

Bryn Offa Church of England Primary School

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Thursday 9th July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Guidance for return to school in September

The guidance for schools to reopen safely in September was released last Thursday. If you would like to read the guidance yourself, you can find it at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

The majority of the questions you may have should be answered in the link above or in the risk assessment that accompanies this email. Where there are school specific systems and procedures in place, I have detailed them below. If there is anything not covered by the document, risk assessment or list below, please do contact me and I will provide an answer if possible.

- All children will be required to attend school full time in September.
- The School Transport Team at County are still waiting for the guidance from the DFE, but all guidelines will be fully complied with so you can be assured that the transport will be as safe as possible.
- School will be open to the children slightly earlier than normal, from 8:45am until 9:00am, to allow parents to arrive at different times. Children should be dropped off on the main playground where they will go to class via the fire doors. Parents should not wait with the children, but should leave as soon as possible. The exception to this will be the new Reception children who have already been advised to come at 9:30am for the first week.
- At the end of the day the children will be collected in the normal place outside Class 1 and 2.
- Parents will be expected to socially distance on school grounds (including car park).
- School will finish at the normal time of 3:15pm on all days and there will be no early finish on Fridays.
- School uniform must be worn.
- PE lessons will be outdoors so an outdoor PE kit will be required.
- Children can bring essential items with them such as school bag, lunch box, water bottle, pencil case and reading books.

- Breaktimes will be staggered so the children will only be outside with their own class bubble.
- Guitar lessons will restart within the first couple of weeks but Ju jitsu will not resume.
- There will be no after school clubs until the restrictions are lifted.
- Children will be kept in their own class bubbles as much as possible during the school day so they will only have breaktimes with the children from their own class.
- There will be an increased use of sanitiser and hand washing. We will provide sanitiser so please do not send your child into school with this.
- School meals will be provided as normal, though with a slightly altered menu to minimise the help children may need to eat. There will be a hot and a vegetarian option but cold options (e.g. wraps/baguettes) will not be available until after the October Half Term.
- School transport will run as normal, though the children will sit in class bubbles and there may be additional requirements such as sanitising hands when getting on and off the bus.
- Tissues will be provided but it would be much better if the children could bring their own.
- Educational visits will be suspended until after the restrictions are lifted.
- Class bubbles may need to be suspended quickly (e.g. in the event of staff sickness or COVID diagnosis) so parents and guardians need to make sure they are available in the school day and we have an up to date contact number.
- Children must be kept off school if they are unwell.
- The guidance for what we have to do if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school is contained in Part 7 of Section 1 of the guidance document.
- Parents and guardians must inform the school if anyone in the family is showing COVID symptoms or is being tested for COVID.

It will be very useful for us to have advanced warning if there are any children who may experience difficulties returning, or who may have had difficult situations to deal with over lockdown (such as bereavement, whether COVID related or otherwise). Please inform us of these situations, even if you think it may not be anything we can help with.

I hope that by reading all the documentation (especially the risk assessment) you will see that a tremendous amount of work has gone in to making sure the school is a safe environment for the children and you feel reassured they will be safe and well. Most of the procedures and systems in place happen in the background so the children will not be aware of them. I have made sure everything is well covered, but the school still looks and feels like Bryn Offa.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Thompson