



Ysgol Gynradd Llanfair-ym-Muallt

Builth Wells Primary School

Our September 'Back to School Plan'

Updated 1st September 2020

This is an updated version of the plan sent to parents in July. We are committed to doing all we can to provide a Covid-secure environment so children have a very positive experience on their return to school – as they did in July – and parents will be reassured that everyone at our school is being kept as safe as possible. We will keep all systems under constant review so that if something needs to be altered we will act quickly.

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		

Covid-19

Welsh Government advises us that the risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from COVID-19 is very low and that these need to be carefully balanced with the negative impacts of being out of school for an extended period.

We have undertaken a comprehensive risk assessment and put systems in place to ensure we abide by all Welsh Government guidelines.

It is essential that no-one attends school if they are feeling unwell and displaying any of the symptoms of Covid-19 (a new continuous cough, high temperature and / or loss of sense of taste or smell).

If we believe anyone is displaying these symptoms at school, arrangements will be made for them to go home straight away so it is essential we have the correct contact details for all responsible adults.

We are aware of all staff and pupils who were shielding during lockdown and arrangements are being put in place to reassure them about returning to school. If you are anxious for your child, or because you or someone in your household was shielding and remains vulnerable, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss your particular situation.

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 and minimising contacts?

We are following Welsh Government guidelines on social distancing by keeping children and staff in consistent groups (essentially their classes). These groups will be kept apart from other groups but primary school pupils do not have to be kept separate within their group.

Teaching staff must aim to keep a 2-metre distance between themselves and the children and also between each other. Although it is recognised by Welsh Government that this is not always possible in a primary school and that some children will need a level of closer care and support, staff will keep their distance as much as possible and when circumstances allow.

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 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 continue until 11th September so parents of children in receipt of free school meals will need to continue to provide a packed lunch until 14th September.

Children will be seated with their group / class in the dining hall, separated from other groups, and all facing the same way so that they are not face-to-face.

All classes will have snack time after break. Please provide a piece of fruit (no nuts). Year 5/6 children will not be eating until 1.00 p.m. so it is especially important that they have a snack mid-morning.

Do children need bags?

Children may bring a bag containing only a packed lunch bag / container, a drink, a reading book and a fruit snack.

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?

Welsh Government advice for primary-age pupils is that face masks are unnecessary, either at school or on school transport and children are not expected to wear them. Staff will not be wearing face masks unless we have to respond to an incident where PPE needs to be worn.

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 and exercise books will not be allowed home.

What time does school start and finish?

The times have been altered slightly to provide a clear window for children to arrive and leave.

For safety we will need to continue with staggered starts:

8.40 – Gates open

Between 8.40-8.50 - Buses and Welsh Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase) must arrive

Between 8.50-9.00 - English Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase) must arrive

9.00-9.10 - All other Foundation Phase children without older siblings must arrive

Parents of younger Foundation Phase children, especially new Reception children, are invited to bring their children onto the playground where they will be met by their teacher every day. Please respect social distancing rules. Key Stage 2 children should come in independently as usual. They should go straight to class via their cloakroom. Children must be on time as we will not be allowing anyone in through the main front entrance other than Cylch children.

We will also have staggered finishes:

3.00 – Gates will open.

3.00 - 3.10 - Foundation Phase children without any siblings in KS2 must be collected

3.10 - 3.20 - Buses depart and Welsh Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase) must be collected

3.20 - 3.30 - English Stream KS2 (plus siblings in Fn Phase) must be collected

It is absolutely essential that parents arrive at the correct time. Please make sure everyone who might be collecting children knows about this timetable. We all have a duty to try to keep everyone safe. Only one adult from each household to drop-off and pick-up please.

Please wait at the 'Queue Here' sign and use the red spots to help maintain social distancing while you wait for your time slot to come onto the playground to meet your child.

Please follow the one-way pedestrian system at the front of the school.

If your child is in Y5/6 and you wish for him / her to walk home independently, please contact the school office to let us know.

Will the school buses be running?

Yes, they will run as usual.

Will there be a Breakfast Club?

Once the school is up and running successfully we will review Clwb Bore Da provision as soon as we can.

What about Busy Bees After-School Club?

A lot of work was done in a very short time to ensure we were one of a very few schools who provided a holiday club over the summer. I am grateful to Nia Wilson for helping to make this happen and to the staff who did an excellent job in an unfamiliar environment. I am sure it was appreciated by working parents. We will be looking to see if and when it is possible to reopen Busy Bees at the earliest opportunity.

What if I need to speak to a member of staff?

All communication with staff must be by telephone or email. Only in very exceptional circumstances might it be possible to arrange a meeting in person. Parents must not come in to the foyer.

We are welcoming Mrs Helen Carter to the school administration team this term so your query may be handled by either Mrs Carter or Mrs James in the first instance.

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.

Diolch,

G. Cornelius