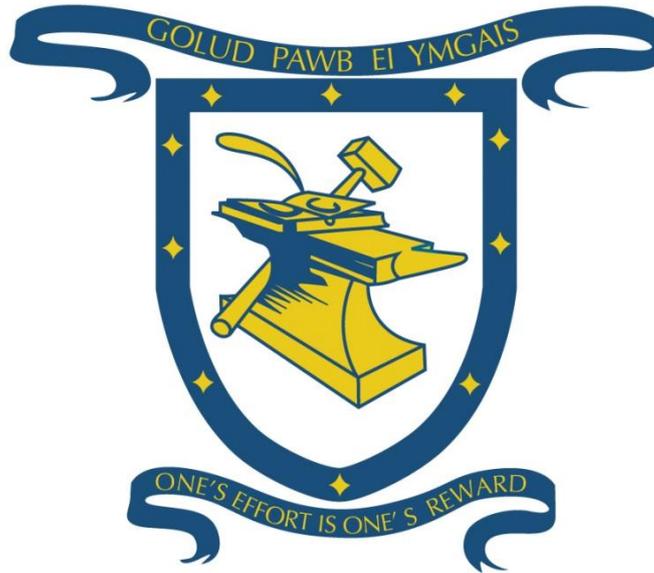


Ysgol Uwchradd CAEREINION High School



ADMISSIONS POLICY

Date reviewed: November 2017
To be reviewed: Annually

Signed *D. Whelan*
Chair of Governors

YSGOL UWCHRADD CAEREINION HIGH SCHOOL



ADMISSIONS POLICY

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: CODE OF PRACTICE

The following code is applicable to all admissions to Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion

NEW SCHOOL ADMISSIONS CODES OF PRACTICE was brought into effect on 28 February 2007 following the enactment of the *Education and Inspections Act 2006*. The Code has a much stronger basis than its predecessors. It has been revised and updated in 2009. All admission authorities are required to act in accordance with its many mandatory provisions. Admission authorities must ensure that their determined admission arrangements for 2009 onwards comply with the mandatory provisions of the Code and its revised version. The Code can be found at the website: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/sacode/>

The Code imposes mandatory requirements and refers to statutory requirements with which the following bodies must comply:

- Admission authorities (community and voluntary controlled schools unless delegated to governing bodies)
- Governing bodies (when not admission authorities)
- Local authorities (when not acting as admission authorities)
- Admission forums
- Schools adjudicators
- Admission appeal panels.

Where mandatory requirements are imposed by the Code (or by statutory provision) it is stated that relevant bodies '**must**' comply with the particular requirement or provision. Where the new Code prohibits practices or criteria it is stated that relevant bodies '**must not**' use the practices or criteria.

The introductory chapter to the new School Admissions Code also includes sections on how the Code is to be enforced and compliance monitored.

The new School Admissions Code underpins the government's aim to create a schools' system shaped by parents which delivers excellence and equity, developing the talents and potential of every child, regardless of their background. It must provide a system where all parents feel they have the same opportunities to apply for the school they want for their child.

The Code has retained most of the current admissions arrangements but has more 'teeth' in its obligations on all those bodies involved with admission arrangements.

The *Education Act 2002* made admissions forums mandatory to promote local discussion between all those with an interest in admissions.

The Act also removed the need for schools to define their capacity by 'standard number', which could only be changed by publishing statutory proposals. The new 'admission number' will be determined following local discussion. Parents will have the right to object to the adjudicator about a proposed admission number which is lower than one indicated by the school's assessed capacity.

The 2002 Code of Practice on Admissions sets out how the forums should operate. It also aims to make the admission procedure easier for parents and children by reducing multiple offers of places to some children while others have no offers. All offers of places at secondary schools will be made on one day - 1 March - from 2004.

The right to be consulted on admission arrangements and the right to object to the adjudicator have been widened and strengthened.

Parents whose children are not successful in gaining a place in the sixth form of the school they attend now have the same right of appeal as those from outside the school.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: SUMMARY OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE

CODES OF PRACTICE FOR WALES

The Welsh Government has issued two new Codes in relation to Admissions and Admission Appeals. (July 2009)

The School Admissions Code and the School Admission Appeals Code

These Codes impose requirements and offer guidance relating to the discharge by admission authorities, admission appeal panels, admission forums and of their school admissions functions. These bodies **must** 'act in accordance with' the Codes.

Both Codes contain practical guidance. They impose requirements in respect of the discharge by LAs, governing bodies of maintained schools, admission appeals panels and admission forums of their school admissions and school admission appeals functions under the *School Standards and Framework Act 1998*. The Codes include guidelines setting out the aims, objectives and other matters relating to the discharge of admissions and admission appeals functions.

The new Codes **replace**

1. *Welsh Office Code of Practice on School Admissions (April 1999)*.
2. *The National Assembly for Wales Code of Practice on School Admission Appeals (Sept 1999)*.

The new Codes will assist everyone with an interest in admissions and admission appeals. They will help ensure the admissions and admission appeals systems work for the benefit of both schools and pupils.

The *School Admissions Code* came into force in July 2009 and applies to admission arrangements to primary and secondary including Sixth Forms (Year 12) for intakes from 2010/2011.

The main changes highlighted in the School Admissions Code are:

- the prohibition of the use of certain oversubscription criteria which are unfair or undesirable;
- a requirement that admission authorities' oversubscription criteria includes 'looked after children' (children in care) as the first criterion in all instances;
- a prohibition on LAs informally delegating to schools responsibility for determining admissions applications (except where the whole function of acting as admission authority has been formally delegated to the governing body);
- the setting of a) single dates of return within each LA for admission applications made during the normal admissions round and b) single dates on which decision letters should be issued within each LA;
- a requirement that waiting lists are maintained where schools are oversubscribed;
- clarification and strengthening the role of admission forums.

The following bodies have a statutory duty to act in accordance with the Code and the Schools Admissions Appeals Code:

- **Admissions authorities** –LAs are the admission authority for community schools and voluntary controlled schools (unless under section 88 of the 1998 SSFA the function has been delegated to the governing body). Governing bodies are the admissions authorities for the foundation and voluntary aided schools.
- **Governing bodies** (when not admission authority)
- **Local authorities** (when not acting as admission authorities)
- **Admission forums**
- **Admission Appeals Panel**

Admission arrangements must be consulted and set for each maintained school between 1 September and 15 April of the school year (the "determination" year) beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply.

The Local Authority is the admissions authority for Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion. The admission arrangements are published annually in the authority document which is available from the Powys website: [www.powys.gov.uk /schools](http://www.powys.gov.uk/schools). Follow the links to education and school admissions.