



18 November 2022

Dear Year 11,

SIXTH FORM ADMISSION

Congratulations to those of you who sat your GCSE Mathematics this week. I hope that the experience proves to be a valuable preparation for the examinations which lie ahead. Believe me, if you keep up the hard work, it will pay off in the summer!

I know that the finality of Year 11 can be daunting and that GCSEs can be a source of worry. Yet, this is also a time during which you can look ahead with excitement to the opportunities your next steps might bring.

The majority of our Year 11 learners choose to study in the Sixth Form at St Teilo's after their GCSEs. Our Sixth Form boasts the benefits of small class sizes and high levels of teacher expertise, which is why young people do so well here. Did you know that 85% of our Sixth Form go on to study in university settings and the other 15% choose to study whilst in employment? That's because our focused and caring community keeps young people on track as they learn. But you don't need to believe me – why not ask our existing Sixth Formers about their experiences?

There will now be a flurry of activity to make sure that you are confident about your next steps. I've outlined these events in **Appendix 1**.

Please note that the Sixth Form Options Evening (where you can learn about the courses on offer) takes place between 6pm and 8pm on Thursday 24 November 2022. Why not pop in and see us in the Main Hall that evening?

I have also included some Frequently Asked Questions in **Appendix 2**.

Should you or your family have any questions about your next steps, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by email at headteacher@stteilos.com.

As ever,

Mr I Loynd
Headteacher

APPENDIX 1

POST-16 TRANSITION

'Hot seating'

17 and 18 November 2022

Meet our existing Sixth Form students and hear all about their studies. Ask questions as you begin to think about your next steps.

Sixth Form Options Evening

6-8pm, 24 November 2022

Meet our teachers and find out all about the courses on offer in the Sixth Form. Learn about what you'll study, how the qualification will be assessed and where it might lead you.

Mock GCSES

28 November – 9 December 2022

Practise some GCSE-style assessments in lessons to improve your examination technique. Your mock GCSEs will be used to set your target grades and focus your learning.

Destinations tracking

13 January 2023

We'll begin asking you formally about your next steps and take your early expressions of interest. This allows us to match support to individuals to ensure you have all the advice you need.

Pathways Evenings

24, 25 and 26 January 2023

You'll be invited to a meeting with the Headteacher, Mr Loynd, and Head of Sixth Form, Miss Owen, to learn about the best next steps for you. Advice and support will be available.

Year 11 Progress Evening

3.30-6.30pm, 02 February 2023

Your parents and carers will have the opportunity to meet with your teachers to chat about your progress and find out more about what you need to do to boost your grades.

'Taster day'

March 2023

You'll be invited to 'try out' some sixth form lessons and experience study at Level 3. You'll meet the Sixth Form team who will take care of you in your post-16 studies.

GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment

9am-12pm, 24 August 2023

Time to celebrate and sign up!

APPENDIX 2

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Am I guaranteed a place in the Sixth Form?

All existing St Teilo's students are offered a conditional place in the sixth form, on the basis that they are able to secure the entry criteria for courses. This means, as long as you secure the appropriate grades, you are guaranteed a place to continue studying with us.

When will I make my subject choices?

Every course has a minimum entry requirement. Final choices are therefore best made upon receipt of your results in the summer.

What happens if my grades are not high enough?

Learning at Level 3 is challenging, so entry criteria for courses are strictly applied. This is because we want every learner to flourish on the programme of study best suited to their academic ability.

Can I continue to study at Level 2 in the Sixth Form?

If you wish to study at level 2, then you should apply to a course of your choice at a further education college. You can get more advice about this from our Careers Advisor, Linden Davies, at the school. We'll also talk to you about your choices at the Pathway Evening in January.

What is the advantage of studying in a school sixth form as opposed to college?

Young people in Cardiff are lucky to have a number of wonderful post-16 learning opportunities available to them; sixth form isn't for everyone. However, for those wishing to study academic subjects at level 3, our sixth form offers a number of advantages. Deep, personal relationships with staff, small class sizes and closer tracking and monitoring mean that very few fall behind. If you are considering university life, our sixth form offers a highly bespoke and tailored provision from an experienced team that will ensure you make the next step.

I still have questions!

Get in touch by emailing headteacher@stteilos.com.