

St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School

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Ms C. McCormack Headteacher

20/07/2022

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

It seems like only last week when I was writing to introduce myself as the ALNCo at St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School. I take great pleasure in providing this update and an insight into some of the work that we have carried out to benefit your children. This has been a very progressive year for the Inclusion department and one which has seen developments in many areas, providing an inclusive education for all of our deserving students. Since January, we have successfully implemented the new ALN Code for Wales, transferring students from the old system of SEN to the new system of Additional Learning Needs, or ALN. The mandated year groups for this conversion have been year 10 and year 7. If I haven't already been in touch to arrange a meeting, I will be continuing this work in the autumn term 2022.

Most of the excellent work carried out to support our ALN students takes place in every classroom, where our specialist teaching staff provide differentiated lessons to meet the needs of all abilities. In addition to this work, we continue to supplement literacy and numeracy progress with focused small group interventions conducted by our specialist primary-trained teaching staff. Other small group interventions include the TalkAbout group, ELSA sessions, homework club, mentoring, Nurture Support, Drawing and Talking, Intuitive Thinking and Friends' Resilience.

A large part of our inclusion success moving forward will come from seeing some of our work mirrored at home. St Richard Gwyn has invested in some very reputable software, proven to improve literacy and numeracy. Student login details usually expire on 31st August each year which means that students can access the resources throughout the whole year, with new details provided at the beginning of September. If you would like more information or help to support your son/daughter in using these resources, please don't hesitate to get in touch. These include MyMaths, MathsWatch, TimesTable Rockstars, Reading Eggs and in September we will be piloting Lexia Power Up Literacy with 250 students. Although these are not designed to take the place of our excellent teaching staff, they can be a valuable enhancement to your child's studies and academic progress.

Your sincerely,

S. Dowd

(Mrs Dowd – ALNCo)