**Torfaen PRU**

**Considerations/challenges for re-opening provision for more pupils**

**Staffing:**

**Current staffing:**

**SLT** – HT, DHT, ALNCo, Pastoral lead

*One member of SLT has child care considerations, one has underlying health issues (working from home)*

**Teachers:**

3 x full time

3 x PT contracts (0.5/0.6)

*2 PT teachers have significant child care issues currently*

**Grade 6:**

7 – (One of whom is on secondment to LA so 6 currently)

*3 members of staff currently working from home (underlying conditions)*

**Grade 5:**

8

*1 member of staff signed off, 1 working from home (health concerns), 2 with child care issues*

**Support staff**

Bursar

Admin assistant

Caretaker/cleaner

**Approx 30% 0f staff currently not available for work at a PRU base.**

**Buildings:**

**Ty Glyn**

One entrance (excluding fire exits)

All rooms are accessed off a narrow corridor that runs the length of the building. The corridor is 1.03 metres wide. Maintaining social distancing guide lines will be very difficult if/when pupil numbers increase. It would not be possible to introduce a one way system unless fire exits are used and staff/pupils walk around the exterior of the building and enter through the front entrance or a fire exit at each end of the building. I think this would be very problematic considering the nature of our pupils needs. Accessing toilets would also need careful thought. There is only 1 boys/girls toilet in the building. There is one disabled toilet that staff use. These facilities are located in the centre of the building.

Classrooms – If social distancing guidelines apply, then there are:

* Four that could accommodate 3 pupils max with 1 or 2 members of staff.
* Three that could accommodate 2 pupils max with 1 or 2 members of staff
* One that could accommodate 1 pupil and 1 member of staff.

Dining room – one that could accommodate max of 3 pupils with two members of staff

Kitchen – one, 3 people max

Staffroom – the photocopier and tea/coffee/microwave facilities are housed here. 3 members of staff max could safely use this room at any given time.

Outside space – We are able to use the playing field when the weather permits for sport/games. The PRU yard could accommodate a small number of tables for pupils to work outside (some shade available). This would need careful thought though as would be difficult for some pupils to maintain social distancing expectations.

Given the nature of the presenting behaviours of pupils, I would consider 6-8 to be the maximum number we could accommodate at any one time. The big caveat being that this would be very much dependent on individual pupils needs/presenting behaviours. We would need to consider the way we group pupils extremely carefully. Keeping some pupils in classrooms and preventing them from ‘congregating’ in the corridor is always a challenge on a day to day basis under normal circumstances.

We would also need to consider those pupils who are on the Ty Glyn register but do not attend at the building because they have 1:1 packages – time in school, community farm, horse land, PEAK, tuition in community buildings such as the CEC and the Power station.

**New Inn base**

If staffing allowed, I think we could offer provision to 4-6 pupils with 2 staff. Would need careful planning with regard to accessing kitchen/toilet facilities.

**The Nook**

Extremely small rooms, therefore I think a max of 2/3 pupils and 2 staff at one time. Again, dependent on presenting behaviours.

**Transport**

With the exception of a few, all pupils who attend Ty Glyn, New Inn and the Nook are transported (individually or in small groups) by taxi/mini bus (all contracted out.) Currently, taxis are only offering/able to carry 1 pupil. This would need careful consideration and planning if pupil attendance increases – with cost implications. I do not feel it acceptable to ask staff to transport pupils under the current circumstances.

**Parents/carers/pupils**

Provision was initially offered to 13 pupils who we deemed most vulnerable. 5 pupils have currently accessed.

There is clearly a high level of anxiety amongst parents and pupils currently. A number of our pupils live with Grandparents, some are extremely aware of the risks associated with age/medical conditions and have not accessed provision that has been offered because of this.

We are maintaining regular contact with all our families, many on a daily basis. Some are difficult to reach, staff are being persistent, reporting any concerns regularly to our safeguarding leads to follow up. Engagement with work tasks amongst pupils is variable, H & W is obviously paramount. We are also in daily contact with social care re several of our pupils. We are currently working with two pupils from special schools (Talochor and Mounton house). We would need to think carefully about how we continue working with these pupils if more on roll pupils return.

**Cleaning**

We have 1 caretaker/cleaner who works at Ty Glyn and the Nook. He is 70 years old. He is currently very happy to come in to work when there are no pupils/staff. He is carrying out cleaning duties early am and late pm. Cleaning throughout the day if more pupils begin to access with need careful thought and possibly additional staff.

Tuition pupils – apart from a group of pupils who receive tuition at the Nook (pm), tuition pupils receive 1:1 support from a member of staff in a community building when possible or at their home if not. Currently no tuition is taking place on a face to face basis. How would we reintroduce this? At the current time, I would not expect staff to enter/work in the family home.

All our pupils have differing needs and present in very differing ways. This, I think would need to be our overriding consideration when thinking about which pupils could/should return to base provision.