



Year 12 Parents' Information Evening

Tuesday 1 October

Dydd Mawrth 1 Hydref

The Team

Learning Leader - **Mr Matthew Jones**

Learning Leader Support - **Miss Rebecca Conibear**

PGW - **Mrs Charlotte Howells**

SLT Link - **Mrs Rebecca Salmon**

Key Stage Manager - **Mrs Jan Platt**

Form Tutors

Miss D Blyth

Mrs D Brown

Miss A Davies

Mr A Evans

Mrs L Hooper

Mrs M
Nightingale

Mrs C Robinson

Mr M Reekie

Miss S
Sanchez-Grant

Mrs D Thomas

Mr I Stewart

Mrs B Lewis





Key Dates

Dyddiadau Allweddol

Key Dates



October 2024

Tuesday 1st	Parents' Information Evening
Thursday 10th	Year 6 Open Evening - Student Ambassador Involvement
Friday 18th	Wellbeing Fayre

November 2024

Monday 4th & Wednesday 6th	GCSE English Resit
Monday 11th & Wednesday 13th	GCSE Mathematics Resit
Thursday 21st	Sixth Form Open Evening - Student Ambassador Involvement

Key Dates



November 2024 (cont)

Monday 11th (approx)	Year 12 Form Tutor Reports Issued
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Monday 25th November - Friday 6th December	Mock Exam Period
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January 2025

Monday 6th	INSET
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Thursday 23rd	Year 12 Parent/Carer Evening
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Monday 27th	Sixth Form Reviews Commence
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Key Dates



February 2025

Friday 14th

INSET

Thursday 20th

Welsh Blood Service Clinic

March 2025

Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th

School Musical Production - The Sound of Music

April 2025

Monday 28th - Friday 2nd
May

Culture Week

Key Dates



May 2025

Monday 12th

AS/A Level Written Exams Commence
Year 12 Exam Leave Commences

Wednesday 11th

Exam Contingency Day

June 2025

Monday 16th

Year 12 Return

July 2025

Wednesday 2nd - Friday 4th

Year 12 Skills Days (Wellbeing & Future Pathways & University Visit)



School Life

Bywyd Ysgol



Support, Guidance and Challenge

Your son/daughter has been placed into a form group with a form teacher who will be one of their key contact points during their time at Sixth Form.

They will work with their form teacher every day. We have a full program of activities that take place during form sessions under our 'iDevelop' programme. These sessions cover a wide range of areas that will allow each student to thrive in the Sixth Form and onwards to whatever comes next.



Expectations

We expect all students to be committed to their studies at Olchfa Sixth form and to attend **all lessons**.

All students are required to attend form sessions **each morning**.

Where students have 'free time' we encourage them to make use of the facilities provided to be engaged in a mix of meaningful study and social activity.



Expectations - Punctuality

We are focusing on punctuality to school and lessons in Sixth Form.

All students should be in their form room by **8:35am each morning**.

Students who are late more than once in a week without a valid reason will be sanctioned the following week with an after school callback.

Information on your son/daughters attendance and punctuality can be found in the School Gateway app.



Expectations - Absence

Sometimes there are reasons when students need to miss school.

Please inform the school as soon as possible when an absence is known.

This can be done through:

- Email to Mrs Platt: jpt@olchfa.org.uk
- Phoning 01792 534345
- On the Class Charts App

Where we are not informed of an absence, truancy sanctions may be put in place.



Expectation - Facilities

Students can make use of the Library, where there are computer booths and quiet study areas, or the 'Block' where there is a more informal feel that encouraged collaborative work on tasks they may have.

The 'Block' houses our Sixth Form Cafe, open all day, where students can purchase a range of snacks, hot and cold food and drinks.

We expect students to look after their facilities and environment.



Expectations - 'Free Lessons'

'Free Lessons' are study opportunities for students to further their knowledge of their subjects. Time could be spent on:

- Reinforcing work set in the classroom
- Revision of prior knowledge in preparation for the next topics being studies
- Making summary notes
- Catching up with any work missed through absence
- Assessment tasks / exercises
- Responding to teacher feedback.



Dress Code

We expect all students to come to school dressed smartly and appropriately.

A copy of the dress code is provided on the School Website and was issued prior to the start of term.

We want students to have pride in their appearance as they are representing the school at all times and are often seen as role models by the lower school.



ID Cards

Each student in Sixth Form is issued with an ID Card. These are used for identification purposes along with signing in and out.

It is important that, when a student leaves the site or returns they sign in / out with their ID cards. This forms a part of our safeguarding and evacuation procedures.

Students must have their ID cards with them at all times.



Emotional Health & Wellbeing Support

Students first point of contact for any concerns that they have about their wellbeing or otherwise is their Form Tutor.

Students are also able to access the Pastoral Guidance Worker.

There is a range of services and support that is available to help students develop positive emotional health and wellbeing.



Emotional Health & Wellbeing Support

Our school website has a section dedicated to Pupil Wellbeing along with Family Wellbeing.

What Every Parent Needs to Know - Young People and Mental Health (Webinar)



What Every Parent Needs to Know - Anxiety (Webinar)



Support and advice is always available in school

- Please speak to a member of staff if you need help -

Alternatively check out some of these apps and websites...



Pastoral Guidance Worker - Based in NEWID and the Sixth Form Block, PGWs are available to offer support and guidance whenever you need it.

