

Headteacher / Prifathro: Ms C-A Morris

TOGETHER ASPIRE, TOGETHER ACHIEVE Gyda'n gilydd, ymdrechwn... Gyda'n gilydd, cyflawnwn...

## 30th October 2020 RE: Return to School and Welsh Government Firebreak

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I hope you are all keeping safe and well and I want to thank our whole school community for your continued support during these challenging times. We truly appreciate your patience as events unfold and we have to continuously adapt together.

From the announcement by the First Minister made during the half term break, you will have seen that they have advised that not all year groups will return to school as planned following our two week half term break. In order to reduce the spread of COVID19, the Welsh Government put in place a Firebreak commencing on Friday 23rd October at 6pm to end by Monday 9th November 2020.

Therefore Years 7 and 8 ONLY will be returning to Milford Haven School on Monday 2nd November. School will be as normal starting on WEEK 2 and school transport and the canteen will operate as usual, as we remain with the split breaks. Timetables are available via the WEDUC App.

For Years 9, 10, 11 and 13, they are required to remain at home as part of the Firebreak for an additional week and will be expected to continue their learning from home. These year groups will return to school for face-to-face learning on the 9th November. We will of course provide work for these year groups. Throughout the week, pupils will need to follow their normal timetable (WEEK 2) for online home-learning. Pupils' blended learning activities will include some 'live' teaching using Microsoft Teams, have access to webinar lessons (pre-recorded teaching), and independent learning tasks and activities. Independent tasks may include completing tasks online, like GCSE POD, GCSE Bitesize and other such platforms. This provision must be accessed through your child's Google Classrooms.

For 'live' (synchronous) teaching, pupils will be invited to attend through Google Classroom. Further guidance on this has been shared by Mrs Griffiths on the relevant year groups Google Classroom. We would ask that both you and your child familiarise yourselves with the protocols, as failure to follow these could result in your child being removed from the session. The safeguarding of staff and pupils is a key priority when 'live' sessions are being conducted. Expectations for pupil conduct and engagement during this period is consistent with our normal approaches. In accordance with Welsh Government recommendations, all live sessions will be recorded.

Work for pupils will be available by the start time for each lesson. Our best advice is for pupils to complete the work during the lesson times below, as teachers are available to answer any questions during this time. If this can't be achieved, we are asking pupils to ensure they complete the tasks set by the start of the next lesson scheduled for that subject. Please ensure your child checks their Google Classroom regularly, so they are prepared for their lessons throughout the day.



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## Lesson Times are as follows;

Mon-Thurs	Times	Fri	Times
Health and Wellbeing	8.45am	Lesson 1	8.45am
Lesson 1	9.10am	Lesson 2	9.45am
Lesson 2	10.10am	Lesson 3	11.15am
Lesson 3	11.40am	Lesson 4	12.15pm
Lesson 4	12.40pm		
Lesson 5	2.10pm		

A small number of pupils who have external examinations during the week of the 2nd November will still be required to attend to complete these examinations at the scheduled times which have been shared with them.

Our canteen will be open as normal for Years 7 and 8 during the week. Parents of pupils in Years 9 to 13 who receive free school meals (who will not be in school from 2-6 November) will receive funding directly into their bank accounts from Pembrokeshire County Council during the week commencing 2nd November.

Some important reminders;

- Do not send your child into school with symptoms.
- If they have symptoms they must be tested, remain at home until the result is known and evidence of the result provided before they can come into school.
- If a member of your household is being tested, do not send your child into school until the result of the test is known. Please advise the school of the test result prior to your child returning to school.
- If we send a child home because they have symptoms, they must have a test before they can return. The school must see evidence of the test result as soon as it is available.
- If your child has been told to self-isolate via track and trace or via the school identifying them as a first contact to a positive case, then they must isolate for 14 days even if they subsequently have a negative test result. The isolation period for a contact is 14 days. The isolation period for a positive case is 10 days
- As soon as you have the result of any test please can you forward to the attendance officer jlatham@milfordhavenschool.co.uk inbox, even if it is on a weekend or in the evening.
- Please remember that NO pupils will be given access to the school grounds before 8.20am, therefore it is vital that pupils do not attend school site prior to this time
- We advise parents/carers not to congregate outside the school gates whilst collecting or dropping off children, as this poses an unnecessary risk to both yourself, families and members of the wider community in the event of a positive case being identified.



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I understand that this is a difficult time for many, but it is vital we continue to work together and that everyone adheres to the points above. At Milford Haven School we are doing all we can to protect our school community, it is more important now than ever that we all play our part and continue to adhere to the advice given to us.

In the meantime, I kindly ask that pupils continue to follow the procedures and guidelines regarding the wearing of face coverings in all communal areas whilst on the school site and on school and public transport. Hence, I ask for your support in reinforcing key messages to our children, to not only protect our school community, but yours and that of our wider community. Remember that if you should become unwell and have a positive COVID19 test result within your family during this Firebreak please contact education.coronavirus@pembrokeshire.gov.uk who will contact the school during out of hours.

Should you wish to have further information please see the following Welsh Government guidance: <u>Schools: coronavirus</u> <u>firebreak guidance</u> Also the PCC information regarding the reopening of schools next week: <u>Update on schools</u> <u>re-opening on 2nd November</u>.

If your child is not able to access their google account please email: <u>workingfromhome@milfordhavenschool.co.uk</u> or contact reception on 01646 690021 to be transferred to IT support. Please note that it is possible to access Google Classrooms on a smart phone by downloading the Google Classroom App and also on an X box or Playstation as alternative options.

Please continue to use our website, WEDUC app and follow our Facebook page for further updates and information. We ask that, if possible, you continue to communicate with us via email directing enquiries to the relevant Head of House for your child's house (for pastoral concerns) and Strategic Leader (for subject related concerns) so that the relevant member of staff can deal with your communication when they are not teaching.

Finally, with our first half term over, I have to say I have been very impressed with how well all of the pupils have transitioned back into school life. Thank you again to all of our families for everything you have done to support this positive transition back to school. Together we can do this, please take care all and stay safe.

With warm wishes

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Ms Ceri-Ann Morris Headteacher