

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer



I hope the whole school community enjoyed a relaxing summer— if it isn't too much of a distant memory!

I would like to extend a special welcome to the parents and carers of our new Year 7 cohort; the students have settled really well in the first few weeks of term which is great to see! I have been pleased to hear about their experiences of secondary school and how much they are enjoying lessons.

Whilst this letter is lengthy, I do hope it is useful to you in terms of updating you about key issues. Many thanks for taking the time to read it.

Staffing

I am pleased to be able to welcome a number of new staff to the school following departures at the end of last academic year. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming them to the school community.

- Mr. D. Anderson—Curriculum Leader: Sciences
- Miss. P. Baker—Teacher of English
- Miss. E. Evans—Teacher of Science & Support
- Mrs. S. Horabin—Higher Level Teaching Assistant in OSIC
- Mrs. D. McIntyre—Teacher of International Languages
- Mrs. E. Taylor—Teacher of History and Welsh
- Mrs. N. Walker—Student Support Officer

The following staffing changes have also been implemented:

- Mr. J. Artist—Associate Assistant Headteacher
- Mrs. A. Lacey—Acting Head of House : Ty Deiniol
- Mrs. L. Williams—6th Form Pastoral Support
- Mrs. M. Davies—Teacher of Science & Support

School Calendar

I attach a copy of the school calendar for your information, which is also available in student planners and on the school [website](#).

Uniform

I have been particularly impressed with how students have presented themselves for school this academic year. Many thanks to you all for your support in ensuring that high standards in terms of dress are maintained. Should any parents/carers be experiencing any difficulties in purchasing uniform or any other necessities for school, in such a challenging time financially, then please contact Student Support. We may be able to assist directly or by being able to signpost towards support outside of school.

School Uniform Exchange

A variation on a theme, I remind parents about our Uniform Exchange Programme which is open to all parents and carers where you can obtain or donate items. We welcome donations of jumpers, shirts, ties and PE kits. If you have any of these items that your child has outgrown and no longer needs, we kindly ask that you bring them to the school office. These donations will form the basis of our exchange inventory, allowing us to assist families who are in need.

We want to emphasise that participating in the Uniform Exchange Programme does not require you to donate any items. Even if you do not have uniforms to contribute, you can still take advantage of the programme and acquire uniforms for your child. The service is entirely confidential and discrete. Your privacy is important to us and we assure you that any information shared will be handled with the strictest confidentiality.

To request specific items from the Uniform Exchange Programme, we kindly ask that you email Lisa Donnelly, PA to Headteacher, lisa.donnelly@hawardenhigh.flintshire.sch.uk. In your email, please provide a list of the required items, including the sizes and any specific preference. Once we receive your email, we will respond promptly and provide you with information regarding the availability of the requested uniforms.

Free School Meals

The following link can be used to access information about entitlement to Free School Meals and also about financial help towards the costs of uniform and equipment <https://gov.wales/get-help-school-costs>

Direct link to Flintshire County Council website can be found [here](#).

If you are eligible to receive Free School Meals it is very important that you apply. Not only will you receive funding for school meals for your child, but school will also receive additional funding which will allow us to provide targeted support programs, buy equipment and resources etc. Even if your child prefers to take their own packed lunch it is still important to register for Free School Meals so school can access this additional funding. For students who have just moved into Year 12, you will have to reapply for Free School Meals even if you were entitled to them in Year 11. The same applies for those who have just moved into Year 13.

If your child receives Free School Meals, parents/carers are then also eligible for other funding for school uniform/kit/equipment. You can claim for £225 a year (£300 for Year 7) and can claim once per child each year. You can apply for this using the link to the Flintshire website. Any student who is 'Looked After' can apply for this grant, even if they are not entitled to Free School Meals.

Open Days / Evening

For any families wishing to seek admission to the school, particularly those thinking of joining the school in September 2024, are encouraged to come along and see the school for themselves on our Open Days and Evening held on 4th and 5th October. More details are available [here](#) with booking available on Eventbrite or via the school office.

