



**Powys County Council
County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG**

31 December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

The new Spring term is nearly upon us and after careful consideration we can now confirm the council's arrangements for returning to school settings after the Christmas holidays.

It has been decided that most pupils will return to school as planned on Wednesday, 6 January, with slight changes for pupils in year 10 and above.

All school staff will be in schools for INSET and planning and preparation days on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 January.

These will be staff only days to allow schools and early years settings to review their risk assessments, processes and systems to ensure they can welcome learners back safely.

On Wednesday 6 January, all primary pupils and learners in years 7, 8 and 9 are to return to school as planned.

Pupils in year 10, 11, 12 and 13 will not return as planned but instead begin blended learning from 6 January. These learners will return to school on 11 January unless we are advised differently between now and then.

The delayed return for this group of pupils has been agreed in light of the latest guidance and the tier 4 restrictions in Wales.

We are still very much in the grip of this pandemic so parents should continue to be on their guard for coronavirus and keep unwell children away from school and early year settings, even if symptoms are mild.

We are urging every family to follow the latest advice so that our schools can make a good start on Wednesday 6 January 2021 and be as safe as possible.

We would like to wish everyone a happy new year and we look forward to seeing children and young people back in schools in January.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Phyl Davies
Cabinet Member for Education and Property

Geraint Rees
Strategic Lead for Education

Lynette Lovell
Interim Chief Education Officer