



Tarporley is a large village with excellent facilities situated in pleasant countryside between Chester and Nantwich. It provides the focal point for an extensive rural area. There are excellent links with the motorway system and with North and central Wales.

We are an 11-18 Foundation School and 6th Form College, situated on an open site on the outskirts of Tarporley. We are proud of the excellent reputation that the school has long held in the local area and beyond. The school recruits very well into Year 7 and the 6th Form College, and is full in most year groups, with no fall in numbers anticipated in the future.

Our most recent Ofsted Inspection in 2008 rated us as good, and praised many features as outstanding. We have very strong links with our 9 partner primary schools.

The academic organisation of the school is based on six faculties. In Key Stage Three, all students follow the full range of National Curriculum subjects. In Key Stage Four, the curriculum combines breadth and balance with personalisation and tailoring of courses to maximise the enjoyment and success of all groups of learners. There are approximately 140 students in the sixth form following a range of AS, A Level and Applied Advanced Level courses. Achievement in examinations has been consistently above national average and progress is good for all groups of learners.

The pastoral organisation of the school is based on a year system. Each team of tutors is led by a Year Achievement Leader and has care of the year group as they progress from year 7 to year 11. Relationships in the school are excellent. Students enjoy their learning and contribute through Student Voice to the development of Teaching and Learning. Tracking of student progress and behaviour are well developed and highly effective. We make a strong commitment to our links with our nine partner primary schools and in the summer term before they join us, all Year 6 students take part in a residential experience in North Wales with High School and Primary School Staff. Parental and community involvement in the school is seen as vital for the benefit of both school and community.

This is a school that aspires to achieve the highest standards, is constantly developing and promotes innovation. Staff enjoy a strong team spirit and are friendly and supportive to each other. Leadership and management are open and consultative, inviting the contribution of all in the school community. Students participate fully in decision-making.

We expect high standards in the way individuals treat each other, placing great emphasis on mutual respect, consideration, fairness and responsibility.

The school's original building dates back to the 1950s and was extended in the 1970's. In addition to curriculum areas, facilities include a large sports hall, upgraded in 2000, an all-weather pitch, an extensive computer network, drama studio and inclusion centre. The local Tarporley Library is built into the complex and is jointly used by the school and the community. The buildings have been substantially refurbished since our designation as a Specialist Maths and Computing and Languages College. Recent improvements include a new sprung floor in the sports hall, and a spacious new 6th Form café and lounge that provides an attractive multi-use space for our growing 6th Form numbers.

At present there are approximately 1000 pupils on the roll. There are 98 members of staff including 64 teaching staff and 34 support staff. The school is fortunate in its able and highly committed staff.

The September 2008 OFSTED report judged that:

- "This is a happy school where the relationships between staff and students are overwhelmingly positive"
- "The arrangements for settling students into school, and to ensure they manage change effectively throughout the Key Stages, are outstanding"
- "Students are polite and happy. They behave well in lessons and around school"
- "The standard of students' work is well above the national average and examination results show an upward trend"
- "The progress of boys matches that of girls"
- "Students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities make at least as much progress as their peers, and in some cases better"
- "Teaching and learning are good with examples of outstanding practice"
- "The headteacher and senior colleagues provide strong leadership"
- "Students make an outstanding contribution to the life of the school and the local community"
- "Partnership working is excellent"
- "The school is very much at the hub of its local community"