

FIRST DAY BACK AT SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS



ST. CENYDD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Aspire & Achieve

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the new Year 7 pupils to St Cenydd School this Friday.

We hope you and your child have had the opportunity to read through [Miss Collins' letter](#) dated 31 August, which details how the school will be running over the coming months and in particular details of the staggered return to school for different year groups. Miss Collins has also sent you a ['Questions and Answers' document](#) which covers many of the queries that you and your child may have regarding how the school will operate.

Return to school for your child

As promised, please find below details about when and where your child should report to school on their first day. To support the new Year 7s we have split the Year group into two halves with staggered arrival and departure times:

Side	Arrival	Departure
1	0830	1335
2	0900	1405

Your child is in **Side 2** and should arrive at school no more than 15 minutes before the arrival time above. Members of staff will be positioned on the school gates and will direct pupils to the **Sportshall** where they will be welcomed by Mr Dickinson and Miss Steer.

Pupils will then be guided to their designated teaching room where they will get to know the rest of their teaching class as well as have a tour of the school. A polite reminder that there are no canteen or water dispensing facilities on site but there will be two 15 minute breaks during the day and it is advised that pupils bring enough food and water to last them throughout the day.

All of these details can also be found on the school website.

From Monday 7 September, the school day timings for all pupils, including Year 7, will be 0830 start (pupils should arrive on school site no earlier than 0815) and a staggered end to the day between 1355 and 1405 (all pupils will leave the school site by 1415).

We remind you that parents/carers must not enter the school premises or school site under any circumstances. No visitors will be allowed on the school site at this time to ensure as few people as possible are on our school premises at the same time. This is a key part of our risk assessment. Telephone appointments and email will remain our main ways of communicating with you at this time.

PE Kit update

Pupils will not have PE on their first day of school, however any subsequent day that they have PE on their timetable they are expected to wear their PE kit to school. On cold days pupils will be permitted to wear tracksuits, but must still wear their PE kit underneath.

Face coverings update

Following the recent Caerphilly Borough Council guidance, face coverings are strongly advised for staff and secondary school pupils where social distancing of 2m is not possible and where appropriate in corridors, classrooms, toilets and communal areas.

Following this latest guidance on their first day of school every pupil will be given a pack of 5 reusable masks in a resealable plastic bag.

What do we do if someone has COVID-19 symptoms in our household?

Please remember that, under no circumstances should pupils attend school if they:

- **feel unwell with any of the identified COVID-19 symptoms.** They should remain at home and self-isolate and arrange a COVID-19 test.
- **have tested positive for COVID-19.**
- **live in a household with someone who has symptoms of, or has tested positive for COVID-19.**

Any pupil who shows symptoms compatible with COVID-19 while in school will be immediately isolated and their parents/carer will be called to collect them and their siblings immediately. The pupil and their whole household should immediately isolate at home as per Welsh Government guidance and apply for a COVID 19 test. The child and their siblings will not be able to return to school until the isolation period is over or on production of a negative COVID test result.

Please inform the school if your child is rightly kept at home because they or another member of your household feel unwell with COVID 19 symptoms or have tested positive for COVID 19.

Contacting the school

Please do not hesitate to contact the school by phone should you have any further questions. Our switchboard will be open from 1030-1330 on Wednesday and Thursday this week, and our admin staff will answer your call and be pleased to help. Other staff may not be immediately available as they will be involved in training, and in meetings preparing for your child's return. However, you can, as always, leave a message for them, and they will do their best to get back to you within 24 hours. From Friday onwards, the school switchboard will be open from 0800-1600.

The staff of St Cenydd are very much looking forward to welcoming the new Y7 pupils to their new school and their first step on their journey of secondary education.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Dickinson

Miss Steer

Assistant Headteacher

Head of Year 7

