

Ysgol Tasker Milward Tasker Milward VC School



Sixth Form Student Handbook
Llawlyfyr Myfyrwyr Y Chweched Dosbarth
2016-2017

Introduction

Croeso to Tasker Milward Sixth Form!

A high quality education is the key to a successful career and future. Tasker Milward Sixth Form prides itself on high quality teaching that leads to good results. We give our students the best possible preparation to meet the challenges and take the opportunities that lie ahead.

One of our main strengths is the good relationship that exists between our students, their teachers and the home environment. Students are taught by subject specialists supported by a dedicated pastoral team. Teachers are always on hand, in and out of lesson time, to provide help and support. Students value the care they receive from being part of a smaller community where students know everyone and everyone knows them.

Our students are happy here and enjoy being part of a community where friendships are easily formed. We look forward to you joining us and becoming part of our success story.

Helen Lewis
Acting Headteacher



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A Warm Welcome from the Head of Sixth Form

Tasker Milward Sixth Form has approximately 130 students studying a variety of A level subjects and who take an active part in school life through extra curricular activities and positions of responsibility.

The reasons why students return to the sixth form are varied; many wish to progress to Higher Education, whilst others may wish to enter employment or training at the end of Year 13 or even at the end of Year 12 on the completion of their AS examinations. In all cases, the Sixth Form allows students to build on the skills, qualifications and experiences achieved by the end of Year 11 and help prepare them for the future.

All our pupils are given advice in Year 11 to help them decide on the best courses for their chosen career. You will have an opportunity to talk to the Careers Advisor, Careers Teacher, PSE Teachers and your Head of Year, to help you make an informed decision about what you would like to do after your GCSE examinations. In addition you will receive an informal interview to review your application with Rev. J Cecil, Assistant Headteacher.

The Sixth Form can offer a wealth of opportunities for those who want to take part. It is up to individuals to take advantage of what we can offer. Sixth Form students are well supported by an experienced and dedicated team of staff. Students entering the Sixth Form will need a strong, determined and positive work ethic to manage a demanding but enjoyable workload.

Mrs K Clapperton
Head of Sixth Form

The Curriculum for Years 12 & 13

Tasker Milward offers AS and A2 courses in the sixth form. Five GCSE passes at grades C and above is the base entry requirement to join the sixth form. Some subjects may require you to have gained a grade B at GCSE. The full list of subjects offered can be viewed on the application form in this booklet and on the federation website, www.pembsfederation.org.uk where detailed course information is available. It is essential that students read this information. AS and A2 courses are examined at the end of each academic year.

Advanced Subsidiary Level Qualifications (AS Levels)

This is a one year course taken in Year 12. It is a self standing qualification, that is, it is a qualification in its own right and is also the first half of a full A level. In terms of difficulty the AS course is designed to fit in between GCSE and the full A level standard. Students will normally follow three or four AS subjects and each subject will consist of two or three modules. Exams are sat in each module at the end of Year 12. The grade range for an AS will range from A to E, all pass grades and a grade U.

A2

A2 is a one year course taken in Year 13 and it forms the second half of the full A level, AS + A2 = full A level Award. You cannot therefore study an A2 without first having successfully completed the AS in Year 12. In addition the A2 course places further demands on students in terms of the depth of understanding that students must demonstrate. Again this one year course will consist of two or three modules in each subject which are examined at the end of Year 13. The grade range for a full A level is A* to E, all pass grades, and a grade U.



Oxbridge Year 12 AS Level pupils took part in an Oxbridge application preparation day in Carmarthen.

Federation Arrangements

Tasker Milward School works closely with the North Pembrokeshire Federation of Sir Thomas Picton School (STP), Pembrokeshire College, Ysgol Dewi Sant and Ysgol Bro Gwaun. This means we can offer a wide range of subjects. Free transport is provided to take students between 'Taskers' and STP. Students must walk to and from the College.

The Welsh Baccalaureate (WBQ)

All Year 12 students will follow the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification at Tasker Milward in line with Pembrokeshire Secondary schools in general.

The Welsh Baccalaureate is an exciting advanced level qualification that adds a valuable new dimension to the subjects and courses already available to sixth form students. It combines personal development skills with existing qualifications like A Levels, to make one wider award that is valued by employers and universities.

The Welsh Assembly Government introduced the Welsh Baccalaureate to transform learning for young people in Wales. Already widely respected and accepted by universities across the UK as an entry qualification, the Welsh Baccalaureate is being redesigned to make it even more rigorous so that students develop exactly the right skills they need for college, university, employment and life.

The Welsh Baccalaureate is based on a **Skills Challenge Certificate** alongside **Supporting Qualifications**. The requirements of both the Skills Challenge Certificate and Supporting Qualifications must be met in order to achieve the overarching Welsh Baccalaureate.

