

15th July 2026

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Western Learning Federation, to thank every member of our school communities for their continued support, commitment and dedication throughout the year.

This has been a year of significant achievement across all our schools. I am delighted that our end-of-year data demonstrates strong progress in almost every aspect of school life, reflecting the hard work of our learners, the dedication of our staff and the invaluable support provided by parents, carers, governors and partners. Together, we have remained committed to ensuring that every decision we make is person-centred, creating meaningful, enriching and positive experiences for all of our children and young people.

As many of you know, we are approaching an exciting period of change within the Federation. Preparations continue for Riverbank School and Woodlands School to move to the new Fairwater Community Campus, marking a significant milestone in the development of specialist education provision within Cardiff. We are incredibly excited about the opportunities that the new campus will provide, including enhanced facilities, greater collaboration and even more opportunities for learners to thrive.

We have been particularly pleased with the success of the transition programme for learners and families from Riverbank School and Woodlands School. All learners and their families have either attended, or been offered the opportunity to attend, visits and transition activities at the new Fairwater Community Campus. These opportunities have allowed learners to become familiar with their new environment, meet staff and explore the fantastic facilities available to them. I would like to thank all families for their engagement throughout this process and for the overwhelmingly positive feedback we have received. Your support, encouragement and enthusiasm have helped make this an extremely positive experience for our learners.

Communication regarding the campus transition, including closure days and phased return arrangements, has already been shared with families. To ensure everyone remains fully informed, this information will be reissued at the start of the autumn term in September.

I have also included a letter from Cardiff Council School Streets, Active Travel, and Road Safety Teams in relation to School Street proposal which provides you with important information.

From September 2026, Cardiff Council are planning to introduce a School Street at the Doyle Avenue side of Fairwater Campus. This will include Doyle Avenue, Heol Dennant, Perrots Close, Milton Place, McCale Avenue and Cadwgan Place.

We are also looking ahead to the next stage of development for Ty Gwyn School, which will move into the current Riverbank School site from October half-term 2026. To support this transition, significant work is being undertaken to recondition and enhance the Riverbank site, including the development of four additional classrooms to accommodate the school's continued growth and to ensure high-quality learning environments for our learners.

A range of temporary arrangements will be in place during the first half-term to ensure continuity of provision and minimise disruption for learners while these developments are completed. We would like to thank all families who attended the recent briefing sessions and engagement opportunities. Your involvement and the positive feedback received have been greatly appreciated and have provided reassurance that we are moving forward together with the best interests of our learners at the heart of our planning.

While we celebrate the many successes of this year, one area that remains a key priority across our Federation is attendance and punctuality. Regular attendance and arriving at school on time are among the most important factors in securing positive outcomes for learners. Every day in school matters, and every lesson provides valuable opportunities for learning, personal development and wellbeing. We therefore ask all families to continue working closely with us to ensure that, wherever possible, learners attend school consistently and arrive punctually so they can fully benefit from the excellent opportunities available to them.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to:

- Our learners, for their resilience, achievements and enthusiasm for learning.
- Our staff teams, for their unwavering dedication and commitment to supporting every child and young person.
- Our parents and carers, for the trust, partnership and support you provide every day.
- Our governing bodies, for their guidance, challenge and commitment to continuous improvement.

WESTERN LEARNING FEDERATION

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- Our many partners and agencies, whose collaboration helps us provide the very best outcomes for our school communities.

As a Federation, we now look forward to embarking on our next chapter. The developments ahead present exciting opportunities to strengthen collaboration, enhance learning environments and create even more outstanding experiences for our learners. We remain ambitious for every child and young person and are committed to ensuring that each school continues to provide exceptional learning opportunities, outstanding support and a strong sense of belonging.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout the year. Together, we have achieved a great deal, and together we will continue to build on these successes.

I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Yours sincerely,
Wayne Murphy
Executive Headteacher
Western Learning Federation