



Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre

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June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know the Minister for Education outlined that schools in Wales could partially open from June 29th 2020 **if it was safe to do so**. On Wednesday 10th June the Welsh Government published their guidance to support the re-opening of schools. We are currently working on our plans to begin re-opening to pupils; we will hopefully be able to finalise these plans and share your child's allocation with you towards the end of next week.

It is important for you to realise that we will be operating in a very different context. Our focus will be on supporting your child's health and wellbeing rather than on teaching and learning.

School transport

Guidance states that, where possible, there is an expectation that parents/carers will transport their own children to and from school. Transport will only be available **"to those who are unable to attend without it"**.

School meals

There will be **NO** canteen facilities available in school when we reopen. All pupils will be expected to bring their own lunch, snacks and drinks. Pupils who receive free school meals will continue to have the delivery to their homes, so that pupils can have a hot meal in the evening. There will be additional items in the delivery to help with packed lunches.

School timings

We will be staggering the times pupils arrive and leave school. You will be told the times for your child when the sessions are confirmed with you. **Social distancing will be adhered to at all times.**

Our **"check-in, catch-up and preparation"** sessions will begin at **9.00am and end at 2.45pm**. You will be informed of the timing of your child's session by **early next week**.

Use of outdoor spaces

If the weather is good "class bubbles" will use our outside spaces for activities.

Health and Safety

There are a number of changes that have been made since school closed back in March. There is a one way system operating around the school building with clear markings and signs throughout the building. All pupils will enter the building via the main entrance and be allocated to a room. Further details will be found in our new **Parents/Carers' Guide: COVID-19 School Plan which is available on the school website.**

All pupils and staff will need to ensure that their hands are washed regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; **we would appreciate if you could continue to practise this with your child at home.** Handwashing will take place in line with WG guidance.

As far as possible the same staff will interact with the same small group or "bubble" of pupils over time. This will help to minimise the risk of transmissions between "bubbles" and the impact of any self-isolation that may be required if a child or member of staff becomes unwell.



It is important to remember that **social distancing** along with **good hand and face hygiene** remains the most effective way to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Hand sanitizer units are placed throughout the school.

School uniform

There will be no expectation that school uniform is worn. Pupils should wear something that is comfortable and **easily washed**. Again in line with latest guidance **your child's clothes should be washed every day**.

Cleaning

The school will receive a 'focussed clean' each evening, with cleaners on site to ensure there is regular cleaning of door handles etc throughout the day. It is likely that school will be closed to all pupils mid-week so that an extra clean can be undertaken.

Pupil attendance

There is no requirement for your child to access any of the "check-in, catch-up and preparation" sessions that are offered. You will not get into any "trouble" for not sending your child into school. All we would ask is that you keep in contact with us so that we can support you and your child in the best way possible.

Pupils' health

If your child is due to attend a session at school and they are unwell then they **MUST NOT** attend their allocated session. Similarly if your child becomes unwell during the day then you **MUST be able to collect** them as soon as possible to ensure other pupils and staff are kept safe.

If any child or member of staff shows any COVID-19 symptoms they should self-isolate and **book a test immediately**.

Use of resources and PPE

Certain areas of the school will not be used by pupils at this time; these include light/dark rooms, hydrotherapy pool, sand/water play etc. The handling of objects and resources will be minimized as far as possible.

Staff at specific times (attending to pupils' personal hygiene needs, feeding time etc.) might be wearing PPE in line with the current guidance. The use of PPE is constantly being reviewed by the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales and our plans and procedures will be updated in line with the guidance.

Further information

Further information about our procedures for reopening the school in line with current guidance can be found in our **Parents/Carers' Guide: COVID-19 School Plan**

I realise that there is a lot of information in this letter. I know that this period of lockdown has not been easy for anyone. In my 20+ years of being a headteacher I have never experienced anything like this before. Your support and kind words over the past couple of months has been very much appreciated.

As we begin to reopen school I want you to know that the whole school team are working hard to ensure everyone is kept safe and healthy. The reopening will take time and we are certainly not going to rush our approaches so please be patient with us as we begin to implement very different ways of operating.

In the meantime, please keep strong; stay safe and healthy. With warmest wishes to you and your families,

Ian Elliott MBE
Headteacher

Learning together in a changing world, creating success for all

Developing all pupils as ambitious, enterprising, ethical and healthy learners.

