



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

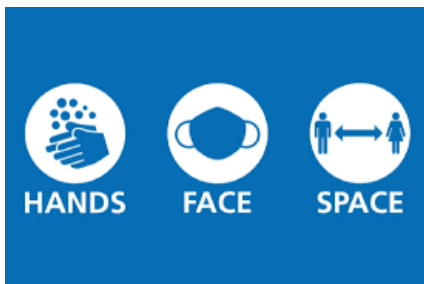
Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 23 October 2020

Dear parent/carers

Just a few quick notices and requests at the end of this half term.

HANDS-FACE-SPACE



As you will know, we are continuing our hygiene practices in school to minimise risk. Staff are also following the national hands-face-space guidance by socially distancing as much as possible.

The requirement to socially distance by 2 metres remains for us all. New signs have been placed around the school as a reminder and when pupils return next half term you will see new yellow dots on the ground in areas adjoining the school as an aid to keeping a safe distance.

In addition, staff will wear face coverings when collecting pupils and greeting/dismissing them from gates and all parents/carers will be required to wear a **face covering** when on the school playground. Yellow hatched areas will also be marked at entrances which are not to be entered by parents/carers so that staff can maintain a 2 metre distance during collection & drop-off.

As you can appreciate, we have a duty to keep all of our community as safe as possible. These changes are being introduced as I am currently very concerned to see many parents and carers not maintaining a safe distance from others at the beginning and end of the school day. For example, by walking to and from school in social groups or chatting together in close circles. While we have no wish to stop parents speaking together, please do so at a safe distance. Similarly, do not be offended if you are asked to do so.

Please remember that having a face-to-face conversation (within 1 metre) of another person, or being within 1 metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact makes you a potential contact for anyone carrying the virus – bearing in mind that they could well be asymptomatic at the time.

The Minister for education yesterday confirmed that over a quarter of schools in Wales have had to send groups of children home to self-isolate for an extended period following confirmed cases in their settings. To reduce the chances of this happening and simply for the health and safety of all of our families please keep to a 2 metre distance.

TRAFFIC / PARKING

Can all parents/carers using the parking at the rear of the **ambulance station** please do so responsibly. There have been two occasions this half term when the movement of emergency vehicles has been delayed by parents/carers' cars blocking this area.

To improve safety on the road at the front of school could all carers/parents arriving by car please;

Together we live learn and value

- Make sure that children **exit cars on the pavement side** and not by stepping into the road.
- **Not double-park** on the road as this obstructs vision at the crossing and holds up traffic.
- Not stop on the **yellow zig-zags** to let children out.
- Not carry out **3-point turns** on the road. Reversing is an obvious extra hazard that can be avoided.

Staff in school regularly talk with pupils about the potential dangers in the environment around school and home and the actions they should take to keep themselves safe. You can help us greatly by consistently reinforcing these messages and showing by example the actions we should all take to ensure safety.

CHANGES TO LOCAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB), who provide NHS healthcare services to our families have asked that we bring your attention to important changes that will come into effect from next month.



When the new Grange University Hospital, in Cwmbran, opens on 17th November 2020, the way you access urgent healthcare will change – it is vitally important that you understand these changes for you and your family.

Please visit the ABUHB website for full information about these changes (<https://abuhb.nhs.wales/clinical-futures1>). A dedicated information leaflet on children and maternity services can be found at <https://abuhb.nhs.wales/files/clinical-futures/clinical-futures-information-leaflets/children-and-maternity-layout-1-pdf/>

Please also look out for a printed A5 booklet which will be posted to your home in the coming weeks.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION (ABERSYCHAN)

All Year 5 and 6 pupils have been provided today with a letter from Abersychan School containing details of the school's transition arrangements for current Year 6 pupils. The school has organised a virtual open evening to provide;

- An introductory video of the school
- Information on each of the subject areas
- A virtual tour of the school
- Views from current Year 7 pupils talking about their experiences so far

Parents/carers can access this at <https://www.abersychan.org.uk/Virtual-Open-Evening/>. If you have difficulty in opening the link you can visit the school website at www.abersychan.org.uk and click on the Virtual Open Evening Tab. If you have any further questions or concerns, you are welcome to contact the Headteacher directly at phillip.collins@torfaen.gov.uk.



HEALTHY SNACK

A reminder that children should only bring healthy items into school for a snack. Crisps and chocolate are not suitable.

Lastly, it was great to see children coming into school this morning with the same high level of enthusiasm as at the start of term. It has been a very positive 8 weeks and I hope that you can now enjoy a safe and happy half-term together. We look forward to seeing you again on Tuesday 3rd November.

Kind regards,

A. Brasington

Mr A Brasington

REMINDER: Monday 2nd November
is a **non-pupil day** for staff training.