



A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL

at Cantonian High School

welcome

to Cantonian High School; we hope this prospectus will give you an insight into our school and our values.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils and the opportunities that we provide for each and everyone of them. We are a **community school** and value the strong relationship we have with our **parents, carers** and the **local community**.

We value our pupils and believe that their time in school should be rewarding and fulfilling. We will provide care, support and guidance to all our pupils to ensure that they achieve their potential.

Should you choose to send your child to Cantonian, I am fully confident that you will have made the right decision for your child's brighter future.

Mrs Diane Gill
Headteacher

Cantonian is family. The teachers help you navigate your options to best suit your skills and reassure you that you are good enough.

Arthur - Former Student



making the right choice for your child

Cantonian High School is an English-medium, mixed 11-18-year comprehensive school. There are currently around 950 pupils on roll, and numbers are increasing every year. Our new school will be ready in 2025/26 and will provide outstanding facilities in every department.

We want every child who attends our school to have **A BRIGHTER FUTURE**. By providing our pupils with an excellent education, we aim to give them the best start in life. We offer a broad and inclusive curriculum which nurtures our pupils' individual abilities and talents. Our work is underpinned by our core values which ensure our pupils have access to consistently high standards of teaching and learning, giving them the skills to develop into independent, active citizens and lifelong learners.

We have high expectations of every child who attends Cantonian High School. We expect **'The best from each, success for all'**, whether pupils are more able, gifted at sport or in the arts, or have additional needs. We commit to ensuring the best learning opportunities for each child within an ethos of care, support and guidance. We recognise the importance of not only their academic achievement, but building resilience, aspiration, self-reliance and respect. These are skills and values that will ensure they succeed in life beyond school, and we actively encourage parent/carer involvement in this journey.

Estyn recognised our achievements in 2019 when we were graded 'Good' in all five inspection areas. We continue to build on this and offer excellent standards of care, academic and vocational attainment.

As parents and carers, you will want reassurance that we are capable of meeting our aims. When you send your child to us, you can trust us to give them the best opportunities in every area of school life. If you would like to find out more about Cantonian High School, or arrange a visit to see us in action, please contact the school.



Cantonian provided me with support when I needed it the most, and if it wasn't for the constant encouragement and persistence from the staff, I wouldn't have achieved my dream of becoming a Teacher.

Jess - Former Student



our ethos

The secondary school you choose for your child is one of the most important decisions a parent or carer will have to make.

You want your child to be happy and successful, so you need to feel confident that Cantonian will provide a creative and challenging environment where this will be achieved. We believe that in order to do this, we must have the highest expectations of both our pupils and staff.

Our ethos is caring, supportive, challenging and aspirational. We want the **'The best from each, success for all'**.



encouragement & guidance

At Cantonian, we expect all our pupils to follow our 3 R's culture which encourages them to be:

READY
RESPONSIBLE
RESPECTFUL

This culture is embedded throughout the school and ensures that our pupils are well motivated and ready to learn, responsible for their own actions, and respectful of the whole school community and its surroundings.



transition

Cantonian has excellent links with our partner primary schools. To support the transition process, our Cluster of schools meet on a regular basis to discuss and develop curriculum plans and to improve our shared understanding of progression. Cluster meetings help us to strengthen connections and allow staff across the different schools to work effectively together, sharing ideas, examples of good practice and effective teaching strategies.

We offer a range of activities for all Year 6 pupils, including morning sessions with each individual primary school and two full days of transition activities where pupils have the opportunity to experience life at Cantonian. These are all designed to help pupils get to know us and make the move to high school as smooth as possible.

For more vulnerable pupils, we host additional 'Pathfinders' visits where pupils and their parents/carers are invited to join us for a morning or afternoon of wellbeing sessions.

To complete the registration process, key members of staff hold one-to-one meetings with parents/carers, which also give us the opportunity to find out more information about their child's background, interests and hobbies, and any other information which would be helpful in settling them into Cantonian.

The transition to high school can be a worrying time for parents/carers, but our tried and tested process ensures it is as comfortable as possible for all concerned.



curriculum

Cantonian is excited to embrace the new Curriculum for Wales. This has been designed to enthuse pupils aged 3 to 16 and give them the foundations they need to succeed in an ever-changing world.

