



Ysgol Bae Baglan

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Return to school arrangements March 2021.

Dear parent or carer,

The Welsh Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams, announced this week her intention to get all pupils back to school in some form, prior to the Easter holidays. It has been lovely to see our Foundation Phase pupils return to school during the last fortnight and we look forward to welcoming the remainder of Primary Phase pupils from 15th March.

As far as the Secondary Phase return is concerned the First Minister set out the following principles in her announcement:

- The majority of time and resources for onsite learning should be allocated to learners in Year 11.
- The time that is allocated to face to face learning should focus on activity that is more difficult to achieve remotely.
- Remote learning will need to continue during this period for those not engaged in face to face learning, with an acknowledgment that this poses specific challenges as the proportion of face to face learning increases.

In addition to enabling schools to bring in learners in Years 11, we recommend that the flexibility provided be used to enable you to also bring in learners for face to face teaching on the school premises in:

- Year 10 in recognition that these learners may need specific help and support to progress to the next stage of their learning
- Years 7, 8 and 9 for a check-in focussed on support for wellbeing and readiness for a return to their onsite learning after Easter.

Building on the principles set out above, and for planning purposes, we would expect schools to prioritise access to onsite provision during the period from 15 March to 26 March in the following order:

- learners in Year 11
- learners in Year 10 who are entered for qualifications this summer
- learners in Years 7, 8 and 9 (for check-ins).

I am now pleased to confirm arrangements for your child's return to Ysgol Bae Baglan.

Week Beginning 15th March (Timetable Week B)

Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th
Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11
Yr 10	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10
N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6
Hub	Hub	Hub	Hub	Hub

Week Beginning 22nd March (Timetable Week A)

Monday 22nd	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th
Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11	Yr 11
Yr 10	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10
N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6	N-Yr 6
Hub	Hub	Hub	Hub	Hub

Every day more than half of all our learners will be in school.

Pupils will follow a similar pattern of social distancing via class bubbles in the Primary Phase and year group bubbles in the Secondary Phase as previously done and follow the same timings of the day and timetable as before the current lockdown.

We will provide further guidance for pupils and parents/carers next week but I was keen for you to have an outline of the plans with sufficient notice for you to make necessary arrangements in good time. On that note, the decision has been made to postpone the INSET Day which was scheduled for Friday 26th March.

Hub

As all of our pupils, including our most vulnerable learners will have some time in school, our hub will be restricted to children of **Key Workers in Years 7, 8 and 9 and those others who would not be safe left at home**. All Key Worker parents must confirm attendance in the Hub for these two weeks by Friday 12th March by email to ybbc@npt.school or by speaking directly to one of our ALN Team.

Uniform

We would like all pupils to wear school uniform when in school but understand that with current restrictions, replacing shoes for example may be difficult before our expected full return in April. On days when pupils have PE they should attend in their PE Kit but may also wear tracksuits.

Masks

All pupils will be expected to wear masks when on the school site. This includes outside areas, corridors and now, following new Welsh Government Guidance, in classrooms when learning. The only exception to this will be when eating at lunchtime, taking part in PE or for those with medical exemption.

We will write again to parents soon with details of staggered start times, canteen provision, school transport and Lateral Flow Tests for Years 10 and 11. The latest information for Year 11 learners has been released by Qualifications Wales and is also available on our website.

In the meantime, remote learning will continue, and we look forward to welcoming back more pupils from 15th.

Yours faithfully,

R. Rees

Headteacher.