



Branas School Annual Report

2022 - 2023

"Community with learning, is a community with heart"

"Cymuned a'i chynefin, sy'n chymuned â chalon"

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SCHOOL DETAILS

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PROPRIETOR DETAILS

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About the school



Well qualified and experienced staff work together to make Branas School school a successful and happy community. We offer a rich, varied and stimulating curriculum, which includes academic, vocational and personal and social studies. Timetables are tailored to the individual to ensure they have the opportunity to make progress and receive the required level of support needed to assist them in fulfilling their potential. We strive to continually improve the provision and embrace opportunities to expand and extend learning experiences.

The school supports a full range of national curriculum topics for its learners, underpinned by a whole school approach to the emotional wellbeing of each student. Students at both key stage 3 and 4 have access to a creative curriculum which is suitable for their abilities and potential.

We expect our students to be able to achieve beyond their expectations and gain excellent results in their GCSE qualifications, as well as Functional Skill, Entry Level certificates, PSD Awards and Certificates and other vocational qualifications.

Branas School School offers a nurturing and caring environment that allows all students to thrive and achieve their full potential. Great importance is placed on recognising, celebrating and rewarding individual and group achievements.

Students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities that enrich their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This development is promoted through trips, cross curricular activities, workshops and alongside Fundamental British Values, is embedded into all subject areas.

Our success and effectiveness is dependent upon positive relationships with students, parents, carers, Local Authorities and the wider community.

Branas School School is an Independent School which is registered for 25 pupils; age 11-18. All pupils reside in one of our Branas care homes.

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Due to our rural location the school accesses a range of off-site facilities including, the local sports centre and gym, the local library and outdoor education.

The curriculum is broad and balanced, pupil centred and lends itself to support pupils until the age of 18 with employment links currently being made. Pupils have attended a range of work experience and volunteering placements including: Charity Shops and local leisure businesses. We have local links with Wrexham Music Service, Bala Leisure and Fitness centre, Wrexham Queensway athletics centre and this is increasing.

Aims of the School

BELIEVE, EMPOWER, ACHIEVE, ASPIRE

BELIEVE IN OUR TEAM AND IN OUR LEARNERS

EMPOWER OUR LEARNERS TO BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES AND THEIR PERSONAL JOURNEY

NURTURE OUR LEARNERS TO ACHIEVE

AND ASPIRE TO BE THE BEST THEY CAN BE.

The school moto is at the heart of everything we do at Branas School -

"Community with learning, is a community with heart"

"Cymuned a'i chynefin, sy'n chymuned â chalon"

This vision drives everything we do and will be achieved through:

- A rich, deep and personalised education designed to meet the needs of each pupil;
- A pupil centred, skills focused curriculum that is relevant to the 21st century and inclusive of all;
- Encouraging all members of the school community to strive beyond expectations and develop a lifelong love of learning;

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- Offering a broad range of learning experiences within a curriculum that values academic attainment as well as social, moral, spiritual and cultural aspects of education;
- Providing personalised careers education and guidance, with aspirational next steps planning, preparing pupils for their future;
- Recognising that time is precious; working quickly to turn around pupils' attitudes towards education so they enjoy their time at school and make the most of the opportunities on offer;
- Working collaboratively with our professional partners to support the needs of each individual pupil.

Pupils will:

- 1. Be challenged to engage in learning and achieve meaningful qualifications that will enable them to take their next steps in education, employment or training;
- 2. Develop into healthy, resilient and confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society;
- 3. Create, nurture and maintain healthy positive relationships with others;
- 4. Experience success, whatever form it takes;
- 5. Become enterprising, creative contributors ready to play a full part in life and work;
- 6. Celebrate diversity and develop into ethical, informed young people who are ready to be citizens of the world.

OUR MISSION

Our mission statement is:

We provide a safe and inclusive learning environment that nurtures mutual respect and

encourages reflection so that our pupils develop the knowledge skills and confidence to enable

them to achieve their potential in all aspects of their lives.

