



Year 13 Parents'/Carers' Information Evening

Tuesday 8 September

Dydd Mawrth 8 Medi

The Team

Learning Leader - **Mr Dave Thomas**

Learning Leader Support - **Miss Rebecca Conibear**

PGW - **Ms Charlotte Howells**

SLT Link - **Mrs Kathryn Wall**

Key Stage Manager - **Mrs Jan Platt**

Senior Lead - **Mrs Quick**



Form Tutors

Mrs Carroll

Mr Humphris

Mrs Patel

Mr Kovacevic

Mrs Purton

Mr Francis

Mrs Finselbach

Mrs Scordino

Mr Devany

Mr Davies



Key Dates

Dyddiadau Allweddol

Key Dates

4 September - Early Applicant Survey Deadline

8 September - Parent Information Evening

21 September - Preparing for Interview

1 October - Early Applicant UCAS deadline

11 November - Predicted Grades

12 November - Sixth Form Open Evening

26 November - Parents' evening

4 December - UCAS application deadline

16 December - Christmas Jumper Day

18 January - Mock exams begin

22 February - School Musical

7 May - Prom (TBC)

10 May - Exams begin

14 May - Year 13 Last day

18 June - Exams finish

23 June - Contingency Day

12 August - Results Day

[Dates and deadlines for uni applications | UCAS](#)



School Life

Bywyd Ysgol



Expectations - Lessons

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

We follow up on missed lessons, with no authorised reason through emails and use of pastoral detentions.

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 - Form Time

All students are required to attend form sessions on **four** mornings a fortnight.

These morning will have been agreed between each student and his/her form tutor.

One of the mornings will include our assembly on Wednesday - Week B



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 when they are attending form sessions.**

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 Class Charts 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 has been shared by form tutors.

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 -

email: studentsupport@olchfa.org.uk



Pastoral Guidance Worker - Based in NEWID and the Sixth Form Block, PGWs are available to offer support and guidance whenever you need it. Alternatively email: studentsupport@olchfa.org.uk



Platform Counselling - Available for all students at Olchfa. 1-1, face to face sessions. Speak to your PGW if you wish to access this service



Platform - Mental health and well-being support. Sign up for 1-1 sessions or join an online group for peer support. Speak to your PGW to refer you or visit the website.



TidyMinds (website) - Signposting website for emotional health and wellbeing support specifically for those living in the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot area.



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



MIND (website & helpline) - Advice and support to empower anyone experiencing issues related to mental health. Call 01792 642999



Beat (website, online chat & helpline) - Help and advice if you are struggling with an eating disorder, or know someone who is. Call 0808 801 0433





Pastoral Guidance Workers

Ms Howells (Supported by Mrs Vincent).

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.



Progress Cynnydd



Parents' Evening

Thursday 26 November

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



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



Post 18

Ôl 18



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.



Take
these
quizzes

Quizzes

Skills profile

✖ Quiz not taken



Quiz profile

✖ 0 of 4 quizzes complete



Exploring

Careers library

✖ Careers favoured



Subjects library

✖ Subjects favoured



Know-how library

✖ Guides favoured



Uni & Employer library

✖ Profiles favoured



Courses

✔ 1 course added, 0 completed



MOOCs

Make your first shortlist



Recording

Activities

✖ Recorded at least 10



Skills

✖ Completed all 12



Interactions

✖ Missing 7 Interaction types



Academics

✖ No Classes selected



Materials

UK personal statement

✖ Marked as finished



Subject References

✖ No References selected



CV / Resumé

✖ Write CVs tailored for each roles



Notes for Reference writers

✖ 1 notes missing



Searching

UK universities

2 shortlists



European universities

0 shortlists



Oxbridge

0 shortlists



Apprenticeships

0 shortlists



College / Sixth Form

0 shortlists



Irish universities

0 shortlists



Connecting

Unifrog events

Interact directly with experts



Talent pool

✖ Not joined



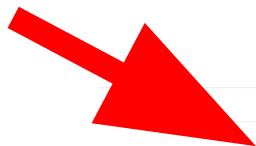
What are the **best grades** you're likely to get by the time you leave school / college?

* Qualification 1	A Level	A (48 points)
Qualification 2	A Level	B (40 points)
Qualification 3	A Level	B (40 points)
Qualification 4	Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate	B (40 points)
Qualification 5	--- please select a qualification ---	

Not sure what grades you'll get? [Click here](#) ▾

next ▸

or [go back](#)



Rank ▾ Filters (1) ▾

Keyword search

✕

Aspirational (60)

Top of your range

Solid (112)

In the middle

Safe (64)

