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2nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of our first full month back to school we are delighted that our children have settled well into new routines and ways of working. Our youngest children have completed their transition into Nursery and Reception and our staff are thrilled with how they have settled. Tears have been few and far between and the children are making new friends as they begin their educational journey. Mums and Dads – we hope you have adjusted as well as your children! We would also like to welcome children and their families who have joined in other year groups.

Covid Procedures:

We have been fortunate in Monmouthshire that the number of Covid-19 cases have been extremely low. On site safety is paramount and we must follow government guidance to keep our school community as safe as we possibly can. You will be aware that a number of primary and secondary schools in neighbouring authorities have already had to isolate class bubbles / year group bubbles and this is something we are desperate to avoid.

Please support our efforts by:

Staying 2m apart and socially distance from other families at drop off and pick up,

Leave the school premises promptly after dropping off your child/children,

Follow government guidelines with regard to any family member displaying symptoms or receiving direction from 'Track, Trace, Protect' and keep us informed. Please be mindful that guidance is constantly being updated. (see table below)

We are advised to keep groups as small as possible so that should there be a positive case and the need to isolate it will have as small an impact as possible on pupils across the school. Nursery have their own group as do Reception as it is impossible to separate these very young children in terms of shared resources, staff and toilets. We have 3 further class groups for the purpose of 'Track, Trace, Protect' – Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6.

Bus children form additional groups. For example, if your child is in Year 4 and goes on the bus they would be in both of those groups for the purposes of 'Track, Trace, Protect'.

For this reason, we've been unable to restart our breakfast club before school due to needing to keep 'contact groups' as separate from each other as possible. The results of the survey sent at the beginning of term indicate that approximately half of our learners would attend breakfast club. Should one of these learners or the staff supervising them become infected it could result in whole school closure.

During the school day groups have their own classroom, outside space and toilets. Children within the group play, learn and eat together. The children have adapted well to eating with their class (in their classroom or outside space), participating in collective worship through Microsoft Teams, playing in allocated areas with their classmates and, most importantly, washing and sanitising their hands regularly throughout the day.

Blended Learning (school and home partnership learning): There is an expectation for all schools to have a 'blended learning' model in place so that should individual children or class groups have to stay at home to isolate or indeed if there is another lockdown that suspends statutory education as happened March – June; schools and families are able to work in partnership to support learning.

During lockdown, we used the Welsh Government flagship online learning platform Hwb to support learning at home. Since returning to school in September, we have been trialling various digital learning approaches with the pupils in order to be prepared in the event of any changes to how schools are operating both locally and nationally.

In school ICT lessons, we have been developing the children's skills to enable them to access tasks within a virtual classroom. Each child is now part of a 'Google Classroom' which they can access through 'Hwb' using their Hwb email address and password. This will enable pupils to access Home Learning tasks, chat to their classmates and engage with / share work with their class teachers.

This link will show you how to access Google Classroom and the tasks within it, should your child need further support at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWxvK64IUQ&feature=youtu.be>

Some devices may ask for a code to join the google class, please see below.

Class Codes:

Nursery and Reception Classes – More details to follow regarding blending learning before half term.

Y1MK (Mrs Morgan & Mrs Kershaw) – bd7saf1

Y2J (Mrs Johnson) – r1kdzof

Y2P (Mrs Phillips) – shwsm4v

Y3WF (Miss Welsh/Mrs Fox) – uvk7z4b

Y3C (Mrs Clarke) – wojdeo2

Y4W (Miss Webster) – cloqpbv

Y5J (Mrs John) – dhrw3po

Y5/6G (Ms Guy) – ekb4wlu

Y6J (Mrs James) – geppco4

Please don't panic if you have mislaid your child's hwb login, let us know and we will resend it. We understand this is new to everyone, children, staff and parents alike and it will take time and practice. We are committed to supporting all families to engage with this. Should you need help or support please email the school office and we will be in touch to help.

Influenza vaccination

Parents of children from Reception to Year 6 will receive a notification and consent form from the school nursing team for the nasal spray flu vaccine. These will take place on Wednesday 18th November. Vaccinations will not be carried out without consent from parents.

Reminder of processes regarding Coronavirus

What do I do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
<p>My child has Covid-19 symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High temperature This means they feel hot to touch on your chest or your back. • New continuous cough This means coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 continuous coughing episodes in 24 hours. • A loss or change to their sense of taste or smell. This means they have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL • Symptomatic child to isolate for 10 days. • Isolate the rest of the household for 14 days (a household is all adults and children living in the same property or your extended household if you have created one). • Parent to arrange to get child tested. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test comes back negative. • If no test is taken child must remain off school for 10 days, whether or not they are feeling well before that point. • If no test is taken, other household contacts must continue to isolate for 14 days, whether or not they are feeling well
<p>My child has been sent home from school with Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect all siblings from school and any other schools. • Symptomatic child to isolate for 10 days. • Isolate the rest of the household for 14 days (a household is all adults and children living in the same property or your extended household if you have created one). • Parent to arrange to get child tested. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test comes back negative. • If no test is taken child must remain off school for 10 days, whether or not they are feeling well before that point. • If no test is taken, other household contacts must continue to isolate for 14 days, whether or not they are feeling well

<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. • Contact school to agree a date for return. Minimum of 10 days isolation after start of symptoms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be agreed with Head teacher.
<p>My child tests negative for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. • Contact school to agree a date for return. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test comes back negative and child is well (when symptoms have gone in line with normal sickness procedures).
<p>My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the usual school absence procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling well or normal sickness absence procedures (e.g. 48 hours after last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting).
<p>Someone in my child's household has Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • Child to isolate for 14 days. • Isolate the whole household for 14 days. • Symptomatic household members to get tested. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The symptomatic person must receive a negative test result or full isolation period be completed before a child can return to school.
<p>Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. • Contact school to agree a date for return. • Isolate the whole household for a minimum of 14 days. • Anyone who becomes symptomatic must get tested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child has completed 14 days of isolation. (A negative test for the child within the 14 days does not mean they can return to school)

<p>NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect Service has identified that my child has been in close contact with someone with confirmed symptoms of Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • Follow advice from Test, Trace, Protect Service. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY. • Contact school to agree a date for return. Minimum of 14 days isolation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child has completed 14 days of isolation.
<p>Family/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • Consider Welsh Government travel advice regarding quarantine and exempt countries. • INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY. • Isolate the whole household for 14 days from arrival back in the UK. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
<p>My child's contact group has been sent home/told to isolate due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. • continue with Home Learning. • Other members of the household (siblings/parents etc.) can continue to go to school and work unless a household (or extended household) member, including the child, has symptoms or receives a positive test result. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School will inform you when your child can return.

Parent Governor:

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you are interested please contact the school office by email for more information.

Thank you for continued support and stay safe.

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Mrs S. Hamer

Headteacher