The **Skills Challenge Certificate** consists of four components which are followed by all learners:

- Individual Project 50%
- Enterprise and Employability Challenge 20%
- Global Citizenship Challenge 15%
- Community Challenge 15%

In order to achieve the Skills Challenge Certificate, learners must achieve all four components – the Individual Project plus the three Challenges, with a minimum of all at a level 3 Pass. The Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate is graded **A* - E**.

The **Supporting Qualifications** include two mandatory GCSEs of English Language or Welsh Language together with Mathematics-Numeracy at grades A*-C. Learners require two A levels grade A*- E, or equivalent level 3 qualifications totalling at least 600 GLH.
Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate 4

Learners will be required to consider how the application of their learning may impact on individuals, employers, society and the environment. The qualification has been devised around the concept of a 'plan, do and review' approach to learning where learners are introduced to a context for learning, planning activities, carrying out activities, reviewing outcomes and learning.

The **aims** of the Welsh Bacallaureate are to:

- develop and assess a wide range of essential and employability skills;
- promote the value and development of skills for education, life and work;
- provide opportunities to develop and assess skills through purposeful, meaningful and engaging learning experiences;
- make learning relevant and set in real-life contexts for real-life purposes;
- build on and align with the wider curriculum and associated learning frameworks.

The **objectives** of the Welsh Bacallaureate are for learners to be able to:

- develop an appreciation of the importance of skills development as a key aspect of life-long learning;
- engage in active, creative, open-ended and learner-led opportunities;
- enquire and think for themselves, plan, make choices and decisions, solve problems and reflect on and evaluate these;
- broaden their experience through engagement with external organisations;
- develop as effective, responsible and active citizens ready to take their place in a global society and in the workplace;
- develop initiative, independence and resilience;
- increase their confidence and their motivation for learning and skills development;
- work independently, take on responsibilities and work effectively with others.

The Welsh Bacallaureate aims to enable learners to develop and demonstrate an understanding of and proficiency in essential and employability skills. These are the skills that employers and next-stage educators value and which learners need for learning, work and life.

The seven essential and employability skills are:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Digital Literacy
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Planning and Organisation
- Creativity and Innovation
- Personal Effectiveness

The Welsh Bacallaureate Advanced Diploma is graded A* to E and the grade awarded will be determined by the quality of the work submitted. It is accepted by many universities across the UK as part of their entry offers.



The Art Department produces competition winners and exhibitions at various levels.

Academic Monitoring & Support Systems.

One of the benefits of studying at Tasker Milward is the importance that is placed on monitoring student performance. In order to make sure that every student is working to their potential we have a number of support strategies to help them.

These include:

- A dedicated personal tutor who will oversee all aspects of your development.
- Regular tutorial contact with your personal tutor, in line with the requirements of the Welsh Baccalaureate.
- A regular effort and attainment report for each student.
- Annual written report from each subject teacher.
- Advice and Guidance in relation to higher education, careers and employment.
- Annual parents' evening.
- Parents are encouraged to maintain regular contact with the school to discuss progress.

Examination Results

At Tasker Milward School, we are very proud of our students consistently achieving excellent AS and A level results. In 2015 our overall pass rate was 99% with 67% achieving grades A*-C. This meant that all students who wanted to progress to higher education were able to do so.



Our Celebrating Success Evening with guest speaker and past pupil Stephen Crabb.

Facilities

The Sixth Form in Tasker Milward have their own area consisting of a work room which is fully equipped with ICT and internet access as well as a study area. The library, in Milward building, is open to sixth formers throughout the day and there is a room dedicated to Sixth Form private study. There is also a Common Room where students can relax and socialise at break and lunchtimes.

Sixth formers benefit from other privileges. With the agreement of the Head of Sixth form, students can park in Tasker car park. Students may also leave the premises during the school day, a signing in and out book is located in the workroom.

Students are expected to set an example to the younger years at all times and uniform is a key expectation. The uniform for sixth form is black and white business dress. Students either wear a white school polo shirt or a white shirt and school tie. Black blazers and jackets are a popular choice of many students. Full details of the uniform are available in the student diary.



Senior prefects light candles to remember The Holocaust at Haverfordwest's memorial service

Extra Curricular Activities

One of the many reasons why so many students choose to return to the sixth form is the range of extra curricular activities on offer. The big difference for sixth form students however is that instead of merely taking part they have the opportunity to organise and lead activities. In addition to participating in the sporting, musical and dramatic groups for which Tasker Milward is well known there are many other, new opportunities and responsibilities which sixth form students can involve themselves in, these include:

Becoming a Prefect - this is a key role in the school as an example to younger pupils. The Senior Prefects are responsible for organising events for the sixth form and for co-ordinating the prefect team.

