



Thursday, 09 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Education Minister`s Announcement

This afternoon we welcomed the Education Minister`s announcement and intention for all pupils to return to school in September for the first time since the lockdown begun in March, due to COVID-19.

Detailed guidance on how children will return to school will be published next week by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Over the last three months, the delivery of learning experiences and wellbeing support, provided by the school, has created many challenges for both us and you as parents. Central to our efforts has been your child, who although appear resilient at times, will have been affected during this period of lost education and importantly, not being able to see all their friends in and outside of school.

We also understand that during the pandemic, families may well be under additional social, emotional and financial pressure, and personal circumstances may have changed. We recognise the difficulties and challenges and want to ensure you that if you need any support, the school is here to help, guide and offer any advice in the event you require support for your family.

I wanted to share as much information as I can with you regarding the arrangements that we will need to put in place in readiness for September, albeit, we have not received the guidance from Welsh Assembly Government.

The priority remains: we will welcome children and staff back safely. We will aim for 1st September (Tuesday) to be an INSET day. This will be an opportunity for all staff to revisit policies and protocols and ensure we are ready to receive your child in a safe environment.

Providing guidance allows, we believe that during this first week, we need to ensure that some specific groups of learners are prioritised. New Year 7s, who have missed their transition; new Year 12s, who have missed a large proportion of learning, including little to no experience of online learning; and Year 13, who will need to be prepared for their examinations in readiness for university applications, will need consideration.



For the second week of term, we will aim to maximise entry for all children to attend; however, we remain mindful of our own specific challenges to open, including the availability of staff, who may not have childcare or are in the high-risk category under the present NHS guidelines.

Childcare Hub provision for key workers will end.

I will write to you next week outlining the specific arrangements for next year when further guidance is provided.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Sims
Headteacher