Our Motto:

BELIEVE, EMPOWER, ACHIEVE, ASPIRE



Our Learners

All young people at Branas School have a history of harmful behaviours, including harmful sexualised behaviours and social, emotional and mental health needs often accompanied by a range of additional learning needs.

Most of the pupils have had interrupted histories in education and care. There are a wide variety of attainments on admission. All have fragile self-esteem and demonstrate difficulties with authority and a lack of trust in adults. Many have experienced loss and trauma, leading to attachment difficulties. As a result, many experience difficulties in forming and maintaining appropriate, positive relationships with others and have a limited ability to work cooperatively.

Pupils are:

- aged 11 to 18;
- boys only;
- placed within the residential setting of Branas Isaf;
- residents from placing authorities throughout the United Kingdom;
- all present a range of harmful behaviours;
- most are in receipt of an EHC plan.

Our Curriculum model:

1. Our curriculum is suitably modified to meet the needs of individual learners:

- To focus on pupils' individual needs; different learning baselines and gaps
- To provide time balance between academic subjects and personal development needs
- To accommodate pupils' individual interests and aptitudes
- To build self-esteem and confidence in accessing learning
- To help young people experience achievement and learning at school in a positive manner.

2. Our curriculum is enhanced by enrichment opportunities and vocational areas of learning:

- To provide real-life practical experiences
- To safely experience learning opportunities in the wider community
- To exploit interests and talents
- To increase the probability of success
- To help build routes to future options
- To build self-esteem and confidence in learning in a wider context
- To offer different avenues and styles of learning and achievement

3. We place an emphasis on literacy and numeracy:

- To overcome the real deficiencies in pupils' learning profiles in terms of literacy and numeracy skills
- Showing pupils the importance of literacy and numeracy skills to everyday personal life, and the importance to future options and choices
- To improve and facilitate ease of access and understanding in other subject areas thereby increasing opportunity for engagement, learning and progress

4. Our curriculum provides opportunities to learn about learning:

- To provide a means for pupils to exercise active and positive control over their environment, both now and in the future
- To understand themselves as learners; realising they have power as a learner, and in changing their approach to learning they can change their lives
- To develop skills to learn, problem solve and think creatively as an independent learner
- To become empowered to take responsibility for their own learning and make the most of opportunities when presented

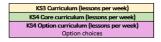
5. Our curriculum provides an emphasis on Social Skills and Personal Development:

- To allow pupils to explore the dynamics of working with others and developing appropriate and relevant skills to do so successfully
- To provide a safe environment in which pupils can explore their own feelings about being with other people and developing relationships; giving them the opportunity to learn skills to enable positive relationship building

- To give pupils the opportunity to explore the reasons for and behind their behaviour and empowering them with the skills to effect change to these behaviours
- To allow pupils the opportunity and resources to reconnect with the skills needed to play and the feelings evoked
- To allow pupils a greater understanding of their place in society and the skills needed to maintain and improve this effectively so that they can make a positive contribution as adults
- To empower pupils with the skills needed to live independently

