

# YSGOL CARREG HIR

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**Head Teacher:** Mrs Lesley Hynes B.Ed.(Hons) NPQH  
**Deputy Head Teacher:** Mrs Sam Evans  
**Office Manager:** Mrs Theresa Jones

Dear Parents, Carers,

As you are fully aware the Minister for Education announced that schools in Wales will open from the 29<sup>th</sup> June for 'Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for summer and September'. This has been a very difficult time for everyone in recent months. I realise many of you will feel uncertain about what is best for you and your family. I want to take this opportunity to reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff is our top priority. There will be no penalty if you decide not to send your child back to school at this current time, please note you have my full support if that is the choice you make and teachers will check in with you by telephone. If your child is in the Shielding category we do not expect to see your child in June. We are very much looking forward to opening our doors to welcome the children back, however, it is important to note that school will look and operate very differently.

As outlined in the Welsh Government Local Authority Guidance, released last week, Check in, Catch Up and Prepare will have the following principles:

-Our provision will focus on pupil's emotional health and wellbeing as well as supporting and preparing for home learning.

-The LA advises that provision should prioritise pupils from Year 1 and Year 6 with only one third of pupils in school at any one time.

-There will be additional childcare for critical workers who have previously accessed the hub emergency childcare as well as schools' staff to allow them to work in schools. (This childcare will operate from 8.45am until 3.15pm) **This needs to be booked a week in advance by ringing the school office, please note there will be limited places for this provision.**

-Children will initially return on a part-time/rota basis and will be allocated a specific day each week to attend. Children will have the opportunity of 4 visits from June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Our plan at Ysgol Carreg Hir** (Please note this is subject to change)

- Children will be placed in class groups (a safety bubble approach) of no more than a quarter of the class with, where possible, their class teacher and a teaching assistant. Keeping a limited amount of adults with a group of pupils reduces the risk of transmission. Pupils will spend their day in their group both indoors and outdoors and also at lunchtime. They will see other pupils and staff but they will live and learn in their group.
- Class groups will be arranged in advance based on friendships and prioritising siblings attending on the same day. This day is non-negotiable as numbers need to stay below a specific number but will stay the same for the 4 weeks. You will be sent a text by Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> informing you of your allocated day.

- In their bubble, everybody will apply the best standards of care that we can. We will have a detailed cleaning plan where staff will be encouraging regular handwashing for 20 seconds and frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. (Each class will also have soap, hand sanitiser, tissues and paper towels)
- We have a simple model with three clear messages that our children can apply.

**1. Stay Clean. We wash our hands regularly with soap and use the hand sanitisers provided.**

**2. Be Hygienic**

- **put tissues in bin.**
- **keep hands off each other and your face**
- **cough into sleeve or tissue etc.**
- **3. Keep a Safe Distance. Viruses travel. We can stop them moving by keeping a safe distance**

- Drop off and pick up times will be carefully managed with staggered starts to ensure we avoid large gatherings on the school yard. Please comply with essential social distancing while waiting. Pupils who come late will need to ring the office to arrange entry. Upon entry, each pupil will be required to sanitise their hands.

Year group	Start time	Finish time
Year 1 and Year 2	8.50am	3pm
Year 3 and Year 5	8.55am	3.05pm
Year 4 and Year 6	9 am	3.10pm
Hub childcare (Pre booked)	8.45am	3.15pm

- Both entrance gates will be open. We will not allow any traffic onto the school site between 8.30-9.30 am and 2.30-3.30pm and will open up the drive as an extended pedestrian walkway to ensure social distancing.
- The narrow path adjacent to the field will only be used for hub childcare.
- For everyone's safety you will be able to contact us by telephone throughout the period but it will not be possible to come on to school premises during the school day to limit the number of people who mix with staff and pupils.(Therefore no early collection unless there is an emergency)
- Friday will be used for teachers to plan for home learning and to keep in touch with those pupils not attending.
- There will be NO BREAKFAST CLUB or AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
- Class bubbles will have their own outdoor learning areas attached to their class (segregated off) and also timetabled access to larger outdoor areas throughout the school day. We plan to spend as much time outdoors as possible.
- Break and lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure numbers in any area of the outdoor area remains low.
- Lunch will be eaten in classrooms. Pupils can either bring their own lunch in a small lunch box or plastic bag (NO RUCKSACS) or purchase a grab bag at a cost of £2.35. Payment for these MUST be paid via Parentpay, for health and safety reasons we will not be handling money. Pupils in the hub childcare and those entitled to Free School Meals will also need to pay or bring their own packed lunch.
- Children will enter through their own classroom doors and coats and lunch boxes will be stored in the classrooms. Cloakrooms will not be used.

- We ask that pupils **do not** bring any other equipment to school, including book bags, your child will be supplied with their own table, stationery and tray within class and this will not be used by any other pupil.
- Children will NOT be expected to wear school uniform during the 4 weeks, but wear clothes that are easily washable.
- In classrooms, furniture will be moved to maximise space for pupils to socially distance and be safe. The corridor areas will be constantly monitored to ensure social distancing. Rooms will be kept well ventilated.
- Pupils will be seated and line up 2 metres apart in line with current guidance. Please follow markings outside classroom doors.
- We will ensure toilet areas are used by one person at a time and thorough hand washing is practiced.
- If a pupil becomes symptomatic we have a designated room in the school and will contact you immediately to collect your child. (Please ensure contact numbers are up to date)

**KEEPING THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY SAFE AND WELL IS OUR NUMBER 1 PRIORITY**

I appreciate that I have shared a tremendous amount of information with you and to support your understanding we are offering a phone in system to discuss any questions you may have. Please ring the school office on **Wednesday June 24th between 9am and 1pm** where a member of senior staff will be available. Also class teachers will send out information via twitter before the 26<sup>th</sup> June referencing changes to their classroom and entrance etc

In the meantime please continue to stay safe and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards

*Lesley Hynes*

Headteacher