The Curriculum for Wales has more emphasis on equipping young people for life. Its key objective is to ensure that schools support young people in achieving four purposes, and our own curriculum has been designed to inspire this.

- The four purposes aim to make pupils:
- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
 - enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
 - ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
 - healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

- The Curriculum for Wales is organised into the following six Areas of Learning & Experience (AOLEs), which link subjects together to promote collaboration and support pupils in working towards the four purposes:
- Expressive Arts
 - Health & Wellbeing
 - Languages, Literacy & Communication
 - Mathematics & Numeracy
 - Humanities
 - Science & Technology

All the teachers showed a sincere interest in my future and were willing to go that bit extra to help me achieve my goals.
Oliver - Year 11

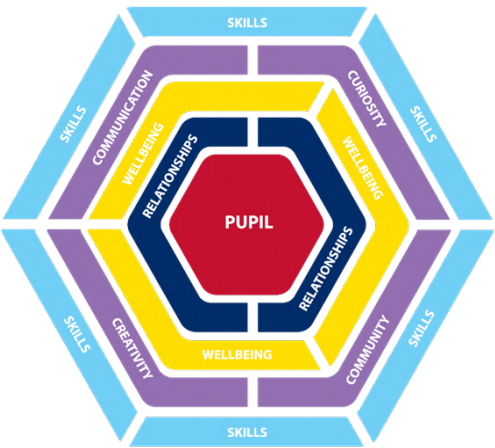


New Curriculum Vision
We believe that pupils should engage with and understand the purpose of their learning. We want all our pupils to achieve their potential and become independent, lifelong learners.

Cantonian has worked together across our own AOLEs and with other schools to build a curriculum that ensures **‘The best from each, success for all’**

We want all our pupils to enjoy their learning, achieve their potential, and develop high aspirations for themselves. We strive to ensure we provide them with the knowledge, skills and experiences they need to be successful.

Our vision is that through high-quality teaching, putting relationships and wellbeing central to what we do, and focusing on the Cantonian Curriculum concepts of Community, Creativity, Communication, and Curiosity we will successfully provide our pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum that will enable them to achieve the four purposes.



teaching & learning



Excellent teaching and learning is fundamental to your child's success. Known as the 'Cantonian Craft' exceptional teaching is embedded consistently across all subject areas. This ensures that in every lesson, your child is appropriately stretched and challenged in their learning in order to achieve their very best.

We have accomplished this by investing in our most valuable resource, our staff, ensuring they have access to the highest quality professional development on offer. We rigorously monitor and regularly review teaching and learning throughout the academic year, through daily learning walks, lesson observations and the scrutiny of pupils' work.

We expect all of our pupils to work hard and perform to the best of their abilities. As a school, we monitor progress each term and provide a broad and balanced curriculum to ensure that every child's needs are met.



Cantonian Craft

At Cantonian, we have a culture of exceptional teaching, known as the 'Cantonian Craft'. Lessons include the following specific teaching strategies to support pupils' learning:

Challenge

There is a culture of challenge where pupils develop their thinking and problem-solving skills to understand how to overcome difficulty and build resilience.

Explanation and Modelling

There is a culture of clear and direct instruction where key knowledge is made explicit, understandable and memorable.

Questioning

There is a culture of inquiry where both teachers and pupils ask questions about learning.

Deliberate Practice and Reviews

There is a culture of 'deliberate practice' where pupils have the opportunity to practice what they have learnt, develop independent thinking and produce high-quality independent work which is reviewed throughout the lesson.

Feedback

There is a culture of feedback where both teachers and pupils are able to give high-quality points for improvement.

Pupils with additional learning needs and those identified as more able and talented are supported throughout the curriculum by all our staff. This ensures they make progress relative to their starting point.

All pupils are given the skills and opportunities to maximise their potential, ensuring that standards of achievement are excellent.

These outcomes are driven via the setting of aspirational targets and having high expectations of all our pupils who themselves, are ambitious, confident, creative and inquisitive learners who are motivated and ready to learn.

an inclusive school

We are committed to ensuring all our pupils develop as successful individuals, from our most vulnerable pupils to our more able and talented learners. As a school, we recognise that for pupils to achieve their potential, their learning must be personalised to meet their individual needs.

