



Crickhowell Community
Primary School

Dear Parents / Carers,

Following the Welsh Government's announcement, we are currently preparing for reopening the school on Monday, 29th June. As you are aware, the Crickhowell Community Primary School has been open throughout the current crisis, offering support for children of critical workers and vulnerable children. From June 25th, all schools will continue to offer support for those children already attending the Hub, in their individual schools. Schools will also be open for children from every year group, on set days only, from 29th June – 27th July.

Our key priority is ensuring the safety of our children and staff and school community. Please note, government advice makes clear no one can guarantee that social distancing can always be maintained in schools, particularly in classes with younger children. As a result, anyone who has received, or lives with someone who has received a shielding letter, will not be able to attend school during the four weeks for reopening. If your child or a member of your family has any symptoms or is unwell, please do not send them to school. If a pupil become unwell at school, then staff will have to isolate pupils until they can be collected by parents.

Thank you for completing the online survey as this has provided us with a clear picture of what school may look like when we reopen on the 29 June, the steps we will take to minimise risks to children and adults, and how you can support us.

Life in school will be different as we establish new safe routines. We will have no more than a third of all students on site at any one time. There will be a strong wellbeing focus ensuring we '**check in**', to ensure all our pupils get used to being back in school in different circumstances.

We shall also use this time prior to the summer holiday to '**catch up**'. Time will be used to retrieve what the pupils have learnt and identify and address skills deficits. We also need to recognise that this new way of working may be in place in September, therefore we shall also '**prepare**' our pupils for the term ahead.

We will introduce our children to blended learning, combining classroom experiences and distance learning.

More details about groupings and the dates your children will be in school will be sent out when all the necessary risk-assessments have been completed.

Thank you for your continued support.

Take Care

Here is a breakdown of what we will be doing and a brief explanation of the reasons why.

We have prepared a video to explain what school will look like for our pupils.

<https://vimeo.com/428744404>

What we are doing	Why.
Start and finish times will be staggered with some classes starting at 8.45am and others at 9.00am.	To allow space for parents, carers and pupils on the yard and outside classroom doors.
Class groups will be approximately a quarter of each class.	This is to allow appropriate social distancing, based on the square meterage of each classroom and to ensure the overall pupil number, does not exceed one-third of the overall school capacity. As the Hub for key workers from Crickhowell Primary will be running in the hall, we must allow flexibility as these numbers vary weekly.
Class teachers have divided pupils into groups to ensure, as best we can, the pupils will be happy and sibling groups are in school on the same day.	We hope this will be easier for our pupils and parents though we appreciate, no group will be perfect!
Pupils will be in, with their group for three consecutive days on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Parents will be told which week their children are in school.	Welsh Govt guidance suggests that, <i>'to avoid increasing the risk of transmission between groups, it may be preferable to bring a group of learners in for longer blocks of time.'</i> After consultation with Public Health Wales, by keeping groups consistent for a week, this will reduce the impact of track and trace on the wider community, if a pupil or teacher falls ill.
We will try to do as much outdoor learning as possible.	Medical evidence suggests that Coronavirus does not last for long periods in direct sunlight and chances of infection are reduced outdoors.
Pupils will bring a packed lunch to eat in the classroom or preferably outdoors.	Welsh Govt guidance suggests that we limit pupil mobility inside school and where possible keep pupils in one area. Having multiple groups in the hall, eating lunch is too great a risk.
Children will need to bring and take home everything they need. That will be lunch, snacks, drinks, pencil cases and paper but nothing else.	Welsh Govt guidance suggests, <i>'the handling of objects between individuals, including staff, parents/carers and learners should be minimized.'</i>
Cleaning staff will be on site all day.	Welsh Govt guidance suggests that all 'high touch' areas should be cleaned during the day; rooms should be cleaned when pupils leave a room and the whole school should be cleaned when staff and pupils have left.
The focus of these three days is to catch-up with our pupils, allow them time to see their friends and teachers and enjoy school. We will be revisiting some of the home learning sent out while school has been closed.	It has been a difficult time for our pupils and their wellbeing is our priority, after a long period away from school. We need to prepare for the possibility of the continuation of blended learning in September.
Parents and Carers will not be allowed to come into the school buildings.	To keep our school 'bubble safe' and to minimize the impact of track and trace, should someone fall ill, it is safest to avoid unnecessary access to school buildings.
Pupils will not need to wear uniform.	It may be easier for parents to rotate and wash clothes after a day in school, especially if pupils have been outside.