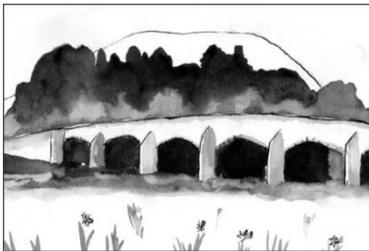


# Llanfoist Fawr Primary School

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11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been really pleased with how smoothly the start and end of the day has worked this week, thank you for your help in this matter. It has been great to complete a full week in school with full capacity and the new 'normal'. Below we outline some additional information you need to know.

## Social Distancing

Please remember to socially distance at all times and do not gather in groups at the school gate, or leaving the school site. We are doing as much as possible in school to keep the contact groups from mixing, please consider how you can also support these contact groups outside school hours.

## Free School Meals

From Monday 14th September, Monmouthshire County Council will stop making weekly payments to parents whose children are entitled to free School Meals. This is because we will revert to the usual arrangement for those children receiving their free meal in school each day.

## Milk

Provision of milk each day for our Foundation Phase pupils will resume from Monday 14th September.

## Reading Books

We will be starting to send reading books home to support our online reading platform Giglets. When these books are returned to us they will be quarantined for at least 48 hours before being recirculated. You may also choose to quarantine books for 48 hours when they arrive home.

## Planning For Uncertainty

Over the last week we have been planning for the uncertainty that this term might bring. We think it's a likelihood rather than just a possibility that, at some stage, we will be required to close one or more of our classes for a period of self-isolation. If this happens, it is likely to be quite sudden and you will be informed by all our usual methods of communication.

Our Continuity of Learning Plan is based on our previous plans of using digital learning platforms and Home Learning Menus. However, Welsh Government have given national guidance and expectations for children's work during this time:

- Engagement in home learning during any period of contact group self-isolation will be compulsory as attendance at school is this term.
- Teachers will lead home learning as previously and will communicate and set learning activities daily.
- Every child who is well will be expected to engage every day.



- If a child is not engaging in learning, the class teacher or I will quickly make contact to understand why this is the case, providing additional support if required.

During the first closure period, we were very aware that every family's circumstances was very different and we still understand that now. Where possible we will aim to set learning activities, which children can complete independently and with little or no parental/adult support. We will also aim to develop a mix of on and off screen activities. However, when children do not engage in school lessons (or do not produce 'work' of a standard that we expect), we will encourage the child to redo sections of work and may make contact with yourselves.

### **Illness in School**

Firstly, if you think you or your child may be symptomatic with COVID symptoms please do not enter the school site. Isolate yourself and your family; book a test and inform school of your actions. Do not enter the school site until you have had a negative test result.

If a child is sent home ill in school time we will advise the parent of next steps. This may involve being tested for COVID, or for the whole family (including siblings) to self-isolate for 14 days.

If a child develops COVID symptoms in school (persistent cough, fever/ temperature, loss of taste/ smell) the child will be isolated from the rest of the class and you will be contacted; the class will be taken from the classroom and the classroom will be cleaned; children will then continue their school day. We will not inform parents of the above until a decision to close the class is made. The child with symptoms, will be told to go for a COVID test. Should the test be positive the school will inform Monmouthshire and Environmental Health and a swift decision will be made as to keep the class open or to immediately shut the class.

Please do not speculate as to class closures via social media as this can create worry and confusion for some parents. At the time of a class closure parents will be told who and for how long needs to self-isolate – many of these decisions will be decided by the amount of contact the child has had with a positive test contact.

Should a staff member test positive, again it will be for Monmouthshire and Environmental Health to make a decision as to close the class, close multiple classes or close the whole school. Once again this decision will be made swiftly and you will be informed at the earliest possible time.

I can assure you we will do everything possible to keep you and your children safe.

We hope this helps you further understand how school is operating and will continue with regular updates to keep you informed. Thank you for being such an integral part of the home-school partnership that we see every day at Llanfoist. Stay well and safe.

**Yours sincerely,**



**Mr Stewart Davies**  
**Headteacher**

