



19th July 2023

Dear Families.

**Year 7 September 2023
Gwernyfed High School**

We wanted to get in touch in the last few days of term with a little note to say how much we are looking forward to your child joining us as our new Year 7 pupils here at Gwernyfed High School in September. As well as taking a moment to send our very best wishes to you, in what is often an emotional few days of primary school, we are all thinking about you.

Improvements

Since my arrival, we have worked tirelessly to improve the school at pace, working closely with the local authority and key partners. I am pleased to share with you that Estyn are very pleased 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.

We are fully focused on continually improving the quality of the educational experience for all our pupils, developing a deep culture of success. This is a beautiful place for children to learn and a significant amount of building work and investment is currently underway to enhance this further over the summer term. Pupils will notice a difference from their summer term visits when they arrive in September.

Classes

Classes have been formed considering a wide range of factors, from an expectational and bright year group. Pupils will be taught in high end mixed ability groups. The timetable has been organised, so that subjects are taught largely at the same time. This will allow Heads of Faculty the flexibility to teach groups creatively meet the needs of individuals, the class and cohort. At the same time allowing us the imagination that 'Curriculum for Wales' requires for a bespoke delivery model.

School uniform

School uniform is important and sends a clear message to everyone demonstrating that they have pride in their school and their own appearance.

All Year 7-11 pupils will wear:

- White short or long sleeve shirt or blouse - pointed collar, to be tucked in.
- Tie (compulsory) – clip-on, maroon with white stripes. This must be worn on the top button of the collar. A small stock of ties will be available for purchase at the main school reception.

- Navy V neck jumper with gold school shield **or** plain navy V neck school style jumper with a metal school badge (the school will supply the first badge for free, there will be a small charge for replacement badges which will be available at reception)
- Black trousers** or black **knee length** skirt or black **knee length** tailored shorts
- **All black shoes** (no trainers or steel toe capped boots please). Leather style lace up pumps are allowed.
- Dark opaque tights or socks (black, navy or grey)

** Trousers should be formal rather than casual please, for clarity **this does not** include leggings, jeggings, jeans or skin-tight trousers please.

All pupils may remove their school jumper in warm weather, and we may revert to sports kit in very warm periods and families will be kept informed of this as appropriate.

Pupils may wear a plain coat, scarf, hat and gloves; these must be removed in classrooms.

No 'hoodies', other sweatshirts, tracksuit tops, cardigans, bodywarmers or jackets are permitted please.

All pupils must bring a school bag which is appropriate for their schoolbooks, school equipment sports kit etc. This should ideally be waterproof.

Physical Education items:

- School polo shirt (fitted or unfitted style) or plain black or white polo shirt
- School rugby shirt
- Plain black shorts or black skort
- Optional plain black tracksuit bottoms
- Optional School ¼ zip sweatshirt
- Black or white sports socks with or without school logo

Badged items if you choose these can be purchased directly from our supplier "Club Sports" either on-line or at the store in Kington or Hereford. [Club Sport](#)

Alternatively, an order form can be obtained from the school office.

Other important points

Only one pair of single stud/flat earring

Limited, discrete make up please.

No false nails or nail polish.

Hair colour should be natural. Colours should not be extreme e.g. blue, purple, green, pink etc.

Hair styles should not be extreme in nature i.e. logos, patterned shaving etc.

Notes

Non-uniform items will be confiscated and kept safely. These can be collected at the end of the school day.

Families are politely requested to support the school with the uniform policy.

A school uniform exchange/pay as you wish will be available each week and during the summer holidays.

This policy considers the following;

[School uniform and appearance: policy guidance for governing bodies \(WG23-17\)](#)

Support for school uniform is available here WG School Essential Grant

Enquires/communications

If you have any queries or questions over the summer, you can get in touch with us via enquiry@gwernyfed-hs.powys.sch.uk and somebody will come back to you within a few days

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

Date for your diary: An important date for your dairy is **Tuesday 12th September**, when we will have our first parents evening with your child's form tutor, this will take place in school. You will have a scheduled opportunity to discuss how your child has settled in, expected targets for the year and to discuss ways we can together support child progress and wellbeing.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and very much look forward to welcoming you 'team Gwernyfed' in September.

Yours,

Kirsty Retallick

Headteacher