



Parents Bulletin – Returning to School

Dear Parent/Guardian

Following the government announcement last week we can now look forward to pupils returning to school. I know that many questions have arisen since the announcement and I will try to answer some of them over the next week, point out where we are awaiting decisions, and also identify where we have flexibility and where there is no flexibility.

If you have individual questions you can contact the school (ymholiadau@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk) or the progress and wellbeing leaders (BI12a13@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk, BI10a11@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk, BI8a9@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk or BI6a7@penweddig.ceredigion.sch.uk).

I will also be holding a series of **question and answer sessions** for different years and **parents of year 11, 12 and 13 pupils** will have the opportunity to ask us questions on **Fridays at 1pm** by meeting 'Teams'. The link for the meeting is:

Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting	Friday 12/3/21 1.00-2.00
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Return dates

- Year 7,8,9: Monday, 12th April
- Year 10: Monday, March 22nd
- Years 11-13: Monday, March 15th
- There will be a normal timetable for these days

Return arrangements

A message will go out to each year group as their return date approaches. This message to year 11-13 will be going out tomorrow (Thursday 11th March).

We will continue with our usual health and safety arrangements when pupils return, and will send out an information pack to remind you before the return date. The expectations for masks for all and the availability of LFT tests for year 10-13 will be new to pupils, and you can see the reasons for these as per the national guidelines:

[Operational guidance for schools and settings from 15 March \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)

LFT Tests

LFT tests will be **available to pupils from year 10 upwards**. Unlike the arrangements in England these tests will not be conducted in school, but will be available for pupils to take home. If there is a positive result the pupil will be able to order a PCR test through the NHS and a negative result will mean that the pupil can return to school immediately. Pupils take the tests on Sunday and Wednesday evenings each week. For pupils over 16, pupils may give consent but younger pupils will require parental consent. I will share more information in the return information packs.

If you wish to collect tests before your children return to school you will **be able to collect these on Thursday 11th between 2-3 pm or Friday 12th between 9.30 and 12.30**. The tests will be distributed at the front of the school. Tests will be available for the rest of years 11-13 on Monday, and there will be an opportunity for year 10 pupils to collect them next week.

A day for catch up and wellbeing

Thursday is a catch up and well-being day. This gives pupils the opportunity to catch up with work not yet complete or do activities that support their well-being - reading, exercise but hopefully no screen time. Teachers will be preparing to welcome pupils back to school and for the GCSE / AS / A level assessment arrangements.

A more detailed bulletin will be distributed to year 11 and sixth form tomorrow, and to everyone else on Friday. We will try to communicate more frequently over the coming weeks to ensure that we answer questions and deal with any concerns as they arise.

We are looking forward to seeing the school full of pupils again,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhodri Thomas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dr Rhodri Thomas
(Headteacher)