



Ysgol Uwchradd
CASTELL ALUN
High School

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Head/Pennaeth: Paula Williams B.Sc (Hons) N.P.Q.H.

11th September 2020

Dear parent / carer,

Thank you for all the effort you have put into supporting students upon their return to school. I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate all that is being done at home and indeed in school to provide for a safe and timely return to this, our new normal. We have received very positive feedback from many of you and truly understand the anxieties and concerns held by some.

May I please remind everyone of the following points to ensure that we are doing all which is reasonably possible to mitigate against risk:-

- Lunch - students should bring a packed lunch if possible. However, students can pay money in using the School Gateway App or by cheque into the boxes provided next to the payment machines, should purchases need to be made from our current restricted menu. Students are not able to pay money in using the fingerprint facility at present.
- Coming into School - if a student forgets their lunch, you will be able to drop it off at Main Reception and we will ensure it is passed on. However, for safety reasons we cannot currently offer this service for other items which have been forgotten. Teaching staff will show understanding as necessary.
- Water bottles - students should bring a drink with them but bottles cannot currently be re-filled in school.
- Distance learning - if a student is unable to attend school but is well enough to do their schoolwork, please check all relevant Google Classroom classes for suggested tasks.
- Drop off - please do not drop your child off before 8.30am. Before this time students in Years 7-11 will need to wait outside the building until staff are available to supervise the allocated entrances and ensure hygiene procedures are followed.
- Masks - we stagger all releases from lessons, breaks, lunchtimes and the end of school as much as we are able, whilst still providing the full curriculum and specialist teaching as required. Students move around the corridors in Year Group bubbles but, despite the one-way system, may come into brief contact with students from other Year Groups. May I please remind all parents / carers that we now expect that all students and staff will wear a face covering on the corridors during the time between lessons. Students should therefore bring a face mask to school with them, but a stock will be held in school also and can be used where necessary. We will remind all students to do this from next week, although parents / carers may write to the Group Tutor if you have good reason for your son / daughter not wearing a face covering. Your child will then show staff this note when challenged. We will continue to impress upon our students the altruistic nature of face coverings. I feel it is vitally important that students continue to be educated in how best to look after both themselves and each other.

Thank you for your understanding in these matters. Please do read the Blog available on the school website on Friday afternoons for further stories and updates on school life.

Best wishes,

Paul Edwards