Becoming a Numeracy Coach - Year 12 students help with year 7 and 8 pupils by coaching them during morning registration.

Supporting the Charity Committee – As one might expect the sixth form are largely responsible for so much of the fund raising around the school. The charity committee is always keen to enlist helpers.



School Council - this is the formal link between pupils and staff which has two representatives from every form.

Duke of Edinburgh Award- students work at all three levels and have weekly contact with the area co-ordinator. The school has an impressive participation and success rate.

Voluntary work in the community – Many students work with outside groups for a few hours a week.

Sports Coaching – Many sporting enthusiasts in the Sixth Form enjoy coaching and supporting team games involving year 7 and 8 pupils and get a great deal of satisfaction from so doing.

Success at the Rotary Club Young Musicians Competition in Haverfordwest resulted in an entry to the Area Final.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the entry requirements?

Five GCSE passes at grades C and above is the base entry requirement to join the sixth form.

How many AS subjects should I study?

This depends on your GCSE results. You should aim to study at least 3 if possible with those students achieving good grades across all subject choosing 4 subjects.

What if I don't get the grades required?

Don't panic, all may not be lost. We will look at your grades with you in the summer against your intended courses. It may be you will need to change your options slightly but if you miss the entry requirements by some margin we will help you find an alternative path.

Can I change my options at a later date?

Yes in principle but bear in mind that the course you may wish to change too may be full.

Is it compulsory to study a subject at GCSE in order to study it at AS level?

Not always. Subjects such as Health & Social Care, ICT, Music, History, Business, PE and RE regularly pick up students who did not opt for the subjects at GCSE. You must however speak with the teachers of such subjects to discuss the course content.

When will I know if the courses I want to follow are definitely running?

April. By then we will know the expected numbers from our partner institutions.

Can you guarantee that all AS courses will progress to A2 courses in year 13?

Tasker Milward will ensure that any AS course that starts will run for the full 2 years. However if the numbers in y13 are small, the number of taught hours may be reduced.

I want to pick up subjects in all 3 institutions. Where will I be based?

At the institution where you study the majority of your subjects.

What if the course I want to follow is full?

Tasker Milward will give priority to its own students in the same way that partner institutions will give priority to their own students.

If I study a subject at another institution will I sit my exams there as well?

No. Students will sit the examination in their home base regardless of where they are taught.

Is there any financial support available to me?

Yes, if you are eligible. Students whose parents earn less than £30,000 pa are entitled to the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA). Depending on the level of parental income students can receive up to £30 p.w. together with a bonus payment of £100 per term.

What the students say...

However much teachers and friends tell you about life in the 6th form at Tasker Milward, reading about the experience of current students will be the most relevant account you can find.

The main aim of your two years here is of course to gain the best AS and A Level results you possibly can. The transition from year 11 to year 12 may seem daunting, however you will find you soon settle in. You can use any free periods you have to study, work in the resources room or participate in senior prefect organisation and responsibilities.

At Tasker Milward, we believe that as young adults, we should leave school fully prepared for higher education or employment and have the necessary skills to achieve this goal. In preparation for this you take responsibility for your own studies and as a result, develop as a person.

As you take more responsibility for your work, you will be expected to set a good example to the lower years. The prefect system allows sixth formers to become an active member of their Sixth Form, and there is the opportunity for anyone in Year 12 to apply for the positions of Head and Deputy Head Prefects. Their roles include organising the Sixth Form parties and the annual Ball, which is held in March. We personally have found these roles very rewarding, and have enjoyed listening to our year and being able to influence the many aspects of Sixth Form life.

If you enjoy being an active member of the Sixth Form you could apply to be on the School Council, enabling you to have your say on issues important to you. Another opportunity is joining the Charity Committee which organises enjoyable fundraising events for Children in Need and other charities at local, national and international level.

The popular Mentoring Scheme involves Sixth Formers visiting Year 7 forms to chat to the pupils about any problems that they may have, in school or at home. As well as showing the communication and commitment skills that employers often ask for, this scheme is hugely rewarding, not only for the younger pupils, but for the Sixth Form too!

The Sixth Form social calendar is extensive, with students encouraged to take part in musical and sporting activities. There are a wide range of musical ensembles that you can join, including orchestra, two choirs and the Brass Ensemble.

Sport is also popular with many Sixth Form students, regardless of one's ability. The senior netball, hockey and rugby team have a strong track record with numerous national successes. If you prefer to leave your trainers at home you could apply to be House Captain. This role involves helping the teachers to organise house games and take part in other events with the younger years.

Something that really sets Tasker Milward Sixth Form apart from others is the wonderful opportunity of participating in a Japanese exchange with Yukiminami High School for 2 weeks. We visit the famous cities of Hiroshima, Kyoto and Osaka, as well as enjoying cultural activities such as Taiko drumming, Japanese cooking and visiting local schools.

