8th March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

Further to the letter you received on the 3rd March regarding welcoming students back to school, I am writing to clarify the situation for students in Years 7,8 and 9.

At this time, we are expecting that students in Years 7,8 and 9 will be able to return to school on the 12th April, the first day back after the Easter holiday. They will return full time and there will not be a staggered return.

With regard to keeping learners safe, all control measures previously implemented by the school will remain in place as regards to contact groups, taking temperatures, one-way corridors, hygiene and additional cleaning. In addition, all students will be required to wear a face covering in class, in corridors and in communal areas when not eating and drinking, unless there is a medical reason that exempts them from doing so. Students travelling to school by bus or taxi will also have to wear a face covering on school transport. However, we will no longer require students to wear face coverings outside at break or lunchtime.

We do understand that this has been a difficult time for everyone, and we are keen that those students who might need some reassurance are able to speak to someone in school before their return. The Heads of Year and the Student Services team may contact you to offer the opportunity for a face-to-face “check in” session in school. These sessions will be offered on an appointment basis and will last for half an hour. Students will need to be brought into school and collected after their appointment. I’m afraid we cannot invite parents into school but if you’d like a conversation on the phone then please let us know. If you think that your child would benefit from a conversation with a member of school staff before they return full time, please contact your child’s Head of Year.

Although we hope that our younger students can return to school from 12th April onwards, the current regulations continue to ask everyone to keep within their household and not mix with others. We kindly ask you to remind your child of these requirements.

We very much look forward to being able to welcome your child back to the school site. Thank you very much as parents and guardians for all your efforts to assist with your children's education throughout this period.

Should you have any further questions, please contact admin@penglais.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,

cid:image001.jpg@01D7140D.A3B69020

Mrs N M Thomas

**Assistant Headteacher and Leader of KS3**