



St. Joseph's RC High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

Pencarn Way, Tredegar Park, Newport, S. Wales, NP10 8XH
Ffordd Pencarn, Parc Tredegar, Casnewydd, De Cymru, NP10 8XH
Tel/Ffôn: (01633) 653110
E-mail/E-bost: sjhs@newport.gov.uk www.sjhs.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport twitter.com/sjhsnewport
Headteacher/Pennaeth: Mrs J Jarrett BA(Hons) M.A NPQH

27th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Contact groups in Year 7

As you know, we are regularly reviewing our school Risk Assessment in order to ensure we are doing all we can to keep our school community safe.

I share your frustrations and disappointment when having to send home 240 children each time there is a positive case of Covid-19 in your child's year group. Therefore, during the last week, we have been particularly focusing on exploring whether we are able to facilitate smaller sized contact (bubble) groups.

As I am sure you can appreciate, in a very large secondary school which has been strategically zoned to prevent year groups mixing, there are a significant number of logistical constraints when considering reducing the size of contact groups. With over 1500 pupils and 50 form groups, we need to ensure all pupils have safe access to the canteen, toilets, outside space and that they experience a broad curriculum appropriate to their needs.

In order to reduce contact group size and ensure the safety of all the pupils, there will need to be some compromises.

From Monday 7th December, your child's contact group will be their form class. This will mean that if there is another confirmed case of Covid-19, only the children in the form class will need to self-isolate.

In order to facilitate form class contact groups, there are a number of changes we have had to make:

1. Changes to breaktime and lunchtime

A significant change to your child's day will be that they have to experience either a breaktime or lunchtime in their form classroom. This is so that each form class can safely access the limited outside space we have available.

Please see the table below for more information.

'Serving God Through Learning Together'

'Yn gwasanaethu Duw trwy ddysgu gyda'n gilydd'

St. Joseph's High School is a Registered Charity. Charity No: 242380

Mae Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant yn elusen cofrestredig. Rhif 242380

FORM	WEEK 1 WHEN	WEEK 1 WHERE	WEEK 2 WHEN	WEEK 2 WHERE
J	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G1 OUTSIDE - QUAD	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE – QUAD IN CLASS - G1
O	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS – CHAPEL OUTSIDE - FRONT OF SCHOOL	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - FRONT OF SCHOOL IN CLASS - CHAPEL
S	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G2 OUTSIDE - YARD (TECHNOLOGY)	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - YARD (TECHNOLOGY) IN CLASS - G2
E	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G16 OUTSIDE - YARD (SCIENCE)	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - YARD (SCIENCE) IN CLASS - G16
P	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - FRONT OF SCHOOL IN CLASS - G3	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G3 OUTSIDE - FRONT OF SCHOOL
H	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - YARD (TECH) IN CLASS - G4	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G4 OUTSIDE - YARD (TECH)
T	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE - YARD (SCIENCE) IN CLASS - G5	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G5 OUTSIDE - YARD (SCIENCE)
V	BREAK LUNCH	OUTSIDE – QUAD IN CLASS - G15	BREAK LUNCH	IN CLASS - G15 OUTSIDE - QUAD

2. Changes to canteen facilities

As your child will not be able to access the canteen, if they wish to buy lunch, they will be able to pre-order their lunch each day during their morning form period. We are not able to offer food at breaktime, so your child will have to bring to school any snacks and drinks they want for their break.

3. Changes to class groupings

As you are aware, for most subjects, your child is taught as a form class. The exceptions being mathematics, games and PE. From Monday 7th December, your child will be taught in their form class for all of their subjects including mathematics, games and PE.

‘Serving God Through Learning Together’

‘Yn gwasanaethu Duw trwy ddysgu gyda’n gilydd’

St. Joseph’s High School is a Registered Charity. Charity No: 242380

Mae Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant yn elusen cofrestredig. Rhif 242380

In order to maintain the integrity of each contact group, when in school, your child must not socialise with any pupils outside of their form class. I understand your child may have made friendships with other pupils and may be disappointed about this. However, this is the only way of ensuring that, if there is another confirmed case of Covid-19 in your child's year group, only the form class will be required to self-isolate.

Mr James, Head of Year 7, will be contacting you and your child next week to confirm the arrangements for Monday 7th December.

I am grateful for your continued support as we work collectively to keep everyone safe, while providing continuity in learning.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jarrett
Headteacher