



Re: June Headteacher Update

Welcome to our new intake!

This half term, my monthly updates are also sent to parents/carers of those students joining us in Y7. A very warm welcome to our new families to Caerleon Comprehensive School! We hope your child enjoys the various transition activities we have planned this half term. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need any support or help with anything. I look forward to meeting you on the 3rd July at our parent/carer welcome evening, where we will share lots of information for you ready for September.

Late on the Gate

Our focus on lateness has resulted in far fewer students arriving at school late, in fact lateness in week two of the half term compared with week one was reduced by 50%! Thank you to parents/carers for your support with this. Did you know that if a student is 10 minutes late to every lesson, that is 50 minutes of learning lost every single day? Most teachers start lessons with a recap of the learning from the last lesson, to enable students to go on to build their knowledge further in that hour. Students who miss this part of the lesson tend to find the rest of the lesson much harder. Being on time is not only important due to missed learning, but also a skill everyone needs later on in life. We are preparing our young people to be successful citizens in the world, and punctuality is an important part of this. Whilst we appreciate there is sometimes traffic and roadworks etc, this is the case for all members of our community, including our staff, and our expectation is that for long-term, planned events (e.g bin day on a Wednesday or long term roadworks), that everyone leaves a little more time for their journey. Of course, there will be times when the unexpected happens, and we have a sensible approach to this in school. Thank you once again for your support in ensuring all our students arrive at school on time.

Attendance Matters – every day counts

It may seem like an obvious statement to make, but there is a significant amount of research out there which suggests that those students who have the highest attendance in school gain the best GCSE and A level results. For us at Caerleon it is not only about results; if your child is in school every day there are other benefits, such as socialising, enjoying extra-curricular clubs and getting used to being in a routine that prepares them for whatever career they want in the future. If your child misses one day at school, that is five hours of learning lost. Of course, there are times when this is unavoidable, such as when students are too unwell to come to school, but we ask all our families to continue to encourage their child to attend every single day as long as they are well enough to do so.

If you are finding it difficult to get your child to school, please contact their Head of Year and we can ensure support is available to you.

Parking on Cold Bath Road

I ask again for parents/carers not to park along this road during pick up times. It makes the road unsafe for our students and it would be very difficult to get an emergency vehicle to our school if we

needed to with so many cars lining the route. We would recommend that you pick up from the Fosse or the car park which is a right turn on Cold Bath Road. Thank you for your support with this.

Trips Selection Policy

This policy was agreed at our recent governing body meeting and you can now find it on our website.

Uniform tweaks for September

Thank you to all parents/carers who engaged with the consultation to tweak our uniform policy for September in relation to school skirts. This change has now been finalised. All other aspects of the uniform remain the same but from September there will only be two options for a school skirt for Ys7-11:

- 1) A grey skirt purchased from one of our suppliers with the school logo. The skirt must be long enough to cover shorts or underclothes worn underneath. The school has the final say on whether a skirt is an appropriate length.
- 2) A pleated grey skirt purchased from one of our suppliers or a shop of parent/carer choice. The skirt must be long enough to cover shorts or underclothes worn underneath. The school has the final say on whether a skirt is an appropriate length.

Please note that students who wear grey maxi skirts to the ankle for religious reasons are of course permitted to wear these. Students who arrive at school in September in a non-regulation skirt will be asked to borrow one from the swapshop, or the parent/carer will be contacted to bring the appropriate uniform to school. You can find our full uniform policy on our website.

Please note that unless the weather is very hot, we will revert back to shirts and ties worn with a jumper and/or blazer in September. I will confirm whether we are returning in summer or winter uniform on the inset day in September as it will depend on the weather forecast.

STEP Centre/Refurbished J block

I am delighted to confirm that all work is now finished inside J block and our old ALN hub (housed in one of the demountables) has closed for good. Our new STEP Centre takes the place of the ALN hub and is housed in a brand-new purpose-built facility in J block. Mrs Muggleton, ALNCo has sent a separate communication to parents about the STEP Centre.

Wishing you all a wonderful June, with plenty of sunshine.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Purcell



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