



## Newsletter & Updates

*Friday 18 July 2025*

Queen Elizabeth High School / Ysgol Uwchradd Y Frenhines Elisabeth



Dear Parent/Carer,

As the school year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of our school family and to wish you all a very relaxing, fun-filled and safe summer.

Our pupils have achieved so much this year, and we are incredibly proud of all the efforts and positivity they have displayed throughout the school year. You will notice on our Facebook page that our pupils have succeed both in and out of school. Successes have come through sport, drama productions, superb artistic creations and adventure-based activities such as Duke of Edinburgh. A visit to our website page will provide you with more detailed updates: <https://www.qehs.carms.sch.uk/about-us/pupil-achievement-stories/>

As always, the last half term has been busy for our school family. At the beginning of July, we welcomed many of our families into school for our annual prize evening. Thank you to all that attended it was a lovely way to celebrate with our pupils. Furthermore last week we held a showcasing event for the GCSE and A Level music students, again great talent was on display. We have concluded this term with a variety of trips and end of year activities. Pupils have behaved impeccably throughout.

This term we also welcomed year 6 pupils who are soon to be year 7! The transition days were hugely successful and it was a lovely opportunity for the pupils to meet their new teachers. We look forward to welcoming the new year 7 intake in September. Also, this term we welcomed visitors from Canada; this was part of a wider educational visit across South Wales. Our Canadian visitors enjoyed looking at our pastoral support, spending time with pupils and visiting our garden provision. We very much enjoy having visitors to school – this year we have seen guests from Ynys Mon, Korea and across South Wales.

Even though we are approaching the summer holidays, I have to draw your attention to September, so that you are aware of key dates for the start of term. INSET days will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Years 7, 10 and 12 will return to school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and all year groups will then return from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September.







Visit our Pupil Achievement page for up to date achievement stories.





# Key Dates

- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Final day of the school year
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August - A/AS Level results day
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August - GCSE results day
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - INSET days
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Years 7, 10 & 12 return to school
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September - All year groups return to school



Our Canadian visitors enjoyed looking at our pastoral support, spending time with pupils and visiting our garden provision.



# Important Information

## Uniform

A reminder of the key elements of the school uniform:

- Shirts: Blue shirts
- Ties: School ties
- Trousers/Shorts/Skirts: Black trousers, **tailored shorts**, or skirts.  
**Please note that skirts should be modest and tailored.**
- Jewellery: Jewellery should be limited to a single pair of earrings.  
Facial piercings are not permitted.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that all students adhere to the uniform guidelines. This helps to maintain a professional and cohesive environment at school.

## Behaviour

In response to recent national challenges with behaviour in secondary schools, we have established clear expectations to foster a positive and respectful learning environment. All students are expected to demonstrate courtesy, respect, and kindness towards their peers, teachers, and school staff. Disruptive behaviours, including bullying, truancy, and disrespectful conduct, will not be tolerated and will be addressed promptly with appropriate consequences. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and to contribute to a supportive school community by upholding these standards both in and out of the classroom. We believe that maintaining a consistent and fair approach to behaviour management is essential for ensuring a safe and conducive educational atmosphere for all.







We are proud to announce that Gardd Hiraeth, our school garden, has been awarded the RHS School Gardening Level One Award.



## Mobile Phones

You will have received over the last few weeks a number of reminders of our new mobile phone policy. Whilst we have had a no mobile phone rule in school for a number of years from September this will be relaunched across all secondary schools in Carmarthenshire. Our policy will be 'Out of Sight!'. This means that we recognise that pupils may carry a phone (at their own risk) in their bags, however, they are not to be seen during the school day. Going forward if pupils use their phone during the day, they will find that it will be confiscated and returned to them at 3.25pm.

The reason for this is that mobile phones can have a detrimental effect on the learning experience and often we find that many young people spend too long on devices; this prevents them from spending quality time with friends or participating more widely in social activities.

Some pupils have shared a worry that they use their phones to check their timetables, so, from September pupils will receive planners, which will contain their timetables.



We are pleased to accept the Young Carers Silver Award, recognising our school's dedication to supporting its unpaid carers.

## Other Information

### Free School Meals

We are writing to you to encourage you to check if your child is entitled to receive free school meals. Free school meals are a vital support for many families, especially in these challenging times. They can help you save money, ensure your child gets a healthy and nutritious lunch, and also benefit the school through extra funding.

To qualify for free school meals, you must be receiving **one** of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you are not sure if you are eligible, and you do receive any of the benefits above we encourage you to take the time to [apply](#), Carmarthenshire County Council will let you know what your eligibility status is. You can also find out more information about free school meals on Carmarthenshire County Council's [website](#).

