



Our Ref: DH/MC

23rd March 2020

Dear parent/carers

Now schools are closed for their normal function and have been repurposed for the care of the children of key workers (those critical to the COVID 19 response) and vulnerable learners from Tuesday 23rd March, we urge you to work with us and observe the following so that together we are doing everything possible to prevent the spread of virus and potentially save lives.

- 1) **Firstly**, we must take account of the most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19. If children can stay safely at home, they should, in order to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

In short, the fewer people having social contact, the more effective the overall impact of the current measures will be.

- 2) For children of **key workers**, if you are able to provide alternative childcare provision for your children then you **must** do this rather than send them to school. Schools are operating as a 'last resort' childcare facility for parents that don't have another option. We will rely on your honesty and clarity in this regard and hope that you would not put school staff and any other children at unnecessary risk.

This childcare facility will be prioritised for children of single parent key workers and where both parents are key workers.

- 3) For children who fall under the Welsh Government's categories of **vulnerable learners**, the above also applies and therefore, while we will be providing care for a limited number of prioritised vulnerable children on school sites, we are aiming to provide support and care remotely wherever possible.



If you are a parent or carer of a child in one of these categories, please be assured that we will be keeping in regular contact and providing support and care wherever this is needed. Wherever possible we will do this remotely, without the need for your children to attend school. However, if it is agreed that a child does require regular access to school, the school or an Education Officer will make contact with you. In this case, please assure your child's attendance as we will then have a duty to monitor this. All children identified as vulnerable will have a named person, which will be either a member of school staff or an Education Officer. If you have any concerns during this period of school closure we ask you to make contact with this named person so that we can support you and your children as best we can.

- 4) **Finally**, can we please ask that you keep your children from socialising and meeting with their friends during this period of social distancing and school closure. It is important that children and young people observe the rules of social distancing as it is for us as adults, and we urge you to stress the importance of this. We understand how difficult they may find this, but it is essential to slowing the spread of infection. Please encourage them to use other remote means of contacting and keeping in touch with their peers.

We thank for your support during this unprecedented time.

Yours faithfully

Mr Dave Humphreys
Headteacher