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Richmond Park School,
Carmarthen



12th February 2021

Dear Parents,

THE HEADLINES

Our Foundation Phase children will return to school at 8.45am on Wednesday 24th February 2021.

Our A&O Unit children will be offered a bespoke package – details sent separately.

Our KS2 pupils will remain at home for Remote Learning.

A HUB will run for the critical workers of KS2 pupils.

After School Club will run daily as of 22nd February 2021.

FURTHER DETAILS BELOW:

The Welsh Government's plans to keep schools closed to KS2 pupils for a period has meant we are maintaining remote learning for our older pupils whilst our younger pupils return to face to face lessons with their teacher. This will allow smaller groups of pupils to attend school and achieve a reduction in the numbers of pupils and staff mixing at any one time in any one place.

Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 will be able to return to school on Wednesday 24th February. School will open at 8.45am and lessons will start promptly at 9am. Please drop off at the gate at the bottom of the path in off the staff car park between these times. Collection will be at 3pm from the Key Stage 2 playground. ALL Foundation Phase children need a packed lunch please. Mrs. Peters will contact parents of part-time Nursery pupils directly if their session times are changing.

Foundation Phase children needing Hub provision on Monday 22nd Feb and Tuesday 23rd Feb can access the Hub via the booking form – the usual guidelines apply. Booking Form is scheduled to come out via text on Sunday 15th Feb at 7.30am.

Year 3, 4 5 & 6 will remain at home and can continue to access remote learning sessions with their class teacher.

Schools are asked to provide places for children of critical workers as well as vulnerable children where ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, however, it is IMPORTANT THAT KS2 CHILDREN REMAIN AT HOME WHEREVER POSSIBLE, as this is the safest place for everyone. Our aim is to ensure that those working on the front-line can continue to undertake their duties if they have no access to childcare, whilst also mitigating the risks to our children and staff in school settings. See Welsh Government critical workers list here:

<https://gov.wales/identifying-children-critical-workers-guidance#section-58147>

Provision is for primary pupils, under 12s in secondary or pupils that attend specialist provision or pupil referral units.

We are urging parents to please consider very carefully whether it is absolutely essential that you have childcare from your school. Parents should not apply for childcare if they are not scheduled to work and have not exhausted all other possible childcare options; and if they or their partner are able to work from home. It may be necessary for a Headteacher to request further supporting evidence (e.g. ID badge) confirming role to establish if parents meet eligibility. **Please be aware that with some pupils returning AND schools having to make provision for vulnerable children / critical worker children, it may have an affect on the learning being provided, for example, there may be less live streaming etc.**

All children in the Hub need to bring a mid-morning snack and lunch with them please. There is no catering on the premises. Water will be provided in disposable cups for all children.

Therefore, as of Monday 22nd February 2021, we will be offering a daily **KS2 ONLY HUB** from 8.45am to 3pm. The Hub is free from 8.45am to 3pm. **ONLY ELIGIBLE KS2 CHILDREN CAN ACCESS THE HUB.** We will not take any bookings after the cut-off date and time which is usually Wednesday evening at 6pm. The form is sent out via our texting service.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Clwb Cwl): Clwb Cwl will run daily from 3pm to 5.30pm BUT there is a flat charge of £5.50 for after school club (Clwb Cwl). You will be charged at the end of the week for the Clwb Cwl sessions through Parent Pay. Clwb Cwl is open to Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 pupils and our usual risk mitigation processes will adhere. Again, the booking form is the same as the one above and will be text out to parents via the texting service and closes on Wednesdays at 6pm.



I am sorry but we will not take phone or text or DOJO bookings as once bookings are closed staffing is arranged accordingly. Completing a form does not guarantee a place in the HUB, you will be informed as to whether your booking is successful on Thursday.

Free School Meals: Free school meal payments will continue for all eligible pupils so please send in a packed lunch if your child is on the school site.

Breakfast Club: There will be no Breakfast Club provision the week after we return. I will update parents at a later point about the 2nd week.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable People: Children and staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable (shielding) should not attend school until at least March 31 and will continue to learn from home.

Health & Safety Measures: Please be assured that the safety of both pupils and staff is our main priority, and we have robust health and safety measures in place, which are consistent with the measures identified in the most recent scientific advice. These include:

- Staggered start and finish times to reduce congestion around school gates at drop off and collection times
- Effective and frequent hand-washing/sanitising
- Wearing of face coverings (where appropriate)
- Managing movements around the school to reduce contacts
- Ventilation in classrooms via open windows/air conditioning
- 2m social distancing between adults at all times
- Maintaining pupils in consistent contact groups/classroom bubbles
- High levels of effective cleaning
- Staff and pupils to stay at home if they have symptoms, have tested positive or are required to self-isolate
- Effective management of symptomatic pupils / staff at school. Research shows that transmission rates between children and other children, and children and adults in schools is very low; and transmission is more likely in households or via community-based activities for example, sleepovers, children's parties, parents meeting in other homes etc. Children should not be mixing outside of the classroom environment and contact groups/classroom bubbles only apply within the school setting. Wales is still in the highest level of restrictions and the 'stay at home' requirements must be adhered to. It is extremely important that we all continue to follow the guidance around hand-washing, social distancing and face coverings. We cannot reiterate how important this is to reduce transmission within our communities.

Please remember:

- Only one parent to drop-off/collect children
- Wear face coverings (unless exempt)
- Do not gather at the school - leave as soon as you have dropped off/collected your children
- Maintain a minimum of 2m social distance from other adults including school staff
- Do not attend school if self-isolating or you have any symptoms
- Do not enter the school grounds without permission (unless in an emergency)
- If you or your child or anyone else living in your household has any of the Covid-19 symptoms, you must immediately self-isolate and get tested. It is also important that you inform your school if your child tests positive.

For all the latest information on schools including a comprehensive list of FAQs please visit our website www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/education Thank you once again for your continued support and co-operation.

Thank you and stay safe.

Helen Luff ~ Headteacher