



# EASTERN HIGH

'YSGOL UWCHRADD Y DWYRAIN'

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Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year from all of us.

The move into our new building will bring with it much faster internet speeds, which will enable us to further improve the quality of our teaching and learning as well as communications with parents using the latest digital technology and systems. Below are examples of how we are developing our use of digital technology and how to access these.

**Please can I urge everyone to complete the attached permission form and return it to the school via your child on the first day back order for them to fully participate in the new facilities outlined below**

### **Xpressions**

As a trial this term, the current Year 7 parents have been using a home school communication and information app called **Xpressions**. After a couple of initial teething issues, parents have given it a resounding thumbs-up and so we are now rolling this service out to the rest of our parents/carers. This app will give you, access to near-real-time data from our school's database, e.g. attendance, behaviour records, school calendar and a lot more.

In order to use this service from January, please can you do the following:

- make sure the school has your mobile number and email address
- download the app from the App store (Apple) or Play store (Android)
- review the Privacy Policy (<http://parents.groupcall.com/contact/privacy-policy/>) which explains what data is collected and how it is used

Please check our website for further details of how to access the service on our school website under: Parent Information, Essential Information, Xpressions Parent App.

### **Chromebooks**

Chromebooks are laptop computers that work entirely online and store all information in the 'cloud'. In the new school, we will have enough for every child to access one (They will be kept in school and issued when required in lessons).

### **Google for Education**

The service we are using as a whole school to deliver all our educational packages on the chromebooks is **Google for Education**. We have been very impressed with the benefits offered for teaching and learning. It is worth noting that Welsh Government are also endorsing this.

With these tools at their fingertips, we hope pupils will have access to technology whenever it is required and appropriate for learning. Please see our website under: Parent Information, Essential Information,

Data Protection. This information will outline the Google Privacy notice, which you should read before signing the attached document.

### **Time Table Rockstar**

The Maths Department are introducing new software to help students learn their times tables called Time Table Rockstar. This is proved to be very beneficial for other schools. Students have individual accounts and some information needs to be shared to set these up. Full details can be found at <https://trockstars.com/page/privacy>. This also requires your consent on the attached consent form.

### **Biometrics**

We currently use Biometrics (fingerprint points captured and converted into a code number) for our cashless catering which has been extremely successful over the last couple of years. In our new campus, we will be extending the services that use Biometrics as the identification systems for the library (Microlib) and printing services (Papercut). Please can you also indicate your consent on the attached form.

Just to make you aware, as our new campus is shared with Cardiff and Vale College, when using shared services, some information may be viewed by restricted staff from the college. Their data protection policy is available [http://www.cavc.ac.uk/files/6914/9027/9112/Data\\_Protection\\_Policy\\_Rev\\_2\\_09-02-17.pdf](http://www.cavc.ac.uk/files/6914/9027/9112/Data_Protection_Policy_Rev_2_09-02-17.pdf)

Should you require any additional information about the services please call the school and ask to speak to Ceri Barnes, or if there is a data protection query, please see our Data Protection Policy on our website or email [dataprotection@easternhigh.org.uk](mailto:dataprotection@easternhigh.org.uk).

In order for accounts to be created, please return the permissions slip as soon as possible, ideally on the first day back after the holidays.

We hope you will be excited about these developing services and hope they enhance our communications with you.

Yours sincerely

Armando Di-Finizio  
Headteacher

# Consent Permissions Form

Please tick either the opt in or the opt out box for each service offered and return to Form Tutor by Wednesday 10th January

	Benefits of Opting in	Opt in	Consequences of Opting Out	Opt Out
<b>Biometrics for Catering services</b>	Security and speed		Pin codes would need to be remembered and used to top up and names provided at tills	
<b>Biometrics for Library services</b>	Security and speed		Name will need to be given and searched - cannot use self service	
<b>Biometrics for Printing Services</b>	Security and speed		Will be provided with a Pin number to remember	
<b>Google Education Account</b>	Google is the chosen learning and communication environment for the school. Students will have access to large numbers of Chromebooks to facilitate this.		Cannot use school chromebook devices. Cannot access learning resources, communications and carry out learning assignments / homework.	
<b>Times Table Rock Star Account</b>	Access to learning resource to improves times tables (Maths).		Will not be able to take part in these learning activities.	

Should you wish to opt out of any services at a later date, this is possible by contacting the school and requesting an Opt Out form.

**Student Name:** ..... **Learning Family**..... **Year Group:**.....

**Parent / Carer Name:** ..... **Signature:** .....

*(Please print)*

**Date:**