There are so many aspects to life in the Sixth Form to consider and we hope that Tasker Milward will satisfy your needs, both academically and socially.

**The Senior Prefect Team
2015-16**

Tom Harvey – Head Boy
Luzelle Davies – Head Girl

Owen Mountstevens and Yasemin Ozdemir
Deputy Head Prefects



Tasker Milward School Class of 2015

Chloe Absalom
Nathan Ash
Emily Aubrey
Joe Brill
Hope Buchanan
James Burden
Jack Butler
Ethan Chalker
Jordan Chapman
Tessa Charles
Jake Cooper
Jack Creasey
Abby Davies
Steffan Davies

Child Nursing – University of the West of England, Bristol
Business & Management – Aberystwyth University
Medicine – Bristol University
Sports Conditioning & Massage - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Early Childhood Studies - University of Wales, Trinity Saint David
Pembrokeshire College
Pembrokeshire College
Employment
Pembrokeshire College - Architecture
Business Management & Human Resources - Swansea University
Employment
Employment
Pembrokeshire College – Art
American Studies & Geography - Swansea University

Alex Esmond	Creative Writing and English Literature - Bath Spa University
Stephen Grant	Employment
Eleanor Hancock	Pembrokeshire College – Anatomy & Physiology
Tegan Havard	Geology - Royal Holloway University of London
Molly Haynes	Maths and Spanish - Sheffield University
Lewis Hughes	Employment
Charlotte Jacobs	Employment
Ellie Jenkins	Early Childhood Studies - Bristol University
Owen Jones	Accounting & Finance - Aberystwyth University
Bryani Kelly	Employment
Harry Kersey	Law - Cardiff University
George Langford	Apprenticeship – GD Harries
Morgan Layton	History - Aberystwyth University
Amber Llewellyn	Early Childhood Studies – University of Wales, Trinity Saint David
Matthew Marshalsey	Housing, Policy & Practice - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Dominic Perry	Business Information Technology - Aberystwyth University
Hannah Rees	Coleg Sir Gar
Jodie Rehorn	Graphic Communication - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Charlie Richards	Apprenticeship
Daniel Rudd	Architectural Technology - University of Wales, Trinity Saint David
Ben Simpson	Chemical Engineering - Swansea University
Harry Smallman	Chemistry - Cardiff University
Natasha Stapleton	Photography - University of South Wales
Hannah Thomas	American Studies - Swansea University
Hollie Thomas	Sport & PE - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Lucas Thomas	Journalism & Creative Writing - Falmouth University
Megan Thomas	Fashion Design - Birmingham University
Millie Thomas	Human Resources Management - Chichester University
Caitlyn Thompson	Psychology - Reading University
Scott Townley	Criminology - Aberystwyth University
Shane Wainwright	Personal Training - University of Wales, Trinity Saint David
Laura Walters	History - Aberystwyth University
Ayla Ward Sime	BioChemistry - Portsmouth University
Hannah White	Social Inclusion - University of Wales, Trinity Saint David
Sam Withers	Physics - Swansea University
Joe Chalmers	Employment
Holly Morris	Physiotherapy - Cardiff University
Bethan Williams	Social Work
Liam Lewis	Police Sciences - University of South Wales
Harry Williams	Forensic Investigation - University of South Wales
Josh Davies	Armed forces
Tom Easton	Business Management - Aberystwyth University

Sixth Form Application Process

- March 4th – All year 11 students wishing to apply to join Tasker Milward Sixth Form return application forms.
- March 11th – Interviews commence with SLT to discuss options choices.

Before submitting your application form – Checklist

You should be able to answer 'YES' to each question below prior to handing in your completed application form.

- Have you read the course descriptions on the Federation website?
- Have you discussed your choices with subjects staff?
- Have you checked any specific career goal and required AS/A2 subjects with MS Gwilliam or Rev Cecil?
- Does your year 11 full report issued in January indicate you have the potential to achieve the required grades?
- Are you prepared to put in the necessary hard work required in the sixth form to achieve your full potential?

General Information

Key Personnel

Acting Headteacher	Mrs H Lewis
Assistant Headteacher	Rev J Cecil
Head of Sixth Form	Mrs K Clapperton
Welsh Baccalaureate Coordinator	Ms E Scourfield
Careers Officer	Ms Gwilliam

Contact Details:

School telephone number: 01437 764147 email: uppertaskermilward@btconnect.com

For any enquiries relating to the application & enrolment process please contact Rev J Cecil. 01437 764147 email: jcecil@taskermilward.org.uk

For detailed information about all courses offered please visit the Federation website: www.pembbsfederation.org.uk

The website www.ucas.com has links to every University course in the U.K.

Notes

The more you put in, the more you get out. Get involved in the sixth form!!

