



19th July 2023

Dear Families,

**2024/25 Transition 2023/24
Gwernyfed High School**

It is my pleasure to write to you and introduce myself formally to you before the end of term and say how much I am looking forward to meeting you next year. As the new Head of Gwernyfed High School, I have the pleasure of working with an incredible team of staff and pupils in an entirely extraordinary setting. As a relatively small secondary school, we have the unique opportunity of knowing every child personally, and extremely well. Since my arrival, we have worked tirelessly to improve the school at pace, working closely with the local authority and key partners. Estyn are happy with the progress we have made in such a short time. As a very experienced and successful Headteacher I am committed to ensuring all our pupils achieve their full potential in a happy, caring, challenging and creative learning environment. I want the very best for each and every pupil and will ensure we achieve this together.

I know as a parent it is quite amazing to believe that next term your child will be entering their last year of primary school, where did that time go? As a parent of children who attend schools in Powys, this has been a time of great change and I want to assure you that my commitment to your children is unwavering. When your child joins us in year 7, they will continue to flourish as individuals and experience learning that will allow them to become bright, confident, vibrant young people who have an incredible future ahead of them. As we build a strong culture of success at Gwernyfed High School, we will ensure that pupils have many opportunities to succeed so they become well rounded individuals in all aspects of school life, not just in the classroom, but experiences that include sports, expressive arts, trips abroad, local and regional study visits, cultural visits, Eisteddfodau, leadership development, university experiences and enterprise, to name just a few.

In September we will share with you a programme of transition events and supportive information which will include:

- A new and improved school prospectus
- Open Evening – Wednesday 27th September 2023 4.30-7pm.
- Programme of transition events

We have revamped and relaunched our school Facebook page and would encourage you to take a look, to give you a flavour of our school 'in action', www.facebook.com/gwernyfed.high.school

We are fully focused on continually improving the quality of the educational experience for all our pupils, in a beautiful place to learn and thrive and a significant amount of works and investment is currently underway to enhance this further. We place great importance in working together to ensure we do our very best for all our pupils, developing a deep culture of success. We look forward to welcoming you to our Open Evening in September, and also extend a warm welcome for you to visit during normal school day, please get in touch if you would like to arrange a visit, we warmly welcome visitors every day.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours,

Kirsty Retallick
Headteacher