



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Ysgol Catholig Santes Fair

As a Catholic Family we will do our best to live and learn as Christ taught us.

Llangewydd Road,
Bridgend,
CF31 4JW
01656 815560

head.stmarys@bridgend.gov.uk

June 22nd, 2020.

Information for Parents Regarding the Re-opening of School and the Hub Provision.

Dear Parent,

The Hub provision that has been in place since the lockdown period began will be continuing at St. Mary's from today onwards and we will begin to welcome children back to class from June 29th onwards. The booking system for the Hub will continue as usual with applications needing to be in to the Local Authority by noon each Wednesday. All pupils will be invited to come into school for two 'check-in' sessions. The dates for your child will be communicated to you via Class Dojo today.

Here are the key points for you to be aware of please:

- We have a detailed **Risk Assessment** in place covering the full range of operational issues. It can be found on our website (www.stmarys.wales) for your information.
- Children **travelling by bus** (from June 29th onwards) will arrive at and leave school as normal (pending confirmation from the LA). The LA is asking parents only to use this service if no other options are available.
- Children **being brought to school by parents or carers** will need to arrive a little later than normal between **9am and 9.10am** and be collected a little earlier at **3pm**. This measure is in place to reduce crowding in and around the boundary area of the school.
- Children in **Nursery, Reception and Year 1** can be brought by parents to the **gate at the near side of the veranda** (the corner of the Y1 classroom). The opposite process will work at collection time. **Other children** can be accompanied into the grounds as far as the **'top yard'**. Parents will need to leave straight away please and not linger in the grounds. At 3pm, adults who are collecting older children can gather (2 m apart please) in view of their child's classroom and then leave the site immediately.
- **Parents and carers need to avoid entering the school building** apart from in emergencies. Please communicate by e-mail and/or telephone. The cashless payment system for school dinners is in operation.
- **Children do not need to wear school uniform**. Advice is that we should all wear easily washable clothes which, if possible, should be washed at the end of the day.

Headteacher: Mr. Lyndon Watkins, BA (Hons), MA (Ed), PGCE, NPQH.

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. Rachel Azzopardi, B.A (Hons), MA (Ed).



- Once in school, **children will be in a 'bubble'** with their peers for the day. Sandwiches will be eaten outside (or in classrooms if the weather is wet). Hot school dinners will be eaten in the hall in a socially distanced manner.
- The **cloakrooms will not be used**. Pupils from Year 2 upwards can bring a small bag with a pencil case containing a pen/pencil, a ruler and coloured pencils. Their bag will stay at their place in the classroom and only your child will use his/her equipment. There will be no sharing of any person's equipment.
- Our drinking fountain will not be in use, so **pupils are welcome to bring bottled water** with them (no fizzy drinks please). They may also bring healthy snacks, including fruit, for break-times.
- When children are in school for their two days we will have **three main aims** for their benefit:
 1. We will **check on their well-being** and encourage them to enjoy spending time with their peers.
 2. We will focus on some **basic skills** and re-teach them if necessary and
 3. We will **look ahead to some of the home learning** activities that they can do after their visits.
- Throughout this period of visits to school, staff will **continue to provide on-line home learning** and they will communicate via Class Dojo. This will also continue to give you an easy means of communication with your child's teacher.

Specific Information for Hub Users:

- The **Hub will run from June 22nd** in school between 8.30am and 4.30pm. Please note that pupils attending their two days with their teacher can't transfer to or from the Hub on those days.
- The classrooms at the side of the school nearest to the pedestrian gate will be used. These are the most convenient rooms for dropping off and collecting. Children need to be brought to the external classroom door where you will be welcomed by staff and asked some questions to check that there are no signs of the virus at home. The first thing that your child will do is wash their hands.
- **Applications need to be with the LA by noon each Wednesday.**
- The key principles are that the **Hub should only be used if there is no other viable option for childcare** and that it should be used for as short a period as possible in any one day. In other words, it should not be the first port of call for childcare.

We trust that, if you've decided to send your child into school for their two days, they will enjoy the experience. As soon as we have news about September's arrangements we'll be in touch with you.

Yours Sincerely,

Lyndon Watkins

Headteacher



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