%	A-E%
Art - Fine	6	2	2	0	0	2	0	67	67	67	100
Art – Graphic	4	1	0	0	1	1	1	25	25	50	100
Art – Photography	9	3	1	2	2	1	0	44	67	89	100
Biology	15	2	2	4	4	2	1	27	53	80	100
Business Studies	30	3	7	8	8	3	1	33	60	87	100
Chemistry	38	2	10	10	8	5	3	33	58	79	100
Computing	6	0	1	0	2	3	0	16	16	50	100
D & T – Product	10	0	0	5	2	2	1	0	50	70	100
Economics	9	1	2	2	3	0	1	33	56	89	100
English Language	14	1	1	8	3	1	0	14	71	93	100
English Literature	24	1	5	8	10	0	0	25	58	100	100
Film Studies	7	0	1	3	2	1	0	14	57	86	100
French	20	1	4	4	6	4	1	25	45	75	100
Geography	10	1	2	2	4	1	0	30	50	90	100
German	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	75	100	100
Health & Social Care (Single Award)	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	50	100	100
History	16	3	2	8	2	1	0	31	81	94	100
ICT	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	50	100	100
Law	5	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	60	60	100
Mathematics	36	6	8	7	4	7	4	39	58	69	100
Maths & Further Maths	8	0	3	2	1	0	2	38	63	75	100
Media Film and TV Studies	9	0	1	4	2	1	1	11	56	78	100
Music	5	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	20	100
PE Studies	8	0	1	2	4	1	0	13	38	88	100
Physics	37	5	8	6	12	3	3	35	51	84	100
Politics	11	1	1	4	3	2	0	18	55	82	100
Psychology	25	6	9	5	4	1	0	60	80	96	100
Religious Studies	13	2	2	2	4	2	1	31	46	77	100
Sociology	16	4	2	8	1	0	1	38	88	94	100
Welsh (Second Language)	6	0	0	4	0	1	1	0	67	67	100
Welsh Bacc (Skills Challenge)	13	0	1	2	5	2	3	8	23	62	100
<b>Overall Totals</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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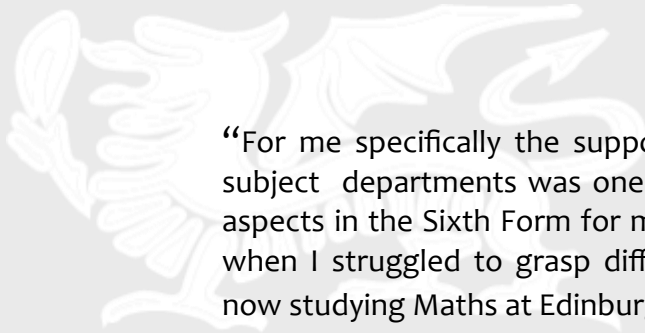


# Progression from Sixth Form

## Teleri Roberts

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“I cannot thank the Alun School Sixth Form enough after the past two years. I began AS Levels with a very specific career in mind, but very doubtful I would ever be able to study it at University. With hard work and tremendous help from teachers, I gained grades I never would have dreamed of achieving. Dr. Erasmus and Ms. Frankland offer great support throughout the university application process and helped me produce a very strong personal statement, which gained me 4/4 interview offers! I am now attending the University of Liverpool, studying to pursue that 'very specific career', Veterinary Medicine.”



## Alex Terry

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“For me specifically the support I had within the subject departments was one of the most helpful aspects in the Sixth Form for me as it really helped when I struggled to grasp difficult concepts. I am now studying Maths at Edinburgh University”



# And beyond...


## Charlotte Roberts

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“After studying Photography, Graphics and Film Studies at the Alun Sixth Form I am now at The Glasgow School of Art reading Fine Art and Photography, BA(HONS). My teachers at the Alun School helped me to produce a portfolio of work and developed the technical skills that are crucial for my career path.”

## Elliot Davies

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“Thanks to my amazing teachers I am currently studying Physics at Princeton University, one of America’s top universities. The Alun School gave me the academic background I needed to secure a place, and supported me fully through the unfamiliar and challenging process. I can’t thank the school and my teachers enough - they were behind me every step of the way.”

