



10 September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted that our students have made a very successful start to the school term. They look very smart in their uniform and are enjoying moving around the school, making the most of our excellent specialist facilities.

When undertaking learning walks, it is a pleasure to see our students fully engaged in their learning. In particular, we are delighted with how our Year 7 students have settled into the life of the school. They are a credit to their families and their primary schools.

We wanted to take this opportunity to update you on a few matters relating to the school and Covid-19 school operations.

School INSET days

INSET days planned for the 2021-22 academic year are as follows:

- ✓ Monday 1st November 2021
- ✓ Friday 18th February 2022
- ✓ Friday 3rd December 2021
- ✓ Thursday 30th June 2022
- ✓ Tuesday 4th January 2022

The school has identified Friday 1st July as its 'Jubilee day'. The school will be closed to all students on the above dates.

Start and end of the school day – parking within our community

Wherever possible, we hope our students can walk to and from school. This minimises traffic around the school and local community at the start and end of the school day. If your child does have to travel by car, please can we remind all parents/guardians of the importance of considerate and safe parking when dropping off and picking up your child. This includes not parking:

- ✓ in any of the bus stops so Stagecoach can collect our students safely from outside the school;
- ✓ on any double yellow lines thus narrowing pavements for our students;
- ✓ in front of local residents' driveways thus restricting access to their homes.

Please wherever possible use our car park which is open and available. In the morning this can be used as a drop-off area from 8.30am. In the afternoon, for safety reasons, the car park closes between 3.00pm until 3.15pm. We would encourage parents to arrive before 3pm and leave at 3.15pm when the car park re-opens. This will reduce any parking congestion in our community which would be very much appreciated by the school and local residents.

Key stage 4 information evening 6pm Wednesday 22nd September

All key stage 4 students and parents/guardians will shortly receive information about our annual Key Stage 4 information evening to be held virtually on **Wednesday 22nd September**. This will provide the school with an opportunity to share key information allowing you to support your child as they progress through years 10 and 11.

Parent Governor engagement event 6pm Wednesday 6th October

Both Croesyceiliog School and our partner school King Henry VIII have vacancies for parent governors. We are organising a joint 'What does it mean to be a parent governor?' virtual event at 6pm on Wednesday 6 October 2021. This will be an opportunity to find out about this important role and meet some members of the governing body and serving parent governors. Following this event, we shall then organise nominations and elections. We trust this event will be informative and useful for those parents/guardians considering becoming a parent governor. An invite to join this event will be sent out prior to the event, however, please save the date in your calendars.

School communications

We would like to thank all the Year 7 parents who have downloaded our new whole school communication app "School Gateway". This will ensure parents have access to their child's timetable and are fully informed of school activities. You will also have direct access to your child's progress checks and full reports as they are published throughout the year. If you haven't downloaded the app yet, please check your email inbox for guidance on how to do this.

Covid – 19 update

Changes to contact tracing and self-isolation from this September

A Welsh Government information sheet outlining key changes to contact tracing and self-isolation is published alongside this letter. I know all members of our community will read this carefully. If we are informed by Trace, Track and Protect (TTP) of a case within our school then there are some significant changes to how this will be dealt with, these are laid out below:

- ✓ Close contacts will be identified by TTP and the school will support them in this process;
- ✓ Only close contacts identified will receive a 'warn and inform' letter. This letter will outline that if your child is well and has none of the three cardinal symptoms of Covid-19 (***a new persistent cough, fever and/or loss of taste and smell***) then they can still attend school.
- ✓ All identified close contacts, for additional peace of mind will be recommended by TTP that they book a PCR test for their child on receipt of the 'warn and inform' letter and then after another 6 days.

New Covid-19 email account

We are asking that all correspondence regarding a student's positive PCR test result is shared with us via our new Covid-19 Account email address: cro.covid@schoolsedu.org.uk

- ✓ The Covid Account will inform us immediately of any positive case within the school community to help support our safe Covid procedures and ensure that self-isolating student can access their school work through our blended learning approach.

Please only use this account for positive PCR test results. LFD test results must be reported using links previously shared. All information regarding LFD tests can be found on our school website [here](#)

Local Covid-19 Infection Control Decision Making Framework

The school are currently working with the Local Authority and Public Health officials to implement this by Monday 20th September.

Finally, can we thank all parents and guardians for your continued support in ensuring we keep Covid-19 out of our school community. Your continued vigilance and caution is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mrs E Lewis
Executive Headteacher

Mr A Davies
Head of School