NEWID
changes: chances

Exchange Counselling - Available for all students at Olchfa. 1-1, face to face sessions. Call 03302 02 0283 or ask your PGW to refer you.



Platform (website) - Mental Health and well-being support. Sign up for 1-1 sessions or join an online group for peer support!

PLATF^{FORM}

Kooth (website) - Online counselling service that uses CBT techniques to support young people experiencing any problem. Users can chat anonymously to counsellors during "online sessions".

kooth

Barod - (Drop-in & 1-1 sessions) Support around all aspects of substance use. Speak to you PGW to refer you or call 01792 472002.

barod

MIND (website & helpline) - Advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. 01792 642999

mind
for better mental health

Beat (website, online chat & helpline) - Help and advice if you or someone you love is struggling with an eating disorder.



Hope Again (website & helpline) - Youth website of Cruse Bereavement Service - It is a safe place where you can learn from other young people how to cope with grief and feel less alone. Call 0808 808 1677



Headspace (app) - Popular wellbeing app that uses meditation and mindfulness techniques to help with stress, anxiety and depression.



Calm Harm (app) - Supporting for those who are thinking about or who are currently self harming by equipping them with helpful tools and strategies to use instead.



Childline (website & helpline) - Access online to a counsellor to talk about anything that may worrying you. Call 0800 1111



Samaritans (website) - Long standing charity supporting people in mental health crisis. Now provide an email service alongside the phone-line as many prefer this method of communicating.. Call 116 123



Hafal - Charity supporting people with mental health problems – with a special emphasis on those with a serious mental illness – and their carers and families. 01702 466990



Shout (website) - Free 24/7 text service for anyone in a crisis, anytime, anywhere. Text :85258



Stay Alive (app) - For anyone who is struggling with suicidal thoughts or for those supporting someone who is.





Pastoral Guidance Workers

Mrs Howells (Supported by Mrs Tracy Hughes and Mr Matthew Robbins).

They are available throughout the day. Students can drop in to speak with a PGW. There will also be points where students are scheduled check in appointments.

Our PGWs work with a range of external support services who offer frequent sessions within school.



iDevelop / iDdatblygu

iDevelop is our curriculum that runs through form sessions and individual Taith sessions throughout the year. It brings together a number of important curriculum areas and experiences.

Examples

- Resilience
- Relationships
- Impact of Social Media
- Careers
- Healthy Choices
- Religious Celebrations
- Discrimination
- Pathways
- Financial Management
- Revision Strategies



School Ambassadors

Over the next few days we will be looking for enthusiastic and motivated students to join our Sixth Form Ambassadors team. This provides an opportunity for students to get involved in school life and allows them to practice and show off a range of different skills.

School Ambassadors will be used at various events such as our Open Evenings and School Production along with being involved in other school based initiatives.



School Ambassadors

This provides a great opportunity for students to get involved in the school community in the widest sense.

It gives students something to talk about on CVs, University Applications and in interviews.

Towards the end of Year 12 there will be an opportunity for students to apply for a Senior Prefect position.



Progress

Cynnydd



Parents' Evening

Thursday 23rd January

Your chance to speak with your son/daughter's teachers. Receive feedback on attitude and effort in lessons, expectations, work completed and upcoming deadlines.



Progress Reports

The first progress report will be provided in November in the form of a Form Tutor report. This will give some key information as to how your son / daughter has settled in to Sixth Form and their subjects.

Subject reports will be issued later in the year and will give a further update as to how your son / daughter is doing along with providing a predicted grade and an attitude to learning score.



Careers Wales / Gyrfa Cymru

Our school based Careers Advisor is **Heidi Thomas**

Throughout the year, Sixth Form students can make use of the services offered Careers Wales.

We will also work with student to proactively book appointments with a Careers Advisor where we think these will be helpful.

Careers Wales can be contacted on 0800 028 4844



Gyrfa Cymru
Careers Wales

HE+ / Seren



Online Portal with online opportunities

**Welcome meeting in the Great Hall, Swansea Bay Campus.
23rd October 6-8pm**

**Masterclasses provided by
Swansea University in a variety of
subject areas.**

**To qualify you must have a
minimum of 5A*-A at GCSE.**

**Any questions please
contact
rmc@olchfa.org.uk**

**Online registration - link to
be emailed today.**



Post 18

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University Applications & Support

A lot of work is done with students on helping them to decide on a suitable course and location.

We use the UNIFROG platform alongside UCAS to empower students in looking at possibilities for courses they could study in university.

UNIFROG allows students to easily find every course and apprenticeships in the UK.



University Applications & Support

During the Summer Term, after exams, we will arrange a number of workshops and masterclasses to help students with applying to university. Covering skills such as writing personal statements.

We also encourage students to attend University / Apprenticeship Open Days. We will arrange for the year group to attend the Cardiff University Open Day in July.



In School Support

Support will be available for all students throughout their time in Year 12. This is provided both through our pastoral program and iDevelop alongside individual advice and guidance being available from the team.

There is a pathway available for everyone after their AS/A Levels and we will support you to find the best fit for you.



Thank You
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Key Contact Details

Matthew Jones - Learning Leader: mrj@olchfa.org.uk

Jan Platt - Sixth Form Office: jpt@olchfa.org.uk

01792 534345

Absences can be reported to Jan Platt using the information above, or via the Class Charts App.