

Dear Parent / Carer

We hope you are continuing to keep safe and well during these unprecedented times.

As you will be aware, the Minister for Education announced last Wednesday that pupils in Wales will be able to return to schools from the 29th of June, with the term being extended to the 24th of July. As a result of the extension of the summer term, the autumn half term break will be extended to two weeks instead of one. Further guidance is due out from Welsh Government in the coming days. However, I want to reassure you that we are working closely with the local authority to develop a consistent and safe approach to welcoming back your children.

Our priority has always been the safety of our pupils and staff, and this will not change going forward. Preparations have already begun in earnest around operational considerations for our school. The Minister has indicated that a maximum of one third of pupils will be able to return at any one time. However, we want to be clear that the number of pupils attending our school will be **determined in consultation with the local authority in order to comply with health and safety guidance**. We will of course share further details with you over the coming weeks. This will, however, inevitably limit time spent in school.

This approach to welcoming pupils back on a limited basis provides an opportunity for all children to have face to face interaction within restricted numbers with their teachers, support staff, LSAs and friends in school settings. The school environment will have been significantly adapted and one way systems, hand washing and social distancing to ensure safety. **It is possible that pupils will be organised into small groups within year groups and attend for a short period of time within a fortnightly period. The exact details will be shared with everyone shortly.**

We are confident that our plans will provide, a valuable opportunity for pupils to check in and catch up over the last few weeks of the term, which will be important to make sure pupils, families, teachers and school staff alike are mentally, emotionally and practically ready for what will be the 'new normal' in September. We do not yet know what this will look like or how long it will last, but we will do everything we can to support your children to adapt.

I would also like to emphasise that this plan also ensures that parents will not be sanctioned for not taking up this offer due to any safety concerns that they may have - attendance will be entirely voluntary. Our online/distance learning provision will continue for all pupils, regardless of whether they are able to join us or not at any given time over the four week period.

It would be helpful for us in terms of planning if you would let us know if you intend sending your children into school during the last weeks of term. **Can I therefore ask you to complete this very short survey by Monday 15th June:**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Z49rPBhF8E2VKjULjy1yJ11DdGabEklCsjZwaj8ZEdZUM0IJT0ITVUZWMjNFSihJNjJNM1dDNFhNQS4u>

Please note that provision of childcare for the children of key workers and vulnerable learners will still be provided throughout this period. As usual, this will be administered centrally by the local authority in consultation with the school.

Lastly, our staff have been working tirelessly to ensure provision has been available during this difficult time and we will continue to act in the best interests of your children as we move forward, together. Thank you for your patience and understanding and for all you have done at home in what has been the most challenging of times.

We wish you all the best and look forward to welcoming back pupils in the coming months!

Kind regards,

RK Pawar

RK Pawar- Headteacher