



Parents Bulletin – Returning to School

Dear Parent/Guardian

Return arrangements for pupils of Year 7, 8 and 9.

On the 15th of March year 11, 12 and 13 will return to the school site. Year 10 will return on Monday 22nd of March and **years 7-9 immediately following the Easter holidays**. On-line teaching will continue for these year groups over the next two weeks.

This message contains some information for the return to school. If you have further questions after reading through you can contact your progress and wellbeing leader (Bl8a9@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk or Bl6a7@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk), the school office ([ymholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:yholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk))

A virtual question and answer session will be held in the week before Easter (details to follow).

I hope you find the Information on the next pages useful,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhodri Thomas'.

Dr Rhodri Thomas
(Headteacher)

What needs to be arranged before the first day

- **School Uniform:** Pupils will wear school uniform for return to school. We understand that children are growing, and clothing stores are not open so if this causes a problem you should contact the progress and wellbeing leader.
- **Suitable face covering**
- **Food or lunch money:** The canteen will open on the 22nd of March.
- Any equipment borrowed from the school for return.

What will you need for the first few days?

- **Tools / books for WEEK 2** of the timetable. Pupils follow their usual timetables, although there is the opportunity to have a little more time with the tutor at the start of the day in the first few days.

Arrival at school

School transport will run as normal for eligible pupils. I would however be grateful if you could transport your child to school if possible to try and keep the numbers on the buses down. In order to reduce traffic congestion with the buses we ask that you drop off your children near the school car park rather than immediately in front of the building.

Health and safety arrangements

The previous health and safety arrangements will continue. I have attached a pupil information sheet that reminds them of what needs to be done - this includes regular hand disinfection, temperature checks at the start of the day and adhering to specific zones of the school.

Pupils are also expected to wear masks in the building **including in classrooms**. Remember that there is a break between each double lesson and these are a chance to go outside - they do not need to wear a mask outside the building.

These health and safety actions follow national guidelines. They are part of a risk assessment that enables us to allow full groups back to school. Without these expectations the school would have to run with smaller groups and they would reduce the numbers that could be present at the school.

I understand that some pupils are worried about returning and others are looking forward. Pupils who are concerned can contact their progress and wellbeing leader and we will try to ensure that support is in place for them.

School re-opening arrangements:

- The school site will open at 8.30am and lessons will finish at 3.30pm. There will be no activities or events on the school site outside these hours and **access to the building will not be possible before 8.30am or after 3.30pm** to ensure adequate cleaning time.
- **A pupil displaying one of the four COVID symptoms (High temperature, new permanent cough, Loss of smell, Loss of taste) should not be sent to school**, and the school will check the temperature of individuals on arrival and isolate individuals who shows high temperatures until you arrive to collect them. There will be the same procedure for an individual who displays one of the symptoms during the day.
- Pupils' education takes place in contact groups - years 7, 8 and 9 work in class groups and use one room throughout the day; year 10 and above will be in a one year contact group to enable us to maintain option topics.
- Rooms and other areas around the school will be regularly cleaned. Rooms will be cleaned between lessons with different groups.
- Outside areas will be allocated to specific groups, and the timetable will continue to create different break and lunch times for different groups. There will be a break between each double lesson and this will give pupils the opportunity to get out and be able to remove their masks outside.
- For the school day **pupils will wear school uniform**. Changing rooms will not be available so pupils will wear exercise kit on days they have PE lessons.
- Equipment will not be shared so it is important that pupils bring the necessary equipment every day.
- **Pupils will have to carry a face covering every day** and this will be used on transport and in all areas of the building, including teaching rooms.
- We provide many opportunities for pupils to disinfect or wash their hands during the day and will be expected to do this each time they enter or leave the building.
- The school's behavior policy has been adapted to reflect the seriousness of misbehavior that can spread the infection.