



Ysgol Uwchradd  
**CASTELL ALUN**  
High School

Hope, Flintshire LL12 9PY  
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Head/Pennaeth: Graham Hughes B.Sc., N.P.Q.H.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

July 2015

As we approach the end of this academic year, I write to advise you on a number of issues.

The school uniform list (overleaf) will assist you in purchasing the appropriate items. Please note the sections concerning footwear, jewellery, hairstyles (including 'number 1' styles) and make-up, as well as the clothing requirements. I would also remind you that should you wish to purchase a school skirt for your daughter, please be aware that many 'fashion' skirts are unsuitable as they are very short in length and do not meet the school uniform requirements (approximately knee length). Ties are also available from the school.

I would remind you that the regulation school sweater is available from our uniform supplier and that **all students are expected to purchase this item when renewing their existing sweater.** We are now holding a stock of sweaters in school and they are available to purchase from Mrs. Southwell. Students are also expected to wear plain black tailored trousers which are not skin tight or jeans/canvas material.

Also this year as part of a Flintshire Nightingale House initiative we are joining a 'Uniform Exchange' scheme. Our students can donate any unwanted or unused school uniform by either dropping it off in school or at any Nightingale House Hospice shop. This can then be sold on to generate much needed funds for Nightingale House. Students will be given details of how items can be donated in the coming weeks.

Following discussions with staff and students, our school day will look slightly different next year. There will be five one hour lessons with a twenty five minute registration period to start each day. A 15 minute break will be taken at 10.15am and lunchtime will run from 12.30 – 1.15pm. The start and finish times remain the same at 8.50am and 3.15pm respectively.

I would remind you that students should not phone or text home directly to report medical issues and would ask you to come into reception to collect your child if taking them off the premises. This will assist us in monitoring students' illness and their whereabouts.

I am pleased to inform you that we raised a substantial amount for our chosen charity last term. Many fundraising activities were held and would like to thank you for your continued support.

The exam results days are as follows:

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 – AS/A level Exam results day

Thursday 20<sup>st</sup> August, 2015 – GCSE Exam results day

Please note the following dates for the beginning of the September term:-

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 – Staff Training Day

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 – Year 12 enrolment

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2015 – School begins for all Students in Years 7 – 13

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015 – Friday 30<sup>st</sup> October, 2015 - Half term

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 – Christmas holiday

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 – Staff Training Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 – School begins for all students Years 7 – 13

From Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July to Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July all Year 9 students will be undertaking Welsh Bacallaureate assignments. It is vital that all students attend these sessions, or it will be very difficult to catch up on any work missed during our busy Year 10 schedule. On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July, we have our annual Sports Day. Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July is our last day in school this term.

Students will begin their examination courses in September and will be sitting internal and external examinations throughout the year. Please ensure that your child attends regularly and refrain from taking holidays during term time as this will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on their learning opportunities.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Have an enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely

Mr. N. O'Connell

Student Development Manager – Year Nine

