



16th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all safe and well. I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the school over the past year, particularly during the very difficult period of lockdown and the re-opening of the school over the last three weeks.

It has been lovely for us all to see the children again and they have all coped remarkably well with the many changes.

We are really looking forward to opening as a full school in September and to see everybody again. Before I give you further information about September, I would like to share with you the staff changes for the new year. We have a number of staff who are leaving us and we wish them all the very best for their future and thank them for all their work for the school and support of your children. The staff who will be leaving us are Mrs H Davies (Associate Head of Y Goedwig), Mrs R Homer (Maths), Mrs S Hall (Maths), Miss A Franklin (Maths), Mr A Saunders (RE), Miss S Gronow (Music) and Miss L Woosnam (Science).

We will also be delighted to be welcoming the following staff to the school from September, Miss E Berry (Associate Head of Y Goedwig), Miss R Gibbins (Maths), Mr J Williams (Maths) and Miss J Mullins (Music).

I have now received the full guidance from Welsh Governance and the Local Authority for the opening of schools to all pupils in September. In this letter I am going to share with you what your children will experience when they return to school. Please discuss this with your child to help prepare them. I also need to make you aware that the guidance is subject to change. If there are any changes which alter the way that the school will run, I will keep you informed via the Piota App, which can be downloaded via Google Play or the App Store.

Health and Safety

The school will have in place a full Risk Assessment which is being written with the support of the Local Authority. The Risk Assessment will be agreed with the Local Authority and by the Governing Body. It is seated within Welsh Government guidance. The full risk assessment will be available to view on the school website and you will receive notification via the Piota app when this is the case. **Any child behaving in a way which impacts on the Health and Safety of others will be severely dealt with and may be excluded from lessons or school.**

Cleaning

Regular cleaning will take place across the day. Cleaners will be on site in the mornings, prior to staff and pupils arriving, during the day for key areas and at the end of the day for a further clean. Classrooms will be cleaned before they are used by pupils. The dining hall will be cleaned between each lunch sitting. Toilets will be regularly cleaned.

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Toilets

Toilets will be supervised across lunch and breaks. If your child wishes to use the toilet during a class session they will be collected and supervised. Children must wash their hands after using the toilet to reduce the chance of disease transmission. Toilet areas will be cleaned across the day.

All toilets will be designated for year groups in Nythbran and classes in Y Goedwig. Some toilets will be unisex to facilitate this. Unisex toilets are open plan with full length doors from floor to ceiling for privacy.

Dress Code

All children will be expected to wear school uniform. The advice the school has received is to recommend to parents that school clothing is washed daily where possible to reduce chances of disease transmission.

Children will need to bring appropriate clothing for outdoor breaks in all weathers.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

In the first instance these will not run in line with RCT guidance. This decision will be reviewed regularly across the half term.

Equipment for Learning

All equipment for learning will be provided by the school including pens, pencils etc. Children should bring no more than a small bag for personal belongings. Toys etc may not be brought in. Mobile phones and other electronic devices may only be used in line with current school policy. Where phones and other devices are used inappropriately they will be confiscated in line with this policy.

Lunchtime and Break times

These will be staggered and children will be kept within their contact groups. Cooked lunches will be provided, however this will be a more limited menu than previously. Details on how to pay will be confirmed upon receipt of further guidance.

All children will eat lunch in the dining hall. This includes packed lunches.

Pupil Groupings

Children will be grouped in contact groups in line with the Welsh Government and Local Authority Guidance. Children will only interact with others within their contact group and even within these groups contact will be limited. Class sizes will be limited to 30 pupils. Pupils will remain seated during the lesson and will face the front of the class. The teacher, where possible, will deliver the lesson from the front maintaining a 2m distance from the children. Staff providing support for pupils will only work with an individual child or group

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of children from the same contact group at a time and will maintain a 2m distance from the children. This is to reduce the risk of Covid – 19 transmissions. When outside children will be encouraged to maintain a 2m social distance to reduce the number of incidences of close contact across the day. Children will be sat in an allocated seat in their classes and will not be able to change to another class.

In Y Goedwig the contact group for each child will be their class, children will remain in this class for all lessons and will also take breaks and lunch with their class.

In Year 7 the contact group will be their tutor group, children will remain in this group for all lessons and will take breaks and lunch with their tutor group.

In Year 8 pupils will be taught in one class for all their lessons, and will take breaks and lunch with this class. This class will not be their tutor group.

Years 9, 10 and 11.

With the exception of option subjects, all children will be in the same class for all of their lessons. They will only move into another contact group for their option lessons. Lunch and breaks will be taken as a year group.

Children in the Learning Support Classes in Nythbran will remain in the Learning Support base across the day. The only exception to this will be Key Stage 4 children who will attend their option lessons in the discrete contact groups.