We also recognise that learning is more than academic achievement, and should be centred on the development of the whole child, including their personal development. Ultimately, the school strives to be a centre where learning is valued and pupils achieve their potential in a happy and safe community where they show respect and tolerance for others.

The school offers a range of support for pupils with Additional Learning Needs and where possible, all our pupils with additional needs are integrated into mainstream lessons.

Learners make progress when they feel valued, safe and secure and this is the environment we strive to achieve for ALL learners at Cantonian.

We believe that pupils should engage with and understand the purpose of their learning. We want all our pupils to achieve their potential and become independent lifelong learners.



The school is really supportive in helping pupils with any issues that we may have. You can talk to so many people if you're unsure about anything or have a problem.

Charlotte- Year 7

wellbeing

At Cantonian, we promote an inclusive environment to ensure **'The best from each, success for all'**. We believe that a happy pupil is a successful one and are committed to providing a positive, safe, and stimulating environment for pupils to learn and where they feel valued.

Central to our curriculum vision is wellbeing which is the driving ambition to develop pupils' resilience and self-worth which in turn will enable them to thrive, progress and succeed in school and in life.

There is clear evidence that positive wellbeing, a healthy lifestyle and engagement in school are key factors in academic and social achievement and can subsequently improve a pupil's chances in later life.

Pupils are encouraged to further develop their abilities and social skills by taking part in as many activities as possible, available through the curriculum and as part of our extra-curricular programme.

We offer a large number of clubs and activities that pupils can take part in, both within and outside the school day, including academic clubs, sporting activities and a daily breakfast club open to all pupils.

We also have our wellbeing dog, 'Lottie' who provides outstanding support and a positive impact daily to our pupils and staff.



our community

The contribution of our pupils is key to ensuring that Cantonian is a caring and vibrant community hub.

We have an active School Council, responsible for representing pupils' views and raising any issues with senior staff and governors. They actively participate in the local community, including the weekly Walk & Talk Club, litter picking and helping in local care homes.

We have great links with our partner primary schools and regularly participate in joint events throughout the year, including the annual Christmas Carol Service in Llandaff Cathedral.

We are also part of the Fairwater Youth Action Group (YAG), which includes representatives from businesses, local government, the police, other schools and the wider community. The group provides a holistic approach to dealing with any issues raised and has a passion and enthusiasm for working together to support and engage our young people, for the benefit of the whole community. As a result of the work of the group, Cantonian now hosts a Youth Club, supported by Cardiff Youth Services.

We also host an annual Parent & Child Cooking Club, which gives pupils and their parents/carers the opportunity to cook a meal together to take home. This year's theme was Welsh recipes.

Christmas Cards designed by our very talented pupils are delivered to the local community each December. This has become a festive tradition and we hope our neighbours look forward to receiving them.

Cantonian is a proud supporter of Insole Court & Gardens and pupils and staff join the annual sponsored 'Glo Aur Walk' from Cymer (Rhondda) to Insole Court each summer.

For more community news, please follow us on X (formerly Twitter) [@cantonianhs](#)





A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL

Many pupils decide to continue their studies at Cantonian High School Sixth Form.

We offer excellent standards of teaching which will give them the skills to develop into independent, active citizens and lifelong learners. We will help support excellent relationships with our team of tutors who will ensure they receive the best support that extends beyond academic achievements, through our bespoke pastoral care.

We strive to make our pupils' time in sixth form enjoyable and successful, by enabling them to reach their full potential and ensuring they are well prepared and ready for university, further education and/or the world of work.



I decided to choose Cantonian Sixth Form as I liked not only the courses on offer, but also the pastoral support provided. The care I received supported me with the transition from Year 11 to Year 12 and helped me manage my workload. The teachers were always available to help me which enabled me to achieve the grades I needed for university.

Jane - Former Student

Now studying BSc Computer Science at Swansea University



A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL



CANTONIAN HIGH SCHOOL

THE BEST FROM EACH, SUCCESS FOR ALL
Y GORAU O BOB UN, LLWYDDIANT I BAWB

Fairwater Road, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3JR

Tel/Ffôn: **029 2041 5250**

E-mail/E-bost: **cantonianhigh@cardiff.gov.uk**

Website/Gwefan: **www.cantonian.org**

X (formerly Twitter/yn flaenorol Trydar): **@cantonianhs**