

19/05/2022

Dear parent/carer,

I write to provide you with an update on the situation within the school, our plans for after half-term and to provide you with some key dates.

Covid-19 procedures.

I'm pleased to report that there are very few cases of covid-19 in the school at present. Whilst this is a nice position to be in, especially as the GCSE exams have started, we continue to ask everyone to be vigilant of any of the symptoms associated with covid-19. Please inform the school if you have any concerns or suspicion that your child may have contracted the virus and we would be happy to provide you with an LFT testing kit to confirm (or not) the presence of the virus.

The guidance from WG is that schools should transition towards an operating position where covid-19 is categorised in the same way as any other communicable disease:

"With increasing numbers of people vaccinated and everyone's continued efforts, coronavirus specific legal requirements no longer apply. The risks from coronavirus should now be considered in the same context as other communicable diseases risks (for example flu and norovirus)." [Owain Lloyd, Director of Education and Welsh language May 2022]

In light of the above and taking account of associated guidance, the school will be transitioning back to the operating procedures which we had in place prior to the pandemic. Key changes are:

- Re-introducing combined break and lunch periods for all pupils;
- A return to the day-structure which was in place prior to the initial lockdown;
- Voluntary mask wearing for staff and pupils- pupils will need to bring their own masks to school if they wish to continue to wear one;
- Pupils to change for PE. (Pupils will no longer come to school wearing PE kit);
- Pupils to have access to lockers.

We will continue with:

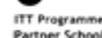
- Separate 'meet and greet' entrances on arrival;
- Promoting ventilation;
- Sanitizing hands and wiping down desks at the start and end of lessons;
- The one-way system;
- Daily cleaning until the end of term.

A risk assessment will be carried out in accordance with Public Health Guidance related to communicable disease management for organizations. We also continue to await further guidance from WG.

Year 10 and 11 GCSE Whitsun Revision Programme.

We have produced a revision programme to target those subject areas yet to be examined. The programme will run from Monday 30th May to Wednesday 1st June. I ask that you support us in ensuring that your child makes every effort to attend the sessions relevant to them. I'm very

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grateful to teaching staff for giving up their time to carry out these sessions. [The timetable can be found here.](#)

Pupil Timetable Changes.

Year 9 pupils will begin their GCSE courses in their chosen option subjects after half-term. To facilitate this, all pupils will receive new timetables when they return to school on June 6th. Year 9 pupils will see significant changes to their timetables, however other year groups will also be affected to some extent and may see changes to their timetables, such as different room allocations or teachers.

Key Dates:

Friday 27th May – Monday 6th June: Whitsun Half-Term.

Friday 17th June: INSET DAY (No school for Year 7-9 only). **Year 10 GCSE Science Exam (Chemistry)- Please note separate letter to Year 10 parents/carers outlining arrangements for this day.**

Tuesday 21st – Friday 24th June- Personalised Assessments for Years 7-9 pupils.

Friday 1st July: Commonwealth Baton Relay (Please see below).

Wednesday 13th July: Gwaun Festival (Details to follow).

Thursday 14th July: Last day of term for all pupils. **Please be aware that the last day for pupils at YBG may differ from other schools.** This is as a consequence of our decision to take our delegated INSET days at the end of the summer term rather than earlier in the year.

Thursday 25th August: GCSE results day for Years 10 and 11.

Commonwealth Baton Relay:

On Friday 1st July, the school is pleased to welcome the Commonwealth Baton as it makes its way around the country in preparation for the Commonwealth Games to be held in Birmingham in the summer. The baton itself will make its way to the school from Goodwick, where it will arrive by boat from across the bay at Lower-Town. The baton will be with us for a short period in the morning and pupils will have the opportunity to be photographed with it. We are also planning a series of Commonwealth themed events and activities for all pupils during the day. We will provide details in due course and look forward to sharing the photographs from the day with you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Paul Edwards