



Cardiff High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

Headteacher/Pennaeth
Mr S M Jones

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break.

As we begin the new academic year, I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all of our pupils. It has been wonderful to see the school full of energy once again, with students returning ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Seeing our classrooms and corridors bustling once more has been a pleasure, and I know that staff are equally delighted to have everyone back.

For those families joining our school community for the first time, I would also like to offer a particularly warm welcome. We are delighted that you have chosen our school and look forward to working closely with you in the years ahead. Strong partnerships between home and school are vital in ensuring that every young person thrives, and we are excited to begin that journey together.

While pupils and staff have been enjoying a well-earned summer break, the school site has remained a hive of activity. We have taken the opportunity to invest significantly in our facilities to further enhance the learning environment and overall experience for our students. One of the most noticeable developments is the installation of a new security perimeter and entrance gate. The safety and wellbeing of our pupils, staff and visitors is always our highest priority, and these improvements will further strengthen the security of our site. As a direct result of pupil feedback, we have also completed the refurbishment of several student toilet blocks. These upgraded facilities provide a more modern, comfortable and pleasant environment for our students and form part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining high-quality school facilities. Our Sixth Form students will return to an enhanced Learning Hub, which has been upgraded to provide an improved independent study environment. The refreshed space has been designed to support focused learning and provide greater opportunities for collaboration and academic success. In addition, we have continued to invest in technology across the school through a range of improvements to our IT facilities which will support teaching and learning across the curriculum.

We are very much looking forward to the year ahead and to the many opportunities, achievements and successes it will bring. Some key reminders at the start of the year:

Mobile-Phone Free school

Can I remind families that the school is now a mobile-phone free site and as such pupils should not be seen using mobile devices whilst at school. This will operate in line with our mobile phone policy, a link to which can be found below.

[Cardiff High School - Policies and Documents \[Polisiau a Dogfennau\]](#)

Entrance Gate

The school site is now fully secure with a new perimeter fence and automatic security gate. Please be advised that the gate will be closed after the start of the school day and that pupils arriving late, or indeed any visitors to the site, will need to use the intercom to speak to reception to gain access. Sixth-form students have been issued with their own student ID access cards which will enable them to enter the site in between lessons.

Upcoming parental meetings

We are pleased to welcome parents and carers to a series of "welcome to" evenings. These are designed to provide you with key information to support you at this important transition point in your child's education.

Welcome to upper school meeting for Y12 parents and carers	Monday 07 September at 5pm
Welcome to middle school meeting for Y10 parents and carers	Monday 21 September at 5pm
Welcome to lower school meeting for Y7 parents and carers	Monday 28 September at 5pm

School uniform, lunch cards and attendance

I would also kindly ask for your support with a few important reminders. Please encourage your child to wear the correct school uniform each day, helping them to feel part of our school community and ready to learn. We would also appreciate parents and carers regularly checking and topping up lunch accounts where needed. If you have not yet done so, please sign up to Arbor and ParentPay, as these are the primary ways we share important school news, updates, and information with families. Finally, regular attendance plays a vital role in helping children achieve their full potential. We encourage all pupils to attend school every day whenever possible and ask that you let us know as soon as you can if your child is unable to attend due to illness or another unavoidable reason.

Updated behaviour management process

This year, we will be making full use of our Management Information System, Arbor, to record and support pupils' effort, achievements, rewards, and behaviour. Through Arbor, parents and carers will be able to view rewards and merits earned by their child, as well as any behaviour points that may be issued. We have high expectations for all our pupils and are committed to creating a positive learning environment where everyone can succeed. Most behaviour concerns are addressed quickly and informally by the class teacher through encouragement, reminders, and support within the lesson. Where this is not effective, a formal warning will be issued in the form of a C1, reminding the pupil of the need to meet classroom expectations and refocus on their learning. If the behaviour continues, a C2 consequence will be issued by the class teacher, indicating that expectations have not been met despite the warning, and an appropriate sanction will follow. In the rare event that concerns persist, the matter will be escalated to the relevant Curriculum Leader (C3) or Pastoral Leader (C4), who will work with the pupil and family to provide further support and ensure that positive learning habits are restored. We believe that strong communication between home and school is key to helping every child achieve their best, and Arbor will allow families to stay informed and celebrate successes alongside us.

New School Planners

Following feedback and consultation with pupils, we are pleased to have reintroduced school planners for all year groups. These planners have been carefully designed and co-constructed with pupils to ensure they are both useful and easy to use. They will help students to organise their learning, record homework and important deadlines, manage their time effectively, and develop strong independent study habits. We encourage pupils to use their planners regularly and ask

parents and carers to take an interest in them at home, as they are an important tool in supporting organisation, communication, and academic success.

And, finally, we are please to announce on Thursday 10 September at 3.15pm until 5pm, we will be holding another Pre-loved Uniform Event where you are welcome to come along and take pre-loved uniform items.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Thompson', written in a cursive style.

Mr S Thompson

Acting Headteacher