

Ysgol Bro Famau
Llanarmon-yn-Ial Unit
Eryrys Road
Llanarmon-yn-Ial
CH7 5TB

Tel. (01824) 780722



Ysgol Bro Famau
Llanferres Unit
Ty'n Llan
Llanferres
CH7 5SP

Ffon. (01352) 810242

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Knight MA, PGCE, NPQH
Headteacher/Pennaeth

June 8th 2020

Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for Summer and September”.

On Wednesday afternoon, 03/06/2020, the Education Minister, Kirsty Williams, published details of the next phase for schools in Wales, providing an opportunity for your child to “Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for Summer and September”. As part of this statement, the Minister confirmed the intention that schools will plan to start the next phase on 29 June, with the summer term extended by a week, ending on 24 July. Furthermore, the last weeks of this summer term will be used to make sure pupils, staff and parents are prepared – mentally, emotionally and practically – for the new normal in September. The autumn half-term break will be extended to two weeks.

A link to the statement can be found overleaf and we’ve also attached a summary of the statement on page two as a help.

Your child’s safety and wellbeing are our priority and we are waiting for the detailed guidance that will help us to plan and prepare for this next phase. Welsh Government has announced that this further guidance will be published next week, including information on managing facilities and logistical arrangements, including buildings, resources, cleaning and transport. However, we have already started our initial planning and considerations, prioritising wellbeing of learners, staff and families and support school to plan a phased approach that is right for our school community.

We understand that you will have many questions and we are working closely with the Local Authority, the regional consortium and governors so that we can provide you with the information you need to prepare for this next phase. Please could you complete the survey included from the LA which will provide them with essential information. This can be completed by following the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NR7WYXM>

Nursery parents do not need to complete this survey. We are still unsure about the situation regarding Nursery provision.

These next few weeks will be very busy as we work to complete our risk assessments and prepare the school site for the children's return. We understand that you will have many questions and we are working closely with the Local Authority, the regional consortium and governors so that we can provide you with the information you need to prepare for this next phase.

School will be a very different place on return and the classroom environments will be totally different.

What to expect

- Schools will start the next phase on 29 June, with the term extended by a week, therefore ending on 24 July.
- Autumn half-term break will be expanded to two weeks.
- There will be a phased approach with Year groups split into smaller groups with staggered starts, lessons and breaks.
- It is expected that this will mean, at most, a third of pupils present at any one time.
- Much smaller classes will provide secure dedicated time with teachers and some classmates.
- This time will include online and personalised classroom experience, getting children and teachers ready for a similar experience in September.
- All pupils will be sitting at a desk, 2m apart. Members of staff and all other children will only be able to interact from 2m.
- Break times are likely to involve opportunity for exercise in small numbers, 2m apart.
- There will be no interaction between classes. Pupils will remain in their allocated room with the same pupils and will stay with these pupils for the duration of the session. This is to minimise cross-contamination between groups of pupils and staff. Their usual class teacher may not be teaching them.
- The school is like to be open for half days only, 4 days a week to allow deep cleans between groups of pupils.
- Your child will not be in every day and unfortunately, it is unlikely that siblings will be in on the same day.

- Staff may be wearing some form of PPE, likely to include masks and/or aprons
- There will be no Breakfast Club and no After School Club.
- Arrangements for school transport have not been confirmed. There may not be school transport because of the challenges of social distancing.
- No parents will be allowed on site. There will be a staggered drop off and pick up time to reduce congestion at the school gate.
- This time will include online and personalised classroom experience, getting children and teachers ready for a similar experience in September.

What next

- Next week, the Welsh Government will publish guidance to support childcare, schools, as well as further and higher education institutions.
- This will include information on managing their facilities and logistical arrangements, including buildings, resources, cleaning and transport.

As part of our preparation, as well as completing the LA survey above, we would also like you to inform us whether your child will be attending school from June 29th. We will need exact numbers in order to plan a safe return for our children. Please could you let us know either by emailing school or by letting your class teacher know through a message on SeeSaw by close of play on Wednesday 10th June.

We will write to you again as soon as more detailed information is available. In the meantime Rhos Street School, Rhuthun remains open for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support at this difficult time.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs. E. Knight

**Summary of and link to The Education Minister's announcement 03/06/20
Check in, Catch Up, Prepare for Summer and September".**

<https://gov.wales/check-catch-prepare-summer-and-september-all-schools-wales-enter-next-phase>