If you are eligible for free school meals, you may also be able to access additional grants and support from the government and other organisations. For example, you may be eligible for:



- The Warm Home Discount Scheme, which gives a £140 rebate on your energy bills each winter
- The Cold Weather Payment, which provides £25 extra a week for colder periods
- The Food and Fun Programme, which offers free activities and meals for children during the school holidays
- Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) | GOV.WALES
- The Cost of Living Payment, which will give £900 to means-tested benefit claimants in three instalments over the financial year 2023-24
- Family Fund - If you have a disabled or seriously ill child under three, and would benefit from access to a car, the Family Fund Mobility Support programme could help
- The Disabled Facilities Grant, which helps pay for adaptations to your home to make it more accessible for a disabled person







A hugely successful afternoon tea function with our Year 10 classes as part of their Hospitality assessment.



## School Essential Grant

Some parents can also apply for a grant for the 2025-2026 academic year. This grant can be spent on:-

- School uniform including coats and shoes;
- School sports kit including footwear;
- Uniform for enrichment activities, including but not limited to, scouts; guides; cadets; martial arts; sports; performing arts or dance;
- Equipment e.g. school bags and stationery;
- Specialist equipment where new curriculum activities begin such as design and technology;
- Equipment for out of school hours trips such as outdoor learning e.g. waterproofs;
- IT equipment - laptops and tablets only. You will need to confirm that your child's school cannot loan them a laptop/tablet for use at home. Funding of up to £125 is available to each eligible child, with the exception of those in Year 7 who are entitled to £200.

[School Essentials \(PDG Access\) - Carmarthenshire County Council](#)



Prize Evening 2025: We are incredibly proud of each and every student. Your dedication, courage, and growth continue to inspire us all.



# Miss School, Miss Out!

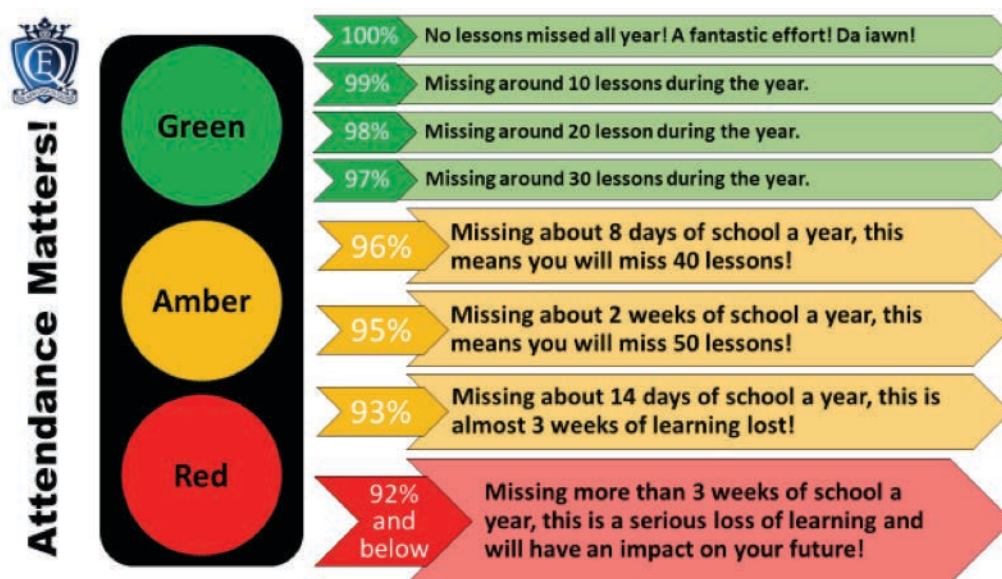
Can we still stress the need for regular attendance please.

There are lots of reasons why a child should attend school:

- To learn
- To build confidence and self-esteem
- To understand responsibility
- To develop new skills
- To grow as individuals
- To gain qualifications
- To make new friends, have fun and develop life skills
- To develop awareness of other cultures

Excellent attendance at school allows a child to have the best possible start in life.

Missing a day here or there might not seem like much, but absences add up. **Two days absence a month adds up to 4 weeks missed in a year, and that means over 100hrs of teaching lost!**



**Every school day counts, each day missed makes it harder to catch up, can lead to lower achievements in reading, writing and numeracy and impacts a child's ability to make important social connections.**



I would like to thank you for continuing to help achieve the high standards that make QEH such a special and successful school.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support, wishing you all a lovely summer!

Kind regards,



Dave Williams  
Headteacher

