

Ysgol Harri Tudur Henry Tudor School

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow Dysgwyr Heddiw, Arweinwyr Yfory

Tuesday March 9th 2021

BY EMAIL TO ALL PARENTS

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

School Return from March 15th/ Everyone helping to keep everyone safe

I trust that this letter will find you all safe, well and keeping safe this afternoon. I want to make sure that you all have information regarding the return to school from Monday March 15th, so please accept my apologies if this is a long communication today.

Firstly, thank you so much to all of the parents who continue to express their support and understanding of the circumstances that we are currently working in and will continue to work in. We are very grateful for the feedback that so many of you have given and for the very kind and generous comments that so many of our staff have received.

This global yearlong pandemic has affected us all in many different ways. We understand that a number of you remain deeply concerned about the virus. We also understand that many of you wish to move on and get back to 'normality' and to return to our lives prior to lockdown. Coronavirus is still with us, we all have a responsibility to ensure that we make every contribution to reduce the risk of infection and cross contamination for all who access the school wherever and whenever possible. We also recognise the viewpoints of those who think we should try to live with the coronavirus, which is still of course a global pandemic. We hope that the vaccination roll out will soon begin to have an impact.

Safety is absolutely paramount for our Pupils, Staff, Students, Governors and therefore our wider community. We make no apologies for that and is at the heart of all of our decision making. Therefore, thank you for your patience, your understanding and your assistance.

All schools in Wales will have different approaches to the next two week phase, there are also, once again, multiple guidelines to be implemented and considered whilst planning, the most significant of these are health and safety and the size of the school and its total pupil cohort. We are really pleased to invite pupils in non-examination year groups to come into school for a normal full timetabled day. Please be assured that our virtual school continues for everyone up to and including Friday 26th March.

www.henrytudorschool.wales www.ysgolharritudur.cymru



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Virtual school does not run for year groups on days that they are expected in school. For example, Year 10 teaching will be face to face in school on Thursday 18th, Friday 19th, Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd March and not on Google classroom. For the time being, pupils in KS4 may continue to choose to leave the site at the start of break 2b, 2:45pm if they wish, but are of course welcome to stay.

The table below outlines the days and arrival times, that year groups are expected to be in school for face-to-face teaching.

WEEK B	Year 11	Year 13	Year 10	Year 12	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7	HUB
Normal timetabled lessons apply								
Monday 15 th March	√ 8.40	√						√
Tuesday 16 th March	√ 8.40	√						√
Wednesday 17 th March	√ 8.40	√						√
Thursday 18 th March	√ 8.40	√	√ 8.35	√				√
Friday 19 th March	√ 8.40	√	√ 8.35	√				√
WEEK A								
Normal timetabled lessons apply								
Monday 22 nd March	√ 8.40	√	√ 8.35	√				√
Tuesday 23 rd March	√ 8.40	√	√ 8.35	√				√
Wednesday 24 th March	√ 8.40	√		√	√ 8.35			√
Thursday 25 th March	√ 8.40	√				√ 8.35		√
Friday 26 th March	√ 8.40	√					√ 8.35– 1:30pm	√

Health and Safety

- All pupils, students and staff must wear face coverings **at all times in all areas of the building. This includes in classrooms where social distancing will not be possible.** The exceptions to this rule apply whilst eating and whilst outside. Pupils and students should make all attempts to socially distance whilst outside, unless all parties are wearing face coverings. Parents who wish to ask for medical exemption for their child, should do so here via our Google Form <https://forms.gle/HNB8hWoL66KbANLi6>
- Pupils and students will be asked to sit in rows facing forwards in classrooms
- A one way system will continue to be in operation
- Key Stage bubbles to remain
- Hand sanitiser is available in all classrooms and hand washing facilities on entry to school, in addition to hand washing facilities in school toilets
- Pupil toilets will be cleaned and sanitised after every use. Toilet attendants will be present
- Ventilation in all school areas
- We would ask that school uniform is frequently washed
- Pupils should bring their own filled water bottles (refills will be available)
- Pupils should bring their own equipment/pens and be responsible for them
- Sixth Form students are permitted to attend school for lessons and leave the site during the school day

School Uniform

Full School Uniform is expected for all pupils and students from 15th March. We understand that children grow, we have not been able to buy non-essential items (unless online or click and collect) and that money might be tight. Uniform was last worn in December and in the vast majority of cases was purchased by parents to last until the end of the year. The optional Summer Term uniform permits for the wearing of a short sleeved school collared white shirt and tailored black shorts. There are no exceptions to this.

If you would like clarification or help please contact your child's Key Stage Leader or one of our Pupil Support Officers. Our new school based uniform and school shop will be opening shortly.

Coronavirus Symptoms

All parents and carers must ensure that their child/children DO NOT show symptoms of the virus before entering the school. If a child has any of the following, they should not attend school.

- Continuous cough
- High temperature
- Loss of smell
- Loss of taste

All parents are reminded of this essential information that needs to be provided to the school:

1. Are you, your child or anyone in your household a confirmed case of COVID-19/Coronavirus?
2. Do you, your child or anyone in your household have symptoms – a new continuous cough and /OR a high temperature, loss of smell or taste?
3. Are you, your child or anyone in your household in self-isolation?

Access to and from our school site

If parents are transporting/walking pupils to school, parents are required to leave the area adjacent to the site immediately. Pupils may use the 2 bike sheds to meet the increased demand of pupils cycling to school.

We understand that School Transport is scheduled to run as usual. All pupils will be required to wear face coverings.

Can children mix in their school bubbles outside school?

No, out of school restrictions identical to those 'stay at home' requirements imposed on the general population, must be applied rigorously. Contact groups ('school bubbles') only apply within the school setting.

Ongoing face to face learning and potential school closures

In the Autumn Term 2020, there were 11 covid positive cases amongst our pupils and staff which were all due to community transmission but resulted in significant disruption for many reasons and in a number of ways for our school and our school community. We cannot guarantee that we will not be in a position to inform for the need for contact group isolation, partial or full closures. We are doing all that we can to mitigate for this not to be the case and will continue to work with TTP. At the time of writing, I do not have any up to date information on LFT testing for pupils, although our staff are now able to participate in an LFT twice weekly, on a voluntary basis. More information to follow as it comes.

Please find the link to the Welsh Government's current guidance here <https://cutt.ly/LzIUOs0> (please copy and paste this link into your browser)

Summer Term 2021

All pupils will return to school for the start of the Summer Term on Tuesday April 13th 2021 in full school uniform. We will update you further towards the end of next week regarding any arrangements for this.

We would be very grateful if all Parents/Carers would kindly complete a very short survey on the Mentor system by 15th March. The link is here <https://cutt.ly/5zIUgFc>, also in the surveys tab on our website.

Please stay safe and well and take care of yourselves. Please ask if you need help.

With all best wishes



Mrs F Kite
Headteacher



Mrs P Thomas
Chair of Governors