

CROESYCEILIOG SCHOOL YSGOL CROESYCEILIOG

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14 July 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As the end of term approaches, we would like to thank you all for your continued support this year. It has been an extremely challenging year and knowing our parents are working with us makes such a difference. Our students have continued to excel, whether it was through home learning, classwork, outdoor learning or supporting others in the local community. Our newsletter, published at the end of this term, celebrates the many successes of our students. This publication also demonstrates how the staff at Croesyceiliog School have continued to provide a curriculum with breadth and depth that has allowed our students to continue to make progress.

Please note below the final details for this term and the start of next term:-

- ✓ Tuesday 20 July - Summer term ends (**School closes at 1.00pm**);
- ✓ Thursday 2 September – INSET day;
- ✓ Friday 3 September – School commences for Year7;
- ✓ Monday 6 September – Full school return, all year groups.

School day and organisation 2021/22

The WG have published updated [operational guidance](#) however we are still waiting for 'The Local Covid-19 Infection Control Decision Framework'. This framework is to be published at the start of the autumn term.

We are working closely with the LA and below are the organisational arrangements for the commencement of the autumn term. We are mindful that the current situation is very fluid with regard to COVID-19 and we are able, if needed, to make changes to our operations if required.

During the past year we have organised our school in a different way to maximise the safety of the whole school community. A number of these organisational arrangements shall stay in place as they have worked really well and have benefited both students and staff.

The school day will be organised with split breaks for different year groups. These arrangements are set out in the model below.

Key Stage	Reg	Lesson 1	Lesson 2 + break		Lesson 3	Lesson 4 + lunch		Lesson 5
Two year groups Year 8 & 9	8.40am – 9am	9am – 10am	Break 10am – 10.20am	Lesson 2 10.20am – 11.20am	11.20am – 12.20pm	Lunch 12.20pm – 1.05pm	Lesson 4 1.05pm – 2.05pm	2.05pm – 3.05pm
Three years groups Year 7, 10 & 11	8.40am – 9am	9am – 10am	Lesson 2 10am – 11am	Break 11am – 11.20am	11.20am – 12.20pm	Lesson 4 12.20pm – 1.20pm	Lunch 1.20pm – 2.05pm	2.05pm – 3.05pm

In addition we shall divide up the canteens and outdoor play areas separating out key year groups. There will no longer be a staggered start to the school day with all students starting at **8.40am**. We will be expecting students to congregate in their allocated spaces and each year group will have their own school entrance. These will be the same areas and same entrances as this year. This has been highly effective in promoting a calm start to the school day.

Form time

Our students shall be placed in zoned areas for form time only. This allows our wellbeing team to work closely with their year group promoting a positive ethos.

Lessons and movement around the school site.

There will be five, one hour lessons, each day. Staff will return to their subject and faculty areas. Our students will move around the site, however, they will be expected to follow a one way system thus promoting safe movement around the building and minimising the number of contacts between students. All staff will be at their doors during movement periods. We expect full compliance of our new one way system and shall brief students on their return in September.

We shall continue to use seating plans for all lessons as this allows us to maximise the learning of every student. Seating plans are also highly beneficial if the school is contacted by TTP to establish close contacts.

Preventative measures

We shall continue to apply a number of preventative measures, these are outlined below. We ask for your support in the implementation of these. An updated risk assessment will be placed on our website prior to the start of the new academic year.

- ✓ Ensure staff, learners and parents/carers fully understand that any staff member or learner who has any of the three cardinal symptoms of COVID-19 – new persistent cough, fever and/or loss of taste or smell - must not attend the school setting but must remain home and self-isolate, arrange a COVID-19 test and notify the school of this.
- ✓ Students, staff and other adults must not come to school if they:
 - have COVID-19 symptoms;
 - have tested positive for COVID-19;
 - live with someone who has COVID-19 symptoms;
 - live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19;
 - have been identified as a contact of a positive case in the last 10 days.
- ✓ Anyone developing COVID-19 symptoms during the school day will be sent home immediately.
- ✓ We shall expect our students and staff to continue to wash or sanitise their hands on a regular basis. This includes when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating. Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future.
- ✓ We shall continue to promote good respiratory hygiene by promoting the '**catch it, bin it, kill it, wash your hands**' approach.
- ✓ Continued high levels of cleaning and sanitising of equipment and rooms.
- ✓ Based on the information we have at the moment we shall be expecting all members of our community to wear face coverings within communal areas of the school. Students will not be expected to wear face coverings within the classroom.
- ✓ All students arriving on public transport will be expected to wear a face covering.
- ✓ Members of our school community will be expected where possible to maintain social distancing. This does mean our teachers will continue to teach from their box. If there is additional guidance over the summer period this may change.
- ✓ The school will continue to ensure there is sufficient ventilation

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing

Students are not expected to continue with the LFD tests over the holiday period, however they should resume testing on the day before they return to school. If you have not yet arranged for your child to take part but would like this to begin, please use the following link <https://bit.ly/3BcvPfe> This link takes you to the dedicated page on our school website where you will find all resources and permissions regarding LFD testing.

Once the test has been conducted, you or your child must log the test result online at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and need to also, separately, inform the school of the test result by completing the links below:

[Lateral flow device test reporting years 10 and 11](#)

[Lateral flow device test reporting years 7, 8 and 9](#)

Uniform and equipment expectations for September

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It is also a key element of maintaining our high standards as a school. As we hopefully move back in to a more 'normal' way of working in September, we will focus on ensuring all students are ready for learning, by wearing the correct uniform and having the correct equipment. Our uniform is outlined on the following page.

