

## **General School Details**

Pensby High School for Girls is an 11/18 all ability school situated in the semi-rural area of Deeside. Although there are nearby selective grammar schools the school is extremely successful and for many years has been over-subscribed although falling rolls may have an effect.

The Standard Admission Number for the school is 150 and the school runs a 6 FE policy so that KS3 classes average 25. At KS4 the average class size is around 20 depending on pupils' option choices. There is a joint sixth form of around 250 students which is run in collaboration with the adjacent Boys' School.

A comprehensive post-16 curriculum is offered which covers 'A' Levels, Diplomas, Applied 'A' Levels, BTEC and other enrichment courses. The school works closely with three other Deeside Secondary Schools and runs joint courses as appropriate. Attached to the two schools is a resource base for visually impaired pupils who are fully integrated into the curriculum however fewer pupils are now placed at the school as they receive outreach support at their local school.

The School was inspected in 2006 and a copy of the summary report is enclosed. The school has a very strong pastoral system which underpins all policies and procedures. External examination results over recent years place the school firmly in the top 25% of similar schools whether it's by FSM or prior attainment and the value added across both KS3 and KS4 is very significant. The three year average for pupils gaining 5+ A\* to C is 73% and virtually all pupils gain at least 5+ A\* to G. These factors resulted in the school being named in the HMCI report as a particularly successful school for the second consecutive time.

The school was also named in the recent top 100 most successful schools and was also awarded School Achievement Awards in successive years. As a result of the school's successes, it was named as one of the first Beacon Schools and was subsequently re-nominated for a second four year period. The main features being self-evaluation and the use of data, pastoral support and teaching and learning.

The school works closely with the other Deeside schools and partners which allows for very close collaboration with all the schools on Wirral. The school gained specialist status in September 2006 for Business & Enterprise with Science when Beacon School status was removed as a specialism. The school also achieved Silver Artsmark status and Healthy Schools status

The school, as well as being non-smoking, is also a non-chewing gum school with an enviable reputation for supporting all its pupils.

S J Hyden  
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