



A happy school works hard
Ysgol hapus yn gweithio'n galed

18.06.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware the Education Minister for Wales has taken the decision to open all schools from Monday 29th June. We understand that many parents are feeling concerned and worried during these uncertain times and this is a perfectly natural response. Since the lockdown began we have been working tirelessly to minimise the impact school closure will have on the pupil's education. I would just like to recognise the fantastic efforts of the staff in changing our whole way of working in a short period of time to develop our online learning resources. I would also like to recognise the support you as parents, have given to the children, to ensure they are engaged in all the learning activities. For such a small school our daily responses to learning activities have been exceptional, which is a huge credit to our pupils, parents and staff, thank you very much.

As you will be aware, schools will look very different when they re-open, with reduced numbers of pupils on site at any one time, and staggered start and finished times for the different key stages. The aim of schools reopening is maintain contact with pupils and enhance the learning by blending the online learning at home with the sessions in school. It is essential pupils continue to engage with the online learning activities whilst at home. We will be offering **two** sessions of check in, catch up and prepare over the period that schools are open.

In **Foundation Phase** (pupils in nursery, reception, Y1 and Y2,) these sessions will be between the hours of **9.15am and 3.15pm**.

For **Key Stage 2**, (pupils in Y3,Y4,Y5 and Y6) these sessions will be **8.45am to 2.45pm**.

Please be reminded that Bridgend LA and the school are requesting that all pupils are dropped off and collected from school by an adult. I will be texting you a link to confirm your child's place for your allocated days with dates and times.

The school has conducted a full risk assessment which will be reviewed by governors and the health and safety team at Bridgend Council, before pupils attend school. This risk assessment will identify hazards and control measures to keep the children and staff, as safe as possible while they are on site.

To ensure the safe operation of schools, we are following national guidance and have put in place a range of control measures to prevent the spread of the virus including:

- promotion of handwashing and good hygiene practices throughout the day;
- employing social distancing measures as far as practicable within school;
- restricting the numbers of children in classes;
- advising all staff to be vigilant for anyone displaying symptoms;
- staggering breaks and lunchtimes;
- minimising the sharing of objects/equipment;
- discouraging personal belongings being brought into school;
- minimising any activities involving contact;
- maintaining supervision within classes;
- undertaking increased cleaning activities including more frequent cleaning of high-use and touch areas throughout the day;
- provision of hand sanitiser to be used in addition to hand washing; and

- arrangements if anyone at the school displays symptoms.

We are requesting that you provide your child with a packed lunch on the days they are allocated. If you are eligible for free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided. Alternatively, if you wish for the school to provide a packed lunch this can also be arranged, but charged at the normal cost of a school dinner. Please ensure you have credit in your online school dinner account to use this service.

Please **do not** bring in any other items in from home other than medication or a packed lunch. Pupils are **not** required to wear school uniform, but should wear appropriate clothing for wellbeing activities, such as tracksuits and trainers. The pupils will be provided with all the equipment required to complete tasks. Where ever possible pupils will not share equipment, where this cannot be achieved the items will be cleaned before and after use. The pupils will have access to hand sanitizer and antibacterial wipes in class, this is an additional measure and does not replace the need for regular hand washing. In addition to the above, and to support the arrangements already in place, I would encourage you to advise your child to wash their hands:

- before leaving home;
- on arrival at school;
- after using the toilet;
- after breaks and physical activities;
- before eating any food, including snacks;
- before leaving school; and
- on returning home from school.

Nursery children who are due to start school in September will be accepted as it currently stands. If this information changes we will contact the families concerned.

Finally, I would also ask that when delivering or picking your child up from school, you observe all social distancing recommendations and:

- do not attend school if you or your child are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus (Covid-19);
- remain at least two metres apart from others at all times; and
- do not congregate in groups on arriving or when picking your child up from school.

We will be uploading to See-saw plans of the class layout and entry procedures, so the pupils know what to expect when they return to school. We really are looking forward to welcoming the children back into school, so they are able to catch up with friends and staff alike.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time.

Kind regards,

Mr R Edwards
Headteacher