



16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear parents/carers,

This is the final letter to you of the academic year 2020-21. I'm sure we would agree that this has been a hugely challenging year, in a very unique time in our collective history. However, with your support, we as a school community have continued to provide the very best academic education and wellbeing for our pupils that we can. We really have been humbled by the encouragement, kindness and understanding you have shown throughout this year, and we are so grateful to have such fantastic parents and families working with us. Our pupils continue to inspire us with their kindness, talent and positive attitude, and we will ensure that they will become the very best versions of themselves during their time at Pen y Dre High School.

I would like to share with you some important information about the next academic year:

### School Term Autumn 2021 and times

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 -Staff INSET day no pupils in school

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 -Year 7 and Year 11 return to school

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – All pupils return to school

The school day starts at **8.30 a.m.** for registration and ends at **2.40 p.m.**, reverting to the pre-pandemic timing.

### Lesson structure

Timing	Activity
8.30-8.50 a.m.	Registration
8.50 -9.50 a.m.	Period 1
9.50 – 10.50 a.m.	Period 2
10.50 – 11.05 a.m.	Break
11.05-12.05 p.m.	Period 3
12.05- 1.15 p.m.	Period 4
1.15 -1.40 p.m.	Lunch break
1.40 – 2.40 p.m.	Period 5
2.40 p.m.	End of school day

### Latest Covid-19 Guidance

We have adjusted our risk assessment and standard operating procedures in the light of the latest Welsh Government and Local Authority guidance. Please note:





Ysgol Uwchradd  
**PEN Y DRE**  
High School

Gurnos, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9BY  
Tel: 01685 351845 Facsimile: 01685 721986  
Email: [office@penydre.merthyr.sch.uk](mailto:office@penydre.merthyr.sch.uk)  
[www.penydre.merthyr.sch.uk](http://www.penydre.merthyr.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Keith Maher MA NPQH  
Deputy Headteacher: Vikki Prosser BSc Hons NPQH

- We will keep the present arrangements of staggering lunch times for ks3 and ks4 between period 4/ lunch break. All pupils will be reminded of the arrangements in September.
- Although 'bubbles' are no longer required, we will keep to the same break out areas where each year group has a separate indoor/ outdoor area. This has proven to be very popular amongst all year groups and staff.
- The existing one-way system will stay in place.
- Although face masks need not be routinely worn in lessons, we will encourage use in all indoor communal areas (corridors/ halls) and school transport (unless medically exempt).
- We will continue to encourage social distancing where possible
- Pupils and staff will continue to take twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests, and inform the school immediately of a positive result.
- We will continue to use the school's Track and Trace system to inform parents and carers of any positive cases.

### School Uniform

Our uniform suppliers Uniforms4U are running a pop-up shop at Pen y Dre next Monday 19th and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to purchase new uniform. Covid rules will be in place- please where a mask and purchases are by cash. Over the Summer we have been assured the shop in town will be open 10.00 a.m. to 4. 00 p.m. weekdays except Thursday. We are also exploring an online purchasing system for next year.

### INSET Days 2021-22

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

May I wish you all a safe, happy and restful summer break and look forward to seeing all pupils in September.

Yours sincerely,

Mr K. Maher Headteacher

