



# THE CORBET SCHOOL

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

## **General Information September 2023**

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# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **1. OUR SCHOOL**

The Corbet School is an, 11-16, Converter Academy. It is a mixed comprehensive school situated in a pleasant, rural position eight miles from Shrewsbury and eleven miles from Oswestry. The Welsh border is about twelve miles to the west and some fifty miles away is the attractive Mid-Wales coastline. Housing in Shropshire is cheaper than in some other areas of the country.

Originally opened in 1957, Corbet was re-organised as a comprehensive school in 1977. It serves a circular attendance area of some eight miles radius and therefore a large proportion of the 732 pupils travel by the school bus and take school meals. The school enjoys a good reputation in the county and a number of children attend from outside the attendance area. The school day commences at 8.45 am and ends at 3.20 pm, and is organised into a 5 period day (one hour per period). The day is split two: two: one with a break at 11.10 am and lunchtime starting at 1.30 pm.

The school chose to adopt Foundation Status as from September 1999, and from September 2011 applied for and adopted Academy Status

The Corbet Parent Association is very supportive and fosters both parental contact and involvement. It has proved to be extremely helpful to the school in raising considerable, financial sums.

## **OFSTED REPORT – March 2022**

The Corbet School provides a happy and kind environment where pupils thrive. Pupils say that staff are friendly and approachable. They feel safe and trust staff to help them if they have a problem. Behaviour is good and bullying is rare. If it does occur, staff deal with it well.

Leaders, want the best for every pupil. They have designed an ambitious curriculum which is broad and balanced. Teachers deliver the curriculum well. Lessons are thoughtfully planned. Pupils say that work is challenging, and teachers help them to do their best. As a result, pupils are achieving well.

The school offers pupils a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities. Examples include sports, art, astronomy, chess and drama clubs. Attendance at these activities is flourishing, with many pupils keen to get involved. For example, large numbers of pupils were seen participating in auditions for the current school production, 'Into the Woods'.

The vast majority of parents and carers would recommend the school. They praise the quality of teaching and pastoral support. Many comment that their children were well supported through the COVID-19 pandemic. One parent summed up the views of many by saying 'I could not be happier, and neither could my child.'

## 2. **CURRICULUM**

We have 32 full-time and 14 part-time teachers who deliver a wide curriculum in academic, practical and leisure pursuits. Although broad-based, the curriculum remains balanced with setting in core subjects. In the Upper School, pupils experience a core curriculum, including for many, languages. In 2022 we achieved

- Standard Pass (9-4) in English (Literature or Language) 82%
- Strong Pass (9-5) in English (Literature or Language) 70%
- Standard Pass (9-4) in Maths 77%
- Strong Pass (9-5) in Maths 57%
- Standard Pass (9-4) in English and Maths 73%
- Strong Pass (9-5) in English and Maths 55%
- Students achieving a standard pass (9-4) in two sciences (Combined or Separate) 75%
- Students achieving 5+ standard passes (9-4) Inc. English & Maths 71%
- Students achieving at least one qualification (9-1) 99%
- Attainment 8: 50.99
- Percentage of pupils entered for EBacc: 43%
- Percentage of pupils achieving the EBacc Standard Pass: 26%
- Percentage of pupils achieving the EBacc Strong Pass: 15%

Pupils transfer for further education to either the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College, the Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology, the Walford and North Shropshire College and some into other local schools who are Sixth Form providers as well as some private sector schools.

Children's pastoral needs are recognised by organising the pupils into small, tutor groups in each year on a horizontally-grouped basis, with some continuance of tutors between KS3 and KS4. Each year group is assigned a Pastoral Assistant overseen by an Assistant Headteacher

We have a house system which creates healthy competition and the opportunity to develop pupil interests and aptitudes both within and outside the formal curriculum. The five houses are directed by Heads of House.

Extra-curricular activities are well established. Some take place at lunchtime due to the high proportion of pupils who use school buses before and after school (approx. 80%). Others, including inter-school sports matches and visits to the theatre, etc., take place after school and parents arrange for the collection of their children. Each year, various school parties enjoy visits further afield in Britain and on the continent.

### 3. **STAFFING**

The departmental structure within the school is as follows:-

English, Mathematics & Computing, Science, Art & Design & Technology, Humanities, Modern Languages, Performing Arts, Physical Education, PSHE, and Learning Support.

The Head believes in distributed leadership model, with a wide measure of responsibility given to senior and middle managers. Teachers have considerable freedom and leadership is encouraged at all levels of school. The school has good systems to monitor performance and ensure accountability.

The Leadership Team consists of the Head, Deputy Head, three Assistant Heads and the School Business Manager. Various staff meetings are held which make recommendations to the Head on all aspects of school policy and give the staff opportunities to participate in decision-making. Working parties address themselves to specific issues. We feel that this open style of management ensures that staff accept collective responsibility for the implementation of all aspects of school policy and feel committed to shaping the school's future.

### 4. **THE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

In addition to normal classroom provision, there is specialist accommodation for:-

Art, Food Technology, Textiles, Technology resistant materials, Graphics Studio, electronics, five Science Laboratories, Music, Humanities, Library, assembly/dining hall, 3 Computer Rooms, Gymnasium, Sports Hall, Modern Foreign Languages and Drama.

The school is always seeking to improve, refurbish and extend its buildings. The most recent refurbishments include roofing, roofing ,heating and electrical works, and classroom refurbishments to Science Laboratories and Music.

The school has also up-graded the IT Network capability, and communication systems, and introduced High Definition Interactive Screens into all appropriate classrooms.

All teachers are issued with a laptop that enables them to access the network within school, and remotely via wi-fi.