



Bryn Offa Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr P Thompson

Tuesday 29th September 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Firstly, we would like to say a thank you to all parents and pupils for a fantastic start to the term with 100% of the children returning to school enthusiastic and eager to learn. The children have shown a great attitude and behaviour in what is a very different environment to the one they were used to previously. Many of the governing body are parents ourselves as well as governors so we know the last 6 months have been difficult with supporting home schooling, attending work and parenting, as well as the anxiety about the pandemic and what the future may hold. You have all done an amazing job!

We wanted to clarify that the current systems and procedures are decided by local and national Government. The guidance is detailed and complex and there are no exceptions. The Headteacher and Teachers are not making rules for Bryn Offa, they are just implementing Government rules in full. The rules are updated daily by the Local Authority and can change quickly and at late notice. We will always keep parents as informed as possible by supplying full guidance rather than shortened versions so that parents can see we as a school are not making omissions or assumptions but simply following the rules to the letter. By doing this, every child will be treated the same, making the system fair to all. As a governing body we are working hard to ensure that we are fully compliant with all the safety measures.

We understand that there is frustration around these ever changing rules, and the impacts they can have, but please be mindful that these are not our rules, we are only following them. If we were to have an outbreak and had not followed the rules, this would put the school in a very difficult situation and I am sure parents/carers would want to know why. We would like to ask that parents do not direct their frustrations towards staff. As you can appreciate, all staff are doing their best and working really hard to ensure that all children are in school as much as possible. Bryn Offa has a great group of Teachers and support staff that love teaching and working with the children and who are passionate about what they do. However, we do not want to discourage you from raising any concerns you may have and, although we are in strange times, we want to ensure that all policies and procedures continue to be followed.

There is now a consistent increase again in cases. However, at the moment, we do not know what further restrictions the Government may impose and what this may mean for schools. What we do know is that if we do go into a further lockdown, local or national, this will impact on the school's ability to maintain capacity for all children. Even if we find ourselves in a similar position to March, we know that as we are such a small school, we will only have limited capacity. As a governing body we are putting plans in place to prepare for how we might adapt to such a situation which will be clear and transparent for all.

We will continue to keep you informed as guidelines change and are updated. In the meantime, please bear with us as we follow the government guidelines.

Many Thanks

Bryn Offa Governing Body