

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils

Return to School: Academic year 2020-21, autumn term, commencing 1st September

We hope you and your families are all keeping well, maintaining good spirits and staying safe.

Further to last week's ministerial announcement and this week's receipt of the Welsh Government operational and learning guidance, I am now in a position to confirm the outline arrangements for the start of the new academic year and our September return.

Following advice from the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) schools in Wales will open for all pupils from 14th September, subject to a continuing, steady decline in the presence of COVID-19 in the community.

The autumn term will commence on Tuesday 1st September, which along with Wednesday 2nd September will be whole school preparation days (closed for pupils). For the remaining two days of week one, each key stage group will attend in their entirety, for one day each, as per the attached table. For week two (week beginning 7th September), each key stage will attend in their entirety for two days each, similarly as per the attached table. The whole school and all pupils will return full time from Monday 14th September.

Our priority will be getting back to some sense of normality, within the restrictions that the ongoing pandemic places on us to keep everyone safe. The risks associated with corona virus have not gone away but we are more experienced in managing and mitigating against the risks. A comprehensive and detailed risk assessment is in place for our school and for some individual pupils in line with operational guidance from Welsh government and Swansea local authority.

For both weeks one and two, there will be no canteen facilities at school, so all pupils will need to bring packed lunches to school. BACS payments will continue for families entitled to free school meals up until September 14th when school canteen facilities will reopen. We anticipate school transport being fully available from September although we are still awaiting this confirmation. We will inform you as soon as we are able to.

Information and advices from Public Health Wales, Welsh and local government continue to develop, and are regularly updated, so please check our website, Schoop and Facebook communications, as we will use these channels to bring you the latest information as soon as it is received.

Pupils will return to school according to the following rota:

WEEK BEGINNING 31 ST AUGUST					
Pupils	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Foundation Primary	Bank holiday	Planning day closed to pupils	Planning day closed to pupils	At home distance learning	In School
KS3	Bank holiday	Planning day closed to pupils	Planning day closed to pupils	In School	At home distance learning
KS4	Bank holiday	Planning day closed to pupils	Planning day closed to pupils	In School	At home distance learning
Sixth Form	Bank holiday	Planning day closed to pupils	Planning day closed to pupils	At home distance learning	In School

WEEK BEGINNING 7 th SEPTEMBER					
Pupils	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Foundation Primary	At home distance learning	At home distance learning	In School	In School	At home distance learning
KS3	In School	In School	At home distance learning	At home distance learning	At home distance learning
KS4	At home distance learning	At home distance learning	At home distance learning	In School	In School
Sixth Form	In School	In School	At home distance learning	At home distance learning	At home distance learning

WEEK BEGINNING 14 th SEPTEMBER ONWARDS					
Pupils	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Foundation Primary	In School	In School	In School	In School	In School
KS3	In School	In School	In School	In School	In School
KS4	In School	In School	In School	In School	In School
Sixth Form	In School	In School	In School	In School	In School

We know that some of you may be anxious about sending your child back to us and that there will also be pupils who are nervous. We will work together as a school community to support and reassure them, whatever their concerns. We very much look forward to the start of a new academic year.

Take care and stay safe.

The very warmest of wishes

Gethin Sutton