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15th June 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian,

On Wednesday 3rd June, the Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams, announced plans for all schools in Wales to reopen on 29th June 2020 with no more than one third of pupils to attend at any one time. Since the announcement was made, I have been working closely with a Health & Safety officer from the Local Authority to ensure that relevant risk assessments have been put in place and to look at how we will accommodate pupils on the school site. The Welsh Assembly Government has produced guidance to support the reopening of schools across Wales.

It is important for all parents to understand that school will not look like it did prior to the lockdown being introduced. The vast majority of classrooms will only have tables and chairs when the children return to school. This is to help make the cleaning of rooms easier and to limit the number of surfaces that children can touch. When the school reopens there will be a blend of face to face and online / distance learning. Important contact time with pupils will be based on the following:

Contact time with pupils will focus primarily on:

- *Well-being of pupils – care and concerns addressed. Support provided.*
- *Check in with pupils and home learning check-up.*
- *Preparing for summer and new school year.*
- *Year 6 focus on transition to High School.*

The following information may assist you when making a decision on whether to send your child / children back to school for the remainder of the summer term. Please be aware that this is completely your decision and no fines will be imposed should you decide not to send your child / children back to school at the current time.

- Children will attend school in small 'pods'. No more than 10 pupils will be present in a class at any one time. Staff have been asked to split their classes into quarters and to focus on friendship groups where possible. Pods of pupils will attend school for one day a week over the remaining weeks of the summer term. School will be closed every Friday (with the exception of Hub children) to allow for deep cleaning to take place. We have tried our best to accommodate siblings on the same day although this has not always been possible.
- All pupils will access their classrooms through the outside classroom doors. For example, pupils in Mr White's class will access the classroom through the outside door in the school car park. The area outside all classrooms has been marked with stars (Key Stage 2) or footprints (Foundation Phase) so that pupils will know where to stand. The marking are two metres apart in line with social distancing guidelines.
- In the Foundation Phase, a one way system will be in place through the building. The floor has been clearly marked with arrows and other signage to guide the pupils. In Key Stage 2, the school corridor has been clearly split into two halves. Pupils will be instructed to walk on the

left hand side of the corridor at all times. The floor has been marked with arrows and other signage to support pupils and staff. There will be restricted access to the school corridors to help limit the chance of cross contamination. Pupils will only access the corridors when they need to use the toilet facilities.

- In line with guidance from the Welsh Government, the beginning and end of the school day will be staggered for all year groups. This is the safest way to ensure we can get pupils into school whilst maintaining the social distancing measures. Pupils will enter and leave school through a clearly identified access point. No parents will be allowed to access the school site. Staff will meet pupils at the school gates and take them to their classrooms. As soon as pupils have been collected by a member of staff, parents must leave the area. At the end of the school day, pupils will be brought to the relevant collection gate.
- A deep clean of the school will take place before school each morning. A further clean will be undertaken at lunchtime and another deep clean at the end of the school day.
- I am aware that a number of pupils will have outgrown their school uniform. As a result, pupils will not be expected to wear school uniform when they return to school. The remainder of the summer term will be non-uniform.
- All children must bring a packed lunch to school. The school canteen will not be operational and all lunches will be eaten in the classroom or outdoors depending on the weather.
- The importance of good hygiene will be a major focus of the new school day. Hand sanitiser will be stationed at the entrance to every classroom and all pupils and staff must sanitise their hands on entry. Pupils will then wash their hands every hour with soap and warm running water. Handwashing will be prioritised over the use of hand sanitisers.
- Staff or children displaying symptoms of Covid-19 should not come to school under any circumstances. If anyone displays symptoms on the school site they will be taken immediately to one of the isolation rooms that have been set up. Parents of children displaying symptoms must collect them immediately. Anyone displaying symptoms must stay at home for 7 days and should arrange to be tested by telephoning 111.

Whilst all relevant risk assessments have been undertaken and the school site has been carefully prepared, I need to be completely honest with you that I am unable to guarantee a completely risk free environment when pupils return to school.

At the end of the first week of schooling, I will undertake a review implement any changes which may need to be made.

You will receive a separate letter which contains all the information regarding the session times. These times will be significantly different to a 'normal' school day. As soon as we have finalised the groups we will inform you of the day your child is to attend school. If you have any questions regarding this letter then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Mr C George
Headteacher
Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School