



*'Helping us to help ourselves learn'*

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you are continuing to keep safe and well during these unprecedented times.

We are now planning for the 'new normal' in September. Guidance has been received from Welsh Government and we want to reassure you that we are working closely with the local authority and with our family of schools to develop a consistent and safe approach to welcoming back your children.

We are writing to inform you about the week beginning Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 and the school's organisation from that week:

Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	School closed – Preparation Day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	School closed – Preparation Day
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School open to Years 1 to 6 return to their new classes.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	School open to Years 1 to 6

The week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September will be our induction week for Reception children. A phased admission approach will be in operation throughout the week. Your child will have a specific day during that week on which to start and this will be emailed to you.

Nursery teachers will be hosting virtual group parent induction meetings / telephone conversations throughout the week, beginning on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Admission start dates will be for the following week [from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September] and these dates will be sent out to parents today via post.

**Please note the following important information:**

Year 1 to 6 children will need to be provided with a packed lunch for the first two weeks [Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September] whilst catering operations are organised. Children will be eating their lunches in their classrooms to minimise interaction between contact groups.

Reception children will need to be provided with a packed lunch for the first half term [until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October] so that they can have time to settle into their new full day school routines.



*'Helping us to help ourselves learn'*

We are keen for a normal catered service to resume as soon as possible, but the initial provision of a packed lunch will reduce the contact required for serving food. Parents will be kept informed of any changes to lunch time arrangements on our return in September.

Free school meal pupils will be provided with a packed lunch 'grab bag'.

Children will need to bring in their book bags with a mid-morning snack, packed lunch and a water bottle [with their names clearly written on it].

*We will expect all children to attend in school uniform in the Autumn Term.*

Next term, the school will continue to maintain the one-way system in and out of the school site to prevent congestion at the school gates. Please enter the site via the lower yard gate and exit via the top yard gate.

There will be some temporary changes to the timings of the school day to ensure our school can safely manage drop off and collection of children.

The school entrance gate will be open at 8.45am and children will be able to enter the school building from 8.50am using our current access arrangements. [Please refer to the access advice on our website.] Please do not send older children on their own early as they will not be able to access the site until the gates are opened at 8.45am.

**To avoid congestion, at the end of the day, Reception, Years 1 and 2 children are to be collected at 3.20pm. Key stage 2 and Nursery children are to be collected at 3.30pm.**

Please note **ALL** parents will need to socially distance themselves on the school yard at the start and finish times. Staff will not be supervising this. Parents should **NOT** congregate at the school entrances and all parents and pupils should leave the site immediately once the children have been dropped or collected.

Breakfast and after school clubs are likely to resume once risk assessments are completed in mid-September. Please recognise that such provision will be logistically challenging in the first few weeks, particularly when offering facilities across year groups.

Access to the school office will be restricted. Please try to communicate any queries in the first instance by telephone [02920707682]. If you do need to enter the office please wait at the end of the path and telephone the school number – a member of the Admin Team will then advise you on when to enter the school office.



*'Helping us to help ourselves learn'*

### Contingency Planning

Please be aware that although the intention is for all learners to return to school in the autumn, we will also need to plan for the possibility of a local lockdown. Given our uncertainty over future transmission levels, for the foreseeable future, it is essential that we prepare for a range of possible circumstances.

Welsh Government will work closely to monitor health conditions working closely with Public Health Wales and local authorities, in particular in the case of potential localised outbreaks. Blended learning is a method of teaching that integrates technology and digital media with traditional in-school classroom activities, giving children more flexibility to learn in different learning environments. This approach will allow our children to continue to access school – led learning whilst at home should there be a need for lockdown or school closure.

It is important to understand that the plans set out in this letter may be subject to change. Please ensure that the school has your correct email address before we break up for the Summer holiday.

We will continue to act in the best interests of your children as we move forward, together. Thank you for your patience and understanding and for all you have done at home in what has been the most challenging of times.

We wish you all the best and look forward to welcoming back pupils in September.

Kind regards,

AJ Gilbert