



YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG BRYN-Y-MÔR

Pennaeth/ Headteacher: Mrs Elin Wakeham

Mewn undod mae nerth /Stronger together

29.01.21

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope that you are all keeping well. I am sure that we are all responding to this current lockdown in many different ways but I think that for many the adjective 'difficult' is a common one. We all face very many different challenges with a lot of uncertainty still ahead of us. Although there is some speculation in the news, we as a school have currently not been given any updates on when pupils will return to school.

Remote learning questionnaire

Thank you to those who responded to the remote learning questionnaire. We received 49 responses. As a school we are really trying to find a balance that suits all parents. Overall, parents were happy with the level of work being provided.

5. Rwyf yn fodlon gyda'r gwaith sydd wedi'i osod i fy mhleintyn. I am satisfied with the work set for my child

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Cytuno'n Gryf/ Strongly Agree	14
● Cytuno / Agree	29
● Anghytuno / Disagree	6
● Anghytuno'n gryf / Strongly D...	0



Feedback we have received from parents include:

"I don't feel like we need support, I'm just glad you have an understanding that every home has different circumstances. Myself and my husband both work full time, so there are days when my child cannot complete any learning."

"I sometimes find it very difficult to get all of the work tasks completed with the children as they are both in different year groups and are both of varying ability levels with regards to their work. We sometimes find that we are doing some of the work on the weekends as well just to fit it in around our work commitments as well. Also I would like to thank the staff for their continued help and support in providing learning resources and work for the children at this difficult time as I appreciate it is difficult for everybody."

"More live sessions would be nice."

"Find one note very clunky, and not easy to use. Difficult to access some work on the tablets"

"I feel the teachers / school have found a perfect balance, which is a very difficult task. The girls like the live sessions, but at a practical level the videos recorded on the school website give more flexibility in terms of having time to do the tasks and watching the videos. I find

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the tasks / videos very creative and like the variety ie - artwork, cooking etc. I feel the teachers are doing great in a new and very different era."

"I'd like less to do each day, to allow for catching up or taking part in some other learning things that are on offer, and maybe work in advance or deadlines to be the following week etc."

As a school we understand that live learning does not always suit all families, and some families would appreciate more live learning sessions for various different reasons. It is the same with the various platforms. OneNote or TEAMS has suited some pupils but not others.

It is also a balancing act for staff as they try to plan and prepare activities that are available when parents and pupils can/ would like to access then, live learning (these are done in small groups in foundation phase as large groups don't seem to work with the younger age groups – therefore live learning takes longer) as well as providing feedback to pupils on work submitted, doing well being check ins and running the emergency child care provision.

Parents have found the timetables useful and have provided structure for many parents and pupils. However, all staff understand that they are **there as a guideline and should be used by families in line with their own family dynamic and wellbeing.** This is also the case for completing tasks set.

If you require extra activities, they can be found on your child's class page including a range of online welsh reading books. If you feel that would like hard copies of items, please contact the class teacher or the office for you to be able to collect from school. Please give a minimum of 48hrs notice during the school week.

From the questionnaire the majority of parents felt that a blend of set activities, pre-recorded lessons and live learning was the best option. (See the red section of the pie chart)

12. Beth ydych chi'n credu yw'r dull dysgu orau i'ch plentyn wrth ddysgu o hirbell? Which learning style best suites your child while distance learning?

[More Details](#)

● Sesiynau byw / Live session	17
● Sesiynau wedi recordio / pre r...	5
● Taflenni gwaith wedi'u rhannu ...	6
● Cyfuniad o'r dulliau uchod/ co...	36



There were some concerns with regards to supporting the welsh language especially with the younger age groups. This week we have been informed that we have received a small grant to provide support for the 0-5

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age range. As soon as it is possible we will be providing more live learning sessions for nursery and reception children. When children return to school we will be providing catch up sessions with small groups of pupils.

Wellbeing of children is definitely a concern for parents and staff. It seems that social interaction is the main element that children are missing at the moment. Parent's comments include:

"My child is struggling not seeing her friends and the routine of school as she loves school!!"

"My concerns are likely shared by parents all across Wales at the moment, with regards to their mental well-being. I'm in no doubt that the pandemic is affecting them greatly. I believe my children have lost confidence. The first time the schools were shut for 5-6 months was incredibly hard on them, but I have noticed that a second time around, they have appeared to struggle more."

We are very aware of wellbeing being an issue for most. Next week, the focus of most lesson will be on *Children's Mental Health Week 2021*. Next week, Mrs Bassett will start a 'Clwb Cymdeithasu' (Social Club - starting with year 6) where pupils will get to meet (virtually) to socialize and have some fun.

We will take into consideration your comments and try to act on them whilst being **mindful of pupils, staff and parents wellbeing**. We are already planning on increasing the amount of live learning as of next week, however, if your child is unable to attend all the planned sessions – **please do not worry**. As I have already stated, staff will provide a mixture of activities to support pupils at home that can be accessed at a time that suits your family. Unfortunately, due to the increased number of live learning sessions there may be some clashes between sibling times /year groups. Staff have tried to manage so that there is as least clash as possible.

We will work together to support our children through this hard and difficult time.

INSET

The planned INSET day will go ahead on Friday 12th of February therefore there will be no remote learning on this day. Staff will be taking part in a virtual INSET day.

Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr

Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr have released a video that is there to begin the transition for year 6 pupils. Here is the link for you to see the video.

<https://www.yggwyr.org.uk/en/gwyr-gallery/>

Staff

In both what is good news and bad news, Mrs Kirsty Jelf and Mrs Jane Barraclough are leaving the school to start new jobs! Mrs Jelf has already left us at the start of January and Mrs Barraclough will be leaving us half term February. We wish both members of staff luck in their new positions and that we thank them both for the valuable and committed support to the school, staff, pupils and parents over the years. We will miss their

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presence in school.

As ever, if you have any concerns or need to support, contact the office or e mail your teacher.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

E. Wakeham

Elin Wakeham
Head teacher

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