

MAESTEG SCHOOL

Ffordd Dysgu
MAESTEG
Bridgend
CF34 0LQ



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

9th March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

You will by now be aware of the Welsh Government announcement that secondary schools will begin to re-open from 15th March. This is welcome news to all of us, but does not come without its challenges so please make sure that you read the information in this letter.

You will already have received a general letter from our Director of Education, outlining broad principles. At Maesteg we will invite students back onto school site on the following days:

Week 1: Monday 15th – Friday 19th March

Mon 15th March:	Years 11, 13
Tues 16th March:	Years 11, 13, 12
Wed 17th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 7
Thurs 18th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 8
Fri 19th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 9

Week 2: Monday 22nd – Friday 26th March

Mon 22nd March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 10,
Tues 23rd March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 10,
Wed 24th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 10,
Thurs 25th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 10
Fri 26th March:	Years 11, 13, 12, 10

Explanation:

- Welsh Government and Local Authority guidance states that the focus should be on **Years 11 & 13**.
- **Year 12** will also be awarded their AS levels this year and will require additional support so will be on site for most of the next two weeks.
- **Year 10** have been entered for their English Literature and Maths GCSES this year and will therefore be on site for the whole of the second week.

Motivated to Strive / Ysgogi i Ymdrechu



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- **Years 7, 8 & 9** need to have at least one check-in session. We have decided to run these as whole days rather than sessions so that our pupils have their usual 'school experience' and will benefit from being together as a whole year group.

HUB Pupils (children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils)

- Students who have been accessing the hub will continue to do so up until Friday 26th March.
- Students will leave the hub and join their year group on the days that their year group is in school (see above.)

All students

- All students will resume their normal timetable, though we will make sure that we also address wellbeing issues during their days in school. Students should be aware that the week beginning 15th March is Week 1 and the week beginning 22nd March is Week 2 in our two-week timetable.
- At 8.45am, students should register in their normal registration classes.
- Year 12 and year 13 students need only come into school for their timetabled lessons, but are welcome to stay in school in order to access additional support from staff, if they need it.
- Students are not required to wear school uniform until after Easter
- School transport will run as normal.
- School lunch will be available for those who require it. Please ensure that your child has sufficient funds in their account.

Students who are at home / isolating

We will continue to set work for students who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend school.

Health & Safety / Hygiene

We will be insisting on the highest standards of hygiene. Students will be expected to:

- stay 2 metres away from adults and in school and wherever possible, from one another
- sanitise their hands upon entering and leaving classrooms and the main school building;
- remain in their designated year group zones at break and lunchtime;
- use their designated year group toilets.

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Face coverings

- Students will be expected to wear a face covering in all communal spaces (corridors, canteens, etc) where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Please be aware that new Welsh Government Guidance recommends that students also wear a face covering during lessons. The new guidance states that they can remove their face covering when outdoors if they are able to maintain social distancing.
- Pupils must wear a medical exemption badge/lanyard (available from their Head of Year) if they are not wearing masks.

Lateral Flow Tests

Students in Years 10-13 will be offered Lateral Flow Tests to self-administer at home. This is a voluntary activity (further guidance will follow)

Support

We are aware that you may be anxious about sending your child back to school. Please be reassured that we will do everything we can to ensure that your child's return to school is as safe and as positive as possible. If you have any general concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

We are genuinely looking forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Kind regards,

Helen Jones

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