



GARNTÉG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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19.06.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, the Minister for Education in Wales (Kirsty Williams) announced on 3 June 2020 that all schools will reopen for children to have the opportunity to 'Check in, Catch up, Prepare' for summer and September. This means schools will re-open for up to one third of learners at any one time on 29 June 2020 with term finishing on Monday 20.07.20.

Obviously everyone's key priority is ensuring the safety of learners and staff in school. A rigorous school risk-assessment has now taken place with school Governors and LA health and safety team and we are really pleased to announce we are in a position to open on 29.06.20 with our operational plans for the site and buildings fully signed off.

At Garnteg we are really lucky to have a design that lends itself easily to keeping and maintaining class bubbles, with entry point doors for every year group leading to their own classes and toilet facilities and following through their classes outside, single point exit doors to open and play spaces. There are also taps and sinks for washing in every classroom in addition to the toilets. We now have a picture of what school will look like when we reopen on the 29 June, the steps we will take to minimise risk to children and adults, and how you can support us.

Please note government advice makes clear no one can guarantee social distancing can always be maintained in schools particularly in classes with younger children. As a result, anyone who has received, or lives with someone who has received a shielding letter, will not be able to attend school as strict social distancing cannot be maintained, nor guaranteed.

What will school look like?

The school will look and feel very different to how the children left it. The learning environments will be basic and the curriculum altered:

- Every child will be allocated to a small group of no more than 8 children and 2 teaching and TA staff per class per bubble.
- Children will not be able to interact/mix with any children outside the group they are in. This includes during arrival, departure, play time and lunchtime.
- Children will be expected to wash their hands upon arrival at school and frequently throughout the day.
- All children will be asked to bring a packed lunch and their own drinks container – including those who normally have free school meals. Families entitled to free school meals will continue to receive direct payments. If you think you are entitled but are not receiving payments you can apply at:
<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/Forms/Request/FreeSchoolMeals-Covid19.aspx>. By not

having canteens in operation, this will help us maintain social distancing and manage the school day more safely for everyone.

- If a child or staff member is unwell during the day, staff have access to masks, gloves and other Personal Protection Equipment. The person who is unwell will be safely moved to a designated room in school. If this is a child, parents/ carers will be contacted and asked to come immediately to school. You will be given advice about how you can arrange for your child to be tested.
- If a child in a group is unwell and tests positive for COVID-19, the rest of their class or group within school will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that group do not need to self-isolate unless the child they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.
- Please note the bottom gate access near our nursery building will be closed until further notice as we cannot comply with the 2 metre distancing rule. All pupils will need to use the Main school entrance.
- The main entrance will now be closed to all cars except disabled badge holders only.
- Only one parent/carer should bring the child[ren] to school and will take them to one of 2 drop off points pictures will be available shortly for clarity.
- Foundation Phase Children parents are asked to line up in the designated car park area to the right of the school gates AND ENTER THROUGH THE RIGHT HAND GATE FOLLOWING THE PATH TO THEIR DROP OFF ZONE WHERE THEY WILL BE MET BY STAFF. Parents may be asked to take their coats home weather permitting to minimise contact in the school..
- Key stage 2 pupils will enter through the left hand gate that has now been marked. Parents will drop them at the gate in the designated spaces and staff will be available to direct to the classes.
- During the day parent/carers will be asked not to enter the main reception area and instead ring the school office for any queries.
- Please note there will be no movement in the bubbles so parent/carer cannot pick their children up early or for an appointment and will be asked to observe the times given in the plan. Children will then be brought out to the pickup zones at the end of the day at 3.15pm.

Organisation of the bubbles

- To make it easier for families we have been able to plan for families to attend their days in different year groups together ie if there are 2 siblings in different year groups they will attend on the same day so they can be brought together as a family.
- Pupils will attend full days in their bubbles.
- We have tried to arrange friendship groups of those who have indicated they are returning return and attend the same days.
- School uniform is NOT requires comfortable clothing that can be washed and trainers for outside activities can be worn.
- Please bring a water bottle and a lunch box including lunch and a snack as there are no canteen facilities.
- No stationery to be brought into school, equipment will be supplied by the school.

The following table contains our organisation

<u>Week 1</u> <u>29.06.-03.07.20</u>	<u>Week 2</u> <u>06.07.20-10.07.20</u>	<u>Week 3</u> <u>13.07.20-17.07.20</u>	<u>Week 4</u> <u>20th July only</u>
groups - one group per year group every day	groups - one group per year group every day	groups - one group per year group every day	
Reception	Reception	Reception	Year 6 only every group for the day.
Year 1	Year 1	Year 1	
Year 2	Year 2	Year 2	
Year 3	Year 3	Year 3	
Year 4	Year 4	Year 4	
Year 5	Year 5	Year 5	
Year 6	Year 6	Year 6	

Detailed plans and pictures will be published on Monday of next week along with your family days. Please note this offer does not include nursery pupils due to LA and WG instruction.

Please continue to keep safe and well and I shall be back in contact shortly once our detailed plans for a phased re-opening are finalised.

For any questions please don't hesitate to contact us .

Yours sincerely

S E Roche
Headteacher Garnteg Primary school



Graded excellent by
Estyn 2019

