



Ysgol Tanyfron

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Ysgol Tanyfron Primary School

Guidance for parents and pupils on returning to school.

June 2020

On Monday 29th June, all schools across Wales will open their doors and welcome more children to return to school until Friday 24th July. All children will have the opportunity to “Check in, Catch Up and Prepare” before the summer holidays and the start of the Autumn term in September.

To help you to prepare for this, we have produced this booklet, which will hopefully answer your questions and provide you with a clear understanding of what school will look like.

Should you have any queries/questions upon reading this booklet please feel free to contact school or your child(ren)s class teacher and we will do our best to put you at ease as quickly as possible.

We appreciate that there are a vast range of new rules and regulations and that the number of opportunities your child will have in school over the 4 week period is minimal. Please understand that we have to carefully observe social distancing regulations and for this reason, our classrooms can only house small numbers of children safely. We cannot be too cautious when it comes to the health and safety of our school community. Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to welcoming your child into school on 29th June.

Yours sincerely

Mr D. Lloyd
Headteacher

Key Workers Childcare Provision

Since schools were repurposed in March, we have been offering key worker provision to parents/guardians who are frontline and critical keyworkers. The current guidance states that key worker children are entitled to access the provision providing there is no safe alternative for their children at home. We understand that this can be difficult, especially when parents/guardians are working shifts or working from home, but this is vital to ensure the safety of our school community.

From **Monday 22nd June**, our provision for keyworkers will run from 8:55am to 3.05pm, Monday to Friday in the **Community Centre Hall**. Children will be asked to enter through the community centre main entrance.



Community Centre – Main Entrance

Procedures will **NOT** change for key worker provision for during the reopening period. The provision will be coordinated by Mr C Hughes and Mrs L Bancroft (Thursday only) along side other members of staff. Thursday will remain a forest school day so please ensure your child(ren) are dressed appropriately.

The number of parents/guardians requesting 'key worker' provision has steadily increased as lockdown restrictions have eased, so therefore we are now asking all new requests to complete a 'Key Worker Booking Form' and provide evidence from your employer as to your key worker status.

Please Note – Under current guidelines, the Key Worker provision will end on FRIDAY 24th July. All parents/guardians are advised to liaise with their preferred 'holiday club' provider about their current arrangements.

How staff have organised the return to school?

Following the Welsh government guidance, we will be working to accommodate up to a maximum of one third of children within school at a time to try to allow for social distancing measures to be observed. In order to do this, we will be welcoming certain classes/year groups on given days. To provide equity, all mainstream classes have been allocated the same number of 'days' in school.

All families that completed the 'return to school' question for a Foundation Phase pupil will receive a message via their SeeSaw/Google classroom account on **Monday 22nd June***. If you did not complete the 'return to school' question on time, unfortunately a place in school has not been allocated.

**Please note – We have not released groupings in advance as we do not want to be in a situation where groupings are shared and then our risk assessment returns from the local authority requiring groupings to change. We do not want parents/guardians or pupils to think they are in one group for it to be changed at a later point. We are confident that after Monday there will be no need to change groupings. However, we cannot guarantee this.*

Check In, Catch Up and Prepare timetable & timings

Date	Foundation Phase Bubbles	Staff Member	Key Stage 2 Bubbles	Staff Member
W/B 29 th June	Foundation Phase 1	Mrs J Jones	Year 5/6	Miss C Harris
W/B 6 th July	Foundation Phase2	Miss H Jones	Year 4/5	Miss C Roberts
W/B 13 th July	Foundation Phase 3	Mrs J Evans-Jones	Year 3	Mrs T Humberstone

As you can see, each class/year group will be allocated 3 days in a block – these will be a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On a Thursday and Friday, classes are deep cleaned and closed in preparation for the next ‘bubble’.

We will be unable to change any dates that your child has been offered due to the strict restrictions within which we are working.

How will the children in the year groups be organised?

All year groups, from Reception to Year 6, will be split into smaller groups. Across school, to support with social distancing there will be no more than 8 in each group apart from the year 5/6 class bubble which will be 12 pupils. This is predominately based on the large numbers of year 6 pupils wishing to attend prior to leaving for high school.

Each ‘bubble’ will work within their normal classroom and use the existing set of toilets. The children will remain in their allocated classrooms throughout the day and will only be allowed to ‘mix’ with the other children in that room and the member(s) of staff allocated to them.

A guide to the school day

Arriving and Leaving

We aim to allow children into school in their ‘bubbles’, in 10 minute intervals. We will provide you with a drop-off and collection time that you must adhere to. Where possible we ask that only 1 parent ‘drops off’ and ‘picks up’ to help with social distancing measures.

Dropping Off – Upon arriving at school we ask that you bring your child to the normal ‘drop off’ gate, however they will enter through the double gates which will be manned by either Mrs Pritchard or Mrs S Jones. Pupils will then move across the yard to the hand sanitising station where either Mrs Pritchard or Mrs S Jones will apply hand sanitiser. Pupils will then enter the building through different entrances, according to where their allocated classroom is. This way of entering school will be the same in ‘bad’ weather, with the only change being the hand sanitising station will move inside.

