



2nd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Wednesday 26th August, Welsh Government made a statement regarding the use of face coverings in schools. The key message is that each school must revisit their risk assessments and decide what approach they will take regarding the wearing of face coverings.

We intend to adopt the following approach at Ysgol Cwm Brombil to ensure that we are as Covid secure as possible:

Face masks must be worn on school transport and we **strongly recommend** that they are worn in areas where there is greater risk of mixing of contact groups, i.e. in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunch times. It will be up to the individual child if they choose to wear a mask during lesson times. We would also ask that pupils bring a small sealable plastic bag so that they can safely contain the face mask for times when they may not be using it.

The Local Authority are intending to supply all Secondary phase students with some re-usable face masks, however there may be a delay in the delivery of these items. Whilst we are awaiting delivery we would ask that all parents ensure their children come to school equipped with an appropriate face covering. We understand that there is limited time before pupils return to school so would ask that this is done by the time the school is fully operational on the 14th September.

It is very important for pupils to understand that the use of face coverings in highly populated areas is one additional strategy to reduce the risk of spreading the virus but not the only strategy. It is vital that pupils adhere to other precautions which will help keep us all safe:

- Frequent hand washing / sanitising
- Maintain good respiratory hygiene
- Maintain social distance as much as possible
- Follow the one way system
- Do not mix with pupils from other year groups.

HEADTEACHER:

MR. S. CLARKE

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If there is a valid reason as to why your child cannot wear a face covering, we would ask that you contact us and we can talk things through to ensure we are able to do the utmost to provide a safe and secure environment for your child.

Welsh Government has advised that schools make every effort to minimise mixing between contact groups, but recognises that this would prevent Secondary phase pupils from being taught by subject specialists or being taught in specialist classrooms. Consequently, pupils will move between rooms and be taught by different teachers. To reduce the potential mixing of year groups, we will operate staggered break and lunchtimes. Pupils will be expected to follow the one-way system around the school at all times and to participate in regular handwashing routines. As an extra layer of safety, pupils will be put in a seating plan for their lessons and their lunch and they will be asked to wipe down their desks and chairs prior to sitting down.

Family Lunch at Ysgol Cwm Brombil

The canteen will be open to serve hot and cold food and this will be one of our biggest changes for this academic year. Each year group will have two breaks of 25 minutes throughout the day. There will be 3 separate lunch times of 25 minutes duration. Year 7 and 8 will eat together in the first lunch period. Year 9 and 10 will eat during the second lunch period and Year 11 will eat together during the final lunch period. We will be operating a system of 'Family Lunch', where students will sit at an allocated seat within a year group seating plan. Food will need to be pre-ordered and the food will be served to each pupil at their table.

A two week menu of options has been published on the website and we ask that parents complete the **Food Order** form with their children to choose the required food for the week. **This form should be completed by the end of every Friday** for the following week so that food for the following week can be ordered.

The Local Authority is continuing to make payments to families where children are entitled to free school meals and therefore will be expected to pay for any food ordered in school or bring a packed lunch up until 11th September.

As pupils return to school, if order forms have not been completed and submitted we will ask the pupils to choose their food for the week. If there are any special dietary requirements, we would ask that you contact the catering manager at school to discuss. These requirements will then be accommodated.

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More information about 'Family Lunch', the menus and relevant form can be found on our website. There is a link below which will show you the options for the first two weeks. Students are able to bring in packed lunches if they wish.

We are excited by this change as it will give us an opportunity to develop roles, responsibilities and conversation skills with the pupils aswell as ensuring they are eating a healthy, nutritious meal each day.

To order food, please click here: <https://bit.ly/YCBMenu>

To view our two week menu, please click here: <https://bit.ly/YCBOrderFood>

As per our previous letter, we will be staggering the intake of year groups up to the 14th September. Please see the table below:

Date	Year
Thursday 3rd September	Year 7 only
Friday 4th September	Year 7 and 11 only
Monday 7th September	Year 7, Year 9, Year 11 only
Tuesday 8th September	Year 7, Year 8 and 11 only
Wednesday 9th September	Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 only
Thursday 10th September	Year 7, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11
Friday 11th September	Year 7, Year 8, Year 10 and Year 11

All pupils are expected to attend wearing full school uniform. If there any issues regarding any items of uniform, please ring to discuss.

Where pupils have practical PE, we ask that they come into school wearing their PE kit.

I thank you for your support during these uncertain times and ask that you ring us to talk through any concerns that you might have.

Warmest regards

Shaun Clarke
Headteacher

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