

## RE-OPENING ARRANGEMENTS 1

13/06/20

Dear Parent / Guardian,

As you know, Bryn Tawe will re-open to our pupils from Monday, the 29th of June, for a period of 4 weeks, until Friday the 24th of July. We very much look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school into a safe and welcoming environment.

The purpose of opening before the summer holiday is to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to attend school during the four weeks to 'check in, catch up and prepare for the summer and September'. We will focus on supporting the wellbeing of our pupils primarily during this period, with planned formal learning opportunities as well. This means that we will provide an opportunity for Bryn Tawe pupils to re-connect with their teachers and some of their peers; to catch up on their work but also to continue learning through to the end of term; to prepare and develop the essential skills needed for blended and independent learning that will be required for the 'new normal' from September. Naturally, our pupils' school experience in the foreseeable future will be very different from the one they have previously known. The safety and well-being of your child will be our priority during this period.

We have a number of important messages to share with you all as parents and pupils, and we will be in regular contact over the next fortnight through text. I ask you to check our website regularly, as this is where we will share more detailed guidance and arrangements. Full details are available for the operational guidance that has been issued by the Welsh government on [this link](#), as well as guidance for pupils on learning over this summer term [here](#). It is important that you as parents and pupils are aware of their contents before you return.

We will continue to offer the emergency childcare at the same time as opening as a school, although the provision will be different to the current form. We will update our website with details of this new provision.

We will offer **pupils to be in school for full days with their year group** up until the summer in the first place. Full days are more practical because of the wide-ranging nature of our catchment area and will also allow us to be able to provide 'learning blocks' with specialist teachers where practically possible. Years 10 and 12 will receive provision for two days per week. The weekly routine will therefore be:

**Monday – Years 10 and 12;**

**Tuesday – Year 10;**

**Wednesday – Year 7;**

**Thursday – Years 9 and 12;**

**Friday – Year 8.**

We have created an **alternative timetable** for our pupils during this period and we will publish it on our website in the week before the 29th. Pupils will receive 3 '**learning blocks**' (a period equivalent to 2 normal lessons) each day. Pupils will remain in the same **learning groups**, with the same peers for long periods during the day. Years 7 and 8 will spend each day in these learning groups, formed (as far as possible) out of their registration classes. Pupils in years 9 and 10 will spend a morning with their core subject learning group and afternoons in their optional subject learning groups, as far as this is possible. The teachers will move from one class to another rather than the pupils. Each learning group will receive a staggered morning break and lunchtime, with an opportunity to go outside under the supervision of staff. These practical arrangements are intended to ensure the safety of our pupils and staff, as well as to provide valuable learning and well-being opportunities for every pupil.

### KEEPING SAFE:



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Pennaeth : Mr Simon Davies



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Scientific evidence shows that maintaining 'social distancing' and personal hygiene are the most effective ways to avoid catching and spreading the virus. We ask all parents to emphasize the importance of adhering to these key safeguards for the benefit of your child and all those who attend school.

**Social distancing:** pupils are expected to **maintain physical distancing expectations of two metres at all times** whilst on site and when travelling on school transport. We are very aware that this is unnatural for pupils of school age and we will constantly encourage them, in a positive manner, to maintain this important expectation. I also ask you as parents to re-emphasize the importance of good social distancing with your child. WG social distancing guidelines can be [seen here](#).

**Classrooms and corridors:** we have prepared our classrooms for social distancing with small groups of approximately 10 pupils. There will also be a safe space for the teacher to lead more formal wellbeing and learning activities. A one-way walking system will be in place, with clear signage. There are signs in place which will promote and remind pupils of the importance of maintaining social distancing and the direction to walk. All site users are expected to comply fully with these expectations.

**Hygiene:** all pupils will be expected to **wash their hands** immediately on arrival and before leaving the building. There will also be regular opportunities throughout the day for hand washing. Hand sanitiser will also be available, but not for use at the expense of hand washing. All users will be expected to use a tissue, or their sleeves when coughing or sneezing. Again, this is a key practice in preventing the spread of the virus.

#### **SYMPTOMS AND ILLNESSES:**

Under no circumstances should learners attend school if they:

- feel unwell, have any of the three identified COVID-19 symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or loss of taste or smell) or they have tested positive to COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- live in a household with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive to COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

If a pupil shows symptoms or lives with someone who shows symptoms, they must follow the self-isolation guidance from the Welsh Government ([see here](#)). **It will be the responsibility of each parent to ensure this.** In addition, parents are expected to declare that their child has not shown any COVID-19 symptoms before they return to school. We will provide a health questionnaire to complete before your child returns to school.

If a pupil shows symptoms while with us at school, they will be isolated in a safe isolation room and we will contact you as parents to collect them immediately. We have clear follow up actions for such instances that include deep cleaning, self-isolation protocols and testing, tracing and protecting.

For further details of the daily practical arrangements (transport, arrival at and departure from the premises, access to the building, times of the day, break and lunch arrangements, school uniform, school equipment, digital devices etc), please see our website.

In order to support us with our daily plans for admitting pupils, we ask all parents to complete our [return to school questionnaire here](#) . It will not be possible for any pupil to attend if a parent has not completed the questionnaire on their behalf. If you don't want your child to attend, please share any feedback with us through the questionnaire, where we can take action to build your confidence in the safety of your child whilst at school.

We will share more details with you over the next two weeks, but in the meantime, if you want to discuss any matter further, please contact us at the school.



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Yours sincerely,

*Simon Davies*



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