



Ysgol Gynradd Llanfair-ym-Muallt

Builth Wells Primary School

Our September 'Back to School Plan'

We would like to share our outline plan, so you know what to expect. Please be aware that this may change if the national guidelines change over the summer. We will send confirmed details the week before we return.

Thursday 3rd September - Return to School

All pupils in Years 1 to 6 will be returning to school. Reception pupils will be starting on a part-time basis, building-up to full-time by Monday 14th September.

We will be very pleased to welcome back pupils and all staff. We can confirm our classes will be:

English Stream		Ffrwd Gymraeg	
Dosbarth Llyn y Fan (Reception)	Mrs N. Davies	Dosbarth Irfon (Derbyn)	Miss B. Williams
Dosbarth Llyn Tegid (Years 1 & 2)	Mrs. R. Jones	Dosbarth Gwy (Blwyddyn 1 & 2)	Mrs. M. Davies
Dosbarth Cadair Idris (Years 3 & 4)	Miss E. Bowkett / Mrs. J. Owens	Dosbarth Elan (Blwyddyn 3 & 4)	Mrs G. Williams / Mrs. R. Joseph-Morgan
Dosbarth Tryfan (Years 5 & 6)	Miss C. Ives	Dosbarth Pen y Fan (Blwyddyn 5 & 6)	Mrs. H. Davies
Dosbarth Eryri	Mrs. C. Goode Mrs. G. Evans		

How will we be teaching classes in September whilst following the Covid-19 guidelines?

Nearly all children, teachers and teaching assistants will remain with their allocated class throughout the day so there is almost no mixing of children between classes within the school or outside at break-time and almost no movement of adults between classes.

However, the Foundation Phase Welsh Stream pupils (Derbyn – Bl.2) will be allowed to share the same playground at break-times, as will the English Stream Foundation Phase (Reception to Y2). The scientific guidance suggests the risk of infection between the youngest children is extremely low.

Throughout the school our amazing team of teaching assistants help us to be able to teach the children in small focus groups. All groups will spend some time with the teacher, some with the T.A. and some time working independently or collaboratively with other pupils. In the larger classes we will make use of spare classrooms and teaching spaces to help us divide into groups.

What about social distancing?

Within their classes, children are not expected to maintain social distancing. However, teaching staff must aim to keep a 2-metre distance between themselves and the children and also between each other. We are allowed to take a slightly more practical approach with Foundation Phase children.

Key Stage 2 tables will be arranged so that children face the front and are not face to face.

Will classrooms continue to be thoroughly and regularly cleaned?

We will maintain frequent cleaning of toilets, door handles, etc. during the school day and dining tables and chairs will be thoroughly cleaned between each sitting at lunchtime.

We will continue to ensure everyone is regularly washing hands.

What about break-times and lunchtimes?

We will have staggered break-times and lunchtimes, just as we have this term, so each class gets some time to eat in the dining hall and some time to play outside. Hot dinners will be available, but children may continue to bring packed lunches in plastic-coated lunch bags if they prefer. They will also need to continue to provide their own drinks bottles. Free School Meal payments will stop once meals start being received on the school site.

Do pupils need to wear uniform?

Yes, we will go back to wearing uniform in September. However, we will take a relaxed approach until October half-term, by which time everyone should have had enough time to order new jumpers, get black shoes or trainers, etc.

On P.E. days, children should come to school in their P.E. kit with warm joggers, hoodies, etc. to wear on top. We do not want to change for P.E. and risk mixing-up clothes. Please don't worry about this for the first week though.

What about face masks?

Face masks are optional but we will be providing guidance on how these will need to be used before we return to school.

Do pupils need to bring any equipment to school?

No. We will provide everything they need apart from packed lunches, drinks and coats.

We will have a safe system in place for bringing reading books to and from school but nothing else should be brought in. We will not have reading diaries in September.

What time does school start and finish?

For safety we will need to continue with staggered starts:

8.45 - Buses and Welsh Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase)

8.55 - English Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase)

9.05 - All other Foundation Phase children without older siblings

We will also have staggered finishes:

3.10 - Foundation Phase children without any siblings in KS2

3.20 - Buses and Welsh Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase)

3.30 - English Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase)

It is absolutely essential that parents arrive at the correct time to collect children, keep to the red spots on the pavement to help maintain social distancing and follow one-way signs. It is going to be much busier in September with everyone back.

Will the school buses be running?

Yes, they will run as usual.

Will there be a Breakfast Club?

No. Because of the difficulties around mixing of children and movement of staff between groups we will not be able to have a breakfast club available at the start of term. However, once the school systems are up and running, we will review the situation again.

What about Busy Bees After-School Club?

Unfortunately, the answer to this question is also 'No'. At least not until the guidelines change. The childcare hub has worked so well because the children have just been in the hub and there is no mixing of groups. Once all children are back in classes in September, after-school club becomes a very different proposition. The challenges of avoiding mixing children and staff are even more pronounced in Busy Bees because of the large numbers attending and because the staff either work at our school or at other schools as T.A.s during the day. Even if we could fit everyone in and staff it safely, we couldn't reasonably expect children to sit still at tables, socially distanced from each other for up to 2 hours after a full day at school.

The Busy Bees Committee is aware of the challenges this presents for working parents, but we hope and trust that you can understand the difficulties we face. We will keep the situation under constant review in the hope that we can open as soon as we are able, but parents should have other plans in place for the first half of the autumn term at least.

I hope this letter has helped to give you a better understanding of how we are planning to open to all pupils in September. I also hope that you are reassured that we are taking all reasonable and sensible measures possible to try to keep everyone safe and happy.

If you lose any communications from us, please check the school website. My apologies that, due to time constraints, you are receiving this letter in English only.

See you in September!

G. Cornelius