

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am now in a position to provide you with a more detailed update on the reopening of school on the 29th June. I do not, as yet, have all the detail about transport and school start and finish times, but I will let you know as soon as I am able. I do not anticipate students will be in school for the usual school hours, but I will clarify this as soon as possible.

Firstly, it is really important to be clear about the purpose of a return for the four weeks prior to the summer holidays, which is for students to **check in, catch up and prepare** for future learning. We are really looking forward to seeing the students, talking to them about their wellbeing and reassuring them about the work they have completed at home. We also aim to use this time to refine how they learn at home, as distance learning will inevitably continue throughout the new school year.

I fully understand the concerns you may have about sending your child to school during this period and I want to reassure you that my priority continues to be the safety of both students and staff. We will continue to adhere to all Public Health Wales and Welsh Government guidance and while I can reassure you that I will do my utmost to ensure your child is happy and engaged, the decision on whether your child returns in a few weeks is yours to make. My aim is that this letter provides you with the information you need to make an informed decision about your child's return. We will support you, whatever you decide and the usual attendance policies will not be applied.

As I said in my letter on Thursday, no more than a third of students will be in school at any one time. We have, therefore, allocated specific days for your child to come to school throughout July and implemented the following measure so that we observe social distancing and safety measures:

- One year group only in school each day
  - Year 7 – Monday
  - Year 8 – Tuesday
  - Year 9 – Wednesday
  - Year 10 – Thursday
  - 6<sup>th</sup> form( current year 11 who will be year 12 from September and current year 12 who will be year 13 from September ) – Friday
- A maximum of 10 students in an average sized classroom
- An allocated classroom and dedicated teacher per group of students (maximum of 10 per group)
- A specific building per year group
- No school uniform
- No sharing or borrowing of equipment
- Lunch, snack and drinks must be brought in from home (eFSM provision will continue via the Local Authority)
- Access to water fountains will not be available.

This means that distance learning will continue and students will be expected to work at home when they are not in school. However, the day in school with teachers will support the work at home.

To support our planning for the return, we will send you a questionnaire by email and text message, for completion by **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June**. This information is really important in allowing us to plan the return safely. We need to ensure we have the right staff to student ratio and can only do this if we know how many students we can expect each day. If you do not respond, we will presume your child is not coming to school. This is very important.

I will be in touch again once I have transport details, but I would be very grateful if you could complete the questionnaire so that we can plan ahead.

Yours sincerely

**Helen Harding**  
**Acting Headteacher**  
**Lewis Girls' School**