



The Maelor School community wholeheartedly embodies the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales which will enable our children to become:

- ambitious, capable learners,
- enterprising, creative contributors,
- healthy, confident individuals and
- ethical, informed citizens.

## **Vision:**

The goal of The Maelor School is to enable all our young people to 'realise their potential' within our happy, supportive and inspiring community.

We have high expectations for all our learners and value their diversity and the strengths of each unique person, taking pride in our culture. We encourage teamwork and collaboration and embrace every opportunity to develop self-respect, confidence and resilience, equipping our pupils to lead successful and fulfilling lives as individuals, professionals and global citizens.

The curriculum we provide is accessible, inclusive and challenging, offering rich learning experiences. It also offers opportunities for innovation, creativity and critical thinking in order to encourage development of independence, perseverance and personal effectiveness. We strive to enhance the use of digital technology to enable our pupils to become well-informed, responsible digital citizens and lifelong learners.

## **Our aspirations for our learners:**

We strive for our pupils' curriculum to offer experiences that allow them to:

- develop as respectful, responsible and kind individuals,
- gain high levels of literacy, numeracy and digital skills whilst building a wide body of knowledge,
- achieve academic success within their chosen pathway,
- learn about their local area, Wales and the world,
- understand about the planet's sustainability and how we can protect it,
- learn in authentic and 'real life' contexts,
- value diversity within our community, culture and the world,
- have a greater awareness of the world of work, the digital world and the skills required to succeed,
- to engage with guest speakers and enjoy educational visits that support their learning,
- develop their health, fitness and personal well-being, including dealing with different emotions and feelings.



## **Development of our new curriculum:**

Teachers and support staff have worked collaboratively and extensively to design our new curriculum, ensuring throughout their work that they hold the four purposes at the heart of developments.

The curriculum is designed so that our pupils progress in both breadth and depth of their skills, knowledge and understanding, and can make links and connections between subjects to accelerate their learning so that they can solve problems and think creatively.

High quality pedagogy underpins the 'big idea' themes we have developed in each area of learning and experience and these 'big ideas' will be revisited throughout Year 7 to 9 in a spiral curriculum to develop breadth and sophistication in the learning of both knowledge and skills.

Regular assessment will provide explicit feedback to pupils so they can take direct action to improve and have a thorough understanding of their own skills and knowledge. Teachers have broken down the key knowledge and skills required into yearly expectations and pupils are assessed against these expectations to judge their progress.

## **Stakeholder involvement:**

The Governing Body has strategically planned changes to the curriculum since 2020 to ensure that we are able to provide appropriate curriculum time for each Area of Learning and Experience in pupil timetables. This has ensured a broad and balanced curriculum is provided which meets the needs of all learners.

Pupils have been consulted through questionnaires, group discussions and the Curriculum, Learning & Lessons Student Committee about changes to the time allocation for different subjects, the development of the new curriculum and The Maelor School Vision and Aspirations for our learners. They have also given us feedback about how they are assessed and what type of information helps them to make better progress.

Parent consultation through online surveys and feedback forms has provided overwhelming positive support and agreement with our vision and aspirations for learners through the new curriculum.

## **Review:**

Aspects of the new curriculum were initially trialled with Year 7 classes during the summer term of 2022. This informed our planning for the pilot year we ran during 2022-23. Monitoring and evaluation have taken place throughout this academic year to ensure ongoing reflection and refinement ready for full implementation in September 2023.