



5 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome from the Headteacher.

I am delighted to write to you as the new Headteacher of St Teilo's. Having begun my teaching career in the school in 2005, I know well what a special and happy place it is. My new leadership team is overseeing an exciting programme of change which will build on existing strengths and bring about further improvement.

This summer, our Capped Points Score increased again to 382 meaning that children in our school attain very highly when compared to similar schools. In other words, St Teilo's *adds value* to the achievement of children, whatever their starting point.

I know, however, that you expect more from us than simply good grades. Your child's education must also focus on their development as a whole person and bring about their flourishing. That's why I have immediately increased the size of our student support team and placed wellbeing at the heart of the school development plan.

You may also be interested in changes to our catering provision. I have introduced a new menu of traditional, wholesome dishes so that your child enjoys a filling and well-balanced diet. Without exception, our meals are now served with vegetables or a side salad and eaten from a plate with a knife and fork. No doubt we will experience some teething difficulties in service delivery; do please bear with us!

This is a challenging time for children. You will have read in the news about the dangers of social media, drugs and knives and the impact of enduring poverty that affects millions across the United Kingdom. We want to play our part in addressing these problems and will be providing opportunities for your child to learn how to keep themselves safe as they navigate adolescence. Your support in supervising your child's digital activity will be essential if we are to make a difference.

St Teilo's is an inclusive and loving school where all people – irrespective of ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ability – are welcomed in the name of Jesus Christ. I will therefore be enforcing a firm line on behaviour which seeks to divide or cause harm to students or staff. Consequently, you should be aware of the following 'non-negotiable' rules:

Non-negotiable 1: Hate Speech

Any language which attacks a person or group based on protected characteristics will be challenged, recorded and reported.

[Continued]

Non-negotiable 2: Violence

The use of physical force, threatened or actual, will be recorded and reported.

Non-negotiable 3: Mobile phones

Phones used inside the school building will be confiscated until the end of the day. The school yard is the designated 'phone zone'.

You will understand that, if your child breaches one of our 'non-negotiables', we may be required to issue a sanction to reinforce the seriousness of their behaviour.

If you have a query regarding your child's education – or if you feel we may be able to assist you – then please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor in writing. Alternatively, you may wish to email:

Mrs R Pitt (r.pitt@stteilos.com) [Lower School – Years 6 and 7]

Mrs A Williams (a.williams@stteilos.com) [Middle School – Years 8 and 9]

Mrs J Phillips (j.phillips@stteilos.com) [Upper School – Years 10 and 11]

Mrs E Owen (e.owen@stteilos.com) [Sixth Form – Years 12 and 13]

I am available by email (**headteacher@stteilos.com**) and, although I will not always be able to respond personally, I will ensure that your query is dealt with by the appropriate member of staff.

Please visit **www.stteilos.com** for term dates and events or to use our online contact page.

Your child has received a copy of the 2019/20 Student Handbook. I would encourage you to read this with your child to find out more about our mission, expectations and approach to teaching and learning.

Finally, I would like to thank *you* for all you do as a parent or carer. The pupils of St Teilo's are an extremely happy bunch because of the wonderful love and support provided by your family and our staff. I look forward to getting to know you better in the coming weeks.

With every blessing,



Mr I Loynd
Headteacher