



20th August 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students/Annwyl Rieni, Gwarchodwyr a Myfyrwyr

RE: GCSE Results Day 2020

To quote others more eloquent than myself, it has been a long and winding road that has led you, your child and their teachers to this day, fraught with bumps along the way and some very unexpected U- turns.

Finally, the wait is over for our learners that have ultimately had to endure an uncertain time waiting and watching decisions being made about their future, seemingly played out via all media platforms. I have no doubt that this day has been an anxious wait for everyone collecting their results.

We are absolutely delighted with the GCSE results that our pupils have received, and they should be exceptionally proud of themselves.

These GCSEs and Vocational Qualifications are a robust and rigorous set of qualifications, which are designed to meet the requirements of colleges, universities and employers. It is right that they should receive the Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) that have been produced by teachers, and subject to layers of scrutiny and moderation, and not an algorithm that ultimately does not necessarily take into consideration each individual pupil attitude, application and overall performance.

I must reiterate that the circumstances in which these grades are issued, does not diminish their worth. These results are the culmination of the 11 years of hard work that sits behind them, resulting in the amazing young people receiving them.

It has been a privilege for us at Pencoedtre to take this Year 11 group through to achieving these set of results. We as a school are adamant that these pupils are not defined as the Class of COVID-19. It is our absolute belief that they will be defined as the class that did not let COVID-19 prevent them from maximising their potential and ultimately life opportunities. They are robust. They are resilient. It is our firm belief they will only become more determined and more successful in life. They will take the challenges that this period of time has presented them with and use these experiences to aid them on their life's journey.

For those pupils staying with us for sixth form, we welcome you! For those not returning to Barry 6th Form, we wish you well on your way and hopefully you will look back on your time at Pencoedtre with fondness!

We at Pencoedtre celebrate the fact that we are a fully inclusive community. We are all about maximising pupil potential regardless of ability. It is important to celebrate the incredible journeys that so many of our students have been on to overcome difficult circumstances and succeed. This is clearly evident by the numbers of students obtaining 5 or more qualifications (Level 1 Threshold) with at least 3 of these being full GCSE qualifications. We are absolutely thrilled to report that nearly all of our Year 11 pupils have achieved the Level 1 threshold and leave us with at least



5 qualifications, that will allow them to access a meaningful pathway. This is an important indicator for Pencoedtre High School as it reflects our aspiration and expectations for each and every student.

There are so many brilliant success stories of hard work and determination. This is a year like no other. This year is history in the making. This is the 1st Year that Year 11 pupils have also included a cohort of boys. This has not been an easy transition for all but our congratulations go to you all.

Saying that, it would be remiss of me not to mention some outstanding individual achievements. Our congratulations go especially to the following students who have literally blown our minds with the following achievements:

Diana Ihabseh 15 A*/A, also 'A' Level in Arabic
Elinor Lawrence 15 A*/A

The following all achieved 14 A*/A

Amy Curry
Caitlin Courtney
Daisy Frayne
Will Ferris

Cerys Finn 13 A*/A

A final message to our students...

Regardless of your onward journey, don't be afraid to take a chance. Don't settle for second best or allow anyone else to tell you cannot achieve your dreams! Don't be afraid to fail. It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all – in which case, you fail by default.

As always, thank your parents, guardians and loved ones. The last few months will have been hard going at times, with August proving to be the tensest month for you all. Make sure you take some time to appreciate those who have supported you in getting to where you are today.

Finally, to all...

We wish you all a healthy and relaxing few days ahead and will be in touch again soon to clarify the arrangements for the start of the new term and onto an exciting future!

Thank you for reading / Diolch am ddarllen,

Mr Lee G Humphreys,
Headteacher Elect

Ysgol Uwchradd
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Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Tyfu Gyda'n Gilydd
Prif athro Gweithredol/Executive Headteacher: Dr V Browne Pennaeth Ysgol/Head of School: Mr L Humphreys
Learning Together, Growing Together