

To our dear Westwood Family,

Thank you for your patience and support since our email on Friday 5th June. We are still awaiting the finalised decisions from Welsh Government. The Welsh Government did publish further guidance at 2.30pm today can be found here. <https://gov.wales/keep-education-safe-operational-guidance-schools-and-settings-covid-19>

Using today's guidance, and through our most current risk assessments and draft information, we would like you to read this email carefully, including the offer and respond to the survey by Friday 12th June @ 3pm.

Your Westwood Offer is opening up our doors from June 29th to Friday 24th July; it is a Check in with school and a Catch up with learners only. It is to prepare for a new normal. It will be for wellbeing opportunities. This offer is unique to Westwood, as each school has to consider its individual capacity to provide a safe return for their learners. It is expected that home learning will be continuing during this period of 4 weeks from Monday 29th June to Friday 24th July, into September and beyond for all year groups.

However, opening of **Westwood will only happen on a limited, staggered basis** for a greatly reduced number of pupils at any one time because as you know, the Education Minister for Wales wants to give all learner groups an opportunity to **Check in and Catch up** with their peers before summer and September. Also, some of our staff are shielding, or live with shielding members of the household, and will continue to do so until the restrictions for them are changed. Unfortunately, this will reduce our capacity to offer any more than the outline offer we have provided, as we are still bound by strict health and safety regulations, Covid 19 restrictions and Welsh legislation. Within our offer, school packed lunches for all learners will be provided which can be taken home off site and **Key worker Hubs will continue, but at Westwood.**

Furthermore, our Westwood Family will need to consider is that school from Monday 29th June will be a very different experience for the children from what it was like in March; they will have this opportunity to see some of their peers and staff prior to the summer break. Please understand that school will **NOT BE AVAILABLE TO ALL PUPILS on a FULL TIME BASIS FOR 4 WEEKS.** The children will not all be in school every day over the 4 weeks, nor for a full day. All year groups will be offered **SOME face to face time in school within this 4-week window,** to complement their ongoing home learning. **We are lucky to live in Wales as all year groups have an opportunity to Check in and Catch up.**

If you decide to send your child back to Westwood, **there will be very strict guidelines and expectations to follow as Covid 19** is still within our community. **You may decide to keep your child at home.** Your child will not be at a disadvantage academically by not attending. You must remember to do what is right for your family and your own individual circumstances. **We will support and respect your decision; as you do ours! We always have your family's health, wellbeing and happiness at the core of our decisions.**

Whereas we are all very pleased to learn that we will be returning to Westwood soon, as you will see from our offer, this will very sadly not be a return to the school we closed in March; **that for us is heart breaking!** We are still facing an immense amount of work and planning before we can safely open our doors to our staff and pupils on Monday 29th June. We have a very short window in which we can gather your responses and submit our risk assessments to Flintshire County Council. Your prompt and carefully considered responses will assist us greatly in our planning and will be much appreciated!

PLEASE EMAIL THE OFFICE ON wwmail@hwbcymru.net with your child's name, class and your response YES or NO. We thank you for your support here.

It is very important that **you carefully consider the offer.** It is **Check in and Catch up sessions for wellbeing purposes only** - online learning will need to continue for the last 4 weeks and into September. **Your responses cannot be changed after they have been submitted,** as we will use these to inform the your child's offer, our final risk assessments, staffing and other Health & Safety procedures, which need to be submitted to Flintshire County Council for approval and to have their authority for us to open safely with the capacity and tight fundamentals we outline. **Of course, if you take up the offer, we will let you know about further health and safety details that will need you to be aware of, and the days and times your child will be offered. At this time, we need to review who will wish to return based on the offer before we release the actual days/times and actual hours we can safely provide. We will always do our best for you! Thank you for your patience here!**

As we get more information over the coming weeks, we will keep you updated. **Please keep an eye out for emails and communication from school.** If you accept the offer, **we will notify you of your times and days on Monday 22nd June.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact school on wwmail@hwbcymru.net or check the guidance link <https://gov.wales/keep-education-safe-operational-guidance-schools-and-settings-covid-19> or here for frequently asked questions <https://gov.wales/schools-increasing-operations-29-june-coronavirus> Any queries or questions on social media cannot be actively dealt with by our Team. Remember we always have all of our Westwood Family's wellbeing and safety, which cannot be comprised, at the heart of everything we do!

