



11th May 2021.

End of term arrangements for Year 11

Dear parents/ carers,

The Welsh Government has recently published an update to its attendance guidelines. Within this document the Welsh Government has said:-

“There is no requirement for learners in Year 11 and 13 to attend their school or setting after 28 May. Code X will apply to these learners who are absent from school from 28 May to the end of the current academic year. Whilst attendance is not mandatory during this time, schools and settings do have the flexibility to focus on further supporting student transition from Years 11, 12 and 13 for the remainder of the summer term 2021.”

What does this mean for the pupils of Pen y Dre?

I am sure you know that we are currently undergoing a programme that is unique in our education history where we are using assessments and class work to judge ‘Centre Determined Grades’ for our KS4 pupils. These grades will be dependent on the evidence each teacher provides and their holistic judgement of that evidence. The timeframe for this approach runs until the 1st July and we are aiming to provide all pupils with their Centre Determined Grades on the 23rd June.

Even though we will be setting the official leaving date for Yr. 11 pupils as the 28th May we **will require certain pupils to attend school sessions for catch up activities or assessments that had been planned prior to the Welsh Government announcement.** These sessions will be very important in determining the final GCSE grade from the pupil’s evidence base. We will contact the pupils to attend only the sessions they are needed for. They will be able to attend the time slot for the activity in non-school uniform and leave straight after the required sessions have been completed. Notice will be given so the pupils can plan and be at the right place, at the right time with the correct level of revision and preparation. This attendance will be vital for pupils to secure their GCSE if they have assessments to complete.

It has been a year like no other and we truly hope there will not be another like it. Our aim since returning to face to face education has been to secure the best qualification for your child through school based assessments and class based evidence. Your help and cooperation to complete this process beyond the 28th May would be very much appreciated in encouraging your child to attend the sessions they are requested for.

Yours faithfully,

Mr N Morgan, Assistant Headteacher KS4

