

## Ysgol Santes Ffraid

Plas-yn-Green, Dinbych,  
Sir Ddinbych, LL16 4BH, Gogledd Cymru  
Ffon: 01745 815228 Ffacs: 01745 816928



## St. Brigid's School

Plas-yn-Green, Denbigh,  
Denbighshire, LL16 4BH, North Wales  
Tel No: 01745 815228 Fax No: 01745 816928

26<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I do hope that you and your families have managed to have a restful break over the summer, despite remaining in these unusual circumstances. I know that we're all desperate for some semblance of 'normality' and we're all very much looking to welcoming our learners back next week.

I would like to remind you our arrangements for re-opening in September 2020. As I'm sure you can appreciate, we will be working slightly differently than 'normal', but we are working with transitional arrangements as we begin to emerge from lockdown. We will, of course, routinely review these plans and will adapt these based on ongoing advice.

Please understand that these measures and controls are fully compliant with the latest Welsh Government and Denbighshire County Council guidance, and we must ask that you conform, so that we can keep our school COVID-secure to reduce chances of an outbreak and local lockdown. You must take responsibility for explaining the importance of the new procedures to your children before they return.

The school will begin to re-open to pupils from Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, with staff planning and preparation days taking place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

In line with recent guidance, we will operate a staggered start to the term, and we aim to have all pupils and year groups attending full-time, from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. This being a full week ahead of the government's target date of 14<sup>th</sup> September.

The arrangements for re-opening are as follows for your child, as they move into their new year group:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	14 <sup>th</sup> Sept
Yr 3	Yr 3	ALL Years	ALL Years	ALL Years	ALL Years	ALL Years	ALL Years
-	-						(statutory education)
Yr 5	Yr 5						
Yr 7	Yr 7						
-	-						
Yr 10	Yr 10						
Yr 12	Yr 12						

\*Nursery and Reception have previously received their 'staggered' timetable for September.

### General Notes:

- Parents dropping off in cars must NOT leave their car and must not park up. Please use the roundabout to drive in, allow your child to exit the car and then drive out. This is for the safety of staff, pupils and other parents.
- All learners travelling on public and school transport MUST wear a face covering. Buses will have appropriate bins for their disposal.
- Learners are permitted to come to school with a school bag, pencil case, healthy snack, healthy packed lunch and bottle of water but MUST NOT share stationery or food/drink with

other learners due to infection control. You must make this very clear to your child before their return to school. This is for the safety of YOUR child and YOUR family.

- Learners must wear full school uniform from September. Full PE kit must be worn for PE. PE Kit must be washed after every use. Please ensure that school uniform is kept clean to reduce transmission risk.
- If the weather requires coats to be worn, they should be plain black and on top of blazer, NOT instead of. Coats must be removed in school buildings.
- Please remind your child about the importance of hygiene – they must wash their hands regularly, dispose of tissues in bins, not sneeze/cough into their hands, etc. They can use their own hand sanitizer although there are sanitizer stations around the whole school site. Please talk to your child about hygiene and their own safety.

### Year 7 Pupils

Year 7 will need to arrive at the school hall by 8.50am on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It will be signposted and they will be met by staff.

There will be a full induction programme for all Year 7 pupils for two days on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September. As these pupils were unable to visit us for their induction days in Year 6, the aim is to welcome them into the school, get them settled, get to know the staff and familiarise themselves with the school site.

During these induction days, the school will not have its full quota of pupils and as a result this should further ease their transition to senior school, as well as help them familiarise themselves with their school transport arrangements.

### Years 8 to 13

Year 10 and 12 will also have ‘induction’ activities on the first two days, as they begin their GCSE and Sixth Form courses, whereas all other year groups will all attend from 7<sup>th</sup> September.

### School Organisation Arrangements

Following the recent guidance, the school is now required to re-open to all learners in September. This does not require strict social distancing between learners, however, learners must keep 2m away from adults and **parents must explain this to their children before they return to school**. This is because adults are more at risk from COVID than children. Adults should maintain up-to a 2m distance from each other and not share equipment/food/drink. Where possible, we will continue to promote safe practices around the school and maximise the use of the available space. Increased hygiene and cleaning practices will be maintained, and our updated Engagement and Behaviour policy includes COVID-specific anti-social behaviour, which will not be tolerated.

During lessons, contacts with other pupils will be limited to pupils from the same class. However, during lunch times, pupils will be allocated a designated time and room within school where their contact should only be with the others from the same contact group.