Branas School Curriculum Model: 2023-2024	
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Subject Area	Key St	tage 3	Key Stage 4			
45 min lessons	Year 7	Year 7 Year 8		Year 10	Year 11	
English	English (4 + reading)	English (4 + reading)	English (4 + reading)	English (4 + reading) GCSE / ELC / FS English (3) GC		
Maths	Maths (4)	Maths (4)	Maths (4)	GCSE / ELC / FS Maths (3)	GCSE / ELC / ESk Maths (3)	
Science	Science (3)	Science (3)	Science (3)	GCSE Science/ ELC Sci (3)	GCSE Science/ ELC Sci (3)	
Computing	Computing (2)	Computing (2)	Computing (2)	Computing (2) Option not chosen	Computing (2) Option not chosen	
PHSE / RSE/ Citizenship	PHSE/RSE (2) Careers (2)	PHSE/RSE (2) Careers (2)	PHSE/RSE (2) Careers (2)	PHSE/RSE (2) PHSE/RSE Careers/ NCFE Level 1/2 Employability Careers/ NCFE (3) Employabil		
PE	PE (2)	PE (2)	PE (2)	PE (4)	PE (4)	
MFL	MFL (N/A)	MFL (N/A)	MFL (N/A)	French/ Spanish/ German/Welsh (2)	French/ Spanish/ German/Welsh (2	
Technology	Technology (2) Plus 2 Friday	Technology (2) Plus 2 Friday	Technology (2) Plus 2 Friday	NCFE Creative Design (2) Plus 2 Friday	NCFE Creative Design (2) Plus 2 Frid	
Art	Art (2)	Art (2)	Art (2) NCFE Level 1/ GCSE Art & Design (2) N		NCFE Level 1/ GCSE Art & Design (2	
Humanities	Humanities (2)	Humanities (2)	Humanities (2) GCSE/ ELC History/ Geo (3)		GCSE/ ELC History/ Geo (3)	
RE	RE (1)	RE (1)	RE (1) ELC/ GCSE RE Short course ELC/ Option not chosen		ELC/ GCSE RE Short course RE Option not chosen	
Horticulture	Technology (2 Friday)	Technology (2 Friday)	Technology (2 Friday)	Technology (2 Friday)	Technology (2 Friday)	
SMSC	SMSC Programme embedded and collapsed TT days	SMSC Programme embedded and collapsed TT days	ed SMSC Programme embedded SMSC Programme embedded and and collapsed TT days collapsed TT days		SMSC Programme embedded and collapsed TT days	
Other	After school catch-up 1:1 Target session with 1 Reading sessions daily Maths/ English interven Outdoor Education ever	tions weekly				



Inspection information

Branas School was last inspected 2022.

The Branas School is a welcoming community where pupils feel safe. It is situated in an attractive rural setting with extensive grounds. Pupils benefit from opportunities to engage in learning within and beyond the classroom, including within the local community.

Teachers know their pupils well, they build positive working relationships based on mutual respect. Within lessons staff give pupils skilful support to manage behaviours as well as clear praise and feedback to help them make improvements in their work. During this visit behaviour at the school was exemplary. Teachers regularly assess the progress pupils make within lessons, however, there are significant shortcomings in systems for overseeing pupil progress in all areas at a whole-school level.

There have been several significant changes at the school since the last inspection, including changes to leadership and oversight structures, as well as challenges due to the impact of the pandemic. Staff at the school demonstrated dedication throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and worked flexibly to continue to provide education to pupils.

The school works well with staff as well as partners to support pupil well-being and personal development. For example, they work with a clinical team, care team, health professionals and the police force. However, there are missed opportunities to use these links consistently due to underdeveloped information sharing systems.

The school is in the process of reviewing the curriculum offer to make it more relevant for pupils.

Learner journey

Below is a visual representation of the learner journey for a pupil at Branas School:

Branas School – Learner Journey	
BELIEVE, EMPO	WER, ACHIEVE, ASPIRE
Initial	Engagement
Initial meeting and visit to school - Tour of school - Likes, interests and careers aspirations - He believed HE COULD	 Baseline assessments Agreed induction timetable – 2 weeks Week 1 review Options Alternative placements Work experience/ community experiences Half termly ILP reviews with key teachers Daily handovers AM/PM Half term HT progress meetings Quality Assurance meetings termly Termly progress
So he did SMSC – NCS, School Council, 1:1 pastora opportunities, work experience, trips an	Quality monitoring of all subject areas meetings and Regular staff meetings - (progress tracking, curriculum planning, whole school maths and English targets, behaviour and engagement reviews, cross curricular links) reports all support, SMSC Tracker, school rewards system, weekly rewards, community events, volunteering and events output
Careers – Employability qualifications, XELLO, Wellbeing activities	Work experience, IAG, Add on careers focused courses- First Aid, Food Hygiene, Careers Fair, Careers Week,
	Outcomes
Qualifications achieve	d Transition to next destination – Post 16/ Mainstream
Student Voice	Experience of the wider community and work life
Celebrations events	Continued Communication

Admissions and attainment

Branas School is registered for 25 students. The learners are all in the care of their local authority and live in residential care within Cambian School.

