



# Radyr Comprehensive School

**Ysgol Gyfun Radur**

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Dear Parent/Carer

## **Re: Educational Provision for September**

Since the wider re-opening of the school on 29 June, it has been highly rewarding to see pupils once again. May I take this opportunity to thank them all for their positivity and cooperation and the way in which they have embraced new and unfamiliar routines.

We have been particularly inspired to hear of their remarkable experiences and activities of the past few months. Many families have taken the opportunity to use this highly challenging and complex time to engage with different ways of learning new skills, hobbies, projects and indulge in creative ways of coping with adversity, realising that learning takes many forms. Furthermore, I would like to thank all parents for ensuring, where possible, pupils engaged with their home learning tasks. We are keenly aware of the huge challenges many of you have faced home schooling your children whilst simultaneously working from home and are incredibly grateful for all your support since March.

In last week's correspondence, I informed you that staff and I were delighted by the decision made by Welsh Government that all pupils will return to full-time education after the summer break, and by 14 September at the very latest. Below, you will see the plan for that return.

On Tuesday 1 September, the school will only be open to staff as this is a mandatory preparation and training day for teachers. The school will begin its formal educational provision for pupils with a staggered approach to ensure that the start to the new term is as calm as possible, and to ensure that the safety, wellbeing and learning needs of all pupils are the highest priority.

### **Wednesday 2 September**

- Year 12: 6<sup>th</sup> form induction and enrolment programme for pupils who were in Year 11 in at Radyr in 2019/20. A separate letter our future Year 12 parents will receive today gives more details regarding how this will work.

### **Thursday 3 September**

- Year 7: Induction day 1;
- Year 12 external pupils: 6<sup>th</sup> form induction and enrolment for pupils joining us from other schools.

### **Friday 4 September**

- Year 7: Induction day 2;
- Year 13: Induction and enrolment.

### **Monday 7 September**

- Year 7: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5;
- Year 10: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5;
- Year 11: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5.

## Tuesday 8 September

- Year 7: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5;
- Year 8: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5;
- Year 9: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5;
- Year 12: Period 1 and 2 with Form Tutors then normal timetable for periods 3, 4 and 5.

## Wednesday 9 September

- From this date onwards all year groups will be in school full-time attending their normal timetabled lessons.

Guidance released by Welsh Government on Monday outlines some important changes to the safety measures we have needed to adopt over the last few weeks. The most significant change is that pupils are no longer required to socially distance in classrooms. Where possible they should, but it is not a requirement. Teachers still need to maintain a 2 metre distance from other adults and pupils at all times. Classrooms will therefore be returned to a more “normal” layout, although all desks will now need to face the front of the classroom, and pupils will not be permitted to approach the teacher’s desk.

In order to minimise contacts, pupils need to be allocated to a “contact group” and these contact groups are not permitted to mix. To facilitate curriculum delivery, it is anticipated that a contact group in a Secondary school would be a year group. This is the approach we will adopt, with Years 12 and 13 being one contact group, so we will have six contact groups in total. These six groups are not permitted to mix and will need to eat separately, so it is therefore necessary for us to operate a split lunch system, with lunch shortened to 30 minutes, and tutor time taking place in the middle of the day to facilitate this. There will also need to be a 5-minute changeover period between lessons to ensure blocks can be vacated before another year group arrives. The timing of the school day from September will therefore be as follows:

	Y8, 10 & 12/13	Y7, 9 & 11
08:30 - 09:30	Period 1	
09:35 - 10:35	Period 2	
10:35 - 10:50	Break	
10:55 - 11:55	Period 3	
11:55 - 12:25	Form Tutor/Assemblies	Lunch
12:25 - 12:55	Lunch	Form Tutor/Assemblies
13:00 - 14:00	Period 4	
14:05 - 15:05	Period 5	
	Arrangements for purchasing food	
	Y8 - Canteen	Y7 - Upper part of Canteen
	Y10 - Grab n Go then Common Room/ outside area	Y9 - Lower part of canteen then Common Room/outside area
	Y12/13 - Sixth Form Café, then Sixth Form centre/outside area Encouraged to purchase food periods 3 and 4. Can leave site for lunch. Y13 are encouraged to work from home when not in lessons.	Y11 - 'Grab and Go' then Common Room/outside area

The school canteen will be functional from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Pupils will be required to bring a packed lunch with them when they are in school during the first 2 weeks. Hot and cold food will be offered from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, but there will be a limited selection initially, with a few hot choices and a selection of salads and sandwiches. We are still awaiting an update from the Local Authority on pre-ordering and paying, and will provide you with further information on this in September.

Over the last few weeks pupils have been permitted to wear casual clothes. The WG guidance makes it clear that uniform should be encouraged from September, so all pupils are expected to be in full uniform when they return to school.

I also need to make it clear that poor behaviour will not be tolerated next year. We still need to abide by social distancing guidelines, and some changes will need to be made to our behaviour management system to ensure everybody is kept safe. Any pupil displaying dangerous behaviour that compromises the health and safety of others will be immediately removed and kept in isolation until a parent can collect them. It would be much appreciated if you could communicate this information to your child and impress upon them the importance of behaving in a socially responsible manner.

We will continue to take measures to keep all pupils and staff safe when they are in school. Enhanced cleaning of frequently touched surfaces will continue, and pupil toilets in the Technology block and the Sixth Form will be frequently cleaned throughout the day. All teaching blocks will be open and a strict one-way system will continue to operate in order to minimise contact between year groups. Pupils will sanitise or wash their hands when entering and leaving blocks, and good respiratory hygiene will be encouraged. All rooms will be well ventilated, and extra ventilation will be added where necessary over the next six weeks.

School buses will be running and face masks are compulsory on public transport. We do not encourage pupils to wear a mask during the school day, but this is a matter of personal choice. Welsh Government have made it clear that attendance at school is compulsory from September, and we will do everything we can to reassure you that it is safe for your children to return to school.

I appreciate this is a lot to take in, but thought it important that we outlined our plans to you before we break for Summer. Miss Robins presented this information in an assembly this morning, and the recording of this assembly has been sent to all pupils. Please encourage your child to watch it.

May I take this opportunity to again thank you for your invaluable support over the last few months and to wish you a healthy and restful break. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back full time in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A D Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr A D Williams

Headteacher