Parking

Can I please make my annual plea for your cooperation when dropping off and picking up your child(ren) at school? In the morning, if using the site, please proceed to the far end of the bus bay when dropping off your child, thus enabling other motorists to enter the school site with minimal delay.

Please do not leave your vehicle parked in the bus bay; should you need to enter the school please park in one of the designated visitor spaces.

If you are picking up your children from school at the end of the day it is easier to use the Gladstone playing fields car park opposite the rear entrance of the school. Any traffic on the school car park is restricted to remaining stationary for the period 3.10p.m.-3.25p.m., whilst students are exiting school and buses are arriving and leaving the campus. The school gates are also closed for this period and will not be opened under any circumstances. Hawarden Community Council leave their pedestrian gate open so that students can use their path onto the Gladstone car park rather than using the vehicular access point. We are grateful to them for continuing to allow this facility. Students have also been reminded about the necessity to use the designated crossing point across the Highway.

Please do also be mindful of our neighbours who require access to their properties— there have been occasions this term already where difficulties have been created by parents parking across driveways.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please encourage your child to attend as many extra-curricular clubs as they can. These really do provide students with great opportunities. We have something for everyone from Dungeons & Dragons Club to Cheerleading and from Dodgeball to Yoga Club. An up-to-date copy of the timetable is available [here](#) on the school website.

Curriculum for Wales

Parents of children in Year 7 and 8 will be aware that this year sees the launch of Curriculum for Wales in Hawarden High School. In order to keep you informed, we have created a micro-site on our school website which will be regularly updated as time goes on. Please do take a look [here](#).

Year 11 and Year 12 Information Evenings

Parents of Year 11 pupils are invited to join us on **Wednesday, 18th October 5.30-6.30p.m.** in the hall where they will receive presentations from the Deputy Headteacher, Mr Boyd, and the Curriculum Leaders for English, maths and science. The presentations will detail how parents can support their child with revision, specific subject advice from specialists and the timeline for examinations.

Parents of Year 12 students are invited to join us on **Wednesday, 11th October 5.30-6.30p.m.** to discuss a wide range of topics relating to their child's journey through sixth form. A presentation will be delivered by Assistant Headteacher, Mrs. Birch, which will give an overview of the two-year programmes of study, key dates, how students can build their CVs, target grades, measuring progress and other key topics.

Rewards

I have been incredibly impressed by the number of students achieving bronze and silver milestone certificates for house points already this year. A significant number of pupils have also received commendations and recognition for their efforts across school life. Whilst you may have seen certificates and emails coming home to inform you of these awards, I urge you to ask your child to show you their ePraise account online so that you can get a sense of how well they are doing in school. All pupils have a unique login which they can use to view information about progress and turn their house points into currency for use in the online shop.

Vaping amongst young people

I appreciate the positive feedback received from parents about our strong enforcement of the policy around vaping. To be clear, we have a zero tolerance approach to vaping. Therefore, should any pupil be found to be in possession of a vape or similar device it will result in immediate application of a fixed-term exclusion and the confiscation and destroying of the vape/device. Parents will be required to collect their child from school immediately.

We share Public Health Wales' concerns about vaping and the effects this is having on young people. To that end, we will shortly be sending a survey to all pupils, via their email account, which we have been asked to share and to seek their views over this important issue. The survey, conducted by ASH Wales, will help inform action at both a local and a national level. The survey contains questions on vaping and smoking and where and how pupils are accessing vaping products. The survey takes between 5 – 10 minutes to complete. Pupils do not have to take the survey or indeed answer all of the questions on the survey. Survey responses are completely anonymous so that responses can be as honest as possible.

Anyone with information on the sale of illegal vapes or underage sales can report it anonymously through the 'No Ifs No Butts' [website](#). We would encourage parents and pupils to use this website to support local action.

