

Start of new academic year 2020 Newsletter

Where has the summer holiday gone! I trust you have managed to keep safe and well and had some quality time together as a family.

We are excited to welcome back our fantastic pupils. We are still in the middle of a pandemic, but we are sure it won't take long to adapt and get into a safe routine.

School starts for pupils from reception to year 6 on **Thursday 3rd September 2020**. Nursery pupils have been given return dates or welcome session dates for new children. **Nursery Wraparound** will start from **Thursday 3rd September 2020**. Please note this is between **9 and 3.15am** only for at least the first two weeks. Please email the school to book your child's place.

Emergency Childcare and extracurricular activities

Our Breakfast Club and Wraparound **will not be** in operation for at least the first two weeks.

There will be no staff led after school club until at least half term. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Start and end times

There will be **two entrances to the school only**- the main entrance off Pontarddulais Road and the gate leading from Parc Penderi Bellway Estate. *We ask those using Parc Penderi are respectful to residents and do not block driveways.*

To reduce congestion and large gatherings, the staggered start and end times of the day will remain.

Year Groups	Entrance/Exit	Start Time	End Time
Years 1 and 2	Parc Penderi (Bellway) gate	8.50 am	3.20 pm
Years 3 and 4	Parc Penderi (Bellway) gate	8.40 am	3.10 pm
Reception	Front gate on Pontarddulais Rd	8.50 am	3.20 pm
Years 5 and 6	Front gate on Pontarddulais Rd	8.40 am	3.10 pm

If you have more than one child at school, please bring your children to the gate and time for your **oldest** sibling. Both can be dropped off together. Staff will be at the gates to receive your child in the mornings and escort them to classes. Parents will only be permitted on site at the end of the day for collection. When collecting, please adhere to social distancing and wait outside your child's classroom, with the exception of Mrs Jones 5/6 (fire exit door). You may collect siblings together, using the entrance and exit point of the oldest sibling. May we ask for one parent to collect your child and to limit the time spent on school premises.

New Reception Pupils only may bring your child to the classroom door for the first few days. Please note **children must enter the classroom independently**.

Parents wishing to speak to the class teacher are asked to phone the school to make an appointment. The teacher will phone you at the arranged time.

Lunch/snack

All children will need to bring their own water bottle, packed lunch and snack clearly labelled with their name. Lunch times will be staggered and slightly reduced to facilitate additional cleaning, hand hygiene and toileting time and supervision. Hot school lunches will resume from Monday 14th September 2020, ordered and paid through SQUID.

School Uniform

The wearing of school uniform will resume in September.

Summer Holiday Premises Maintenance

Unfortunately, not all the scheduled maintenance has been completed. We are working closely with the local authority to minimise disruption whilst school returns.

Face coverings

Children do not need to wear masks in school. If your child is wearing a face covering when arriving in school, please ensure they know how to remove them safely – ie instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival (as is the case for all learners), dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.

Prevention

Our aim is to prevent spread of Covid-19. We will minimise contact between all individuals wherever possible. For younger learners the emphasis will be on forming groups of learners and ensuring separation of those groups, and for older learners it will be on social/physical distancing. Staff will remain with set groups and breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered. Our cleaning regime as per our detailed operational plan and risk assessment will continue. We will also continue our Clean hands routine and promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach good to support respiratory hygiene by promoting. In specific circumstances staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). However, it is important to note that **total mitigation of the risk of contamination /infection with COVID-19 is not possible.**

Symptoms

We ask all parents and guardians to ensure that their child(ren) **DO NOT** show symptoms (cough, high temperature, loss of smell/taste) of the virus before entering school. If you have symptoms contact Public Health Wales 111 for advice and guidance.

Any child displaying symptoms in school will be isolated and parents contacted to collect their child immediately. Should a child/staff member who has attended school test positive for Covid-19 then we may have to close a department as part of Track and Trace guidance.

Please inform us if your child is self-isolating or in quarantine due to returning from a holiday abroad.

Things will be different for some time. Processes are under constant review. Once again, please be aware that all arrangements are subject to change as we trial, review and amend procedures, or as new guidance is received. I will inform parents of any changes as required.

Jayne Woolcock

Headteacher