



Ysgol Gynradd Llanfair-ym-Muallt
Builth Wells Primary School

9th September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I'm sure you will be keeping an eye on the news and the latest developments in relation to the Covid virus in Wales. Please be assured that we receive very frequent updates from Powys County Council and Welsh Government and we are working with them to try to ensure we provide a Covid-secure environment. It is clear though, that we all share responsibility for making sure we are doing everything we can to keep the virus at bay. It is in everyone's interests that we remain vigilant and act responsibly.

As a school community, we must actively engage with the Test, Trace and Protect (TTP) Scheme in order to try to keep everyone safe.

Step 1 – If you have concerns that someone in your house is displaying symptoms:

It is essential that any pupil, teacher or staff member who has COVID-19 symptoms, or who shares a household with someone who has symptoms, does not attend the school and follows the self-isolation guidance. This means that the individual with symptoms must self-isolate for 10 days and all other household members must also self-isolate for 14 days.

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- a high temperature: this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough: this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste: this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Step 2 – You must request a Covid-19 test via the link below:

<https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-covid-19-test> (Ctrl+Click)

Alternatively, if you are unable to access the online booking portal, you can call 119 for advice.

We are led to believe that it is worth checking the website again after 9:00 a.m. if you are only offered a test at a location a long way from home. It seems appointment times are refreshed each morning.

Continued below

Step 3 – Tell the School

If you do need to keep your child off school because he / she or someone in the household has Covid-19 symptoms and requires a test, you must inform the school by phone or email. This information will be handled sensitively and in line with GDPR guidelines. Please remember to keep siblings at home as well.

Children may return to school when:

A negative test result is received and there are no longer any symptoms being displayed so there is no longer any need to self-isolate.

If a negative test result is received but a child still has strong symptoms please call us to discuss.

You will be asked to provide evidence of a negative test result before your child can return to school.

If a positive result is confirmed it is essential you contact the school immediately. Again, this information will be treated sensitively and in line with GDPR guidelines. We will contact the Local Authority for advice and they will provide us with guidance, in consultation with the TTP Team, as to how to proceed.

We may be asked to share contact details of children who are likely to have been in contact with an individual who has tested positive with the Test, Trace and Protect Scheme. We have been informed by Powys County Council that we must share those contact details with TTP, and there is no protection under GDPR for those who state that they do not want this to happen (please see attached explanation for more details).

What to do if you're not sure:

If an individual has none of the main symptoms of Covid-19 but does have other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested or to self-isolate and can attend school. Please provide hankies so they can 'Catch It – Kill It – Bin It'. A phone call to school is appreciated just to keep us in the loop.

If he / she has 'a bit of a cough' but no temperature it can be harder to know what to do, especially if they are prone to coughs and colds at this time of year. If you believe that the cough is not characteristic of a 'Covid' cough (see symptoms above), please send your child to school and email or telephone the office to explain this to us so that we can also 'keep an eye' on your child.

The usual rules apply for all other illnesses, e.g. for stomach bugs, please keep the child off school for 48 hours after the last time they vomited.

We are here to help and advise you so please call us and ask if you are unsure. If we do not know an answer to a question we will endeavour to find out and get back to you as soon as we can. We are dedicated to trying to ensure we keep everyone in our school community as safe as possible.

Sincerely,

G. Cornelius

GDPR – What you need to know about the Test, Trace and Protect Scheme

The processing, which includes the gathering, recording and sharing, of personal data is taken in line with data protection legislation which itself provides a number of lawful basis to be relied upon for such processing to be considered lawful. Consent is not the only lawful basis that organisations may rely upon, and in fact where the use of personal data is in the deliverance of public tasks carried out in the delivery of services and duties in the public interest, consent is considered to be the least appropriate lawful basis to be relied upon. The Information Commissioner has produced some guidance for individuals in respect of consent <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/does-an-organisation-need-my-consent/>

Personal data being processed under the NHS Test, Trace and Protect Strategy is done so on the basis of GDPR Article 6 (e) we need it to perform a public task. Where information relating to health conditions is used then GDPR Article 9 (2) (h) Provision of preventative or occupational medicine, health or social care or treatment, or the management of health or social care systems and GDPR Article 9 (2) (i) Public Health are relied upon. Some of the legislation which supports reliance on the above GDPR articles are:

- Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984
- The Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002
- The Health Protection (Local Authority Powers) (Wales) Regulations 2010
- Coronavirus Act 2020
- The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020

Under “ The Health Protection (Local Authority Powers) (Wales) Regulations 2010 “ Regulation 3 the head teacher of a school can be required to provide the names, addresses and contact telephone numbers of all pupils in their school, or any group of pupils attending that school, when certain circumstances apply. For example, when there is reason to believe that there is or has recently been a person on the schools premises who is or may be infected or contaminated. Coronavirus/Covid-19 falls into that category.

Therefore, the School must provide the details of pupils irrespective of whether the parent has advised the school that the information cannot be shared outside of the school or has advised explicitly that it cannot be shared with the TTP scheme. As a school, we would be committing a criminal offence if we refused to provide the information when asked for it. Written consent is not required for this.