Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to provide further details about how the phased return of children to Cleddau Reach will operate from Monday 29th June. As outlined in my previous letter our main priority has been to ensure that the school building and the new systems we put in place for teaching, learning and well-being are as safe as possible in the current situation. We have also, within the limits placed on numbers by social distancing and directives from Welsh Government, focused on allowing each group within classes to have meaningful contact with their class teacher up until the end of the summer term.

Working alongside teaching staff, our chair of governors and relevant departments within Pembrokeshire County Council the school has developed risk assessments to ensure that our learning environment and school timetable has been safely adapted to the present circumstances and supports the key protective measures in ways which are appropriate to the different age ranges within a primary school. After a visit to the school last week I am happy to report that Pembrokeshire County Council confirmed that our plans support the safety of all using the site.

In Pembrokeshire a local decision has been made to delay the return of Nursery children until after the summer holiday period and their teachers will continue to provide weekly activities and support for home based learning.

All other classes in Cleddau Reach have each been divided into four groups and each group will have one day each week in school to work alongside their teacher in a group of no more than eight. During this time your child’s class teacher will be able to provide a combination of individual support and teaching to cover key areas of learning which are more difficult to undertake at home and also provide clear guidance on the areas which will form part of their learning at home. These days will also be valuable in allowing your son / daughter to see some of their friends in an environment which will fully support the protective measures outlined on the poster above. All brothers and sisters will be offered the same day of the week to be in school. It will be important that each class learning group remains together as a learning ‘bubble’ during their time in school and contact with other class groups will be restricted during lunchtimes and breaktimes. There will also be one day each week where school staff will be able to fully focus on planning, feedback and support linked to home based learning. On that day a weekly deep clean of each classroom and school area will take place in addition to the high level of daily cleaning.

Later this week your child’s / children’s teacher will make contact with you to confirm the day of their school based learning over the first three weeks. They will also ask you to confirm whether you would like your son / daughter to return to school for one day each week to introduce a combination of home and school based learning during the final weeks of the summer term. Staff will also ask if your son /daughter will require a school lunch or you intend to send them in with a packed lunch.
During the final week of term we hope to offer a day for each class where all children within that class can be in school on the same day. Even though they would still be working in their four small groups with teachers across four classrooms there would be an opportunity for a limited amount of safe and suitably distanced work using the outdoor environment before they begin the summer break. This will be important socially for all classes but especially for our Year 6 leavers.

Attached to this letter are some bullet points which aim to answer some of the other questions you might have about how Cleddau Reach will operate from Monday 29th June until Friday 24th July. If you have any other questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office or myself via e-mail and we will do our best to answer them.

I hope that this letter will allow you to make an informed decision on whether you send your child / children back to school this term. It would be lovely to see all of the Reception – Year 6 children again this term to support their well-being and learning and I know that each member of staff would do their very best to make this time as rewarding and as exciting as possible in the present circumstances.

Once again I send you and your family my best wishes and also my thanks for all that you have done so far to work alongside staff to support home learning.

Yours sincerely,
Nick Groves