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YSGOL
LLANFYLLIN

Date: 20-10-26

Re: Year 11 Form Group Arrangements and Important Welsh Second Language Examination Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a small adjustment to our Year 11 form group arrangements, which will take effect after the October half-term holiday.

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that every pupil achieves their full academic potential, we have decided to reorganise our Year 11 form groups to align more closely with the existing GCSE/Pathways Welsh Second Language teaching groups (Sets 1 and 2 – GCSE and Set 3 – Pathways). The form group for pupils studying Welsh First Language will remain unchanged.

The main purpose of this adjustment is to provide additional opportunities for our Welsh teachers to work directly with pupils during form time, delivering focused activities, revision sessions and targeted support to strengthen their knowledge, skills and confidence in preparation for their examinations and assessments.

Currently, pupils studying GCSE Welsh Second Language receive three hours of timetabled lessons per fortnight, compared with five hours for other GCSE option subjects. By making more effective use of form time, we aim to provide valuable additional learning opportunities without disrupting pupils' existing lesson timetables.

Our ambition is clear: we want every Year 11 pupil to achieve, and wherever possible exceed, their minimum expected grade in Welsh Second Language. We believe that this additional support will make a positive contribution towards achieving that goal.

Important Examination Dates – GCSE Welsh Second Language (Unit 1)

I would also like to draw your attention to the following important dates for the forthcoming Unit 1 oral examinations:

Mock Oral Examinations:

- Set 1: Tuesday, 10 November 2026
- Set 2: Thursday, 12 November 2026

External GCSE Unit 1 Oral Examinations:

- Monday, 30 November – Friday, 4 December 2026

These examinations are an important part of the GCSE qualification, and we would encourage all pupils to take full advantage of the additional preparation and revision opportunities available to them. Your support in encouraging regular revision, good attendance and a positive approach to these assessments will be greatly appreciated.

We recognise that form groups are an important part of pupils' school experience, and we will ensure that these changes are introduced sensitively and positively. Pupils will continue to receive the pastoral care, guidance and support they need throughout this important final year of their studies. We are confident that these arrangements will provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen pupils' progress and outcomes, while reinforcing the importance of Welsh as a subject and as part of our school's wider identity and ethos.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership in helping our young people achieve their very best.

Yours sincerely,

Dewi Owen

Pennaeth/Headteacher