



Date:

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you are all well and looking forward to a nice, restful summer break.

The amazing participation and support all pupils, staff and parents have given to the school over the past three weeks has been inspiring and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all.

As promised, I write to you before we break up to highlight the main developments and some planning information ready for September. Our plans are well underway and are based totally on the guidance from the Welsh Government. We have made sure that the health and safety of all pupils and staff is at the centre of our planning. We have used the guidance to amend our current organisational setup to allow a full return to all pupils and students in September. The Minister for Education has confirmed that on the 14th of September attendance to school will be compulsory once again for all pupils.

The school will have a graduated return of pupils in the first two weeks in September so that we can plan, test and improve our procedures ready for a full return to capacity. These first two weeks of term are to plan, prepare and at long last, reintegrate all pupils and students back to school. Year 7 and Year 12 will be prioritised in the first instance so we can deliver the transition that was missed during lockdown. Exam classes will then return followed by each year group in turn. The plan is to have a full return by Thursday 10th September. Please check the table below to find out the date of return for each year group.

Pupils and students will return in the following order in September:

Date	Day	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
3 rd	Thurs	In					In	
4 th	Fri	In				In	In	In
7 th	Mon	In				In	In	In
8 th	Tues	In			In	In	In	In
9 th	Wed	In		In	In	In	In	In
10 th	Thurs	In	In	In	In	In	In	In
11 th	Fri	In	In	In	In	In	In	In

We will once again ensure that we are fully compliant with the Covid-19 guidance and ready to deliver a full broad and balanced curriculum to our pupils. There will also be an ongoing focus on wellbeing to help with recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic.

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Schools have been directed to open at full capacity and to do so with as much “normal” schooling as possible and we will do what we can to make sure Prestatyn High school feels as normal as possible in September.

A full guidance document containing all of the new organisational arrangements on how we will operate in September will be sent out to all parents well before the start of the new term. I will also post a personalised letter to each pupil highlighting the arrangements that are in place for their return.

In the meantime, I have compiled a list of key points below which will hopefully explain how the school will be arranged and the measures in place to keep all pupils and staff safe.

Key points for September

Learning

- The curriculum and timetable planned for 2020/2021 for all pupils and students will be in place as normal when they return in September
- All pupils will be taught by specialist teachers for their subjects
- Lessons will resume with 5 taking place a day
- All option subjects will be taught as planned
- All pupils will be taught where possible in the same classroom, with the teachers moving around the building
- Pupils will be taught in sets based on ability using all available data
- All classrooms will have desks pointing in the same direction to minimise any spread of infection
- Some of the practical aspects in some courses may not take place in the first half term
- PE lessons will take place as normal. Further information on how these will be arranged will be communicated to you as we get further advice
- It has been confirmed that exams in the summer of 2021 will take place as planned. The WJEC are currently consulting on how to amend these exams to consider the loss of teaching time. We will ensure that exam focused lessons will begin for all exam classes after a brief reintegration back to school
- Homework will be set on Microsoft Teams reducing the need for books to be shared between staff and pupils
- All ALN processes and systems will be in operation where possible

Health and Hygiene

- The same rules apply around not attending school if a pupil shows any symptoms of Covid-19
- The school will work closely with Denbighshire County Council on Test, Trace and Protect
- The same strict hygiene measures will still be in place
- The rules on washing hands and hand sanitisation will still be in place
- Intensive cleaning of the school will continue to happen during the day and after school to reduce any risks
- PPE has not been advised in schools except when administering first aid and for our cleaners. It might be that some pupils and staff choose to wear face coverings which will be allowed. The school will not provide face coverings for general use

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Organisation

- Each year group will have their own point of entry/exit into/out of the school. The pastoral team will be at these doors to welcome each year group
- Each year group will have their own designated toilet area which will be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day
- There will be no change to the start and finish times of the day. All pupils will be expected to arrive for registration at 8.40am and school finishes at 3pm
- Where possible classes will not mix. Where this is not possible, mixing will be kept to a minimum
- There will be a reduced menu at lunch in the diner and no food will be served at break time. All payments will be made via ParentPay using the cashless system
- Any pupil wishing to bring in their own food for lunch may do so
- Pupils from different year groups will not mix at break. Pupils of the same year group will have break and lunch together and be able to socialise whilst maintaining social distancing
- All pupils are to wear full school uniform
- Pupils may now bring in a bag
- Water towers are still switched off and so pupils are asked to bring in their own water to last the day
- Arrangements for 6th Form students will be sent out separately
- DCC will update parents on any transport arrangements well before the start of the new academic year
- We continue to encourage all pupils where possible to come to school by walking or cycling
- In the short term, all enrichment activities will be suspended. All clubs and sports activities that take place after school will resume as soon as possible
- No adults can accompany pupils into school. Parental meetings will continue to take place by phone or remotely

I do hope the above information gives you an insight into what school will look like in September and also reassures you that we will be returning to a system that is as close to normal as is possible.

Please email prestatyn.high@denbighshire.gov.uk during the summer break if you have any questions or concerns and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

I wish you a healthy, safe and enjoyable summer and I will write to you all again in a few weeks with the finer details of our planning.

Best wishes

Neil Foley - B.Sc. MA.
Pennaeth Headteacher