

Ysgol Gynradd Llanfair-ym-Muallt Builth Wells Primary School



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5th January 2021

Ionawr 5eg 2021

Important Update

Annwyl Rieni / Warchodwyr

Dear Parents / Carers,

You will be aware that yesterday afternoon, Powys County Council announced that the decision had been taken not to fully reopen schools until 11th January at the earliest. Yesterday evening, Welsh Government announced that all schools will move to online learning until at least Monday 18th January. The UK and Scottish Governments also issued details of their own plans for the next few weeks.

This has been a very confusing period for everyone but I would like to stress that the position in Wales is that all schools will move to remote / online learning until at least Monday 18th January.

As Cllr. Phyl Davies said yesterday, there are concerns about the new coronavirus variant and the decision not to fully reopen schools has been made in order to help control the spread of the virus within our communities.

We will therefore be reverting to blended learning for all pupils until it has been deemed safe for everyone to return to school. Parents are advised to refer to the 'Passport to Blended Learning' that we sent home with every pupil towards the end of last term. More information to follow.

We will be making sure we are providing more regular contact and support to our more vulnerable learners. It has been announced that all schools must remain open to these pupils and to children of key workers and we will do so, but we ask parents to be mindful of the reason the decision has been made not to fully reopen schools and help us to keep the number of people in the school building to a minimum.



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Please refer to the following guide for information on key / critical workers (ctrl+click):

[Identifying children of critical workers: guidance | GOV.WALES](#)

If you feel you really do need to send your child to school because they qualify under the categories mentioned above, please let us know. School dinners will be available as usual but there will be no breakfast or after school clubs until further notice. Please contact the school office to let us know which days you require your child / children to attend and we will get back to you during the course of the day. Once we know the expected numbers we will be able to organise groups for the rest of the week, so please respond as soon as you can. We aim to send an update on start and finish times later today.

The challenges this announcement will place on families are significant, especially if you are under pressure to return to work yourselves after the Christmas break, and we do understand how difficult it is to receive this information at short notice. However, I'm sure you will have taken on board the messages issued by the various governments yesterday and appreciate that we must do all that we can to keep families and staff safe.

It seems rather odd to close this letter by wishing you all a Happy New Year, but we have to remain positive and hope that we will soon begin to see the light at the end of this very long tunnel appearing a little brighter before very much longer!

Please take good care of yourselves.

Cofion,

G. Cornelius



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