School Uniform

- ✓ Black blazer with school crest*
- ✓ White shirt, tucked in
- ✓ School tie*
- ✓ Black tailored trousers or skirt
- ✓ Plain black shoes
- ✓ Optional plain black v-neck jumper
- ✓ Jewellery should be one small stud in each ear only
- ✓ Any headwear worn for religious reasons should be of plain, dark material

Physical Education Uniform

Essential:

- ✓ Black and sky technical polo-shirt with school logo
- ✓ Reversible black and sky rugby shirt with school logo (rugby)
- ✓ Black and sky skort and/or black and sky shorts
- ✓ Black sports leggings/skins/tracksuit bottoms
- ✓ Black and sky long socks with school name
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Rugby/football boots
- ✓ Shin pads (Football/rugby)
- ✓ Mouth guards (Hockey/rugby)

Desirable:

- ✓ Head guard (Rugby)
- ✓ Protective gear (pads/gloves etc for Rugby/hockey)
- ✓ Black and sky hoodie with school logo

*Our uniform stockist is Pretty Miss, Children's Outfitters, Cwmbran Town Centre.

We will be ensuring that we implement in full key elements of this policy, these are:

- ✓ Trousers must be of a tailored style. Trousers that are made of jersey/clinging materials or jeans, leggings, jeggings or chinos are not appropriate;
- ✓ Skirts must also be of a tailored style and must be of an appropriate length. Skirts that are made of jersey/clinging material such as 'tube skirts' are not appropriate.
- ✓ Shoes need to be formal, all black and leather.
- ✓ Coats should be waterproof and of a style that can go over your child's blazer. Any other outer wear such as hooded sweatshirts or denim jackets are not permitted.

The Torfaen County Borough Council website also has a dedicated page providing information on free schools meals and uniform grants. Be aware there are now uniform grants available for all year groups. For more information please use the link below.

<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/EducationLearning/SchoolsColleges/FinancialSupport/School-clothinggrantsandvouchers/School-Clothing-Grants.aspx>

The school has a supply of pre-loved uniform including PE kit. Please contact us at the school and we will be happy to help and support with acquiring items of uniform.

All our students are expected to attend school with the correct equipment for learning. This must be a rucksack type bag, which should contain a pencil case containing pens (blue, black, red and green), a pencil, an eraser, a ruler, a pencil sharpener and a glue stick. Students are also expected to have a geometry set and a calculator.

Physical education

Students are to bring their PE kit to school for their PE lessons and after school clubs. As from September we shall be using our changing facilities for these lessons and clubs.

Jewellery

In the interests of health and safety, jewellery wearing is limited to one watch and a pair of stud earrings. Facial piercings are not acceptable and it is against the law for students under the age of 16. We do expect students to adopt hairstyles suitable for a place of study and work and as a consequence 'non-natural' hair colourings and patterns cut into the hair are not permitted.

Term dates

Autumn Term 2021

Thursday 2 September 2021 – Friday 17 December 2021
(Half Term: 25 October 2021 – 29 October 2021)

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 8 April 2022
(Half Term: 21 February 2022 – 25 February 2022)

Summer Term 2022

Monday 25 April 2022 – Friday 22 July 2022
May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 2 May 2022
(Half Term: 30 May 2022 – 3 June 2022)

Inset Days (School Closed to students)

Thursday 2 September 2021
Monday 1 November
Friday 3 December 2021
Tuesday 4 January 2022
Friday 18 February 2022
Thursday 30 June 2022

As the Jubilee Holiday takes place during Half Term, schools in Torfaen are able to organise one additional day holiday. This will take place for Croesyceiliog on:-

Friday 1 July 2022

Wellbeing and Inclusion Team

Our students' wellbeing and inclusion is at the forefront of our planning, therefore it is important that we remind you of our Wellbeing Team for September 2021, the key staff within the team are as follows:

Assistant Head teacher Wellbeing and Equity	Mrs H Rawle-Jones
Director of Wellbeing KS3	Mrs R Kent
Director of Wellbeing KS4	Mrs R Edwards
Director of ALN and Inclusion	Mrs K Williams
Leader of Wellbeing Year 7	Mrs L Cook
Leader of Wellbeing Year 8	Mrs A Hurn
Leader of Wellbeing Year 9	Mrs A Burnett
Leader of Wellbeing Year 10	Mrs C Davies/Mrs M Bowen
Leader of Wellbeing Year 11	Mrs D Roberts

Mobile phones

As a school, we would prefer mobile phones are left at home. However, we can understand that in exceptional circumstances they are a useful aid in terms of the safety and welfare of your child during the journey to and from school.

Recently we reminded students of our expectations with regard to mobile phones and they have been brilliant in following these. All students understand that mobile phones should be turned off and placed out of sight in the student's bag. They are not to be used in lessons or in the school building at any time during the school day. Mobile phones seen or heard in the school building will be confiscated, stored in a safe place and returned to the student at the end of the day. Repeat confiscations will require parents/guardians to collect the phone from the school or your child being asked not to bring their phone to school.

We understand there is a large amount of information contained within this letter. We are also mindful that there are planned changes to WG National COVID regulations from 7 August and if implemented these will change our school operations. This letter is based on what we know now. We trust this is helpful however if there are any significant changes then we shall communicate these to you before the start of term in September.

We are already looking forward to the new academic year with enthusiasm and a return to some level of normality within school. We wish all families a wonderful and safe summer.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Lewis
Executive Headteacher