If any parents/pupils wish to seek advice or support regarding Vapes or other substances, please contacted the Flintshire Sorted Team on 01352 703490 or via sorted@flintshire.gov.uk

Canteen Menu

I have been asked by NEWydd, the school's catering provider, to send out a copy of their new menu. Whilst there will always be the addition of daily specials, this two-week menu will repeat between now and Christmas. For reference, week commencing 2nd October 2023 will follow the Week 1 menu.

Yours sincerely



Mr. S. Budgen
Headteacher

2023-2024

Hawarden High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Penarlâg



Autumn Term

SEPTEMBER / MEDI 2023

	REACH									FR 1	Staff Training Day
WK1	-	MO 4	Staff Training Day	TU 5	Staff Training Day	WE 6	School Opens for Pupils	TH 7		FR 8	
WK2	Tues 1	MO 11		TU 12		WE 13	Yr 7, 10 & 12 Photographs	TH 14		FR 15	
WK3	Tues 2	MO 18	Yr 7 CATs & MIDYIS Yr 12 ALIS	TU 19	Yr 7 CATs & MIDYIS Yr 12 ALIS	WE 20	Yr 7 CATs & MIDYIS Yr 12 ALIS	TH 21		FR 22	
WK4	Tues 3	MO 25	Yr 8 & 9 MIDYIS	TU 26	Yr 8 & 9 MIDYIS	WE 27	Yr 8 & 9 MIDYIS	TH 28	Yr 8 & 9 MIDYIS	FR 29	Yr 8 & 9 MIDYIS

OCTOBER / HYDREF 2023

WK5	Tues 4	MO 2		TU 3		WE 4	Open Day	TH 5	Open Day & Evening	FR 6	
WK6	Tues 5	MO 9		TU 10		WE 11	Immunisations Yrs 7-11 Yr 13 Challenge Day	TH 12		FR 13	
WK7	Wed 1	MO 16		TU 17		WE 18		TH 19	Yr 7 Review Evening	FR 20	
WK8	Wed 2	MO 23	Pupil Group Meetings	TU 24		WE 25		TH 26		FR 27	Progress Cards Yrs 11, 13 & 12 School Closes (New York Trip 28-2)

NOVEMBER / TACHWEDD 2023

WK9	Fri 1	MO 6	School Opens	TU 7		WE 8		TH 9		FR 10	Remembrance Service
WK10	Wed 3	MO 13		TU 14		WE 15		TH 16	Yr 11 & 13 Photographs	FR 17	
WK11	Wed 4	MO 20		TU 21		WE 22	Yr 10 Narrative Reports & Progress Cards	TH 23	Yr 10 Parents Evening	FR 24	
WK12	Wed 5	MO 27	Yr 11 Trial Exams	TU 28	Yr 11 Trial Exams Yr 13 Challenge Day	WE 29	Yr 11 Trial Exams	TH 30	Yr 11 Trial Exams	FR 1	Yr 11 Trial Exams

DECEMBER / RHAGFYR 2023

WK13	Thurs 1	MO 4	Yr 11 Trial Exams	TU 5	Yr 11 Trial Exams	WE 6	Yr 11 Trial Exams	TH 7	Yr 11 Trial Exams	FR 8	Yr 11 Trial Exams
WK 14	Thurs 2	MO 11	Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams KS3 Numeracy Tests Christmas Concert @ St. Dennis Church	TU 12	KS3 Numeracy Tests Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams	WE 13	KS3 Numeracy Tests Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams	TH 14	KS3 Numeracy Tests Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams Yr 10 Challenge Day	FR 15	KS3 Numeracy Tests Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams
WK 15	Thurs 3	MO 18	Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams	TU 19	Yr 12 & 13 Trial Exams	WE 20		TH 21	Yr 7 & 8 Progress Cards School Closes for Pupils	FR 22	Staff Training Day

Spring Term

JANUARY / IONAWR 2024

WK16	Thurs 4	MO 8	School Opens	TU 9		WE 10		TH 11		FR 12	
WK17	Thurs 5	MO 15		TU 16		WE 17		TH 18		FR 19	
WK18	Tues 1	MO 22		TU 23		WE 24	Yr 9 Narrative Reports & Progress Cards	TH 25	Yr 9 Parents Evening	FR 26	

