



Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

Striving for Excellence

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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Dear Year 9 Students, Parents and Carers,

As you will have seen over the past weeks, months and terms, schools across the country have been forced to make difficult decisions in the best interest of maintaining on-site educational provision for our young people.

Unfortunately, due to recent and continued fluctuations in staff and student absence we are not in a position to safely hold a full overnight Year 9 Camp experience as in previous years. Our camp is staffed solely by Newent staff members, so the ongoing impact of staff absence is a key factor. We are still planning to offer some of the key aspects of the experience, including a trip to climb Pen y Fan, and early next term we will be sharing details of our revised plans but I wanted to inform students, parents and carers of this decision prior to the Easter Break. The activities in the Summer term will give opportunities for developing skills which reflect the core values of our traditional camp; personal challenge, teamwork and physical exercise. There will also be the opportunity for further outdoor and camping-related activities through our growing Duke of Edinburgh's Award provision.

We understand that this may come as disappointing news, but I can assure you that the decision has not been taken lightly. Throughout the last two years our priority has been the safety and well-being of our entire school community, and this continues to be the case as we move into the final few weeks and months of the academic year. We are fortunate that through the hard work and dedication of the school teaching and support staff that, despite significant absences, we have maintained an on-site school provision for all our students.

Again, we will share further details of revised activities in the early part of next term. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any queries.

With best wishes for the Easter Break.

Rhys Phillips
Acting Principal