



YSGOL PLAS COCH

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Dear parents and guardians,

I hope that everyone is well and enjoyed the holidays. Below is information on some changes to arrangements we have to implement at the school in line with the updated Welsh Government's guidelines to school due to the current pandemic situation. These will initially last for January and they will be reviewed according to any further guidance we receive.

Bringing children to school and collection

- Breakfast club times to stay the same (8:05am- 8:25am a £1, 8:25am-8:45am free)
- Dropping off time in the morning (if not using the breakfast club) to stay the same - 8:45am - 9:00am
- After school club time to stay the same: 3:30pm – 5:25pm
- **Afternoon collection time (Reception to Year 6) will change to be anytime between 3:10pm and 3:30pm. This is the same as it was during the last educational year and is being reintroduced to lessen the numbers on school grounds at the same time.**
- **One adult from each family to drop off and collect children. Again, this is to restrict the numbers on the school grounds and is the same as was in place when we reopened after the last periods when schools were closed.**
- **Adults to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting unless exempt.**
- **Please social distance from other adults.**
- **Everyone to follow the one way system around the school when dropping off and collecting.**
- Nursery parents – no changes to collecting at the end of the morning; 11:30am as usual and you can walk back down the main path after collecting your child from the class.
- **Could you please share this information with anyone that will be dropping off or collecting the children.**

Breakfast Club

- Could you please use the breakfast club if only absolutely necessary and if you have to go to work so that we can keep the numbers attending as low as possible. Pupils attending will sit on tables with children from their classes and won't be sitting on tables with children from other classes.

Bubbles

- We will be returning to keeping the classes separated as much as possible in the building and they won't be mixing for any learning. On the yard, they will be in their departments' bubbles – Reception together, Year 1 and 2 together, Year 3 and 4 together, Year 5 and 6 together.

Lunchtime

- We will be making some changes to lunchtime arrangements keeping to the department bubbles in a sitting (as on the yard above) when in the hall. Pupils from different classes will not be sitting on the same tables as each other. Tables will be disinfected between each sitting.

Cleaning

- Staff will continue to clean surfaces (i.e. tables) regularly during the day.

Toilets

- We will be returning to classes using specific toilets / cubicles

Ventilation

- Ventilation in the classrooms is very important to help stop the spread of the virus. Windows and doors will be opened as much as possible while at the same time ensuring that the class temperature is comfortable for everyone. There will be CO2 monitors in every classroom that will indicate when CO2 levels are going up so that we can take steps to increase the fresh air circulation in the room.

Staff

- Staff will socially distance whenever possible and will wear face coverings in communal areas and when moving around inside the building. Pupils aren't required to wear face coverings but they are welcome to do so if they wish to.
- All the school staff are strongly encouraged to take a LFT three times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings in line with the guidelines for school staff.

As I noted at the beginning of the letter, these measures are initially for January and we hope to be in a position to relax them at the end of the month, dependant on the local and national situation.

Although staffing levels are currently fine, we are concerned that they could be affected by the virus during the next few weeks, especially with the lack of available supply staff. We will do everything within our ability too keep the school open for face to face learning for all pupils. If some classes have to move to online learning, we will give you as much notice as possible although this could be difficult if staff return positive LFT results in the morning before coming to school (see note above on staff LFT tests).

In order not to overload you with too much information at the same time and as there have been many changes to national guidance on positive cases and isolation etc. lately, there is separate correspondence to follow regarding arrangements and what to do if there are positive cases in classes this term.

If you have any questions about the above or need any further information, please contact the school.

With thanks,

Osian Jones