During the academic year 2022-2023 The Branas School had 17 students on roll. These students had different start/end dates and 10 of these 17 young people remain on roll moving into the academic year 2022-2023.

- Year 8 1 learner
- Year 9 8 learners
- Year 10 2 learners
- Year 11 4 learners
- Year 12 1 learner
- Year 13 1 Learner

Learner name	Start Date	Initial Assessment		r			Subjects			
		Maths Entry 3.9								
1	27/03/2023	English Level 1.1	Maths	English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Level 1.2	Maths							
2	26/09/2022	English Entry 2.6		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Level 1.6	Maths							
3	03/01/2022	English Entry 3		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 3.8	Maths							
4	07/09/2022	English Level 1.2		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 3.7	Maths							
5	22/03/2022	English Entry 3.5		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 3.1	Maths							
6	09/01/2022	English Entry 2.5		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths level 1.4	Maths							
7	07/09/2022	English Entry 2.4		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 2.7	Maths							
8	22/09/2022	English Entry 2.2		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 3.3	Maths							
9	17/10/2022	English Entry 2.5		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Level 1.1	Maths							
10	03/09/2020	English Entry 2.6		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Entry 2.1	Maths							
11	02/11/2020	English Entry 1.0		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths N/C	Maths							
12	22/02/2021	English N/C		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		Maths Level 1.7	Maths							
13	07/06/2021	English Entry 2.6	matrio	English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
		0 /		0						
		Matha Futur 2.4	N 4 - + -							
	07/00/2022	Maths Entry 2.4	Maths	En aliala	Colores	Create	ICT	05		
14	07/09/2022	English Entry 3.3		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
45	22/00/2022	Maths Entry 2.5			. ·		ICT			
15	22/09/2022	English Entry 2.9	Maths	English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
	10/04/2022	Maths Pre-entry 0.5	N 4 - + -	En aliala	Colores	Create	ICT	05		
16	19/04/2023	English Entry 1.1	Maths	English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	
	27/02/2022	Maths Entry 2.5	Maths	En aliah	Colonia	Create	ICT	DE	11	
17	27/02/2023	English Entry 1.7		English	Science	Create	ICT	PE	Humanities	

Achievements 22-23 English (including GCSE)	0
Functional Entry Level 1	0
Functional Entry Level 2	0
Functional Entry Level 3	0
Functional Level 1	0
Functional Level 2	0
GCSE	0
Maths (including GCSE)	8
Functional Entry Level 1	0
Functional Entry Level 2	2
Functional Entry Level 3	1
Functional Level 1	5
Functional Level 2	0
GCSE	0
Science (including GCSE)	0
PSHE	0
Employability	0
Food Technology	0
Child Development	0
Humanities	0
Health and Social Care	0
MFL	0
Art	0
Performance Skills	0





Attendance

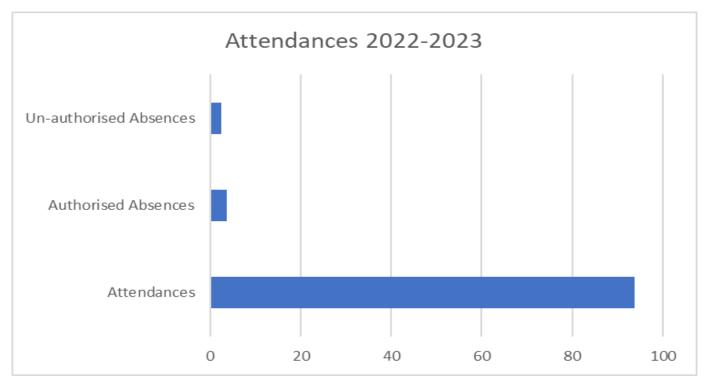
Branas School Schools use a proactive attendance policy where by staff will look at barriers to learning and will support realistic expectations around a young person's attendance. Branas School support positive attendance through both School expectations and positive reward incentives. Should a young person struggle with attendance, this is monitored closely by the Executive Head Teacher and reintegration meetings are arranged swiftly with the home to look at possible ways to overcome barriers.

