



# BISHOP HEDLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. I would like to begin by firstly thanking you for your support of our school staff during what has been the most bizarre of years since last March. We completely understand how difficult it has been for your children to learn in the way that they have, but we have been so very proud of their efforts and their resilience, and this would not have been possible were it not for the guidance given by yourselves, so thank you.

We have just received notice from Welsh Government that ALL pupils will return to school on the 12<sup>th</sup> April following the Easter break. From our perspective this will mean a return to face to face teaching with pupils following their school timetable. Transport and canteen facilities will also be available from this time.

Arrangements for entrances, one way systems and break/lunch zones will remain as they were prior to Christmas – pupils will be aware of these.

## Face Coverings

There is a strong recommendation now, based on scientific evidence, that face coverings are to be worn in class if social distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings are also still required when pupils are moving around the school site, other than when they are eating lunch! Please ensure that your child has 2 masks with them daily, especially if they are using the disposable ones. I am aware that some pupils will be medically exempt from wearing face masks, if you believe this to be the case, please ensure that the relevant Progress Leader is aware.

## Lateral Flow Tests

Pupils in Year 10 and above will continue to test twice weekly at home, before coming in to school, each Monday and Thursday morning. Results should be logged on the Government website – the address is in the information booklet. **IT IS VITAL THAT NO FOOD OR DRINK IS CONSUMED WITHIN 30 MINUTES PRIOR THE TEST.**

WG believe that rapid testing using Lateral Flow tests will support the return to face-to-face learning by helping to detect infection. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged. It will mean we will not have to send large groups of children home. *Please note that if you do opt out of the testing process, you should be aware that in the event of a positive test in your child's contact group, your child will be required to stay at home for the usual 10 day isolation period.*

We are really looking forward to seeing all of our pupils back in school.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy Easter.

Yours faithfully

**Sarah Hopkins**  
Headteacher

