



4th May, 2021

To all Parents / Guardians and Pupils
Attending Ysgol Cwm Brombil & All Stakeholders

**Proposed Change of School Session times (Secondary Phase only) from
the Governing Body of Ysgol Cwm Brombil - Consultation Meeting –
Thursday, 20th May, 2021 at 5.30 p.m.**

The Governing Body met on Thursday, 4th March 2021 and agreed the proposal to change the timings of the school day and to alter the end of the school day from 3.00 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in the Secondary Phase of Ysgol Cwm Brombil. The number of hours of learning remains unchanged.

This change will take effect from 1st September 2021.

Following the meeting on Thursday, 4th March, 2021; the Governing Body forwarded a letter to the Director of Education to inform them of the proposed changes. The Director of Education has replied to the school in support of the Governing Body moving forward with the proposed changes that were set out in the consultation. Staff have been consulted on the proposed changes and are fully supportive of the change in timings.

The LEA have responded to our request and asked us to consider any change in relation to the wellbeing of pupils. It could be seen that reducing the lunch time would have a negative effect on pupils' wellbeing, however I am confident that the changes outlined below will have a profoundly positive effect on the wellbeing and lunch time experience that the pupils have in the school.

The table overleaf shows the School Timings for the Academic Year 2019-20 / 2020-21 and the proposed timings for 2021-22.

HEADTEACHER:

MR. S. CLARKE

BERTHA ROAD
MARGAM
PORT TALBOT
SA13 2AN

www.ysgolcwmbrombil.co.uk

TEL: (01639) 760110

EMAIL: ysgolcwmbrombil@npt.school

[@ysgolcwmbrombil](https://twitter.com/ysgolcwmbrombil) 



Academic Year 2019-20	Academic Year 2020-21	Academic Year 2021-22
Official Timings	Un-Official Interim Timings due to Covid	Proposed New Official Timings
Start of day – 8.30 am	Start of day – 8.30 am	Start of day – 8.30 am
Break time – 20 minutes	Break time – 25 minutes	Break time – 20 minutes
Lunch duration 45 minutes	Lunch duration – 25 minutes	Lunch duration – 30 minutes
End of school day – 3.00 pm	End of school day – 2.45 pm	End of School day – 2.45 pm
Total number of minutes break - 65	Total number of minutes break - 50	Total number of minutes break - 50

You can see that the start of the School Day remains unchanged with only the break, lunch and end of school day being affected. Covid-19 has brought about many changes to how we manage and work as a school, some of which have been positive. This year we had to change the set up of our breaks and lunches and end of the school day in order to help reduce the risk of Covid-19 and it has shown that the changes to the breaktime, lunch and end of school timings have been a good thing for pupils.

The benefits of changing the school timings are as follows:

- Under the current system (Pre-Covid), there would be upwards of 720 pupils in the canteen from 3 year groups. They would share two serveries and two yards. Queues were extensive and year groups would be mixing in the yard.

The system of 3 breaks that has operated this academic year (Due to Covid restrictions) has had an extremely positive effect. Each pupil has an allocated seat where they can sit and enjoy their food. There is a designated servery for each year group which ensures that they are served quicker and they have access to their own yard. This reduces the opportunity for overcrowding and any possible bullying / intimidation from older pupils. The whole experience is much calmer and allows the pupils a comfortable area to enjoy their break.

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- Year 11 will be on their own for break and lunch and this will allow the school to ask Colleges, Careers, St Josephs and other external stakeholders in to meet with pupils and support this year group.
- Some of our pupils travel a considerable distance on a bus. Slightly earlier finish time of the day will allow pupils to get home earlier both after school or if they stay behind for after school clubs. This will be even more important in the winter months.
- Nobody knows what the future holds and it may be that we have to endure a Winter of restrictions. With the new proposal, we will already be 'Covid ready' and there will be no need to change things in light of any restrictions that may be placed on schools in the future.

Due to the current restrictions, we will be holding a virtual Consultation Meeting on Thursday, 20th May, 2021 at 5.30 p.m. with the Governing Body to discuss the proposal further. If you would like to attend this meeting then please forward your name and email details to the school email address for you to be added into the meeting invite. The school email address is ysgolcwmbrombil@npt.school.

If you are unable to attend this meeting then you can submit written comments on the proposed changes that will take place by no later than 17th May, 2021 so that they are taken to the Governing Body within the meeting to discuss.

Kind Regards

Mrs Mair John
Chair of Governors
Ysgol Cwm Brombil

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