Pupils will all be taught their subjects by specialist teachers, to ensure they receive a full curriculum.

To reduce the risk of transmission, all pupils will be expected to use the hand sanitisers available, as they will be moving between rooms. Desks will also be wiped down in between classes.

### Years 12 & 13

For Sixth Form students, they will be taught as normal in their timetabled subject lessons, which will involve full class sizes, however, they will need to stay in the Sixth Form base when they are not in lessons, or Year 13 may go home.

Owing to the increased risk of transmission in tutorial rooms, it has become apparent that we will no longer be able to use many of the smaller rooms available to the Sixth Form around the site. As a result, students need to work diligently and alongside the staff to minimise the amount of 'social time' available. The kitchen areas will therefore be closed during this time. Students can bring their own water bottle, but cannot share mugs, etc.

### Pupil Illness

If your child or any member of your immediate family is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19, then they should not be sent to school. If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19 whilst at school, then they will be isolated, and you will be contacted to come and collect them immediately.

In addition, it is your responsibility as parents to consistently check your child's temperature, and not send them into school if they display symptoms of a high temperature. Please phone 111 if you need Covid-19 medical assistance.

### The School Day

For those of you whose children returned on the 29<sup>th</sup> June, you will be familiar with the new system of drop-off and pick-up on the roundabout. This must be maintained into the Autumn Term due to safety restrictions. Thank you to parents who have worked with us so excellently on this since the 29<sup>th</sup> June; the process has been extremely successful.

Parents must not get out of their cars. When dropping off, please use the natural curve of the roundabout to stop, allow your child to exit, and then leave. This reduces traffic and also ensures the safety of our staff and our learners.

Additionally, when collecting your children, please do not arrive too early as you cannot leave your car and congregate on the school site to chat to other parents. This is part of the safety guidelines as set out by the government. Please park up and wait for your child and then swiftly leave the site to make way for other parents and buses.

The only parents who **must** drop off and pick up on foot are parents of **Nursery and Reception** children, due to their age. However, you must conform to social distancing rules and you must not enter the primary school building for the safety of our staff. Please ensure that you have spoken to your child about this and do prepare them to 'leave you' and enter the school building when they go to school. It is hugely important that you take responsibility for preparing your child for Nursery and Reception.

### Uniform & Equipment

Pupils will be required to wear full school uniform when we return in September. Please can I remind you that no fabric trainers or shoes are permitted nor are any trainers whatsoever; shoes must be plain black leather-style, with no logos, colours or flashing lights, or high heels. Smart, school-appropriate shoes only please. Denbighshire County Council have uniform grants available to those who will struggle financially with this.

The information for Monkhouse, our supplier, is on our website and has previously gone out via ParentPay.

Blazers are compulsory; however, in warm weather the jumper is optional. Pupils will be required to bring a school bag to carry their books and equipment, and I would also ask that you ensure that your child always has the necessary equipment, to reduce the likelihood of any transmission that may arise when they borrow materials.

In addition, please remember that we may need to seek to reduce the need for teachers to collect books or work from pupils, and some teachers may prefer to set homework or follow-up work on

Google Classroom or Seesaw. However, this depends on the specific risk factors of our individual teachers; we must protect them and their health.

### Catering Arrangements

The catering facilities will be re-opening; however, only cold food and packed lunches will be available to order to eat in the classroom to avoid transmission risk in a heavily-populated Dining Hall. It may be easier for children to bring their own packed lunches where possible. However, breakfast club and fruit for snack will still be available if required.

Those in receipt of Free School Meals direct payments will have this continue until 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Parents are kindly requested to ensure that Parent Pay accounts are credited prior to the school re-opening.

Face masks will be compulsory for all passengers travelling by bus or taxi, and this will therefore apply to St. Brigid's pupils. All pupils eligible for school transport will be contacted by the Denbighshire school transport service over the summer holidays to confirm arrangements, and if you have any queries then please contact them directly.

I hope this provides you with an overview of our arrangements for re-opening in September. Please be assured that your child will receive a comprehensive induction programme on their arrival, which will set out in detail the new working arrangements.

We recognise that these arrangements may appear daunting and unusual, but I would like to reassure you that we will do our utmost to ensure that all of our pupils are nurtured and cared for, in a safe environment.

I would like to thank you for your continued support.

God bless you and your families.



Mrs L Crimes  
Pennaeth / Headteacher