Thank you again, our Westwood family, for your patience and support. Team Westwood 😊

Your Westwood Offer from June 29th to Friday 24th July is a 'check in with school and a catch up with learners' only. It is to prepare for a new normal. It will be for wellbeing opportunities. This offer is unique to Westwood,

as each school has to consider its individual capacity to provide a safe return for their learners. Here is our outline of our offer based on Health & Safety.

- ✚ Only 2- year groups in at any one time – these will be split into smaller groups (5 or 6) to allow for strict social distancing rules, hygiene and health regimes in the setting. Due to these factors, masks are not deemed necessary.
- ✚ 4 days per week for one week only – Monday to Thursday, Friday is the 1 day for deep cleaning for the next group of learners to attend the following week, giving 72 hours between the use of resources and settings between groups.
- ✚ The start and end of the day will be staggered with no more than 30% of pupils at any one time on site. Hours will be determined when we receive the survey results- you will receive confirmation of your time slots based on the take up of the offer.
- ✚ We are unable to guarantee family groups / friendship groups if you decide your child is to return.
- ✚ Your child may not be with their current class teacher but will be with a familiar member of staff. Some staff will not be in school due to shielding, including some of our teachers.
- ✚ Family members of pupils who have received 'shielding' letters and pupils who live with a person who has received a 'shielding' letter are not expected to return in the Summer Term. You can check with guidance.
- ✚ If your child suffers from a serious health condition, please check the latest Welsh health guidance or check with your G.P. to ascertain if your child is safe to return to our setting.
- ✚ You will be given a drop off and pick up time which **MUST** be adhered to. These will be finalised when we get our survey responses back.
- ✚ Children will be met at their designated drop off time and delivered back to the gate by their member of staff at their designated pick up time – parents are not allowed on the school site.
- ✚ Your child's temperature will be taken on arrival and when they leave.
- ✚ Social distancing will need to be strictly adhered to, hygiene and stringent monitoring health questions will be asked daily before entering the site. We appreciate your honesty when responding to these health questions daily before your child enters the school site. Any child or family member within the household displaying symptoms will be asked to return home and self- isolate for 14days. If your child has had Calpol or other pain relief that day, we will refuse entry onto the school site.
- ✚ Children are **not expected to wear uniform**. Instead, children are asked to wear **clean clothes daily**, trainers or sensible footwear they can fasten themselves, have a waterproof coat. On hot days, sun cream must be applied, and sun hats worn.
- ✚ All children should bring in a small bottle of hand sanitiser for personal use and essential medication.
- ✚ No other outside items to be brought into school.
- ✚ Lunch will be provided by school for all pupils to take home.
- ✚ We will provide water and tissues for each child.
- ✚ Outside areas will be allocated to groups for play and recreation.
- ✚ Each group will be socially distanced from the other groups and **will not mix**.
- ✚ Toilet facilities will be allocated to the groups to ensure reduced risk of infection. However, only one child is allowed in the block at any one time.
- ✚ If a member of staff or child becomes symptomatic within their school group, they will be isolated and sent home to Self - Isolate and access a test. The remainder of the group may be sent home to Self-Isolate until we receive a negative result of a Covid 19 test.
- ✚ You will have a return to school handbook – a clear code and set out expectations for your child within this handbook, so you can share this before they return to school- this includes a positive behaviour section, if you decide to accept the offer. You will need to sign this before your child is able to return. You will also have sight of any risk assessments we have in place before hand.

Please could you complete the survey by 3pm of Friday 12th June – Diolch ☺