



Re: Headteacher's Update February 2025

Estyn

It has been a busy two weeks at Caerleon Comprehensive School preparing for our important visitors on Monday. The inspection report on our school will be published on the 24th April (you can access this from the Estyn website), which is in the Easter holidays, so when we return to school after Easter, I will share with you more detail around this. Please do attend the parent meeting in our main hall on Monday 17th February, 5pm, to give your views on our school. Students and children who accompany you can be supervised in the library on the bottom floor of ABC block if you can not find childcare in order to attend the meeting. We look forward to seeing our families there!

Attendance Module ClassCharts

On Monday 3rd of March we are aiming to 'go live' with the attendance module of Classcharts. This will enable you to see the attendance of your child to registration and lessons. Please be aware that you can view your child's attendance the day later, so for Monday, you will be able to view their attendance on the Tuesday (and so on). Please note that our attendance officer spends the first two hours of each day ensuring the attendance for the day before is accurate, so you can therefore expect to see your child's accurate attendance for the day before after **10am the next day**.

Please note that if your child was missing and was expected to be in school, we would always contact you on the day, so procedures and processes have not changed in this respect. For example, if your child was marked present in AM reg and period one, and did not arrive to period two, we have a process in place to look for them and then contact you immediately if they are not found.

The processes for reporting your child as absent have also not changed and it is still expected that you call the school, email the attendance officer or report the absence via the Schoolgateway app if your child is not going to be in school on any given day.

Professional Learning Day (INSET) 7th March

On the 7th March we have a professional learning day for staff so the school is closed to students. On this day, colleagues will be travelling across the region to access professional learning provided by the WJEC (exam board) about the new specifications at GCSE level for our September 2025 Y10 cohort. It is an exciting yet challenging time for secondary schools as we implement the new specifications, and we will be making the most of the day to prepare ourselves as fully as possible to teach the new specifications well.

Cynefin Day 14th March

We have our second Cynefin Day of the academic year on the 14th March, where we will be celebrating our Eisteddfod. The students will be permitted to wear non uniform (Welsh colours if possible please) and we will be asking for donations to a charity chosen by our Criw Cymraeg (our learners who support the development of Welsh throughout the school). We will confirm the charity after half term and set up the payment via the gateway app. All donations are gratefully received and we look forward to celebrating this special day with our learners.

INSET Days Academic Year 2025/2026

You can find these dates published on our website but I have also included them here for your future planning:

1. Monday 1st September 2025
2. Friday 21st November 2025
3. Monday 24th November 2025
4. Friday 23rd Jan 2026

(please note this inset day **may not go ahead** as it has not yet been confirmed by Welsh Government how many inset days schools will be allocated in 2025/2026 - it could be five or six. In addition, if six inset days are permitted, secondary schools may require more training from the exam board for further GCSE specifications and therefore the date of the inset may change).

5. Friday 26th June 2026
6. Monday 20th July 2026

Ramadan

Soon many of our Muslim families will be observing the holy month of Ramadan. We would like to wish our families much peace and joy at this special time. I have attached to my update the ways the school aims to support fasting students. You can also find this important leaflet on our website. Please do read this and let us know if you have any queries.

Thank you for your support this half term and I wish all our families a wonderful break over the half term holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Purcell
Headteacher