Return to school dates/Start and end times/Arrival to and from school

The date for the return of children to school in September will be staggered by year group. Start and end times for the school day will also be staggered. It is important that times for arrival and pick-up are strictly adhered to, so that we can safely maintain the contact groups that the children will be allocated within and for the protection of the staff. Pupils must also only enter the school through the allocated entrances. It is strongly advised that children are only brought to school by one adult and if your child needs to be taken to their class, only one parent may accompany them. Can I also remind you that parents and children should not congregate outside the school gates. Where possible children should safely walk to school and minimise use of public transport. Parents dropping off and picking up children must use the correct drop off and pick up points and follow the directions of the staff when entering the school site.

The details are as follows:

Y Goedwig

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At the beginning and end of each day it is imperative that parents adhere to their child's start and finish times. There will be **no** parking permitted. Parents will be requested to queue at the designated drop off point and remain seated in their car until a member of staff collects their child to take them to their class. Staff will return children to parents in their cars at the end of each day.

Class	Start date	Start time (am)	Finish (pm)	Entrance
Sycamore Reception: Miss P Hurley	Thursday 3 rd September	9.15	3.10	Side Door Nursery Entrance
Beech Reception/Year 1: Miss L Davies	Friday 4 th September	9.15	3.00	Gate to Playground up the stairs
Cedar Year 1/2: Miss C Wilkinson	Monday 7 th September	9.00	2.50	Side Door Nursery Entrance
Oak Year 2/3: Miss E Teague	Tuesday 8 th September	9:00	2.50	Gate to Playground up the stairs
Elm Year 3/4: Mrs E Thomas	Tuesday 8 th September	9.10	3.10	Gate to Playground up the stairs
Birch Year 4/5: Mr R Thomas	Monday 7 th September	9.10	3.10	Side Door Nursery Entrance
Larch: Year 5/6: Mr C Bromage	Friday 4 th September	9.00	3.00	Gate to Playground up the stairs
Pine: Year 6: Mrs G Pennington	Thursday 3 rd September	9.00	3.00	Side Door Nursery Entrance
Willow: Nursery Miss L Jones	Group 1: Thursday 13 th September	9.30	12.00	Side Door Nursery Entrance
	Group 2: Friday 14 th September	9.30	12.00	
Local Authority Learning Support Classes (Hazel/Yew)	Thursday 3 rd September	9.00	3.10	Use rear entrance of Y Goedwig Building where staff will meet and greet.

Nythbran

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For Nythbran pupils must only enter the school through the Chip Shop Hill or Park Street Entrance, unless arriving on Local Authority Transport. Pupils being dropped by cars must use the Chip Shop Hill entrance following direction from staff.

Year Group	Date	Start Time (am)	End Time (pm)
Year 7	Thursday 3 rd September 2020	8.50	2.50
Year 8	Tuesday 8 th September 2020	8.40	2.40
Year 9	Tuesday 8 th September 2020	8.50	2.50
Year 10	Monday 7 th September 2020	8.45	2.45
Year 11	Thursday 3 rd September 2020	8.40	2.40
Local Authority Learning Support Classes	Thursday 3 rd September 2020	8.40	2.50

Additional Y Goedwig Information

The number of classes attending school will gradually increase during the first week back with a view to **all** children being back in school by Tuesday 8th September. Please note that siblings, unless in the same class will not be able to mix.

In Foundation Phase classes, teaching assistants will be deployed to focus on small designated groups per day within each class following social distancing guidelines where possible.

Breaks and lunch times will be staggered across the day to ensure no contact between classes. Children will spend as much time outdoors as possible in their class contact groups, therefore they will be required to wear suitable footwear and bring a waterproof coat with a hood every day.

All classroom learning equipment will be provided by the school. Children only need to bring a small bag with their packed lunch and any outdoor clothing.

Nythbran

All pupil groups are fixed and pupils will not be able to move between groups for health and safety reasons. Groups have been carefully constructed to take account of pupils needs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I realise that there is a lot of information here, however, I feel it is important that this is shared with you.

Additional Information

Headteacher – Yvonne Jones

Porth Community School
Cemetery Road
Porth
Rhondda Cynon Taff
CF39 0BS
Tel: 01443 682137



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Can I remind you that no child should be sent to school if they are displaying symptoms of coronavirus.

Parent Visits to the school

In line with the guidelines we have received, parents may not visit the school/meet with staff unless they have a pre-booked appointment. Parents may only come onto the school site to drop off or pick children up. To arrange a visit to the school please contact Reception on 01443 682137.

Advance Notice

The school will be closed for planning and preparation on the 1st and 2nd of September 2020.

The INSET days for the coming year have been confirmed as:

Friday the 25th of September 2020

Monday the 19th of July 2021

Tuesday the 20th of July 2021

Please note that these dates may be subject to change and further INSET days have yet to be allocated.

I wish you all a relaxing and safe summer and I am looking forward to seeing your children in September.

Yvonne Jones
Headteacher

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