



YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG BRYN-Y-MÔR

Pennaeth/ Headteacher: Mrs Elin Wakeham

Mewn undod mae nerth /Stronger together

04/01/2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! I hope that you all had a restful and happy Christmas break.

Please read this letter carefully as there is a lot of important information that you will need to be aware of.

Staffing concerns and illnesses

I am sure that you are aware from the news that staff shortages are an issue in many sectors across the country due to illness including covid. Currently, at our school, staffing ratios are safe and we can safely re open the school for **all pupils on Thursday January 6th 2022**. There are no changes to the start or to the end of the school day. The school's gate will open at 8.35am.

As we progress into the term, hopefully staffing ratios will remain good. However, all parents need to be aware that should staffing ratios drop, and we are unable to find adequate cover from external agencies, we may need to move some classes or departments to home learning. This move will only be taken as a last resort. Staff have prepared work and lessons for pupils should we need to take this decision and information on these lessons will be shared when necessary.

As staffing levels are currently good – **Breakfast club will now reopen Monday 10th January**.

We will review the Clwb Gofal Provision towards the end of the week after pupils have returned to school.

Mr Leyshon will remain teaching in Reception instead of Mrs Harris Jenkins for the time being.

Covid 19

To ensure that the school remains a safe place for pupils and staff, it is essential that we all remain vigilant to the symptoms of Covid 19. **Please do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:**

The three key symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature: this means that they feel hot to touch on their chest or back
- a new, continuous cough: this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste: this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

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If your child has any of these three key symptoms, please do not send your child to school and arrange a PCR test for them immediately. You can book a PCR test online through the NHS website at [gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or by calling 119. Anyone else in your household with any of these three key symptoms should also isolate and take a PCR test.

There are wider symptoms to covid 19 such as diarrhoea or aches and pains in joints and flu like symptoms. If you are in any doubt, the safest course of action would be to book a PCR test to eliminate concerns and to protect the school community.

Rules around self-isolation and being recognised as a close contact of Covid 19.

From 22 December, the position on self-isolation has changed. All over 18s who are fully vaccinated (having received two full doses of an approved vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine) and children aged 5 to 17 will be asked to **take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days** if they are contacts of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If your child is recognised as a close contact, TTP and the school will contact you to inform you.

Here is a link to find where the nearest location for you to collect LFTs. Most are chemists and libraries. We do have some tests in school. We have limited stock but they can be requested by parents in an emergency.

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

You can also order LFTs online.

Pupils do not need to self-isolate unless they have a positive lateral flow test or develop symptoms. In either of these cases, you should book a PCR test as soon as possible.

Following a confirmed covid positive case, if they are healthy, pupils and staff can now return to school after 7 days from the positive PCR test.

Additional Information

In school we are following advice given to us in the framework to control the spread of covid. This includes:

- Maintaining the one way system
- Regular handwashing
- Online assemblies
- Ensuring that pupils do not mix unnecessarily
- Classrooms that are well ventilated and monitored (using the CO2 monitors). Class set up will ensure there is a seating plan for the older pupils (Yrs 3 to 6).
- Staff will wear masks and keep a social distance from each other.

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- PE and sport lessons will go ahead as usual in well ventilated areas and outside.
- Activities such as school visits, music lessons and outdoor learning (such as forest schools) will continue.
- There will be no changes to the provision of hot food at lunch time.

We ask that parents wear masks on the yard when collecting their children.

By working together, I hope that we will have a full term of education, in school, for all our pupils.

Yours Sincerely

E. Wakeham

Elin Wakeham

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