

MAESTEG SCHOOL

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MAESTEG
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Headteacher / Pennaeth: H. Jones B.A. (Hons) N.P.Q.H.

Dear Pupils, Parents/Carers,

As the first day of the Autumn term fast approaches, I thought it appropriate to re-send the information I sent out at the end of last term. I have also added information to parents in light of the very recent statement from Welsh Government with regard to the wearing of face masks. Although we are still awaiting final instruction from the local authority with regard to this we intend to adopt the following approach at Maesteg School to ensure that we are as Covid Secure as possible.

- 1) Face Masks must be worn on school transport and in areas where there is a greater risk of mixing of contact groups, i.e. in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunchtimes. It will be up to the individual child if they choose to wear a mask during lesson times (N.B – if the school receives advice from the Local Authority that is contrary to this then parents will be informed immediately).
Parents are therefore encouraged to supply their children with a mask that meets all health and safety requirements and is washed/replaced at the end of each day
- 2) Pupils must be prepared to go outside during their break and lunchtimes so must have suitable outdoor clothing to cope with our wonderful inclement weather. Hoodies do not keep children dry and are not a suitable alternative to a waterproof coat.

As you can imagine, these extra safety measures, along with new routines and procedures, changes to exam specifications and such a long time away from school for our staff and pupils means that we will need to spend more time planning during the first week back in September. To ensure that each year group is familiar with the new routines, they will have an induction session before beginning normal lessons.

Welsh Government has advised schools to make every effort to minimise mixing between contact groups, but recognises that this would prevent secondary school pupils from being taught by subject specialists or being taught in specialist classrooms such as Technology workshops and Science laboratories. Consequently, pupils will move between rooms and be taught by different teachers. To minimise the mixing of year groups, we will operate staggered break and lunchtimes. Pupils will also be expected to follow the one way system around the school at all times and to participate in regular hand washing routines. They will also be expected to wipe down surfaces of tables and chairs once they have used them.

Pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform from September, however on the days they are timetabled to have PE/Health and Wellbeing lessons, they are permitted to wear the school PE kit for the whole day.

It is absolutely imperative that your child follows the safety measures we have put in place. Failure to abide by these new procedures and routines to ensure the safety of our school community may lead to exclusion.

Please find below, more detailed information which will hopefully provide further information with regard to the safe re-opening in September.

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

- It is vital that your child continues to learn from home and uses their Show My Homework account regularly. Blended learning will be essential to their continued education
- Pupils who do not follow the safety procedures and whose behaviour gives cause for concern will not be permitted on site. Parents will be contacted to collect their child should their behaviour put others at risk
- Pupils must be prepared for learning and bring their own pencil case
- Please be reminded that the mobile phone policy will be re-instated in September. **NO MOBILE PHONES** are to be used on school premises
- Pupils are required to wear uniform. They must wear school PE kit on the days they have PE lessons
- The 6th form communal areas will be closed to 6th form.

CATERING

- Canteen facilities will be available as normal, and children will be able to pre-order their lunch
- Pupils will be able to purchase a hot meal on site using their cashless account. Parents need to make sure that this is topped up prior to their child returning to school
- Please note that the water fountains will be in use for pupils to use. Pupils are encouraged to bring in their own containers. Water will also be provided at break and lunchtimes
- Free school meals will be provided to those children who are eligible

Site Management

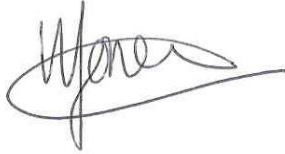
- Entry and vetting (health checks) on arrival and entry into school will exist for pupils and staff following a strict set of procedures
- Staggered break times and lunch times will be in operation to continue to observe social distancing guidelines at unstructured times
- All classrooms will be set up in rows with all pupils facing the front of the classroom
- Each floor will have a designated cleaner and/or pupil toilet attendance to maintain high standards of hygiene at all times.
- There will be a one way system in operation at all times. All staff and pupils must adhere to this system and follow signage

Parents

- Although parents will not be fined for non-attendance at school, on-line learning tasks will only be set where medical evidence to support non-attendance is supplied. All pupils are now expected to return to school in September.
- If transport is required, bus passes are usually required for identification purposes. Currently, BCBC are allowing pupils to travel without a bus pass but this is a temporary measure only.
- Parents who drop off their children must do so at the drop off site at the bottom of the school steps. There will be no access to school site from the main gates at the main driveway.
- Parents must request meetings in advance to ensure that school staff can make appropriate provision
- Parents must collect their child where their child is refusing to observe safety measures and procedures this posing a risk to others
- Please keep your child home if they or anyone in the household displays COVID-like symptoms
- The school's complete risk assessment document will be shared with parents via the school website.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to our Maesteg School Community over the next two weeks.

Warmest regards,



Mrs H. Jones (Headteacher)

Friday 4 th	Monday 7 th	Tuesday 8 th	Wednesday 9 th	Thursday 10 th	Friday 11 th
Year 7 Induction	Year 7	Year 7	Year 7	Year 7	Whole School Follows Normal Timetable
Year 12 Induction	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	
	Year 13	Year 13	Year 13	Year 13	
	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11	
		Year 10	Year 10	Year 10	
			Year 9	Year 9	
			Year 8		

Motivated to Strive / Ysgogi i Ymdrechu

