



GREAT WYRLEY PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL

Great Wyrley is a well established 11-18 8 form entry community high school. The school is popular and over-subscribed.

This is a calm, happy school, serving the villages of Great Wyrley and Landywood. We are situated in an agreeable neighbourhood within a few minutes drive of open country and the Cannock Chase Country Park. Great Wyrley is on the one hand close to mid-Staffordshire, Shropshire and Central Wales, and on the other to the facilities of the larger conurbation of Wolverhampton, Walsall and Birmingham. The school is well-placed for easy access to the M6/M6 Toll and M54 motorway networks.

The staff are experienced and lively, and it is part of this school's aims to maintain excellent well-being among students and members of staff. Despite the changes and pressures brought to bear externally, the School continues to develop vigorously internally with a fine range of extra-curricular activity.

Every encouragement is given to staff to develop their particular disciplines and interests and the induction and continuing professional development opportunities are a strength of the school. The 14-19 sector particularly offers a great opportunity for newly appointed staff to help shape the delivery and certification that will build on a strong academic base of AS/A2 levels by widening our applied and vocational offer to better meet the needs of all our young people.

The school opened a new suite of rooms to accommodate Performing Arts. Included are a Media Suite, Drama Studio, Recording Studio and Radio Station. A new Sixth Form Centre was also part of the refurbishment. Specialist School resources have also helped enhance creativity across the curriculum via the purchase of interactive media suites in all departments in school that are making a very positive impact on learning and teaching.

Colleagues are given full encouragement to develop their own interests with, and for mutual benefit of, students. The school has thriving musical and drama interests with annual productions, a wind band, singing group and other performance groups. Our projects and initiatives in the community won us the Schools Curriculum Award and they as well as PE and Sport and business enterprise schemes continue to flourish.

Our OFSTED report (January 2008) recognised that we are an improving school with many good features. The quotation we like best is the one where

a student told inspectors that "choosing to come to Great Wyrley is the best decision I have ever made."

I was appointed as Headteacher here in September 2004 and I want to work with people who care about education and who have genuine empathy for the lives and preoccupations of young people in our community.

We are now a well established Specialist Performing Arts College looking to our next phase of growth and development across the curriculum. In July 2010 we were successfully re-designated and are secure in our Specialist Status for 3 more years. It will be a time of challenge and excitement for the next five years and beyond. If you would like to be part of all this we would like to hear from you.

Chris Leach
HEADTEACHER