

# Cardiff High School Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As another week draws to a close, I would like to share with you further updates and information.

## Covid-19 Update

Regrettably, we have had to notify pupils to self isolate this week as a result of a further positive diagnosis. May I politely request that you remind yourself of the necessary courses of action in specific circumstances surrounding Covid-19. A reminder of this can be found in last week's parental letter which is on the school website. In particular, however, please can you ensure that if any member of your family has symptoms of Covid-19 and are awaiting a test result, your child must remain at home until a negative result is confirmed. If a positive result is confirmed, they must remain in self-isolation for 14 days from the onset of symptoms.

#### Distribution of Additional Masks

Two free reusable masks will be distributed to every pupil from Monday and emergency supplies of masks continue to be available from Reception for £1.00.

#### **Blended Learning**

This week, we have been reflecting on our blended learning model and last week's switch to pupils' home learning timetables. Whilst feedback from pupils, parents and staff has been very positive. In order help you support your children during periods of home learning, we thought it would be helpful to share three simple tips:

- 1. The major benefit of live lessons is the opportunity for teachers and pupils to communicate directly. We have learned that webcams combined with Google Meet's chat function provide different channels of communication that can be tailored to specific activities and discussion. It's definitely worth asking your child how they participated in lessons during the day in order to help them build their confidence in communicating in an online environment.
- 2. As with normal lessons, being prepared with the correct equipment is essential. In particular, we have found that the mini-whiteboards, issued to all pupils at the beginning of term, have been just as powerful in the online classroom as they are in our normal lessons. Any help you can provide in reminding your child to 'arrive' at live lessons fully prepared will be a huge help in enabling them to get the most out of the session.
- 3. Many pupils have enjoyed watching webinars, particularly due to the fact they can pause, and watch them at their own pace. It is worth reminding your child, that webinars are not necessarily one-off viewing events, and can be watched multiple times particularly useful for revision and recapping knowledge.

#### **Examination Announcement**

Please note that an additional letter has been sent to families regarding the announcement made by the Minister for Education this week. As you will no doubt be aware, the Minister, Kirsty Williams, made the announcement on Tuesday that no GCSE AS or A level examinations will take place in Wales in summer 2021. This has understandably generated lots of questions for our older students. This letter can also be found on the Cardiff High website. Currently there is very little detail available about how qualifications will be assessed for next academic, however as soon as we have more information, we will keep you updated.

# 6th Form Applications 2021 & Year 6 Open Evening

We are delighted to announce that we are now receiving applications for our 6<sup>th</sup> form for September 2021 and the virtual Open Evening has been launched on the school website. Similarly, we have also prepared a virtual Open Evening for families with children in Year 6. You may wish to look at both events which convey a wonderful snapshot of life at Cardiff High School and feature a number of our pupils.

## School Newsletter

We are very pleased to be able to share with you many of the ongoing events and activities at Cardiff High School despite the context in which we are currently operating. Our newsletter contains a number of highlights from this term and can be found on the school website.

## **Charity Fundraising Day**

Thank you for allowing your child to participate in this event today. We are sure that you will understand that it will not be possible to count the donations today but we will provide you with an update in next week's letter. It has been lovely to see so many pupils taking part in the non-uniform day and generously supporting not only Children In Need but also the charities adopted by our pupil led charity group. *The Kids Cancer Charity* and *AP Cymru* will benefit from your kind donations today. Thank you.

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

Yours sincerely

S M JONES

Headteacher