



# Ringland Primary School



Head Teacher - Miss L Bowden

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**‘Compassion, Curiosity, Courage’**

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## **A Phased Return to School**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I trust my letter finds you and your families safe and well. I wish to thank you for your patience and understanding during these times of uncertainty. With the recent announcement by Kirsty Williams, the Minister for Education, informing parents of the reopening of all schools I understand how this may cause some concerns for parents.

I wish to reassure parents that the school has been busy putting plans in place. The plans were shared with our chair of Governors last week as we waited for the Welsh Government's Guidance.

As the Minister stated, the return to school is to allow children and teachers to 'Check in and catch up with each other' as well as prepare for the Autumn Term.

All children will be offered an opportunity to return to school for periods of time to do this.

- From 22/06/20 the Childcare Hubs for the children of Key Workers will re-locate to their 'home' schools
- Every pupil will have the opportunity to return to school once a week for a period of four hours; this will be over the course of three weeks, the fourth week will be utilised at the individual school's discretion to best meet the needs of their pupils
- Pupils will be able to attend in groups or 'bubbles' in a manner that enables siblings to attend on the same day
- All pupils will be in groups no larger than 10 pupils; a number of schools will operate groups of no more than 8 pupils because this is subject to the availability of space, appropriate staffing and access to cleaning
- The schools will be closed to all pupils toward the end of each week to allow for deeper cleaning and distant learning preparation to continue
- All pupils will be able to undertake their distant learning activities in school with the support of their Class Teacher
- Our original transition plans for Year 6 are somewhat changed following Welsh Government's announcement and the related guidance, but be assured alternative opportunities are being discussed and finalised to take place over the next four week.

The arrangements that we have made are in line with the Welsh Government guidance and we, as a group of Headteachers, feel that this is safest way for staff and pupils to be able to return to school.

With Newport City Council's guidance, all the appropriate risk assessments have been undertaken to reduce the risk of infection and cross contamination, but please understand, that the risk has not been completely eliminated.

If you have been keeping up-to-date with Welsh education news you will know that these four weeks are for pupils to be able to check-in, catch-up and prepare for the summer and a continued phased return in the Autumn. The choice to send your child to school is yours. The Government have stated there will be no penalty if you choose not to do so.

School will look very different. The way we undertake our daily routines will be very different. However, what is very much the same are our pupils and staff. By working together constructively over this difficult period of phased return we can ensure they reconnect, albeit in a different way, with the wellbeing of everyone being our priority.

Your continued patience, understanding and cooperation is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Lisa Bowden

Executive Head Teacher

Ringland and Monnow Primary School