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Ysgol Gymunedol

TONYREFAIL

Community School

Senior School Admissions Policy

September 2022

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1. Context

We are a high-achieving sixth form offering a wide range of academic and vocational A level courses, which enable students to progress to university and the most competitive job and training opportunities.

At TCS, we recognise that all members of the sixth form are of equal value and, as such, are all entitled to be treated fairly and without prejudice in every aspect of sixth form life. The Sixth Form is open to students from TCS and other schools equally. We are committed to maintaining an open access policy in which each individual applicant is treated as an individual case. If there are concerns about a student's ability to study a particular course, we will seek to establish the capacity of that student to develop the under-pinning skills necessary for success and, where appropriate, will provide an appropriate support package to enable a successful outcome.

2. Admission requirements for entering Year 12

Tonyrefail Senior School aims to provide every student with a pathway that will help to achieve their potential and support them in reaching the next stage of the learning continuum. We aim to work with each individual student to create an individualised pathway rather than one based on a set entry requirement.

Based on a student receiving at least 5 GCSE's/Level 2 courses	Curriculum pathway to support student reaching potential
GCSE results are mainly grade A* - A's	We would suggest choosing 4 A levels. Skills Challenge (Welsh Bacallaureate) might be their fourth choice however a further A level would also be recommended.
GCSE results are mainly B&C grades	We would suggest choosing 3 A levels that might include a combination of A level and BTEC Courses plus studying the Skills Challenge (Welsh Bacallaureate).
GCSE results are mainly C's and contain vocational results	We would suggest choosing 2 A levels that might include a combination of A level and BTEC Courses plus Skills Challenge (Welsh Bacallaureate).

Closing Dates and Late Applications

All applicants must complete the application form (available on the TCS website in October) by the date advertised on the website (usually 1st week of March). Students currently on roll in Year 11 will be given priority to courses.

Following the application deadline, we will hold individual meetings with students in their home school. These generally take place after Easter and their purpose is to discuss options. Enrolment is completed in August, following confirmation of GCSEs results.

All information relating to applications is contained within the Sixth Form prospectus, copies of which can be obtained by contacting the Sixth Form and available at the Open Evenings that are held annually (in January) and all potential applicants are encouraged to attend. Attendance is recommended but not compulsory.

If there are spaces available following the application deadline, applications from Year 12 students to repeat the year may be considered however will be accepted on an individualised basis. Opportunities to repeat Year 12 are **not guaranteed** and will be dependent on individual circumstances.

Late applications will be considered, however this will be dependent on course availability and places cannot be guaranteed.

3. Admission Requirements for entering Year 13

In Wales, students undertake AS exams and/or study BTEC qualifications and will receive results in August. Entry into Year 13 is not automatic and will be dependent on results. The following guidance will be used to admit students into Year 13. Individual meetings with a member of the Senior School team will take place where needed before the start of the academic year.

Student Result	Outcome
AS Exam results - D Grades or above	Continue with subject into A2 qualification
BTEC Certificates/Units - Pass or above	Continue with subject into Sub Diploma qualification
2 or more subjects E grade or below	No entry to Year 13 ^(a)
Achieved an E or below in 1 subject	Cash in AS and continue with remaining courses. ^(b)

^a - Individual circumstances will be considered where necessary

^b - Pathway consists of a minimum of 2 subjects plus Welsh Bacallaureate

4. In-year Transfers

In some cases, students may request to transfer to TCS sixth form for a range of reasons, such as moving into the area, unsettled in chosen institution. Acceptance during an academic year will depend on the time of request, availability and suitability of courses. The following guidance will be applied.

Timing of Request	Outcome
Year 12 – September – October	A transfer may be accepted dependent on courses, availability & suitability of student to course.
Year 12 – November onwards	A transfer during this period will not be possible. Students are encouraged to continue at their chosen institution and request a possible transfer following completion of Year 12 exams in May.
Year 13 (Start of Course is after Whitsun of the Year 12 Academic Year)	Acceptance will depend on the subjects and outcome of results in August. A student may be provisionally accepted until results day and will be expected to complete all work set during the Summer Term in preparation to joining Year 13 in September.
Year 13 – September	Acceptance will be limited due to the amount of time missed during the Summer term.
Year 13 – October onwards	No transfers will be accepted

5. Changing subjects during the Academic Year

We understand that sometimes courses may prove difficult and a transfer of subject may be a suitable option, however this cannot be guaranteed due to limited space in many of our courses. To consider this option, students **must** contact Head/Deputy Head of Senior School. No student will be able to change subjects without following the Withdrawal of Courses policy.