Below is the attendance for 2022-2023

Attendances Total: 93.87%

Authorised Absences Total: 3.61%

Unauthorised Absences Total: 2.52%



Assessment

Branas School is currently an examinations centre for AQA, WJEC, OCR and NCFE.

The school currently offers the programmes below:



Ysgol Branas Curriculum Offer - KS3, KS4 and KS5

English:
-
Functional Skills Entry Level – Level 2
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
Maths:
Functional Skills Entry Level – Level 2 GCSE Preparation
GCSE
9036
Science:
Entry - Level 2 Units
Entry Level Certificate
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
005
PSHE
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
Relationship and Sex Education
Award/ Certificate/ Diploma in Personal and Social Development
, , , , , ,
PSHE Awareness:
Level 1 Award in Mental Health Awareness
Level 1 Award in Stress Awareness
Level 1 Award in Alcohol Awareness
Level 1 Award in Awareness of Substance Misuse
Employability Skills:
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
L1/L2 Award/ Certificate in Employability Skills
Work Experience
Information Technology:
Embedded within all subjects.
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
DEA - The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award
Entry Level 3 Essential Digital Skills
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
Business Studies:
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
L1 Certificate in Business and Enterprise

Branas 🍏
L1/L2 Certificate/ Diploma in Business Administration
Food Technology:
Independent Living Skills
Cookery Units Entry Level – Level 2
L1/L2 Certificate in Food and Cookery Skills
Creative Studies/ Art:
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units Level 1/2 Award/ Certificate in Creative Studies – Art and Design.
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
Level 2 Certificate in Creative Media
an er a witt sythesis in station in the transmission
Geography:
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
Pathways/ELC. Geography
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
Religious Education:
Awareness and Cultural events
Entry Level – Level 1/ 2 Units
Pathways/ELC RE
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
History:
Awareness and Cultural events
Entry Level – Level 1/2 Units
Pathways/ELC History
GCSE Preparation GCSE
0050
PE:
Outdoor Pursuits
ASDAN
GCSE Preparation
GCSE
Modern Foreign Languages:
GCSE Preparation
GCSE

Alternative providers

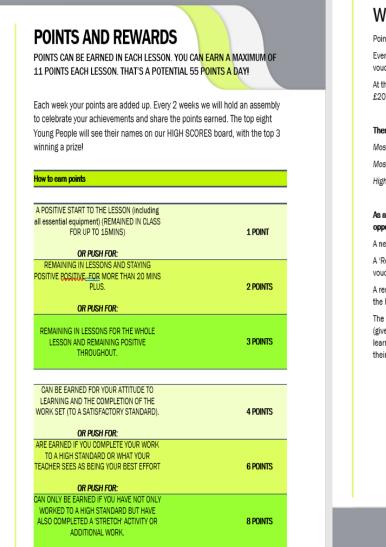
Over the academic year 2022-2023 we have formed links with and used the following providers

Alternative Education

- Wrexham Music Services
- Bala Leisure centre

Behaviour

Branas School operates a daily reward-based system of points within the lesson to encourage positive engagement. Students respond exceptionally well to this and we rarely have any instances of negative behaviour during lessons or unstructured times.



What else?

Points lead to Gold/Silver/Bronze awards.

Every two weeks the top 3 YP will receive a gift voucher. (either a cinema ticket, Amazon voucher, Google play token or Just Eat gift card.

At the end of each ½ Term the 1st place YP will receive a £30 voucher. 2nd place will receive £20 and 3rd place will receive £15.

