

Queen Elizabeth High School



Good afternoon parents/carers,

As we reach the end of a half term that has tested us all, I would like to take this opportunity to once again, to thank each and every one of you for your support over what continues to be an unprecedented challenge for the school and everyone associated with it.

As a school we have made every effort to adapt and change in our efforts to maintain a high quality provision for learning and wellbeing. This has continued to be the most challenging of contexts, and from the correspondence we have received I know that you have appreciated our efforts. Thank you for your kind words and the valuable feedback and dialogue.

Can I thank all parents who were involved in the Year 11 online Parents'/Carers' Evening. This was a great opportunity to touch base with parents and to reassure and support our pupils and their families. The feedback again has been very positive and we will be planning similar events for all other year groups in the coming terms.

Wellbeing Support

As usual during a holiday period, we will not be making welfare checks with students as we do during term, but if there is support you need that you feel we can help with, please contact us at office@qehs.carms.sch.uk but please bear in mind that this will not be monitored constantly, so there may be a delay in any responses.

Pupils are also able to self-refer themselves to the area 43 counselling service via the link below:

<https://www.area43.co.uk/counselling/>

Next Half Term

As confirmed previously by Welsh Government – online learning will continue for all secondary students after half term. Our return to teaching online commences on Monday 22nd February with drop in wellbeing sessions for Year 7 at 9:00am and teaching commencing at 9:10am. By that stage I hope to have further information and clarity as regards any possible plans for school reopening. There will be an update from WG on Friday 19th February.

Fri 25th February – Launch of Sixth form On-line Open Evening

4th March Year 12/13 Parents'/Carers' On-line Evening

18th March – Year 7 Parents'/Carers' On-line Evening

Year 9 Options

The deadline for submission of initial option choices is this **Monday 22nd February**. Important information about options is available on our website. Please follow the link below to some important information and guidance:

<https://www.qehs.carms.sch.uk/student-information/year-9/year-9-options/>

Support is also available to all pupils either by contacting their Head of Learning online or by contacting the school directly. There is also very good advice on offer from the Careers Wales service:

<https://careerswales.gov.wales/courses-and-training/year-8-and-9-subject-options>

QEH in the News

We have been approached by local radio, BBC TV and newspapers in recent days to present information on our experiences of coming to terms with lockdown as a comprehensive school in Wales. There has been some very positive coverage regarding our partnerships working with Business2Schools. This organisation, through links with private companies, has provided deliveries of laptops and Wi-Fi devices for use by our learners. I would like to thank Mr Cooke for his work in establishing these links in school, and for promoting the school via a BBC Radio Wales interview this week. Please keep an eye out on BBC news for a report on the provision of laptops for learners, with appearances from Sophie Davies, our Head Girl, her sister Lucie-Jo, Mr Cooke and Miss Bethan Jones. Thank you!

Test Trace Protect

If your child has any of the symptoms of Covid then please book a test via the contact number below.

If your child receives a positive test result for Covid 19 then please email the school **even during the current lock down arrangements.**

Parents in Carmarthenshire are asked to inform both the school and Delta Wellbeing should your child receive a positive result for COVID-19. If your child receives a positive test result for Covid 19 then please email the school using the email address Office@qehs.carms.sch.uk and inform Delta be email on: TTP@deltawellbeing.org.uk or by telephone on 0300 333 2222

If your child is identified as a contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, they will need to self-isolate at home for 10 days. This means they can't leave the house; they can't go the shops or exercise anywhere outside your home/garden, and they can't have any visitors to your home/garden. Everyone else in the household can continue as normal in line with the fire-break regulations - however if your child becomes symptomatic, the whole household would then need to self-isolate.

Find out more, visit the Carmarthenshire County Council website:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/re-opening-schools/?type=45926>

If in doubt about what advice to follow then please contact the school.

QEH School	01267 245300 Office@qehs.carms.sch.uk
Delta Wellbeing (if your child has COVID symptoms)	0300 333 2222
To book a test call or Use the booking portal	Call 119 Booking Portal: https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-test

Thank you for your continued support of our school and community. Please enjoy a restful and relaxing half term and please keep safe.

Kind regards,

Dave Williams

Headteacher

Queen Elizabeth High School