Please note - If you miss your allocated time, we ask that you bring your child to the main school entrance and ask your child only to enter the school building.

Picking Up – You will be asked to collect your child at a specific time at the end of the day. Again, we hope to do this in 10-minute intervals. Upon entering school grounds via the ‘double gate’ we politely ask that parents make their way to a pre marked zone. This will be in the format of a ‘cone’ spaced 2m apart. (See picture below) Before dismissal a member of staff will note which parent/guardian is on each ‘cone’ and pupils will make their way out in an order which will allow all to leave the school premises safely. The dismissal order will be based on cones closest to the double gates moving back towards the blue fence bordering Dragons Daycare.

We ask politely that parents do not loiter afterwards as other parents/guardians will be collecting too. It is imperative that you do not mix socially during dropping off and collecting times or allow your children to play together after school.

If you miss your allocated ‘pick up’ time slot, for health and safety reasons, you will be asked to collect your child from the main entrance. Please DO NOT make your way on to the yard.

Please note - During the reopening period the 'top gate' entrance on St Albans Road will NOT be open for health & safety reasons.

Drop Off and Pick Up times

- Foundation Phase Bubbles – 09.00am arrival – 2.20pm departure
- Key Stage 2 Bubbles – 09.10am arrival – 2.30pm departure



General Points

- There will be toilet breaks throughout the day and children in Foundation Phase will be escorted to use the toilet that has been allocated to that group. For younger children, we will endeavour to make this as regular as possible.
- Pupils will have access to the outdoors and weather permitting, we will endeavour to be outside as much as possible.
- Please note, there will not be any provision for Breakfast Club.
- The school office will be open on a Monday and Wednesday however, we only ask you enter school if it is an emergency. Please aim to contact school via phone (01978 758118) or your class teachers SEESAW.
- To support with social distancing, we will require your support with certain elements of first aid, with the need to change any of our children (if they are wet or soiled) and there will be a zero tolerance approach to any form of challenging or disruptive behaviour. Parents or carers will be asked to come into school to support with this or to take their child home.
- Whilst children are in school we aim to continue the distance learning work which will have been set by their teachers. We will focus on reviewing their well-being and generally 'catch up' with how they have been getting on. We will not be teaching content that has not been set for distance learning or trying to catch up with the past 3 months.

What should my child bring to school?

In Key Stage 2, if your child wishes he/she can bring a SMALL pencil case to school that contains a pen/pencil and perhaps some colouring pens or pencils (it would be useful if these were labelled). Children will leave this in school for the time that they are attending. All pupils using school resources will be given their own pack that will remain with them for their block of learning. No materials or resources will be shared unless they have been wiped/washed.

All children will eat snack and lunch within their allocated classrooms. Please provide a snack and packed lunch for your child. Your child will also need a water bottle which needs to be filled at home. Please provide lunch in a plastic lunch box that can be wiped down at the end of lunch time. Please ensure where possible that your child is able to open packaging independently. No school bags will be permitted.

What should my child wear?

Where possible, we would like all pupils to wear their school polo t-shirt and/or their school jumper with trousers, shorts, leggings or a skirt and shoes. However, we are flexible about uniform as appreciate many children will have grown over the last few months. If you choose not to send your child in uniform we ask children to dress appropriately for school and we politely ask that your child wears a clean set of clothes every day. As we hope to be outside every day, please make sure that your child is wearing suitable clothing. Trainers or flat shoes are advised. Once your child comes home from school, we advise that all clothes that s/he has been wearing go straight into the washing machine and your child has a shower. If your child wears a coat to school, they will be required to hang this on the back of their chair. We will not be using the cloakrooms. Please be aware of hats and headbands, etc, and how they rarely stay on heads!

Please ensure that all long hair is tied back and, to support social distancing, that your child can tie their own shoelaces.

Social Distancing

Although pupils will see their friends, we will ask them to always remain at least 2 metres apart. In the classrooms, we have set up the areas/tables to help with this. By Monday 29th June we will have put signage up around our site to remind and support social distancing rules. From our experience of working with children within our keyworker group, we have found it very difficult for all children, especially those in Foundation Phase, to socially distance. Whilst we will remind children of the importance of keeping apart, as children are naturally sociable, we cannot guarantee that they will remain 2 metres apart.

Please talk to your child about this as there may be times when we ask him / her to move away from another child or adult which may be very confusing. When we are playing outside the children will have allocated play spaces and these will be coned off.



Foundation Phase Classroom



Year 3 – Mrs Humberstone



Year 4/5 – Miss Roberts



Year 5/6 – Miss Harris

Personal, Protective Equipment

The school has purchased PPE and some members of staff have face masks. If a member of staff would prefer to wear PPE, face mask or gloves whilst in school we will support them in doing so. If you would like to send your child into school wearing a face mask or gloves, please do so. May we remind you however, it is your responsibility to explain why they are wearing the face mask and gloves and that they will need to stay on unless they are eating. If they no longer wish to wear them during the day, they must be put away in their bag and not brought out again. Face masks should not be shared with anyone else.

