

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Nedd



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Dear parents/guardians,

Thank you for your continued support over the last four months. I am delighted to confirm that the school will be open to all pupils in the Autumn term.

We appreciate that families will have their own circumstances to consider before children return to school and that some of you may be sheltering and protecting family members. We also understand that many of you may be worried about your child/children returning to school although we will do everything we can to make the school as safe as possible. By September 14th, **every** child is expected to attend school. If this is not possible, please contact the school as soon as possible with the reasons for this.

The school will have two preparation days - September 1st and 2nd. So the children's term will start on **Thursday September 3rd**. Reception, and years, one and two will be coming into school on a gradual return to support them over the first two weeks, but years three to six are expected to return immediately. A letter about the arrangements for the first two weeks for Reception, and years 1 and 2 will be sent to you separately.

In order to keep the school to a minimum, parents and carers will not be able to enter the school grounds or school office and we will ask for the communication to remain by telephone and email. To protect the community, we will apply strict periodic start and finish times for different year groups. We will have school adults at the gates to support safe entry and exit practices. We ask you to do this as promptly as possible to ensure that social distance is maintained. With more pupils on site, we will need to ask for your patience as these procedures are likely to take some time but will ultimately protect your children.

Please see below the start times for each class. You will receive a text from the school confirming which group your child will be in. It will be very important that your children arrive on time and within the allotted time. We also advise that one parent or caregiver drop off and collect your child/children, to keep people on New Street to a minimum.

New site access arrangements

| Class | | Star time | Finish time | Gate |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Meithrin / Nursery | | 9:40 – 9:50 | 11:30 | Top gate |
| Reception | Group 1 | 8:50 | 3:00 | Bottom gate |
| | Group 2 | 9:00 | 3:10 | |
| | Group 3 | 9:10 | 3:20 | |
| Year 1/2 | Group 1 | 8:30 | 2:40 | Bottom gate |
| | Group 2 | 8:40 | 2:50 | |
| Year 3/4/5 | Group 1 | 8:50 | 3:20 | Top gate |
| | Group 2 | 9:00 | 3:30 | |
| Year 5/6 | Group 1 | 8:30 | 3:00 | Top gate |
| | Group 2 | 8:40 | 3:10 | |

Transport

We are awaiting guidance from the Welsh Government and Local Authority on school transport.

Lunch times and break times

Lunchtime and break times will also look different to the children. We will ensure that each class has separate play and dinner times. The designated outdoor area will be used on a rota basis by each year and any equipment cleaned before the change point. Cleaning practices have been increased and all adults will ensure that new measures for cleaning the premises and equipment are maintained. The children will use the outdoor space as often as possible, as the outdoors is encouraged within the security measures.

Good hygiene

We will ensure that all staff and children regularly wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and that they understand effective handwashing techniques. Regular handwashing will include on arrival and when leaving the school; before and after handling food; before and after handling objects and equipment that may have been used by others; where there has been any physical contact and after people blow their nose, sneeze or cough.

Once children are back in school, all frequently touched surfaces, equipment, door handles and toilets used during the day will be cleaned thoroughly throughout each day. We have trained all members of staff to carry out this activity. Classrooms in school are being prepared for the re-opening having been deep cleaned and stripped of soft toys and furnishings. We have made the classes as easy to clean as possible. With this in mind it is very important that children only bring to school what is absolutely necessary; a named water bottle and lunch box, and their own pencil case that will stay in school. Sun block must be applied before leaving home every day as we will not be able to do this in school. Promoting good and regular hygiene routines, including regular hand washing are built into the school day and will be overseen by all staff.

Breakfast Club

There will be no breakfast club for the first month of the new term. This will be reviewed towards half term, depending on how the new arrangements progress.

School uniform

The children will need to wear school uniform, which we request is washed at the end of each school day, with the children returning in fresh clothing every day which will again lower the risk of infection. It is important that footwear continues to be sensible for outdoor activities; inappropriate footwear may mean that children will not be able to take part in an activity.

Payments

*Payment are only to be made through Parent Pay. Money **will not** be collected in school.*

Classes

The children will stay in their classes and will not be able to change or move from these classes to another. The government acknowledges that there may be times when children pass each other within corridors but we will keep this to a minimum using the routines that we now have in place.

As you can see, school life will look different for a while. We will continue to support on-line learning through the use of the website and Hwb, to the pupils who are unable to attend school.

We hope that you are all well and staying safe. We look forward to seeing you in September!

*Yours sincerely
Mrs Evans*



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*Â dawn fe gawn ein geni
A'n hawl yw ei meithrin hi*