



6th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you all had a good Christmas holiday. The school reopens on Friday 7th January for **Years 10, 11, 12 & 13** and they will receive an induction on the new school building. **All pupils** to attend school on Monday 10th January and **Years 7,8 & 9** to receive induction on new school building.

Staff have been working extremely hard at getting the new school ready for our pupils and it is our intention to run the school in accordance with Welsh Government guidance and hopefully this means we can run the school with as little disruption as possible. We will keep you informed of any day-to-day changes that may be needed, if Covid absence increases over the next few weeks. No decisions are made lightly, with the pupils always at the front of any choices made.

To help the school run safely and smoothly we are asking all parents and pupils to support the following procedures:

- Masks to be worn by all pupils in classrooms and corridors (unless pupils are exempt for medical reasons).
- One-way systems are adhered to throughout the school day.
- All pupils to adhere to specific seating plans in classrooms.
- Lateral flow testing is encouraged for all pupils before school every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (the school can supply any testing kits needed).
- Any positive lateral flow test should be followed up by a PCR test.
- When a positive test is confirmed, pupils should isolate for a period of 7 days and only return in light of two negative lateral flow tests on day 6 and 7 of isolation. If LFT is still positive, then pupils should isolate for the full 10 days.
- Any pupil with symptoms of Covid must obtain a PCR test as soon as possible. Pupils can return immediately if the test result is negative.

If you are unsure at any time about the school's Covid procedures, do not hesitate to contact the school. Please be aware that changes could be made on a day to day basis. We will endeavour to limit the disruption caused, with school closure being a last resort only in extreme circumstances.

Please keep checking our website for any further updates.



Expectations

As we return to a whole new beginning, we must ensure that we set the highest standards of all aspects of school life. Our uniform is a big part of shaping our ethos and culture and the environment that we want to thrive in. Therefore, it is imperative that your child always presents themselves ready to learn and this includes the highest standard of uniform. Please note if your child is entitled to free school meals and you feel you need support in this matter, then please contact your child's Head of Year. Please can you communicate with your child that if they arrive in school with a hoodie, it will be confiscated immediately and parents will be requested to collect it.

Please see below photos of what we consider is demonstrating 'Being PHS!'



This is an exciting opportunity for us all that we must grasp with both hands. There are a number of changes that we are introducing at the start of this new dawn. We believe fully in building 'Genuine Mutual Respect' between all at Pencoedtre High School and especially between teachers and pupils and pupils to teachers. To do this we are introducing three new strategies to ensure consistency in achieving this. They are known as **STEPS**, **SLANT**, and **SHAPE**. These will be presented to you child during the new building induction process. Please see below information explaining each.



STEPS – what we expect from every pupil in every interaction with an adult

- S** **Sir or Miss** - Address all adults in this manner or end each reply in this way.
- T** **Thank** anyone who does anything for you by clearly saying "Thank you".
- E** **Eye Contact** – with any person you interact with.
- P** **Please** - Use this when you request anything either at the start or end of the sentence.
- S** **Smile** - Make sure you do this at all times; a positive facial expression leads to a positive outcome.

SLANT - how we get pupils attention and to ensure they are listening to teacher instruction

- S** Sit up straight with your arms folded.
- L** Listen to all instructions. **Raise your hand and have all the pupils raise theirs to get their attention.**
- A** Answer all questions.
- N** Not interrupt or speak over others. **Then 5,4,3,2 and ... SLANT**
- T** Track the staff member who is speaking.



SHAPE – how we expect questions to be answered

- S** Sentences – Answer all questions in full sentences.
- H** Hands away from your face when answering.
- A** Articulate - answer clearly and use correct vocabulary.
- P** Projection – don't mumble.
- E** Eye contact – Make eye contact with the teacher when answering.

Finally, the time has arrived! Your child will be walking into the most amazing education facility in the world and my word, do we deserve it! The opportunities and experiences this is going afford us as a community is second to none! We should be so proud of the new school and have the highest expectations of each other. I look forward to sharing with you the new school in action over the next few weeks and we cannot wait to see our pupils faces when they arrive.

Thank you for reading/Diolch am ddarllen!

Mr L Humphreys
Headteacher