At the bottom

 English - 3FT BA (Hons) University of Cambridge A Level: A*,A,A UCAS Points: 152	 Liberal Arts with English Literature - 4FT MA (Hons) University of Glasgow A Level: B,B,B-A,B,B UCAS Points: 120-128	 English Literature with Foundation - 4FT BA (Hons) Durham University Foundation year
 English Literature - 3FT BA (Hons) Durham University A Level: A*,A*,A,A UCAS Points: 152	 English - 3FT BA (Hons) North-eastern University London A Level: B,B,B UCAS Points: 120	 English Literature with Foundation Year - 4FT BA (Hons) University of Sheffield Foundation year
 English Literature - 4FT MA (Hons) The University of Edinburgh - Central area campus A Level: A*,A*,A*,A*,A*,A* UCAS Points: 152-168	 English with a Year Abroad - 4FT + Abroad BA (Hons) Queen Mary University of London A Level: B,B,B UCAS Points: 120	 English Language and Literature with Foundation Year - 4FT BA (Hons) University of Sheffield Foundation year
 English with Study in North America - 3FT BA (Hons) University of Exeter A Level: A*,A*,A,A UCAS Points: 152	 English with Secondary Education (QTS) - 3FT BA (Hons) Nottingham Trent University - Clifton Campus UCAS Points: 120	 English Language and Communication [with Foundation Year] - 4FT BA (Hons) Anglia Ruskin University Foundation year
 English and Scottish Literature - 4FT MA (Hons) The University of Edinburgh - Central area campus A Level: A*,A*,A*,A*,A*,A* UCAS Points: 152-168	 English Literature (Including Placement Year) - 4FT SW BA (Hons) University of Essex A Level: B,B,B UCAS Points: 120	 English with Foundation Year - 4FT BA (Hons) Edge Hill University A Level: C,C,C UCAS Points: 96 Foundation year
 English Literature - 3FT BA (Hons) University of Manchester	 English Literature (Including Year Abroad) - 4FT BA (Hons)	 English Literature (with Foundation Year) - 4FT BA (Hons) Liverpool Hope University

next ▸

or [go back](#)

Section 1: Why do you want to study this course or subject?

[< Back](#)

We recommend this part make up around 30% of the total statement

Examples of what you may want to write about:

1. What sparked your interest in the subject area?

Be specific - write about something that got you interested in the subject area, but avoid 'lightbulb' moments.

Law example:

'My interest in studying law was originally sparked by the significant moments in legal history that I've lived through, for example the reversal of Roe v Wade in the US, and the passing of the The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act in the UK. After exploring these in my citizenship lessons, I began to read up on how laws come into effect in different countries, and how laws can be changed. Reading into laws around the world on crime, safety, and families allowed me to see the impact of the legal system in different countries and begin to question how we can make global, positive changes. Studying law will help me develop my research and analysis skills, and improve my ability to construct meaningful, well-thought-out arguments to support my ideas.'

+ 2. What specific topics are you most interested in?

+ 3. What do you want to get out of studying this subject?

+ Personal statement dos

+ Personal statement don'ts



In School Support

Support will be available for all students throughout their time in Year 13. 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 A Levels and we will support you to find the best fit for you.



UCAS



UCAS Applications

Applications to Higher Education establishments are made through UCAS.

Students thinking about university application should have registered for an account with UCAS.

They will have needed to provide the school buzzword so that their application is linked to Olchfa. This allows us to check their application form, and importantly, provide their academic reference.



UCAS Applications - Deadlines

Deadlines

	School Deadline	UCAS National Deadline
Oxbridge and Medics / Dentists / Vets	Thursday 1st October 2026	Thursday 15th October 2026 (18:00)
All other courses	Friday 4th December 2026	Wednesday 13th January 2026 (18:00)

Students need to meet the school deadline to ensure that their application can be processed and sent off before the national deadline.



UCAS Applications - The Form

The application form asks you to enter information about:

- 1) Personal Details - Including address, residency status and how you plan to fund your studies.
- 2) Educational History - Here you enter details of all of your qualifications. This covers all GCSEs, AS Levels, A-Levels and Welsh Bacc Qualifications.
- 3) Employment History - Details of any paid jobs, full or part time. Not voluntary work.



UCAS Applications - The Form

The application form asks you to enter information about:

4. Course Choices - Students can select up to 5 courses. There is no order preference
5. Personal Statement - This is where students tell the university why they wish to study with them and what skills and experience they have.
6. Pay and Send - Once the form is completed students should 'Pay and Send'. At this stage the form is sent to the school to check and add references. Students should keep a close eye on their emails as Mrs Platt might send forms back if we spot information is missing or need changing.



UCAS - Personal Statements

Personal statements have a new format for the 2026 application cycle.

Students will be asked to provide responses under three separate headings. The questions provided by UCAS aim to shape the focus of the answers.

1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?
2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?



UCAS - Offers

There are four types of decision a student may get:

- Unconditional - This means they have been offered a place on the course they have chosen with no conditions attached!
- Conditional - This means they have been offered a place on the course they want as long as they meet the conditions set.
- Unsuccessful - This means they have not been offered a place.
- Alternative Offer - If they do not meet the conditions of the course the university might offer an alternative, related course that is a better fit.



Thank You

Diolch



Key Contact Details

Dave Thomas - Learning Leader: dmt@olchfa.org.uk

01792 534300

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.