



GAER PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Gaer Primary School
Gaer Road
Newport
South Wales
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Thursday 16th July

Dear Parent / Annwyl rhiant,

I hope that you're all well.

I promised I would write and continue to update you this week on our reopening plans for September. Welsh Government guidance was received on Monday 13th July and we are in a position to communicate our full reopening plan.

The principle factor underpinning the reopening plan detailed has been the wellbeing of both pupils and staff. The plan has been created in conjunction with the Local Authority and all schools across the city. The plan is underpinned by the Welsh Government guidance issued.

Schools across the city have looked carefully at the guidance with a view to applying a consistent model of reopening. There are some variances, which are aligned to differences in context and staffing. There is a significant change from the previous communication.

Please note:

The school is NOT open to pupils from Reception to Year 6 on Wednesday 2nd September.

Today, I am able to confirm the following:

- The first two days of term (1st and 2nd September) will be taken as INSET days
- All pupils from Reception to Year 6 will return to school on **Thursday 3rd September**
- Reception pupils will undertake a phased half day approach before starting in a full time capacity from Monday 14th September (this will start on Thursday 3rd and NOT Wednesday 2nd as previously communicated)
- Nursery pupils will begin a phased approach to starting school beginning Wednesday 2nd September

Whilst attendance throughout the past few weeks has been optional, from September it is expected that all pupils attend school and therefore we will cease to issue our Home Learning Plans.

Procedures for Self-Isolation

Please remember:

- Children **MUST NOT** attend school if someone within their household is unwell with Coronavirus symptoms.
- If you become unwell with coronavirus symptoms, you must **immediately** contact school and arrange for the collection of your child.

If any pupil or staff member demonstrates symptoms synonymous with COVID whilst in school, the school has clear processes that are fully understood by staff. These processes are informed by a thorough risk assessment. Those showing symptoms will be kept in a separate isolation room until they can be collected and taken home. They will be supervised at a distance of two metres and PPE used as appropriate.

Surfaces that learners or staff with symptoms have come into contact with will be carefully cleaned.

Anyone displaying symptoms should stay at home for 7 days and should arrange to be tested. Anyone who lives with someone displaying symptoms but remains well should stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person became ill.

Test, Track and Trace

There is an expectation that the child/staff member who is symptomatic, either whilst in school or out of school, requests a test and that the 'test, track and trace' process will be followed. It is not necessary for the group to self-isolate.

Shielding

Under current advice pupils in receipt of a shielding letter **should not** attend school. If this applies to your child, please can I urge you to contact us to advise of this in advance of the September start date.

Uniform

All pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform in line with our uniform policy.

Staggered Times

Children will be expected to arrive at school and enter and leave school via the entrance and at the times detailed below. Please make sure that you adhere to these times. The site should also be vacated quickly. Parents must be mindful to observe social distancing when on site.

Class	Entrance	Start Time	Finish Time
Class 3	Reception Door (same)	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 4	Reception Door (same)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 5	Year 1 Door (same)	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 6	Year 1 Door (same)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 7	Year 2 Door (same)	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 8	Year 2 Door (same)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 9	Year 3 Entrance (same-Y3/4 yard)	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 10	Year 3 Entrance (same-Y3/4 yard)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 11	Fire door entrance Y3/4 corridor	9.10am	3.20pm

	(opposite Early Year Building Steps)		
Class 12	Fire door entrance Y3/4 corridor (opposite Early Year Building Steps)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 13	Y5/6 Corridor. Sensory Garden Fire door	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 14	Y5/6 Corridor. Sensory Garden Fire door	8.50am	3.00pm
Class 15	Y6 Entrance (same)	9.10am	3.20pm
Class 16	Y6 Entrance (same)	8.50am	3.00pm
Class LRB	Main Entrance	8.50am	3.00pm

Wrap Around Provision

It is currently unclear if 'wrap around provision at Gaer Community Centre is available. The Gaer Community Centre should be contacted directly to receive updates.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will not operate for the first half term in school. This position will be reviewed half termly.

Lunchtime Arrangements

Initially, the Local Authority's school meal provider (Chartwells) will be providing cold lunches for pupils entitled to a free school meal. During this period all other learners should bring a packed lunch in to school.

The Local Authority is working with Chartwells to provide 'grab and go' lunches for FSM learners who cannot attend school in early September.

Parent Communication

Parents will not be invited in to the school building; all communication should happen remotely. Staff will not be able to engage in lengthy conversation with parents when the children enter school due to the safeguarding measures being put in place. Please contact the school office to pass on information and/or for any queries.

Cleaning/Risk Assessments/Hygiene

The school has liaised with the Local Authority to ensure that the cleaning of the school follows all Health and Safety guidance and is maintained to the expected standard.

All areas in the school have been subject to a risk assessment that identifies 'pinch points'/bottlenecks, maximum occupancy and appropriate signage.

All pupils will wash hands on entry/exit and throughout the day.

Blended learning Approach

The school has carefully considered its approach to 'blended learning' (learning that includes both face to face and distance learning). In the event of a further school closure, these plans will be communicated to all families. We will also be engaging the children in the use of online platforms during the Autumn Term to prepare them for this eventuality.

Items from Home

A coat and bag that includes a lunchbox (unless a FSM lunch is provided), snack and labelled water bottle should be brought to school; the children must not bring anything else from home including pencil cases (all stationery will be provided)

Classroom/Learning Arrangements

Each child in KS2 will have a learning station (in KS2, desks will be forward facing). Resources/pupil individual packs will be created to avoid cross contamination. Each group will be allocated a designated learning space (including outdoor learning space).

Bubble Groups

Classes and Year Groups will form 'bubbles'. Contact with other groups of children will be avoided as much as possible. These bubbles will be organised in consideration of both the curriculum and break/lunchtime arrangements.

School Clubs

School clubs will **NOT** be in operation during the Autumn Term.

Music Provision

We will wait to receive confirmation from Gwent Music regarding their plans moving forward.

Key Worker Children

The school will **NOT** provide provision for 'key worker children' from September.

There is an awful lot for us as a school to digest and implement but as always we are determined to keep our pupils, staff and our respective families as safe as possible in all we do. Staff are looking forward to welcoming our children back in September.

Once again I'd like to thank you for your patience, resilience and continued support, which has been so valuable to us over this academic year.

Kind regards/ Cofion Caredig,

Mr A. Smith

Headteacher / Prifathro