Accidents and Intimate Care

If your child falls or hurts themselves during the day and needs medical attention, it may be necessary for staff to put on PPE to treat them. The same applies to toileting accidents. Staff will ask children to try to clean themselves up as much as possible but will wear PPE if intervention is needed.

Illness

If your child falls ill during the school day, you will be notified immediately and asked to collect them as soon as possible. Your child may not return to school until they are completely well again, and in the instance of vomiting and diarrhoea your child may not return until 48 hours has passed since they were last ill. If your child begins to display symptoms of Covid-19 we will immediately put them into an isolation room and contact you to collect them. They should isolate for 7 days and not return to school.

Medical

If your child has a medical condition, for example, asthma, and you would still like to send them into school please ensure that all medicines are labelled and sent in a plastic box with a lid. We ask that these medicines are kept in school for the entire time and do not go home until your child has completed their allotted days. If your child has asthma or a medical condition which school is currently not aware of, please make school aware as you will be asked to complete a risk assessment before your child returns to school. If your child has a medical condition that requires assistance from an adult, please contact the school to discuss this.

Please note that if your child needs medical attention that requires hospitalisation, you will need to advise us if you would prefer for them NOT to travel in an ambulance or attend hospital.

Shielding

We are aware that many of you have received or have family members who have received shielding letters. If you or someone in your family is in receipt of such a letter, we ask that you stay at home and do not return to school.

If you, your child or any family member with whom your child has been into contact is displaying any Covid-19 symptoms, you must alert us immediately and they must stay away from school.

Hygiene / Cleaning

Children will be required to wash/sanitise their hands when entering the school in the morning. They will continue to do this at regular intervals throughout the day, before and after eating, and when coming in from outside. In class, we have access to anti-bacterial gel and hand-wash which has a high alcohol content.

Children will be encouraged to keep their hands away from their faces and keep things out of their mouths. We will remind children of sneezing and coughing into a tissue or the crook of their arm.

Throughout the day, staff will wipe over surfaces, door handles and other equipment. Cleaning staff will clean identified areas at set times within our school day and all areas at the end of the school day once all of the children and staff have left. We will close the school on Thursdays and Fridays to non-keyworker families so that a deep clean may be carried out.

Frequently Asked Questions: A guide for parents on children returning to school

Note that these questions have been formulated based upon the communications by Kirsty Williams, First Minister for Education in Wales. As new information is released, and as time passes, this information is subject to update, and to change.

Why are the children being offered the opportunity to return to school?

Kirsty Williams, Minister for Education has described the return to school as “a chance to work together for pupils so that they can check in, catch up and prepare for the summer and September”.

Which children are being given the opportunity to return?

All children who attend full-time education are invited to attend school for the final four weeks of term.

What if my child is shielding?

Children who are shielding should not return to school, but contact with the class teacher and teaching materials will continue to be available digitally, as they have been throughout the lockdown period.

When will the school close for the summer break?

School will close on Friday 24 July 2020, one week later than originally planned, and this week’s holiday will be redistributed to the Autumn term.

How many children will be permitted on the school premises at any one time?

The number of children that can be safely in school at any one time will not exceed a third of pupils present at any one time. It has also been recognised that some schools may not be able to reach this level of operation.

What will be the focus of the activities if my child returns to school?

It is expected that schools use this period to support the health and well-being of learners and their staff, and that should be their foremost priority; check in with learners and support them in their preparedness for learning and consider next steps for learning as appropriate; to test the operations ready for the autumn term; and to continue to build the confidence of families in the very careful approach that is being taken. It is an opportunity for both learners and staff to prepare and get used to the new normal as it will look in September.

How will the school experience look for the foreseeable future?

Learners will experience a blend of face-to-face and online learning. In the autumn, it is expected that schools will have to continue to accommodate all learners who can attend at a reduced time to allow for social distancing. It should also be noted that the evolving science tells us that an autumn spike in the virus is a very real possibility.

What would it feel like for my child to return to school?

The exact operations of how children can be safely in school at any one time is still in the process of being established. However, it is expected that when the children are in school, it will feel very different, with staggered arrivals, departures and breaks, with far more time being spent outdoors, weather permitting, and in much smaller classes. However, it is expected that they will enjoy secure, dedicated time with teachers and some of their friends.

How can I decide on whether I return my child to school?

Decision makers, whether as a parent or a headteacher, always have to balance risks. In this current period, all of us have to think about the possibilities of direct and indirect harm. Kirsty Williams, Minister for Education believes that it is only by returning to their own schools that there will be increased attendance from the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

What impact would my child returning to school be expected to have upon Covid-19?

It allows us to make the most of the warm weather and sunlight, which has an important impact in combating transmission of the virus.