



18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear families,

Firstly, I would like to start by thanking you for your welcome since I started at the beginning of this half term as Headteacher of Rhyl High School. These last few weeks have provided me with lots of opportunities to meet staff, pupils, governors, some parents and visit our local primary feeder schools. This has helped me to identify the many positives of the school as well the areas we need to continually work on improving. I will discuss these in more detail later in the letter. I am also writing to inform you of important details for the arrangements for our return to school in September.

### THE START OF TERM

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	Inset Day – school closed to all pupils
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	Inset Day – school closed to all pupils
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	Year 7 – 8.40 am Year 11 – 9.30am Year 10 – 10.00am Year 9 – 10.30am Year 8 – 11.30am

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, all pupils will attend a year group assembly and have an extended tutor time. We will be sharing and reinforcing the routines and expectations for the coming year and providing other key information. On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September all pupils will start school at 8.40am.

### THE RHYL HIGH WAY

The school motto is “being the best we can be”. In order to enable all of our pupils to have the very best education and have a safe and happy time in school, we will be reinforcing some basic expectations of our pupils,

- Be on time to school and lessons
- Be ready to learn – No distractions (mobile phones) and Try your best
- Wear the correct uniform / Bring the right equipment
- Allow teachers to teach and pupils to learn

In order for us to ensure that every pupil is being the best they can be and develop into good, brave, happy and healthy young people it is important that we focus on the following.

### UNIFORM

Unfortunately, the standard of some of our pupil's uniform has been below our expected standards. From Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September pupils **will not** be allowed to attend school in their Rhyl High PE kit on days when they have PE. They will be expected to change at the start and the end of each PE lesson. Can I remind you of our expectations over school uniform.



## Compulsory Uniform

- Grey and Purple school tie
- Purple and grey box pleat skirt available from our uniform supplier
- Plain dark grey/black trousers or tailored shorts. **Leggings, sports leggings, jeans, cargo pants or tracksuit bottoms are not acceptable**
- All Black footwear. These can be trainers or shoes, but they must be all black. **Crocs, anything other than black shoes/trainers and converse/converse hi tops are not permitted in school.**
- White shirt
- Dark grey knee socks
- Dark grey or black tights
- Either a grey and purple school blazer or a purple and grey jumper available from our uniform supplier

## Not allowed

***Baseball caps, Crocs, anything other than black shoes/trainers, converse/converse hi tops, leggings, jeans, sports leggings, tracksuits/tracksuit bottoms, cargo pants***

Please note that pupils will be asked to remove their outdoor coats and jackets once in the building and in all classrooms. These may be worn again during break and lunches.

Every pupil should be correctly dressed in full school uniform when they are in school. Any pupils not in the correct uniform parents will be contacted and asked to bring in uniform or pupils will be provided with uniform. Failure to wear the correct uniform will result in appropriate sanctions. It is important that all pupils are treated fairly. Please could I ask for your support in checking your child's uniform as they leave the house each morning.

Can I remind you that when pupils have PE the kit is

- Black/purple/white contrast T shirt with logo – available from our uniform supplier
- Plain black shorts – available from all suppliers including supermarkets
- Black/white/purple socks – available from our uniform supplier
- Appropriate sports footwear

## Optional items

- ¾ training top – available from our uniform suppliers
- Plain black trackpants or leggings

## Our uniform suppliers

- Jean Emporium Units 3-5 Piazza Shopping Centre, Sussex Street, Rhyl LL18 1SE
- First class uniforms and work wear 12 High Street, Prestatyn LL19 8BB

Reasonable adjustments will be made for uniform for those pupils with specific additional learning needs.



## EQUIPMENT

A number of pupils are over reliant on staff providing them with the basic equipment for lessons. It is important that pupils are prepared for school and they will require

- A school bag
- A pencil case that contains the basic equipment of a pen, pencil, ruler etc

Pupils may also wish to bring a water bottle. Water fountains are available in each home base and the canteen at certain times of the day.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

A reminder that our lessons start at **8.40am**. The school doors open from **8.30am**. Please ensure your child is on time for school. Good attendance and punctuality result in better achievement in school and more life chances when leaving school.

If a child is late to school this will result in a break time detention – If lateness is due to an appointment or a family emergency, please contact our office and no detention will be issued.

Some pupils also arrive late to lesson. Pupils should arrive within 5 minutes of the end of the previous lesson or following the end of break and lunchtime. Lateness to lessons affects the learning of all pupils due to constant disruptions. Pupils who are continually late will receive a break or lunchtime detention.

After school detention may also be issued with 24 hours notice. These may be issued for a more serious breach of our behaviour policy or failure to attend break or lunchtime detentions.

We will be reinstating a bell at the start of the day, the end of each lesson, the end of break, the end of lunch and the end of the school day. 5 mins after these bells a second bell will sound and the expectation is that all pupils will be in their lesson by then. This will help with some pupil's poor punctuality to lessons.

## MOBILE PHONES AND EARPHONES

The school adopted a policy this year of allowing mobile phones to school and for them to be used only at break and lunch. We will be remaining with this policy. Classrooms remain a "No Phone zone". In classrooms phones / earphones may be handed in at the beginning of the lesson and returned at the end. If a phone/earphone that has not been handed in is seen or heard, it will be confiscated. If a phone/ earphone is seen on corridors not during break or lunchtime the pupil will be asked to put it away. I will be reviewing the policy during the first half term.



## TOILETS

Toilets will be open at

- The start and end of the school day
- During lunch and break time
- Within the first 5 minutes of lesson changeovers and form time

During these times staff will supervise the areas.

Pupils with a medical toilet pass can access toilets outside of these times.

During lessons, all accessible toilets in every area of the school are open. If a pupil needs the toilet during lesson time they will be issued with a Toilet Pass card. Pupils will go one at a time from each lesson. If a pupil leaves the lesson to go to the toilet but does not return a sanction will be issued.

## INTERNAL TRUANCY

It is important that we can safeguard every single child whilst they are with us each day. Part of this safeguarding duty is to be able to make sure we know where each pupil is during the course of the day. When a child truant from a lesson and wanders the school site, there is a risk that they cannot be located in the event of a fire alarm or a medical emergency. Along with this, pupils truanting from lessons are missing vital learning, making it more difficult for them to make progress in lessons. As mentioned earlier bells will be installed across the school to help pupils arrive at lessons on time and staff will be around the site to direct pupils to the right room. There will obviously be adjustments for those pupils with specific needs.

Thank you for your support in these matters. I hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Collins