FEBRUARY / CHWEFOR 2024

WK19	Tues 2	MO 29		TU 30		WE 31	Yr 8 Space Master Class KS4 Options Evening	TH 1		FR 2	
WK20	Tues 3	MO 5	Pupil Group Meetings School Production	TU 6	School Production	WE 7		TH 8	Yr 11 Parents Evening	FR 9	Yr 10 Progress Cards School Closes
WK21	Tues 4	MO 19	Staff Training Day	TU 20	School Opens for pupils	WE 21	Yr12&13 Narrative Reports & Progress Cards	TH 22	Yr12&13 Parents Evening	FR 23	
WK22	Fri 5	MO 26	Senedd	TU 27	Yr 9 Immunisations	WE 28	GCSE Music Performance Day	TH 29	6 th Form Open Evening	FR 1	Yr 11 Challenge Day Eisteddfod

MARCH / MAWRTH 2024

WK23	Tues 5	MO 4		TU 5		WE 6		TH 7		FR 8	GCSE Textile Prac Exam
WK24	Wed 1	MO 11	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams GCSE Textile Prac Exam	TU 12	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	WE 13	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	TH 14	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	FR 15	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams
WK25	Wed 2	MO 18	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	TU 19	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	WE 20	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	TH 21	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams	FR 22	KS4 & 5 Trial Exams Yr 7, 8 & 9 Progress Cards Yr 8 Narrative Reports School Closes

Summer Term

APRIL / EBRILL 2024

WK26	Wed 3	MO 8	School Opens	TU 9		WE 10	Yr 7 Immunisations	TH 11	DoE Silver	FR 12	DoE Silver
WK 27	Wed 4	MO 15	Yr 10 Welsh Orals week	TU 16		WE 17		TH 18		FR 19	
WK28	Wed 5	MO 22	Yr 11 Welsh Orals week	TU 23		WE 24		TH 25	Yr 8 Parents Evening	FR 26	
WK29	Thurs 1	MO 29		TU 30		WE 1		TH 2	KS4 & 5 Progress Cards	FR 3	DoE Bronze

MAY / MAI 2024

WK30	Thurs 2	MO 6	May Day Bank Holiday	TU 7		WE 8		TH 9	A Level / GCSEs Start	FR 10	
WK31	Thurs 3	MO 13		TU 14		WE 15		TH 16		FR 17	
WK32	Fri 4	MO 20		TU 21		WE 22		TH 23	KS4 & 5 Progress Cards	FR 24	DoE Bronze Yr 11 Leavers Service (Ibc) Year 13 Leavers Event School Closes

JUNE / MEHEFIN 2024

WK33	Thurs 4	MO 3	School Opens	TU 4		WE 5		TH 6		FR 7	
WK34	Mon 1	MO 10		TU 11		WE 12	Twilight	TH 13		FR 14	Yr 8 & 9 Progress Cards Sports Day
WK35	Mon 2	MO 17	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests Pupil Group Meetings	TU 18	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests	WE 19	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests Yr 7 Narrative Reports & Progress Cards	TH 20	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests Yr 7 Parents Evening	FR 21	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests
WK36	Mon 3	MO 24	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests	TU 25	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests	WE 26	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests A Level / GCSEs End Yr 6 Intake Evening	TH 27	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests Senedd Yr 6 Transition Day Yr 11 Prom	FR 28	KS3 Numeracy & Literacy Tests Yr 6 Transition Day





