



# Ebbw Fawr Learning Community

## Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr

**Headteacher / Prifathro:** Mr. H. R. Lloyd, BA Hons, MSc

**W:** [www.ebbwfawr.co.uk](http://www.ebbwfawr.co.uk)

Our Ref MTH/JSM

16 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### Year 7 Arrangements

I am delighted to be writing to you to confirm the arrangements for the full reopening of Ebbw Learning Community in September.

### **When does my child attend?**

Your child should attend school at 8.35am on Wednesday 2 September 2020 and report straight to the restaurant. Children will be directed to Pink Wing by the Pastoral Team from the restaurant. Please note that although the school grounds will be open from 8.15am the internal doors will not be opened until 8.30 am. If your child is unable to attend school for any reason please contact the school immediately by telephone.

### **Which entrance should my child use?**

There are three entrances to the school, namely the leisure centre entrance, the entrance opposite the multi-storey carpark and the entrance nearest to Coleg Gwent. Children who catch the bus should only enter the grounds via the entrance nearest to the leisure centre. Year 7 who do not catch the bus should use the college entrance.

Year 7 children will be met by the Pastoral Team and directed to the restaurant.

### **Bubbles**

In year 7, children will remain in a bubble of approximately 30 children for the duration of the whole day. These bubbles / form classes will be zoned into individual wings. Children will receive their normal timetable of lessons, but will not move around the building to subject classrooms as would normally happen. Instead teachers will move to the form classrooms of the children; this decrease in movement reduces the risks for all children and staff. For PE, children will exit the building from the wings where they are located and be taken to the Leisure centre by the PE staff. Where possible, desks in classrooms have been placed facing forward. We have tried to ensure that every child is with a number of other children from their primary school to ease transition. Details on form tutor allocation will be posted in late August.

During breaktimes and lunchtimes we will offer staggered breaks to ensure that large groups of children are not all out of class together at one time.

**Learning to Achieve Together / Yn Dysgu i Gyflawni gyda 'n gilydd**

**Primary Phase/Cynnod Cynradd:** Strand Annealing Lane, Ebbw Vale NP23 6AN T: 01495 357755

**Secondary Phase/Cynnod Uwchradd:** Lime Avenue, Ebbw Vale NP23 6GL T: 01495 354690



## **Transport**

Buses will be running as normal; thus, children need to ensure they are at the relevant points of pick-up at the normal time. If anything changes regarding transport arrangements we will contact those affected in late August.

## **School Meals**

From September the school will be able to resume to normal catering facilities at both break and at lunch. However, to adhere to government guidelines regarding social distancing, we will need to offer hot and cold lunches which can be served more speedily; this will allow us to ensure that year group bubbles can be kept apart. A full menu will be advertised in late August. To help keep contact points to a minimum we ask, where possible, that parents top up their child's account by using the online payment system found on our website:

<https://www.ebbwfawr.co.uk/online-payments/>. Alternatively, learners can top up their account when they arrive school.

## **Equipment and Resources**

Children will need to bring in their own resources to reduce the risk of cross contamination which could develop from sharing equipment. Where possible, if children can bring into school a pen, pencil, ruler and rubber this will help to reduce the risk of infection. If children also own colouring pens and pencils, this would also be of benefit. For the first two weeks of school, learners will not need to bring in their PE kit as the PE department have organised a series of lessons which do not involve the need for the children to get changed.

## **Uniform**

Children are expected to be in full school uniform. Please see the prospectus enclosed which details our full uniform requirements. We have been assured that both Mel Morgan's in Ebbw Vale and Reflex in Tredegar have large stocks of uniform. Please remember that we also run a recycled uniform shop in school which is free of charge. If this is something you are interested in, please get in touch with us.

## **Behaviour**

As always, we expect high levels of behaviour; good behaviour is something we pride ourselves on. Please take the opportunity to remind your son/daughter that learners must try to maintain a distance from friends and staff at all times. Regrettably, any learner who behaves in a way that poses a risk to other learners and staff will be directed to the Senior Leadership Team and parents contacted immediately.

## **Hygiene and Cleaning**

Learners will be expected to sanitise their hands on arrival at the building and will be guided to wash their hands throughout the day. A hygiene station including hand sanitiser and anti-bac wipes will be available in all classroom areas for staff and children. Children will not be required to wear masks. Throughout the school day we will employ an enhanced cleaning regime. Cleaners will be on site in the mornings, prior to the building opening to staff and students, during the day for key areas and at the end of the day for a further deep clean.

## Illness

Please do not send your child to school if they have any symptoms linked to Covid-19. We ask that parents/carers contact us urgently to report any such symptoms.

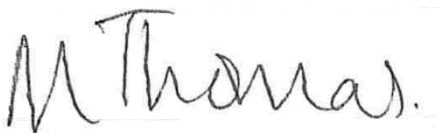
## First Day Activities

Only Year 7 will be timetabled to attend on Wednesday 2 September 2020. When your son / daughter arrives on their first day, they will remain with their Form Tutor for the entire morning. The focus for the morning will be wellbeing and settling in. This will include a further introduction to the building, how to access cashless catering, ICT passwords, anti-bullying measures and support, school rules and so on. In the afternoon they will commence their timetabled lessons. To help Year 7 settle further we have arranged only for Year 11 to attend school on the Thursday and Friday of the same week.

Due to the success of our **Facebook live** question and answer session for Year 6 we have decided to schedule another event for all year groups on Wednesday 26 August 2020. The event titled '**What will school be like in September?**' will give parents, carers and children an opportunity to ask any further questions they may have before returning to school. For those that missed the Facebook Live event I have included answers to some of the questions asked, I hope you find this helpful.

In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me on [mthomas@ebbwfawr.co.uk](mailto:mthomas@ebbwfawr.co.uk). Enjoy the summer and please stay safe!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Thomas'.

Mrs M Thomas  
Head of Secondary

Encs