



Mountain Ash Comprehensive School

Ysgol Gyfun Aberpennar

New Road, Mountain Ash, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF45 4DG

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www.macs.uk.net

S J Evans BA, MA
Headteacher

Our Ref: SJE/ja

8th March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware, Welsh Government has announced that schools will be reopening to pupils on a phased return from the 15th March. Schools have been advised that the key focus for these two weeks before Easter should be to support pupils in examination year groups, with an opportunity for 'check-in' for pupils in Years 7-9.

At Mountain Ash Comprehensive School, we are very much looking forward to welcoming our learners back to school and have planned the following arrangements for the two weeks commencing March 15th, before the Easter break.

KS4/5 pupils

We have planned for the return of older pupils as follows:-

- Monday 15th March - Years 11, 12 & 13 will all return full time until the Easter break
- Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd March - Year 10 will be in school

The rationale for this plan for return is that pupils in Years 11,12 and 13 study subjects which will all be examined through the Centre Determined Grade system this summer, whilst Year 10 will be examined on English language only.

We have worked closely with the other schools in the Cynon Valley Sixth Form Consortium, St. John Baptist School and Aberdare Community School so that sixth form students will have the opportunity to travel across the consortium to have lessons in the other schools as normal. There will continue to be strict measures in place for pupils travelling to other schools.

KS3/4 pupils

Pupils in Years 7-9 will have one 'check-in' day each, before the Easter holidays as follows:-

- Wednesday 24th March: - Year 9 will be in school
- Thursday 25th March Year 8 will be in school
- Friday 26th March Year 7 will be in school





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The aim is that all pupils return full time after the Easter break. However, we await confirmation of this from Welsh Government.

Pupils will have a combination of wellbeing, pastoral care and timetabled teaching in school when they return.

Blended Learning

During the week of the 22nd March, on the days when they are not on school site, pupils will have the opportunity to consolidate and complete any outstanding work set during the course of the last term on Google Classroom. No new content will be uploaded during the week. Staff may offer 'supportive' online sessions to help pupils consolidate or review where they are not teaching learners on site. If all work is complete, learners should be reviewing what has been covered as part of their week, alongside their well-being visit to school which will take place as an important opportunity to have time with some teachers, to ask questions, and as an opportunity to see and meet friends.

Further guidance regarding the return to school is available on the school website (News page) in an updated document 'MACS Guidance for Parents and Carers' or can be reached at the following link: https://macs.uk.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/MACS-Guidance-for-Parents-and-Carers-Final_March-15th-Return.pdf

Yours sincerely

Mrs S J Evans

Headteacher

