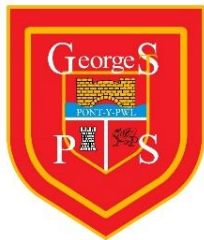


Headteacher/Prifathro
Mr A Brasington
Tel 01495 756436
Fax 01495 767723



www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk
office.georgestreetprimary@torfaen.gov.uk
[Twitter@georgestreetpri](https://twitter.com/georgestreetpri)

**YSGOL GYNRADD A MEITHRIN STRYD SIORS
GEORGE STREET PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL**

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Thursday 4th June 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

You will very likely be aware that the Welsh Government yesterday announced the planned re-opening of schools in Wales from Monday 29th June.

Schools will be open to pupils from all year groups for limited periods during the week with, at most, one third of pupils in school at any one time. The aim of re-opening before the end of this term is to provide pupils and staff with the opportunity to 'check-in, catch-up and prepare for the summer and September'.

The summer term has been extended by one week to Monday 27th July to allow more contact time before the summer break. This final day will be a staff training day so the term will end for pupils on Friday 24th July. The summer break will now be for five weeks rather than six, with the sixth week being redistributed to the autumn term (i.e. a two-week break at the autumn half term).

Attendance when schools do re-open will be voluntary and a parental decision. Children and young people who fall into the shielding category will continue with home learning.

We have already begun looking at ways in which George Street School can operate safely in line with the current social distancing guidelines. The Welsh Government is to release further guidance and we will work to this in order to ensure that all the necessary arrangements are in place before learners return.

The Minister made clear yesterday, in addition to providing a valuable opportunity for children to enjoy secure, dedicated time with teachers and friends, the re-opening at the end of this month will allow pupils and staff to 'prepare and get used to the new normal as it will look in September'. In other words, a combination of in-school and at-home learning will continue in the new school year.

As I mentioned in my last letter, we want to gather your views about home learning and the planned return to school so that we can focus our work for the greatest benefit of children and families.

Tomorrow you will receive a text message containing a link to a short survey/questionnaire that will take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete. You can add your child's name to the survey or complete it anonymously as you wish. We are asking that you complete a separate survey for each child so that we can capture information about specific year groups. At the end of the survey, there are two boxes inviting your suggestions and any questions you would like answered. Please do make use of these boxes to share your thoughts - we know that the current and future arrangements will depend more than ever on effective team working between staff and families and it will be really helpful for us to understand your views and concerns.

Together we live learn and value

The link to the questionnaire is also available on the school website at:

<http://www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk/covid-19/>

Please just scroll down to the bottom of the page.

The Welsh Government will provide further information for schools next week that we will use to develop our plans for re-opening. It would be very helpful if you could complete the questionnaire by the end of next week so that we can take account of your views in our preparations.

I will provide further information about re-opening over the next couple of weeks. As you can imagine, there are many details to be worked through and I can assure you that our staff will undertake preparations diligently to ensure that George Street remains as safe and as welcoming as possible.

Lastly, we are very much looking forward to seeing children back in school and are sure that they are excited at the prospect too. We wish you all well in the meantime.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Brasington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Mr A Brasington