

# Ysgol Bryngwyn School



## Exams Extra



### Issue: May 2024

Welcome to the May issue of Bryngwyn Exams Extra. This update is primarily aimed at pupils sitting exams in the Summer of 2024.

Following commencement of the external GCSE exams we wish to share important information regarding the smooth running of the exams. This can be a challenging time not only for the students but also the households supporting them. We hope that pupils are managing to balance their busy lives and their revision schedule and are feeling well prepared for the busy weeks ahead. Please remember that we are here as always, for **all** of our students so please let us know if your child is struggling.



### Year 11 Leavers Assembly

As the exam season begins and our Year 11 students enter their final weeks as Bryngwyn students we are pleased to confirm our Leavers Assembly arrangements for 2024. As always this is a key milestone in any young person's life as we mark the end of their secondary education and the beginning of the next phase of their lives. We have, once again, carefully timetabled this to ensure all pupils are available to attend with minimum impact on the ongoing exams and possible revision time. This year we will celebrate our time together on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June**. Following the English Language exam in the morning, pupils will be invited to remain on site and attend our Leavers Assembly. Year 11 pupils will have the opportunity to gather together one last time as a year group to reflect on their time at Bryngwyn School. They are also invited to bring in a spare school shirt for signing and well-wishing messages. Those who have met the behaviour and attendance criteria will also be issued with their invite to this year's Summer Celebration. **Please remember that all conduct and attendance up until this date will be considered when issuing invitations.** We hope that all pupils will attend the assembly to mark this milestone together.

### Exam Timetables

All pupils have been issued with their exam timetables and should be well aware of what is required of them. From our many years of experience preparing pupils for their exams, a calm and supportive environment before the commencement of the exam has shown to be extremely effective in settling pupils before it begins. With this in mind we would like to ensure all pupils arrive at school at least 30 minutes before the commencement of their exam. As pupils arrive at school, we will ask them to sign an exam register near Reception in order for us to monitor any

missing pupils. If there are any unforeseen circumstances on the day of an exam please contact Reception as soon as possible so we can offer support.

## GCSE exams effectively started on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Exam Rules and Regulations

A notice on **rules and regulations** in public exams will be circulated to all. Again, it is very important that all learners are fully aware of these details. There are some new regulations this year. For example:

- No watches will be allowed: instead, there will be digital and analogue clocks will be in all exam rooms
- Only clear pencil cases and drinks bottles will be allowed
- Pupils must attend in standard school uniform. These are national rather than school regulations.
- No hoodies are permitted to be worn during the exams.
- In the event of running late please ensure that your child does not have access to their mobile device as this may compromise their exam entry.

*Could ALL learners please ensure they are in school at least 30 minutes before the published start time of examinations. In many cases there will be "Early Bird" sessions available.*

### **IMPORTANT!**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June** is a contingency date set by ALL awarding bodies, in case of sustained national or local disruption within the national exam timetable.

**Candidates should remain available until this date should an awarding body need to invoke its contingency arrangements.**

## Revision support

As well as the variety of after school sessions available, many departments are also running drop in sessions during lunch breaks; please speak to your teachers to confirm days and rooms.



In addition, Bryngwyn staff have produced a Revision Survival Guide to provide useful advice and guidance to support learners through this busy time. Within the guide there is also a link with helpful advice on dealing with stress and maintaining **wellbeing** throughout the exam process.

The guide can be accessed through the QR code or the link below:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/Year-11-Revision-techniques-A-Parents-Survival-Gui/>

Normal lesson timetables will run between exams in May up to the half term Whitsun holiday.

After half term, additional revision, study and support sessions will be scheduled to support learners fully through remaining exams.

## Access Arrangements

Some examination candidates may be entitled to certain arrangements, to support them whilst taking examinations. A wide range of arrangements are available - e.g. provision of reader, scribe, extra time etc. Pupils have been identified and all entitlements put in place.

## Special Considerations

Please see below the exam boards definition of special circumstances with the accompanying link from the WJEC exam board. Special consideration is applied for after sitting the exams and applications are made to the exam board on behalf of the pupils.

***Candidates whose performance in an examination is affected by circumstances beyond their control (illness, bereavement etc.) may be entitled to Special Consideration. These procedures are common to all the General Qualification Awarding Bodies.***

***Special Consideration may be given to eligible candidates who are:***

- ***Present for an assessment/exam but are disadvantaged, due to unforeseen circumstances that are beyond their control.***
- ***Absent from a time-tabled assessment due to illness or other acceptable reason – for unitised specifications this applies to the terminal series (cash-in candidates) only.***

***Further information is available in the JCQ document ['A guide to the Special Consideration process'](#).***

Whilst we are all aware of the distress and anxiety of recent years, if there are any specific considerations that need to be made in respect of medical or emotional issues that the school is not aware of, could parents please contact the school and indeed if any new scenarios emerge in the run up to exams, we will always provide support and share any communication confidentially with the awarding body. If you are in possession of any supporting documents that may help your application such as medical notes, please also forward these to us.

## Contact



*If you have any further or specific concerns could you please contact the school by E mail on [Enq@bryngwy.cymru](mailto:Enq@bryngwy.cymru) or [exams@bryngwyn.cymru](mailto:exams@bryngwyn.cymru)*



*If you need to discuss anything confidentially then please ring on 01554 750661*

As ever we are eternally grateful to all the staff who genuinely work so hard to support the learners in our community. Their continued professionalism and willingness to support learners at the end of the school day is a great source of pride at Bryngwyn. As we all work together for these final few months, we continue to strive towards our school moto “Giving our best to be the best”. We look forward to celebrating **every** pupil’s individual achievements on results day on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024.

Mr Ben Tyler

Assistant Headteacher

