



Cardiff High School Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

Headteacher/Pennaeth
Mr S M Jones

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20 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are both safe and well and that you have enjoyed a restful summer.

As I mentioned in my last letter, we are delighted with Welsh Government's announcement on 9th July which stated that pupils across all age groups in Wales will be back in the classroom from September.

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September will remain as INSET/preparation days. **Thursday September 3rd** will be dedicated to **Year 7** whilst **Friday September 4th** will be dedicated to **Key Stage 5**. The information related to these days was included in my last letter home; should you wish to remind yourself of the details, a copy can be found on the school website.

Over the summer, we have worked very hard to initiate mitigation measures which, as you know, include alterations **within** the school day and also the **timings of the day for years 7 and 8**. Registration will now take place prior to lunch time and **8.40am will signal the start of period 1**. It is very important, therefore that your son or daughter arrives in good time and is ready to move to their classroom for a prompt start to their first lesson of the day. This will afford us the flexibility of organising a staggered lunch, thereby reducing pupil numbers at any one time in the canteen. Until further notice, there will be no canteen provision before school or at break time, however, we intend to offer our usual hot lunch time menu from 3rd September.

Pupils will be issued with a contactless card for hygienic payment of meals; additionally, learners in Key Stage 5 will be able to pay using a contactless debit cards.

Please can we politely request that your child's account for the payment of school meals is either undertaken remotely or by cheque. Should you require further support in terms of signing up for Parent Pay please do not hesitate to contact us – syoung@cardiffhigh.co.uk.

In line with our bid to reduce pupil numbers at key points within the day, **year 7 pupils will finish school at 2.50pm** and **year 8 pupils will finish at 3pm**. We will review this situation during the course of the first half term. Within the first half term at least, **year 12 and year 13 pupils will not be expected to attend registration**; they will, instead, be invited by appointment to participate in small group tutorials with their form tutor. Again, this situation will be reviewed regularly.

As highlighted within my last letter,

Monday 7th September

- Years 7, 8 and 9 will arrive in readiness for a prompt 8.40am start and go directly to **their form room and not to lesson 1**

Tuesday 8th September

- Years 7 – 11 will arrive in readiness for a prompt 8.40am start and, go directly to **their form room and not to lesson 1**
- Years 12 and 13 will arrive at 1.10pm or 2.10pm if they have a lesson during the afternoon – to begin their AS and A

Wednesday 9th September

- Normal schooling for all pupils begins – all pupils arriving in readiness for a prompt start – going straight to **lesson 1 for 8.40am**

Whilst the Welsh Government has stated that there will be no issuing of fines during the first half term, we are anticipating that all pupils will return to school in September. If your child is unwell or displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), we would politely request that they remain at home for the specified number of days. Further detail surrounding this is provided by Public Health Wales.

If your son or daughter is feeling particularly anxious about their return to school and you would like some support or guidance, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do our best to provide as much reassurance as possible.

You will be aware that we were very flexible in our approach to our dress code at the end of last term; we would expect that, as of September, pupils will return to school in their uniform. We recognise, however, that you may wish for your child to wear the summer uniform to provide ease of washing and this is, consequently, permissible. In line with the guidance published by The Chief Medical Officer for Wales, the wearing of face masks remains optional at this stage.

In light of the fact that it will not be possible to share basic equipment such as pens, pencils, rubbers and rulers etc, may we politely remind you that your child will need to bring these in to school on a daily basis.

Every child will be supplied with an A4 whiteboard and marker pens to assist with assessment of understanding and immediate feedback within the classroom. Please can you ensure that once they have been issued that your child remembers to pack them each day as they will form an essential part of the learning in lessons.

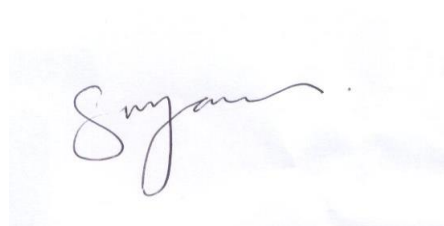
We remain mindful of the positive impact of extra-curricular activities for our pupils and it is our intention to offer a range of opportunities, whilst adhering to Welsh Government guidelines. These will take place at the end of a school day.

Please can we politely remind you that any visits on to school site need to be undertaken via an appointment system. Similarly, we would request that parents do not accompany their child onto the school site and also wait outside of the gates at the end of the day.

Finally, I would like to end this letter by thanking you, once again, for the high level of support that you have demonstrated towards us throughout this unprecedented time.

Please continue to use our website and follow our Twitter page for further updates and information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S M Jones', is written over a light blue rectangular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

S M JONES

Headteacher