

## **FAQ's for parents, guardians and pupils regarding Bryntirion Comprehensive School re-opening June 29<sup>th</sup> 2020**

***My child is a pupil of Bryntirion Comprehensive School - can they automatically return to school on June 29<sup>th</sup>***

No – your child can only attend Bryntirion on their allocated date and time and **you must have provided written consent** for them to attend via completion of the survey issued on June 18<sup>th</sup>. We will not be able to register pupils without your permission.

***I know what day and time my child is due to attend. What do they need to do to get ready for their day in school?***

Please discuss the letter issued on June 18<sup>th</sup> regarding the new health and safety expectations with your child. They need to be aware of the guidelines regarding social distancing, hand washing, new timings of lessons, staggered break and lunch times and limited access to buildings. Please make sure your child understands they need to comply with staff instructions immediately, for the safety of themselves and others, and that failure to do so may result in them being sent home.

Pupils will be completing new projects when in school and no preparations or resources are required.

***What does my child need to wear to school?***

Uniform does not need to be worn. Clothing should be appropriate for learning and exercise. It should be clean and easily washable. No cropped tops, hot pants or skimpy tops.

***My child has dyed their hair whilst in lockdown and it is still an unnatural colour. What should we do?***

School rules still apply and all hair colour should be natural coloured. However, if you have coloured it and can't wash a colour out in time please make sure hair is tied back or up so that the dyed area is as unobtrusive as possible. We expect all hair to be completely back to normal by September.

***What does my child need to bring to school?***

Only bring a drink, snacks and lunch (if you are not buying it from the canteen) in a clean, easily washable bag. Do not bring stationary or books. Mobile phones may be brought to school but should be switched off and kept in the pupil's bag.

***How will my child get to school?***

Parents are responsible for transport to and from school. We are glad that most of our students walk to school and hope this will continue. For those arriving in cars, the front car park may be used as a DROP OFF area only. Cars are not allowed to park or wait in this area. At the end of the day the school gates will be locked as usual; please arrange to meet your child at a convenient location nearby.

***How will my child know where to go and what to do?***

Members of staff will be at the school gates to greet your child, tell them where to go and what to do. There will be members of staff at various points around the school to signpost anyone who is not sure.

***Will my child have any 'free time' throughout the day?***

Break and lunch times are 'free' time and can be spent outside or in the designated 'bubble' area. Pupils will only be able to socialise with the pupils also in their 'bubble'. Pupils will be expected to adhere to the 2m social distancing rule during break and lunchtimes too, even with their friends.

***Where can my child wash their hands? What if they sneeze or cough?***

Each 'bubble' will have a designated toilet to use for handwashing, which they will be taken to as soon as they enter school. They may use this at any point during the day, including after they have sneezed or coughed into their hand. There will also be hand sanitiser, tissues and a bin available in each classroom.

***Will the fingerprint system still be in place for purchasing food?***

No. Pupils will be asked their name and form and their account can be accessed using this information so fingerprints will be unnecessary. Please ensure that children's accounts are credited online prior to attendance as they will not be able to top up their account with cash in school.

***Will there be a breakfast bar?***

No. Please bring any snacks or drinks required for break.

***Is my child allowed to leave school early?***

No. If you are sending your child to school, the commitment is for the whole day. Pupils will not be allowed to leave early for any appointments or if they decide they don't like the activities. Parents are not allowed onto the school site during the school day and so pupils cannot be collected, unless it is for medical reasons (that is, symptoms that develop during the school day).

***What if my child feels ill during the school day?***

Please only send your child to school if they are in perfect health. If however, symptoms develop during the school day the pupil should inform their teacher immediately. The pupil will be comforted, reassured and taken to a designated classroom where parents / guardians will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible. If any injuries occur (eg a fall at breaktime which results in a grazed knee) they will be treated in line with our usual first aid policy, but the member of staff will wear PPE.

***What if my child forgets his or her lunch – can I drop it up?***

No. Parents and visitors are not allowed on the school site during the school day. We would make sure no children are hungry and could lend money for food to be purchased in an emergency.

***Is my child allowed to bring a mobile phone to school?***

Normal school rules still apply so yes they can bring their mobile phone to school, but it is for emergencies only and should be kept in their bag, switched off, throughout the school day.

***What activities will my child be doing whilst in school? Is it worth sending them if they're not having proper lessons?***

We cannot make up for three months of lost lessons in two days. Schools are being reopened this term in order to 'Check in, catch up, prepare for summer and September'. We aren't trying to make up for the lost lesson content; we are trying to re-integrate our staff and pupils into education and work in a way that is safe for all. Our staff have been busy preparing bespoke units of work (years 7 – 10) focusing on wellbeing and cross-curricular activities so that the pupils will have a variety of authentic learning experiences during their time in school, as well as the opportunity to re-connect with their friends and teachers. There will be numerous occasions when they can discuss their lockdown experiences, good and bad, and ask for help with any technical issues they may have encountered whilst trying to access their work at home. None of us know yet what the Covid-19 situation will be in September but in returning to school now, even for this limited time, we are putting measures in place and getting used to routines that could be extended into the Autumn term if necessary.

***What happens at the end of the school day?***

Pupils will be escorted to the school gates by their designated teacher. They will not be allowed to wait for friends on the school grounds or stay for any extra-curricular activities.

***If I decide not to send my child to school, what will happen?***

There will be no penalties for non-attendance this term. Your child will be sent distance learning activities in the usual way.

***I still have a question – who should I contact?***

Please e-mail any queries to [admin.bryntirioncomp@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:admin.bryntirioncomp@bridgend.gov.uk). From Monday June 29<sup>th</sup> you will be able to phone the school as usual on 01656 641100.