There will also be awards given for the following:

Most improved pupil: Awarded at the end of each term

Most resilient pupil: Awarded at the end of each term

Highest attendance: Awarded at the end of each term

As always there will be end of year rewards trips and excursions which YP will have the opportunity to attend.

A new 'Learner of the Week' award each Friday (receiving a £5 voucher)

A 'Reader of the Week' award for the most reading outside of school. (receiving a ± 5 voucher)

A renewed Glenys Hughes Resilience Award (given to the young person who has overcome the biggest challenges this year, receiving a trophy, certificate and individual gift)

The new and improved 'Headteachers Award' for the most outstanding Learner of the year (given to the young person who has shown a yearlong commitment to their school, their learning and their community. Receiving a trophy, certificate and individual gift to celebrate their achievement)

SMSC/ Personal development

Over the past Academic Year, Branas School School has run a variety of trips, enrichment activities and educational visits.

Other experiences we provide for our young people to develop their personal and social skills include:

- School council
- Daily tutor/ reading time
- Assembly
- 1:1 pastoral support
- ¹/₂ termly competitions
- Weekly awards;
- Community events
- ¹/₂ termly newsletters;
- Charity support;
- Wellbeing activities;

Careers

During this academic year we have provided our young people with various career-related opportunities, often thinking outside the box to ensure our young people develop their employability skills in numerous ways. These include:

Volunteering e.g. Work Experience; IAG; Visits; Careers fairs; Contextualised careers opportunities; Career development meetings; Timetabled National Careers week; Employability qualification (Y10/11); and additional courses to support career development- First Aid/ Food Hygiene.

School Development Plan 2022-2023

Please see below Branas School School's priority areas for development during the academic year 2022-2023 and the progress made towards these. Viewing the full annotated SDP will give a more comprehensive review of progress made.

Teaching and learning experiences

- Teachers to have a shared understanding of the whole school's aims and vision and to have a clear vision of their own area and how this contributes to the whole school vision in ensuring all YPs are prepared for future learning and employment
- 2. Continue to provide targeted CPD to improve the quality of T&L and understanding of student specific needs and their impact on the classroom- pupil progress
- 3. Prioritise Whole school Literacy and interventions clear focus on Reading.
- 4. Development of Forest School/ horticulture offer at Branas school

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning

- 1. Further improve punctuality and attendance
- 2. Celebration events to take place for achievements that are both accredited and non-accredited.
- 3. Further increase pupil voice opportunities.

Care, support and guidance

- 1. Deliver a highly varied and effective careers programme embedding the Gatsby Benchmarks
- 2. Continue to further promote the extensive personal development of pupils through extra-curricular activities.

Leadership

- 1. Systematic monitoring to support quality in T&L
- 2. Support staff well-being to ensure high-quality practitioners who feel well-supported to work with YP of all vulnerabilities
- 3. Further development of curriculum offer by ensuring Forest School is offered for both KS3, KS4 and KS5 if appropriate
- 4. Create consistent timetables for all learner groups with full staffing focus on staff retention to support learner engagement and success.
- 5. Trauma Informed School to be developed at Branas School

Appendix – Staff Team

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Name	Position
Tonia Lewis	Executive Lead ST Schools
Tonia.Lewis@cambiangroup.com	Executive Head Teacher – Mews, Bridge, Branas and Chase
Donna Evans	School Administrator
Donna.Evans@caretech-uk.com	
Gillian Ashley	Deputy Head Teacher
Gillian.Ashley@caretech-uk.com	English Teacher
Steven Myers- Whittaker	Assistant Head Teacher
Stephen.Myers-Whittaker@caretech-uk.com	Art and Design Teacher
Jane Hughes	English Teacher
Lawrence Gallagher	ICT and Humanities Teacher
Sharon Jones	PE Teacher
Katrina Flanagan	Maths and PSHE Teacher
Tina Richardson	Science and Careers Teacher
Dave McSorley	Outdoor Education Instructor
Luis Prtak	Instructor