



Dear Parent/Guardian

It was so nice to see all the school pupils back on site yesterday, and to hear the sound of them playing in the fresh air at break and lunch times. Almost all pupils were back and eager to see their friends and teachers. We hope this is another step on the journey towards normality. A couple of points have come up over the holidays so I've included them in this extra message

School uniform

With children growing up so fast, we understand that many are now too big for their school uniform. Clothes shops have now reopened but it will take some time to sort out some problems with the uniform. We understand that the first two weeks ago will be a time of adjustment, but if the problems are likely to continue after this, we ask that you contact the progress and wellbeing leader.

Our changing rooms will be out of use for the season so we will continue to ask pupils to wear an PE kit on days with PE lessons.

Canteen

The canteen has adapted their menu over the lockdown period, and I will attach the menu for the next few weeks. Technical work has taken place over the lockdown period to adapt the payment system to introduce a cashless system. Further details will be coming over the coming weeks.

Staffing

I would like to say thank you to Mrs Louise Noakes who is leaving the Art department and welcome to Miss Megan Evans who is taking over the Art department from the start May.

Assessments

Some questions have arisen about the special circumstances process. This is an appendix to the policy available in the Teams of exam years, but I've attached the details to this message for clarity.

Once again I would like to say thank you for all your support during the lockdown period and look forward to welcoming you back to the school site when COVID regulations allow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhodri Thomas', written in a cursive style.

Dr Rhodri Thomas
(Headteacher)

Special Consideration Guidance

The process of centres submitting special consideration applications to awarding bodies will not apply this summer. The school's assessment process is flexible and can be tailored to an individual learner according to the coverage of the specification, instances of special consideration should be limited. It should be possible to select work completed by learners where they are unaffected by adverse circumstances.

There may be incidents at the time taking the relevant assessments which are outside of the learner's control that may affect their performance in the formal assessment used to determine the grade. These include:

- Temporary illness or accident/injury
- Bereavement
- Domestic crisis
- Assessments where previously approved access arrangements have not been implemented

Learners will not be eligible for special consideration if preparation for, or performance in their assessments is affected by:

- Long term illness, disability, or other difficulties unless the illness or circumstances manifest themselves at the time of an assessment
- Bereavement occurring more than six months before the assessment, unless an anniversary has been reached at the time of the assessment or there are on-going implications such as an inquest or court case
- Consequences of disobeying the centre's internal regulations.

Special consideration is never applied due to lost teaching and learning time. Lost teaching and learning is being addressed this summer via the assessment methods and the flexibility of the school's assessment policy

How to apply special consideration

Special consideration should be given to implementing at assessment level by applying an allowance of additional marks to all affected assessments. The size of the allowance depends on the timing, nature and extent of the illness or other circumstances. The maximum allowance granted will be 5% of the total raw marks available in the assessment. Students or parents / guardians must make a written request, with medical evidence where necessary, to the Examinations Officer.

- The severity of the circumstances and the date of the assessment in relation to the circumstances should be considered.
- The school must be satisfied that the issue or event has had, or is reasonably likely to have had, a material effect on the learner's ability to demonstrate his/her normal level of attainment in an assessment.

Special consideration cannot be applied in a cumulative fashion. For example, because of a recent trauma at the time of the assessment and the learner suffering from a viral illness. Special consideration should only be applied for the most serious indisposition.

The following are examples of circumstances which must apply at the time of the assessment:

5% this is the maximum allowance and will be reserved for the most exceptional cases, such as:

- terminal illness of the learner
- terminal illness of a parent/carer
- death of a member of the immediate family within two months of the assessment
- very serious and disruptive crisis/incident at or near the time of the assessment

4% Very serious problems such as:

- life-threatening illness of learner or member of immediate family
- major surgery at or near the time of the assessment
- severe disease
- very recent death of member of extended family
- severe or permanent bodily injury occurring at the time of the examination
- serious crisis/incident at the time of the assessment

NB "Very recent" is defined as within one month of the assessment taking place.

3% A more common category (more cases will fall into this category), including:

- recent traumatic experience such as death of a close friend or distant relative
- recent illness of a more serious nature
- flare-up of a severe congenital/medical condition or a psychological condition
- broken limbs
- organ disease
- physical assault trauma before and assessment
- recent crisis/incident
- witnessing a distressing event, on the day of the assessment

NB "Recent" is defined as up to four months prior to the assessment taking place.

2% The most common category of allowance –most cases will fall within this category:

- illness at the time of the assessment
- broken limb on the mend
- concussion
- effects of pregnancy (not pregnancy per se)
- extreme distress on the day of an assessment (not simply assessment related stress)

1% Reserved for more minor problems:

- illness of another learner which leads to disruption in the assessment
- stress or anxiety for which medication has been prescribed
- hay fever on the day of an assessment
- minor upset arising from administrative problems

Canteen Menu

WEEK 1

Monday	Minced Beef & Onion Pie with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Tuesday	Chicken Cymru (Diced Chicken breast served in a creamy cheddar cheese and leek sauce) Fresh Seasonal vegetables Glamorgan Sausages Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Wednesday	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake Ham & Mushroom Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Thursday	Pork Sausages with Onion Gravy and Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Cheese & Potato Pie with Baked Beans Meat Feast Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Friday	Breaded Fish & Steakhouse Chips with Mushy Peas or Curry Sauce Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice

WEEK 2

Monday	Chicken & Mushroom Pie with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Fishfingers with Baked Beans Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Tuesday	Beef Curry with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread Fresh Seasonal vegetables Quorn Chilli Con Carne Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Wednesday	Roast Pork with Sage & Onion Stuffing Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread Ham & Mushroom Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Thursday	Cottage Pie with Seasonal Vegetables Vegetable Sausages Meat Feast Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Friday	Breaded Fish & Steakhouse Chips with Mushy Peas or Curry Sauce Mushroom Omelette Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice

WEEK 3

Monday	Beef Lasagne with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Vegetable Pasta Bake Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Tuesday	Chicken Casserole with Seasonal Vegetables Cheese & Onion Pasty with Baked Beans Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Wednesday	Roast Turkey with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Glamorgan Sausages Ham & Mushroom Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Thursday	Chicken Goujons with Garlic & Herb Potato Wedges Vegetable Burger in a Bun Meat Feast Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice
Friday	Breaded Fish & Steakhouse Chips with Mushy Peas or Curry Sauce Cheese Omelette Pepperoni Pizza Slice Margherita Pizza Slice