



24th August 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Following the letter sent out at the end of the last academic year, I would like to reaffirm our procedures for returning in September.

I would like to start by congratulating all of our students who received GCSE grades this Summer on their fantastic achievements. We are extremely proud with the way they have coped throughout the recent months and wish them well for the next stage of their journey.

It is also very exciting to be able to welcome our new cohort of Nursery pupils into school. All staff are looking forward to working with new pupils and parents and I am sure they will settle into Cwm Brombil life. If any new parent has a concern or needs clarification on anything, please contact us at school. We will be getting in touch with all new parents over the first few days of term to answer questions and to have a telephone meeting to help us get to know you and your child.

Planning for September

Our operational Guide for the phased re-opening of the school from September is available on our website. A copy of our updated Risk assessment will be made available on our website in the near future.

As you will be aware the Welsh Government have published their operational guidance on the return of schools in September. The guidance has stated that schools will return on Tuesday 1st September and from the second week of term it is expected that schools will need to maximise the numbers of learners in attendance leading to a full return on the 14th September.

Our planning around the use of the two-week window at the start of the year is designed to support current Reception pupils who are moving into full-time school some having spent very little time in Nursery. We are also prioritising year 3 pupils who are transitioning from the Foundation Phase into Key Stage 2. To help prepare for the start of the year, I should be grateful if you spend time with your child(ren) discussing these plans and the expectations we have which will help to keep the school community safe. As always, your support is appreciated. We will be completing direct work with the children when they arrive at school so that they are clear and aware of new procedures and expectations. Please regularly check your e-mail and the school website for any new information.

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Overview of the first 2 weeks

Date	Year Groups
Tuesday 1 st September	Staff Planning and Preparation Day
Wednesday 2 nd September	Staff Planning and Preparation Day
Thursday 3 rd September	Reception only (Reduced Day- 9.15- 12.30) Normal School Uniform
Friday 4 th September	Year 3 and Reception (Reduced Day- 9.15- 12.30) Normal School Uniform
Monday 7 th September	Year 1, 5, 3 and Reception (Reduced Day- 9.15- 12.30) Normal School Uniform
Tuesday 8 th September	Year 1, 5, 3 and Reception (Reduced Day- 9.15- 12.30) Normal School Uniform
Wednesday 9 th September	Years 1-6 and Reception (Reduced Day- 9.15- 12.30) Normal School Day
Thursday 10 th September	Years 1-6 and Nursery and Reception (Full Day 9.15- 3.35) Normal School Day
Friday 11 th September	Years 1-6 and Nursery and Reception (Full Day 9.15- 3.35) Normal School Day

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ALL PUPILS will return full-time from Thursday 10th September. Please note, we will be operating staggered times until further notice. Pupils in Years 1 and 2 and 5 and 6 will start school at 9.00 am and finish at 3.20 pm. Pupils in Reception, Year 3 and 4 will start school at 9.15 am and finish at 3.35 pm. Pupils in the Nursery will start school at 9.15 am and finish at 11.15 am. For those pupils that have not yet attended Nursery, they have been given specific start dates. They will return to school.

On arrival into school, parents/carers will be expected to drop the pupils at the phase gate where they will be met by their class teachers. There will be no adults permitted onto the school yards or inside the building. If you have any messages for school, please contact the main office via the phone or e mail the school.

Pupils will be organised into PODS where there are also allocated staff members. Within each POD, pupils have been further organised into smaller groups for learning to minimise contact with others. For our younger pupils this has been organised through a practical play based curriculum that enables them to learn appropriately. We will be utilising the outdoor environment as much as possible. Different PODS will have break and lunch at different times.

At the moment there will be no breakfast club or after school clubs and this will be evaluated.

Catering

Each POD will have lunch together and outdoor time with members of their PODS. The canteen will be open to serve hot food or alternatively the pupils can bring a healthy packed lunch. We will be following the Local Authority school menu plan as normal. Please ensure that the children can independently open packaging and containers as we will not be able to help them. Also make sure that they can identify their own packed lunch box. Please ensure all of your children's items are clearly labelled and are able to be identified by them.

Please ensure that lunch money is paid via 'ParentPay'. If you need support setting this up please contact the school.

Children will also need to bring a water bottle daily with their names clearly labelled to keep themselves hydrated. Unfortunately, there will be no fruit to purchase at the moment and we are unable for pupils to bring food into the building. Please make sure children have a healthy, nutritious breakfast before arrival.

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Behaviour / Uniform Expectations for September

We are well aware of the 'New normal', however, we expect pupils to continue to adhere to the high standards of behaviour that we expect in school. Health and safety of the whole school community is paramount and pupils who do not follow the rules are putting the safety of staff and other pupils at risk. I would urge you to go through the behaviour expectations with your child to ensure that they and their peers are as safe as possible.

There may be a need to send pupils home if they refuse to follow the rules. The behaviour expectations are attached with this letter

All pupils will be expected to wear normal school uniform when they return to school.

I would ask that all families take time to review our uniform expectations information on our school website in advance of purchasing any items. This will help avoid any unnecessary spend and awkwardness between the school and families at the start of term.

A uniform grant is available to certain Reception pupils and the link is below:

<http://bit.ly/YCBUniformReminder>

An outline of important dates for the year will be published shortly on our website.

We are all aware that things related to the Pandemic and constantly changing. There may be a need to change our procedures / dates for events during the year to respond to the changing guidance / information that comes from Welsh Government. If there is a need to change any procedure (s), information will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

On behalf of everyone here at Ysgol Cwm Brombil, I would like to thank you for all you do as parents/carers and friends of the school. Your support and encouragement has been most welcomed particularly during these challenging last few months and I look forward to working with you over the next academic year.

With best wishes,

Shaun Clarke
Headteacher

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