JULY / GORFFENNAF 2024

WK37	Mon 4	MO 1	Yr 12 Work Exp Year 11 Taster Day Yr 10 Trial Exams	TU 2	Yr 12 Work Exp Yr 11 Taster Day Yr 10 Trial Exams	WE 3	Yr 12 Work Exp Yr 10 Trial Exams	TH 4	Yr 12 Work Exp Yr 10 Trial Exams DoE Silver	FR 5	Yr 12 Work Exp Yr 10 Trial Exams DoE Silver
WK38	-	MO 8	Year 10 Work Exp Yr 7-9 Enrichment Week	TU 9	Year 10 Work Exp Yr 7-9 Enrichment Week	WE 10	Year 10 Work Exp Yr 7-9 Enrichment Week	TH 11	Year 10 Work Exp Yr 7-9 Enrichment Week DoE Gold	FR 12	Year 10 Work Exp Yr 7-9 Enrichment Week DoE Gold
WK39	Thurs 5	MO 15	Reward Trips	TU 16	End of Year Concert	WE 17		TH 18	School Closes for pupils	FR 19	Staff Training Day





Please note some of these dates are provisional and may be liable to change
Exam Results Days : A Level 15th August 2024 GCSE 22nd August 2024

Pupil Final - 11th July 2023

OUR kitchen LUNCH menu

WEEK 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 MAIN	Fish Pie, Peas & Curry Sauce ••• Sweet Chilli Vegetable Noodles	Theo's Marinated Chicken Flatbreads ••• Salmon Pasta & Peas	Marinated Chicken Flatbread ••• Cheesy Red Pepper & Chilli Macaroni & Garlic Bread	BBQ Sausage, Mash & Peas ••• Santa Maria Tortilla	Beef & Vegetable Keema Curry, Rice & Naan ••• Vegetable Meatballs, Pasta & Garlic Bread
 SOUP	Chicken & Sweetcorn Soup •••	Healthy Vegetable Soup •••	Sri Lankan Veg Curry Soup •••	Indonesian Chicken Noodle Soup •••	Tuscan Tomato & Basil Soup •••
 SALAD	Tuna, Pasta & Sweetcorn ••• Cheesy Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Chicken Caesar ••• Vegetable Samosa ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Tuna, Lime Salad ••• Tomato & Basil Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Mediterranean Pasta Salad ••• Sweet & Sour Vegetable Noodle Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Chicken Salsa Salad ••• Vegetable Falafal Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials
 DESSERT	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit
MEAL DEAL	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS
DRINKS	[COLD] Water - Still / Carbonated • Tropicana • Milk - Semi Skimmed / Skimmed • Flavoured Milk • Ipro Student ••• [HOT] Tea • Coffee • Hot Chocolate				

OUR kitchen LUNCH menu

WEEK 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 MAIN	Beef Bolognese, Pasta & Garlic Bread ••• Vegetable Massaman Curry, Rice & Naan Bread	Theo's Marinated Chicken Flatbreads ••• Vegetable Bolognese, Pasta & Garlic Bread	Katsu Chicken Curry, Rice & Naan Bread ••• Cod Goujon, Mash, Peas & Curry Sauce	All Day Breakfast ••• BBQ Veggie Sausage, Mash & Peas	Piri Piri Chicken Rice & Naan ••• Breaded Salmon, Chips & Peas
 SOUP	Chicken & Sweetcorn Soup •••	Healthy Vegetable Soup •••	Sri Lankan Veg Curry Soup •••	Indonesian Chicken Noodle Soup •••	Tuscan Tomato & Basil Soup •••
 SALAD	Tuna, Pasta & Sweetcorn ••• Cheesy Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Chicken Caesar ••• Vegetable Samosa ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Tuna, Lime Salad ••• Tomato & Basil Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Mediterranean Pasta Salad ••• Sweet & Sour Vegetable Noodle Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials	Chicken Salsa Salad ••• Vegetable Falafal Salad ••• A Selection of Daily Specials
 DESSERT	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Pot Fresh Fruit Jelly Mixed Berry Yoghurt Pot Whole Fresh Fruit
MEAL DEAL	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS	Check counter for TODAY'S DEALS
DRINKS	[COLD] Water - Still / Carbonated • Tropicana • Milk - Semi Skimmed / Skimmed • Flavoured Milk • Ipro Student ••• [HOT] Tea • Coffee • Hot Chocolate				