



**YSGOL BANCFFOSFELEN**

**RETURNING TO SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER**

**17/8/2020**

The purpose of this update is to provide information for parents/guardians of children in Ysgol Bancffosfelen on how the decision to re-open schools in September. Many of the measures we have had to take are based on what is required of us by the Welsh Government and Local Authority. It has been necessary to interpret the guidance as it applies to our school both in terms of the layout of the school/space available to us and staffing levels.

A set of 'Frequently Asked Questions' have been prepared in an attempt to answer as many of the questions you may have as we can. If you have any additional questions which we have not thought of please let us know by emailing [LangabeerM6@hwbcymru.net](mailto:LangabeerM6@hwbcymru.net) and we will look to issue a second update. The more we can answer in this way will help minimise the number of individual queries being made directly to the School which will enable us to focus all our efforts on the safe re-opening of the School in the interests of pupil and staff safety.

**Dates / Times of staggered start to the new school year.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Pupils to return to school:</b>
<b>September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Planning and preparation days
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	New pupils Reception Year 3 Year 5
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	New pupils Reception Year 1 Year 3 Year 5 Year 6
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	All Pupils return to school

What time will School start in the morning?	<p><b>Drop off times:</b></p> <p><b>Foundation Phase- 8:45am</b></p> <p><b>Key stage 2-8:50am</b></p>
What time will School end in the afternoon?	<p><b>Pick up:</b></p> <p><b>Foundation Phase- 3:10pm</b></p> <p><b>Key Stage 2 – 3:20pm</b></p>
Will I be able to use breakfast club? If Yes, what time will breakfast club be open?	The Breakfast Club will NOT be serving breakfast. However, staff will be supervising pupils from 8:15am onwards in their classes. As soon as we have more information I will let you know.

### Arrangements for School drop offs and pick ups

Is there any change to how children will be dropped off at School in the morning?	<p>Only one parent/guardian will be able to drop off. Older pupils will be expected to walk in from the main gate independently.</p> <p>You are asked to respect social distancing principles at all times.</p> <p>Children will enter through the usual pedestrian entrance. Parents of younger pupils can accompany them to the main entrance while adhering to social distancing.</p> <p>In order to maintain a one way system, parents will follow the signs and leave through the entrance on the main road.</p>
Is there any change to how children will be collected in the afternoon?	<p>Pupils will be led by their teachers to meet parents by the entrance on the main road.</p> <p>Only one parent/guardian will be able to collect children.</p> <p>You are asked to respect social distancing principles at all times.</p>

## School Meals/Drinks

Will School lunches be provided? If no, are we to send in a packed lunch?	No school lunch will be provided until September 14th. This includes pupils who receive Free School Meals, as payment is made directly to families now. Pupils will be expected to bring a packed lunch which includes food items with packaging they can open themselves. Pupils will eat their packed lunch in their classrooms or if weather permitting, outside.
Will there be fruit to purchase for morning break?	No. Pupils can bring their own fruit in their lunch boxes to be eaten at morning break time.
Will a pupil be able to top up their water bottle with water from the fountain?	Pupils will need to bring in a full water bottle, which can be topped by in classrooms.
I am in credit on Parent Pay for school meals will this be refunded?	Overpayments have been credited. However, please check and pay any outstanding debts.

## Break times

Is there any change to how breaks will be managed?	Breaks will be staggered with each class having their own play area.
What precautions will be in place during break times to ensure social distancing principles apply?	Each class will be allocated an outdoor area to play in. Staff will remind pupils of social distancing.

## Social Distancing / Hygiene/ Toilet Facilities

What measures have been taken to ensure social distancing applies to classroom layouts?	Desks have been re-organised to face the front of classrooms.
What arrangements are in place for regular hand washing / use of hand sanitiser?	There will be clear signage around the School on the importance of hand washing, hygiene and maintaining social distancing. Outside sinks will be set up for pupils to wash their hands on entry to school. Sanitising stations are set up outside toilets and in classrooms.
Has the School been cleaned prior to the children returning?	Yes. The school has had a deep clean.
How often will the School be cleaned following the return of the children?	The School will be thoroughly cleaned every evening. Cleaning regimes will be significantly enhanced, with regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces, door handles, toilets etc
Will the children be using shared learning resources e.g. iPad, pens, whiteboards etc?	No each pupil will have their own equipment- pens, pencils, rules etc. After using digital devices- ipad, chrome book – they will be wiped down with wipes. If pupils want to bring in their own pencils cases etc from home then they will have to leave them in school.
I have more than one child in the School in different year groups is it possible for them to be dropped off and picked up at the same time?	Yes please drop off and pick up at the earliest time.

## School Uniform / Bag

Will the children wear school uniform?	Yes. pupils will be required to wear school uniform. Pupils are expected to bring a waterproof coat and wear waterproof shoes suitable to go outdoors in all weather.
Should my child bring a school bag, pencil case etc?	No. All equipment required will be supplied. Each pupil will have their own set of equipment which will be used only by them. If pupils want to bring in their own pencils cases from home then they will have to leave them in school. New pupils are welcome to bring a change of clothing in a carrier bag.
Should my child bring a PE kit to School?	No. Pupils can wear their PE kit to school – white T shirt, school jumper and navy leggings, shorts etc to school on the day they have PE lessons.  Foundation Phase on Thursday Key Stage 2 on Wednesday

## Lessons

Will my child be issued with reading books?	Yes your child will have new reading books.
Should my child's reading books be returned to School when finished with?	Yes please place in the box which will be placed in the entrance of their classrooms.
If the weather is favourable will some lessons be outside?	Yes. Pupils will spend more time out doors as this is considered to be a lower risk environment. Suitable waterproof clothing will be required –waterproof coat and shoes etc.
What is happening to musical instrument lessons? Will these continue?	At present we are not sure. As soon as we know we will inform you.

## Attendance

Will I be fined for not sending my child back to school for the catch up and prepare for summer and September sessions?	All pupils are expected to return to school by September 14 <sup>th</sup> . However, The Welsh Government's view is that it would not be appropriate for a local authority/school to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or commence proceedings for non-attendance at the school. The Welsh Government will monitor the situation over the first half term before reviewing its position.
What if my child develops symptoms of COVID-19 during school hours? What steps will be taken?	If a pupil shows symptoms of Covid-19 whilst in school, parents will be contacted and expected to collect their child from school immediately. All areas where this person has been will be identified and a thorough clean down will occur in line with Welsh Government guidance. Parents will need to book a test and ensure their child self isolates until they receive the test results.

## Feedback on pupils

I have concerns about how my child has been managing returning to school , how can I discuss this with the Teacher?	Please email; <a href="mailto:LangabeerM6@hwbcymru.net">LangabeerM6@hwbcymru.net</a> and your child's teacher will telephone you to discuss your concerns and ways forward.
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Planning for the re-opening school is a continuous process. The situation is being continually reviewed in light of any new guidance which is emerging. Parents will be kept informed via the school's Web page and Twitter accounts. We appreciate that all your questions may not be answered in this letter. Please contact us so that we can reassure you in relation to the measures we have put in place.

Please be assured that, as a school team, we will do our utmost to make your child's return to school as safe and as enjoyable as possible.

Thank you for your support and patience in this matter. We will endeavour to keep you involved and informed throughout the process.