



Gwernyfed Cluster of Schools

Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing with details about the children's return to school in September. You will be aware that the Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams, announced that schools would re-open to all pupils in Wales by 14th September 2020.

Further guidance was issued last week and after much consideration and discussion with all of the head teachers in the Gwernyfed Cluster and with the local authority, we have decided to open our schools to the children from **Thursday 3rd September**.

Guidance from Welsh Government is being updated almost daily. We are going to take the first two days of the new school year to ensure that our schools and our staff are ready. We want to open our doors to the children on Thursday 3rd September, confident that all of the necessary risks have been addressed and that we are all ready for the new academic year.

Attached to this letter will be specific information regarding your child's school and the exact date/s on which they will return.

Within the most recent guidance, there is also the expectation that start and finish times will be staggered, individual school's uniform policy will be reinstated and school meals will be provided. Your own head teacher will write to you with specific details about these and other issues.

We have also attached a copy of the calendar for the Gwernyfed Cluster of schools for the next academic year. You may spot two changes to the calendar.

The first change is that there is an additional week of half term holiday in October. This is to re-pay the additional week taken at the end of the summer term. This means that the half term in October now runs from Monday 19th – Friday 30th October.

The second change is that we have moved a training day from Monday 4th January to Friday 15th January 2021. School will be OPEN on Monday 4th January, but CLOSED on Friday 15th January.

There will also be an additional training day in the summer term 2021, specifically to focus on the introduction of the new National Curriculum. This date will be announced as soon as it is decided.

Yours sincerely,

The head teachers of the Gwernyfed Cluster