



Ysgol Bro Cleddau
Cleddau Reach VC Primary School
Deerland Road
Llangwm
Pembrokeshire
SA62 4NG

Ffon / Tel: 01437 899419
E-bost / Email: head.cleddau.reach@pembrokeshire.gov.uk



Thursday 2nd September 2021

Start of Academic Year 2021 - 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing summer break; it's hard to believe that we are now at the end of another holiday period, however I know I speak for the whole staff team here at Cleddau Reach when I say we are all looking forward to welcoming you all back on Monday. I'd like to offer a particularly warm welcome to any new families that are joining Cleddau Reach this term.

It's a particularly exciting time for myself and, with this being my first opportunity to communicate with you all since my appointment, I wanted to express how fortunate I feel to be joining a school with such a strong reputation not only for academic excellence, but also for providing a safe and nurturing environment for children to learn.

My hope is that I will be able to meet with as many of you as possible during the upcoming term; I will be doing my utmost to be outside of the school building each morning and afternoon so please feel free to chat and ask any questions you may have.

Moving forward, I will be looking to hold a 'Parent Forum' event this term as an opportunity for me to formally introduce myself to the school community. These forums will be held regularly throughout the year and will provide all members of our school community with the opportunity to ask any questions you may have regarding whole-school issues as well as interact with other families. Due to the ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19, this term's forum will be held virtually e.g., via Zoom or MS Teams.

Attached to this letter you will find a parent guide to school reopening next week. Please pay particular attention to the new start/finish times for each class and the information around dropping-off/picking up your child/ren. Although we are now able to remove some of the restrictions that were previously in place (year group bubbles, staggered timings throughout the day), we will continue to follow the guidance laid out by the local authority and Welsh government. This means that there will still be some steps we need to take as a community to ensure the children and staff are kept safe.

Please note that these arrangements have been agreed based on the information we have received to date and may be subject to change. If there are any changes (due to local or national circumstances), I will contact you again. The link below contains the latest government guidance for families regarding children's return to school:

<https://gov.wales/schools-coronavirus-guidance#section-69086>

Finally, there is no doubt that the coming months will provide us all with further challenges. However, it's clear that our school community has come together to support and guide each other through these difficult times. The staff team and I are here to support you and your families in any way we can.



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Whether your child is coming to us as a new pupil, as with our Nursery starters, or entering the final year of their primary journey in Year 6, I have no doubt that we will continue to rise to the challenges ahead and ensure that every child is kept safe, continues to and, most importantly, enjoys themselves!

I will continue to be in touch as the term progresses and will keep you all updated with any changes to local or national guidance regarding COVID-19. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office (admin@cleddaureach@pembrokeshire.gov.uk).

Best wishes,

Rhys Buckley
Head Teacher

Cleddau Reach Parent Guide
September 2021

School Reopening

School will be reopening to all pupils on Monday 6th September as planned. We will no longer be staggering the start/finish times for year groups; the school day will begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.25pm (apart from Nursery who will finish at 11.30am).

What precautions are being taken to ensure children are safe from infection?

The published guidance asks all schools to do the following three things for the purposes of prevention:

- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms do not attend school
- 2) Clean hands thoroughly & more often than usual
- 3) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and keeping the school building well ventilated at all times

As we have been doing all the above for some time now, we have a good set of established practices in place to address these requirements.

COVID-19 Symptoms

I am sure that by now you will all be familiar with the main symptoms of Coronavirus:

Use the 111 online coronavirus service if you have any of:

- high temperature
- new, continuous cough
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

111 will tell you what to do and help you get a test if you need one.

If your child develops these symptoms, whilst away from school, it is essential that they do not attend and that you inform us as soon as you are able to do so. If your child develops these symptoms whilst in school, we will isolate your child and call you – your child will need to be collected as soon as possible and you must then arrange a test. Your child will be required to self-isolate until their test result is received. You will then need to inform us of the test result before they return to school

If there were to be a confirmed case with a child or young person in our school, we will work with the relevant authorities to advise anyone who has come into close contact with the confirmed case to self-isolate in line with local/national guidance.

The School Day

The school day will **begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.25pm for all classes** (apart from Nursery who will finish at 11.30am).

Each year group will enter the building through one of three entrances:

Nursery, Reception & Year 1: Green gate to the left of the main entrance

Year 2, Year 3 & Year 4: Main entrance

Year 5 & Year 6: Hall entrance

Parents will not be able to enter the school building with their children– you will need to say goodbye outside, and your child will need to enter the building by themselves. Please be assured that staff members will be on duty to guide children at the start of each day.

At the end of the school day, classes will be brought by their teachers to the entrance they used in the morning and can be collected from there. Once your child has been dropped off or collected, we request that you exit the site as quickly and as safely as possible.

Face Coverings

The guidance states that primary age children are not required to wear face coverings when attending school. There is also no requirement for parents/carers to wear a face covering when dropping off/collecting their children each day; however, if you do need to come into the office for any reason, we ask that you do wear a face covering.

If your child uses the bus to travel to/from school, we respectfully ask that they continue to wear a face covering when on the bus.

School Meals

As before, all pupils from Reception to Year 6 can order their school lunch each day with their class teacher.

PE

We will be asking children to continue wearing their PE kits to school on the appropriate days; information letters will be coming home next week informing you of when your child/ren will have PE. Starting this term, we are asking that children wear the following PE kit:

Top: Plain white t-shirt or house colour t-shirt (available to purchase via the school office)

Bottom: Black shorts/tracksuit bottoms

Feet: Suitable trainers

Wraparound Care

Our Breakfast Club will re-start on Monday 6th September. As was the case in the summer term, places at Breakfast Club will need to be booked in advance; this can be done via the office using the contact details above.

The Simply Out of School Club will also re-start on Monday 6th September, running each day from 3.30pm to 5.45pm. Further information, including how to book a place for your child, can be found by contacting the club on 01656 372910 or emma@simplyoutofschool.co.uk. Please do not contact the school office to book a place at after-school club.

Lateness

If your child arrives after 9am, you will need to accompany them to the office. The office team will record your child's name and the reason for being late. They will then let your child into school.

Equipment Needed

We are encouraging children to continue coming to school with the minimum amount possible. Please note the following can be brought into school:

- A rucksack or book bag that can be closed (and wiped clean if necessary) would be ideal
- Your child does not need their own pens, pencils etc. - we will provide individual items such as this which only your child will handle
- A plastic water bottle with their name on it